



Minutes of the Meeting of the Water Advisory Body

Thursday 17 February 2022, 9am

Venue: Remote Meeting via WebEx Video Conferencing

Attended by:

Chairperson Paul McGowan

Members	Michelle Minihan	Dónal Purcell
	Martin Sisk	Miriam McDonald
Secretariat	Claire Gavin	George Antonescu
	Darren Browne	

1. Minutes of previous meetings

Minutes of WAB Meeting on 20 January 2022:

The Members agreed the minutes of this meeting subject to editorial amendments. The minutes will be published on the WAB website.

2. Declaration of any conflict of interest

There was no declaration of any conflict of interest.

3. Progress of Quarterly Report 1 of 2022.

Quarterly Report 1 of 2022 will feature updated key performance indicators and their associated targets. The text of the report will also be simplified for ease of use. The data cut-off date is 25 February with updated data and graphs to be received from the Commission for Regulation of Utilities and the Environmental Protection Agency. The report will also feature

commentary on the Environmental Protection Agency's "Drinking Water Quality in Private Group Schemes and Small Private Supplies 2020" report.

4. Irish Water Customer Survey Update

The Board discussed the key findings of the customer survey. Miriam McDonald will make the agreed amendments to the draft report and circulate to the Board for final comments via email by 25 February. The WAB branding will be added to the summary report before publication. The Board agreed to circulate the report two days prior to publication under embargo to Irish Water, the Commission for Regulation of Utilities, the Environmental Protection Agency and the Water Forum. An invite will also issue to Irish Water to a subsequent meeting of the WAB to discuss the findings. The Board agreed the second invoice payment for Core Research.

The Secretariat will arrange a schedule for publication with the public relations company so as not to clash with the release of Quarterly report 1 of 2022 and the St Patrick's Day festivities. The press release to be issued will seek to be balanced and fair.

5. Confirm next three meeting dates

The following meeting dates were agreed:

- 10 March 2022 at 2pm.

Representatives of the Commission for Regulation of Utilities and the Environmental Protection Agency will attend to discuss the current regulatory framework for Irish Water. This meeting will take place online via WebEx.

- 14 April 2022 at 10am. This meeting is scheduled to take place in-person in the Custom House, Dublin.
- 18 May 2022 at 2pm.

Meeting locations for upcoming meetings (online or in-person) will be decided on an ongoing basis.

8. Any Other Business

Regulatory Framework for the Commission for Regulation of Utilities and the Environmental Protection Agency:

Representatives of the Commission for Regulation of Utilities and the Environmental Protection Agency will attend the March meeting of the WAB. This would be to discuss the current framework these organisations work under and as to whether it provides the necessary regulatory checks, balances and functions required. It is expected that the representatives will provide a brief overview of their position followed by a question and answers session. This discussion will help inform any advice provided to the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage.

New Chair appointed the Water Forum:

The Board were informed that Dr Matt Crowe has been appointed the new Water Forum Chair by the Minister Housing, Local Government and Heritage.

The meeting was brought to a close.

Agenda Item No:	Action	Decision
1.	Minutes of WAB Main Meeting on 20 January 2021	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Agreed subject to editorial amendments. • Will be published on the website.
3.	Report 1 of 2022	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The data cut-off date is 25 February 2022. • The report will also feature commentary on the Environmental Protection Agency's "Drinking Water Quality in Private Group Schemes and Small Private Supplies 2020" report.
4.	Irish Water Customer Survey Update	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Miriam McDonald will make the agreed amendments to the draft report and circulate to the Board for final comments via email by 25 February. • The WAB branding will be added to the summary report before publication. • The Board agreed to circulate the report two days prior to publication under embargo to Irish Water, the Commission for Regulation of Utilities, the Environmental Protection Agency and the Water Forum. • An invite will also issue to Irish Water to a subsequent meeting of the WAB to discuss the findings. • The Board agreed the second invoice payment for Core Research.

		<ul style="list-style-type: none">• The Secretariat will arrange a schedule for publication with the public relations company.
5.	Upcoming WAB meeting dates	<p>The following meeting dates were agreed:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• 10 March 2022 at 2pm.• 14 April 2022 at 10am.• 18 May 2022 at 2pm.