

**Planning & Environment SPC**  
**8<sup>th</sup> June 2016**  
**Cooley Room, County Hall**

**Attendance**

|                     |                              |
|---------------------|------------------------------|
| Cllr Richie Culhane | Louth County Council         |
| Cllr Peter Savage   | Louth County council         |
| Cllr Tom Cunningham | Louth County Council         |
| Cllr Jim Loughran   | Louth County Council         |
| Michael Smyth       | Agricultural Rep             |
| Ollan Herr          | Environment Conservation Rep |
| Eddie Phelan        | Business Commercial Rep      |
| Anthony Abbot King  | Senior Planner               |
| Mary T. Daly        | Senior Executive Officer     |
| Pat Finn            | Senior Engineer              |
| Pamela Dagg         | Executive Scientist          |
| Sinead McVerry      | Senior Staff Officer         |

**Apologies**

|                        |                      |
|------------------------|----------------------|
| Maria Doyle            | Louth County Council |
| Jennifer Cassidy Green | Louth County Council |
| John McGahon           | Louth County Council |

**Minutes**

The minutes of the previous meeting which took place on Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup> March 2016 were proposed by Cllr Peter Savage and seconded by Cllr Loughran.

**Matters Arising**

Anthony Abbot King , Senior Planner was welcomed to the meeting and introduced to the Planning & Environment SPC members.

**Draft Louth Development Contribution Scheme**

Mary T. Daly presented an update on the draft Louth Development Contribution Scheme to the SPC members. She advised Section 48 of the Planning & Development Act 2000 ( as amended) requires a planning authority to prepare a development contribution scheme and subsequently outlined the process involved. This included advertising the draft scheme, a public display period of 6 weeks during which time submissions and observations are made, preparation of chief executive's report and presentation of chief executive's report to elected members. She outlined proposed reduction and proposed exemptions that are currently being considered for inclusion in the draft scheme. It was noted it is a reserve function of the elected members to adopt the draft development contribution scheme. It is anticipated the concluding details of the scheme will be finalised towards the end of June 2016, and that the draft document will be on public display during the summer months. Pending preparation of chief executive's report the draft scheme will circulated to the Planning & Environment SPC in September 2016 and final document presented to full council meeting in September 2016 for adoption.

Following the presentation Councillor Savage proposed that those who owed the local authority monies in relation to development levies should not be granted a reduction in contributions. However Mary T. Daly advised the legislation did not allow for this.

Ollan Herr raised the issue of Grey Water Treatment & Recycling and asked whether this could be considered as a pilot scheme for any upcoming social housing projects in Louth

such as the 10 units proposed for Clois na Manach , Carlingford. Ollan Herr also declared his interest in Grey Water Treatment & Recycling. Mary T. Daly & Pat Finn advised they would raise the matter with the Housing SPC and revert.

**Pay by Weight – Update on Legislation**

Pamela Dagg, Executive Scientist gave the members an update on the situation in relation to pay by weight. Initial regulations to introduce pay by weight were made in January 2016, however she advised the Minister announced on 18<sup>th</sup> May 2016 that he intended to amend the regulations so that the minimum charge for the recycling bin would be 0 cent per kg. Collectors may still charge for the recycling bin however it is anticipated that many of them will not do so. The regulations have yet to be amended to reflect this change. Collectors and local authorities are awaiting amended regulations before a public awareness campaign is officially rolled out.

Discussion followed and Councillor Cunningham noted that not all areas in the County including Clogherhead have the 3 bins for waste collection in place nor have the collectors contacted their customers and advised them of the charge and how it will effect them, specifically if they have already paid a fixed charge for bin collection for 2016. Pat Finn and Pamela Dagg advised LCC environmental section will meet with refuse collectors shortly and raise these issues with them.

The issue of waste collection and waste reduction was further considered and it was suggested there was a need for greater education of the public in relation to composting and its benefits. It was noted that recycling infrastructure needs to be developed further within the county.

The matter of whether the householder or the collector is responsible for the bin was discussed, as this pertained to empty bins being carelessly discarded by collectors on public roads and becoming traffic hazards. Pamela Dagg confirmed the provider/provider is ultimately responsible.

**AOB**

The meeting concluded at 4.40pm and the next meeting of the Planning & Environment SPC meeting is scheduled to take place on Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> September at 3.30pm in the Cooley Room, County Hall.

**Signed** \_\_\_\_\_

**Chairperson**

**Signed** \_\_\_\_\_

**Senior Executive Officer**

**Signed** \_\_\_\_\_

**Meetings Administrator**