



## ***Miontuairiscí / Meeting Minutes***

### ***Special Meeting***

***21<sup>st</sup> January, 2019 - Council Chamber***

**Presiding:**

Cathaoirleach, Councillor Tom Kelly

**Councillors Present:**

Councillors Joe Bonner, Suzanne Jamal, Conor Tormey, Claire O'Driscoll, Darren O'Rourke, Alan Tobin, Eugene Cassidy, Seán Drew, Michael Gallagher, David Gilroy, Sarah Reilly, Eimear Ferguson, Wayne Harding, Sharon Keogan, Stephen McKee, Paddy Meade, Sharon Tolan, Sinéad Burke, Francis Deane, Pádraig Fitzsimons, Wayne Forde, Jim Holloway, Tommy Reilly, Brian Fitzgerald, Nick Killian, Maria Murphy, Gerry O' Connor, Damien O' Reilly, Gillian Toole, Maria Ui Ruairc, Enda Flynn, Joe Fox, Noel French, Trevor Golden, Caroline Lynch, Ronan McKenna.

**Apologies:**

Councillors Edward Fennessy, Johnny Guirke, Bryan Reilly.

**Officials in attendance:**

**Chief Executive:** Jackie Maguire

**Directors of Service:** Des Foley, Kevin Stewart

**Planning Staff:** Patrick Gallagher, Wendy Bagnall, Turlogh King, Alan Rogers & Irene Lynch

**1. To receive a presentation to the Council's submission on the draft Regional Spatial and Economic Strategy (RSES).**

The Councillors received a detailed presentation from Wendy Bagnall, Senior Executive Planner, on the Council's submission on the draft Regional Spatial and Economic Strategy (RSES).

Councillors were advised as follows: -

- it was important that key strategic issues were highlighted in Council's submission
- Appendices to include maps & Economic rationale to be included with submission.



## ***Miontuairiscí / Meeting Minutes***

A summary of the points raised by the Councillors and to be attached to the submission included:

- Councillors were supportive of proposed submission
- Need for improved broadband in rural areas
- Need for Rail line to Navan via Dunshaughlin
- Strengths of North Meath in relation to Tourism, Agriculture and greenways, and the need to invest further in these initiatives
- Need to address Social Inclusion, Disability & initiatives for the elderly
- Need for Climate Action initiatives (and to transition to zero)
- Transport investment and work life balance initiatives
- Framework for Joint Urban Area Plan (with Louth Co. Co. re Drogheda)
- Further investment required in rural road network
- Undergrounding Energy Infrastructure
- Opportunity to electrify link to Bettystown
- Spine Rd., Bettystown, Slane By Pass & Julianstown By Pass should be included in submission
- Newgrange to Newbridge Plan
- Promotion of Gaeltacht areas
- Ashbourne gateway to Meath (adjacent to Airport, Motorways & Port Tunnel)
- Need to link Ratoath to M2.