

Minutes of the WAB Meeting
Friday 5 October 2018 9:00am

Venue: Withdrawing Room, Custom House, Dublin 1

Attended by:

Chairman Paul McGowan
Members Darragh Page
Sharon Kennedy

Secretariat Lisa Clifford
Neill Dalton
Ken Doyle

1. Minutes of last meeting and matters arising

The minutes of the last meeting were presented and agreed by the members.

2. Declaration of any conflicts of interest

There were no declarations of conflicts of interest from the members.

3. PAS appointment process for two independent members of the WAB - update

The Secretariat gave an update on the progress of the PAS process for the appointment of the 2 remaining members of the WAB.

28 applications have been received by PAS for the positions. An assessment panel will be convened on the 26 October. The panel will consist of an Independent chair, the chairman of WAB, a member of the WAB secretariat and one other individual. The panel will identify qualified candidates from the applicants and submit a list to the minister of potential appointees. The aim would be to have the board members in place by the end of November.

4. Terms of Reference and Rules and Procedures

The TOR and R&P were presented and agreed by the members.

5. Feedback from Joint Oireachtas Committee

6 deputies attended the session; The Chair will circulate a note on the key points raised as a working record. The other members were asked to add any additional points to the document.

6. Key Statistics

Metrics for WAB to consider were discussed. For one metric, leakage, the members confirmed Irish Water does not have the relevant data available at present. The data used currently is from Local Authorities and is not verifiable. A new leakage system will be in place next year. It was agreed to continue to use the current data and to include data on repairs carried out pending available of data from new leakage system.

7. Reports

It was agreed to commence publication of reports in Q2 2019 – being a report on Q1 2019. The date will be dependent on the availability of source data from other reports. It was agreed to include key metrics as a base in each quarterly report and to base the theme of each quarterly report on the metrics that change. Reports are to feature infographics. The secretariat will review options in this regard.

The Board agreed that the next meeting of WAB will be a workshop to develop a proposal on quarterly reports and will not require attendance by the secretariat. This will include a method for measuring change and the outline theme for the first 3 reports.

8. Update in relation to IW staffing, remuneration and internal audit.

A short discussion was held on how to engage on the internal audit. A procurement process will be required to secure relevant expertise to assist in this functionality.

9. Update on Website

An update was provided on the options available for the development of the website. It was agreed to use external provider to develop the website. The Domain names WAB.ie and WaterAdvisoryBody.ie should be procured. The WaterAdvisoryBody.gov.ie and WAB.gov.ie can also be retained. The website will use the WaterAdvisoryBody.ie address with the other addresses redirecting to the website.

10. Any Other Business

The date and time of the next meeting was agreed as 13 November in the CRU. This meeting will take place without the secretariat and will also be a workshop on the production of reports. The Next meeting with the secretariat is provisionally set for 7 December 2018 at 2.00pm.