

Natural Water Retention Measures Working Group meeting

Venue: Airfield Estate, Dundrum, Dublin 14

Date & Time: 25th September 2019, 14.00-16.00

Name of Attendee		Organisation	Working group member
Marie Archbold	MA	EPA	√
Mary Bourke	MB	Trinity College Dublin	
Claire Casey	CC	DAFM	
Jenny Deakin (Chair)	JD	EPA	√
Conor Galvin	CG	OPW	√
Nathy Gilligan	NG	OPW	√
Marian Healy	MH	Offaly County Council	√
Neil Higgins	NH	Dublin City Council	√
Fran Igoe	FI	Local Authority Waters Programme	
Fergal Kelly	FK	OPW	√
Eva Mockler	EM	EPA	
Patrick Morris	PM	EPA	
Keiron Phillips	KP	EPA	√
Conor Quinlan	CQ	EPA	√
Emma Quinlan	EQ	EPA	√
Shane Regan	SR	NPWS	√
Martina Smith	MS	Local Authority Waters Programme	√
Wayne Trodd	WT	EPA	√
Mary-Liz Walshe	MW	DCC	√
Taly Hunter-Williams	THW	GSI	√

Apologies: Mark Adamson (OPW), Ken Bucke (DAFM), Kevin Collins (DAFM), Donal Grant (DHPLG), Bernard Harris (DAFM), Jimmy King (IFI), Enda McDonagh (BNM), Noel Meehan (Teagasc), Shane O'Boyle (EPA), Philip O'Dea (Coillte), Wolfram Schluter (OPW)

Agenda

- 1 Introduction and agree agenda (5 mins)
- 2 Summary of the NWRMS questionnaire outputs – Keiron Philips, EPA
- 3 SloWaters Research project overview – Mary Bourke, TCD
- 4 NWRMs and CFRAMs projects – Conor Galvin, OPW
- 5 ToR and work programme of the group – all
- 6 AOB

Notes on Meeting

Item	Detail	To Action
1	<p>Introductions and agree agenda</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> JD welcomed participants to the second meeting of the Natural Water Retention Measures (NWRM) working group. Minutes were agreed for the last NWRM working group meeting held in March 2019. 	
2	<p>Summary of the NWRMS questionnaire outputs</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> KP summarised the outputs from the NWRM questionnaire that was circulated over the summer to working group members. Some key points were: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Circulated to 45 people, 9 responses; ➤ A number of current activities on-going; ➤ Respondents generally positive on potential of NWRMs. There was a lot of interested regarding SUDs measures. While these measures are encouraged in planning, Ireland could be considered to be behind nationally in the implementation of such measures. MB suggested that functioning sites should be identified and nominated as demonstration sites. DCC highlighted that this suggestion is already in place in a few streets within Dublin city centre. <p>Action 1: DCC to provide a SUDS case study to illustrate what they are doing regarding demonstration sites.</p>	NH/MW
3	<p>SloWaters Research project overview</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Guest speaker, MB, presented an outline of the EPA and OPW co-funded research project, SloWaters. This project is investigating the benefits and effectiveness of NWRM's on four agricultural sites within the South East and South of Ireland. See http://nwr mireland.wordpress.com. MB's group are currently focusing on measures within peatland, forestry and agricultural land use types. The group also have built cross-border and international connections. <p>Action 2: Participants to consider sending any datasets or case studies to the SloWaters project that may be useful to support work on different land use types Redacted Email address</p> <p>Action 3: JD to provide the SloWaters project with information on the Dingle Hub's IoT (Internet of Things) water monitoring project.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Completed. 	ALL JD
4	<p>NWRMs and CFRAMs projects</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> CG outlined the CFRAM programme in relation to NWRMs (see presentation). 	

Item	Detail	To Action
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Participants queried whether international expertise is required to support the working group and the proposed potential NWRMs opportunity mapping for flood relief schemes. 	
5	<p>ToR and work programme of the working group</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reference to NWRMs in the River Basin Management Plan was reiterated to the group by JD. Regarding measures under CAP, there is potential to consider complementary measures related to water quality and climate. Initial discussion on CAP reform and potential measures has commenced. Participants enquired whether the working group could make a submission regarding consideration of NWRMs. <p>Action 4: Working Group to draft a white paper to consider NWRMs in CAP.</p> <p>Action 5: Consider support of TCD student to support the working group by considering NWRMs from a human geography perspective. Report could be prepared before the end of this year.</p> <p>Action 6: Consider support of TCD student to support the working group by preparing a map to illustrate who does what. This could also support the drafting of the SWMII report.</p> <p>Action 7: Prepare a draft briefing note to support the SWMII process and circulate to group. The note should include what is going on in relation to a range of land use types (<i>i.e.</i> urban, peatland, forestry and agriculture). Input required from relevant working group members.</p>	<p>JD</p> <p>JD/EQ/MB</p> <p>JD/EQ/MB</p> <p>JD/EQ</p>
6	<p>AOB</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Bord na Mona to update the working group at a future meeting. Date of next meeting will take place within November 2019. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Workshop to take place on the 3rd of December 2019. <p>Action 8: EPA Catchments to circulate the presentations to the working group.</p>	<p>JD/EQ/KP</p>

Emma Quinlan/ Keiron Phillips
EPA Catchment Unit