

Minutes of the Economic Development & Enterprise Support Strategic Policy Committee, hybrid meeting - in person (Dermot O'Brien meeting room, Ardee Civic Centre) and on Teams; 3.30pm, Tuesday 17th June 2025

SPC Members Present: Ms Miriam Simon, Business Rep
 Ms Sarah Daly, PPN Rep
 Cllr Pio Smith (chair) (online)
 Ms Evelyn Nomayo, PPN Rep (online)
 Cllr Dolores Minogue (online)
 Cllr Sean Kelly (online)

Louth County Council Officials:
 Mr Thomas McEvoy
 Ms Colette Moss
 Ms Mary Carolan

Apologies: Cllr Declan Power
 Ms Nikki Campbell
 Ms Sabhbh Ní Mhaolagáin

A quorum was reached and the meeting proceeded.

| Agenda item | Action |
|---|---------------------------------|
| <p>1. Welcome and introductions</p> | |
| <p>2. Minutes of the meeting 8th May 2025</p> <p>Amendment: The Minutes and today's Agenda should have read "Rates Waiver Scheme" and not "Rates Abatement Scheme".</p> <p>Proposed by Dolores and seconded by Pio</p> | <p>Minutes to be corrected.</p> |
| <p>3. Rates Waiver Scheme</p> <p>A draft Rates Waiver Scheme for Previously Vacant Commercial Properties document was presented. It includes contextual objectives identified to show relevance to the Act, members comments from the last SPC meeting and Management Team comments. A discussion took place in relation to the draft scheme. Amendments to the list of proposed use and ineligible businesses premises, plus the list of eligible locations were noted.</p> <p>Any existing supports for Charity Shops are to be clarified.</p> | <p>Colette Moss</p> |

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| <p>Members agreed to adopt the document inclusive of any amendments given on the table of street names etc. within the next 48 hours. Proposed by Sean and seconded by Pio.</p> <p>The final document is proposed to go to Council at the Budget Meeting in October. Once it has been adopted by Council, it is proposed to discuss its implementation at the November SPC meeting.</p> | <p>Mary to circulate the document and suggestions are to be returned by close of business on Thurs 19th June.</p> |
| <p>4. LECP Each section are working on their actions. The Tourism Strategy will incorporate some LECP actions. Once the Monitoring committee has met there will be further updates, date of meeting to be confirmed.</p> | <p>Colette Moss</p> |
| <p>5. Update on Economic Development and Tourism Updates were given on: Louth Tourism Strategy consultations, meeting with An Taoiseach re Shared Island funding, Shop Front Improvement Grant Scheme, role of Night Time Economy Advisor being extend for 1 year to September 2026, Grass Roots Music Support Scheme funding awarded to 3 Louth venues and the Network Louth Awards.</p> | |
| <p>6. Update on Business Supports and Local Authority Incentives An update was given that supports for companies are focussed mainly on the Sustainability, Digital and Export route in line with National Policy.</p> | |
| <p>7. AOB None</p> | |
| <p>8. Date of next meeting September - date and venue TBC.</p> | |

That concluded the business of the meeting.

Confirmed at Meeting held on: 23/09/2025

Signed: 
Chairperson