

**Minutes of Corporate Policy Group meeting held on
Monday, 1st February, 2021 at 3:00 p.m. via Ms Teams
Áras Contae an Chláir, New Road, Ennis, Co. Clare.**

Present: Cllrs. M. Howard, P. Hayes and J. Garrihy, via Ms Teams Video Call
Cllrs G. Flynn, J. Crowe and P. McMahon, via Conference Call

Officials Present: Pat Dowling, Chief Executive
Ann Reynolds, A/Senior Executive Officer.

Cllr. M. Howard presided.

1. Minutes of meeting held on 4th January, 2021.

The minutes of the C.P.G. meeting held on 4th January, 2021 were approved having been proposed by Cllr. J. Crowe and seconded by Cllr. P. McMahon.

2. Kilrush Mother and Baby Home:

Pat Dowling referred to the Taoiseach's statement and apology following the issue of the report from the Mother and Baby Home Commission of Investigation. Chapter 16 of the report deals with the County Clare Nursery in Kilrush which was owned and financed by Clare County Council. The Government has issued an action plan and the Council has established a working group to develop an action plan, in line with the Government's response, particularly in relation to memorialisation and access to archives and records. While the Taoiseach has apologised on behalf of the state it was agreed that it would be appropriate to issue a statement from the Council at the February Council meeting.

3. Arrangements for remote access to February Council meeting:

It was confirmed that the February Council meeting will be held remotely via MS Teams with support being provided where required. It was agreed that this is a temporary arrangement in an effort to ensure compliance with public health measures during Level 5 restrictions.

4. Headed Items and Notices of Motion for February Council Meeting.

The draft agenda was circulated to members and the headed items and notices of motion were discussed and reviewed.

3. Any other business.

Cllr. J. Garrihy complimented staff on work on the Community Support Scheme and highlighted further opportunities for funding under the Sports Capital Scheme and Active Travel.

Concerns were raised regarding progressing with public consultation on the County Development Plan review during Covid-19 restrictions. It was confirmed that the

timelines are set in legislation and the current review process will lead into preparation and further consultation on a new draft. The members highlighted the need for development of our towns and villages to attract people to live rather than just to visit.

It was agreed to further defer the planned meeting of the Standing Orders Committee in light of the current level 5 restrictions.

This concluded the business of the meeting.

*Ann Reynolds, A/Senior Executive Officer,
Corporate Services.*

1st February, 2021.