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***MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL MEETING OF KERRY COUNTY COUNCIL TO CONSIDER THE 2016 SERVICE DELIVERY PLAN - HELD IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS, ARAS AN CHONTAE, TRALEE, ON MONDAY, 11<sup>TH</sup> APRIL, 2016.***

**PRESENT/I LÁTHAIR**

***Councillors/Comhairleoirí***

**P. McCarthy**

**R. Beasley**

**J. Lucid**

**M. Cahill**

**P. Connor-Scarteen**

**B. Cronin**

**J. Culloty**

**P. Daly**

**T. Ferris**

**S. Cosáí Fitzgerald**

**J.F. Flynn**

**N. Foley**

**M. Gleeson**

**D. Grady**

**J. Healy-Rae**

**N. Kelliher**

**M. Kennelly**

**S. Locke**

**D. McCarthy**

**J. Moloney**

**N. Moriarty**

**D. Nolan**

**T. O'Brien**

**B. O'Connell**

**M. O'Shea**

**L. Purtill**

**D. Quigg**

**J. Sheahan**

**G. Spring**

**A. Thornton**

**IN ATTENDANCE/I LÁTHAIR**

**Ms. Moira Murrell, Chief Executive**

**Mr. C. O'Sullivan, Director of Services**

**Mr. J. Breen, Director of Services**

**Ms. A. McAllen, Head of Finance**

**Mr. M. O'Donoghue, A/Director of Services**

**Mr. M. Scannell, A/Director of Services**

**Mr. D. Doyle, A/S.E., Operations & Safety**

**Mr. P. Curry, A/S.E., Kerry National Road Design Office**

**Mr. F. Hartnett, S.E.E., Tralee Municipal District**

**Mr. P. Teahan, A/S.E.E., South & West Kerry Municipal District**

**Mr. P. Neary, S.E.E., Killarney Municipal District**

**Mr. G. O'Brien, A/S.E.O.**

**Mr. Liam Quinlan, S.E.O.**

**Ms. Christina Doyle, S.E.O.**

**Ms. Kate Kennelly, Arts Officer**

**Mr. Owen O'Shea, Press Officer**

**Ms. M. West, A.O., Operations & Safety**

**Ms. Norma Purtill, A.S.O., Operations & Safety**

The meeting commenced at 11.00 a.m.

The Cathaoirleach, Cllr. P. McCarthy took the Chair.

Cllr. McCarthy officially welcomed the new elected members, Cllr. John Lucid and Cllr. Maura Healy-Rae and wished all candidates in the upcoming Seanad Elections the best of luck. Cllr. Johnny Healy-Rae said that he needed to leave the meeting due to a family bereavement.

#### **16.04.11.01                      Presentation by Cumann Iosef**

Cllr. P. McCarthy, Cathaoirleach welcomed *(Names withheld for data protection purposes. A paper copy of the unedited minutes is available on request)* General Manager and Chairman, Cumann Iosef to the meeting and invited them to give a presentation to the members.

*(Name withheld for data protection purposes. A paper copy of the unedited minutes is available on request)* referred to “Charter of Independent Living” report as previously circulated to members and outlined the vision for Cumann Iosef, to make sure that elderly people have their human rights and that elderly people can’t be left in poor conditions whether the indicate that they are happy to do so or not.

*(Name withheld for data protection purposes. A paper copy of the unedited minutes is available on request)* thanked the members for the opportunity of speaking today and gave an outline of the work of Cumann Iosef. He then referred to “Charter of Independent Living” Report as previously circulated to members and stated that the Charter has one purpose, and that is to replace fear and uncertainty, with prescribed rights. He asked that the members, as influencers, represent the old and vulnerable in the community, and protect their interests. Laws should be set, that protects the entitlements of the innocent as well as the reckless. Vulnerable citizens rights must be placed on a par with other rights.

Cllr. P. McCarthy, Cathaoirleach thanked *(Names withheld for data protection purposes. A paper copy of the unedited minutes is available on request)* for their presentation and invited comments from members as follows:-

Cllr. N. Foley thanked both speakers for their presentation today and said that as a Public Representative, she wished to acknowledge the amount of work carried out by Cumann Iosef. This work should be replicated throughout the county and country. Cllr. N. Foley then proposed that the Charter of Independent Living Report be circulated to all other local authorities. Cllr. A. Thornton seconded this proposal and it was agreed.

Cllr. D. Grady thanked both speakers for their presentation and said it has made him very aware of the work they are doing. He said that as public representatives, when they see families or old people in difficulty they help them in every way they can. The elderly are absolutely vital to our society and made Ireland what it is today.

Cllr. S. Locke commended *(Name withheld for data protection purposes. A paper copy of the unedited minutes is available on request)* and all his team on their excellent work. If a member of the public observes an elderly person in need, they can contact Cumann

Iosef. He added that this policy should be given to our TDs to bring to Government for endorsement.

Cllr. T. O'Brien thanked both speakers for a very informative presentation and welcomed the proposal to send the policy to other local authorities as the work of Cumann Iosef is invaluable to the town.

Cllr. M. O'Shea acknowledged the work carried out by Cumann Iosef and asked if the members could find a mechanism for funding such an outstanding service.

Cllr. R. Beasley paid tribute to both speakers and stated that a lot of people would be in a very bad state only for their service.

Cllr. A. Thornton said that passion of the speakers is very evident and evoked her to go out and do more. She welcomed the launch of the centre for the elderly in Listowel and stated that today's presentation cannot but evoke a reaction.

Mr. P. McCarthy, Cathaoirleach congratulated both speakers on a very genuine presentation and stated that he fully concurred with both speakers.

Cllr. N. Foley then proposed that the Charter of Independent Living Report be circulated to all other local authorities seeking endorsement and sent to government. Cllr. A. Thornton seconded this proposal and it was agreed.

#### **16.04.11.02 Consideration of the 2016 Service Delivery Plan for the Operations Department**

Mr. Charlie O'Sullivan, Director of Services, referred to the Service Delivery Plan 2016 for the Operations Directorate, which was circulated to members. This plan is broader than the Roads Programmes of previous years, but the roads programme still constitutes a large part of the plan. The LECP will be a key driver in the delivery of the Plan. The function of the Operations Directorate supports the two key Corporate Priority Directorates:-

- Job Creation/Sustainable Economic Development
- Sustainable Communities/Quality of Life

He highlighted the key points of the programme as follows:-

The Operations Directorate now incorporates all housing improvement and maintenance works, road improvement and maintenance works, maintenance and repairs due to the impact of the severe weather events in late 2015, environmental works, street cleaning, maintenance of parks and open spaces, maintenance of public conveniences, public lighting and burial grounds.

The role of the Operations Directorate in respect of housing is to maintain the Council's properties, (houses and demountable units, community buildings and halting sites) and support communities in the maintenance of their estates, as well as ensuring prompt repair of vacant houses for re-letting.

The substantive element of the Operations Directorate Work Programme will be the improvement and maintenance of National, Regional and Local roads, as well as Urban Roads in the former Town Councils. The improvement and maintenance of the County's road network is funded by the grant allocations from the Transport Infrastructure Ireland (€7.76m) and the Department of Transport, Tourism and Sport (€12.91m) as well as the provision made by the members for Own Resources in the adopted budget (€4.23m). Together with an allocation of €4m received from the Department of Transport, Tourism and Sport towards the cost of repairs as a result of the severe weather events in late 2015, the total level of funding for 2016 is €28.9 million, compared to an allocation of €33.4 million in 2015 and €26.9 million in 2014 and €40.6 million in 2013.

Kerry County Council received a total maintenance allocation of €1,445,446 from Transport Infrastructure Ireland (TII) for the upkeep of the national road network. The balance of funding from the TII (€2,119,817) is for the operation of the KNRDO.

The grant allocation from the Department of Transport, Tourism and Sport for Non-National roads is €12,916,783, which is an increase of 1.1% on the initial allocation received in 2015. However, the overall level of investment provided in grant aid is inadequate to maintain the existing network. The allocation represents an almost 50% reduction on the funding made available in 2007 which presents a serious challenge on meeting the expectations of road users and local communities. Kerry County Council own resources allocation has been maintained at €4,236,500.

There is a serious need for Specific Improvement Grants to progress projects such as the Dale Road Improvement Scheme, extension of the Kenmare and Dingle Relief Roads, and construction of the Tralee Northern Relief Road. The TII have indicated that it is unlikely that any funding will be provided in the short-term but if finances improved in the coming years (2019/2020) there may be scope.

The Multi-Annual Roadworks Programme 2016-2018 (Restoration Improvement Programme) was adopted by Council in February 2016. This provides for improvement works in the urban and rural areas. Funding for this Programme is €6.94 million which poses a serious challenge for Kerry County Council as €13 - €14 million is realistically required to maintain our road network, based on a recent condition survey of the road network, which showed that over 50% of the local road network is in very poor condition which would require an investment of over €152m.

Community Involvement Schemes - €130,000 has been allocated to allow for a further 5 schemes to be completed in 2016, with a further €100,000 for surfacing dressing of old roads improved under previous CIS.

Local Improvement Schemes again have no separate allocation. €100,000 has been allocated from Discretionary Maintenance Grant for Local Improvement Schemes. The Operations Department is unable to accept any new applications for this scheme, as there are currently 129 on the list.

Following the damage caused by the severe weather events in late 2015, the Council made an application for exceptional funding to the DTTAS and received an allocation of €4 million towards the costs of repairs. A second application will be submitted by the end of the month.

Speed Limit Review – work is on-going on the review which will take approximately 26 months to complete. Members will be kept informed as it develops.

#### Unfinished Housing Estates:-

The Council has lodged 135 claims lodged with 11 financial institutions, seeking payment of the proceeds of bonds to complete outstanding works on unfinished housing estates throughout the county. Significant progress has been achieved in this area and Mr. Charlie O'Sullivan thanked Mr. Liam Quinlan, SEO for his work which has been very challenging.

#### Taking in Charge of Estates:-

A Memorandum of Understanding and Taking in Charge Protocol was agreed between Irish Water and the local authority sector last year under the guidance of the Water Service Transition Office to assist with the rollout of the Taking In Charge/transfer programme nationally.

The work programme associated with the maintenance of facilities i.e. street cleaning, burial grounds, piers and harbours, public conveniences, public lighting, car parking, outdoor leisure areas, playgrounds and beaches, including our commitment on the level of service to be provided, were considered and adopted in the Schedule of Municipal District Works Plans by each of the Municipal Districts in March 2016.

The regulation of casual trading in Kenmare has proven to be extremely challenging. A final report with a recommendation and draft bye laws will be brought before the Members of the South and West Municipal District in the coming weeks.

A tender has been awarded for the proposed dredging of Fenit Harbour which is expected to commence in mid April.

The Members discussed the programme at length and thanked Mr. Charlie O'Sullivan, Director of Services, Operations and Safety, Mr. David Doyle, A/S.E. Operations and all the Operations Directorate staff for the preparation of the Service Delivery Plan 2016. Members wished to acknowledge and compliment the works carried out by the Area Engineers, Outdoor Staff and the Area Offices. The following specific issues were raised by the Members:

Cllr. J Healy-Rae raised the following issues:-

- Kenmare CFRAM Study is not taking the tributary into account
- Works proposed at Kilbannivane Graveyard – when are the works starting?

Cllr. J.J. Culloty referred to the flooding in Castleisland and said the Council promised works in return for a right of way and asked if these works will be done.

Cllr. M. Gleeson raised the following issues:-

- Expressed dissatisfaction at the Councillor Specific Municipal District Operations Funds terminology and asked that he revert to the name of County Councillors Allocation
- Road works are critical to economic life. We are 60% dependent on tourism and have insufficient broadband

- Welcomed the dredging works at Fenit and acknowledged Liebherr's contribution
- Immoral to put funding into roads and allow them to disintegrate: Water flowing onto roads from elevated sites is undoing what has been done.
- If money not available, maybe it is time to get local voluntary community effort to accept responsibility, although health and safety requirements may not allow for this.
- Blocked gullies leading to roads being destroyed
- Need an overall plan for rivers. Point A will create a problem for point B unless there is an overall plan
- Bridges collapsing could lead to isolated communities
- Gortahoosh Bridge has a tree on the parapet which will undermine the structure. If it is left there, structure will collapse into River Flesk.
- Junction at the N22 – Aghadoe side difficulty trying to access the N22
- Road at Dromakeerie - not on the programme and has been brought up a few times
- Most frequent complaint is our lack of resources to maintain the roads after the works are done

Cllr. M. Kennelly raised the following issues:-

- Referred to Page 6 of the Plan and the criteria set out by the Department of Transport, Tourism and Sport in August 2015. William Street, Listowel didn't meet criteria. Concerned as to why it takes so long
- Listowel MD have the most road network, therefore should be getting more funding locally
- Welcomed taking in charge of The Writings in Listowel but felt it shouldn't have taken so long Something should be done to speed up the process
- Flooding issues, never far away from a code orange. Need to be working with the OPW now
- Littering – asbestos dumped in Kilmorna. More litter wardens are required

Cllr. M. Cahill raised the following issues:-

- Flooding – called for a task force to be set up
- Iveragh Road - welcomed the funding of €1.6m
- Tralee/Killorglin and Tralee/Killarney roads – would welcome funding and action
- Cliff Road, Rossbeigh – 50% funding offer from the Department of Transport, Tourism and Sport - propose that the Council raise a loan
- LIS – notice of motion for funding in hardship and emergency cases particularly difficult cases that need to be addressed
- Welcomed that the TII will examine the Laune Bridge
- Piers/Harbours – Cromane, one of the main fishing communities, has no landing facilities
- Unfinished Housing Estates – should be looking in the context of the housing crisis. Vacant properties on the increase
- Public Conveniences – expressed concern that toilets in Rossbeigh are not open
- Japanese Knotweed – needs to be tackled
- Burial Ground - Church town - need to acquire land
- Hedgecutting – need to put a budget in place to cut them

- Wild Atlantic Way – expressed dissatisfaction at the signposts and said that they are ugly and taking away from the beautiful scenic areas
- South Kerry Greenway – need to get it over the line.

Cllr. A. Thornton raised the following issues:-

- Flooding – stated there is flooding on the Abbeydorney Road
- William Street, Listowel. Feels it is an embarrassment. Asked who initiates the process, is it KCC or the TII? When does the process start? Should it be started earlier?
- Requested clarification on the basis of criteria as set out by the Department (pg. 6 of the Plan)
- Listowel Bypass – asked when it is going to public consultation
- Rehabilitation of 15 bridges in Co. Kerry – asked what bridges are included
- Dale Road – proposed writing to the Department again to request some type of Specific Improvement Grant in order to address this

Cllr. S. Locke raised the following issues:-

- In relation to the allocation of €6 million for essential repairs, he proposed writing to the Department outlining that the funding is not enough.
- Complimented staff in Tralee on dealing with last night's weather event
- Welcomed the dredging of Fenit.
- Asked about CFRAM – it is their assessment of our rivers
- Requested that the OPW or Inland Fisheries meet with the Council

Cllr. J.F. Flynn raised the following issues:-

- Pier in Renard – works planned for after October but requested that the works are carried out before the summer season
- Flooding - how many applications have we made for dredging our rivers. Laune Bridge - contractors willing to dredge it for free
- Ring of Kerry Road – not built for tour buses. Push for funding for those four bridges and carry out a feasibility study.
- Ballyhar Road – safety at junction - no view coming over the hill
- Tralee/Killorglin Road – called for funding to be provided to address the dips in the road.
- Footpaths – vital for safety – should be pushing for funding
- Taking in Charge – welcomed the 10 estates taken in charges but stated more needed to be done

Cllr. R. Beasley raised the following issues:-

- Flooding - thanked staff and the work done. Shortage of manpower in Listowel has been an issue. Called for the moratorium to be lifted
- Stated that the County is not getting its fair share of funding in comparison with other counties
- Dale Road – no phase 2 after 10 years
- Dredging of our rivers - what has been done
- Housing Estates – called on the Council to give immediate attention to Doonard, Ballybunion - lights not working now for 6 weeks. There are 5/6 social houses in

the estate.

- Dumping on our roads and dog fouling. What can be done to improve?

Cllr. S. Fitzgerald raised the following issues:-

- Taking in Charge – need to speed up the process.
- Macroom and Adare By-pass – important to keep it on the agenda
- Welcomes the funding of €50,000 for Dingle Relief Road
- Thanked the TII and KCC for pursuing the N86 case
- Cleaning of dykes and blocked gullies – programme should be put in place.
- Machinery Yard - staff are under-utilised - asked if there was and that an Engineer be put in charge of the yard.
- Maharees Pier - very busy pier but no funding

Cllr. J.J. Culloty raised the following issues:-

- Castleisland Area – shortage of staff is a huge issue and a large amount of work to be done in the areas of drainage and on Councillor Specific Municipal District Operations Fund
- Broadband is of vital importance to the county
- Regulations and red tape involved with health and safety – needs to be highlighted
- Hedgecutting – consider a levy for landowners not complying.

Cllr. M. O'Shea raised the following issues:-

- Works were already agreed at Municipal District level. Questioned the need for a Special Meeting
- Commended Paul Curry for the progress made on the N86
- Bridges – Killorglin Bridge - will go into disrepair. Lots of accidents on the bridge on the N70 Castlemaine to Tralee Road. Any plans for improvement of same?
- Councillor Specific Municipal District Operations Fund – cost of simple projects have gone up by 60% - can we reduce costs
- LIS – if minor works are carried out does the scheme go off the list? Can a scheme stay on the list for major works
- Unfinished housing estates - thanked Donal Murphy and his team

Cllr. P. Daly raised the following issues:-

- The Discretionary Maintenance Fund is totally inadequate.
- Taking in Charge – Clogher Faillí not on the list.
- Machinery Yard – expressed concern that roads being outsourced to private contractors.
- Housing – Tenant Purchase Scheme flawed.

Cllr. J. Moloney raised the following issues:-

- William Street – whole process a disgrace. Lost visitors to the town as a result.
- N69 John B. Keane Road – envisages the same issues
- Staffing in the Listowel area is an issue
- Questioned the way pot holes are filled – Cork County Council use spraying machines
- Speed Limit Review – was under the impression it would be completed this year



- Urgency to develop Great Southern Trail – County bounds to Listowel

Cllr. B. Cronin raised the following issues:-

- Serious requirement to clean the river beds
- Road maintenance, skirting and drainage works are critical
- Understaffed in the Roads Department –will have to be addressed or works will not be done
- Taking in Charge very important. Need to deal with the ‘no light’ situation in estates.
- Bridge Rehabilitations – funding is minimal
- Welcomed the funding for Listry Bridge
- 26km Farranfore to Lissivigeen - was to be a success
- Link to Muckross – plan was to have it done in 2003, now not in foreseeable future.
- Lewis Junction – very hard to negotiate – no improvement plan.
- Welcomed that the plan is the 33 Councillor’s Programme

Cllr. D. Grady raised the following issues:-

- Cannot function with staff embargo
- Expressed dissatisfaction with the tar and chip method being used on the streets of Killarney
- Extremely unhappy with the management of housing halting sites
- Questioned the meaning of housing business units?
- Litter – requesting 2 full time litter wardens for South Kerry. Need to help the volunteers.

As the Cathaoirleach had to leave the meeting for a short period, it was proposed by Cllr. T. Ferris and seconded by Cllr. J. Moloney that Cllr. Liam Purtill would take the Chair.

Cllr. D. Nolan raised the following issues:-

- Roads are in a poor state and funding is restricted. Also highlights amount of time for repairs to be done and the stretched resources
- Length of time taken for repairs to be made on William Street on N69 a perfect example - J.B. Keane Road may end up the same, if not sorted now
- Commended the Estate Management Unit

Cllr. T. Ferris raised the following issues:-

- Storm water in Ardfert - when are the tenders due back?
- Coastal Protection Works at Fenit - when is this happening?
- Road to golf club disappeared / houses are vulnerable.
- Flooding at Ballyplimoth in Cordal – families are living in fear – road workers did an excellent job - what is the master plan.
- Legal costs for Tralee and Castleisland By-Pass. Asked what was the final cost?
- Requested an update on the public toilets in Ardfert
- Asked what will happen if the Plan is not adopted today
- Taking in Charge – what is the delay in Cois Cnoic, Dingle?
- Public meeting in Killocrim before the election - why is the road network in North Kerry so bad?

- Referred to a memo issued in 2008 and despite this - why are the Council continuing to hire and use pre-mix tarmacadam
- Five patching machines in Machinery Yard - why are they not being used

Cllr. D. Quigg raised the following issues:-

- Housing – ‘prompt’ repairs. What is KCC’s interpretation of prompt? Being told it is taking up to three months. 3 houses vacant in Iveragh Estate.
- Of the €62 million – how many houses will be built
- Kilderry Bends consultancy fees. Requested a breakdown of how this funding
- LIS – expressed concern that only 5 schemes would get done this year
- €4m severe weather funding - didn’t see Coonanna Harbour on the list
- Unfinished Housing Estates – Irish Water calling the shots.
- Public Lighting – what is the position with Cois Cnoic, Dingle and Sunhill, Killorglin

Cllr. N. Moriarty raised the following issues:-

- Complimented the excellent works done to date on the Railway Road, Kenmare  
Suggested making approaches to private landholders to continue the scheme
- TII Restoration Works – design phase – what makes the grade and what doesn’t
- Need to increase the workforce
- Gullies should be cleared
- Footpaths and public lighting – footpaths should be prioritised over lights.

Cllr. P. O’Connor-Scarteen raised the following issues:-

- Operations directorate has a huge remit– maybe the remit is too big
- Huge network of national primary routes - must campaign for more funding
- 5 LIS Schemes are disappointing. Should be writing to the Department to look for separate funding.
- Ard Bhearna - no footpath
- N71 Improvement works for Bonane – when will be done - 28<sup>th</sup> May - Ring of Beara Cycle
- Doon, Tahilla - asked for extra funding for this
- Good to have a separate unit for Housing Estates.
- Casual trading situation in Kenmare needs to be dealt with

Cllr. J. Sheahan raised the following issues:-

- Kilcummin - a flash flood destroyed the road
- Outdoor staff numbers is a huge issue - CMSDO Fund jobs still outstanding - would like to see this issue dealt with
- Cleaning of gullies and dykes critical
- By-Pass for Adare and Macroom vital
- Dog fouling and litter are a problem
- Housing - under pressure in Killarney - when is the commencement of the 20 houses in Killarney

Cllr. L. Purtill raised the following issues:-

- Ballylongford - welcomed the works done last year - no flooding in the village this year

- Staffing is an issue in the Listowel area – appealed for more staff

Cllr. J. Lucid raised the following issues:-

- Deterioration of roads, our assets, is a major concern
- Welcomed the funding for Kerry Head road
- Line Road, Ballinclemessig road is a poor state - hazard signage should be put up
- Dale Road - disappointed with the lack of funding
- Coastal erosion at Ballyheigue and Castlelawn - residents are seriously concerned
- Akeragh Lough - dredging should be done - need to go on a round trip via Causeway to get to Tralee during flooding
- Staffing is an issue in the Listowel area

Cllr. N. Foley raised the following issues:-

- N86 safety measures at Ballymullen - must be significant consultation with residents - Murphys Tce
- CSMDO Fund - costs are very high - amount of allocation very low
- Carrahane - follow up with residents has not been forthcoming
- Lights to be given parity
- Full time crews should be available for clearing of gullies
- Housing - excellent work being done by a limited number of staff - asked if there was scope to increase

Cathaoirleach P. McCarthy raised the following issues:-

- Concurred with most of the comments of the other members
- Requested detailed pricing of the CSMDO Fund jobs – asked for an explanation as to why it costs so much
- Acknowledged that this meeting was Ger O'Brien's last meeting in his role as Meeting Administrator. Thanked Ger for his help and co-operation at all times.

In his response, Mr. Charlie O'Sullivan, Director of Services, said that a lot of the local issues raised by the Members can be dealt with by the Municipal District Engineers at MD level. As well as responses to the issues raised, points of clarification were also dealt with, as follows.

#### Staff:

In relation to the call for additional staff the Director said that the moratorium has been lifted recently and he outlined that the Council is committed to reviewing staffing levels required for the maintenance of our roads but this is conditioned on the Council being able to fund the resources. A review is currently being undertaken with the four Municipal Districts and it will be based on the overall financial resources available. Seasonal workers will also be considered. The Council has always delivered the Road Works Programme and has availed of additional funding when allocated and he complimented the Area Engineers and the outdoor staff in achieving these targets year on year.

#### Flooding:

It is intended that flooded areas, as highlighted in the severe weather events of late 2015, will be mapped and a plan will be prepared which will include works that may resolve

issues. Mapping the areas is a large body of work. The Plan will be considered by the Operations SPC.

National Roads:

The TII identify schemes. The TII Inspector meets with senior staff in the Operations Department and inspect all national roads in the county frequently. Where particular areas are brought to our attention we raise them with the TII Inspector.

Gullies & Dykes:

In each of the Schedule of Municipal District Works Plans it was agreed that drainage on at least 100km of the road network would be addressed this year. Assistance from landowners would be welcomed to maintain roadside drains on their lands.

Killorglin Bridge:

This has been raised with the TII and a report will be brought to the Members in due course.

Councillor Specific Municipal District Operations Fund:

Some works were allocated in the latter half of 2015 and staff were busy with severe weather works at that time. A commitment was given to complete the works early this year. Mr. O'Sullivan gave a commitment to give a breakdown of the costs associated with allocations made by the Members. Furthermore, the Members will be notified when their works are being done on a fortnightly basis.

Coastal Protection at Fenit:

Mr. O'Sullivan outlined that it is his intention to put a plan together to examine areas. This will require specialised consultancy input. The Plan will also examine the implication of these works on communities.

Public Toilets at Ardfert:

The MD Officer is working with the community; however, there is no funding available at this time.

Macroom and Adare By-Pass:

These schemes are critical to improve accessibility into the county and at our management meetings with the TII we have highlighted the importance of progressing these projects.

Local Improvement Scheme:

129 on the current list – funding will only allow for approximately 5 schemes to be completed this year.

Renard Pier:

Funding received from the Department for repairs as a result of the severe weather events of late 2015 is strictly for repairs to roads and bridges. However, funding has been provided by the Department of Agriculture, Food & The Marine for works to this pier in 2016.

Dredging of rivers:

The responsibility for dredging of rivers is the OPW and the riparian owners. It was agreed to write to the OPW and Inland Fisheries and invite them to meet with the Council.

Cliff Road, Rossbeigh

Mr. O'Sullivan said that he and the Chief Executive met with the Department in relation to the 50% funding given. A strong case was put to the Department for additional funding. The Department will consider it and will revert.

Durapatchers / Pre-mix:

The Director advised that whilst we have 5 Durapatchers operating in the county, it is necessary on occasions to use pre-mix macadam for emergency repairs having regard to road safety.

Tralee and Castleisland By-Pass:

In relation to the request for the final legal costs; Mr. O'Sullivan outlined that the Council is bound by terms of confidentiality. Cllr. T. Ferris proposed that the Council do not sign such contracts and that there should be full transparency. Cllr. R. Beasley seconded the proposal. The Chief Executive replied that contracts are agreed at a national level and that the Council operates through the TII. If we were to look at something like that it would stymie our conciliation or arbitration and would impede our entering in the contract. She said that she was very satisfied with the outcome and it was a good result for Kerry. In relation to the proposal that management do not sign a contract where there may be a confidentiality clause down the line, the Chief Executive said that she will have to take advice on this matter. Cllr. T. Ferris recommended circulating the Motion to other Local Authorities and seek their support. Mr. Martin O'Donoghue, A/Director of Services, outlined that we will need to seek advice before it is circulated to other Local Authorities. If it has applicability, it will be brought back to Council.

On the PROPOSAL of Cllr. John Francis Flynn and SECONDED by Cllr. Michael Gleeson, it was agreed to adopt the Service Delivery Plan 2016 as presented.

Meeting concluded at 15.05 p.m.

**Liam Quinlan**  
**Meetings Administrator**

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**Cathaoirleach of Kerry County Council**