



9th September, 2019.

**TO: AN CATHAOIRLEACH
& EACH MEMBER OF KILKENNY COUNTY COUNCIL**

RE: DRAFT STRATEGIC POLICY COMMITTEE SCHEME 2019 - 2024

Dear Councillor,

The statutory basis for Strategic Policy Committees [SPC's] is set out in Section 48 of the Local Government Act 2001 as amended by Section 41 of the Local Government Reform Act 2014.

The draft SPC Scheme was presented to Members and approved for consultation at the monthly meeting on 15th July, 2019.

The draft scheme was published in the Kilkenny People, placed on the Council's website and consult.kilkenny.ie and issued to all the Pillar Groups and the Public Participation Network [PPN] on the 17th July, 2019. A copy of the draft document was also made available to the public at our offices in County Hall and all Area Offices. The period for making submissions closed on Friday, 30th August, 2019 at 5.00 p.m.

Three submissions were received [copies attached] and the main points raised in the submissions are set out hereunder:

1. Kilkenny Public Participation Network [PPN]

Seeking an additional representative on the Committees as follows:

- SPC 1: Community & Voluntary Representation
- SPC 2: Environment/Conservation Representation
- SPC 4: Environment/Conservation Representation
- SPC 5: Community & Voluntary Representation

2. "Make Ireland Sustainable For All": Group

- Requesting Local Authorities to play a crucial role in the delivery of the sustainable development goals at local level.
- Sustainable development to be included in all policy criteria, require the integration of social, environmental and economic consideration into all policies.

3. An Taisce

Seeking that Environment/Conservation Representative be on SPC 2 instead of SPC 3 [same as required by PPN].

SUMMARY OF MANAGER'S OBSERVATION ON SUBMISSIONS

The statutory basis for the establishment of SPC's is enshrined in legislation. The guidelines issued by the Department recommended that one third of the membership is drawn from sectors relevant to the committee's work. The External Members should be actively working with social, economic, cultural and environmental bodies. The SPC's provide Elected Members with external views in the development and review of policy. The External Members are nominated by National Pillars e.g. IFA, Chambers Ireland etc. and PPN. The Council should actively encourage greater citizen engagement and participation with the SPC's from a wide range of groups such as young people, women and groups whose voices have not been well heard in the past.

The PPN facilitates the nominations of a number of External Members to represent the following:

- Community/Voluntary,
- Social Inclusion and
- Environmental/Conservation.

It is incumbent on all statutory bodies and agencies to have regard to National and European policies in the creation of policy and in particular on sustainable development and climate change.


Having considered the three submissions received, the following amendments to the draft Scheme as published are being recommended for consideration by the Elected Members.

- A: **SPC1:** Increase Elected Members to 8
Increase Non-Elected Members to 7 to allow representative from Community/Voluntary [PPN]
- B: **SPC2:** Increase Elected Members to 8
Increase Non-Elected Members to 7 to allow representative from Environment/Conservation [PPN]
- C: **SPC3:** No change
Leave representative from Environment/Conservation [PPN] on Committee
- D: **SPC4:** No change
Environment/Conservation [PPN] is already represented on the Committee.
- E: **SPC5:** No Change
Community & Voluntary [PPN] is already represented on the Committee.

It is further recommended that the submission received from "Make Ireland Sustainable for all" be circulated to each SPC to be considered at their first meeting.

Approval of Members is now required to the Strategic Policy Committee Scheme 2019-2024 to enable the appointment of Members to the relevant SPC as soon as possible.

Signed:



Tim Butler,
Director of Services

4. FRAMEWORK

5.1 The overall configuration of the Kilkenny Strategic Policy Committees are as follows:

Recommended changes following receipt of submission

Strategic Policy Committee	Elected Members	Non Elected Members	Non Elected Members
<p>SPC 1</p> <p><i>Economic Development, Enterprise Support and Tourism, Planning & Development Policy</i></p>	<p>7</p> <p>8</p>	<p>6</p> <p>7</p>	<p>1-Agriculture/Farming (IFA)</p> <p>1-Development/Construction (Chambers Ireland)</p> <p>1-Environment/Conservation (PPN)</p> <p>1-Trade Union (ICTU)</p> <p>1-Social Inclusion (PPN)</p> <p>1-Business/Commercial (Chambers Ireland)</p> <p>1 - Community/Voluntary [PPN]</p>
<p>SPC 2</p> <p><i>Transportation Policy / Mobility Management & Water Services</i></p>	<p>7</p> <p>8</p>	<p>6</p> <p>7</p>	<p>1-Agriculture/Farming (IFA)</p> <p>1-Business/Commercial (Chambers Ireland)</p> <p>1-Development/Construction (Chambers Ireland)</p> <p>1-Community & Voluntary (PPN)</p> <p>1-Social Inclusion (PPN)</p> <p>1-Trade Union (ICTU)</p> <p>1 - Environment/Conservation [PPN]</p>
<p>SPC 3</p> <p><i>Housing</i></p>	<p>8</p>	<p>5</p>	<p>1-Environment/Conservation (PPN)</p> <p>1-Development/Construction (Chambers Ireland)</p> <p>1-Trade Union (ICTU)</p> <p>1-Community & Voluntary (PPN)</p> <p>1-Social Inclusion (PPN)</p>
<p>SPC 4</p> <p><i>Environmental Protection, Climate Action & Energy</i></p>	<p>6</p>	<p>5</p>	<p>1-Agriculture/Farming (IFA)</p> <p>1-Business/Commercial (Chambers Ireland)</p> <p>1-Environment/Conservation (PPN)</p> <p>1-Community & Voluntary (PPN)</p> <p>1-Development/Construction (Chambers Ireland)</p>
<p>SPC5</p> <p><i>Community, Cultural & Fire Services</i></p>	<p>6</p>	<p>5</p>	<p>1-Social Inclusion PPN</p> <p>1-Community & Voluntary (PPN)</p> <p>1-Trade Union (ICTU)</p> <p>1-Business/Commercial (Chambers Ireland)</p> <p>1-Agriculture/Farming (IFA)</p>

Anne Maria Walsh

From: Caitriona Rogerson [Caitriona@ien.ie]
Sent: 21 August 2019 12:49
To: Anne Maria Walsh
Subject: Submission for SPC Scheme Kilkenny
Attachments: SPC Submission Kilkenny - MESA.pdf

Hi Ann Marie

Please find attached our submission to Kilkenny's draft Strategic Policy Committee scheme.

Many thanks for the opportunity to make a contribution.

Kind regards,

Caitriona

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Caitriona Rogerson
SDG Project Coordinator, 'Make Ireland Sustainable For All'
MACRO Building, 1 Green Street, Dublin 7
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01 - 8780116



Virus-free. www.avg.com



Make Ireland Sustainable for All
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Dublin 7

21th August 2019

Submission re: Draft Strategic Policy Committee (SPC) Scheme for Kilkenny

Dear Madam/Sir,

I am writing with regards to the call for submissions on the Draft SPC scheme for Kilkenny. As coordinator of the Make Ireland Sustainable for All (MESA) project, I welcome the opportunity to participate in this consultation.

The overarching driver of policy creation in Kilkenny must be for **sustainable development** – development that meets the needs of the present without compromising future generations to meet their needs. This requires the integration of social, environmental and economic considerations in all aspects of decision-making.

The **UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)** provide a comprehensive framework for policy development which balances social, economic and environmental needs. The SDGs were adopted by Ireland alongside 192 other countries in the year 2015 and collectively outline a universal roadmap to end poverty, combat climate change and ensure we create peaceful, just and equal societies for future generations.

Local Authorities are expected to play a crucial role in the delivery of the Sustainable Development Goals at local level, as stated in the Government's National Implementation Plan for the SDGs (published in April 2018) <https://www.dccae.gov.ie/documents/DCCAE-National-Implement-Plan.pdf>

All of the SDGs have targets directly or indirectly related to the daily work of local authorities. As such, the local authority is best placed to link these global goals to local issues and local communities. This will require the authority to 'think globally and act locally'.

The SDGs provide the **common language** and framework with which to do so.





SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS



Recommendations:

With this in mind we would respectfully propose the following underlying dimensions for the Scheme and for its operation.

- i. That the crucial role of the SPCs in delivering on the SDGs at local level is acknowledged and clearly referenced in the scheme's guidelines.
- ii. That the SDGs are used as a foundational framework upon which all policy is formulated and proposed
- iii. When considering and proposing policy, that all SPCs identify how the proposed policy will impact on the relevant SDGs.
- iv. That the economic development SPC should ensure that economic aspects of the Local Economic and Community Plan (LECP) align with the model of sustainable development as outlined in the SDGs – ie, economic development which simultaneously protects the natural environment and the wellbeing of people.

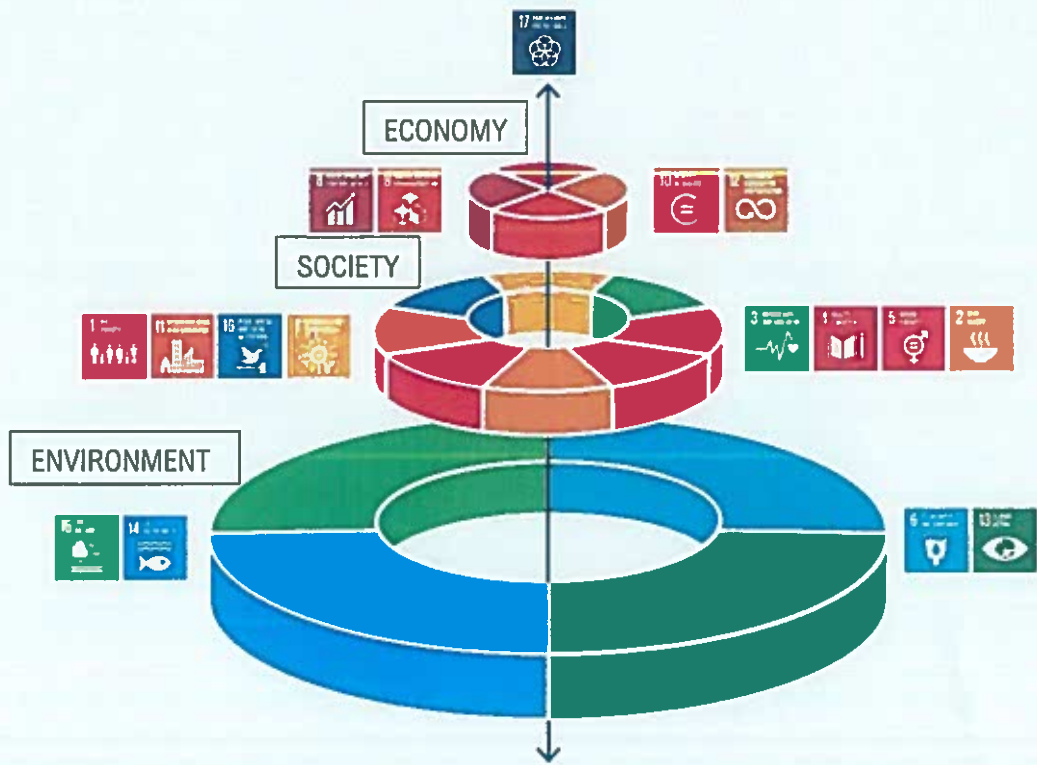
I hope that the above recommendations are helpful and will be incorporated into the final scheme.

Renewed thanks for taking the time to consider this submission.

Kind regards,



Caitriona Rogerson
 Coordinator, Make Ireland Sustainable for All
www.sdgforall.ie
 01 8780116



Graphic highlighting interconnections of the 17 SDGs in terms of economy, society and environment.

An Taisce's submission re draft Strategic Policy Committee Scheme 2019-2024

Submitted: 12.08.2019 - 6:39am

Unique Reference Number: KK-C111-1

Boundaries Captured on Map: No

No. of documents attached: 0

Author: Mary T Brennan

Date Created: 12.08.2019 - 06:35am

Status: Submitted

Observations

Theme: Environmental/Conservation

Title: Section 5 Framework

An Taisce acknowledges the diverse functions and services provided by Kilkenny County Council and the challenge of apportioning these issues to specific Special Policy Committees (SPCs).

We note the desirability, expressed in Section 3.2, that memberships of SPCs be drawn from Sectors relevant to the Committee's work.

As active members of the PPN Environmental Pillar we have an issue relating to the designation of non-elected members as set out in the overall configuration of the SPCs on Table 5.1. It is proposed to assign Environmental Representatives to SPCs 1, 3 and 4.

We agree that it is appropriate to have Environmental Reps on SPC 1 (Economic Development ... Planning & Development Policy) and SPC 4 (Environmental Protection, Climate Action and Energy). However we regard the functions of SPC 3 (Housing), set out in Section 5.2, as dealing largely with social and community issues while the aspects of housing policy of greater environmental interest i.e. planning & development policy are covered by SPC 1. We therefore recommend that you do not assign an Environmental Rep to SPC 3 (Housing).

The remit of SPC 2 (Transportation Policy / Mobility Management and Water Services) as set out in Section 5.2 is of great environmental significance and An Taisce therefore advises that an Environmental Rep be assigned to this SPC.

In conclusion An Taisce recommends that PPN Environmental Pillar Reps be assigned to SPCs 1, 2 and 4 so that we can more effectively contribute to the development of polices in these areas by Kilkenny County Council.

Mary T Brennan,

Honorary Secretary, An Taisce, Kilkenny Association

August 12th 2019

Anne Maria Walsh

From: Margaret Whelan
Sent: 25 July 2019 12:41
To: Anne Maria Walsh
Subject: Re: Proposed Formation Strategic Policy Committees 2019.docx
Attachments: 30 CVSP 7 2019 - Role of PPNs.pdf; Proposed Formation Strategic Policy Committees 2019.docx

Dear Anne Maria,

Please see the attached submission for your attention. After consultation with the Secretariat and relevant reps, a number of suggestions from a PPN perspective are being put forward for consideration in relation to the proposed new structure of the SPC's.

Please find attached recent circular from the Department relating to the role of the PPN's and the formation of the SPC's to be included in submission.

Just to let you know, the link on the website for online submission is not working.

Thank you

Kind regards,

Mags

Mags Whelan
Co-ordinator
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An Roinn Forbartha
Tuaithe agus Pobail
Department of Rural and
Community Development

24/7/19

Circular Letter CVSP 7/2019

Role of PPNs & Conference 2019.

Dear Director,

Role of PPNs – new Boards and Committees requiring PPN Representation.

Following the recent local elections, a number of new local authority boards and committees, such as SPCS, are currently being established. Since the last local elections in 2014, PPNs have been established in all local authority areas and are the “go to” organisation for all bodies in a county / city who wish to benefit from community and voluntary expertise at their table.

The representation of environmental, social inclusion, community and voluntary voices on local authority boards and committees is a core function of PPNs and where such community representation is to be provided on appropriate committees of the local authority, such as SPCs or LCDCs, local authorities **must** source this through the PPN. We would like to take this opportunity to remind authorities of this requirement and bring it to the attention of colleagues in your authority who may be in the process of establishing boards/committees that require representation as outlined above.

In Circular Letter CVSP1/2014 dated 10 April 2014 it was stated that Government and local authorities need to play their part in ensuring that the community, voluntary and environmental sectors can actively and positively engage with its decision making forums. A number of actions were suggested in that circular to achieve the goal of engagement and in the context of new boards/committees being established, it is considered appropriate that a number of these actions be restated as follows:

- that Local Authorities agree to and adopt a Protocol for all committees/decision making committees with PPN representatives which will enable the representatives to engage appropriately
- that Local Authorities set aside resources for participation on key decision making committees to cover travel and subsistence expenses for PPN representatives
- that Local Authorities facilitate access to a library of relevant thematic documents focused on groups and committees that the Network are represented on, and
- that Local Authorities provide Training Supports that may be required for Representatives to enable them build their capacity for the role of PPN Representative.

We would also ask you and your colleagues to be cognisant of the voluntary nature of PPN representatives and that due consideration be given when arranging meetings.

2019 Annual PPN Conference

The National PPN Annual Conference is a collaborative event between this Department as funders and the hosting PPN in partnership with their local authority. The conference provides an invaluable networking opportunity for stakeholders to share experiences and to learn from one another.

The purpose of Annual Conference is to showcase the operation of PPNs in practice and highlight best practice experiences. It is also an ideal occasion for local authorities particularly to demonstrate their commitment and support of the Network and the fundamental principles behind Citizen Engagement.

This year's Conference is being held in the Woodford Dolmen Hotel Carlow on Thursday 11th and Friday 12th. October and is being hosted by your colleagues in Carlow County Council in partnership with Carlow PPN. The participation of local authorities at such conferences is seen as critical in the furtherance of the ideals of citizen engagement and in the development of PPNs. With that in mind, the Department on behalf of the National PPN Advisory Group and PPNs nationally would welcome your attendance at this year's Conference in Carlow.

A significant attendance by local authority personnel at the Conference in Carlow will undoubtedly demonstrate the commitment of Local Authorities to the process of engagement and development of PPNs.

Mise le meas,



Ciara Bates
Principal Officer
Community & Voluntary Supports and Programmes
076 100 6824

cc each PPN (for onward transmission to each member of your Secretariat)

Strategic Policy Committee – Proposed Formation for 2019

Strategic Policy Committee	Elected Members	Non Elected Members
SPC 1: Economic Development, Enterprise Support, Tourism, Planning and Development Policy	7	1 SI 1 Env
SPC 2: Transport Policy, Mobility Management and Water Services	7	1 C&V 1 SI
SPC 3: Housing	6	1 Env 1 C&V 1 SI
SPC 4: Environment Protection, Climate action and Energy	6	1 C&V 1 Env
SPC 5: Community, Cultural and Fire	6	1 SI 1 C&V

Comment [t1]: Planning and Development Policy used to be an SPC in its own right. They have now merged it with Economic Development and Tourism. Given how broad this SPC will be, it is important that the PPN is adequately represented- we need an additional rep on this committee preferably from the Community and Vol pillar.

Comment [t2]: Given this committee covers water services which would encompass water quality management, it is imperative that we have an additional environmental rep on this SPC

Comment [t3]: Given the seriousness of environmental awareness and climate action particularly in reaching our targets nationally, it is vital that we have an additional Environmental rep on this committee to adequately reflect the views of citizens in this regard.

Comment [t4]: Should have 2 Community reps on this Committee given how broad the subject categories are

Potential proposal from PPN:

SPC 1- Additional C&V rep

SPC 4- Additional Env Rep

SPC 2- Additional Env rep

SPC 5- Additional C&V rep

SPC's 2014-2019

Strategic Policy Committee	Elected Members	Non Elected Members
SPC 1: Economic Development, Enterprise Support, Tourism	7	1 SI 1 C&V
SPC 2: Infrastructure policy, transportation, Fire and Emergency Services	7	1 C&V 1SI
SPC 3: Planning and Development, Heritage, Community, Arts and Culture	7	1 Env 1 C&V 1SI
SPC 4: Housing	6	1 C&V 1 Env 1SI
SPC 5: Environment Protection, Water Services and Energy	6	2 Env