

Assembly Meeting - Minutes

11th April 2025, 12.00pm

Assembly House, Waterford



Tionól Réigiúnach
an Deiscirt

Southern Regional
Assembly

Presiding: Cathaoirleach Ken Murnane.

Present: Cllr. Clare Colleran Molloy, Cllr. Kay Dawson, Cllr. Deirdre Kelly, Cllr. Sheila O'Callaghan, Cllr. Peggy Ryan

Present on MS Teams: Cllr Anthony Barry, Cllr Dan Boyle, Cllr Pip Breen, Cllr John Brennan, Cllr Alan Coleman, Cllr Michael Collins, Cllr Gillian Coughlan, Cllr Frankie Daly, Cllr Jim D'Arcy, Cllr. Fergal Dennehy, Cllr Kieran McCarthy, Cllr Mairin McGrath, Mayor John Moran, Cllr Norma Moriarty, Cllr Barbara-Anne Murphy, Cllr Tony O'Brien, Cllr. Niall O'Callaghan, Cllr Thomas Phelan, Cllr Terry Shannon, Cllr John Sheahan, Cllr Bill Slattery, Cllr Oliver Walsh, Cllr Ben Ward.

Apologies: Cllr Bobby O'Connell

Officials Present: David Kelly, Kevin Lynch, Enda Hogan, Ian Ludlow, Dominic Walsh, Padraig O'Shea, Colm Walsh, Dennis Cotter, Lisa Moran, Omer Sunguroglu.

Officials Present on MS Teams: Sharon Murray, Michael Buckley, Breda Curran, Róisín Slattery, Clare Breen, Eve Hayden, Maria Murphy, Elayne McDonnell, Marie Harnett.

1. Adoption of Minutes of Meeting held on 14th March 2025

The Members adopted the minutes of the meeting held on 14th March 2025, proposed by Cllr. Deirdre Kelly and seconded by Cllr. Kay Dawson.

2. Matters Arising

There were no matters arising.

3. Presentation from Irish Rail

Barry Kenny, Head of Corporate Communications with Iarnród Éireann, gave a presentation on the current and future plans of Irish Rail. This included specific projects in the Southern Region such as Rosslare Europort, Limerick, and Cork, as well as capital projects at national level.

There were several contributions from Members, including a query on how Irish Rail's plans are aligned to the work of the Regional Spatial and Economic Strategy.

4. Regional Development Monitor - Introductory Session for SRA members

Justin Gleeson, Director of AIRO, presented an online introductory session on the Regional Development Monitor (RDM), which is a collaboration between the Regional Assemblies, and captures data from various sources to create information at local and regional levels.

Many of the Members complimented the RDM as a strong tool for accessing resources and hoped to attend the next information session when the date is confirmed.



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9. Any Other Business

Cllr. Thomas Phelan suggested that the Assembly could possibly create an induction/information pack for newly elected/co-opted representatives on local authorities to give a better sense of what role the Assembly plays.

Cllr. Kieran McCarthy informed the Members that Cork City Council will host European Maritime Day in May.

The Director informed the Members about a recent FOI request submitted to the Assembly in relation to Members allowances and expenses.

The Director also reminded Members, of the Regional Alliance that the Assembly signed up to in 2024, and that a joint letter is being prepared to be sent to the EU E.V.P. Fitto on the future of Cohesion Policy, and that a request has been received for the Assembly to sign up again to the alliance in 2025.

The launch of the new Assembly website was announced by the Director, with Members encouraged to view the new layout.

Cllr. Kieran McCarthy highlighted the discussions on the future of Cohesion Policy which is currently taking place at EU level, and the importance of the Committee of the Regions being part of the debate.

Ian Ludlow outlined the events planned for the Europe Day/May Assembly Meeting in response to Cllr. Collieran Molloy's query for the day.

10. Date of Next Meeting

09th May at noon, followed by Europe Day event in the Tower Hotel, Waterford.

Signed: 
Cllr. Ken Murnane.
Cathaoirleach

Date: 09/05/2025



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AGENDA

1. Adoption of Minutes of Meeting held on 14th March 2025
2. Matters Arising
3. Presentation from Irish Rail
4. Regional Development Monitor - Introductory Session for SRA members
5. Any Other Business
6. Date of Next Meeting



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