

Eastern & Midland Regional Assembly

Tionól Reigiúnach Oirthir agus Lár-Tíre

MINUTES for MEETING

**OF THE EASTERN AND MIDLAND
REGIONAL ASSEMBLY**

HELD ON

Friday, 13th November 2020

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF EASTERN AND MIDLAND REGIONAL ASSEMBLY HELD ON 13th November 2020.

Cllr. Aisling Moran	Cllr. Eddie Fitzpatrick
Cllr. Allison Gilliland	Cllr. Emma Blain
Cllr. Aoife Breslin	Cllr. Fintan Brett
Cllr. Avril Cronin	Cllr. Janet Horner
Cllr. Brian Fitzgerald	Cllr. Jim Gildea
Cllr. Brigid Manton	Cllr. Kate Feeney
Cllr. Caroline Dwane Stanley	Cllr. Laura Donaghy
Cllr. Catherine Fitzgerald	Cllr. Mary Hanafin
Cllr. John Browne	Cllr. Pádraig McEvoy
Cllr. Aengus O'Rourke	Cllr. Pamela Kearns
Cllr. Colm Murray	Cllr. Peter O'Brien
Cllr. Conor Keelan	Cllr. Rob Power
Cllr. Damien O'Reilly	Cllr. Tom Fortune
Cllr. Daryl Barron	Cllr. Tony McCormack
Cllr. David Healy	Cllr. Una Power
Cllr. Deirdre Heney	Cllr Gerry Walsh
Cllr. Dermot Lacey	Cllr. Vincent Jackson
Cllr. Emma Coffey	

In Attendance:

Ms. Joan Martin, Louth County Council, Designated Chief Executive of the EMRA

Mr. Jim Conway, EMRA

Mr. Malachy Bradley, EMRA

Ms. Laure Antoniotti, EMRA

Mr. Simon Musial, EMRA

Mr. Alan Lambe, EMRA

Ms. Clare Bannon, EMRA

Ms. Pauline Riordan, EMRA

Ms. Geraldine Kenny, EMRA

Mr. Owen Douglas, EMRA

Ms. Brid Greenan, EMRA

Mr. John Daly, EMRA

Ms. Agata Kolodynska, IREO

Ms. Teresa Lennon, IREO

Ms. Jane Creegan, Iarnród Éireann

Mr. Mark Conroy, Iarnród Éireann

ITEM 1

Supplementary Standing Orders for remote meetings

Director Jim Conway outlined the contents of Statutory Instrument No. 446 to the members.

A discussion followed with contributions from Cllr. D Heney, Cllr J Gildea, Cllr. D O'Reilly, Cllr. D Lacey and Cllr. A Cronin.

Cllr. D Lacey proposed Statutory Instrument No. 446 and this was seconded by Cllr. K Feeney.

A proposal to review the principles of this Standing Order in 6 months' time was agreed by the members.

This was **AGREED**.

ITEM 2

Adoption of Minutes of meeting held on 10th July 2020

A discussion followed with contributions from Cllr. D O'Reilly, Cllr. D Lacey, Cllr. P McEvoy, Cllr. M Hanafin, Cllr. B Fitzgerald, Cllr. D Heney and Director Jim Conway.

Minutes of the meeting of the Eastern & Midland Regional Assembly held on the 10th July 2020 were proposed by Cllr. D Lacey and seconded by Cllr. Caroline Dwane Stanley.

This was **APPROVED**.

ITEM 3

Presentation of the DART+ programme by Iarnród Éireann

A presentation was given by Mr. Mark Conroy and Jane Cregan of Iarnród Éireann covering topics such as Current Iarnród Éireann Network Services & Passenger Demand, What is the DART+ Programme, DART+ Programme & Transport / Land Use Policy, Specifics of the DART+ West Project, Consultation & Engagement Process.

A discussion took place with contributions from Cllr. Tom Fortune, Cllr. A Gilliland, Cllr. D Heney, Cllr. F Brett, Cllr D Lacey, Cllr. C Keelan, Cllr. D Healy, Cllr, D O'Reilly, Cllr. G Walsh, Cllr. J Horner, Cllr. J Gildea and Cllr. A Cronin.

ITEM 4

Adoption of the 2021 Budget

The Director presented the Assembly with the EMRA 2021 budget, a discussion followed with contributions from Cllr. D Lacey and Cllr. D Heney.

The Director thanked the Designated Chief Executive of the EMRA, Ms. Joan Martin and Ms. Bernie Woods, Head of Finance Louth County Council, for their assistance in preparing the budget.

The budget was proposed by Cllr. C Keelan and seconded by Cllr. M Hanafin.

This was **APPROVED**.

ITEM 5

Report on the decision regarding the delivery of European Regional Development Fund (ERDF) for 2021-2027.

The Director presented the report on the decision regarding the delivery of European Regional Development Fund (ERDF) for 2021-2027. This report contains the context for the architecture of 2021 – 2027 ERDF Operational programmes in Ireland. The Minister for Public Expenditure and Reform (DPER) has issued a decision on the ERDF, with recognition of regional delivery and a new enhanced role for EMRA. With the other two Regional Assemblies, EMRA will be an equal partner in the development and delivery of these programmes.

A discussion took place with a contribution from Cllr. G Walsh.

The report was **AGREED** and it was **AGREED** to establish a sub-committee of the Assembly. In addition to the Cathaoirleach, seven members were nominated: Cllr. A Gilliland, Cllr. C Keelan, Cllr. K Feeney, Cllr. F Brett, Cllr. E Dooley, Cllr. A Moran and Cllr. D Healy.

This was **AGREED**.

ITEM 6

Planning Items

i) Proposed Variation No. 5 to Longford County Development Plan 2015-2021

The Assistant Director Mr M Bradley presented draft observations on the **Proposed Variation No. 5 to Longford County Development Plan 2015-2021**.

This was proposed by Cllr J Browne and seconded by Cllr D Lacey.

This was **AGREED**.

ii) Draft Wexford County Development Plan 2021-2027

The Assistant Director Mr M Bradley presented the draft observations on the **Draft Wexford County Development Plan 2021-2027**.

This was proposed by Cllr F Brett and seconded by Cllr Damien O'Reilly.

This was **AGREED**.

iii) Proposed Variation No 2 Monaghan County Development plan 2019-2025

The Assistant Director Mr M Bradley presented the observations on the **Proposed Variation No 2 Monaghan County Development plan 2019-2025**.

This was **NOTED**

iv) Transboundary Environmental Public Consultation-Sizewell C nuclear power station.

The Assistant Director Mr M Bradley presented the submission on the Transboundary Environmental Public Consultation-Sizewell C nuclear power station.

This was **NOTED**.

v) Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage Statement of Strategy 2021-2025.

The Assistant Director Mr M Bradley presented the submission on the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage Statement of Strategy 2021-2025.

This was **NOTED**.

vi) Department of Transport-Statement of Strategy 2021-2023.

The Assistant Director Mr M Bradley presented the submission on the Department of Transport-Statement of Strategy 2021-2023.

This was **NOTED**.

ITEM 7

Correspondence

None

ITEM 8

AOB

The Director informed the members of the consultation on the review of the National Development Plan and committed to presenting this consultation to the next EMRA meeting. There was a discussion with contributions from Cllr. D O'Reilly, Cllr D Lacey, Cllr. D Heney, Cllr T Fortune

Cllr Healy requested an update on the ESPON QGasP project at the next meeting.

A discussion took place with contributions from Cllr. D O'Reilly, Cllr. D Heney, Cllr T Fortune and Cllr. D Healy.

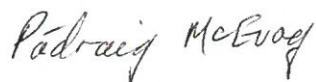
A discussion took place regarding increase in venue cost for the 2021 budget, to the details around online meetings and online voting for the Assembly, with contributions from Cllr D Heney and Cllr T Fortune

An Cathaoirleach welcomed new EMRA member Cllr. Laura Donaghy to the assembly.

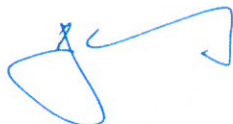
Date of next meeting

The next meeting of the Eastern & Midland Regional Assembly is due to be held on **Friday 11th December 2020 at 11:00am.**

Signed:



Cllr. Pádraig McEvoy
Cathaoirleach EMRA



Mr. Jim Conway
EMRA

Date: 11 December 2020