

COMHAIRLE CONTAE FHINE GALL FINGAL COUNTY COUNCIL

Email: Corporate.Services@fingal.ie

County Hall
Swords
Co Dublin

Wednesday, 29th October 2025

**To Each Member of the Climate Action, Biodiversity, Environment
Strategic Policy Committee**

Dear Member

A meeting of the **Climate Action, Biodiversity, Environment Strategic
Policy Committee** will be held **Hybrid in Conference Room 3A6 - County
Hall, Swords/ MS Teams at 4.30 pm on Wednesday, 26th November,
2025** to consider the following Agenda.

Yours faithfully

**Ciara O hAodha
Meetings Administrator
Corporate Services**

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A G E N D A

- 1 Confirmation and Re-Affirmation of Minutes of the Climate Action, Biodiversity, Environment SPC meeting held on Tuesday 16th September 2025**
- 2 Draft Fingal Sustainability Strategy**
- 3 Land Acquisition for Biodiversity Action Plan Implementation**
- 4 Strategic Policy Committee Work Programme 2025 Update**

MOTIONS

- 5 Councillor D. Healy - Sustainable Water Management and Biodiversity Enhancement Measures in the Council's own Developments**

“That the Chief Executive report on the progress of implementing sustainable water management and biodiversity enhancement measures in the Council's own developments.”

**Comhairle Contae Fingall
Fingal County Council**

**Minutes of Climate Action, Biodiversity, Environment Strategic Policy
Committee**

**Tuesday, 16th September, 2025
Room 3A6, County Hall, Swords / MS Teams at 4.30pm**

PRESENT

Council Members:

Councillor Joe Newman, Councillor Helen Redwood, Councillor David Healy.

Non-Council Members:

Paul Flynn (IFA)

The Chairperson, Councillor Joe Newman, presided.

OFFICIALS PRESENT

David Storey, Director of Services; John Daly, Senior Engineer; Catherine O'Donovan, Senior Executive Officer; Jackie Fowler, Administrative Officer, Grainne Carroll, Administrative Officer, Hans Visser, Biodiversity Officer, Maria Hand, Senior Staff Officer.

CABE/15/25 (Agenda Item No 1)

**Confirmation and Re-Affirmation of Amended Minutes of the Climate Action,
Biodiversity, Environment SPC meeting held on Tuesday 25th March 2025.**

Minutes of the Climate Action, Biodiversity, Environment SPC Meeting held on Tuesday 25th March 2025 which had been circulated were **CONSIDERED**.

It was then **PROPOSED** by Councillor H. Redwood, seconded by Councillor J. Newman and **RESOLVED** –

“That the minutes of the Climate Action, Biodiversity, Environment SPC Meeting held on Tuesday 25th March 2025 be **ADOPTED**.”

CABE/16/25 (Agenda Item No 2)

**Confirmation and Re-Affirmation of Minutes of the Climate Action, Biodiversity,
Environment SPC meeting held on Tuesday 24th June 2025.**

Minutes of the Climate Action, Biodiversity, Environment SPC Meeting held on Tuesday 24th June 2025 which had been circulated were **CONSIDERED**.

It was then PROPOSED by Councillor H. Redwood, seconded by Councillor J. Newman and **RESOLVED** –

“That the minutes of the Climate Action, Biodiversity, Environment SPC Meeting held on Tuesday 24th June 2025 be **ADOPTED**.”

CABE/17/25 (Agenda Item No 3)

Biodiversity Implementation Plan

Hans Visser, Biodiversity officer gave a presentation on the Biodiversity Implementation Plan which included an update on the priority actions on the Fingal Biodiversity Plan 2025 and on the Forest of Fingal Strategy. Councillor H. Redwood raised the issue of drones/food deliveries having a negative effect on biodiversity and requested that this committee make note of this issue. Councillor D. Healy requested that this committee write to the Minister of Housing regarding a pilot housing scheme for biodiversity and also to address Land Acquisition at next SPC meeting. A motion was submitted by Councillor D. Healy requesting that “This SPC recommends that sufficient funding is allocated under the budget and the Capital Programme to implement the Biodiversity Action Plan”. It was agreed that the Chair will bring this to the CPG.

The presentation was **NOTED**.

CABE/18/25 (Agenda Item No 4)

Councillor D. Healy - Green Public Procurement Strategy

“That the Chief Executive report on the progress in developing the Green Public Procurement Strategy for this Council including the consideration of the “Greener by Default” approach recommended by this Committee.”

The motion, in the name of Councillor D. Healy was proposed by D. Healy and seconded by Councillor J. Newman.

Report:

The Fingal County Council Green Public Procurement Strategy 2024-2026 was agreed by the Executive Management Team in July 2024 and is available to view on www.fingal.ie.

The Fingal County Council Green Public Procurement Strategy outlines the Council’s commitment to keeping sustainability to the forefront of everything it does and adopting green procurement strategies to achieve a more sustainable future for our community and promote eco-innovation, climate action, and circular economy. The strategy provides a clear mandate for sustainability through procurement.

Fingal County Council continues to promote sustainable food procurement and recognises that going meat free at least once a week is healthier, cheaper and will reduce agricultural emissions. <https://www.fingal.ie/simple-ways-act-climate-change>.

Fingal County Council Departments are asked to consider incorporating the 'Greener by Default' approach to procurements with a food service requirement.

Jacqueline Fowler, Administrative Officer, Finance read the report and discussion with the Members followed.

The report was **Accepted**.

The Meeting concluded at 17:33.

CHAIRPERSON

DATED

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**COMHAIRLE CONTAE FHINE GALL
FINGAL COUNTY COUNCIL**

**CLIMATE ACTION, BIODIVERSITY, ENVIRONMENT STRATEGIC
POLICY COMMITTEE**

WEDNESDAY 26TH NOVEMBER 2025

ITEM NO. 02

DRAFT FINGAL SUSTAINABILITY STRATEGY

Presentation will be provided at the meeting.

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**COMHAIRLE CONTAE FHINE GALL
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**CLIMATE ACTION, BIODIVERSITY, ENVIRONMENT STRATEGIC
POLICY COMMITTEE**

WEDNESDAY 26TH NOVEMBER 2025

ITEM NO. 03

**LAND ACQUISITION FOR BIODIVERSITY ACTION PLAN
IMPLEMENTATION**

Presentation will be provided at the meeting.

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**COMHAIRLE CONTAE FHINE GALL
FINGAL COUNTY COUNCIL**

**CLIMATE ACTION, BIODIVERSITY, ENVIRONMENT STRATEGIC
POLICY COMMITTEE**

WEDNESDAY 26TH NOVEMBER 2025

ITEM NO. 04

**STRATEGIC POLICY COMMITTEE WORK PROGRAMME 2025
UPDATE**

Presentation will be provided at the meeting.

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COMHAIRLE CONTAE FHINE GALL FINGAL COUNTY COUNCIL

CLIMATE ACTION, BIODIVERSITY, ENVIRONMENT STRATEGIC POLICY COMMITTEE

WEDNESDAY 26TH NOVEMBER 2025

ITEM NO. 05

SUSTAINABLE WATER MANAGEMENT AND BIODIVERSITY ENHANCEMENT MEASURES IN THE COUNCIL'S OWN DEVELOPMENTS

Motion: Councillor D. Healy

"That the Chief Executive report on the progress of implementing sustainable water management and biodiversity enhancement measures in the Council's own developments".

Report:

Surface Water and Flood management on all developments must comply with the Sustainable Drainage & Flood Management objectives in the Fingal Development Plan 2023-2029 and the Strategic Flood Risk Assessment for the Development Plan as well as the requirements of the Fingal Green Blue Infrastructure Guidance and the Fingal Green & Blue Roof Guidance.

Fingal County Council have a number of developments in progress that take into account Sustainable Drainage & Flood Management objectives in the Fingal Development Plan 2023-2029 and the Fingal Biodiversity Action Plan along with assessing projects under the relevant indicators in the selected Building Environmental Assessment Methods of the Irish Green Building Councils Home

Performance Index or BREEAM as appropriate. The indicators sit under Land Use and Ecology which support biodiversity policies.

Green roofs are being provided on a number of apartment buildings including Church Fields, Ballymastone, Mooretown and Seatown Road with green roof currently proposed for Woodside. The urban infill development at 30-32 North Street is to incorporate a green roof over the bike store, rainwater butts, permeable paving in the courtyard space and beneath the car parking and tree pits.

A number of Public Buildings recently constructed or in progress incorporate green roofs including Meakstown Community Centre, Baldoyle Racecourse Community Centre, Skerries Library and Swords Cultural Quarter. These also include tree pits, permeable paving and planting. The Meakstown Community Centre also features a rain garden swale and the Baldoyle Community Centre parking spaces have been constructed in permeable grasscrete.

All the above projects use native planning in the landscaping proposals. The schemes incorporate nest boxes for swifts, swallows and/or house martins as appropriate. Lighting proposals are bat sensitive and incorporate bat boxes where relevant.

The Building Environmental Assessment Methods adopted include biodiversity assessment in terms of impact, net gain and/or ecology green points as appropriate.

Source of report: Daire Bracken, Senior Executive Architect/Colin Gallagher, Senior Engineer, PS&I