



		for the review & if any other members wanted to volunteer to assist to let Donal know. This was agreed.	involved or with names of Facilitators to Donal
2.1	To receive update on the Forums expenditure and budget for 2020.	Expenditure circulated to members. Chair & A/SEO are dealing with Dept on 2020 budget. Members updated on expenditure to date.	Noted
2.2	To note arrangements regarding COVID-19	<p>The A/SEO updated the members regarding working arrangements incl.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• staff remote working from home with IT capacity using office 365 which is cloud based.</li> <li>• Work programme continuing</li> <li>• Meetings being facilitated using video conference facilitates.</li> <li>• Payments being facilitated by Tipperary County Council as normal.</li> <li>• Updates being provided to the Department</li> </ul>	
2.3	To discuss staffing issues	<p>A/SEO gave a summary to update the meeting</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The staffing Sub-Committee had met twice since the last plenary meeting.</li> <li>• Following its deliberations &amp; based on the expertise available to the Forum Catchment Management &amp; the skills gap in Water Services along with the current funding in place from the department it was recommending the following to the Plenary: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• That while acknowledging individual members concerns that the Forum would proceed with the appointment of a <b>Post-Doctorate - Policy Analyst in Water Services</b> through DKIT for a period of 18 months</li> <li>• It also recommended that David Wright would revisit the description of The Research Leads role &amp; liaise with Alec on this as he would be taking on the supervision of the Post Doctorate position.</li> </ul> </li> </ul> <p>The Members broadly welcomed the proposal &amp; thanked the Staffing Sub-Committee for the attention they had given the issues.</p> <p>In response to members queries the Chair explained that a new Water services act was in the planning stages but it is likely to be delayed. The Act is to make provision for the Forum to employ staff directly itself.</p> <p><i>The Members approved the recommendation to proceed with the recruitment of the Post-Doctorate - Policy Analyst in Water Services through DKIT for a period of 18 months</i></p>	Charles is available to assist with the selection process if required.

3.	3.1 Marine Spatial Planning Framework Consultation	<p>The Chair thanked the Research Lead &amp; the Working Group for the work involved in drafting the submission. They had also taken on the Marine Strategy Framework Directive last month.</p> <p>The Members were supportive of the content of the submission.</p> <p>Comments:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• There is an absence of clarity on Governance in the departments documents but setting up a structure like the Water Forum might not be the answer. The OPR has a group with this sort of responsibility. Marine Planning Bill provides legal basis but has been in place since 2013, Maritime Jurisdiction Bill and other Ag and Food bills are delivering implementation also.</li> <li>• Section 5.2 Stakeholder advisory group has been running for 1.5 years already, its role might change but has been working well.</li> <li>• Section 6.2 The Forums briefing note on public engagement is not on the new website.</li> <li>• 8.2 Expedite legislation, process of sensitivity mapping how long will this take.</li> <li>• 8.3 Proposals detrimental to protected areas IROPI cannot be overlooked. EU Commission mechanism.</li> <li>• Underwater noise, reducing Climate change impacts, outside the scope of this. Part of Climate action plan. Why should emissions from ships be part of marine planning?</li> <li>• Members agreed to support the content of the submission in principle. Research Lead to revert with response to queries. Final document to be approved by working group prior to submission.</li> </ul>	<p>Alec to review. Members to <i>send in comments please by end April.</i></p> <p><i>Gretta to upload</i></p> <p>Alec will deal with the observations and bring to working group and then submit.</p>
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4.	4.1 SWMI Consultation	<p>The Catchment Management Standing Committee had met &amp; broadly agreed how the Forum should respond to the SWMI consultation.</p> <p>Alec will prepare a framework document to deal with:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• overarching issues, governance, public participation, ICM and climate change.</li> <li>• Secondly focusing on issues relating to water quality deterioration,</li> <li>• Thirdly, to make easy for Dept. to read.</li> </ul> <p>CMSC to meet again to advance response to SWMI consultation.</p> <p>Timeline for completion of the submission is the end of June.</p>	<p>Alec to prepare framework document Timeline for work to be agreed</p>
5.	CAP Research	<p>Assessment of tenders carried out by the CAP research Tender sub-Group of: Suzanne, Sinead, Dominic and Charles supported by Alec &amp; Donal Purcell.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Submissions received from Charles Larkin and Craig Bullock.</li> <li>• Assessed and follow-up invitation to interview.</li> <li>• Tender awarded to Charles Larking University of Bath, currently located in Ireland.</li> </ul> <p>High Level Policy Analysis review, Director of Research in Public policy.</p> <p>Potential for 2<sup>nd</sup> stage progress, based on Policy analysis initially and then to follow up to deliver the policy on the ground.</p> <p>Funding agreement drafted for Charles to include deliverables, Interim report, Draft final report for review, draft policy brief, Peer-reviewed paper.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Project initiating 31<sup>st</sup> March,</li> <li>• Interim review 15th May,</li> <li>• Final report 17<sup>th</sup> August,</li> <li>• Final deliverables 15<sup>th</sup> September.</li> </ul> <p><i>Fortnightly updates to be submitted by C Larkin. Need to make sure that the peer reviewed paper is secondary to our requirements.</i></p> <p>Depts CAP consultative committee not meeting at the moment, timeline delayed, Charles will share timeline when it is known.</p> <p>There is a need to keep communication channels open. AFU should request a timeline from the CAP committee.</p>	<p>Working Group TOR to be agreed</p> <p>Alec Rolston</p> <p>Charles to share</p> <p>Donal to follow up with the DAFM</p>
6.0	Website update	<p>Dave Manser and Erica the Web designers joined the meeting.</p> <p>The Web Designers provided an overview of the site to the members. The website is aimed at several groups</p>	

		<p>including the general public, agencies &amp; the Forum Members.</p> <p>Members asked that publications be displayed in the most recent order. The site goes live, members will be provided with a login to access the online forum.</p>	Request latest posting to be at the top of the page.
7.	Annual Report	The draft annual report was circulated in advance of the plenary meeting. It must be submitted to the Dept. by the 30 April. The Members approved its submission.	
8.	WSSC update	<p>Positive meeting with IW, considered how working arrangements would happen. Barry, Tom and Donal met GM, Eamon Gallon and the CEO, Niall Gleeson in the morning. Liaison group will help facilitate detailed discussions on particular topics. Members of the Liaison Group expressed disappointment that the CEO or GM didn't meet with them as planned.</p> <p>The Chair explained that the Water Advisory Board (WAB) meet with IW. WAB must publish a quarterly report, next report will be on the issue of WW treatment. Have asked IW to make a submission at the next WAB meeting scheduled for June.</p> <p>WAB chaired by Paul Mc Gowan from CRU, 5 members, EPA, Solicitor ex Bord na Mona staff member, reports to Oireachtas directly. Reports on a range of variables including the targets set for IW.</p> <p>Meeting on 18<sup>th</sup> February with IW was important as AFU needs updates in order to our work. They are working on outstanding information. Members to submit any further questions to be put to IW &amp; forward to Donal.</p> <p>Liaison Group are proposing to develop a Memorandum of Understanding with Irish water. Once complete the draft MOU to be brought back in front of the plenary. Will share with members before completion.</p> <p>Outputs monitoring group (OMG) report published annually. Report now for last year. Irish water will be able to share this with us. Concern is the lag time in getting this information.</p> <p>Conventional wwt systems cannot remove ingested pharmaceuticals leading to the build-up of bacteria in wwt systems. Short comings in the way wastewater treatment is being done. Cannot meet EU directive requirements, but critical period is being entered where serious issues related to AMR.</p>	<p>Donal to collate &amp; forward to IW</p> <p>Barry &amp; Donal</p> <p>Include Q in IW.</p>

9.	AOB	<p>Issues during COVID including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• reports of IW suspending monitoring of waste water discharges. The Forum will seek clarification re monitoring of Wastewater discharges</li> <li>• Milk dumping happening in UK. What are the recommendations to farmers for excess milk supplies? The meeting was informed that it is not happening in Ireland &amp; that all milk in Ireland is being processed &amp; if there was any excess milk the recommendation is to mix it with slurry and spread on fields.</li> <li>• CRU public consultation on tariff classes. Members asked for feedback. Submission deadline extended to 30 April.</li> <li>• CRU also revising domestic and non-domestic handbooks. Submission by the 22<sup>nd</sup> May.</li> </ul>	<p>Collate response on non-domestic tariff submission end April</p> <p>Prepare submission on handbooks by 22<sup>nd</sup> May</p>
10	Next meeting	26 <sup>th</sup> May next meeting.	Noted.