PEOPLE AND COMMUNITIES COMMITTEE



Subje	ct:	Correspondence from Minister of Agriculture, Environment and Rural Affairs, Mr Edwin Poots, MLA, re Clean Air Strategy				
Date:		11th October, 2022				
Repor	rting Officer:	Siobhan Toland, Director of City Services				
Conta	ct Officer:	Sara Steele, Democratic Services Officer				
Restri	cted Reports					
Is this	report restricted?		Yes		No	X
If Yes, when will the report become unrestricted?						
After Committee Decision						
After Council Decision						
	Some time in t	he future				
	Never					
Call-ir	1					
Is the decision eligible for Call-in?			Yes	X	No	
1.0	Purpose of Repor	t or Summary of main Issues				
1.1	To note the corresp	oondence received from the Minister of Agriculture	e, Env	rironme	nt and	d Rural
	Affairs re Clean Air	Strategy.				
2.0	Recommendation	s				
2.1	The Committee is	asked to:				
	Note the co	errespondence as set out in the report.				

Key Issues
The Committee will recall that, at its meeting on 9th August, 2022, it agreed to write to the Minister of Agriculture, Environment and Rural Affairs to seek an update on the overall position on development of Northern Ireland's first Clean Air Strategy.
In his response the Minister of Agriculture, Environment and Rural Affairs reported that work continues to progress well in the development of the Clean Air Strategy and his Department has published the synopsis of consultation responses to the Clean Air Strategy Discussion Document in June 2022. A copy of this is available to view on their website https://www.daera-ni.gov.uk/clean_air_strategy_discussion_document
He advised that in most recent months a Clean Air Strategy Inter Departmental Steering Group had been established comprising of officials from DAERA, Department for Infrastructure, Department for the Economy and the Department for Health. He recognised that other Departments and stakeholders may need to be involved depending on the final agreed scope of the strategy however, the group will in the interim continue to meet regularly over the coming months to agree input to the overall Clean Air Strategy.
A public consultation on the draft Northern Ireland Clean Air Strategy is planned for the end of December 2022 with results and progression ratified by the Northern Ireland Executive.
Financial and Resource Implications
None associated with this report.
Equality or Good Relations Implications/Rural Needs Assessment
None associated with this report.
Appendices – Documents Attached
Appendix 1 - Response from Minister of Agriculture, Environment and Rural Affairs.