



Wednesday 3rd April 2024

11am – 12pm

Members Chamber, 1st floor, City Hall, Dame Street, Dublin 2.

Attendance

In Person:

Cllr. Dermot Lacey Cathaoirleach, Cllr. Kate Keeney Cllr. Jim Gildea, Cllr. Declan Bree, Cllr. Jimmy McClearn, Cllr. Declan McDonnell, Ms. Clare Bannon.

On Line:

Cllr. Oliver Walsh, Mr. David Kelly.

Support Staff:

Laure Antoniotti, Geraldine Kenny, Ian Ludlow, Oonagh Messette

Minutes of meeting on the 24th January 2024.

Minutes from meeting of the 24th January 2024 were approved, proposed by Cllr. Declan Bree and Seconded by Cllr. Declan McDonnell.

Matters Arising

There were no matters arising.

A.I.R. Training Seminar update

Not all reimbursements had been received from LA's but the overall cost to the three Assemblies was in line with what had been expected. 159 delegates attended the event, sponsorship from IPB agreed for another year and rebranding complete.

The members commented the event overall, the excellent Agenda, choice of Speakers, choice of Panellists and Moderator, given that the event was so close to the local elections – getting the number of elected representatives to attend was a good result.

It was also suggested that work should commence on the 2025 event as soon as practicable. David Kelly, thanked the Members for their commendation and reminded all that it had been a joint sub-committee working on the organisation. He also thanked the hard work of the Assembly executive.

Regional Change – Potential and Opportunities: Briefing Information for new Assembly Members

A draft information leaflet was prepared with the intention of briefing elected local authority members of the role, functions and responsibilities of the Regional Assemblies in advance of seeking nominations to the Assemblies. The intention is to circulate this material to all local authorities and request them to circulate to the members following the election. The majority of the content is generic to all three RA's however, region specific information can also be added. It is also proposed, if possible, to hold an on-line briefing session.

Members were supportive of the approach with some suggestions:

- To tailor the information leaflet to each Assembly area and include the day and time and hybrid availability of all meetings. Most Councils have an induction day – and AIR should request a speaking slot at all of these.
- The leaflet to be issued to all Local Authorities and all Councillors as soon as possible.
- The AIR logo should also be prominent.
- Both the AIR and the relevant Assembly logo should be included on each brochure and urged that the information be disseminated as soon as possible.

Revisions to A.I.R. Constitution

David Kelly introduced this topic reminding Members that the current constitution dates from 2015, before the changes in Regional Assemblies, there have been and will be further administration changes required. It is the intention of the Executive to make the necessary changes and circulate a draft prior to the Annual Meeting

Cllr. Lacey requested that this topic be discussed in depth prior to the Annual Meeting at an Extraordinary Meeting or another meeting prior to the Annual Meeting so that any changes can be facilitated.

It was requested that that physical presence requirement at the Annual Meeting be considered in the Constitution and into the Standing Orders.

David Kelly suggested that a sub-committee be formed to undertake the work on the AIR Constitution incorporating all comments.

AOB

Ms. Clare Bannon informed the Members that a letter to the Editor of the Irish Times was published that day, signed by the Cathaoirligh of the three Regional Assemblies in response to an article by Francis Ruane and Mary Bourke, regarding the removal of the role of Monitor from the Assemblies.

Cllr. Bree requested that any letter of this nature be countersigned by the Cathaoirleach of the Association of Irish Regions. This was agreed.

David Kelly took the opportunity to introduce Ian Ludlow, who will be the contact person for the Southern Regional Assembly.

Date & Venue for next meeting.

In line with rotation the next meeting in September will be the AGM, organised by the NWRA when the Secretariat will rotate to EMRA.



Signed

Cllr. Jimmy McClearn
Chairperson

16/10/2024

Date

Ms. Clare Bannon
Eastern and Midland Regional Assembly

16 10 2024.

Date

