Chairman's Report of Strategic Policy Committee 5-Community, Cultural and Fire Services held on Wednesday 4th December, 2019 at 3pm in The Chamber, County Hall.

### 1. Introduction

Mary Mulholland welcomed all present and noted that the Policy document outlining the Strategic Policy Committee Scheme (SPC) and its remit had been circulated previously.

### 1.1 Election of Chairperson

Cllr. John Brennan was proposed as Chairperson.

Proposed: Cllr. Thomas Breathnach

Seconded: Cllr. John Coonan

1.2 Welcome by the Chairperson

Cllr. Brennan welcomed all attendees to SPC 5. He looks forward to a productive term and engagement from the members of the SPC.

#### 2. Overview of SPC Scheme

Mary Mulholland (Director of Services), gave an overview of the Scheme in particular noting Section 4 (Terms of Reference) and number of meetings per year (minimum of 4).

### 3. Fire Services Presentation:

John Collins (Chief Fire Officer) gave a presentation outlining the organisation, operations and Fire Safety objectives of the Fire Services. (see attached presentation).

# Policy areas for consideration by SPC:

- Kilkenny County Council- Fire and Emergency Operations Plan
- Kilkenny County Council- Fire and Rescue Service Fire Charges Policy.

### 4. Library Services Presentation:

Josephine Coyne (County Librarian) gave a presentation outlining the services provided by Libraries in Kilkenny (see attached presentation).

# Main areas of focus going forward:

- Increase Membership National target
- Annual stock fund target per local authority €4 per head of population-€1.14 in Kilkenny
- Place the library at the centre of the community
- Continue to develop partnerships at local and national level

# 5. Heritage Office Presentation:

Dearbhala Ledwidge (Heritage Officer) gave a presentation on the services and projects provide by the Heritage Office. (see attached presentation). The Heritage Office works in partnership with:

- Local Authority
- Kilkenny Heritage Forum
- Communities
- Statutory Agencies
- Education Sector

### Policy areas for consideration by SPC:

- Pollinator Programme 2020
- Heritage Policies & Priorities

# **6. Art Office Presentation:**

Mary Butler (Arts Officer) gave a presentation on the services/programmes provided by the Arts Office.

Policy Areas:

- Inclusion Policy
- Public Art Policy
- Lifelong learning Policy
- Community Policy

# 7. Director of Services Presentation

Mary Mulholland (Director of Services) gave a presentation on a number of policy areas to be considered by SPC 5 during the lifetime of the committee.

- C.C.F.C.S. Grants
- Events Grants
- PPN While separate to the Local Authority, it is linked through the Community Section.
- Children and Youth Action Plan
- Rural Development
- Healthy Ireland
- Support Creative Industries

Agreed: Items to be reviewed and programme of work to be development and circulated to the committee. The committee will review at the next meeting and create/schedule policy action areas.

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February 12th 2020. 3pm. Council Chamber, County Hall.