

**Minutes of the meeting of the Corporate Policy Group held on  
Monday, 29<sup>th</sup> February, 2016 at 2.15 p.m. in Room 316,  
Áras Contae an Chláir, New Road, Ennis, Co. Clare.**

**Present:** Cllr. James Breen, Cathaoirleach presiding.  
Cllrs. G. Flynn, J. Cooney and R. Nagle.

**Apologies:** Cllr. P. Hayes.

**Officials Present:** Tom Coughlan, Chief Executive.  
Michael McNamara, Senior Executive Officer, Corporate Services.  
Ger Dollard, Director of Service.  
Niall Barrett, Head of Finance.

The Cathaoirleach, Cllr. James Breen presided.

**1. Minutes of meeting held on 1<sup>st</sup> February, 2016.**

The minutes of the meeting of the C.P.G. held on 1<sup>st</sup> February, 2016 were circulated with the agenda and were noted by the meeting.

**2. March Council Meeting.**

The members noted the headed items listed and the notice of motions received for the March agenda.

- Cllr. G. Flynn referred to the motion submitted in relation to the Crematorium site in Shannon and referred to the decision of the Shannon Municipal District that this item would be on the April agenda.
- The Chief Executive referred to the motion submitted in relation to interest charges on loans and pointed out the very significant time taken to obtain details for the responses. Niall Barrett stated that elements of the response would be sensitive as regards interest rates of various banks.

**3. Interim Financial Report 2015.**

Niall Barrett, Head of Finance briefed the members in relation to the favourable financial outcome at the end of 2015 which arose from increased rates income and increased receipts

from NPPR. He confirmed that these were once off monies and would not arise in future years. These increased monies will enable the Council to provide matching funding which is required where some grant funding was provided to the Council in recent months under the Limerick Hinterland Study, the Designated Urban Centre Grant Scheme and the REDZ Grants.

The Council will also be in a position to provide funding for other projects and there was a discussion on suitable projects in this regard. Following the outcome of that discussion a report is to be prepared for the March agenda.

The Chief Executive informed the members that there are potential financial liabilities in meeting regulatory requirements in relation to infill at a roadworks scheme/wetlands in Liscannor and disposal of asbestos and regulatory requirements. These matters will be addressed in the context of the Annual Financial Statement.

#### **4. Limerick Hinterland Report.**

The Chief Executive informed the members that the Limerick Hinterland Study was commissioned to examine the impact of the Limerick Regeneration on its Hinterland. Arising from this study, the Council has now been advised by the Department of Environment, Community and Local Government that a sum of €500,000 is being made available to Clare County Council and that this sum must be matched by the local authority. Areas in the county have been identified to benefit from this funding. Following a discussion on same it was agreed that a report with recommendations would be put before the members at the March meeting.

#### **5. Service Delivery Plans.**

Senior Executive Officer, Corporate Services advised the members of the requirement of the Council to prepare Service Delivery Plans for each section. These Plans have now been prepared and will be before the members for consideration and adoption at the March meeting.

#### **6. Any other business.**

- Senior Executive Officer, Corporate Services advised the members that it was proposed to have the joint meeting with the party leaders from Limerick City and County Council on the 9<sup>th</sup> March next at 10.30 a.m. here in the Council offices. This arose from an initiative of the Cathaoirleach of this Council.
- The Cathaoirleach and members joined in paying tribute to Michael McNamara on his imminent retirement and thanked him for his contribution to the Corporate Policy Group meetings over the years.
- The Chief Executive informed the members that he will be completing his contract as Chief Executive on the 19<sup>th</sup> April next. He said it would be business as usual until then and he would be informing the elected members and staff later that day of his intentions.

That concluded the business of the meeting.

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Michael McNamara,  
Senior Executive Officer,  
Corporate Services.

3<sup>rd</sup> March, 2016.