



20<sup>th</sup> June, 2016.

Fónamh don Phobal - Caomhnú don Oidhreacht

Serving People – Preserving Heritage

**To: An Cathaoirleach and Each Member of Kilkenny County Council.**

**Re: Report on Sustainable Energy Action Plan for Kilkenny.**

In 2014, Kilkenny County Council became a signatory to the E. U. Covenant of Mayors. This E. U. initiative endorses and supports local and regional authorities in combating climate change through energy efficiency and emission reduction.

The Covenant of Mayors is a voluntary commitment to meet the E. U. 20% CO<sub>2</sub> reduction and energy efficiency targets through the implementation of a Sustainable Energy Action Plan – **SEAP**. To access E. U. supports to local authorities under the Covenant of Mayors initiative Kilkenny County Council is required to adopt and submit a **SEAP**.

Process required:

1. Signature of the Covenant of Mayors;
2. Submission of a SEAP;
3. Submission of a SEAP Implementation Report.

The completion of Step 2 in this process- Submission of SEAP – is required during January, 2017, and is currently underway through the following actions;

1. Administrative Structure:
  - Steering group has been established with sectoral working groups initiated;
2. Compilation of Baseline Energy Inventory:
  - Carlow Kilkenny Energy Agency has compiled baseline data for Kilkenny based on 2006 figures together with appropriate targets and objectives reflecting 20% increase in renewables, 20% increase in energy efficiency and 20% reduction in CO<sub>2</sub> emissions;
3. Build support from Stakeholders and Citizens;
  - The SEAP Steering Group has identified baseline data under Five Sectors:
    - ~ Agriculture;
    - ~ Public & Community;
    - ~ Commercial;
    - ~ Transport;
    - ~ Residential;

To commence meaningful and effective stakeholder engagement, sectoral working groups are being established for each of these areas with a local

authority and CKEA co-ordinator leading each group. Stakeholders have been invited to attend meetings in July and August to examine available data and to agree measures to be taken and quantified for long term reporting to confirm the achievement of stated objectives.

4. Establishment of a long term vision with each sectoral working group will identify and agree actions to achieve energy efficiencies and emission reductions for inclusion in a draft SEAP. Public consultation will follow the initial agreement of objectives with stakeholders.

5. Development and approval of the SEAP:

- The output of each sectoral working group and public consultation will be compiled into the SEAP for Kilkenny with clearly defined actions for implementation and measurement of outcomes.

The draft SEAP will be agreed by the Steering Group and considered by SPC5 before circulation to the elected members in November, 2016, for consideration and amendment or adoption.

An adopted SEAP must be submitted to the E. U. during January, 2017.

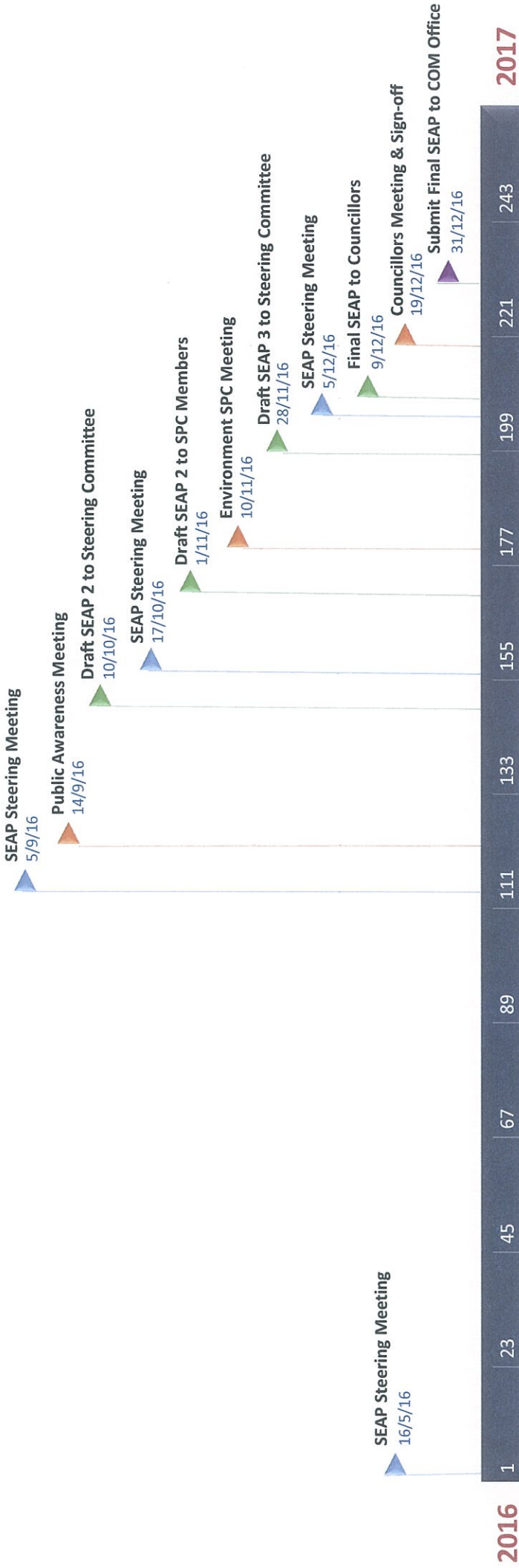
Attached are details of indicative timelines for stakeholder engagement, consultation and Kilkenny County Council consideration and adoption.

Every effort will be made to secure the broadest stakeholder engagement possible and any elected members who wish to take part in a sectoral working group can contact Ms. Carol McCarthy, Environment Section by email at [carol.mccarthy@kilkennycoco.ie](mailto:carol.mccarthy@kilkennycoco.ie) for details of the various working groups and dates of meeting in the coming weeks.



**Mary J. Mulholland,  
Director of Services,**

**Water Services & Environment.**



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Today

Stakeholder Engagement 16/5/2016 - 02/9/2016

Review SEAP - Steering Committee comments 5/9/2016 - 14/9/2016

Review SEAP - Public comments 15/9/2016 - 17/10/2016

Review SEAP - Steering Committee Comments 17/10/2016 - 1/11/2016

Review SEAP - SPC comments 11/11/2016 - 28/11/2016

Final SEAP to be completed 28/11/2016 - 9/12/2016

COM Office Review 2/1/2017 - 31/1/2017

