



NATIONAL FEDERATION OF GROUP WATER SCHEMES

In Association with the Local Authority Services National Training Group



RURAL WATER SERVICES CONFERENCE

'A Responsibility to Act — the Evolving Role of the GWS Sector'

Thursday, 8th September 2022
Hodson Bay Hotel, Athlone, County Roscommon





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Conference Programme

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| 8.30am – 9.30am | Registration - Tea/Coffee |
| Session 1: | A Transformative Period for the Rural Water Sector |
| 9.30am – 9.40am | Welcome & Session Chairperson Eugene Cummins - Chief Executive, Roscommon County Council |
| 9.40am – 9.55am | Opening Ministerial Address Minister Darragh O'Brien, T.D. - Minister for Housing, Local Government & Heritage |
| 9.55am – 10.10am | Update on the Process of the Review of the Rural Water Sector Dr Joanne Walsh - Principal Officer, DHLGH |
| 10.10am – 10.25am | Broadening Representation on GWS Boards/Committees Barry Deane - CEO, NFGWS |
| 10.25am – 11.00am | Panel Discussion and Q&A |
| 11.00am – 11.30am | Tea/Coffee Break |
| Session 2: | Implications of the Recast Drinking Water Directive |
| Session Chairperson | Dr Michelle Minihan - Senior Inspector, Drinking Water, EPA |
| 11.30am – 11.50am | Transposition of the Recast DWD into National Legislation Department of Housing, Local Government & Heritage Speaker |
| 11.50am – 12.10pm | Risk Assessment & Risk Management Approaches for GWSs Adrian Smyth - Biodiversity & Development Officer, NFGWS |
| 12.10pm – 12.30pm | Effective Quality Assurance Implementation Ann Keys - Secretary of The Heath GWS, County Laois |
| 12.30pm – 1pm | Panel Discussion and Q&A |
| 1pm – 2.15pm | Lunch |
| Session 3: | Addressing Environmental Challenges - A Leadership Role for GWSs |
| Session Chairperson | Dr Matt Crowe - Cathaoirleach, An Forám Uisce |
| 2.15pm – 3.15pm | Panel Discussion Dr Jimmy O'Keeffe - Dublin City University Catherine Finlay - Rural Water Liaison Officer, Roscommon County Council Róisín Dowd Smith - Climate Action & Development Officer, NFGWS Thomas Rushe - Corracreigh GWS, County Roscommon |
| 3.15pm – 3.30pm | Q&A |
| 3.30pm – 3.45pm | Closing Address Barry Deane - CEO, NFGWS |
| 3.45pm – 4pm | Tea/Coffee & Departure |