

LISBURN & CASTLEREAGH CITY COUNCIL**Minutes of Meeting of the Environment and Sustainability Committee held in the Council Chamber, Island Civic Centre, on Wednesday 1 April 2026 at 6.00 pm****PRESENT IN CHAMBER:**

Alderman O Gawith (Chair)

Councillor S Burns (Vice-Chair)

Alderman J Baird

Councillors J Bamford, P Catney, A Givan, G Hynds, B Magee and M McKeever

PRESENT IN REMOTE LOCATION:

Councillor N Parker

IN ATTENDANCE:

Director of Environmental Services

Head of Service (Environmental Health, Risk & Emergency Planning)

Head of Service (Building Control & Sustainability)

Head of Service (Waste Management & Operational Services)

Member Services Officers (EW and FA)

Commencement of the Meeting

Councillor P Catney left the meeting at 6.02 pm.

The Chair, Alderman O Gawith, welcomed those present to the meeting and advised that it would be audio recorded unless the item on the agenda was to be considered under confidential business. The Chair stated that unauthorised recording was not permitted, as per the Council's Standing Orders. The Chair asked that mobile phones be put on silent or switched off for the duration of the meeting.

In accordance with the Protocol for Remote Meetings, the Chair asked that those attending via zoom to ensure that the meeting could not be seen or heard by any other person at their remote location when confidential business was being considered. The Chair proceeded to outline the evacuation procedures in the case of an emergency.

1. **Apologies**

Apologies were recorded on behalf of Councillors A Gowan and C McCreedy.

2. **Declarations of Interest**

There were no declarations of interest.

3. Report by Head of Service (Environmental Health, Risk and Emergency Planning)

3.1 Office of Product Safety & Standards (OPSS) Grant Funding for Reporting on Regulatory Capability and Capacity

Councillor P Catney returned to the meeting during this item of business (6.05 pm)

The Head of Service (Environmental Health, Risk and Emergency Planning) delivered this report, which the Members had already been furnished with.

In response to a query from Alderman J Baird regarding what the funding was used for, the Head of Service (Environmental Health, Risk and Emergency Planning) advised that the funding was used for a variety of projects, for example, sampling and labelling of products, depending on the initiatives taking place.

It was proposed by Alderman J Baird, seconded by Councillor M McKeever, and agreed to note the content of the Product Safety Regulatory Capability and Capacity Grant 4-year report.

4. Report by Head of Service (Building Control and Sustainability)

4.1 Draft LCCC Adaptation Plan

The Head of Service (Building Control and Sustainability) delivered this report, which the Members had already been furnished with.

Councillor A Givan welcomed the report and raised a number of concerns he had with weather predictions and also the cost of electricity in Northern Ireland compared to other countries and the impact this had on industries here.

Councillor P Catney also welcomed the report and commented that he thought more needs to be done around sustainable transportation and in saving energy.

It was proposed by Councillor P Catney, seconded by Councillor J Bamford, and on a recorded vote being taken, agreed to recommend approval of the draft LCCC Adaptation Plan.

There were eight votes in favour and two votes abstaining, the voting being as follows:

In Favour: Councillor J Bamford, Councillor S Burns, Councillor P Catney, Alderman O Gawith, Councillor G Hynds, Councillor B Magee, Councillor M McKeever and Councillor N Parker **TOTAL: 8**

Abstaining: Alderman J Baird and Councillor A Givan **TOTAL: 2**

4.2 The Climate Change (Reporting Bodies) Regulations (NI) 2024 - Adaptation

The Head of Service (Building Control and Sustainability) delivered this report, which the Members had already been furnished with.

4.2 The Climate Change (Reporting Bodies) Regulations (NI) 2024 – Adaptation (Cont'd)

In response to a question from Councillor P Catney regarding the submission of the report, the Head of Service advised that the report had already been submitted to DAERA to meet the legislative deadline of 31st March 2026.

It was proposed by Councillor P Catney, seconded by Councillor M McKeever, and agreed to note the content of the report submitted to DAERA in relation to Adaptation Reporting (Public Body) Regulations.

5. Report by Head of Service (Waste Management & Operational Services)

5.1 Rethinking Our Resources – Northern Ireland Resources and Waste Management Strategy

The Head of Service (Waste, Management & Operational Services) delivered this report, which the Members had already been furnished with.

In response to a question from Councillor M McKeever regarding screening tools in relation to equality and rural impact, the Head of Service (Waste Management & Operational Services) advised that this a third-party consultation and as such has been screened by the department. If the outworkings from the consultation are required for council implementation, any new policies would be screened by the Council.

Councillor A Givan commented that other councils had more HRC sites than Lisburn and Castlereagh City Council and asked if this was something that could be looked at. The Head of Service (Waste, Management & Operational Services) advised that the Council was exploring the possibility of opening a new HRC site in the Dundonald area. To supplement the service provided by the HRC sites, there are a number of bottle banks, clothing banks and other bring facilities across the Council area to assist with management of excess waste and provided people with options for recycling.

In response to a query from Alderman J Baird regarding the recycling rates of 70% by 2030 and 65% by 2035, the Head of Service (Waste Management & Operational Services) advised that there were two separate pieces of legislation, and that the 70% was from the Northern Ireland Climate Change Act and the 65% comes from the circular economy regulations.

It was proposed by Councillor P Catney, seconded by Councillor A Givan, and agreed to recommend approval of the proposed consultation response to be submitted to DAERA in relation to the Consultation on the Northern Ireland Resources and Waste Management Strategy by the closing date of 6 May 2026.

6. Any Other Business

6.1 Hilden Mill and Clearing of Derriaghy Road Councillor G Hynds

Councillor G Hynds conveyed his thanks for the report on Hilden Mill and asked for confirmation that the work had been completed and commented that it was concerning that further access points to the site had been identified.

Councillor G Hynds wanted to put on record his thanks for the clearing of the illegal dumping on Derriaghy Road and said the residents were very appreciative for this.

The Director of Environmental Services advised that she could not confirm that all the work at Hilden Mill had been completed, but said that she would find out and update Councillor G Hynds on the position. The Director of Environmental Services advised that there were ongoing discussions with the landowners at the said site where the illegal dumping had been taking place in order to erect a fence to prevent any future occurrences of dumping in that area.

6.2 Waste and Education Talks and Events Councillor J Bamford

Councillor J Bamford commented on the Waste and Education Talks and Events reported in the Correspondence and Information Schedule, and welcomed this, and thought it was remarkable that in three months talks had been provided to almost 500 school children and almost 1,000 people in the community and wished to thank all the officers involved in delivering this.

6.3 Illegal Dumping at Car Park in Queensway Councillor P Catney

Councillor P Catney commented on illegal dumping at the car park in Queensway and wished to commend the landowner who came out and cleared it within three days at his own expense.

6.4 Delegated Authority Verbal Request Head of Service (Environmental Health, Risk & Emergency Planning)

The Head of Service (Environmental Health, Risk & Emergency Planning) delivered a verbal report on two consultations taking place next month. They were from the Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government on Construction Products Reform White Paper and General Safety Requirement for Construction Products. He advised they would be circulated in advance, and requested delegated authority be granted to the Environment and Sustainability Committee on Wednesday 6th May 2026, thereby enabling the Council to respond to these consultations before the closing dates.

6.4 Delegated Authority Verbal Request (Cont'd)

It was proposed by Councillor P Catney, seconded by Alderman J Baird, and agreed to recommend approval that delegated authority be granted to the Environment and Sustainability Committee on Wednesday, 6th May 2026, thereby enabling the Council to respond to these consultations before the closing dates.

7. Confidential Report from the Head of Service (Waste Management and Operational Services)

The Chair, Alderman O Gawith, advised that the confidential report item would be dealt with "In Committee" due to containing information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the Council holding that information).

"In Committee"

It was proposed by Alderman J Baird, seconded by Councillor M McKeever, and agreed that the following matter be considered "In Committee," in the absence of members of the press and public being present.

The member of the public and press seated in the public gallery left the Council Chamber (6.45 pm and 6.46 pm respectively).

7.1 Procurement of 4 New Replacement RCVs 2027/28 (Redacted report will be available in September 2026 following successful award of tender, the Business Case will never become available)

Following the presentation of the report, the Director of Environmental Services responded to comments made by Members.

It was proposed by Alderman J Baird, seconded by Councillor G Hynds, and agreed to recommend approval of the business case and subsequent procurement of 4 x 26T RCVs.

8. Any Other Business (Confidential)

8.1 Household Recycling Centres

The Director of Environmental Services responded to questions raised by Members.

Resumption of Normal Business

It was proposed by Councillor B Magee, seconded by Councillor M McKeever, and agreed to come out of Committee and normal business was resumed.

The Chair, Alderman O Gawith, thanked Members for their attendance.

There being no further business, the meeting ended at 7.00 pm.

Chairperson