

**Minutes of Corporate Policy Group meeting held on
Monday, 4th April, 2022 at 3:00 p.m. in the Boardroom/MS Teams
Áras Contae an Chláir, New Road, Ennis, Co. Clare.**

Present: Cathaoirleach, Cllr. P.J. Ryan, Cllrs. G. Flynn, C. Murphy, and P. McMahon.

MS Teams: Cllrs. A. Norton, P. Hayes and J. Crowe

Officials Present: Noeleen Fitzgerald, Director of Finance and Support Services.
Ann Reynolds, Senior Executive Officer, Corporate Services.

Cathaoirleach, Cllr. P.J. Ryan presided.

- **Minutes of meeting held on 28th February 2022.**

The minutes of the C.P.G. meeting held on 28th February 2022 were approved having been proposed by Cllr. G. Flynn and seconded by Cllr. C. Murphy.

- **Headed Items and Notices of Motion for April Council Meeting.**

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

- **Annual Financial Statement 2021.**

Noeleen Fitzgerald gave a presentation on the Annual Financial Statement 2021 outlining details on revenue and capital expenditure and income and commercial rates collection. The members discussed collection of income across a number of areas. There was also a discussion on expected increase - in a number of budget areas in 2022, most notable fuel and energy costs.

- **Any other business.**

- **Mayoral Ball-** the members acknowledged that the Mayoral Ball was a successful charity event and thanked all those involved in organising the event
- **Council Chamber** – Noeleen Fitzgerald advised that an assessment has been completed and specification drawn up for the procurement of audio-visual technology for the Council chamber to replace end of life technology and integrate with MS Teams to facilitate hybrid meetings. It was noted that the screens on desktops are outdated and will be removed. The new system will provide for the

use of the members individual tablets or laptops. While there was general agreement to proceed with the upgrade, it was noted that Cllr. Gerry Flynn was not in agreement. It was noted that the new system will facilitate web casting/recording of meetings but would require additional software if a decision is taken by the Council to allow webcasting/recording.

- **Covid -19 Events** - The Remembrance Ceremony held on 20th March was acknowledged as a successful event. Noeleen Fitzgerald advised that further request has been received from the Department of Rural and Community Development for events on 19th May to acknowledge the contribution of volunteers during the pandemic. It was agreed that events would be organised at Municipal District level to acknowledge volunteers with co-ordination and support from the Rural Directorate in terms of the Community Response element. It was also noted that Municipal Districts may also combine the acknowledgement of volunteers with a memorial event.
- **Deputations-** Ann Reynolds provided an update on the outstanding deputations/briefings to be scheduled. It was agreed to schedule a Mayoral Awards reception in May to acknowledge those who have been put forward for awards over the last two years.

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

29th April, 2022.