



# Water Quality & Strategy Board Minutes

28<sup>th</sup> January, 2025

## ATTENDEES

- Minister for the Environment (ME)
- Group Director Regulation (GDR)
- Group Director Natural Environment (GDNE)
- Director Public Health (DPH)
- Director Housing, Environment & Placement (DHEP)
- Head of Regulatory Improvement & Licensing (HRIL)
- Head of Land Resource Management (HLRM) – Item 5 Only
- Environment Manager Water/Air (EMWA) – Item 5 Only
- Assistant Private Secretary (APS)
- Senior Regulatory Improvement Manager (SRIM)

## ARCADIS REPORT (AGENDA ITEM 5)

HLRM and EMWA provided a background on Arcadis hydrogeological survey, and the anticipated timeline for delivery of the final report. Discussion around the logistics of the publication of the report, and engagement with stakeholders.

### Decisions:

- Agreed the use of a coding system for test locations.
- Proposed publication timeline: Embargo until approved, with public release to follow.
- Arcadis to provide briefings to Ministers, officers, and the public.
- Agreed eight-week response period for GOJ, POJ, and JW will commence following publication.
- Approved ongoing monitoring programme to be implemented.

### Actions:

- PR & Comms Group to plan publication and arrange presentations with HLRM and EMWA.
- Develop a non-technical summary paper.

## TERMS OF REFERENCE (AGENDA ITEM 2)

The board reviewed and approved the Terms of Reference, including a provision for delegation. Meeting frequency was confirmed as monthly due to the fast-paced nature of the programme.

### Decisions:

- Approved with delegation allowance for attendance
- Monthly meeting frequency maintained

### Actions:

- SRIM to update and finalise the document
- Include water strategy to reflect future planning (Page 5)
- Clarify board's coordination role
- Define GDR role as Group Director of Regulation
- Add delegation clause under membership

### PROGRAMME UPDATE (AGENDA ITEM 3)

HRIL presented an overview of programme coordination, staffing, and governance structure. The board approved Q&A responses for public release and agreed on improving transparency around staffing.

#### Decisions:

- Q&A responses approved for publication
- Public communication to include total staff estimates
- Programme breakdown to reflect governance and FTE structure

#### Actions:

- PR & Comms Group to issue responses and publish by 29<sup>th</sup> January 2025
- Estimate total staff across departments
- Update programme breakdown

### REPORT FOUR (AGENDA ITEM 4)

The board confirmed plans to proceed with the Report 4 scoping meeting

#### Decisions:

- Scoping meeting confirmed for 11<sup>th</sup> February, Les Ormes, 6 PM

#### Actions:

- PR & Comms Group to issue meeting details by 29<sup>th</sup> January 2025
- TSO to confirm IPSAP Chair attendance and arrange travel

### PR AND COMMUNICATIONS (AGENDA ITEM 6)

The board discussed the approval process for communications, ensuring a structured approach to media statements and public health updates. The PR & Comms Group's Terms of Reference will be developed for approval.

#### Decisions:

- Approved structured approach for communications
- GDR to approve media statements
- DPH to manage immediate public health communications
- PR & Comms Group Terms of Reference to be developed
- Public ministerial meeting minutes approved for circulation
- Review of public meeting dates to align with Report 3 and Arcadis report

#### Actions:

- Develop ToR for PR & Comms Group
- PR & Comms Group to publish minutes by 29<sup>th</sup> January 2025
- TSO and HRIL to align public meeting dates

### PETITION RESPONSE (AGENDA ITEM 6—ADDITIONAL ACTIONS)

The board discussed finalising the Ministers' joint response to the petition.

**Actions:**

- APS and PS to action petition response approval

**OTHER KEY DISCUSSIONS AND ACTIONS**

- Q&As from November Public Meeting: HRIL confirmed officer contributions and intent to publish. Approved as a rolling FAQ.  
Action: PR & Comms Group to publish approved Q&As.
- Key Actions to Date – Slide Update: ME requested a chronological calendar version.  
Action: Update slide format.
- Public Information Release: Ministers approved public information release after each board meeting.

Meeting Adjourned.

**Next Meeting:** 3<sup>rd</sup> March 2025