

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

MINUTES MEETING

**OF THE EASTERN AND MIDLAND
REGIONAL ASSEMBLY**

HELD ON

Friday, 9th June 2017

IN

**COUNCIL CHAMBER,
CITY HALL,
DUBLIN 2**

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF EASTERN AND MIDLAND REGIONAL ASSEMBLY HELD ON 9th June 2017, COUNCIL CHAMBER, CITY HALL, DUBLIN 2.

Cllr. Paddy Bourke	Cllr. Pat Hand
Cllr. Paddy Bracken	Cllr. David Healy
Cllr. Mick Cahill	Cllr. Paddy Hill
Cllr. Ciarán Cuffe	Cllr. Dermot Lacey
Cllr. Kieran Dennison	Cllr. Lettie McCarthy
Cllr. Eamon Dooley	Cllr. Brian McDonagh
Cllr. Andrew Duncan	Cllr. Padraig McEvoy
Cllr. Gaye Fagan	Cllr Martin Miley
Cllr. Catherine Fitzgerald	Cllr. Derek Mitchell
Cllr. Brian Fitzgerald	Cllr. Maria Murphy
Cllr. Eddie Fitzpatrick	Cllr. PJ Reilly
Cllr. Mary Freehill	Cllr. Tommy Reilly
Cllr. Mary Hanafin	Cllr. Tommy Reilly

In Attendance:

Ms. Joan Martin, Designated Chief Executive

Mr. Jim Conway, EMRA

Mr. Malachy Bradly, EMRA

Ms. Clare Bannon, EMRA

Dr. Mike Brennan, EMRA

Ms. Hazel Healy, EMRA

Mr. Ross Higgins, EMRA

Apologies received from; Cllr Francis Duffy, Cllr Kate Feeney, Cllr Pamela Kearns and Cllr Pat Vance.
An Cathaoirleach welcomed new member Cllr. Mary Hanafin

ITEM 1

Adoption of Minutes of meeting held on 12st May 2017

Minutes of the meeting of the Eastern and Midland Regional Assembly held on the 12st May 2017 were proposed by Cllr. L McCarthy and seconded by Cllr. PJ Reilly.

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

ITEM 2

National Broadband Plan

An Cathaoirleach welcomed Mr. Fergal Mulligan from the Department of Communications, Climate Action and Environment. Mr. Mulligan delivered a presentation to the Assembly outlining the following topics in relation to Ireland's broadband connectivity: Current map of the coverage of high-

He will attend the 7th European Cohesion Forum which will focus on the major challenges of European cohesion policy at the end of the month and will report back to the members.

A discussion took place with contributions from Cllr B McDonagh, Cllr M Freehill, Cllr D Lacey and Cllr P McEvoy.

It was **AGREED** to write to DHPCLG on the matters raised by the members.

The report was **NOTED**.

ITEM 6

Correspondence.

Correspondence was **NOTED**.

ITEM 7

Any other business.

Condolences for Cllr. Tom Brabazon on the death of his father.

Approval for members attendance at the Ireland Wales Programme 2014-2020 Priority Axis 3 Information Workshop **AGREED**.

It was noted that the appointment of Cllr. Lettie McCarthy to the Southern & Eastern Regional Operational Programme Monitoring Committee was omitted from the Minutes of the February 2015 meeting.

ITEM 8


Date of next meeting

As agreed, the next meeting of the Eastern & Midland Regional Assembly is the Annual Meeting and will be brought forward by one week to be held on, Friday 7th July 2017 at 11am in City Hall, Dublin 2.

Signed:



Cllr. Dermot Lacey
Cathaoirleach EMRA



Mr. Jim Conway
EMRA

Date:

07/07/2017

speed broadband, areas where the network is looking to be expanded, projections and timelines for the expansion, how local authorities and the department communicates with areas that need to be investigated and the cross over between government and private bodies who are upgrading the network.

An Cathaoirleach thanked Mr. Mulligan for his presentation and a discussion took place with contributions from; Cllr D Lacey, Cllr M Freehill, Cllr M Murphy, Cllr M Miley, Cllr L McCarthy, Cllr D Mitchell, Cllr M Cahill, Cllr K Dennison, Cllr PJ Reilly and Cllr B McDonagh.

ITEM 3

Planning

i) Proposed draft Variation No. 3 Longford County Development Plan 2015 – 2021

Ms. Clare Bannon, Senior Executive Planner presented the submission to the proposed draft Variation No. 3 Longford County Development Plan 2015 – 2021.

The submission was proposed by Cllr PJ. Reilly and seconded by Cllr. M Cahill. The submission was **APPROVED**.

ITEM 4

Annual Report

The Director presented to the members the draft Annual report 2016 for the Eastern and Midland Regional Assembly that outlines the work undertaken throughout 2016.

An Cathaoirleach thanked the staff for a comprehensive report reflecting the achievements of such a young organization, acknowledging the teamwork apparent among staff and hopes that EMRA can continue to grow and expand on these achievements into the future.

Contributions also from Cllr B McDonagh, Cllr M Cahill, Cllr L McCarty, Cllr M Freehill, Cllr PJ Reilly and Cllr K Dennison.

The Annual Report was **NOTED** and **AGREED**.

ITEM 5

NUTS reclassification

An Cathaoirleach welcomed Dr. Mike Brennan who gave an update on the NUTS reclassification effective from December 2016 and the impact this will have for EU Funding in Ireland.

The Director Mr. Jim Conway advised that this is an important time with lots of political changes effecting funding arrangements and of the opportunity for members to have an input into funding for the region post 2020.