



# Southern Regional Assembly

10<sup>th</sup> February 2023, 12:00pm

Assembly House, Waterford and via MS Teams

## Minutes

**Presiding:** Cllr. Oliver Walsh, Cathaoirleach.

**Present:** Cllr. Siobhan Ambrose, Cllr. Pip Breen, Cllr. Dan Boyle, Cllr. Joe Carroll, Cllr. Michael O'Shea, Cllr. Ken Murnane and Cllr Robert Beasley.

**Remote Attendance via MS Teams:** Cllr. Andrew McGuinness, Cllr. Sean O'Connor, Cllr. Gillian Coughlan, Cllr. PJ Kelly, Cllr. Alan O'Callaghan, Cllr. Thomas Kinsella, Cllr. Michael Murphy, Cllr. Kieran McCarthy, Cllr. Michael O'Meara, Cllr. John Brennan, Cllr. Gerard Murphy, Cllr. John Sheahan, Cllr. Deirdre O'Brien, Cllr. Noel Coonan, Cllr. Séamus Cosáí Fitzgerald, Cllr. Conor D McGuinness, Cllr. Michael Collins, Cllr. Sheila O'Callaghan, Cllr. Terry Shannon, Cllr. Tom Cronin, Cllr. Thomas Phelan, Cllr. Conor D McGuinness, Cllr. Deirdre Forde, Cllr. Garret Kelleher.

**Apologies:** Cllr. Maura Bell.

**Officials Present:** David Kelly, Kevin Lynch, Enda Hogan, Dominic Walsh, Brigh Ryan, Marie Harnett, Áine Whelan, Alice Byrne Kelly, Catherine Connaughton, Maria Murphy

**Officials Remote Attendance via MS Teams:** Vincent Dunphy, Michael Buckley, Siobhan Rudden, Rose Power, Sarah Davoren, Breda Curran, Lisa Moran, Edel Hunt, Elayne McDonnell.

**External Presenters Attendance via MS Teams:** Karl Murphy, Eastern Midland Regional Assembly (EMRA).

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

### 1. Adoption of Minutes of Meeting held on 13<sup>th</sup> January

The Members adopted the minutes of the meeting held on 13<sup>th</sup> January 2023, proposed by Cllr. Robert Beasley and seconded by Cllr. Gerard Murphy.

### 2. Matters Arising

The Cathaoirleach, Cllr. Oliver Walsh thanked the relevant SRA staff members on a well organised AIR conference.

### 3. First URBACT IV call – Eastern Midland Regional Assembly (EMRA)

David Kelly introduced Karl Murphy, National URBACT Point for Ireland and the European Union Affairs Officer at EMRA who gave a presentation (copy available) on URBACT IV and the call for Action Planning Networks.

A discussion followed with contributions from Cllr. O'Shea, Cllr. Boyle and Cllr. McCarthy.

#### 4. Adoption of Annual Work Programme 2023

The Annual Work Programme 2023 was adopted on the proposal of Cllr. Breen and seconded by Cllr. O'Shea.

#### 5. LECP Process Overview – Brigh Ryan, RPO SRA

Kevin Lynch introduced Brigh Ryan, Regional Planning Officer who presented an overview on the role of the Southern Regional Assembly in the Local Economic and Community Plans (LECP) Process (presentation available).

A discussion followed with contributions from Cllr. Boyle.

#### 6. ROBIN Project – Áine Whelan, Projects Officer SRA

Áine Whelan, Projects Officer gave a detailed presentation on the new Horizon Europe funded bioeconomy ROBIN project. The aim of the project is to deliver better regional governance models in the bioeconomy.

A discussion followed with contributions from Cllr. Breen and Cllr. O'Shea. Key issues discussed included:

- a roll out of anaerobic digestors,
- how much project funding is available and how will it distributed.

#### 7. Regional Planning Update

David Kelly provided the following updates:

- Draft Planning and Development Bill: This is currently being reviewed by the team and a briefing will be provided to the Members at a future meeting regarding the implications for the role of the Regional Assembly;
- The Director and Assistant Director/Senior Planner were invited to attend the Pilltown MD in February to provide an update on the Waterford MASP Implementation structures.

Cllr. Breen stated that the Waterford MASP Structures would also be of interest to the New Ross Municipal District.

Cllr. Phelan suggested meeting the Waterford MD also.


On the Draft Planning and Development Bill Cllr. Boyle proposed inviting the Chair of the Oireachtas Sub-Committee on Housing, Local Government and Heritage, Steven Matthews TD, to speak at an Assembly Meeting.

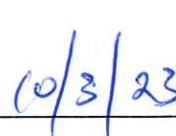
#### 8. Any Other Business

None.

#### 9. Date of Next Meeting

Friday, 10<sup>th</sup> March 2023 in-person and online.

Signed:   
Cllr. Oliver Walsh  
Cathaoirleach

Date: 



# AGENDA

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1. Adoption of Minutes of Meeting held on 13<sup>th</sup> February 2023
2. Matters Arising
3. First URBACT IV call – Karl Murphy, EMRA
4. Adoption of Annual Work Programme 2023
5. LECP Process Overview – Brigh Ryan, RPO SRA
6. ROBIN Project – Áine Whelan, Projects Officer SRA
7. Regional Planning Update
8. Any Other Business
9. Date of Next Meeting