



Northern & Western Regional Assembly

MINUTES OF THE NORTHERN & WESTERN REGIONAL ASSEMBLY MEETING HELD ON 26TH JULY 2019 IN THE ASSEMBLY CHAMBER AT 11.00 A M

Present:

Cllr. Declan Bree	Cllr. Christy Hyland	Cllr. Declan McDonnell
Cllr. Tim Broderick	Cllr. Craig Lovett	Cllr. Patrick McGowan
Cllr. Joe Sheridan	Cllr. Donal Lyons	Cllr. Brian McKenna
Cllr. Justin Warnock	Cllr. Frank McBrearty	Cllr. Jimmy McClearn
Cllr. Donal Gilroy	Cllr. John Naughten	Cllr. Gerry Murray
Cllr. Jack Murray	Cllr. David Maxwell	Cllr. Orla Leyden
Cllr. Enda Stenson	Cllr. Enda McGloin	Cllr. Niall McNelis

Apologies: Mr Seamus Neely Designated Chief Executive, Cllr. Jarlath Munnelly, Cllr. John Caulfield, Cllr. Sean Smith, Cllr. David Collins

Officials: Northern & Western Regional Assembly –

Mr David Minton (Director)
Mr Denis Kelly (Assistant Director & Senior Planner)
Mr Gerry Doyle (Assistant Director)
Mr Frank Flanagan (Senior Executive Planner)
Mr Conall McGettigan (Senior Executive Planner)
Mr Brendan Mooney (EU Programmes Executive)
Ms Brenda Finn (Clerical Officer)

1. Adoption of Minutes of Meeting of Northern & Western Regional Assembly held 26th April 2019

Proposed by: Cllr Gerry Murray
Seconded by: Cllr Justin Warnock
Resolved:

“That the minutes of the meeting of the Northern & Western Regional Assembly held on 26th April 2019 be adopted.”

Cathaoirleach McDonnell suggested that if members wish to make an appointment to meet with Mr Minton individually this would be facilitated.

4. Planning and Economic Development

3.1 RSES Update

Cathaoirleach McDonnell clarified that today's proposal is to put the draft RSES on public display, it is not to make changes.

Mr Denis Kelly advised that the SPA meetings had been held last week and the following Cathaoirleach and Leas Cathaoirleach were voted in.

Border SPA:

Cathaoirleach – Cllr Frank McBrearty

Leas Cathaoirleach – Cllr Justin Warnock

West SPA:

Cathaoirleach – Cllr Jimmy McClearn

Leas Cathaoirleach – Cllr Niall McNelis

Mr Kelly advised that at the SPA meetings, members were brought up to date with regards to the Draft RSES and explanations/clarifications were provided to all queries from Members. He informed members of queries that had been received from a number of stakeholders, including from the DHPLG (NPF Unit) seeking clarifications relating to proposed material amendments. All matters raised were reviewed by the team and detailed explanations were provided clarifying that the process followed was fully in accordance with the legislative requirements.

Mr Kelly advised that both SPA Committees considered the timing of the public consultation in respect of the proposed Material Amendments. It was the view of both Committees that an appropriate period would be from the 4th August – 11th October. He advised that this was longer than the required 4 weeks but it took account that August is a month that many are on summer holidays and/or covering for summer leave. In addition, it was also desirable to allow sufficient time for LA's to have their monthly meetings if they wish to discuss the submission to the proposed material amendments. Mr Kelly advised that the consultation will be advertised in the Sunday Business Post, via social media and through our constituent LA websites. He said that emails would also issue to the RSES contacts.

Members were advised that RPS has carried out the SEA/AA in respect of proposed amendments and were of the opinion that proposed RPO EC-2 of the Sligo RGCSP should be amended by adding the following to the end of the wording in the Draft RSES – 'and as part of the forthcoming Sligo & Environs Development Plan, to prepare a Tourist Strategy, which will focus on visitor offer, access, accommodation, and additional infrastructural needs, whilst taking into account all Natura 2000 sites within the environs of Sligo, Strandhill and Rosses Point.' Members were advised that it was the opinion of the executive that this addition should be included as a material amendment and subject to public consultation together with all the other proposed material amendments.

The members raised the following points:

- Cllr Bree stated that he would be supportive of the comments.

There was no correspondence to note.

6. Any Other Business

- a) Mr Minton informed members that we supported the Galway 2020 bid and have been consistently supportive of Galway 2020 since then. He advised that the NWRA has received a request to support the launch of the Galway 2020 Capital of Culture event during Brussels week. The event is to be hosted on October 8th with approx. 100-150 in attendance – EU Officials, Galway Capital of Culture officials, delegates and international media. The total cost is €18,000 which was not in the original budget, but it is recommended that the €10,000 that was previously allocated to a collaborative project in Chile which is not proceeding at this time be presented to the Galway 2020 Event.

Proposed by: Cllr Frank McBrearty

Seconded by: Cllr Joe Sheridan

Resolved:

“That the Northern & Western Regional Assembly would support the Galway 2020 event in Brussels to the sum of €10,000”

The Cathaoirleach suggested that the next Regional Assembly meeting scheduled for September 20th be held in Galway and the cheque be presented to Galway 2020 on that day.

Proposed by: Cllr Niall McNelis

Seconded by: Cllr Donal Lyons


Resolved:

“That the Northern & Western Regional Assembly Meeting in September be held in Galway County Council Offices and that a cheque for €10,000 be presented to Galway 2020 at that meeting.”

The Cathaoirleach suggested that the meeting would be held in the Galway County Council office, but members will be notified of the location prior to the next meeting.

This concluded the business of the meeting.

Signed:



Cathaoirleach

Date:

20/9/19