

Assembly Meeting - Minutes

13th September 2024, 12.00pm

Assembly House, Waterford



Tionól Réigiúnach
an Deiscirt

Southern Regional
Assembly

Presiding: Cllr. Garret Kelleher.

Present: Cllr. Pip Breen, Cllr. Deirdre Kelly, Cllr. Noel McCarthy, Cllr. Mairin McGrath, Mayor John Moran, Cllr. Ken Murnane, Cllr. Barbara-Anne Murphy, Cllr. Tony O'Brien, Cllr. Niall O'Callaghan, Cllr. Sheila O'Callaghan, Cllr. Bill Slattery, Cllr. Michael Smith, Cllr. Ben Ward.

Present on MS Teams: Cllr. Dan Boyle, Cllr. John Brennan, Cllr. Alan Coleman, Cllr. Frankie Daly, Cllr. Bobby O'Connell, Cllr. John Paul O'Shea, Cllr. Thomas Phelan, Cllr. Peggy Ryan, Cllr. Terry Shannon, Cllr. John Sheahan, Cllr. Oliver Walsh.

Apologies: Cllr. Jim D'Arcy.

Officials Present: David Kelly, Enda Hogan, Brigh Ryan, Kevin Twomey, Ian Ludlow, Rhiannon Carey Bates, Ronan O'Brien, Samantha Richardson, Breda Curran, Lisa Moran, Catherine Connaughton, Anna Higgins, Oonagh Messette, Omer Sunguroglu.

Officials Present on MS Teams: Denis Cotter, Elayne McDonnell, Marie Harnett, Mary Molloy, Áine Whelan, Claire Breen.

1. Adoption of Minutes of Meeting held on 12th July 2024

The Members adopted the minutes of the meeting held on 12th July 2024, proposed by Cllr. Oliver Walsh and seconded by Cllr. Noel McCarthy.

2. Matters Arising

No matters arising.

3. RSES: Second two-year Monitoring Report – for discussion and adoption.

Brigh Ryan and Kevin Twomey gave a detailed presentation on the progress of the RSES for the period 31st January 2022 - 31st January 2024. Members were informed that this two-year report will be submitted to the National Oversight and Audit Commission.

There was followed by a detailed discussion with contributions from Cllr. O'Callaghan, Cllr Ward and Cllr Boyle specifically regarding:

- Role of Uisce Eireann
- Zoned land
- Need for data on smaller geographical areas.

On the proposal of Cllr Kelly, seconded by Cllr McCarthy the report was adopted and will now be submitted to NOAC.



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4. Cohesion Policy Post 2027: Joint Regional Assembly Position Paper – for discussion and agreement.

The Director presented the final joint draft position paper for the three Regional Assemblies on Cohesion Policy post 2027 stressing in particular the need to inform the debate from a regional perspective. The position paper was proposed by Cllr. Pip Breen and seconded Cllr. Ben Ward which now gives the mandate for the Regional Assembly to engage in the discussions and align with like-minded regions across Europe.

5. ERDF Regional Programme: Update on THRIVE Scheme

Enda Hogan presented an overview of the THRIVE programme, including details of Strands 1 & 2.

Strand 1 Call 1 closed 5th April 2024 – 16 applications approved for funding of up to €200K for a total of €3.16 million under the Southern, Eastern & Midland Regional Programme 2021-2027.

Strand 2 Call 1 closed 3rd May 2024 – 4 applications were approved for funding for a total of €28 million under the Southern, Eastern & Midland Regional Programme 2021 – 2027.

6. Nominations to Association of Irish Regions

On the Proposal by Cllr. McGrath and Seconded by Mayor Moran, Cllr. Niall O'Callaghan accepted nomination.

On the Proposal by Cllr. Niall O'Callaghan and Seconded by Cllr Pip Breen, Cllr McGrath accepted nomination.

7. Nomination to Committees of the Southern Regional Assembly;

a) Southern, Eastern & Midland Regional Programme Monitoring Committee - Cathaoirleach and 3 members

Deferred.

b) CAP Strategic Plan Monitoring Committee – 1 member

Deferred.

c) EIST Programme (ESF+) Monitoring Committee – 1 member

Deferred.

8. Corporate Plan Update – for information

Members were given the timeline for the drafting of the Corporate Plan. First steps include a public survey and Members survey. The Corporate Plan aims to be ready for adoption by the Assembly Members in February and published in March 2025.

9. Any Other Business

The Director informed the Members the Cllr. Michael Murphy has resigned his position as Head of the Irish Delegation on the Committee of the Regions.

The Director informed the Members that the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage have indicated that in light of hybrid meetings the methodology for calculating Member's Allowances may be reviewed.

The Director introduced Ronan O'Brien and Rhiannon Carey Bates as new members of staff and welcomed Lisa Moran back following maternity leave.



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10. Date of Next Meeting

The next meeting will be Friday the 11th October 2024.

Signed: _____

Cllr. Garret Kelleher
Cathaoirleach

Date: _____



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4. Cohesion Policy Post 2027: Joint Regional Assembly Position Paper – for discussion and agreement
5. ERDF Regional Programme: Update on THRIVE Scheme
6. Nominations to Association of Irish Regions
7. Nomination to Committees of the Southern Regional Assembly;
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