

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

**MINUTES for MEETING**

**OF THE EASTERN AND MIDLAND  
REGIONAL ASSEMBLY**

**HELD ON**

**Friday, 14<sup>th</sup> July 2023**

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF EASTERN AND MIDLAND REGIONAL ASSEMBLY HELD ON 14<sup>th</sup> OF JULY 2023.**

Cllr Daryl Barron	Cllr Janet Horner
Cllr Emma Blain	Cllr Vincent Jackson
Cllr Fintan Brett	Cllr Dermot Lacey
Cllr Emma Coffey	Cllr Brigid Manton
Cllr Avril Cronin	Cllr Pádraig McEvoy
Cllr Laura Donaghy	Cllr Paddy Meade
Cllr Eamon Dooley	Cllr Declan Meenagh
Cllr Caroline Dwane Stanley	Cllr Aisling Moran
Cllr Kate Feeney	Cllr Colm Murray
Cllr Catherine Fitzgerald	Cllr Robert O'Donoghue
Cllr Eddie Fitzpatrick	Cllr Peter O'Brien
Cllr Jim Gildea	Cllr Damien O'Reilly
Cllr Alison Gilliland	Cllr Danny Owens
Cllr David Gilroy	Cllr Robert Power
Cllr Lyn Hagin Meade	Cllr Una Power
Cllr Mary Hanafin	Cllr Gerry Walsh
Cllr David Healy	
Cllr Deirdre Heney	

**Apologies received from: Cllr. Aengus O Rourke, Cllr. Pamela Kearns, Cllr. John Browne**

**In Attendance:**

**Ms. Joan Martin, CE, Louth County Council**

**Mr. Jim Conway, EMRA**

**Ms. Clare Bannon, EMRA**

**Ms. Bernie Roe, EMRA**

**Ms. Laure Antoniotti, EMRA**

**Mr. Terry Connolly, EMRA**

**Mr. Simon Musial, EMRA**

**Mr. Ross Higgins, EMRA**

**Ms. Geraldine Kenny, EMRA**

**Ms. Sarah Campbell, EMRA**

**Dr. Karl Murphy, EMRA**

**Dr. Owen Douglas, EMRA**

**Ms. Helena Stromberg, EMRA**

**Ms. Eugenia Thompson, EMRA**

**Mr. Pádraig O'Shea, EMRA**

**Mr. Rory O'Sullivan, EMRA**

**Ms. Teresa Lennon, IREO**

**Mr. Tadhg Browne, IREO**

## **ITEM 1**

### **Election of Cathaoirleach**

The out-going Cathaoirleach, Cllr R Power thanked the members, Ms. Joan Martin and staff of the Assembly on his year as Cathaoirleach. An Cathaoirleach, Cllr R Power invited nominations for Cathaoirleach of the Eastern and Midland Assembly for the forthcoming year to July 2024.

Cllr E Dooley proposed Cllr K Feeney and this was seconded by Cllr E Coffey.

Cllr K Feeney was elected An Cathaoirleach for the Eastern and Midland Regional Assembly with no other nominations received.

This was **AGREED**.

A discussion followed with contributions from Cllr K Feeney, Cllr D Lacey, Cllr D Heney, Cllr J Gildea, Cllr P Mc Evoy, and Cllr R O'Donoghue.

## **ITEM 2**

### **Election of Leas-Cathaoirleach**

An Cathaoirleach, Cllr K Feeney opened the floor for nominations for Leas Cathaoirleach.

Cllr D Heney proposed Cllr Catherine Fitzgerald and this was seconded by Cllr E Fitzpatrick.

Cllr C Fitzgerald was elected Leas Cathaoirleach for the Eastern and Midland Regional Assembly with no other nominations received.

This was **AGREED**.

## **ITEM 3**

### **Adoption of Minutes of meeting held on 9<sup>th</sup> June 2023**

Minutes of the meeting of the Eastern and Midland Regional Assembly held on the 9<sup>th</sup> of June 2023 were proposed by Cllr J Gildea and seconded by Cllr P Meade.

The minutes were **APPROVED**.

## **ITEM 4**

### **Programme of Work Q2 update**

The Director, Mr J Conway gave the members an update on the work the Assembly undertook during quarter 2 2023.

A discussion followed with contributions from Cllr D Lacey, Cllr A Gilliland, Cllr D Heney, Cllr P Mc Evoy, Cllr J Gildea, Mr J Conway and Ms T Lennon.

Cllr D Lacey mentioned the upcoming publication of a report by the Congress of local and regional authorities of the Council of Europe on the monitoring of the application of the European Charter of Self-Government in Ireland that would be of interest to members. Cllr J Gildea suggested that the Assembly write to the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage to ask for their comment on the conclusions of the report.

This was **NOTED**.

## **ITEM 5**

### **Monitoring Report 2023 – Presentation by Clare Bannon**

Ms C Bannon, Assistant Director, presented the Monitoring Report 2023 outlining the progress of the RSES implementation. This is a statutory report, due every two years. The presentation covered the context; the public bodies and local authorities contacted; the progress made and conclusions and recommendations.

A discussion followed with contributions from Cllr D Heney, Cllr D Meenagh, Cllr D Healy, Cllr D Lacey, Cllr J Gildea, and Ms C Bannon.

Following a contribution from Cllr D Healy, it was agreed that a letter be issued to the CCMA with regard to the Climate Action Regional Offices (CAROs).

Cllr P Mc Evoy proposed that a letter is issued to NOAC. Cllr K Feeney seconded this proposal and added that the Assembly also writes to the Planning spokespersons of Dáil and Seanad Éireann.

This was **AGREED**

## **ITEM 6**

### **Planning Items**

- i) Submission on Proposed Variation No. 1 to Dublin City Development Plan 2022 - 2028, Site at Basin View, Dublin 8.

Ms C Bannon presented the Submission on Proposed Variation No. 1 to Dublin City Development Plan 2022 - 2028, Site at Basin View, Dublin 8

This submission was proposed by Cllr D Lacey and seconded by Cllr D Heney.

This was **AGREED**.

- ii) Submission on Pre-Draft Issues Paper, Dundalk Local Area Plan (LAP) 2024-2030.

Ms C Bannon presented the Submission on Pre-Draft Issues Paper, Dundalk Local Area Plan (LAP) 2024-2030.

This was **NOTED**.

- iii) Joint Submission of the Regional Assemblies on the National Waste Management Plan for a Circular Economy.

Ms C Bannon presented the Joint Submission of the Regional Assemblies on the National Waste Management Plan for a Circular Economy.

This was **NOTED**.

## **ITEM 7**

### **Update on members' visit to Brussels**

Mr J Conway, EMRA and Ms T Lennon, IREO gave the members an update on the members visit to Brussels.

A discussion followed with contributions by the attendees Cllr D Lacey, Cllr J Gildea, Cllr D Heney, Cllr D Meenagh, Cllr D Gilroy, and Cllr L Donaghy on behalf of herself and Cllr L Hagin Meade.

## **ITEM 8**

### **Nomination to the Association of Irish Regions**

EMRA has five positions on the Association of Irish Regions: the Cathaoirleach Cllr K Feeney, Leas Cathaoirleach Cllr C Fitzgerald and former Cathaoirleach Cllr R Power, and two more members. Members proposed that Cllr D Lacey and Cllr J Gildea keep their seats for the upcoming year.

This was **APPROVED**

## **ITEM 9**

### **Correspondence**

Mr J Conway informed the members that a letter from Uisce Eireann, response re Effluent disposal onto beaches in the Eastern and Midland Regional Assembly would be circulated to members.

## **ITEM 10**

### **Any other business**

Ms C Bannon indicated that 'A Road Map for the First Revision of the National Planning Framework' has been published following the decision by Government to proceed with undertaking a revision of the NPF.

A discussion followed with contributions from Cllr D Healy and Cllr P Mc Evoy, who asked could the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage be invited to give a broad briefing to the members.

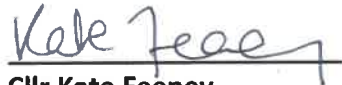
Cllr K Feeney, Cllr J Gildea, Cllr D Heney, Cllr D Lacey, Cllr P Mc Evoy, Cllr E Fitzpatrick, Cllr E Dooley, Ms Joan Martin Louth County Council, Ms C Bannon, Ms L Antoniotti and Ms B Roe conveyed their thanks to the Director Jim Conway who is retiring.

**ITEM 11**

**Date of next meeting**

The next meeting of the Eastern & Midland Regional Assembly will be held on, **Friday 8<sup>th</sup> of September 2023 at 11am.**

Signed:



Cllr Kate Feeney  
Cathaoirleach EMRA



Ms. Clare Bannon  
EMRA

Date:

08/09/2023

