

COMHAIRLE CONTAE CHIARRAÍ
KERRY COUNTY COUNCIL

SCÉIM na gCOISTÍ um
BEARTAIS STRAITÉISEACHA
STRATEGIC POLICY
COMMITTEE SCHEME

MEÁN FOMHAIR 2024
SEPTEMBER 2024

Arna ghlacadh ag Comhairle Contae Chiarraí an 09 Meán
Fómhair 2024

Adopted by Kerry County Council on 09 September 2024

The role of the Strategic Policy Committees

The statutory basis for Strategic Policy Committees (SPCs) is set out in Section 48 of the Local Government Act 2001, as amended by Section 41 of the Local Government Reform Act 2014.

The role of the Strategic Policy Committees is to “*consider matters connected with the formulation, development, monitoring and review of policy, which relate to the function of the local authority and the advise the authority on these matters.*”

Kerry County Council, and all local authorities in Ireland have established SPCs which bring together both elected members, and people actively working with social, economic, cultural and environmental bodies to develop and review policies related to council services.

The SPCs provide elected members with external views as they discharge their strategic role in the development of the local authority, including their policy development and oversight roles within the local authority. The SPC system provides them with a better focus and enhanced capacity for involvement in policy formulation, review and evaluation, with inbuilt assistance of relevant sectoral interests and the support of a Director of Services.

SPCs prepare the groundwork for policies which are then decided on by the local authority, including as appropriate at municipal district level. Accordingly, local sectoral interests, including the trade union, farming, environmental and community/voluntary sectors, along with the business community, are members of the SPCs, along with the Elected Members.

Section 48(1A) of the 2001 Act requires that at least one of the SPCs that is established shall be to consider matters which relate to the functions of the local authority in relation to economic development and enterprise support. Accordingly, each local authority shall form an SPC entitled the “SPC for Economic Development and Enterprise”.

The functions of this SPC are to include the preparation of the economic elements of the Local Economic and Community Plan (LECP), the implementation and review of the economic elements of the LECP and the oversight by the elected members of the operation of the Local Enterprise Office (LEO).

SPCs assist Kerry County Council in the formulation, development, monitoring and review of policy. This means that SPCs should be involved at the earliest stages in the policy making cycle, from the initiation and development of policies to address local challenges or opportunities, to the monitoring and evaluation of the implementation of those policies.

- **Policy formulation** – The process by which policy alternatives to address particular local challenges or opportunities are identified and narrowed down.

Ról na gCoistí um Beartais Straitéiseacha

Leagtar amach bunús reachtúil na gCoistí um Beartais Straitéiseacha (CBS) in Alt 48 den Acht Rialtais Áitiúil 2001, arna leasú ag Alt 41 den Acht um Athchóiriú Rialtais Áitiúil 2014.

Is é ról na gCoistí um Beartais Straitéiseacha ná *“breithniú a dhéanamh ar nithe a bhaineann le foirmiú, forbairt, monatóireacht agus athbhreithniú beartais, a bhaineann le feidhm an údaráis áitiúil agus comhairle a thabhairt don údarás ar na hábhair seo.”*

Tá SPCanna bunaithe ag Comhairle Contae Chiarraí agus ag gach údarás áitiúil in Éirinn a thugann le chéile comhaltaí tofa, agus daoine a oibríonn go gníomhach le comhlachtaí sóisialta, eacnamaíocha, cultúrtha agus comhshaoil chun polasaithe a bhaineann le seirbhísí na comhairle a fhorbairt agus a athbhreithniú.

Cuireann na SPCanna tuairimí seachtracha ar fáil do chomhaltaí tofa de réir mar a dhéanann siad a ról straitéiseach i bhforbairt an údaráis áitiúil a chomhlíonadh, lena n-áirítear na ról atá acu maidir le forbairt bheartais agus maoirseacht san údarás áitiúil. Cuireann an córas SPC fócas níos fearr agus cumas feabhsaithe ar fáil dóibh chun páirt a ghlacadh i bhfoirmiú, athbhreithniú agus meastóireacht beartais, le cúnamh ó leasanna earnála ábhartha mar chuid de agus le tacaíocht ó Stiúrthóir Seirbhísí.

Ullmhaíonn SPCanna an bhunobair do bheartais ndéanann an t-údarás áitiúil cinneadh uirthi ina dhiaidh sin, lena n-áirítear de réir mar is cuí ag leibhéal an cheantair bhardasaigh. Dá réir sin, tá leasanna earnála áitiúla, lena n-áirítear na hearnálacha ceardchumainn, feirmeoireachta, comhshaoil agus pobail/deonacha, mar aon leis an bpobal gnó, ina mbaill de na SPCanna, mar aon leis na Comhaltaí Tofa.

Ceanglaítear le hAlt 48(1A) d'Acht 2001 go gcuirfear ceann amháin ar a laghad de na SPCanna ar bun chun breithniú a dhéanamh ar nithe a bhaineann le feidhmeanna an údaráis áitiúil i ndáil le forbairt eacnamaíoch agus tacaíocht fiontair. Dá réir sin, bunóidh gach údarás áitiúil SPC dar teideal "SPC um Fhorbairt Gheilleagrach agus Fiontar".

Is iad feidhmeanna an SPC seo ná ullmhú na ngnéithe eacnamaíocha den Phlean Áitiúil Eacnamaíoch agus Pobail (LECP), cur i bhfeidhm agus athbhreithniú eilimintí eacnamaíocha an LECP agus maoirseacht na gcomhaltaí tofa ar oibriú na hOifige Fiontair Áitiúil (LEO) a chur san áireamh.

Cuidíonn SPCanna le Comhairle Contae Chiarraí polasaí a cheapadh, a fhorbairt, a mhonatóiriú agus a athbhreithniú. Is ionann sin is a rá gur cheart go mbeadh SPCanna páirteach ag na céimeanna is luaithe sa timthriall déanta beartas, ó thionscnamh agus forbairt na mbeartas chun aghaidh a thabhairt ar dhúshláin nó ar dheiseanna áitiúla, go faireachán agus meastóireacht a dhéanamh ar chur chun feidhme na mbeartas sin.

- **Ceapadh beartais** – An próiseas trína ndéantar roghanna beartais eile chun aghaidh a thabhairt ar dhúshláin nó ar dheiseanna áitiúla ar leith a aithint agus a chúngú

- **Policy development** – The process by which a particular policy is to be most effectively implemented: by whom, using what financial and other resources, within what timeframe, with what measurable anticipated outcomes or results, etc.
- **Monitoring and review of policy** during and after a policy is implemented to evaluate whether the policy objectives are being achieved and the outcome of the policy approach taken.

The Corporate Policy Group

The statutory basis for Corporate Policy Groups (CPGs) is set out in section 133 of the Local Government Act 2001, as amended by Section 48 of the 2014 Act.

This provides that the CPG may:

- (a) “advise and assist the elected council in the formulation, development, monitoring and review of policy for the local authority and for that purpose propose arrangements for the consideration of policy matters and the organisation of related business by the elected council”

and

- (b) “make proposals for the allocation of business as between strategic policy committees and for the general coordination of such businesses”.

The role of the CPG is strategic and it links and co-ordinates the work of the different SPCs. Membership of the CPG consists of the Cathaoirleach of Kerry County Council, the Chairs of the Strategic Policy Committees and where a Municipal District is not represented either by the Cathaoirleach or a Chair of an SPC, by a representative nominated by the Members of that Municipal District.

The CPG, like an SPC, is a committee of the council. Its task is to advise and assist the council, with full decision-making authority remaining with the council. Acting as a link between the SPCs and the full council, the CPG plays an active role in the following areas:

- It plays a key role in preparing the draft budget;
- Provides input to full council on any matter of general concern to the council either on its own initiative or following a request from the council;
- Determines responsibility for discharge of reserved functions as between the municipal district level (or a specific municipal district) and the local authority, where a question of consistency or avoidance of unnecessary duplication is referred to it by the Chief Executive;

- **Forbairt beartais** – An próiseas trína gcuirfear beartas ar leith i bhfeidhm ar an mbealach is éifeachtaí: cé a chuirfidh i bhfeidhm é, cad iad na hacmhainní airgeadais agus eile a mbainfear úsáid astu, cén tréimhse ama atá i gceist, cad iad na torthaí nó na torthaí intomhaiste a mbeifear ag súil leo, srl.
- **Monatóireacht agus athbhreithniú ar bheartas** le linn agus tar éis polasaí a chur i bhfeidhm chun a mheas cé acu atá na cuspóirí beartais á mbaint amach agus toradh an chur chuige beartais a glacadh.

An Grúpa um Beartais Chorparáideacha

Leagtar amach bunús reachtúil na gCoistí um Beartais Chorparáideacha (CBC) in Alt 133 den Acht Rialtais Áitiúil 2001, arna leasú ag Alt 48 den Acht um Athchóiriú Rialtais Áitiúil 2014.

Foráiltear leis sin go bhféadfaidh CPG:

- (c) a. "comhairle agus cúnamh a thabhairt don chomhairle thofa maidir le beartas a cheapadh, a fhorbairt, agus monatóireacht agus athbhreithniú a dhéanamh orthu don údarás áitiúil agus chun na críche sin socruithe a mholadh chun cúrsaí beartais a bhreithniú agus gnó gaolmhar a eagrú ag an gcomhairle thofa"

agus

- (d) "Moltaí a dhéanamh maidir le gnó a leithdháileadh idir coistí um bheartas straitéiseach agus maidir le comhordú ginearálta na ngnóthaí sin".

Tá ról straitéiseach ag an CPG agus nascann sé agus comhordaíonn sé obair na SPCanna éagsúla. Mar bhallraíocht den CPG tá Cathaoirleach Chomhairle Contae Chiarraí, Cathaoirleach na gCoistí um Beartais Straitéiseacha agus sa chás nach bhfuil an Cathaoirleach nó Cathaoirleach CPS ionadaíoch ar Ceantar Bardasach, ionadaí arna ainmniú ag Comhaltaí an Cheantair Bhardasaigh sin.

Is coiste de chuid na comhairle é an GPC, cosúil le SPC. Is é an tasc atá aige ná comhairle agus cúnamh a thabhairt don chomhairle, ach bíonn an t-údarás iomlán cinnteoireachta fós ag an gcomhairle. Ag feidhmiú mar nasc idir na SPCanna agus an chomhairle iomlán, tá ról gníomhach ag an CPG sna réimsí seo a leanas:

- Tá príomhról aige in ullmhú an dréachtbhuiséid;
- Déanann sé ionchur don chomhairle iomlán ar aon ábhar imní ginearálta don chomhairle, as a stuaim féin nó tar éis iarratas ón gcomhairle;
- Cinneann an fhreagracht as feidhmeanna forchoimeádta a chomhlíonadh amhail idir leibhéal an cheantair bhardasaigh (nó ceantar bardasach sonrach) agus an t-údarás áitiúil, i gcás ina n-ardaíonn an Príomhfheidhmeannach ceist maidir le comhsheasmhacht nó le dúbailt neamhriachtanach a sheachaint;

- Monitors the overall performance of a local authority, including in relation to matters of governance and oversight, in particular through consideration of reports of the Audit Committee, Local Government Auditor and National Oversight and Audit Commission (NOAC), and in accordance with the Local Government Code of Governance;
- Deals with overall issues in relation to service delivery plans, customer service, value for money, etc., (individual SPCs would deal with such issues in their work insofar as their particular service remit was concerned);
- Approves the work programmes of the SPCs and monitor their achievement;
- Co-ordinates the work of the SPCs;
- Requests SPCs to consider particular policy issues; where appropriate; and
- Provides feedback to the SPCs on council policy and views in areas relevant to the SPCs.

The Cathaoirleach reports to the full Council on the work of the CPG, and also on the work (including proposals) of the SPCs on a quarterly basis (although this may be more frequent depending on circumstances). The Chairs of each SPC report back to their Committees similarly, as do the representatives of each municipal district to their fellow municipal district members.

- Déanann sé monatóireacht ar fheidhmíocht fhoriomlán údaráis áitiúil, lena n-áirítear maidir le cúrsaí rialachais agus maoirseachta, go háirithe trí bhreithniú a dhéanamh ar thuarascálacha an Choiste Iniúcháireachta, an Iniúcháir Rialtais Áitiúil agus an Choimisiúin Náisiúnta Maoirseachta agus Iniúchta (NOAC), agus de réir Chód Rialachais an Rialtais Áitiúil;
- Bíonn sé ag plé le saincheisteanna foriomlána maidir le pleananna seachadta seirbhíse, seirbhís do chustaiméirí, luach ar airgead, etc., (pléifidh SPCanna aonair le saincheisteanna dá leithéid ina gcuid oibre chomh fada agus a bhainfeadh sé lena sainchúram seirbhíse);
- Déanann sé clár oibre na SPCanna a cheadú agus déanann monatóireacht ar a ngnóthachtáil;
- Comhordaíonn sé obair na SPCanna;
- Iarrann sé ar SPCanna saincheisteanna beartais ar leith a bhreithniú; nuair is cuí; agus
- Tugann sé aiseolas do na SPCanna ar bheartas agus ar thuairimí na comhairle i réimsí a bhaineann leis na SPCanna.

Tuairiscíonn an Cathaoirleach don Chomhairle iomlán ar obair an CPG, agus freisin ar obair (lena n-áirítear moltaí) na SPCanna ar bhonn ráithiúil (cé go bhféadfadh sé seo a bheith níos minice ag brath ar imthosca). Tuairiscíonn Cathaoirleach gach CPS ar a gCoistí mar an gcéanna, mar a dhéanann ionadaithe gach ceantair bhardasaigh dá gcomhbhaill ceantair bhardasaigh.

Framework Configuration for Strategic Policy Committees

Kerry County Council will establish five Strategic Policy Committees which will cover the range of services provided by the Council. The five SPCs, including the main policy areas covered, are as follows:

1. Economic Development, Enterprise, Tourism and Community SPC

- Business Support (LEO)
- Economic Planning
- Tourism
- Urban & Rural Regeneration
- Recreation Policy
- Climate Action

2. Roads & Transportation SPC

- Transport Policy
- Road Safety
- Active Travel & Public Realm
- Climate Action

3. Environment, Climate Action, Marine and Emergency Planning SPC

- Planning and Sustainable Development
- Climate Policy
- Biodiversity
- Environment
- Emergency Planning
- Water Quality
- Energy
- Marine

4. Housing SPC

- Housing
- Climate Action

5. Culture, Heritage and the Gaeltacht SPC

- Culture
- Heritage
- Arts
- Library
- Archives
- Irish language
- Gaeltacht Areas
- Commemorative Events
- Climate Action

Cumraíocht Creata na gCoistí um Beartais Straitéiseacha

Bunóidh Comhairle Contae Chiarraí cúig Choiste um Beartais Straitéiseacha a chlúdóidh an raon seirbhísí a sholáthraíonn an Chomhairle. Is iad seo a leanas na cúig CBS agus na príomhréimsí beartas a chlúdaíonn siad:

6. CBS Forbartha Eacnamaíche, Fiontraíochta, Turasóireachta agus Pobail

- Tacaíocht Ghnó (OFÁ)
- Pleanáil Eacnamaíoch
- Turasóireacht
- Athghiniúint Uirbeach & Tuaithe
- Beartas Áineasa
- Gníomhú ar son na hAeráide

7. CBS Bóithre & Iompair

- Beartas Iompair
- Sábháilteacht ar Bhóithre
- Taisteal Gníomhach & Fearann Poiblí
- Gníomhú ar son na hAeráide

8. CBS Timpeallachta, Gníomhaithe Aeráide, Mara agus Pleanála Éigeandála

- Pleanáil agus Forbairt Inbhuanaithe
- Beartas Aeráide
- Bithéagsúlacht
- Timpeallacht
- Pleanáil Éigeandála
- Caighdeán Uisce
- Fuinneamh
- Cúrsaí Mara

9. CBS Tithíochta

- Tithíocht
- Gníomhú ar son na hAeráide

10. CBS Cultúir, Oidhreacht agus Gaeltachta

- Cultúr
- Oidhreacht
- Na hEalaíona
- Leabharlanna
- Cartlanna
- An Ghaeilge
- Ceantair Ghaeltachta
- Imeachtaí Comórtha
- Gníomhú ar son na hAeráide

Climate

Guidance from the Department of Housing, Local Government & Heritage states that each SPC is required to consider climate action and climate impacts as part of any and all policies that form part of its work programme. As a result, an SPC dealing specifically with climate action and climate impacts is not recommended.

In addition, there is a requirement on each SPC to have regard to the Regional, Spatial and Economic Strategies (RSES) prepared by the Regional Assembly.

Other factors to be taken into account in determining the overall framework of SPCs for Kerry County Council includes:

- The total number of elected members on the council;
- The range of sectoral and other interests to be represented, including facilitating a reasonable spread of interests;
- The desirability of allowing adequate opportunity for participation by councillors and sectoral interests;
- The organisational arrangement of service groupings within the authority and the remit envisaged for each SPC;
- The need to ensure that the organisational and financial resources of the particular local authority are not over-stretched; and
- Integration with other meeting requirements and committee structures and ensuring streamlined procedures generally.

Regard must also be had to the Local Community Development Committee (LCDC), including its membership and remit.

SPC Work Programme

Following the approval of the SPC Scheme, and the membership of each SPC finalised, each SPC is required to adopt a multi-annual work programme, which is linked to Kerry County Council's Corporate Plan and the objectives included within. The SPC Members should be fully involved in the process of drawing up the work programme.

Once a suitable draft work programme has been prepared for an SPC, it should be circulated to the SPC membership for their observations, comments and feedback. At least 4 weeks shall be allowed for the SPC Members to return responses on the draft work programme. Having considered any responses from SPC members, the work programme should be finalised and submitted to the CPG.

The role of the CPG is to approve the work programmes of the SPCs and they may, as appropriate, recommend issues to be considered by the SPCs. A review of SPC work programmes should be carried out by the CPG in the third year of the Council term.

Aeráid

Deirtear i dtreoir ón Roinn Tithíochta, Rialtais Áitiúil agus Oidhreacht go bhfuil dualgas ar gach SPC breithniú a dhéanamh ar ghníomhú ar son na haeráide agus ar thionchar na haeráide mar chuid d'aon bheartas agus de gach beartas atá mar chuid dá chlár oibre. Mar thoradh air sin, ní mholtar SPC a bhíonn ag plé go sonrach le gníomhú ar son na haeráide agus le tionchair aeráide.

Ina theannta sin, tá ceanglas ar gach SPC aird a thabhairt ar na Straitéisí Réigiúnacha, Spásúla agus Eacnamaíocha (RSES) a d'ullmhaigh an Tionól Réigiúnach.

I measc na dtosca eile atá le cur san áireamh agus creat foriomlán na SPCanna do Chomhairle Contae Chiarraí á chinneadh tá:

- Líon iomlán na gcomhaltaí tofa ar an gcomhairle;
- An raon leasanna earnála agus leasanna eile a bhfuil ionadaíocht le déanamh orthu, lena n-áirítear réimse réasúnta leasanna a éascú;
- A inmhianaithe atá sé deis leordhóthanach a thabhairt do chomhairleoirí agus do leasanna earnála;
- Socrú eagrúcháin na ngrúpaí seirbhíse laistigh den údarás agus an sainchúram atá beartaithe do gach SPC;
- An gá atá ann a chinntiú nach bhfuil an iomarca brú ar acmhainní eagrúcháin agus airgeadais an údaráis áitiúil ar leith; agus
- Comhtháthú le riachtanais eile cruinnithe agus struchtúir coiste agus nósanna imeachta cuíchóirithe a chinntiú go ginearálta.

Ní mór aird a thabhairt freisin ar an gCoiste Forbartha Pobail Áitiúil (LCDC), lena n-áirítear a bhallaíocht agus an sainchúram atá aige.

Clár Oibre na CBS

Tar éis don Scéim SPC a bheith faofa, agus ballraíocht gach SPC tugtha chun críche, ceanglaítear ar gach SPC clár oibre ilbhliantúil a ghlacadh, atá nasctha le Plean Corparáideach Chomhairle Contae Chiarraí agus leis na cuspóirí atá ann. Ba cheart do Chomhaltaí SPC a bheith neamhdheonach go hiomlán agus an clár oibre á dhréachtú.

A luaithe agus a bheidh dréachtchlár oibre oiriúnach ullmhaithe le haghaidh SPC, ba cheart é a scaipeadh ar bhallaíocht an SPC lena mbarúlacha, tuairimí agus aiseolas a fháil. Ceadófar 4 seachtaine ar a laghad do Chomhaltaí SPC freagraí a thabhairt ar ais ar an dréachtchlár oibre. Tar éis breithniú a dhéanamh ar aon fhreagraí ó bhaill SPC, ba cheart an clár oibre a thabhairt chun críche agus a chur faoi bhráid CPG.

Is é ról CPG clár oibre na SPCanna a fhormheas agus féadfaidh siad, de réir mar is cuí, saincheistanna a mholadh a bheidh le breithniú ag na SPCanna. Ba cheart do CPG athbhreithniú a dhéanamh ar chlár oibre SPC sa tríú bliain de théarma na Comhairle.

Representation on Strategic Policy Committees

The membership of Strategic Policy Committees will comprise of Elected Members and representatives from sectoral groups in County Kerry. These sectoral representatives will bring the knowledge and expertise of people working with social, economic, cultural and Environmental Bodies throughout the county into the operation and strategy of Kerry County Council.

Approaches to stimulate greater citizen engagement should complement rather than diminish, compete with, or substitute for local representative democracy and the primary responsibility and accountability for decision-making within the local authority will remain with the elected council. However, decisions by local authorities will be informed and strengthened by more effective community/citizen engagement and increased public participation in local government. The following factors are requirements in determining sectoral representation on the Strategic Policy Committees.

- The need to foster economic and social development generally;
- A stated commitment to working towards gender balance and to encouraging as full as possible gender balance in representation from the sectors;
- The need to ensure a pro-active approach to having as many relevant sectors as possible across the SPC system;
- The need for balance between divergent interests;
- The need for a comprehensive audit of groups within the local authority area to facilitate the fullest possible consultation with each sector;
- The priority concerns of each sector and the appropriateness of the SPCs to these concerns;
- The relationship between the number of SPCs and the range of interests which can be represented;
- A commitment to the fostering of social inclusiveness and equality;
- A commitment to have a pro-active information strategy to inform the public on the renewal of local government;
- The desirability of facilitating relevant organisations to be part of the nominating constituencies.

Ionadaíocht ar na Coistí um Beartais Straitéiseacha

Beidh Comhaltaí Tofa agus ionadaithe ó ghrúpaí earnála i gContae Chiarraí mar chuid de bhallraíocht na gCoistí Um Beartais Straitéiseacha. Tabharfaidh na hionadaithe earnála seo eolas agus saineolas na ndaoine atá ag obair le Comhlachtaí Sóisialta, Eacnamaíochta, Cultúrtha agus Comhshaoil ar fud an chontae i bhfeidhm agus i straitéis Chomhairle Contae Chiarraí.

Ba cheart go gcomhlánódh cineálacha cur chuige chun rannpháirtíocht níos mó saoránach a spreagadh seachas an daonlathas ionadaíoch áitiúil a laghdú, dul in iomaíocht leis an daonlathas ionadaíoch áitiúil nó é a ionadú agus fanfaidh an phríomhfhreagracht agus an chuntasacht as cinnteoireacht laistigh den údarás áitiúil leis an gcomhairle tofa. Mar sin féin, cuirfear cinntí na n-údarás áitiúil ar an eolas agus neartófar iad trí rannpháirtíocht níos éifeachtaí sa phobal/saoránach agus trí rannpháirtíocht mhéadaithe an phobail sa rialtas áitiúil. Is riachtanais iad na tosca seo a leanas maidir le hionadaíocht earnála ar na Coistí Beartais Straitéiseacha a chinneadh.

- An gá atá le forbairt eacnamaíoch agus shóisialta a chothú i gcoitinne;
- Tiomantas sonraithe d'oibriú i dtreo cothromaíocht inscne agus cothromaíocht inscne chomh hiomlán agus is féidir a spreagadh san ionadaíocht ó na hearnálacha
- An gá atá le cur chuige réamhghníomhach a áirithiú maidir leis an oiread earnálacha ábhartha agus is féidir a bheith ann ar fud an chórais SPC;
- An gá atá le cothromaíocht idir leasanna éagsúla;
- An gá atá le hiniúchadh cuimsitheach a dhéanamh ar ghrúpaí laistigh de limistéar an údaráis áitiúil chun an comhairliúchán is iomláine is féidir le gach earnáil a éascú;
- Na hábhair imní tosaíochta atá ag gach earnáil agus oiriúnacht na SPCanna do na hábhair imní sin;
- An caidreamh idir líon na SPCanna agus an raon leasanna is féidir a léiriú;
- Tiomantas do chothú na cuimsitheachta sóisialta agus an chomhionannais;
- Tiomantas straitéis faisnéise réamhghníomhach a bheith ann chun an pobal a chur ar an eolas maidir le hathnuachan an rialtais áitiúil;
- A inmhianaithe atá sé eagraíochtaí iomchuí a éascú le bheith mar chuid de na toghcheantair ainmniúcháin.

Sectoral Representation

The sectors which will be represented on the Strategic Policy Committees are:

- Agriculture / Farming
- Environmental / Conservation
- Development / Construction
- Business / Commercial
- Trade Union
- Community / Voluntary
- Social Inclusion
- Tourism
- Marine
- Approved Housing Bodies
- Údarás na Gaeltacht

The sectors will be represented on the Strategic Policy Committees as follows:

Economic Development, Enterprise, Tourism and Community SPC

- Community / Voluntary
- Trade Union
- Business / Commercial
- Tourism
- Údarás na Gaeltachta
- Development / Construction

Roads, & Transportation SPC

- Agriculture / Farming
- Business / Commercial
- Community / Voluntary
- Environment / Conservation

Environment, Climate Action, Marine and Emergency Planning SPC

- Environmental / Conservation
- Business / Commercial
- Agriculture / Farming
- Social Inclusion
- Marine

Housing SPC

- Community / Voluntary
- Development / Construction
- Approved Housing Bodies
- Social Inclusion

Culture, Heritage and the Gaeltacht SPC

- Environment / Conservation
- Agriculture / Farming
- Community / Voluntary - The Gaeltacht
- Social Inclusion

Ionadaíocht Earnála

Is iad seo a leanas na hearnálacha a ndéantar ionadaíocht orthu ar na Coistí um Beartais Straitéiseacha:

- Talmhaíocht / Feirmeoireacht
- Timpeallacht / Caomhnú
- Forbairt / Tógáil
- Gnó / Trádáil
- Ceardchumainn
- Pobal / Deonach
- Ionchuimsiú Sóisialta
- Turasóireacht
- Cúrsaí Mara
- Comhlachtaí Tithíochta Ceadaithe
- Údarás na Gaeltachta

Déantar ionadaíocht ar na hearnálacha ar na Coistí um Beartais Straitéiseacha mar seo a leanas:

CBS Forbartha Eacnamaíche, Fiontraíochta, Turasóireachta agus Pobail

- Pobal / Deonach
- Ceardchumainn
- Gnó / Trádáil
- Turasóireacht
- Údarás na Gaeltachta
- Forbairt / Tógáil

CBS Bóithre & Iompair

- Talmhaíocht / Feirmeoireacht
- Gnó / Trádáil
- Pobal / Deonach
- Timpeallacht / Caomhnú

CBS Timpeallachta, Gníomhaithe Aeráide, Mara agus Pleanála Éigeandála

- Timpeallacht / Caomhnú
- Gnó / Trádáil
- Talmhaíocht / Feirmeoireacht
- Ionchuimsiú Sóisialta
- Cúrsaí Mara

CBS Tithíochta

- Pobal / Deonach
- Forbairt / Tógáil
- Comhlachtaí Tithíochta Ceadaithe
- Ionchuimsiú Sóisialta

CBS Cultúir, Oidhreacht agus Gaeltachta

- Timpeallacht / Caomhnú
- Talmhaíocht / Feirmeoireacht
- Pobal / Deonach - An Ghaeltacht
- Ionchuimsiú Sóisialta

Membership of Strategic Policy Committees

Name	KCC Elected Members	Sectoral Interests	Total
Economic Development, Enterprise, Tourism and Community SPC	7	6	13
Roads & Transportation SPC	6	5	11
Environment, Climate Action, Marine and Emergency Planning SPC	6	4	10
Housing SPC	6	4	10
Culture, Heritage and the Gaeltacht SPC	5	4	9
Total	30	23	53

Selection of Councillors

Elected Members who have been nominated as representatives on the Local Community Development Committee (LCDC) will not serve as representatives on the SPCs, with the exception of the one member of the LCDC, who will be nominated as a representative on the Economic Development, Enterprise, Tourism & Community SPC, thereby establishing linkages between the two economic development policy committees of Kerry County Council.

- Elected Members may not be nominated to represent sectoral interests.
- A person ceasing to be an Elected Member will automatically cease membership of the Strategic Policy Committee.
- Elected Members, as a matter of equity and good practice should be given the opportunity to serve on more than one SPC during a Council term. Accordingly, in the third year of the electoral cycle, SPC membership can be reviewed to give Elected Member an opportunity to seek the Membership of another SPC. Members will not be permitted to sit on more than one SPC.

Ballraíocht na gCoistí um Beartais Straitéiseacha

Ainm	Baill Cho. Chiarraí	Tofa Co.	Leasanna Earnála	Iomlán
CBS Forbartha Eacnamaíche, Fiontraíochta, Turasóireachta agus Pobail	7		6	13
CBS Bóithre & Iompair	6		5	11
CBS Timpeallachta, Gníomhaithe Aeráide, Mara agus Pleanála Éigeandála	6		4	10
CBS Tithíochta	6		4	10
CBS Cultúir, Oidhreachta agus Gaeltachta	5		4	9
Iomlán	30		23	53

Roghnú na gComhairleoirí

Ní bheidh Comhaltaí Tofa a ainmníodh mar ionadaithe ar an gCoiste Forbartha Pobail Áitiúil (LCDC) mar ionadaithe ar na CPSanna, cé is moite d'aon bhall amháin den LCDC, a ainmneofar mar ionadaí ar an gCoiste Forbartha Eacnamaíochta, Fiontar. , SPC Turasóireachta & Pobail, agus cuirfear naisc ar bun dá réir idir an dá choiste um Fhorbairt Gheilleagrach de chuid Chomhairle Contae Chiarraí.

- Ní fhéadfar Feisirí Tofa a ainmniú chun ionadaíocht a dhéanamh ar leasanna earnála.
- Scoirfidh duine nach mbíonn ina Chomhalta Tofa go huathoibríoch as ballraíocht an Choiste um Beartais Straitéiseacha.
- Ba cheart an deis a thabhairt do Chomhaltaí Tofa, mar ábhar cothromais agus dea-chleachtais, a bheith ar nós mó ná SPC amháin le linn théarma na Comhairle. Dá réir sin, sa tríú bliain den timthriall toghcháin, is féidir athbhreithniú a dhéanamh ar bhallraíocht an SPC chun deis a thabhairt do Chomhaltaí Tofa Ballraíocht SPC eile a lorg. Ní bheidh cead ag comhaltaí suí ar nós mó ná SPC amháin.

Selection of Sectoral Representatives

Following the adoption of the Strategic Policy Committees for County Kerry, the sectors will be requested to make nominations to the Strategic Policy Committees. The nomination process for the agricultural / farming sector will be facilitated by the farming and agricultural organisations pillar, the business / commercial and development / construction sectors will be facilitated by the business and employers organisations pillar. The trade union sector will be facilitated by the trade union pillar.

Nominations in relation to the Approved Housing Bodies will be sought from the Approved Housing Bodies Local Forum for Kerry. Nominations in relation to the Marine sector will be sought from the Department of the Marine. Nominations will also be sought in respect of the Tourism sector. Údarás na Gaeltachta will also be requested to nominate a member to represent that organisation.

The environmental / conservation sector will be facilitated by the environmental pillar and the associated Environmental College under the Public Participation Network arrangements. To join the Environment Electoral College under the Public Participation Network, an organisation's primary objectives and activities must be environmental (i.e. ecological) protection and/or environmental sustainability. Membership of this Electoral College will be validated by the environmental pillar at a national level. The environmental / conservation, community / voluntary, the Gaeltacht and social inclusion sectors will be determined on the basis of the local nomination process through the Public Participation Network.

Principles for the Selection of Sectoral Representatives

There exists a wide range of interests throughout County Kerry and the involvement of such groups in the Strategic Policy Committee structure will foster a higher degree of community relevance and local participation. The following principles will be used in the selection of Groups and Associations for a particular sector:

1. Groups/Associations must be active within the area of the Local Authority and have a countywide impact or at a minimum, relevance in a locality or a number of localities in the area.
2. Groups/Associations must be open to new members, hold Annual General Meetings and regular meetings and must be broadly representative and accountable.
3. Single interest groups may be considered e.g. groups focused on the disabled or elderly. Groups formed around specific local issues will not be considered for inclusion.
4. Nominations from the Community/Voluntary Sector will only be considered by groups registered on the Kerry Public Participation Network Register in accordance with the rules of the Register.

Roghnú Ionadaithe na nEarnálacha

Tar éis glacadh leis na Coistí Um Beartais Straitéiseacha do Chontae Chiarraí, iarrfar ar na hearnálacha ainmniúcháin a dhéanamh do na Coistí um Beartais Straitéiseacha. Éascóidh crann taca na n-eagraíochtaí feirmeoireachta agus talmhaíochta an próiseas ainmniúcháin don earnáil talmhaíochta / feirmeoireachta, éascóidh crann taca na n-eagraíochtaí gnó agus fostóirí na hearnálacha gnó / tráchtála agus forbartha / tógála. Is é crann taca na gceardchumann a éascóidh earnáil na gceardchumann.

Lorgófar ainmniúcháin maidir leis na Comhlachtaí Ceadaithe Tithíochta ó Fhóram Áitiúil na gComhlachtaí Ceadaithe Tithíochta do Chiarraí. Lorgófar ainmniúcháin maidir le hearnáil na Mara ó Roinn na Mara. Lorgófar ainmniúcháin freisin maidir le hearnáil na Turasóireachta. Iarrfar chomh maith ar Údarás na Gaeltachta comhalta a ainmniú le hionadaíocht a dhéanamh ar an eagraíocht sin.

Éascóidh crann taca an chomhshaoil agus an Coláiste Comhshaoil gaolmhar leis an earnáil chomhshaoil/ chaomhnaithe faoi shocruithe an Líonra Rannpháirtíochta Poiblí. Chun dul isteach sa Choláiste Toghcháin Comhshaoil faoin Líonra Rannpháirtíochta Poiblí, ní mór príomhchuspóirí agus príomhghníomhaíochtaí na heagraíochta a bheith ina gcosaint chomhshaoil (i.e. éiceolaíocht) agus/nó inbhuanaitheacht chomhshaoil. Déanfar ballraíocht an Choláiste Toghcháin seo a bhailíochtú leis an gcolún comhshaoil ag leibhéal náisiúnta. Déanfar na hearnálacha comhshaoil / caomhnaithe, pobail / deonacha, Gaeltachta agus cuimsithe shóisialta a chinneadh ar bhonn an phróisis ainmniúcháin áitiúil tríd an Líonra Rannpháirtíochta Poiblí.

Prionsabail um Roghnú Ionadaithe na nEarnálacha

Tá réimse leathan spéiseanna ann ar fud Chontae Chiarraí agus cothóidh rannpháirtíocht na ngrúpaí sin i struchtúr an Choiste um Beartais Straitéiseacha leibhéal níos airde ábharthachta pobail agus rannpháirtíocht áitiúil. Bainfear úsáid as na prionsabail seo a leanas chun Grúpaí agus Comhlachais a roghnú d'earnáil ar leith:

1. Ní mór do ghrúpaí/Cumainn a bheith gníomhach laistigh de limistéar an Údaráis Áitiúil agus tionchar a bheith acu ar fud an chontae nó ar a laghad, ábharthacht a bheith acu i gceantar nó i roinnt limistéar sa cheantar.
2. Ní mór do ghrúpaí/Cumainn a bheith oscailte do bhaill nua, Cruinnithe Ginearálta Bliantúla agus cruinnithe rialta a reáchtáil agus ní mór dóibh a bheith ionadaíoch agus cuntasach tríd is tríd.
3. Is féidir grúpaí sainleasa aonair a mheas e.g. grúpaí atá dírithe ar dhaoine faoi mhíchumas nó ar dhaoine scothaosta. Ní bhreithneofar grúpaí atá bunaithe chun díriú ar shaincheisteanna áitiúla ar leith lena gcur san áireamh.
4. Ní bhreithneoidh grúpaí atá cláraithe ar Chlár Líonra Rannpháirtíochta Poiblí Chiarraí ainmniúcháin ón Earnáil Phobail/Dheonach ach amháin de réir rialacha an Chláir.

5. Local Development Agencies will be represented on the Local Community Development Committee and accordingly, will not be represented on the Strategic Policy Committees. Clear communication between Strategic Policy Committees and Local Development Agencies will be facilitated in order to keep both informed of their respective movements/activities.

Each sector will select its own nominees. A nomination of a sectoral representative is the sole responsibility of each particular sector. However, Kerry County Council may recommend that such nominees have broad knowledge of a particular nature. Each sector will be asked to nominate the appropriate number of representatives as set out in the adopted scheme of the Strategic Policy Committees.

Kerry County Council will, as far as possible, facilitate the process of nomination, through the provision of facilitators and other resources as necessary. The final decision in relation to the preferences for the Strategic Policy Committees will rest with Kerry County Council, having regard to the degree of interest and the number of Strategic Policy Committee spaces available. The confirmation of the sectoral representatives is a reserved function for the Elected Members of Kerry County Council.

Membership of Strategic Policy Committees

The Chairs of the Strategic Policy Committees will be appointed by the Full Council from among the Council appointees to the Strategic Policy Committees. The Strategic Policy Committee Chair will hold office for a minimum of three years.

It is desirable that sectoral nominees would retain membership for the life of the Strategic Policy Committees which will be for the life of the Council. Each nominating sector will have the right to deselect its nominee and to notify the Council accordingly whereupon the person will cease to be a member. In such cases, the relevant sector will nominate a new representative. Casual vacancies will, likewise, be filled by the relevant sector.

Strategic Policy Committee Councillor membership will reflect the proportionality and the distribution of elected representation on the full Council.

The allocation of Strategic Policy Committee Chairs will also reflect equitably the spread of elected representation on the Council. Where the agreement of the Council on the selection of the Strategic Policy Committee Chairs is not possible, the Group of Strategic Policy Committee Chairs to be appointed will be treated, for appointment purposes, as if it has constituted a separate Committee in accordance with Section 51 of the Local Government Act 2001 (as amended).

Timescale

Following the adoption by Kerry County Council of the Strategic Policy Committee Scheme nominations will be sought from the National Pillar contacts in respect of Business, Trade Unions, Farming and other relevant interests.

5. Beidh ionadaíocht ag Gníomhaireachtaí Forbartha Áitiúla ar an gCoiste Forbartha Pobail Áitiúil agus dá réir sin, ní bheidh ionadaíocht acu ar na Coistí Um Beartas Straitéiseach. Éascófar cumarsáid shoiléir idir Coistí um Beartais Straitéiseacha agus Gníomhaireachtaí Forbartha Áitiúla chun an dá rud a choinneáil ar an eolas faoina ngluaiseachtaí/gníomhaíochtaí faoi seach.

Roghnóidh gach earnáil a n-ainmnithe féin. Is ar gach earnáil ar leith amháin atá an fhreagracht ionadaí earnála a ainmniú. Mar sin féin, d'fhéadfadh Comhairle Contae Chiarraí a mholadh go mbeadh eolas leathan ar leith ag na hainmnithe. sin larrfar ar gach earnáil an líon cuí ionadaithe a ainmniú mar atá leagtha amach i scéim ghhlactha na gCoistí um Beartais Straitéiseacha.

Éascóidh Comhairle Contae Chiarraí, a mhéid is féidir, an próiseas ainmniúcháin, trí éascaitheoirí agus acmhainní eile a chur ar fáil de réir mar is gá. Is faoi Chomhairle Contae Chiarraí a bheidh an cinneadh deiridh maidir le roghanna na gCoistí um Beartais Straitéiseacha, ag féachaint don mhéid spéise agus do líon na spásanna atá ar fáil don Choiste um Beartas Straitéiseach Is feidhm fhorchoimeáda do Chomhaltai Tofa Chomhairle Contae Chiarraí é daingniú na n-ionadaithe earnála.

Ballraíocht na gCoistí um Beartais Straitéiseacha

Is í an Chomhairle Iomlán a cheapfaidh Cathaoirligh na gCoistí um Beartais Straitéiseacha as measc cheapaithe na Comhairle ar na Coistí um Beartas Straitéiseach. Beidh Cathaoirleach an Choiste um Beartais Straitéiseacha i seilbh oifige ar feadh trí bliana ar a laghad.

Tá sé inmhianaithe go gcoinneodh ainmnithe earnála ballraíocht ar feadh shaolré na gCoistí um Beartas Straitéiseacha a bheidh ar feadh shaol na Comhairle Beidh sé de cheart ag gach earnáil ainmniúcháin a hainmní a dhíroghnú agus fógra dá réir sin a thabhairt don Chomhairle agus air sin ní bheidh an duine ina chomhaltai. I gcásanna den sórt sin, ainmneoidh an earnáil ábhartha ionadaí nua. Is ar an dóigh chéanna a líonfaidh an earnáil chuí corrholúntais.

Léireofar trí bhallraíocht na gComhairleoirí ar na Coistí um Beartais Straitéiseacha comhréireacht agus dáileadh na hionadaíochta tofa ar an gComhairle iomlán.

Léireoidh leithdháileadh Chathaoirligh na gCoistí um Beartas Straitéiseach go cothrom freisin scaipeadh na hionadaíochta tofa ar an gComhairle. I gcás nach féidir leis an gcomhairle teacht ar chomhaontú maidir le Cathaoirligh an Choiste um Beartais Straitéiseacha a roghnú, caithfear leis an nGrúpa de Chathaoirligh ar Coistí um Beartais Straitéiseacha atá le ceapadh, chun críocha ceapacháin, amhail is gurb ionann é agus Coiste ar leith de réir Alt 51 den Acht Rialtais Áitiúil 2001 (arna leasú).

Amscála

Tar éis do Chomhairle Contae Chiarraí glacadh le Scéim an Choiste um Beartais Straitéiseacha, lorgófar ainmniúcháin ón gCrann Taca Náisiúnta maidir le Gnó, Ceardchumann, Feirmeoireacht agus leasanna ábhartha eile.

The exact mechanism for selecting nominees will be a matter for the National Pillars. The selected members should, however, be representative of local organisations active in County Kerry.

Nominations from the Community/Voluntary Social Inclusion, Culture/Heritage and Environmental / Conservation Sectors will be obtained through the Public Participation Network.

Lobbying Act 2015 – Transparency Code

The Regulation of Lobbying Act 2015 (the Act) is designed to provide information to the public regarding who is lobbying whom about what. Individuals and organisations who participate in Strategic Policy Committees established by local authorities may have obligations under the Act.

A critical element of public policy formulation by the Strategic Policy Committees is the availability to the local authorities of expertise, skills and knowledge from persons outside of the public service. Where membership of the Committee comprises of at least one person who, for the purposes of the Act is a Designated Public Official, it may be the case that communications within the group could be considered lobbying communications. The person making these communications may be required to register as a lobbyist and to submit a return of this communication to the Lobbying Register.

However, the Act provides for an exception from the requirement to register in such cases once specified transparency criteria have been put in place. A transparency code was published by the Minister for Finance and Public Expenditure and Reform to address this situation. Communications between members of Strategic Policy Committee about the work of the Committee would be exempt where the group in question complies with the Transparency Code.

Miscellaneous

Each Strategic Policy Committee will regulate its own business and proceedings including the fixing of dates and times for meetings and will at its first meeting agree the manner in which its business and proceedings would be conducted having regard to the guidelines and directions currently available.

Standing Orders

Kerry County Council will adopt a set of standing orders for SPC meetings, to help ensure that SPC members have a clear understanding of procedures and give necessary detail to clarify to members the workings of the SPC and SPC meeting procedure.

Is faoi na Crainn Taca Náisiúnta a bheidh an mheicníocht bheacht chun ainmnithe a roghnú. Ba cheart, áfach, go mbeadh na baill a roghnófar ionadaíoch ar eagraíochtaí áitiúla atá gníomhach i gContae Chiarraí.

Gheofar ainmniúcháin ó na hEarnálacha Pobail/Deonaí um Chuimsiú Sóisialta, Cultúr/Oidhreacht agus Comhshaol / Caomhnú tríd an Líonra Rannpháirtíochta Poiblí.

An tAcht um Brústocaireacht 2015 – Cód Trédhearcachta

Ceapadh an tAcht um Brústocaireacht a Rialáil 2015 (an tAcht) chun faisnéis a chur ar fáil don phobal faoi ábhar na brústocaireachta agus faoin ngrúpa atá ina bun. D'fhéadfadh dualgais a bheith ar dhaoine aonair agus ar eagraíochtaí a ghlacann páirt i gCoistí um Beartais Straitéiseacha arna mbunú ag údaráis áitiúla faoin Acht.

Gné riachtanach de cheapadh beartais phoiblí ag na Coistí Um Beartais Straitéiseacha is ea saineolas, scileanna agus eolas ó dhaoine lasmuigh den tseirbhís phoiblí a bheith ar fáil do na húdaráis áitiúla. Sa chás go gcuimsíonn comhaltas an Choiste duine amháin ar a laghad ar Oifigeach Poiblí Ainmnithe é nó í chun críocha an Achta, d'fhéadfadh sé tarlú go bhféadfaí cumarsáidí laistigh den ghrúpa a mheas mar chumarsáidí brústocaireachta. D'fhéadfadh sé go n-iarrfaí ar an duine a dhéanfaidh na cumarsáidí sin clárú mar bhrústocaire agus an chumarsáid sin a chur ar ais chuig an gClár Brústocaireachta

Forálann an tAcht, áfach, d'eisceacht ón gceanglas clárú i gcásanna den sórt sin a luaithe a bheidh critéir shonraithe trédhearcachta curtha i bhfeidhm. D'fhoilsigh an tAire Airgeadais agus Caiteachais Phoiblí agus Athchóirithe cód trédhearcachta chun aghaidh a thabhairt ar an gcás seo. Bheadh cumarsáid idir comhaltaí an Choiste um Beartais Straitéiseacha faoi obair an Choiste díolmhaithe sa chás go gcomhlíonfadh an grúpa atá i gceist an Cód Trédhearcachta.

Ilchineálach

Déanfaidh gach Coiste um Beartais Straitéiseacha a ghnó agus a imeachtaí féin a rialáil, lena n-áirítear dátaí agus amanna a shocrú do chruinnithe agus comhaontóidh sé ag a chéad chruinniú an bealach ina ndéanfaí a ghnó agus a imeachtaí ag féachaint do na treoirlínte agus na teoracha atá ar fáil faoi láthair.

Buanorduithe

Glacfaidh Comhairle Contae Chiarraí sraith buanorduithe do chruinnithe SPC, chun a chinntiú go mbíonn tuiscint shoiléir ag baill SPC ar nósanna imeachta agus tabharfaidh siad mionsonraí riachtanacha chun soiléiriú a thabhairt do bhaill ar oibriú an nós imeachta cruinnithe SPC agus SPC.