



Southern Regional Assembly

Minutes of the Meeting
10th September 2021, 12:00pm
via GoToMeeting

Minutes

Presiding: Cllr. Pip Breen, Cathaoirleach

Present: Cllr. Gerard Murphy, Cllr. Deirdre O'Brien, Cllr. Robert Beasley, Cllr. John Sheahan, Cllr. Maura Bell, Cllr. Joe Carroll, Cllr. John Brennan, Cllr. Noel Coonan, Cllr. Séamus Cosáí Fitzgerald, Cllr. Dan Boyle, Cllr. Alan O'Callaghan, Cllr. Sean O'Connor, Cllr. Michael O'Shea, Cllr. Siobhan Ambrose, Cllr. Tom Cronin, Cllr. Michael Murphy, Cllr. PJ Kelly, Cllr. Ken Murnane, Cllr. Noel Coonan, Cllr. Thomas Kinsella, Cllr. Conor McGuinness, Cllr. Thomas Phelan, Cllr. Deirdre Forde, Cllr. Kieran McCarthy, Cllr. Michael O'Meara, Cllr. Andrew McGuinness, Cllr. Michael Collins, Cllr. Terry Shannon.

Apologies: None.

Officials Present: David Kelly, Kevin Lynch, Bryan Riney, Robert Fennelly, Sarah Davoren, Breda Curran, Samantha Richardson, Karen Coughlan, Siobhan Rudden, Maria Murphy, Alice Byrne Kelly.

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

1. Adoption of Minutes of Meeting held on 8th July

The Members adopted the minutes of the meeting held on 8th July 2021, proposed by Cllr. Sheahan and seconded by Cllr. O'Brien.

2. Matters Arising

There were no matters arising.

3. Second Update Report on RSES Implementation

Kevin Lynch gave an update on the RSES implementation, based on the report circulated to the Members.

A discussion followed with contributions from Cllr. Phelan, Cllr. Boyle. Cllr. McCarthy and Cllr. Kelly, with points raised relating to the need for:

- a traffic light system (for ease of reference) for the 32 tasks,
- climate action, and the decarbonisation programme,
- increased funding for local authorities,
- implementation of the EU Recovery and Resilience Plan,
- concern regarding lack of emphasis on rural areas.

In response, the Cathaoirleach advised that a workshop on European Funding will take place in November. David Kelly advised a representative from the Department of Public Expenditure and Reform (DPER) will be invited to the November workshop to give a briefing on NRRP. Kevin Lynch advised that:

- the proposed 'traffic light' approach will be adopted for future reports,
- climate action and decarbonisation is fundamental to the RSES and that specific actions will be developed in the context of the Climate Action Plan and available resources,
- the RSES places a strong emphasis on rural areas and the RSES Strategy was based on urban and rural areas working together to overcome the long term trajectory towards growth of the Dublin area.

4. Two Year Statutory RSES Monitoring Report

The Regional Assembly is required under legislation to prepare a report every two years monitoring progress made in implementing the RSES. To assist preparation of the report public bodies including local authorities are required to submit a report to the assembly setting out progress made in supporting RSES objectives. The Assembly is required to submit the report to the National Oversight and Audit Commission (NOAC) who may make recommendations to the Minister in relation to measures to further support the implementation of the RSES.

Work has commenced on the report which will be brought to the Members for formal adoption in early 2022 before being submitted to NOAC.

5. Arrangements for future meetings

David Kelly outlined the proposed arrangements for Assembly meetings in line with Government Policy including the COVID recovery plan. It is proposed to hold the first physical meeting at Assembly House in November, after the second phase of relaxing restrictions on 22nd October. He advised that this, and future meetings until otherwise advised, will take place in a hybrid format - in person and online.

Members welcomed the proposal.

6. Any Other Business

None.

7. Date of Next Meeting

Friday, 8th October 2021 via GoToMeeting.

Signed: 
Cllr. Pip Breen
Cathaoirleach

Date: 10/09/2021



AGENDA

10th September 2021

1. Adoption of Minutes of Ordinary Meeting held on 8th July 2021
2. Matters Arising
3. Update Report on RSES Implementation
4. Two Year Statutory RSES Monitoring Report
5. Arrangements for future meetings
6. Any Other Business
7. Date of Next Meeting