

Eastern & Midland Regional Assembly
Tionól Reigiúnach Oirthir agus Lár-Tíre

MINUTES MEETING

***OF THE EASTERN AND MIDLAND
REGIONAL ASSEMBLY***

HELD ON

FRIDAY 11th SEPTEMBER, 2015

IN

COUNCIL CHAMBER, CITY HALL, DUBLIN

**MINUTES OF EASTERN AND MIDLAND REGIONAL ASSEMBLY HELD
ON 10 JULY 2015 IN COUNCIL CHAMBER, CITY HALL, DUBLIN.**

Cllr. Sylvester Bourke	Cllr. Mary Freehill
Cllr. Paddy Bourke	Cllr. David Healy
Cllr. Tommy Byrne	Cllr. Paddy Hill
Cllr. Mick Cahill	Cllr. Gerry Horkan
Cllr. Thomas Cullen	Cllr Dermot Lacey
Cllr. Kieran Dennison	Cllr. Brian McDonagh
Cllr. Eamon Dooley	Cllr. Padraig McEvoy
Cllr. Francis Duffy	Cllr. Maria Murphy
Cllr. Andrew Duncan	Cllr. PJ Reilly
Cllr. Catherine Fitzgerald	Cllr. Tommy Reilly
Cllr. Brian Fitzgerald	Cllr. Neale Richmond
	Cllr. Pat Vance

In Attendance:

Ms Joan Martin, Designated Chief Executive EMRA
 Mr. Jim Conway, EMRA
 Mr. Malachy Bradley, EMRA
 Mr. Pat Lonergan, EMRA
 Mr. Walter Foley, EMRA

Apologies received from Cllrs Tom Brabazon, Paddy Bracken, Gaye Fagan, Kate Feeney, Eddie Fitzpatrick, Ivan Keatley, Lettie McCarthy and Fiona O’Loughlin

The Cathaoirleach Cllr Pat Vance welcomed everyone to the meeting.

The Cathaoirleach suspended standing orders in accordance with section 23 to consider an emergency motion submitted in the names of Cllrs. Healy, McEvoy and Duffy. It was agreed that the motion would be taken at the end of the meeting.

ITEM 1

Adoption of Minutes held on 11th July 2015

Minutes of meeting of the Eastern and Midland Regional Assembly held on the 11th July 2015 were proposed by Councillor PJ Reilly and seconded by Councillor Maria Murphy. The Minutes were **APPROVED** and **ADOPTED**.

ITEM 2

Planning Items

Three submissions were circulated to the Members with regard to (a) South Dublin County Council Draft Development Plan 2016-2022, (b) Variation No. 25 Dublin City Development Plan 2011-2017 and (c) Variation No. 26 Dublin City Development Plan 2011-2017.

Reports on each of the three submissions were circulated to members for their consideration. An outline of the three submissions were presented by Mr. Malachy Bradley.

The three submissions a) South Dublin County Council Draft Development Plan 2016-2022, (b) Variation No. 25 Dublin City Development Plan 2011-2017 and (c) Variation No. 26 Dublin City Development Plan 2011-2017 were **AGREED** and **ADOPTED**.

ITEM 3 – Corporate Plan

A copy of the draft Corporate Plan had been circulated. The Director, Jim Conway said its purpose was to give direction to the Assembly in every area of activity. New structures were outlined

The Draft Corporate Plan was circulated to each Member.

Mr Conway presented the Draft Corporate Plan 2015 - 2020 to the Members stating that within 9 months of the 2015 establishment day, every regional assembly shall adopt a corporate plan.

He stated that the Members had been very active in developing the Draft through the participation of their nominees who sat on the sub-group in drafting the corporate plan. These nominees were Cathaoirleach Cllr. Pat Vance, former Cathaoirleach Cllr. Gerry Horkan, Cllr. Dermot Lacey, Cllr. Maria Murphy, Cllr. Pádraig McEvoy, Cllr. David Healy, Cllr. Eddie Fitzpatrick and Cllr. Seamus McGrattan.

Mr. Conway then gave a comprehensive overview of the contents of the Draft Plan including the Assembly's Statement of Strategy, its goals and functions, the operating environment of the Assembly, its organisational structure, internal capacity and resources. He said that the successful implementation of the Corporate Plan will involve a partnership approach at a number of levels including between Councillors and Staff, between the 12 constituent Local Authorities, national and regional public bodies.

The Cathaoirleach thanked Mr. Conway for the comprehensive presentation of the Draft Corporate Plan and he advised that that the elected Members had still opportunity to feed into the document prior to its completion.

The following Councillors contributed to the discussion, Cllrs Horkan, Lacey, Murphy, B Fitzgerald, Duncan, Cahill, Byrne, McEvoy, Dooley, S Bourke, PJ Reilly and Freehill. All the Councillors welcomed the new plan and acknowledged and recognised the effort of all involved in drafting the new plan. It was also acknowledge the importance of the document and the assembly would aspire to achieve all of the objectives outlined in the Draft Corporate Plan.

It was agreed that the naming of significant photographs will be included in the plan. It was also agreed that the sub-committee of the Corporate Plan would agree any further amendments and members can feed back their comments through the sub-committee. This was to be completed by the third week in September and that the Corporate Plan would then be finalised by the sub group and the Director on behalf of the assembly.

Adopted subject to final amendments

ITEM 4

Works Programme Update

The second quarter update on the Programme of Works was circulated to members. Following discussion the report was noted and agreed.

ITEM 5

Local Economic and Community Plans

A presentation was made by Mr Malachy Bradley on the Local Economic and Community Plan process. An overview on the legislative background to the LECP process, the function of the Assembly, what is an LECP and the progress to date by the local authorities and the Assembly was presented. It was also requested that Councillors be briefed by their constituent local authorities on their relevant LECPs before they are presented to an Assembly meeting for approval.

The following Councillors contributed to the discussion, Cllrs Dennison, Vance, Lacey, Healy and Freehill. Following the discussion it was agreed that a reporting template will be used, to present each Local Economic and Community Plan to the assembly for the Members consideration at the relevant meetings.

ITEM 6

Committee of Regions

Cllr Mary Freehill gave an update at the meeting on behalf of the Irish Delegation, on the current work programme of the Committee of the Regions. She outlined that a Bureau meeting was held in July.

ITEM 7

Members Expenses

A report was presented to the Members regarding the members' expenses and the recent circular outlining the new expenses process with effect from 1st September. Following discussion in which Cllrs Horkan, Freehill, PJ Reilly and Lacey contributed it was agreed that the reduced expenses be discussed at the next Association of the Irish Regions (AIR) meeting.

ITEM 8

Correspondence

It was noted that Councillor Sean Haughey resigned from the Eastern and Midland Regional Assembly on 24th August 2015 and it was noted that Cllr Haughey was replaced by Councillor Tom Brabazon from Dublin City Council.

ITEM 9

Any Other Business

No other items discussed.

ITEM 10

Date of Next Meeting

The next meeting of the Eastern and Midland Regional Assembly will be held on Thursday 8th October, 2015 at 11am in Dublin City Council chamber, City Hall, Dame Street, Dublin 2.

Emergency Motion

"That the Eastern and Midland Regional Assembly writes to the Government to express its grave concern at media reports that the Dart underground planned for the Dublin Area is about to be abandoned, making the following points:

- Regional Planning Guidelines (RPG's) for the Greater Dublin Area (GDA) are explicitly based on the implementation of Transport 21 including Dart Underground.

- The Local Authorities in the GDA, in line with the RPG's have included Dart Underground in their Development Plans and planned accordingly.
- Dart Underground is the most strategic transport investment needed to achieve the required increase in public transport network capacity and efficiency which in turn are needed to bring about the required modal shift and prevent over reliance on private motor transport.
- Failure to make the required investment in the Dart Underground will undermine and render impossible the policies in the RPG's which seek to focus development on areas served by quality public transport.
- If the Government refuses to go ahead with Dart Underground, it is depriving the GDA of the essential interconnecting piece of public transport infrastructure on which regional and local authority level spatial planning is based and ensuring that the public transport system in the GDA will be capable of meeting the needs of the region as envisaged up to now."

The motion was proposed by Cllr. D Healy and seconded by Cllr. F Duffy. A discussion followed with contributions from Councillors M .Murphy, Horkan, B. Fitzgerald, McDonagh, Dennison and Lacey. The motion as proposed & seconded was agreed by the members present.

Signed:

Cllr. Pat Vance
Cathaoirleach EMRA

Mr. Jim Conway
EMRA

Date:
