



**Minutes of the Meeting of the Water Advisory Body  
Thursday 2 February 2023 at 10.30am.**

**Venue:** Online via WebEx

Attended by:

Chairperson Paul McGowan

Members Dónal Purcell Miriam McDonald

Martin Sisk Noel Byrne

Secretariat Claire Gavin Deirdre Byrne

Valerie Longmore

**1. Draft minutes of the previous meeting on 14 December 2022.**

The minutes of the previous meeting were adopted and will be published on the WAB website.

**2. Declaration of any conflict of interest.**

There was no declaration of any conflict of interest.

**3. Irish Water Regulatory Framework.**

A letter of advice from the WAB regarding the Environmental and Economic Regulatory Framework for Irish Water was issued to the Minister for Housing, Local Government & Heritage on 15 December 2022. Receipt of the advice was acknowledged in a letter to the Chair on 27 January 2023. The correspondence noted that in view of the impending dissolution of the WAB, it would now be appropriate for the CRU, the EPA and An Fóram

Uisce, to discuss the issues outlined in the advice directly with the DHLGH at relevant meetings.

#### **4. WAB Quarterly Report No. 4 of 2022**

The Secretariat provided a progress update on the drafting of the WAB Quarterly Report No. 4 of 2022. Work is progressing well. Material from the CRU and the EPA has been incorporated into the draft and some final pieces remain to be included, before the report is sent to the desktop publishing company for processing. In this regard, the Chair will provide text for inclusion in the Foreword. The draft will be reviewed by the Chair and the Report will be circulated to the board as soon as possible, with a view to publishing it by the end of February 2023. A press release will not be issued when the report is released, but a statement will be placed on the website with the report.

It was agreed that a note of the meeting of the WAB and An Fóram Uisce on 13 September 2022 will be included in the WAB Annual Report 2022.

#### **5. Confirm next meeting dates.**

The following dates were agreed for the next WAB meetings;

- Wednesday 21 February in person at 11am in the Custom House.
- Thursday 6 April at 10am via WebEx.

#### **6. AOB**

- It was noted that the Annual Report 2022 will be the final report of the WAB and will contain a summary of the work carried out in 2022 and a statement on the dissolution.
- The Chair confirmed that his term as Commissioner in the CRU has been extended by three months, so he will remain in place as Chair until the dissolution date.
- The Secretariat advised that the WAB website has been updated, to include agendas and minutes of all board meetings up to 10 November 2022. Minutes of stakeholder meetings and further board meetings will be uploaded on the website before the dissolution date. The issue of the WAB website and how long it will remain in place post-dissolution will be an agenda item at the next meeting.