

National Waste Prevention Committee Meeting 26

Date: 18th October 2018 10:00 - 14:00

Location: The Rediscovery Centre, Ballymun, Dublin 11

Attendees:

	NAME	ORGANISATION	Initials		NAME	ORGANISATION	Initials
1	Abigail Murphy	Environmental Protection Agency	AbM	11	Jane Kenneally	Environmental Protection Agency	JK
2	Anne Murphy	Ibec	AM	12	Jean Clarke	Department of Communications, Climate Action & Environment	JC
3	Bernie Kiely	Department of Communications, Climate Action & Environment	BK	13	Declan Breen	Eastern Midlands Waste Region	DB
4	Brendan Keane	Irish Waste Management Association	BrK	14	Sinead Ni Mhainnín	Connacht Ulster Waste Region	SNM
5	Claire Downey	Community Reuse Network	CD	15	Pauline McDonogh	Southern Waste Region	PMD
6	Colum Gibson	Clean Technology Centre	CG	16	Shane Colgan	Environmental Protection Agency	SC
7	Eimear Cotter	Environmental Protection Agency	EC	17	Thomas Ryan	Irish Farmers Association	TR
8	Elisha Collier O'Brien	Chambers Ireland	ECOB	18	Mary Frances Rochford	Environmental Protection Agency	MFR
9	Fiona McCoole	Environmental Protection Agency	FMC	19	Vip Patel	Chartered Institute of Waste Management	CIWM
10	Michael Quirey	Health Service Executive	MQ	20	Paul Morrissey	Department of Agriculture Food and the Marine	DAFN

Apologies: Declan White (Enterprise Ireland),

Item 1: 10:30 Minutes of previous meeting & matters arising

Mary Frances Rochford is the new NWPC Chair and Programme Manager of the Sustainable Production and Consumption programme. The chair reflected on the importance of this time for the National Waste Prevention Programme (NWPP) in terms of the review and reframing of the programme.

The focus of this meeting was to share the process and outcomes of the review and look to the future of the NWPP and NWPC. Feedback is a crucial component of the review and members of the NWPC are encouraged to provide feedback. There has been direct involvement of the committee in providing insights and feedback during the review process.

Office of Environmental Sustainability (OES) Director Eimear Cotter reflected on the importance of this time for the programme. The Director of OES welcomed feedback from committee members.

The actions from NWPC meeting no. 25 were reviewed and updates are as follows:

- DCCAE have created 4 subgroups of the Construction Waste Resource Group. This includes a sub-group on waste prevention and best practice which Shane Colgan (EPA) is chairing.
- Brendan Keane (IWMA) progressed the action to liaise with Repak on prevention awards and find linkages to promote the winners
- The PREP and WarpIT tools were investigated in 2018 for their functions and roles in reuse. This is being further progress by CRNI in a NWPP Green Enterprise project on Bulky Item Reuse in the Public Sector. It was noted that Sligo general hospital are also running a pilot specific to reuse of medical equipment and gathering information on the requirements to overcome barriers to this type of reuse.

The HSE are currently considering projects and pilots on reducing plastics.

The Farm Hazardous Waste initiative was mentioned as a collaborative and effective programme, there is a desire to resume the programme for 2019 and for a long-term solution to be considered (potentially with PRI). The pilot supported by the EPA proved the demand existed and that payment was acceptable. This was a one year pilot which extended to 5 years with the EPA as a lead, the pilot demonstrated that legacy & toxic waste is ongoing issue in farming.

It was suggested that something like the HSE model of privatising hazardous waste collection could be an option. A cost-effective funding model including PRI could be investigated.

Item 2: Progress Report on National Hazardous Waste Management Plan

Jane Kenneally introduced the newly published progress report on the National Hazardous Waste Management Plan (see below).

- [Progress Report National Hazardous Waste Management Plan \(2014-2020\)](#)
- [Press Release October 2018](#)

Highlights of the plan include

- the successful farm hazardous waste collections;
- the introduction of collection days for household hazardous waste;
- completion of the inventory of the national hazardous waste recovery and disposal capacity and guidance for the management of household hazardous waste at civic amenity sites

A subgroup of the NWPP (Hazardous Waste Subgroup) provided the expertise needed to plan, identify and harness initiatives.

Construction and Demolition was identified as an area with potential PCBs or legacy hazardous wastes.

<p>The Southern Waste Region emphasized mywaste.ie as a resource for household information on hazardous waste.</p>	
<p>Item 3: NWPP Update</p>	
<p>Updates on progress of programmes, Fiona McCoole</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fiona McCoole, new EPA manager of the National Waste Prevention Programme was introduced to NWPC and gave a presentation on progress of NWPP funded programmes. The structure of the NWPP team and new team members were introduced. Odile le Bolloch is managing the food waste prevention programmes. • NWPP annual report for 2017 has been printed and promoted on social media. • 22 local authorities have been funded to carry out 58 initiatives under the Local Authority Prevention Network. • The Green Enterprise innovation funding call received 14 proposals which will be with the Board for recommendation in November. • The EPA has entered into a 3-year strategic partnership with the Rediscovery Centre which is Ireland's National Centre for Circular Economy. • Green Business's Resource Efficiency tool (TREE) use has increased and 52 Resource Efficiency Audits have been carried out. • Ibec's CE executive is conducting a survey with Irish businesses on the circular economy which will be published early 2019 and a document on policy mapping of the Circular Economy. • Repairmystuff is now a national portal for local repair directories at www.repairmystuff.ie • Freetrade.ie continues to promote reuse. • Smart Farming work ongoing and activities regularly publicised in the Farmers Journal. • CRNI will be hosting their biennial conference and plan to publish a new 5-year strategy in 2019. The ReMark quality standard funded by NWPP Green Enterprise has conducted its 1st audit and the recommendation is awaiting sign off. • Green Healthcare is focussing on water conservation and retrofitting measures and Nursing Home guidance is being finalised. • SMILE has >1600 businesses registered on its website and 65 potential synergies identified since March 2018, 8 completed. • EPA is hosting a seminar on plastics and the circular economy on 8th November in Dublin. • EPA is supporting National Reuse Month in October through funding of four upcycling videos. • The Waste Framework Directive will set the implementation of reporting on food waste. There is no current target on food waste, the focus will be on collecting the data followed by setting of targets then reporting. <p>It was noted that 72kg per head of food is wasted on average on the HSE, the HSE is a large sector and has gathered food waste statistics through the Clean Technology Centre (Action 1)</p>	<p>Action-1: EPA to contact CTC and HSE on food waste data</p>
<p>Item 4: Update to members on the process of NWPP Strategic Review</p>	

Presentation on NWPP Strategic Review findings, Shane Colgan

The NWPP strategy "Living better using less" runs until 2020. Since then there has been significant advances in policy and problem wastes, for example the Circular Economy is not mentioned in the current strategy hence the review has been timed well to include these changes.

What people do in their daily lives is very important and directly linked to how Ireland performs nationally. The NWPP review called for a more active role of NWPC.

Following the presentation on the new structure of the NWPP the Chair emphasised the issues of scalability and the need for greater clarity of the programmes. The need to align with changes in legislation and emerging issues was also a key driver for the review. The new framework includes programmes with a start, middle and an end including milestones. The new programme will stimulate growth and encourage independent continuation of programmes. The strategic partnerships ensures the NWPP works with as many people to ensure that the programmes are a success.

Feedback from the NWPC included:

Department of Communications Climate Action and Environment

The DCCA were pleased with the review conducted by the EPA. The EPA engaged across community with a professional approach and deep reflection. The NWPP will be a key response to the Circular Economy. Ireland will be facing real and challenging targets. There many opportunities, including addressing both resource efficiency and its contribution to climate action.

Health Service Executive

The HSE has been grateful of the partnership with the EPA Green Healthcare Programme. In terms of the NWPP review the "one waste programme for all", one direction and one policy approach to waste prevention would be useful.

The HSE is the biggest spender in the public sector, they are currently looking at mission of HSE keeping health and other policies aligned. The HSE feel they still require partnership with the NWPP, CTC, SEAI and OPW for technical support and funding.

Pharmaceuticals have increased and the current HSE funding model is purely focussed on healthcare. During the Green Healthcare Programme the HSE learned a lot about waste prevention and consider collaboration to be key. The HSE hope to continue to working successfully with Local Authorities and other partnerships and consider waste and waste reduction to need independent body to work with and guide them.

Community Reuse Network Ireland

The findings were welcomed and the prioritisation of reuse was positive. The CRNI would like more information on the recommended priority streams and to know what it means for social enterprises? CRNI highlighted that electronics and fashion/textiles were not prioritised.

Shane Colgan emphasised that the priority streams will shift depending on the national indicators and policies but the Construction and Demolition sector is one of Irelands

<p>largest waste streams. Other materials will not be forgotten about. The EPA will work with others to harness impact at the point in time.</p> <p>Irish Waste Management Association Opportunities to work on national education programmes, it was highlighted that the Department of Education is including sustainable development in the primary school cycle and that Stop Food Waste was featured as a question in the Home Economics junior cert mocks 2018. Dept. of Education have a working group and NWPP needs to be involved in that.</p> <p>The University of Limerick and Sustainability MSc ECO UNESCO are running a programme for youth sustainability leaders aimed at TY students UCD modules on Smart Farming</p> <p>LAPN is engaging with the NCCA who are reviewing the Home Economics programme and this will include sustainability</p> <p>Smart Farming Highlighted the Smart Farming programme came from the NWPC. Farmers are now taking ownership and there is technical capability combined with more reach. The programme demonstrates and is an example of a good working relationship. Farmers see the value of the end result.</p> <p>Regions Emphasized that communications need to be tailored and work packages need a sense of direction.</p> <p>Community Reuse Network Ireland Called for clarity on projects and on funding amounts if there are any changes for members.</p>	
Item 5: Future Structure of NWPP	
<p>Eimear Cotter emphasized the successful engagement received during the review process. The NWPP review will be with the EPA board for decision and the board will take all views into account.</p> <p>Strategic partnerships will enable national reach and influencing the influencers, we will work and partner with on a national and or regional level.</p> <p>The new NWPP will focus on the ability to scale .</p> <p>The strategy is also focused on impact, with so many activities, the review looked at where there is breadth and where there is impact.</p> <p>The programme is also being reviewed in the context of the EPA agency messages such as for example, aligning with climate messages. The NWPP is also a tool to promote messages from the State of the Environment report. The new programme will have</p>	<p>Action-2 – the role of the committee will be considered in 2019 taking into account the valuable comments</p>

projects, structure, multiannual work plans and be clear & promotional with cohesive metrics.

Communications

It was emphasized that the NWPP could partner for communications with data. The programme could develop a collective communications strategy looking at national messages.

The role of the NWPC was discussed, it was suggested that the committee be more active rather than passive. (Action-2)

The name of the National Waste Prevention Programme was also under review, the NWPC agreed the programme name is still valid. The idea of subgroups is also being considered.

The EPA see the valuable time given by the committee and would like revise the delivery to maximise this value.

It was emphasized that the EPA could look at examples of groups/committees that practice maximising the time of the group, there are other models to do this.

It was emphasized that the committee has networks behind them and in terms of reach and communications, the group could try influence and mirror communications internally too.

The NWPC reflected on the innovation and demonstration being the place where all NWPP programmes came from. With 4-5 years of going through medical waste the health sector is now more informed. The strategic partnerships are key. In early data and preliminary work the EPA as was not trusted, the advocacy and communications needs to bring the trustworthiness as it's not being appreciated how much the EPA brings.

The Chair highlighted the waste statistics and NWPP will be partnering on communications to align messaging with evidence. The committee can then see how it ties in to their own communications.

The issues for waste management of higher calorific values of incineration waste due to taking food waste out and increasing film in the black bin. The warm summer also dried waste more.

Recap of Actions

Action-1: EPA to contact CTC and HSE on food waste data

Action-2: The role of the committee will be considered in 2019 taking into account the valuable comments from the committee.

Action-3: Please send reflections on the NWPP review findings to a.murphy@epa.ie

13:00 - AOB & Close

Date of the next NWPC meeting to be confirmed. The meeting was closed with a reflection on the NWPP review process and the future programme.

