

**Minutes of Corporate Policy Group meeting held on  
Monday, 5<sup>th</sup> July, 2021 at 3:00 pm in the Boardroom / MS Teams  
Áras Contae an Chláir, New Road, Ennis, Co. Clare.**

**Present:** Cathaoirleach, Cllr. P.J. Ryan, Cllrs. A. Norton, J. Crowe, P. McMahon, G. Flynn, C. Murphy and P. Hayes.

**Officials Present:** Pat Dowling, Chief Executive  
Ann Reynolds, Senior Executive Officer.  
Noeleen Fitzgerald, via MS Teams.

Cathaoirleach, Cllr. P.J. Ryan presided.

At the outset Pat Dowling advised the members of a tragic water accident that occurred this morning, where an off-duty lifeguard lost his life. Full details are yet to be released.

**1. Minutes of meeting held on 4<sup>th</sup> June, 2021.**

The minutes of the C.P.G. meeting held on 4<sup>th</sup> June, 2021 were approved having been proposed by Cllr. G. Flynn and seconded by Cllr. J. Crowe.

**2. Headed Items and Notices of Motion for July Council Meeting.**

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

Item 21: The Chief Executive advised that the new Planning and Development Bill is not yet enacted, therefore adoption of this motion may be premature. The members have concerns regarding substantive issues on the guidelines, population growth allocations, and zoning. Population growth allocations are set by the National Planning Framework, and the Regional Spatial and Economic Strategies. It was agreed that there will be no further consideration of the County Development Plan and workshops will be deferred pending the enactment of the legislation.

**3. Any other business.**

The Chief Executive updated the members on the following items:

- Following the consideration of a decarbonizing zone in each Municipal District, Loophead Peninsula has been nominated to proceed as the initial Decarbonizing Zone (DCZ) for Clare County Council under Circular Letter LGSM01-2021. The Department requires one project per local authority at this point, and the learnings from the initial project will be used to implement additional DCZs.
- A New Civil Law Bill has been enacted to regulate sale and consumption of alcohol in outdoor seating areas. The changes to the legislation allow for the sale and

consumption of alcohol in the relevant outdoor seating areas, where those outdoor seating areas have been permitted by the local authority on public land, or where they are on private land abutting the licensed premises. They are deemed to be part of the licensed premises while this legislation remains in force.

Cllr. Ann Norton raised the issue of the use of official titles of the Mayor of Ennis Municipal District, and Cathaoirleach of Clare County Council. It was agreed that the official titles as set out in the Local Government Reform Act 2014, would be used at all official events, on all plaques, and in official correspondence and media communications. Cllr. P.J Ryan agreed with the arrangements for use of the official title and advised that he may use the title of Mayor unofficially on occasions during his term of office.

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

*5<sup>th</sup> July, 2021.*