



Tionól Réigiúnach
an Deiscirt

Southern Regional
Assembly

Southern Regional Assembly

10th November 2023, 12:00pm

Assembly House, Waterford and via MS Teams

Draft Minutes

Presiding: Cllr. Terry Shannon, Cathaoirleach.

Present: Cllr. Robert Beasley, Cllr. Dan Boyle, Cllr. Pip Breen, Cllr. Tom Cronin, Cllr. Ken Murnane, Cllr. Michael O'Shea.

Remote Attendance via MS Teams: Cllr. Maura Bell, Cllr. John Brennan, Cllr. Joe Carroll, Cllr. Noel Coonan, Cllr. Michael Collins, Cllr. Frankie Daly, Cllr. Deirdre Forde, Cllr. P.J. Kelly, Cllr. Garret Kelleher, Cllr. Thomas Kinsella, Cllr. Kieran McCarthy, Cllr. Andrew McGuinness, Cllr. Conor D. McGuinness, Cllr. Gerard Murphy, Cllr. Michael Murphy, Cllr. Deirdre O'Brien, Cllr. Alan O'Callaghan, Cllr. Sheila O'Callaghan, Cllr. Sean O'Connor, Cllr. Michael O'Meara, Cllr. Thomas Phelan, Cllr. John Sheahan.

Apologies:

Officials Present: David Kelly, Kevin Lynch, Enda Hogan, Dominic Walsh, Brigh Ryan, Eoin O' Connor, Mary Molloy, Sarah Davoren, Marie Harnett, Catherine Connaughton, Áine Whelan, Rebecca Walsh, Denis Cotter, Oonagh Messette, Pauline Twomey, Elaine Gallagher, Claire Breen and Omer Sunguroglu.

Officials Remote Attendance via MS Teams: Michael Buckley, Edel Hunt, Maria Murphy, Rose Power, Elayne McDonnell, Eve Hayden, Catherine Connaughton, Breda Curran

A record of attendance was taken by means of roll call.

1. Adoption of Minutes of Meeting held on 12th October 2023

The Members adopted the minutes of the meeting held on 12th October, proposed by Cllr. Michael O'Shea and seconded by Cllr. Robert Beasley.

2. Matters Arising

No matters arising.

3. Report on LECP; Tipperary and Waterford.

The **Tipperary LECP report** given by Brigh Ryan was considered by the members of the Regional Assembly where it was agreed:

1. To commend the work of Tipperary County Council and LCDC in the development of the LECP and
2. In accordance with Section 44 of Local Government Reform Act 2014 (amending Section 66C of the Local Government Act 2001), the Regional Assembly are satisfied that the Tipperary Local Economic and Community Plan 2024-2029 has demonstrated consistency with:
 - (i) the core strategy and the objectives of the Development Plan



Rialtas na hÉireann
Government of Ireland



Có-mhacoinithe ag an
Aontas Eorpach
Co-funded by the
European Union

- (ii) The Regional Spatial and Economic Strategy for the Southern Region
- (iii) between the community and economic elements of the LECP

Subject to the recommendations as set out in the report.

Proposed by Cllr. Tom Cronin and Seconded by Cllr. Michael O'Shea.

The **Waterford LECP** Report, given by Mary Molloy was considered by the members of the Regional Assembly, where it was agreed:

1. To commend the work of Waterford City and County Council in the development of the LECP and
2. In accordance with Section 44 of Local Government Reform Act 2014 (amending Section 66C of the Local Government Act 2001), the Regional Assembly are satisfied that the Waterford Local Economic and Community Plan 2023-2029 has demonstrated consistency with:
 - (i) the core strategy and the objectives of the Development Plan
 - (ii) The Regional Spatial and Economic Strategy for the Southern Region
 - (iii) between the community and economic elements of the LECP

Subject to the content reflecting the statutory role of the RSES and Regional Assembly and recommendations as set out in the report:

Proposed by Cllr. Tom Cronin and Seconded by Cllr. Pip Breen.

4. Draft Budget 2024.

The Draft Budget 2024 had been circulated with meeting documents to all Members. It was noted that there is a 9% increase, due to a number of factors, inter alia – a) Staff Numbers increase, b) consequential T&S increase c) Members T&S increase d) reduction in funding stream from the Ireland Wales Programme.

The budget was approved on the Proposal of Cllr. Ken Murnane and Seconded by Cllr. Robert Beasley.

5. Update on ERDF Regional Programme 2021-2027.

Enda Hogan gave an update on implementation of the Southern, Eastern and Midland Regional Programme 2021-2027. Full details of the programme and of the published funding calls are available on the Assembly website at <https://www.southernassembly.ie/eu-programmes/sem2127>

- **EI Technology Gateways:** Supporting a network of “Technology Gateways” in the Technological Universities (TUs), increasing their capacity and ability to engage with SMEs throughout the region.
- **KT Boost:** Supporting Irish universities and TUs to increase the level commercialisation of research and to develop consistent practices across the knowledge transfer (KT) sector.
- **EI Innovators Initiative:** Supporting the creation of three new “immersive, needs-led innovation training programmes” modelled on the success of [BioInnovate](#) in Galway.
- **SFI ARC Hubs:** Supporting the creation of “ARC Hubs” to accelerate the commercialisation of research in thematic areas in line with S3 and drive regional economic development.
- **HEA TU RISE:** Supporting research capacity building in the Technological University Sector in line with S3.



- **Smart Regions Enterprise Innovation Scheme:** Supporting the regional innovation ecosystem through local infrastructure projects, innovation clusters and consortia, services to SMEs to drive innovation and Feasibility & Priming Grants.
- **SEAI Warmer HOMES – DEEP HEAT RETROFITS:** Medium Depth Energy Efficiency Upgrades for Households at Risk of Energy Poverty.
- A funding call under the following scheme is close to finalisation but may slip into early 2024. **Town Centre First Heritage Revival Fund – THRIVE:** Supporting the development or enhancement of Integrated Urban Strategies and funding Capital Projects (Adaptive re-use of Heritage Buildings) for Designated Settlements.

Following discussion, it was proposed by the Executive that a spokesperson from SEAI would be invited to present at the next available Assembly Meeting, this was agreed by the Members.

6. Any Other Business

- Members asked that attendance at the upcoming Modular Housing Conference be approved.
- Members were advised to Save the Date of the first week in February for the AIR Training Event and Seminar that will be held from the 6th – 8th February in Adare, Co. Limerick.
- On the announcement that Rob Fennelly was leaving the Assembly Staff, the Director, Senior Planner and Members expressed their good wishes and sincere thanks for his diligence and exemplary working relationship with all stakeholders.

7. Date of Next Meeting

The next meeting will be held in Assembly House on the 8th December 2023.

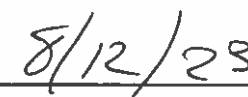
PR

Signed:



Cllr. Terry Shannon
Cathaoirleach

Date:







**Tionól Réigiúnach
an Deiscirt**

**Southern Regional
Assembly**

AGENDA

1. Adoption of Minutes of Meeting held on 12th October 2023
2. Matters Arising
3. Report on LECP's:
Tipperary
Waterford
4. Draft Budget 2024
5. Update on ERDF Regional Programme
6. Any Other Business
7. Date of Next Meeting



**Rialtas na hÉireann
Government of Ireland**



**Có-mhaoinithe ag an
Aontas Eorpach**

**Co-funded by the
European Union**