

**Minutes of Shannon Municipal District Meeting to consider the Draft Budgetary Plan held on Tuesday 8th November, 2022 at 11.30am in the Council Chamber, Áras Contae an Chláir, New Road, Ennis, Co. Clare.**

**Councillors in attendance:** Councillors Michael Begley (Cathaoirleach), PJ Ryan, John Crowe, Gerard Flynn, Pat O’Gorman, and Pat McMahon.

**Attending Remotely:** Cllr. Donna McGettigan

**Officials in attendance:** Pat Dowling Chief Executive, Noeleen Fitzgearld Head of Finance, Anne Griffin A/Senior Executive Officer (Meetings Administrator), Tom Mellet, Senior Executive Engineer and Patricia O’Neill Staff Officer.

**Consideration of the Draft Budget – General Municipal Allocation (GMA) for Shannon Municipal District.**

Cathaoirleach Michael Begley convened the meeting and welcomed all present to this meeting to consider the General Municipal Allocation (GMA) in the draft budgetary process.

Ms. Noeleen Fitzgerald, Head of Finance, addressed the meeting and outlined its statutory process and purpose of the meeting, to consider the proposed General Municipal Budget Allocation (GMA) for 2023 for the Municipal District of Shannon. The proposed GMA for the Shannon MD for 2023 is €318,250. Ms. Fitzgerald further outlined that the GMA allocation is subject to adoption of the final budget by the full Council on 25<sup>th</sup> November, 2022.

Cllr. Gerard Flynn stated that consideration be given to a reduction in the allocation for 2023 rather than an increase in commercial rates. Cllr. Donna McGettigan also supported Cllr. Flynn’s comments in relation to commercial rates.

Mr. Pat Dowling, Chief Executive addressed the meeting and outlined the challenges faced by Clare County Council in the current economic climate and the duty of the public service to maintain services and to also balance the budget. Mr. Dowling stated that the purpose of today’s meeting is to consider the GMA for 2023 and re-iterated that it is subject to the final decision made by the full Council on 25<sup>th</sup> November.

Cllr. PJ Ryan requested further information on the budgetary process.

Ms. Noeleen Fitzgerald outlined the legislative and statutory process for the meeting. The Municipal District Members are required to consider this GMA element within the overall context of the budget, 10 days in advance of the full Council meeting on the budget. It is proposed to maintain the same allocation as in previous years but is subject to adoption in the final budget meeting.

The GMA Budget for 2023 was proposed by Cllr. Gerard Flynn and seconded by Cllr. Pat O’Gorman and unanimously agreed by all.

The meeting then concluded.

**Signed:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Cllr. Michael Begley,**

**Cathaoirleach.**

**Date \_\_\_\_\_ day of November 2022**

**Signed:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Anne Griffin**

**Meetings Administrator**

