

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

MINUTES for MEETING

**OF THE EASTERN AND MIDLAND
REGIONAL ASSEMBLY**

HELD ON

Friday, 09th June 2023

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF EASTERN AND MIDLAND REGIONAL ASSEMBLY HELD
ON 09th OF JUNE 2023.**

Cllr Aoife Breslin	Cllr Janet Horner
Cllr Fintan Brett	Cllr Vincent Jackson
Cllr John Browne	Cllr Dermot Lacey
Cllr Avril Cronin	Cllr Brigid Manton
Cllr Caroline Dwane Stanley	Cllr Pdraig McEvoy
Cllr Kate Feeney	Cllr Paddy Meade
Cllr Catherine Fitzgerald	Cllr Declan Meenagh
Cllr Eddie Fitzpatrick	Cllr Colm Murray
Cllr Jim Gildea	Cllr Rob Power
Cllr Alison Gilliland	Cllr Aengus O'Rourke
Cllr David Gilroy	Cllr Danny Owens
Cllr Lyn Hagin Meade	Cllr Gerry Walsh
Cllr David Healy	

Apologies received from: Cllr P Kearns, Cllr R O'Donoghue, Cllr Daryl Barron and Ms. Joan Martin, CEO, Louth County Council.

In Attendance:

**Mr. Jim Conway, EMRA
Ms. Clare Bannon, EMRA
Ms. Bernie Roe, EMRA
Ms. Laure Antoniotti, EMRA
Mr. Simon Musial, EMRA
Mr. Ross Higgins, EMRA
Ms. Geraldine Kenny, EMRA
Ms. Sarah Campbell, EMRA
Dr. Karl Murphy, EMRA
Dr. Owen Douglas, EMRA
Ms. Anne-Marie Wood Wolfe, EMRA
Ms. Eugenia Thompson, EMRA
Mr. Pdraig O'Shea, EMRA
Mr. Rory O'Sullivan, EMRA**

ITEM 1

Adoption of Minutes of meeting held on 12th May 2023

Minutes of the meeting of the Eastern and Midland Regional Assembly held on the 12th of May 2023 were proposed by Cllr P Meade and seconded by Cllr D Meenagh.

The minutes were **APPROVED**.

ITEM 2

Adoption of the Annual report 2022

The Director, Mr J Conway presented a draft of the Annual report 2022 of the EMRA for approval.

The Annual report 2022 was proposed by Cllr P McEvoy and seconded by Cllr J Gildea.

This was **APPROVED**.

ITEM 3

EU projects update

- i) Final Projects
 - a. Next2Met

Ms H Stromberg, EMRA gave the members a presentation on the final project update and outcomes for Next2Met. This covered topics such as: Brief Recap of project aims, Highlights on progress made in 2022-2023, Action Plan Implementation, Ireland's National Digital Framework and existing local strategies, presentation of the Regional Digitalisation Roadmap, and Next Steps.

A discussion followed with contributions from Cllr D Meenagh, Cllr E Fitzpatrick, Cllr A Gilliland, Cllr P McEvoy, Cllr D Healy, Ms C Bannon and Mr J Conway.

- b. PROGRESS

Dr O Douglas, EMRA gave the members a presentation on the final project update for PROGRESS, this covered topics such as: Key Stakeholders, Good Practice Handbooks, Pilot Action: Q4 2021-Q1 2022, Technical Report – Q2 2022, Opportunities for biodiversity management through the Regional Assemblies, Governing Nature: The Regional Dimension, , Action Plan, Online Meeting on the Mapping of Green Infrastructure in the Eastern and Midland Region, Online Meeting of the MASP Implementation Group, Final Project Conference March 2023, PROGRESS and RSES Implementation, Wider Impact, Key PROGRESS Achievements, and Ongoing and Next Steps.

A discussion followed with contributions from Cllr P McEvoy, Cllr A Gilliland, Cllr J Gildea, Mr J Conway and Ms C Bannon.

- c. QGasSP

Dr O Douglas, EMRA gave the members a presentation on the final project update for QGasSP, this covered topics such as: Previous update - December 2022, Current Status, Key Irish Challenges, Meetings with the OPR and ESPON, The Next Steps.

A discussion followed with contributions from Cllr D Meenagh, Cllr D Healy, Cllr P McEvoy, Cllr R Power, Cllr J Gildea, Cllr A Gilliland, Ms C Bannon and Mr J Conway.

ii) **ORIGINN project**

Dr O Douglas, EMRA gave the members a presentation on the ORIGINN project, this covered topics such as: Territorial Context FOR ORIGINN, Economic Strategy in the RSES, The Agri-Food Sector, Policy Improvement through ORIGINN, and Current activity.

A discussion followed with contributions from Cllr E Fitzpatrick, Cllr R Power, Cllr A Gilliland and Mr J Conway.

ITEM 4
ENCORE update

Dr O Douglas, EMRA, gave the members a presentation on ENCORE activities, this covered topics such as: Update, ENCORE Themes, ENCORE & YouthCORE Conference 2023, and ENCORE Steering Meeting, Pilsen.

A discussion followed with contributions from Mr J Conway, Cllr D Lacey, Cllr D Healy, Cllr P McEvoy, and Cllr D Meenagh.

ITEM 5
Correspondence

None.


ITEM 6
Any other business

Mr J Conway introduced Mr Rory O'Sullivan a new member of staff who is working in the EU JTF team.

ITEM 7
Date of next meeting

The next meeting of the Eastern & Midland Regional Assembly will be held on, **Friday 14th of July 2023 at 11am.**

Signed: Kek 7000
Cathairleach EMRA


Mr. Jim Conway
EMRA

Date: 14/07/2023



