

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

Minutes of the Meeting of the

Eastern and Midland Regional Assembly

held on

Friday, 12th January 2018

in

**Council Chamber,
City Hall,
Dublin 2.**

Minutes of the Meeting of the Eastern and Midland Regional Assembly held on 12th January 2018, Council Chamber, City Hall, Dublin 2.

Cllr. Paddy Bourke	Cllr. Mary Hanafin
Cllr. Christy Burke	Cllr. Pat Hand
Cllr. Mick Cahill	Cllr. David Healy
Cllr. Ciaran Cuffe	Cllr. Paddy Hill
Cllr. Thomas Cullen	Cllr. Dermot Lacey
Cllr. Kieran Dennison	Cllr. Lettie McCarthy
Cllr. Eamon Dooley	Cllr. Brian McDonagh
Cllr. Francis Duffy	Cllr. Padraig McEvoy
Cllr. Kate Feeney	Cllr. Derek Mitchell
Cllr. Catherine Fitzgerald	Cllr. Claire O'Connor
Cllr. Brian Fitzgerald	Cllr. PJ Reilly
Cllr. Eddie Fitzpatrick	Cllr. Tommy Reilly
Cllr. Mary Freehill	Cllr. Pat Vance

In Attendance:

Ms. Joan Martin, Designated Chief Executive, Louth County Council

Mr. Jim Conway, EMRA

Mr. Malachy Bradly, EMRA

Ms. Labhaoise McKenna, EMRA

Ms. Pauline Riordan, EMRA

Dr. Travis O'Doherty, EMRA

Ms. Bernadette Quinn, EMRA

Ms. Hazel Healy, EMRA

Ms. Bernadette Lancaster, EMRA

Mr. Ross Higgins, EMRA

Apologies received from: Cllr. Gaye Fagan, Cllr. Pamela Kearns, Cllr. Paddy Bracken and Cllr. Maria Murphy

An Cathaoirleach wished the Assembly a Happy New Year

A minutes silence was observed for Anne Fagan, mother of Cllr Gaye Fagan, who recently passed away.

The Assembly also noted the sad passing of Stanley Laing, formerly councillor for South Dublin County Council, condolences to be sent on behalf of the members of the Assembly.

Suspension of standing order

It was proposed by Cllr. M Cahill and seconded by Cllr. D Lacey that standing orders be suspended at the end of business to consider an emergency motion.

This was agreed.

ITEM 1

Adoption of Minutes of meeting held on 1st December 2017

Minutes of the meeting of the Eastern and Midland Regional Assembly held on the 1st December 2017 were proposed by Cllr. K Dennison and seconded by Cllr. B McDonagh.

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

ITEM 2

Codema - Presentation

Ms. Donna Gartland and Mr. Declan Mc Cormac from Codema delivered a presentation to the Assembly on Ireland's goals for renewable energy and re-using waste energy. The presentation provided insight into Ireland's Energy & Climate Policy, EPA Emission Projections, Emissions Baseline, Energy Mapping for Dublin, Local Authority Targets, Plan Development Process, Action Development and Timeline to Publication.

An Cathaoirleach thanked Ms. Gartland and Mr. Mc Cormac for the presentation and a discussion followed with contributions from; Cllr C Cuffe, Cllr K Feeney, Cllr E Fitzpatrick, Cllr D Mitchell, Cllr K Dennison, Cllr M Freehill, Cllr D Healy, Cllr M Hanafin and Cllr B McDonagh.

The Presentation will be circulated to all members.

ITEM 3

Planning

- i) Proposed Variation No. 1 to the Athlone Town Development Plan 2014-2020**
- ii) Proposed Variation No. 1 of Offaly County Development Plan 2014-2020**
- iii) Proposed Variation No. 3 to the Tullamore Town Plan 2010 (as extended)**
- iv) Proposed Variation No. 2 of the Birr Town and Environs Development Plan 2010 (as extended)**
- v) Proposed Variation No. 3 of the Westmeath County Development Plan 2014-2020**
- vi) Proposed Variation No. 5 of the Dublin City Development Plan 2016-2022**

The Assistant Director, Mr. Malachy Bradley presented the submissions to the proposed draft variations.

Cllr. C. Cuffe requested that Maps be provided along with the documentation for planning items when circulated.

A discussion took place with contributions from Cllr C Cuffe, Cllr P Bourke, Cllr K Dennison, Cllr P Hill and Cllr P Vance.

Items i), ii), iii), iv), and vi) were proposed by Cllr D Lacey and item v) was proposed by Cllr P Hill, all were seconded by Cllr P Bourke

The variations were **ADOPTED** and **APPROVED**.

ITEM 4

Programme of Works – Quarter 4 update

The Director presented the quarter four update of the Programme of Works to the members and Dr Travis O’Doherty gave details on the completion of the Celtic Seas Project.

A discussion took place with contributions from Cllr P McEvoy, Cllr D Lacey, Cllr K Dennison, Cllr P Bourke, Cllr C Fitzgerald and Cllr M Freehill

ITEM 5

Correspondence

The Director issued the response received from the Department of Housing, Planning and Local Government regarding the request for additional funding for RSES.

ITEM 6

Any Other Business

The Director advised the Members that the Eastern and Midland Regional Assembly has been appointed the new national contact point for Urbact with effect from January 2018, Dr. Travis O’ Doherty is the nominated contact person within the Assembly.

The Director welcomed Ms. Bernadette Quinn who recently joined the team of staff on secondment from Louth County Council and Ms. Bernadette Lancaster, new staff member to the Corporate Team.

Cllr P Vance wished to convey Cllr K Feeney’s encouragement for all members to sign up to the Covenant of Mayors.

It was noted that the April’s Assembly meeting date may need to be revised, to be considered by the Members at the next meeting.

The Director informed the Assembly that the RSES pre-draft public consultation period has been extended to 16th February, 2018.

In accordance with Standing Orders and as agreed, the Standing Orders were suspended at the end of the meeting. The following motion in the name of Cllr Mick Cahill was considered:

“That the Director write to Minister Murphy seeking an urgent meeting between him and the members in relation to the draft National Planning Framework. The Assembly continues to have concerns previously identified in its submissions of the 15th March 2017, 9th November 2017 and during its meeting with Minister English in Granard on 27th October 2017. As the statutory

body established by the Oireachtas charged with adopting Regional Spatial and Economic Strategies, it continues to be concerned that the National Planning Framework in its current draft form does not provide a framework that will enable the members deliver a Regional Spatial and Economic Strategy that will be to the benefit of the citizens of the entire region,"

A discussion took place with contributions from Cllr B Fitzpatrick, Cllr K Dennison, Cllr P Vance, Cllr D Lacey and Cllr P McEvoy.


The motion was proposed by Cllr. M Cahill and seconded by Cllr. E Fitzpatrick.
The motion was **AGREED**.

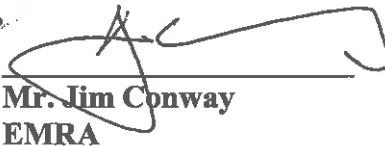
ITEM 7

Date of next meeting

The next meeting will be held on **Friday 9th February** in City Hall.

Signed:


Cllr. PJ Reilly
Cathaoirleach EMRA


Mr. Jim Conway
EMRA

Date: 09/03/2018

