

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

MINUTES for MEETING

**OF THE EASTERN AND MIDLAND
REGIONAL ASSEMBLY**

HELD ON

Friday, 13th October 2023

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF EASTERN AND MIDLAND REGIONAL ASSEMBLY HELD
ON 13th OCTOBER 2023, COUNCIL CHAMBER, CITY HALL, DUBLIN 2.**

Cllr Deirdre Heney	Cllr Lyn Hagin Meade
Cllr Emma Blain	Cllr Vincent Jackson
Cllr Aoife Breslin	Cllr Dermot Lacey
Cllr John Browne	Cllr Brigid Manton
Cllr Avril Cronin	Cllr Padraig McEvoy
Cllr David Healy	Cllr Paddy Meade
Cllr Eamon Dooley	Cllr Declan Meenagh
Cllr Caroline Dwane Stanley	Cllr Colm Murray
Cllr Kate Feeney	Cllr Peter O'Brien
Cllr Catherine Fitzgerald	Cllr Danny Owens
Cllr Eddie Fitzpatrick	Cllr Robert Power
Cllr Jim Gildea	Cllr Gerry Walsh
Cllr David Gilroy	

Apologies: None

Attendance:

Ms. Joan Martin, CEO, Louth County Council

Ms. Clare Bannon, EMRA

Ms. Bernie Roe, EMRA

Ms. Anne-Marie Wood Wolfe, EMRA

Ms. Laure Antoniotti, EMRA

Ms. Eugenia Thompson, EMRA

Mr. Terence Connolly, EMRA

Dr. Karl Murphy, EMRA

Ms. Ruth Kilcullen, EMRA

Ms. Helena Stromberg, EMRA

Mr. Ross Higgins, EMRA

Ms. Geraldine Kenny, EMRA

Mr. Rory O'Sullivan, EMRA

Ms. Kiara Abbey, EMRA

Ms. Teresa Lennon, IREO

Mr. Tadhg Browne, IREO

Cllr K Feeney expressed sympathy to the family and colleagues of Cllr Damien O Reilly.

Cllr D Heney, Cllr D Gilroy, Cllr A Cronin, Cllr J Gildea and Cllr D Lacey also expressed sympathy on behalf of their political parties, local authorities and the Regional Assembly.

A vote of sympathy was also expressed to the former Director, Mr Jim Conway, on the passing of his mother Ms Eilís Conway.

Cllr K Feeney proposed to hold a minute of silence and to adjourn the meeting for 10 minutes as a mark of respect for Cllr O Reilly, this was **AGREED** and the meeting adjourned.

The Cathaoirleach, Cllr K Feeney, advised the members Cllr Mary Hanafin has resigned from the EMRA. She thanked Cllr Hanafin for her work in the assembly and it was agreed to write to Cllr Hanafin to thank her on behalf of EMRA.

This was **AGREED**.

ITEM 1

Adoption of Minutes of meeting held on 8th September 2023

Minutes of meeting of the Eastern and Midland Regional Assembly held on the 8th of September 2023 were proposed by Cllr D Lacey and seconded by Cllr P Meade.

The minutes were **APPROVED**.

ITEM 2

Planning items

- i) Submission – Proposed Variation No 1 Of the Wicklow County Development Plan 2022-2028 (Rathdrum Town Plan)
- ii) Submission – Sustainable and Compact Settlements Guidelines for Planning Authorities Draft for Consultation.

The Assistant Director, Ms AM Wood Wolfe gave an outline of the submissions.

A discussion followed with contributions from Cllr D Lacey, Cllr P Mc Evoy, Cllr K Feeney, Cllr G Walsh, Ms AM Wood Wolfe, Ms C Bannon, and Ms Joan Martin, Louth County Council CE.

With regard to the submission relating to the Sustainable and Compact Settlements Guidelines for Planning Authorities, it was agreed to issue correspondence on behalf

of the Cathaoirleach Cllr K Feeney, to the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage, regarding the closing date of the submission period and asking if the Regional Assembly can append an additional point to their submission.

This was **NOTED**.

ITEM 3

Programme of Works Quarter 3 update

Ms Clare Bannon provided the Members with an update on the Programme of Works Quarter 3 and advised the Members that the three Regional Assemblies won an award in the Research and Innovation category for the Regional Development Monitor (RDM) at the IPI Awards on the 28th of September 2023. Cllr K Feeney congratulated and thanked the team for their work on the RDM. A discussion followed with contributions from Cllr D Heney, Cllr D Meenagh, and Ms AM Wood Wolfe.

Meeting Adjourned

The meeting was adjourned due to a potential health and safety risk in the Chamber and following guidance from the staff in City Hall.

Due to health and safety concerns the meeting was unable to recommence.

At the request of the Cathaoirleach, a follow up email was sent to all Assembly Members advising that remaining items on the agenda will be brought forward to the November meeting and informing members of two points that were scheduled under AOB- namely the Cathaoirleach's invitation to the Oireachtas Joint Committee on Housing, Local Government and Heritage to discuss the Citizens' Assembly report on the Directly Elected Mayor of Dublin, and the draft Issues Paper for the NPF.

Signed:



Cllr. Kate Feeney
Cathaoirleach EMRA



Ms. Clare Bannon

EMRA

Date:

10th November 2023

