

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

***MINUTES MEETING***

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

***HELD ON***

***13<sup>th</sup> January 2017***

***IN***

***COUNCIL CHAMBER, CITY HALL, DUBLIN 2***

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF EASTERN AND MIDLAND REGIONAL ASSEMBLY HELD ON 13<sup>th</sup> JANUARY, 2017, COUNCIL CHAMBER, CITY HALL, DUBLIN 2.**

<b>Cllr. Paddy Bracken</b>	<b>Cllr. David Healy</b>
<b>Cllr. Christy Burke</b>	<b>Cllr. Paddy Hill</b>
<b>Cllr. Mick Cahill</b>	<b>Cllr. Ivan Keatley</b>
<b>Cllr. Jennifer Cuffe</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. Francis Duffy</b>	<b>Cllr. Pdraig McEvoy</b>
<b>Cllr. Kate Feeney</b>	<b>Cllr. Maria Murphy</b>
<b>Cllr. Catherine Fitzgerald</b>	<b>Cllr. PJ Reilly</b>
<b>Cllr. Brian Fitzgerald</b>	<b>Cllr. Tommy Reilly</b>
<b>Cllr. Eddie Fitzpatrick</b>	<b>Cllr. Pat Vance</b>
<b>Cllr. Mary Freehill</b>	<b>Cllr. Barry Ward</b>
<b>Cllr. Pat Hand</b>	

**In Attendance:**

**Ms. Joan Martin Designated Chief Executive**

**Mr. Jim Conway, EMRA**  
**Mr. Malachy Bradley, EMRA**  
**Ms. Pauline Riordan, EMRA**  
**Ms. Clare Bannon, EMRA**  
**Ms. Hazel Healy, EMRA**  
**Mr. Ross Higgins, EMRA**

Apologies received from **Cllr. Tom Brabazon; Cllr Gaye Fagan; Cllr Irene Winters**

**ITEM 1**

**Adoption of Minutes of meeting held on 9<sup>th</sup> December, 2016.**

Cllr. T. Cullen stated that Irish Water is in discussion with Wicklow County Council who are also making a submission to the water supply project. Minutes of meeting of the Eastern and Midland Regional Assembly held on the 9<sup>th</sup> December 2016 were proposed by Cllr. E Fitzpatrick and seconded by Cllr. K Dennison.

The minutes were **ADOPTED** and **APPROVED**.

## ITEM 2

### Local Economic and Community Plans a Review

Ms. Pauline Riordan made a presentation to the members on the **Review of Local Economic and Community Plans**

The presentation covered the following topics

- LECP Process – Guidance & Timelines; Roles governance; Alignment
- LECP Plans – preparation & Development of Plan content
- LECP implementation, monitoring and review
- Key recommendations

The Cathaoirleach thanked Ms. Riordan for the comprehensive report. A discussion followed and contributions were made by Cllr P McEvoy; Cllr K Feeney; Cllr K Dennison; Cllr B McDonagh, Cllr D Healy; Cllr C Markey; Cllr M Freehill; Cllr L McCarthy; Ms. Joan Martin Designated Chief Executive and Cathaoirleach D Lacey

The Director recognised that this was a valuable process for the Assembly which took the approach to work with Local Authorities in a collaborative way, a copy of the review report will issue to the Elected Members and Chief Executives of the local authorities.

## ITEM 3

### Planning

Mr. Malachy Bradley presented the draft submission to the members on **The NTA Rail Review Report** where it is requested that the proposed review is premature pending the adoption of the National Planning Framework and the Regional Spatial and Economic Strategy.

A discussion followed and contributions were made Cllr PJ Reilly; Cllr M Freehill; Cllr P McEvoy; Cllr B McDonagh; Cllr C Fitzgerald; Cllr D Healy;

It was agreed to request NTA to engage with the members on the rail review report.

The submission was **APPROVED**.

A request was made by Cllr M Freehill on comparisons for other EU countries rail subventions.

## ITEM 4

### Programme of Works update Q4

The Director gave a brief update of the Programme of Works for quarter four, which sets out the progress of the Assembly under the following headings:

- Administration of the Regional Assembly
- Implementation of Regional Planning Guidelines
- Preparation of Regional Spatial and Economic Strategies

- Co-ordination between RPGS/RSES and LECPS
- Engaging with the National Oversight and Audit Commission (NOAC)
- Engaging with the Department of Environment Community and Local Government on the preparation of the National Planning Framework
- Participation by Regional Assembly in projects
- EU Affairs
- Participation on EU Programmes
- Operational issues

The Cathaoirleach acknowledged the work and commitment by the staff of EMRA in successfully achieving the targets set out within the programme.

The Director advised members that a new Programme of Works for 2017 will be presented at the next meeting.

## **ITEM 5**

### **Committee of the Regions**

Cllr K Feeney gave an update at the meeting on behalf of the Irish Delegation, on the current work programme of the Committee of the Regions.

Cllr M Freehill noted that she has recently changed commission which is currently preparing an opinion on Womens Rights in the Middle East.

## **ITEM 6**

### **Payment of expenses**

The Director presented the policy on Members Allowances Travel and Subsistence for information of the members.

A discussion followed regarding the reduced levels of compensation for members for attendance at meetings, conferences, seminars and events and ways to encourage greater participation from all members, with contributions from: Cllr M Freehill; Cllr B Fitzgerald; Cllr C Fitzgerald; Cllr P Vance; Cllr E Fitzpatrick; Cllr K Dennison; Cllr L McCarthy.

The Director will write to any member having missed consecutive meetings regarding their attendance. It was also agreed to provide all members with a schedule indicating payment dates for their information. The assembly is statutorily obliged to publish record of payments made to members, this information is also included in the Annual Report.

## **ITEM 7**

### **Correspondence**

Correspondence from Dublin City Council satisfying Sections 32(2) and 32(3) of the Local Government (Dublin) Act 1993 relating to Dublin Fire Brigade call and dispatch service was brought

to the attention of the members by the director. The need for greater coordination between services on a regional basis was discussed. This correspondence will be circulated for the information of the members.

#### ITEM 8

##### Any other business

Cllr. P McEvoy requested that notification be issued to the members on planning items that were being considered for inclusion in upcoming meetings.

Cllr. B McDonagh gave an update on the Ireland-Wales programme. It was noted that correspondence will issue to all Local Authorities and members advising that all funding committed to will be met by Wales.

#### ITEM 9

##### Date of next meeting

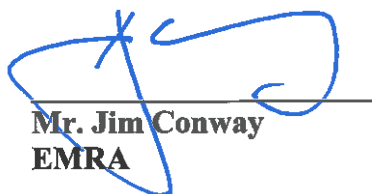
It was noted that the next meeting of the Eastern & Midland Regional Assembly on the **10<sup>th</sup> February 2017** and will likely take place in conjunction with the **Regional Launch of the National Planning Framework**, location to be confirmed and notified to the members.

It was agreed to reschedule the assembly meeting on 7<sup>th</sup> April 2017 to accommodate the AILG conference also occurring on that day, date and location to be notified to the members at the next meeting.

Signed:



Cllr. Dermot Lacey  
Cathaoirleach EMRA



Mr. Jim Conway  
EMRA

Date:

10/2/2017

