



Comhairle Contae Lú
Louth County Council

County Council Monthly Meeting - Council Chamber, County Hall, Dundalk, Co.
Louth - Monday, 23rd March 2026 at 10:00am

Clár Oibre / Agenda

Miontuairiscí / Minutes - For Adoption

1.0 Miontuairiscí/Minutes - For Adoption

- Minutes of Monthly Meeting held on 16th February 2026.

Gnó Reachtúil / Statutory Business

2.0 Matters Arising

Miontuairiscí / Minutes - For Noting

3.0 Miontuairiscí/Minutes of District Meetings - For Noting

- Municipal District of Ardee 4th December 2025
- Municipal District of Ardee 8th January 2026
- Borough District of Drogheda 5th January 2026
- Municipal District of Dundalk 13th January 2026
- Municipal District of Ardee 5th February 2026
- Borough District of Drogheda 9th February 2026
- Municipal District of Dundalk 10th February 2026
- Borough District of Drogheda Special Meeting 16th February 2026

Miontuarairiscí Chruinnithe an Choiste lena n-aithint / Minutes of Committee Meetings for Noting

4.0 Miontuarairiscí Chruinnithe an Choiste lena n-aithint / Minutes of Committee Meetings - For Noting

- Corporate Policy Group 5th February 2026

Tuarascáil ó Chathaoirleach an Ghrúpa Beatais Corpaideach / Report from Chairperson of Corporate Policy Group

5.0 Tuarascáil ó Chathaoirleach an Ghrúpa Beartais Corpaideach / Report from Chairperson of Corporate Policy Group

Tuarascáil Chathaoirligh an Choiste um Beartas Straitéiseach / Strategic Policy Committee Chairpersons Report

6.0 Tuarascáil ó Chathaoirligh an Choise an Beartais Straitéiseach / Strategic Policy Committee Chairpersons Report

7.0 Freastal ar Chomhdhálacha a Cheadú / Approval of Attendance at Conferences and Training Events

8.0 Allocation of Members Community Grants provided for under Section 66 of the Local Government Act 2001

9.0 Section 141 Reports 2024 - Compliance with Section 141 of the Local Government Act, 2001 as amended

Elected Members appointed to outside bodies or committees are required to notify the Council, within 15 working days of the end of each 3 monthly period to 31st March, 30th June, 30th September and 31st December, in each year, of all attendances of that Member at meetings and any payments made by or on behalf of that body (including details of distances travelled where payments are in respect of the use of a private vehicle) to the Member during that period.

10.0 Report on reports submitted to the Cathaoirleach under Section 142 of the Local Government Act 2001, as amended

Where a member attends a conference, seminar or other meeting or event held by virtue of an authorisation under this section of the Act, he or she shall, within 15 days of such attendance, submit to the Cathaoirleach a written report which shall indicate the nature of the meeting and contain a summary of the proceedings, and the Cathaoirleach shall submit the report to the next ordinary meeting of the Council

11.0 Annual Service Delivery Plan 2026

12.0 S.183 - Proposed Disposal of the ground floor offices at Drogheda Civic Offices, Fair Street, Drogheda, Co. Louth.

13.0 S.183 - Proposed Disposal of the property at 3 Mill Lane, Drogheda, Co. Louth.

14.0 Arts Grant Funding Awards for 2026 – For Noting

15.0 Update for 2025 on the progress of the Louth Climate Action Plan, 2024-2029

16.0 Breithniú ar Thuarascálacha agus ar Chomhréitigh ón bPríomhfheidhmeannach / Consideration of Reports and Recommendations from Chief Executive

Monthly Management Report

- Finance and System Support
- Economic Delivery
- Operations and Environment Delivery
- HR, Community and Corporate Services
- Housing and Culture Delivery
- Major Capital Projects & Infrastructure Delivery

17.0 Notice of Motion - Cllr. Robert Nash

“Calling on Louth County Council to consider and introduce the following actions regarding vaping retail shops:

- (1) To restrict the use of bright neon signs, cartoon graphics and products aimed at children or other product imagery on the exterior of vaping retail shops.
- (2) Mandate that all vape shop windows be covered or display only neutral signage in line with tobacco product restrictions.
- (3) Introduce guidelines for plain storefront designs (e.g.: black and white lettering, no product advertising).
- (4) Mandate that vaping products be kept out of view in retail outlets, e.g.: when behind the counter or in closed containers”.

18.0 Notice of Motion - Cllr. Maeve Yore

That Louth County Council (LCC) introduce a text alert/ helpline number system for public to report illegal parking in disabled bays throughout our County so that Traffic Wardens can be alerted and issue warnings and tickets to eliminate repeat offenders

19.0 Notice of Motion - Cllr. Ciarán Fisher

I propose that Louth County Council:

1. Notes with concern the ongoing proliferation of vape shops in our town centres, which is resulting in retail saturation, a reduction in economic diversity, a decline in the vitality, pull, and dwell factors of our streetscapes, and heightened public health risks—particularly for young people exposed to vaping products in proximity to schools and residential areas.
2. Recognises the limitations under the current Planning and Development Regulations 2001 (as amended): these businesses are classified as general retail uses, which severely restricts the Council's ability to require planning permission for changes of use, to refuse applications on grounds of community needs, oversupply, suitability, density, or location, or to impose conditions aligned with local development plan objectives for vibrant, mixed-use town centres.
3. Resolves to write to the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage, the Office of the Planning Regulator, and any other relevant planning authorities, urging the following amendments to the Planning and Development Regulations and associated guidelines:
 - o The establishment of a distinct use class for vape shops and comparable premises, treating any change of use to this category as a material change requiring full planning permission—similar to the controls already in place for off-licences and betting offices.
 - o The granting of explicit powers to local authorities to refuse planning applications for such uses where they would lead to over-concentration, based on factors including density thresholds, suitability for the location, public health impacts, and the need to maintain a balanced retail mix that supports economic diversity and urban regeneration.

The introduction of mechanisms to enable the phasing out, relocation, or restriction of existing such premises in sensitive or unsuitable areas (e.g., high streets, near schools, or areas of high residential density), including through development plan policies, supplementary planning guidance, or transitional arrangements to protect community well-being.

4. Circulate a copy of this motion to other local authorities for their consideration and support.

20.0 Notice of Motion - Cllr. Pio Smith

Disability Employment Targets - That this Council:

1. Notes that people with disabilities remain under-represented in public sector employment;
2. Affirms that the current 6% disability employment figure should be treated as a minimum baseline and that retaining this level until 2030 lacks ambition;
3. Agrees, subject to lawful recruitment processes, to work towards aspirational targets of 8% disability employment by 2027 and 10% by 2030;
4. Requests the Chief Executive to prepare and publish a Disability Employment Implementation Plan, including improved consistency in reporting and timely publication of the Council's National Disability Authority return (Part 5) in Q1 of each year;
5. Directs that this motion be forwarded to the relevant Government Ministers, the National Disability Authority and the Irish Human Rights and Equality Commission.

21.0 Notice of Motion - Cllr. Marianne Butler

That Louth County Council prepare a phased and detailed plan for the continued tackling of the remaining cohort of estates to be taken in charge in the county. I am requesting that this plan be prepared and published in order to give certainty to homeowners living in estates that have not been taking in charge, particularly those in estates that need significant remedial work. The plan should include timelines for site resolution plans to be completed and for works to be completed to bring housing estates up to taking in charge standard.

Fógraí Ceistanna / Notices of Question

22.0 Notice of Question - Cllr. Michelle Hall

That the council will put in tabular form the funding spent, source of funding, staff hours allocated per month and user metrics e.g. attendees from the public on the following tourism projects since 2022: SeaLouth; An Táin Trail; St. Brigid's Trail; Boyne Valley Flavours; Lú Festival of Light; St. Brigid's Festival. Estimated and actual known figures to be noted.

23.0 Notice of Question - Cllr. Marianne Butler

That Louth County Council provide a detailed breakdown of how the €2,625,000 in funding allocated by the NTA in 2025 to the Active Travel Pathfinder Dundalk: R132 Inner Relief Road was spent.

Correspondence

24.0 Chomhfhreagras / Correspondence

- Clare County Council 10th February 2026
- Wexford County Council 10th February 2026
- Wicklow County Council 10th February 2026
- Galway City Council 12th February 2026
- Wexford County Council 17th February 2026
- Westmeath County Council 18th February 2026
- Galway County Council 4th March 2026

- Sligo County Council 5th March 2026
- Leitrim County Council 5th March 2026
- Leitrim County Council 5th March 2026
- Clare County Council 10th March 2026
- Longford County Council 12th March 2026