

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

***MINUTES MEETING***

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

***HELD ON***

***FRIDAY 13<sup>th</sup> NOVEMBER, 2015***

***IN***

***COUNCIL CHAMBER, CITY HALL, DUBLIN***

**MINUTES OF EASTERN AND MIDLAND REGIONAL ASSEMBLY HELD  
ON 13 November 2015 IN COUNCIL CHAMBER, CITY HALL, DUBLIN.**

<b>Cllr. Sylvester Bourke</b>	<b>Cllr. David Healy</b>
<b>Cllr. Paddy Bourke</b>	<b>Cllr. Paddy Hill</b>
<b>Cllr. Paddy Bracken</b>	<b>Cllr. Gerry Horkan</b>
<b>Cllr. Christy Burke</b>	<b>Cllr. Pamela Kearns</b>
<b>Cllr. Mick Cahill</b>	<b>Cllr. Dermot Lacey</b>
<b>Cllr. Thomas Cullen</b>	<b>Cllr. Colm Markey</b>
<b>Cllr. Kieran Dennison</b>	<b>Cllr. Lettie McCarthy</b>
<b>Cllr. Eamon Dooley</b>	<b>Cllr. Brian McDonagh</b>
<b>Cllr. Gaye Fagan</b>	<b>Cllr. Pdraig McEvoy</b>
<b>Cllr. Catherine Fitzgerald</b>	<b>Cllr. Maria Murphy</b>
<b>Cllr. Brian Fitzgerald</b>	<b>Cllr. PJ Reilly</b>
<b>Cllr. Eddie Fitzpatrick</b>	<b>Cllr. Tommy Reilly</b>
<b>Cllr. Fiona O'Loughlin</b>	<b>Cllr. Neale Richmond</b>
<b>Cllr. Pat Vance</b>	

**In Attendance:**

Mr. Jim Conway, EMRA  
 Mr. Malachy Bradley, EMRA  
 Ms. Susan Mahon, EMRA  
 Mr. Simon Musial, EMRA  
 Mr. Ross Higgins, EMRA

Apologies received from Cllrs Tom Brabazon, Kate Feeny, Mary Freehill, Ivan Keatley & Seamas McGrattan

The Cathaoirleach Cllr Pat Vance welcomed everyone to the meeting and congratulated Malachy Bradley on his appointment as Assistant Director.

**ITEM 1**

**Adoption of Minutes held on 8<sup>th</sup> October 2015**

Minutes of meeting of the Eastern and Midland Regional Assembly held on the 8<sup>th</sup> October 2015 were proposed by Councillor Gerry Horkan and seconded by Councillor Eddie Fitzpatrick. The Minutes were **APPROVED** and **ADOPTED**.

**ITEM 2**

**Local Economic and Community Plans;**

Six statements were circulated to Members with regard (a) Dublin City Council Draft LECP, (b) Fingal County Council Draft LECP (c) Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown County Council Draft LECP (d) South Dublin County Council Draft LECP (e) Offaly County Council Draft LECP and (f) Westmeath County Council Draft LECP.

Draft LECPs and statements on each of the plans were circulated to members for their consideration.

The Director Mr. Jim Conway outlined the progress of the Eastern and Midland Regional Assembly meetings with local authorities with respect to LECP. Mr. Malachy Bradley outlined

that each LECP must be consistent with the Regional Planning Guidelines the objectives of the County Development Plan and the Core Strategy and that the economic and community objectives must be consistent.

The following Councillors contributed to the discussion Cllrs Healy, Lacey, Horkan, McEvoy, Cullen and Cathaoirleach P. Vance regarding LECPs. The contributions included climate change policy, the role of the regional assembly and the relationship with development plans. After discussion it was agreed that the six submissions circulated to Members with regard to (a) Dublin City Council Draft LECP, (b) Fingal County Council Draft LECP (c) Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown County Council Draft LECP (d) South Dublin County Council Draft LECP (e) Offaly County Council Draft LECP and (f) Westmeath County Council Draft LECP be **APPROVED**.

### **ITEM 3**

#### **Planning Items**

Submission on Review of Laois County Development Plan 2011 – 2017 and preparation of new Laois County Development Plan 2017-2023 was circulated to Members for their consideration.

An outline of the submission was presented by Mr. Malachy Bradley.

The following Councillors contributed to the discussion Cllrs C. Fitzgerald, S. Bourke, Bracken, McDonagh, B. Fitzgerald, McCarthy and Kearns. After the discussion the submission was **AGREED** and **ADOPTED**.

### **ITEM 4**

#### **NTA Transport Strategy for Greater Dublin Area**

A presentation was made by Mr. Malachy Bradley as requested by the Members of the National Transport Authority's Transport Strategy for the Greater Dublin Area.

Mr. Bradley outlined the following:

- Key Issues and Transport Challenges
- Developing the Draft Transport Strategy
- Draft Transport Strategy Proposals
- Outcomes of the Strategy
- Regional Assembly statutory function

The following councillors contributed to the discussion Cllrs Horkan, Kearns, McEvoy, McDonagh, P. Bourke, Lacey, Healy, B. Fitzgerald, McCarthy, S. Bourke, Fagan and Cathaoirleach P. Vance.

The contributions raised concerns around the following transportation topics, promotion of cycling in schools with formal cycling officers, suitable bicycle parking in the city centre, demand management of M50, Park and Ride facilities, low emission vehicles and the provision of transport links east-west-east.

It was agreed that a submission would be made to NTA on behalf of the members raising the issues of the Members.

### **ITEM 5**

#### **EMRA Budget 2016**

The Director presented the Budget 2016 to the Members. It set out the details of the Budget which reflects the amount required with full complement of staff. The noted building services charges and that the rent is significantly lower than that of a city centre property. The Budget 2016 was **APPROVED**.

**ITEM 6**

**Committee of Regions update**

No update for Committee of Regions.

**ITEM 7**

**Communication policy**

The Director outlined that the corporate image/branding for the Assembly is being completed. It was put to the Members that the Assembly have a presence felt on social media e.g. Twitter. This was **AGREED**.

**ITEM 8**

**Correspondence**

Two items of correspondence were addressed.

Association of Irish Regions (AIR) conference is being held on 20<sup>th</sup> November in Loughrea, the Northern and Western Regional Assembly is hosting. The Director clarified that it was a training event for Assembly Members and not a conference.

Correspondence received from Department Transport Tourism and Sport in response to letter sent re: DART Underground.

Both items were **NOTED**

**ITEM 9**

**Any Other Business**

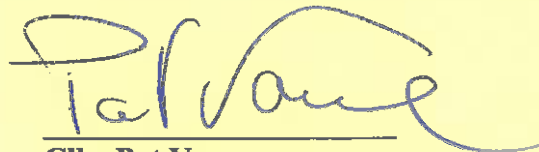
No other items discussed.

**ITEM 10**

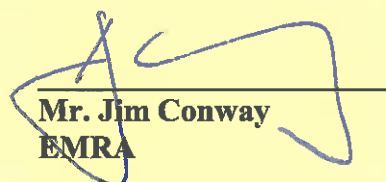
**Date of Next Meeting**

The Next meeting of the Eastern & Midland Regional Assembly is due to be held on, 11<sup>th</sup> December 2015 @ 11:00am

Signed:



**Cllr. Pat Vance**  
**Cathaoirleach EMRA**



**Mr. Jim Conway**  
**EMRA**

**Date:**

11<sup>th</sup> December 2015