

Minutes of Public Water Forum Meeting No. 1

Date: 09th March 2016
Time: 11:00am – 4:00pm
Location: The Spencer Hotel, IFSC, Dublin

Attendance

Chair & Secretary: Dr Tom Collins (Chair), Fergus O'Toole (CER), Aoife Doyle (CER).

Members: Andrea Ahern, Dr Bernice Phelan, Colm Brady, David Wright, Dympna Morrow, Eoghan Brophy, James Grimes, Karen Carney, Kevin Ryan, Laurie Kearon, Liam Berney, Michael Spellman, Mindy O'Brien, Neil Walker, Orla O'Donovan, Patrick Gerard McGuinness, Paul McMenamin, Paul Sigamoney, Rena O'Herlihy, Dr Suzanne Linnane, Tom Horan, Vincent Holmes, William O'Neill.

Invitees: None

Apologies: Brian O'Donnell, Connie Rochford, Mary Flanagan, Paul Sigamoney, Michael Brophy, Geraldine Stewart, Jason Davis

ITEM	DETAILS	ACTION
1.0	<p>INTRODUCTION & APPROVAL OF MINUTES The meeting commenced with a welcome and introduction from the Chair. The minutes from 27th January 2016 were approved subject to the following amendment:</p> <p>- 27TH JANUARY 2016 – NO 2.2 UPDATE TO EXPENSE POLICY & FORMS The proposed spend on external consultants and the fact that the budget does not reflect the true costs of the Forum were discussed the Forum indicating that openness and transparency should be the centre of the focus.</p>	AGREED
2.1	<p>UPDATE ON PWF BUDGET The budget was noted. The Chair advised that he cannot be part of future evaluation panel for the areas that the Forum will be procuring as he is not an employee of the CER. The Chair advised that he has communicated the need for Executive Authority and ability to procure and manage the budget. The Chair will provide an update on the request at the next meeting.</p>	NOTED
2.2	<p>UPDATE ON PUBLIC WATER FORUM WEBSITE The Secretary advised that the full website will be live in advance of the official launch (20TH April 2016). The profile area of the website was outlined and members were advised to select a photograph and draft some text for their profile.</p>	NOTED
2.3	<p>CORRESPONDENCE Correspondence received by the Forum was discussed.</p>	NOTED

- 2.4 UPDATE ON COMMUNICATION SUPPORT** **NOTED**
 The Chair advised that as to remain within Procurement Guidelines that the tender would take nearly two months to complete, he made an executive decision in advance of the meeting to cease the procurement process.
- 3.0 MEMORANDUMS OF UNDERSTANDING** **APPROVED**
 The MoU were approved without comment. Aoife Doyle to circulate to CER and IW.
- 4.0 PWF POSITION ON POLITICAL DEVELOPMENTS** **NOTED**
 The discussion derived to a possible solution that the Chair would extend an invitation to all political groupings to present to the Forum on Water Policy and provide a written submission in advance for the members to review. It was agreed that it should be conducted in one full day, and 11th May was agreed by the Forum.
- 5.0 PRIORITISING AND ESTABLISHMENT OF WORKING GROUPS** **NOTED**
 The Forum agreed that the following areas should have a working group :

Working Group	Member	
Ownership & Governance	Liam Berney Neil Walker Orla O'Donovan Dympna Morrow James Grimes	AGREED
Health	Bill O'Neill Bernice Phelan Eoghan Brophy Colm Brady	APPROVED
Conservation & Innovation	Vincent Holmes Mindy O'Brien Andrea Ahern Suzanne Linnane	NOTED
Affordability	David Wright Tim Fenn Rena O'Herlihy Laurie Kearon Karen Carney Gerry McGuinness Paul McMenamin	NOTED

All working groups to select their own rapporteur and report back to the Forum two weeks before the next meeting with draft Terms of Reference and planned outputs.

- 6.0 CER CONSULTATION ON IW CAPITAL INVESTMENT PLAN** **NOTED**
It was noted that the Forum had made a submission to Irish Water on the Capital Investment Plan and this was submitted to Irish Water on the 11th February.

A presentation from Dr. Bernice Phelan was given at this time as it was centred around Social Learning which derived from the Forum discussing the submission to IW.
- 7.0 IW WATER SUPPLY PROJECT , EIS & NIS** **NOTED**
Neil Walker provided an update as IW have presented to IBEC on the project. Mindy O'Brien advised that SWAN are engaging with IW on the same. The Conservation Working Group will arrange a meeting to explore the documentation by IW and report back to the Forum.
- 8.0 LAUNCH OF PUBLIC WATER FORUM** **NOTED**
The Chair outlined his thoughts to date on the Launch and possible format that it could take. The Members agreed not to invite Peter Peacock for the launch. It was agreed that time with him would be more beneficial than at the launch. Discussion highlighted that members may be interviewed by media and were asked to consider volunteering by the Chair. The date remains unchanged and will be taking place on 20th April 2016. The Forum will extend an invitation to the incoming Minister to attend.
- 9.0 CONSUMER SURVEY** **NOTED**
A brief presentation was given by the Secretary on the experience of the CER in conducting consumer surveys. The Forum decided that the benefit would not match the expenditure at this time.
- 10.0 AOB** **NOTED**
There was a discussion on the Forum logo and whether this was acceptable. The Chair was to revert to the members on the issue of choosing the logo.

Date of Next Meeting:

The next meeting of the Public Water Forum will be held on Wednesday 20th April 2016

Minutes approved:



Chairperson

20th April 2016 (Meeting No. 2)

Date