

Eastern & Midland Regional Assembly

Tionól Reigiúnach Oirthir agus Lár-Tíre

MINUTES for MEETING

**OF THE EASTERN AND MIDLAND
REGIONAL ASSEMBLY**

HELD ON

Friday, 10th June 2022

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF EASTERN AND MIDLAND REGIONAL ASSEMBLY HELD ON 10th JUNE 2022.

Cllr Daryl Barron	Cllr Janet Horner
Cllr Aoife Breslin	Cllr Vincent Jackson
Cllr Fintan Brett	Cllr Conor Keelan
Cllr John Browne	Cllr Dermot Lacey
Cllr Avril Cronin	Cllr Brigid Manton
Cllr Laura Donaghy	Cllr Tony McCormack
Cllr Eamon Dooley	Cllr Lyn Hagin Meade
Cllr Caroline Dwane Stanley	Cllr Padraig McEvoy
Cllr Brian Fitzgerald	Cllr Paddy Meade
Cllr Catherine Fitzgerald	Cllr Aisling Moran
Cllr Eddie Fitzpatrick	Cllr Colm Murray
Cllr Tom Fortune	Cllr Robert O'Donoghue
Cllr Mary Freehill	Cllr Peter O'Brien
Cllr Jim Gildea	Cllr Damien O'Reilly
Cllr Alison Gilliland	Cllr Aengus O'Rourke
Cllr Mary Hanafin	Cllr Robert Power
Cllr David Healy	Cllr Una Power
Cllr Deirdre Heney	Cllr Gerry Walsh

Apologies received: Cllr P Kearns

In Attendance:

Ms. Joan Martin, CEO, Louth County Council

Mr. Jim Conway, EMRA

Ms. Laure Antoniotti, EMRA

Ms. Clare Bannon, EMRA

Ms. Helena Stromberg, EMRA

Mr. Simon Musial, EMRA

Mr. Alan Lambe, EMRA

Mr. Ross Higgins, EMRA

Ms. Geraldine Kenny, EMRA

Ms. Sarah Campbell, EMRA

Mr. Niall Cussen, Office of the Planning Regulator

Ms. Mary Murphy, Office of the Planning Regulator

Ms. Sinéad Mullen, Office of the Planning Regulator

Ms. Caroline Creamer, Maynooth University

ITEM 1

Adoption of Minutes of meeting held on 13th May 2022

Minutes of the meeting of the Eastern and Midland Regional Assembly held on the 13th May 2022 were proposed by Cllr P Meade and seconded by Cllr P Mc Evoy.

A discussion took place with contributions from Cllr P. O'Brien.

The minutes were **APPROVED**.

ITEM 2

Planning items

- i) **Draft submission of Proposed Variation No. 1 of the Louth County Development Plan 2021-2027**

The Assistant Director, Ms. C Bannon, presented the Draft submission of Proposed Variation No. 1 of the Louth County Development Plan 2021-2027 to the members.

The Draft submission of Proposed Variation No. 1 of the Louth County Development Plan 2021-2027 was proposed by Cllr P Meade and seconded by Cllr D Healy

This was **AGREED**.

Representatives from the OPR joined the meeting after item 2 was closed.

ITEM 3

Presentation of "The 21st Century Councillor in Irish Local Government" research initiative by Maynooth University

Ms Caroline Creamer from Maynooth University gave the members a presentation on "The 21st Century Councillor in Irish Local Government." This research project carried out by Maynooth University with the support of the AILG is aimed at local elected representatives to reflect on and garner their experiences of what it means to be an elected official, how this role is evolving in terms of roles and expertise required, and to gather recommendations on how to optimise their roles in contemporary local government. An online survey is open until July 4th and follow-up focus groups and interviews will also be carried out.

A discussion followed with contributions from Cllr F Brett, Cllr Fortune, Cllr D Heney, Cllr M. Freehill and Cllr P McEvoy.

This was **NOTED**.

ITEM 4

Presentation of training opportunities for elected members by the Office of the Planning Regulator (OPR)

Mr. Niall Cussen, Ms. Mary Murphy and Ms. Sinéad Mullen from the Office of the Planning Regulator gave the members a presentation on training opportunities for the elected members covering topics such as: OPR Statutory Training Function, OPR-AILG Planning Training Delivered to Date, AILG Training Programme 2022, L&D Strategy Survey – Future Training Needs, OPR Online Resources for Elected Members, Planning Leaflets, Other OPR Online Resources and Final Reminder.

A discussion followed with contributions from Cllr D Heney, Cllr E Fitzpatrick, Cllr P Mc Evoy, Cllr P Meade, Cllr G Walsh, Cllr E Dooley, Cllr J Gildea, Cllr D Healy, Cllr D Lacey and Cllr P O Brien.

This was **NOTED**.

ITEM 5

Adoption of the Annual Report 2021

The director, Mr J Conway presented the EMRA's Annual Report for 2021 for their approval.

A discussion followed with contributions from Cllr D Healy, and the Cathaoirleach. Cllr D Heney thanked the Director and staff of EMRA, Joan Martin from Louth County Council for their work throughout the year.

The Annual Report 2021 was proposed by Cllr P Mc Evoy and seconded by Cllr P Meade

This Annual report was **APPROVED**

ITEM 6

Correspondence

i) Response from TII

The director, Mr J Conway presented correspondence between TII and the EMRA.

A discussion followed with contributions from Cllr G Walsh, Cllr M Freehill, and Cllr Jim Gildea. It was requested that the Assembly write to the Minister on this matter.

The Assembly Members were advised that the Assembly had been circulated with a copy of the Draft Greater Dublin Area Transport Strategy 2022-42 by the National Transport Authority. It was indicated that a special single item agenda meeting will be held on the 27th of June (online) at

9.30am to discuss the Transport Strategy. A draft submission is to be issued 1 week prior to the meeting.

This was **NOTED**.

ii) Circular LG 04/2022 – Attendance requirements for Regional Assembly members

The director, Mr J Conway presented Circular LG 04/2022 – Attendance requirements for Regional Assembly members to the members.

This was **NOTED**.

ITEM 7

Any other business

Cllr M Freehill raised “Visit to Brussels”, future dates to be reviewed and discussed at the next meeting.

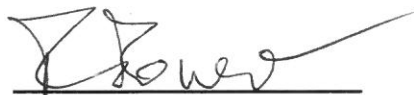
Cllr M Freehill requested circulation of the NTA draft strategy.

ITEM 8


Date of next meeting

The next meeting of the Eastern & Midland Regional Assembly is to be held on, **Friday 08th July 2022**.

Signed:



Cathaoirleach



Mr. Jim Conway
EMRA

Date: 08th July 2022

