

# **MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS AT SPECIAL MEETING OF THE MUNICIPAL DISTRICT OF NEWCASTLE WEST HELD IN ÁRAS WILLIAM SMITH OBRIEN, NEWCASTLE WEST, CO. LIMERICK, ON WEDNESDAY, 25<sup>TH</sup> MAY, 2022, AT 12 NOON.**

**PRESENT IN THE CHAIR:** Councillor L. Galvin, Cathaoirleach.

## **MEMBERS PRESENT:**

Councillors Foley, Ruddle, and Scanlan.

## **OFFICIALS IN ATTENDANCE:**

Meetings Administrator (Mr. M. Curran), Senior Executive Engineer, West Division (Mr. J. Sheehan), Executive Engineer, Roads (Mr. P. Valley), Senior Engineer, Water Services (Ms. A. Peters), A/Senior Executive Engineer, Water Services (Mr. N. Boyle), Executive Engineer, Water Services (Mr. D. O'Connor), Clerical Officer, Newcastle West (Ms. A. Lenihan).

Operations Manager, Irish Water (Mr. D. O'Brien).

## **APOLOGIES:**

Councillors Collins, Sheahan.

Director, Community, Tourism and Culture (Mr. G. Daly).

Director, National and Regional Shared Services Centre (Mr. K. Lehane).

## **1. National and Regional SCC Directorate**

### **To discuss water outages in the Broadford/Dromcollogher areas.**

At the outset, the Cathaoirleach welcomed everyone to the Meeting.

The Members raised a number of items with the Senior Engineer, Water Services and the Operations Manager, Irish Water, which included the ongoing interruptions to water supply in Broadford, Dromcollogher and other villages in the District, lack of communication when water supply is disrupted and the timeframes involved when carrying out repairs to water mains.

The Operations Manager, Irish Water addressed the Meeting and outlined to the Members the current situation with regard to water supply in the Broadford and Dromcollogher villages in the District. He referred to the existence of asbestos cement in the water infrastructure in these villages and in other areas nationally but stated that this does not pose a risk to public health. He also noted the ageing infrastructure in place in certain areas such as Broadford where water main replacement is required.

The Operations Manager made reference to the number of burst water mains which have occurred in the Broadford and Dromcollogher areas over the last number of weeks which have been repaired as quickly as possible by the relevant parties.

He referred to the condition of over 6km in length of water main in Broadford and stated that a commitment for funding has been given for addressing the worst lengths of this water main and to replacing an initial length of 1 to 1.5km length to the west of Broadford. He stated that pressure in the water main has also been reduced from approximately 3 bar to 1 bar to help reduce the stress on the water main.

The Operations Manager made reference to the disruption caused to members of the public and acknowledged the role of the Elected Members and Member of the Oireachtas in this matter.

Following discussion on the above matters, the Members requested that improved communication measures be put in place when being notified of interruptions to water supply and when schedule of works is taking place. The Members also requested that funding for the remainder of the works to the water main in Broadford continue to be sought from the relevant authorities. As some Members of the District were not present at the Meeting, it was agreed that a written update would be provided to all the Members following the Meeting.

The Members wished to acknowledge the work of the relevant parties in the repair of malfunctioning water mains in the District.

It was agreed to hold the June Meeting of the District on Wednesday, 13<sup>th</sup> June, 2022, at 10.00 a.m., at Áras William Smith OBrien.

It was agreed to hold the Annual Meeting of the District on Wednesday, 13<sup>th</sup> June, 2022, at 12.00 noon, at Áras William Smith OBrien.

This concluded the Meeting.

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

Dated: \_\_\_\_\_