



Limerick County Council
Draft
Strategic Policy Committee Scheme

September 2009

Proposed Framework

Limerick County Council at its meeting held on 19th June, 2009 appointed five Chairs Designate of the Strategic Policy Committees.

Strategic Policy Committee	Chair Designate
Planning and Development	Cllr. Liam Galvin
Environmental Policy	Cllr. Mary Jackman
Transportation and Infrastructural Policy	Cllr. Mike Houlihan
Housing Policy	Cllr. Tomás Hannon
Social, Cultural and Community Development	Cllr. Kevin Sheahan

The following pages outline the details of the draft framework of the scheme.

It is necessary at this stage to outline the requirements of the Guidelines for establishment and operation of the Strategic Policy Committees issued August 1999.

General

- Each SPC must have as a minimum one third (1/3) of the membership drawn from sectoral interests.
- SPC Chairs should hold office for a minimum of three years which could be renewed by the Council.
- A Director of Services will attend meetings and provide support for each SPC.
- Each SPC should adopt a multi-annual work programme linked to the local authority's Corporate Plan and updated regularly as necessary.

- A calendar of SPC meetings should be agreed at the start of each year. SPCs should normally be held about 4 times yearly at suitable times for all SPC members.

Councillors

- Each Councillor should not serve on more than two SPC's for reasons of equity, good practice and workload.
- SPC Membership for Councillors should be for the lifetime of the Council.
- SPC Councillor membership should reflect the proportionality and the distribution of the elected representation on the full Council.
- Councillors may not be nominated to represent sectoral interests.

Sectoral Representatives

- Sectoral representatives for the SPC's will be drawn from the following sectors;
 1. Agriculture / Farming
 2. Development / Construction and Business / Commercial
 3. Trade Union
 4. Environment
 5. Community and Voluntary including, Conservation Culture and Disadvantaged
- The nomination process for Sectors 1, 2, 3 and 4 will be facilitated by the National Pillars i.e. the Business and Employers Pillar, the Trade Union Pillar, the Farming Pillar and the Environmental Pillar.
- The nomination process for Sector 5 will be determined on the basis of a local nomination process through the Community and Voluntary Forum

- Sectoral nominees should retain membership of the SPC for the life of the Council.
- Each sector should select its own nominee.
- State and Local Development Agencies should not be included as nominating bodies to the sectors and should not be represented on an SPC.
- Nominations from the Sectors should, in so far as possible reflect an appropriate gender balance in line with Government policy.

Implementation Support Measures

Limerick County Council will provide on-going training for members of the SPC's which will include;

- workshops on policy to cover the various areas within the remit of the SPC's
- briefings on the renewal of local government
- briefings on the role and functions of local government

The draft scheme prepared is in accordance with the requirements of the Guidelines and takes into account the Review of the Operation of Strategic Policy Committees 17th June 2004.

Strategic Policy Committees – Some Suggested Topics for Consideration

Planning and Development Policy	Environmental Policy	Transportation and Infrastructural Policy	Housing Policy	Social, Cultural and Community Development Policy
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • County Development Plan • Joint Limerick City / County Housing Strategy • Rural House Design Guidelines • Land – Use and Transportation / M.W.A.S.P • Regional Retail Strategy • Forward Planning • National Spatial Strategy and its Implications • Rural Housing and Rural Resettlement 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Waste Management • Litter Control Policy/ Management/Pollution • Recycling Policy/Water Quality Standards • Agricultural Bye-Laws and Agricultural Waste Management • Environmental Education and Awareness Strategy/ Campaigns • Fire Services Plan • Building Control • Service Indicators for Waste Management, Street Cleaning and Refuse Collection • Impact of EPA Decisions 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Burial Ground Maintenance and Development Strategy. • Planning / development control onto national roads and strategic Regional Roads. • Noise/Environmental Noise Legislation. • Signage Policy (directional, tourist and business in urban and suburban areas). • Management of Water and Sewerage Infrastructure. • Service Indicators for Water Services. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Homelessness Strategy • Traveller Accommodation • The House Building Programme • Policy on Anti-Social Behaviour • Housing Needs for the Disabled • Estate Management • Scheme of Letting Priorities • Integrated Policy for Asylum- Seekers • Playground Facilities • Housing (Miscellaneous 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Library Development • Arts Plan / Strategy • Development and Prioritisation of Amenity Facilities • Tourism Promotion and Development • National Children’s Strategy • Sports Partnership and Sports Strategy • Heritage Plan • Community Development Activities / Policies • Playground Facilities • Enterprise Development / Industrial Promotion &

<p>Policy</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Strategic Planning Guidelines • Economic Development Opportunities • Tourism Development • Industrial Development/Industrial Promotion/Enterprise Development Policy • Heritage Plan • Parks Strategy 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Implementation of EU Directives • Consumer Protection (Meat Inspection, Disease of Animals) • Control of Animals • Derelict sites/Dangerous structures • Unauthorised Encampments • Water Safety • Food Safety • Casual Trading 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Discharge standards / Discharge licences. • Conditions of/for Supply of water and wastewater. • Water Conservation. • Water Services Strategic Plan. • Water Services Assessment of Needs/Investment Programme. • Public Lighting: Procurement of Energy and Maintenance Services. • Smarter Travel Areas. • Road Safety Plan. 	<p>Provisions) Act, 2009</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Joint Housing Strategy • Ras • Private Rented Accommodation/PRT B 	<p>Policies</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Local Anti-Poverty & Social Inclusion Strategy • Recreation Strategy • Integrated Traveller Strategy • Update on County Development Board Priority Actions • Disability Sectoral Plan • R.A.P.I.D. Programme • Comhairle na nÓg • Joint Policing Committee
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Sectoral Representation on Strategic Policy Committees

	Planning and Development Policy	Environmental Policy	Transportation and Infrastructural Policy	Ho usi ng Poli cy	Social, Cultural and Community Development Policy	
<u>Sector</u>						
Agriculture / Farming	1	1	1		1	4
Development / Construction and Business / Commercial	2	1	2	1	1	7
Trade Union			1	1		2
Environment		1				1
Community and Voluntary including, Conservation, Culture and Disadvantaged	3	2	2	4	3	14

SECTORS	6	5	6	6	5	28
COUNCILL	12	10	12	12	10	
ORS	18	15	18	18	15	
TOTAL						

Process of Establishment of Strategic Policy Committees

Sequence of Events	Timescale
Draft Scheme to be considered by Council	September 2009 Meeting of Council
Advertise / Publicise the draft scheme	Early October 2009
The draft scheme to be circulated to the following and allow 4 – 6 weeks for responses, if any; <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Community and Voluntary Forum • The National Pillars of Partnership 2000 • Responses received to the public advertisements 	
Council to consider submissions on draft scheme and adopt scheme with or without amendments	November 2009 Council Meeting
Limerick County Council to write to the National Pillars seeking nominations – to respond within 2 weeks	
Limerick County Council to write to Community and Voluntary Forum seeking nominations for the community/voluntary/disadvantaged sector and the environment/conservation/cultural sector – to respond within 2 weeks	
Receive nominations from each of the sectors	
Advise Council of nominations from sectors to SPC's and Council to adopt membership	December 2009 Meeting of Council
First meeting of Strategic Policy Committees	

National Pillars

National Pillars		Telephone and e-mail
Business and Employers Pillar	John Hickey. Chambers Ireland, 17 Merrion Square, Dublin 2	01-4004300 john.hickey@chambers.ie
Trade Union Pillar	Fergus Whelan. Irish Congress of Trade Unions (ICTU) Head Office, 31/32 Parnell Square, Dublin 1	01-8897777 fergus.whelan@ictu.ie
Farming Pillar	Gerry Gunning. Irish Farmers Association (IFA), Irish Farm Centre, Bluebell, Dublin 12	01-4500266 gerrygunning@ifa.ie
Environmental Pillar	Michael Ewing.	071-9667373

	Environmental Pillar-Social Partnership Coordinator, Knockvicar, Boyle, Co. Roscommon.	michael@ien.ie
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