

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

MINUTES for MEETING

**OF THE EASTERN AND MIDLAND
REGIONAL ASSEMBLY**

HELD ON

Friday, 12th January 2024

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF EASTERN AND MIDLAND REGIONAL ASSEMBLY HELD ON 12TH JANUARY 2024.

Cllr Daryl Barron	Cllr Deirdre Heney
Cllr Emma Blain	Cllr David Healy
Cllr Aoife Breslin	Cllr Janet Horner
Cllr Fintan Brett	Cllr Conor Keelan
Cllr John Browne	Cllr Dermot Lacey
Cllr Emma Coffey	Cllr Brigid Manton
Cllr Avril Cronin	Cllr Pdraig McEvoy
Cllr Caroline Dwane Stanley	Cllr Paddy Meade
Cllr Kate Feeney	Cllr Declan Meenagh
Cllr Catherine Fitzgerald	Cllr Justin Moylan
Cllr Eddie Fitzpatrick	Cllr Colm Murray
Cllr Jim Gildea	Cllr Robert O Donoghue
Cllr Alison Gilliland	Cllr Peter O Brien
Cllr David Gilroy	Cllr Aengus O Rourke
Cllr Lyn Hagin Meade	Cllr Gerry Walsh

Apologies received from: Cllr C O Reilly, and Cllr R Power.

In Attendance:

Ms. Joan Martin, CE, Louth County Council

Ms. Clare Bannon, EMRA

Ms. Bernie Roe, EMRA

Ms. Anne-Marie Wood Wolfe, EMRA

Ms. Laure Antoniotti, EMRA

Mr. Terry Connolly, EMRA

Mr. Simon Musial, EMRA

Mr. Ross Higgins, EMRA

Ms. Geraldine Kenny, EMRA

Dr. Karl Murphy, EMRA

Dr. Owen Douglas, EMRA

Ms. Helena Stromberg, EMRA

Ms. Eugenia Thompson, EMRA

Mr. Pdraig O'Shea, EMRA

Mr. Rory O'Sullivan, EMRA

Ms. Ruth Kilcullen, EMRA

Ms. Teresa Lennon, IREO

Mr. Tadhg Browne, IREO

Vladimir Prebilič, Mayor of Kocevje, Member of the Council of Europe.

ITEM 1

Adoption of Minutes of meeting held on 8th December 2023.

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

The minutes were **APPROVED**.

ITEM 2

Presentation of the report on the Monitoring of the application of the European Charter of Local Self-Government.

Vladimir Prebilič, co-rapporteur, presented the report on the Monitoring of the application of the European Charter of Local Self-Government in Ireland. His presentation included a snapshot of the situation in Ireland and its evolution since the last report; the positive changes; the remaining causes for concern; the recommendations of the report and the conclusions.

A discussion followed with contributions from Cllr D Lacey, Cllr C Keelan Cllr D Meenagh, Cllr D Heney, Cllr J Gildea, Cllr D Healy, Cllr D Gilroy, Cllr K Feeney, and Cllr P McEvoy.

An Cathaoirleach K Feeney proposed that the Assembly writes to Minister K O'Donnell to engage with him on the findings of the report.

This was **AGREED**.

ITEM 3

Planning Items

- i) Draft EMRA submission on the Fingal LECP (for Adoption)

Ms AM Wood Wolfe presented the Draft EMRA Submission on the Fingal LECP.

Cllr D Healy proposed that the wording "The final LECP should include an action, possibly in the Implementation Plan, to apply sustainability analysis that captures the three key principles of the RSES- climate action, health placemaking and economic opportunity to inform actions across the Plan and consider the principles of 'Doughnut Economics', especially under Theme 2 Prosperous Economy", be included in this submission and this was seconded by Cllr P McEvoy.

A discussion followed with contributions from Cllr D Healy, Cllr B Manton, Cllr J Gildea, Cllr A Gilliland, Cllr D Lacey, Cllr D Heney, Cllr P McEvoy, Ms J Martin, Cllr D Gilroy, Cllr C Keelan, Ms AM Wood Wolfe, and Ms C Bannon.

A vote on the above proposal was taken. Cllr A Gilliland, Cllr D Gilroy, Cllr L Hagin Meade, Cllr D Healy, Cllr J Horner, Cllr P McEvoy, Cllr D Meenagh, and Cllr P O'Brien voted for the amended wording.

Cllr J Browne, Cllr E Coffey, Cllr K Feeney, Cllr C Fitzgerald, Cllr E Fitzpatrick, Cllr J Gildea, Cllr D Heney, Cllr C Keelan, Cllr B Manton, Cllr J Moylan, Cllr C Murray, and Cllr G Walsh voted against the proposal.

Cllr E Blain, Cllr F Brett, Cllr D Lacey, and Cllr P Meade abstained from the vote.

With 8 votes for, 12 against and 4 abstentions, the proposed amendment was rejected.

The draft EMRA submission on the Fingal LECP as presented was proposed by Cllr B Manton and seconded by Cllr J Gildea.

This was **APPROVED**.

ITEM 4

Draft letter to the planning spokespersons of the Dáil and the Seanad re the Planning and Development Bill 2023

Acting Assistant Director and Senior Planner AM Wood Wolfe presented the draft letter to planning spokesperson in the Dáil and Seanad Éireann regarding the Planning and Development Bill 2023.

A discussion followed with contributions from Cllr D Heney, Cllr K Feeney and Cllr D Lacey.

This was **NOTED**.

ITEM 5

Programme of Works 2023 Q4 update

Acting Director Ms C Bannon gave the members an update on the PoW for Q4 2023

This was **NOTED**.

ITEM 6

Audited AFS 2022

Ms C Bannon presented the audited AFS 2022 to the members.

This was **NOTED**.

ITEM 7

Correspondence

- i) Letter to EMRA Cathaoirleach from the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage

Ms C Bannon informed the members of the response letter received from the Department and advised the members of a forthcoming meeting.

It was indicated that members could advise the executive or Cathaoirleach if they had any comments.

This was **NOTED**.

ITEM 8

Any other business

- i) Ms C Bannon reminded the members of the AIR training event on the 7th-8th February.
- ii) Ms C Bannon informed the members of the URBACT info day on 25th January and that details would be circulated to the members.
- iii) Ms C Bannon informed Members that following the question raised at a previous meeting regarding the end of mandate for members of the Regional Assembly, the Assembly were still awaiting confirmation of this and will inform the Members in due course.

ITEM 9

Date of next meeting

The next meeting of the Eastern & Midland Regional Assembly will be held on, Friday 9th of February 2024 at 11:00am.

Signed:



CLlr Kate Feeney
Cathaoirleach EMRA



Ms. Clare Bannon
EMRA

Date:

09/02/2024



