

Assembly Meeting - Minutes

11th October 2024, 12.00pm
Assembly House, Waterford



Tionól Réigiúnach
an Deiscirt

Southern Regional
Assembly

Presiding: Cllr. Garret Kelleher.

Present: Cllr. John Brennan, Cllr. Gillian Coughlan, Cllr. Deirdre Kelly, Cllr. Mairin McGrath, Cllr. Andrew McGuinness, Cllr. Conor McGuinness, Mayor John Moran, Cllr. Tony O'Brien, Cllr. Niall O'Callaghan, Cllr. Sheila O'Callaghan, Cllr. Bill Slattery, Cllr. Michael Smith.

Present on MS Teams: Cllr. Dan Boyle, Cllr. Pip Breen, Cllr. Alan Coleman, Cllr. Frankie Daly, Cllr. Norma Moriarty, Cllr. Barbara-Anne Murphy, Cllr. Bobby O'Connell, Cllr. Thomas Phelan, Cllr. Peggy Ryan, Cllr. Terry Shannon, Cllr. John Sheahan, Cllr. Oliver Walsh.

Apologies: Cllr. Jim D'Arcy, Cllr. Ken Murnane, Cllr. Ben Ward.

Officials Present: David Kelly, Enda Hogan, Kevin Lynch, Ian Ludlow, Ronan O'Brien, Dennis Cotter, Oonagh Messette, Omer Sunguroglu.

Officials Present on MS Teams: Sharon Murray, Áine Whelan, Breda Curran, Samantha Richardson, Eve Hayden, Elayne McDonnell, Michael Buckley, Dominic Walsh.

Before the Assembly Meeting the Chair and Executive paid tribute to former Regional Assembly Member, the late Cllr. P.J. Kelly and a vote of Sympathy was made. They also offered their condolences to the family of Cllr. John Naughten.

1. Adoption of Minutes of Meeting held on 13th September 2024

The Members adopted the minutes of the meeting held on 13th September 2024, proposed by Cllr. Sheila O'Callaghan and seconded by Cllr. Andrew McGuinness.

2. Matters Arising

No matters arising.

3. Draft Budget 2025 – for adoption.

David Kelly gave an overview of the proposed budget for 2025 highlighting that there is a slight increase which can be primarily attributed to costs associated with the forthcoming RSES Review and increased staffing levels.

The Budget was adopted, proposed by Cllr. John Brennan and seconded by Cllr. Andrew McGuinness.

4. Developing Irish Sea Cooperation Project.

David Kelly gave an introduction to the DISC Project, emphasising the high level of Government and DG Regio support to continue the long-standing cooperation between regions, particularly between Ireland and Wales, expanding to Northern Ireland and Scotland.



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Enda Hogan presented the detail of Developing Irish Sea Cooperation – DISC – is a two-year project aimed at enhancing social and economic co-operation between Northern Ireland, Ireland, Wales and Scotland supported by the PeacePlus Programme. Cllr. Pip Breen outlined that Wexford County Council are forging links with Normandy and other regions and emphasised the benefits which can be gained. Cllr's Coughlan, O'Callaghan, Moriarty and McGrath encouraged collaboration with Secondary Schools and their associations.

5. 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.

6. Corporate Plan Update

Members were given the timeline for the drafting of the Corporate Plan. The Corporate Plan aims to be ready for adoption by the Assembly Members in February and published in March 2025. A Members workshop was proposed with dates and venues to be confirmed by majority preference.

7. Update on Cohesion Policy post 2027

David Kelly reminded Members that the Policy Focus for the Southern Regional Assembly was adopted at the last Assembly Meeting. He also informed the Members that the Assembly have been invited to a number of high-level debates and events and will continue to re-enforce the Assembly's position. It is important that the Members also continue to highlight the position with their own Political Parties.

8. Any Other Business

Mayor John Moran suggested that on occasions that the business of the Assembly meetings concludes ahead of schedule, time could be given to policy discussions.

9. Date of next Meeting

Next meeting of the Assembly is 8th November subject to confirmation of the Members Corporate Plan Workshop. Cllr. Tony O'Brien requested that changes to the dates of the Assembly Meetings only be made in exceptional circumstances.

Signed: _____



Cllr. Garret Kelleher
Cathaoirleach

Date: _____



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AGENDA

1. Adoption of Minutes of Meeting held on 13th September 2024
2. Matters Arising
3. Draft Budget 2025 – for adoption
4. Developing Irish Sea Cooperation Project
5. Nomination to Committees of the Southern Regional Assembly;
 - a) Southern, Eastern & Midland Regional Programme Monitoring Committee - Cathaoirleach and 3 members
 - b) CAP Strategic Plan Monitoring Committee – 1 member
 - c) EIST Programme (ESF+) Monitoring Committee – 1 member
6. Corporate Plan – Members Workshop/Training
7. Update on Cohesion Policy Post 2027
8. Any Other Business
9. Date of Next Meeting



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