



Comhairle Contae Lú
Louth County Council

Louth County Council Annual Meeting

Minutes of the Annual Meeting of Louth County Council hosted in the Council Chamber of Co. Hall, Dundalk on Friday, 21st June 2024, at 10:00a.m.

In Attendance:

Presiding: Councillor, Paula Butterly - Cathaoirleach

Members: Paula Butterly, Bernie Conlon, Pearse McGeough, Dolores Minogue, John Sheridan, Jim Tenanty, Eric Donovan, Anne-Marie Ford, Michelle Hall, Declan Power, James Byrne, Joanna Byrne, Kevin Callan, Paddy McQuillan, Ejiro O'Hare Stratton, Pio Smith, Marianne Butler, Emma Coffey, Sionainn McCann, Shane McGuinness, Kevin Meenan, Robert Nash, Maeve Yore, Ciarán Fisher, Seán Kelly, Andrea McKevitt, Fiona Mhic Conchoille, John Reilly, Antóin Watters

Officials: Joan Martin, Chief Executive
Joe McGuinness, Director of Services
Gráinne Tuomey, Meeting Administrator
Bernie Woods, Director of Finance
David Jones, Director of Services
Thomas McEvoy, Director of Services

Minute No. 120/24

Duly Elected Members to be Members of Louth County Council

In accordance with Para. 4(1) of Schedule 10 of the Local Government Act, 2001 as amended, the Meetings Administrator Gráinne Tuomey read out the names of the persons elected to be Members of Louth County Council.

Local Electoral Area	Name		Address	Description	
	Surname	Other name(s)		Occupation	Name of Political Party, if any
Ardee	Butterly	Paula	Port Cottage, Togher, Co. Louth	Barrister	Fine Gael

Ardee	Conlon	Bernie	Dunleer, Co. Louth	Public Representative	Non Party
Ardee	McGeough	Pearse	St Marys Villas, Kilsaran, Co. Louth	Public Representative	Sinn Féin
Ardee	Minogue	Dolores	Jervis Street, Ardee, Co. Louth	Public Representative	Fine Gael
Ardee	Sheridan	John	Dublin Road, Dundalk, Co. Louth	Public Representative	Fianna Fáil
Ardee	Tenanty	Jim	4 Riverbank, Jervis Street, Ardee, Co. Louth	Funeral Director	Non Party
Drogheda Rural	Donovan	Eric	Balgatheran, Tullyallen, Co. Louth	Social Care Worker	Sinn Féin
Drogheda Rural	Ford	Anne-Marie	Tenure, Dunleer, Co. Louth	School Principal	Fine Gael
Drogheda Rural	Hall	Michelle	Duffs Farm, Termonfeckin, Co. Louth	Primary School Teacher	The Labour Party
Drogheda Rural	Power	Declan	Clogherhead, Co. Louth	Public Representative	Non Party
Drogheda Urban	Byrne	James	Grangerath, Drogheda, Co. Louth	Teacher	Fianna Fáil
Drogheda Urban	Byrne	Joanna	Pearse Park, Drogheda, Co. Louth	Accounts Manager	Sinn Féin
Drogheda Urban	Callan	Kevin	Lawlesstown, Co. Louth	Public Representative	Non Party
Drogheda Urban	McQuillan	Paddy	Mell, Drogheda, Co. Louth	Health Care Assistant	Non Party
Drogheda Urban	O'Hare Stratton	Ejiro	Five Oaks Village, Dublin Road, Drogheda, Co. Louth	Nurse Manager	Fine Gael
Drogheda Urban	Smith	Pio	Waterunder, Tullyallen, Co. Louth	CE Supervisor	The Labour Party
Dundalk-Carlingford	Fisher	Ciarán	Jocelyn Street, Dundalk, Co. Louth	Teacher	Non Party
Dundalk-Carlingford	Kelly	Seán	Árd Easmuinn, Dundalk, Co. Louth	Public Representative	Fianna Fáil
Dundalk-Carlingford	McKevitt	Andrea	Riverstown, Dundalk, Co. Louth	Public Representative	Fianna Fáil

Dundalk-Carlingford	Mhic Conchoille	Fiona	Village Green, Omeath, Co. Louth	School Secretary	Sinn Féin
Dundalk-Carlingford	Reilly	John	Carrickedmond, Kilcurry, Co. Louth	County Councillor	Fine Gael
Dundalk-Carlingford	Watters	Antóin	Ballinamara, Riverstown, Co. Louth	Public Representative	Sinn Féin
Dundalk South	Butler	Marianne	Avenue Road, Dundalk, Co. Louth	County Councillor	Green Party /Comhaontas Glas
Dundalk South	Coffey	Emma	Red Barns Road, Dundalk, Co. Louth	Solicitor	Fianna Fáil
Dundalk South	McCann	Sionainn	Avondale Park, Dundalk, Co. Louth	Education Officer	Sinn Féin
Dundalk South	McGuinness	Shane	Ardee Road, Dundalk, Co. Louth	Health and Safety Consultant	Fianna Fáil
Dundalk South	Meenan	Kevin	Farm Road, Annagassan, Co. Louth	Public Representative	Sinn Féin
Dundalk South	Nash	Robert	Hazel Close, Dundalk, Co. Louth	Firefighter	Fine Gael
Dundalk South	Yore	Maeve	Avenue Road, Dundalk, Co. Louth	Political Representative	Non Party

Minute No. 121/24

Election of Cathaoirleach

The Cathaoirleach of Louth County Council Cllr Paula Butterly thanked everybody for their time and support saying it had been a great honour to serve as Cathaoirleach for the past 12 months, She especially thanked her family for their invisible support and putting up with long hours.

An Cathaoirleach Cllr Butterly then called for nominees for her replacement for the 2024 – 2025 term of office.

Cllr Kevin Callan was nominated on the:

Proposal of: Cllr Jim Tenanty

Seconded by: Cllr Pio Smith

Cllr Pearse McGeough was nominated on the:

Proposal of: Cllr Antóin Watters

Seconded by: Cllr Kevin Meenan

As neither candidate rejected the nomination, there were therefore 2 valid candidates for Cathaoirleach. In accordance with Section 37(g) of the Local Government Act 2001, as amended, a vote was called for as follows:

Name	Nominee - Callan	Nominee - McGeough	Abstain	Absent
Marianne Butler			1	
Paula Butterly	1			
James Byrne	1			
Joanna Byrne		1		
Kevin Callan	1			
Emma Coffey	1			
Bernie Conlon			1	
Eric Donovan		1		
Ciarán Fisher	1			
Anne-Marie Ford	1			
Michelle Hall	1			
Seán Kelly	1			
Sionainn McCann		1		
Pearse McGeough		1		
Shane McGuinness	1			
Andrea McKevitt	1			
Paddy McQuillan	1			
Kevin Meenan		1		
Fiona Mhic Conchoille		1		
Dolores Minogue	1			
Robert Nash	1			
Ejiro O'Hare Stratton	1			
Declan Power	1			
John Reilly	1			
John Sheridan	1			
Pio Smith	1			
Jim Tenanty	1			
Antóin Watters		1		
Maeve Yore			1	
Total votes	19	7	3	0

And **Cllr Kevin Callan** was elected Cathaoirleach of Louth County Council

Minute No. 122/24

Congratulations and Welcome

Having taken the chair as the new Cathaoirleach of Louth County Council Cllr Kevin Callan said that he was deeply honoured to be elected Cathaoirleach and acknowledged the work of the

outgoing Cathaoirleach Cllr Butterly whom he said had served her term with honour, integrity and decency. Welcoming the new members to the council, Cllr Callan quoted the seal of the United States congress 'e pluribus unum' – 'out of many, one', and assured all of working together as one council, promising to treat all members with dignity, balance and courtesy.

Councillors welcomed Cllr Callan to the chair while complimenting Cllr Butterly on her term of office.

Cllr Meenan while wishing Cllr Callan his congratulations and the best for the term ahead, expressed great disappointment that parties had not worked collaboratively prior to the meeting to come up with a fair process for nominations, a feeling that was echoed by Cllr McGeough.

Cllr Smith wishing Cllr Callan the best of luck also congratulated Cllr Meenan for putting forward the D'Hondt system but ultimately considered that the D'Hondt system was difficult to understand and difficult to implement, and that from his point of view he liked to vote for individuals and no system is perfect. Cllr Coffey echoed Cllr Smith's thanks for Cllr Meenan in promoting a new system but thought the elected mandate was in the best interests of everyone present.

Cllrs Butler, Byrne, Power, and Minogue thanked Cllr Butterly for her work over the last year and wished Cllr Callan the best for the year ahead.

The Chief Executive offered the support of the Executive and staff to the new Cathaoirleach and thanked Cllr Butterly for serving for the year gone by, citing some great events which had come to fruition during the term, e.g. the Narrow Water Bridge funding, and the first phase of PANCR while acknowledging that the Cathaoirleach had some very difficult meetings.

Minute No. 123/24

Election of Leas-Chathaoirleach

An Cathaoirleach Cllr Kevin Callan called for nominations for Leas-Chathaoirleach.

Cllr Antóin Watters was nominated on the:

Proposal of: Cllr Pearse McGeough
Seconded by: Cllr Joanna Byrne

Cllr John Reilly was nominated on the:

Proposal of: Cllr Paula Butterly
Seconded by: Cllr Robert Nash

As there were more than 2 candidates, in accordance with Section 37(c) a poll was taken as follows:

Name	Nominee - Reilly	Nominee - Watters	Abstain	Absent
Marianne Butler			1	
Paula Butterly	1			
James Byrne	1			
Joanna Byrne		1		
Kevin Callan	1			
Emma Coffey	1			

Bernie Conlon			1	
Eric Donovan		1		
Ciarán Fisher	1			
Anne-Marie Ford	1			
Michelle Hall	1			
Seán Kelly	1			
Sionainn McCann		1		
Pearse McGeough		1		
Shane McGuinness	1			
Andrea McKeivitt	1			
Paddy McQuillan	1			
Kevin Meenan		1		
Fiona Mhic Conchoille		1		
Dolores Minogue	1			
Robert Nash	1			
Ejiro O'Hare Stratton	1			
Declan Power	1			
John Reilly	1			
John Sheridan	1			
Pio Smith	1			
Jim Tenanty	1			
Antóin Watters		1		
Maeve Yore			1	
Total	19	7	3	0

As the majority of Members present voted for Cllr John Reilly, **Cllr Reilly was deemed elected Leas-Chathaoirleach** in accordance with Section 37(d) of the Local Government Act 2001, as amended.

Members congratulated Cllr Reilly on his appointment and the Cathaoirleach then advised members of moving to seek nominations for committees.

The Meetings Administrator advised Members they should have regard to Section 19 of the Local Government Act 2001 as amended, which refers to the promotion of gender balance when making appointments.

Minute No. 124/24

Strategic Policy Committees (SPCs)

- Schedule 10, Para. 4(4)(a) of the Local Government Act, 2001 as amended.
- To appoint designate chairs of the SPCs to be established under Section 48 of the Local Government Act 2001, as amended.

Following some discussion on this item it was agreed that 5 SPCs was optimal for Louth and that the new SPC scheme would be drafted on that basis.

While further consideration has to be given to new guidelines, an initial indication of the probable 5

SPCs was given by the Chief Executive as follows:
Social Development covering Housing & Culture, Environment & Climate, Economic Development, Planning, and Community & Placemaking.

The proposal to have five Strategic Policy Groups was:

Proposed by: Cllr Kevin Callan
Seconded by: Cllr Marianne Butler
And Agreed.

Nominations were then called for 5 designate Chairs for the SPC.

In accordance with Para. 18 of Schedule 10 of the Local Government Act, 2001 as amended, the grouping system was invoked by the following Members who required 6 to form a group:
Joanna Byrne, Eric Donovan, Sionainn McCann, Pearse McGeough, Fiona Mhic Conchoille, and Kevin Meenan.

The group nominated Cllr Joanna Byrne to be one of the five chairs of the SPC and in line with Para 18(1)(a) **Cllr Joanna Byrne was deemed so appointed** on that nomination without any vote being taken.

The remaining four SPC chairs were elected without debate as there was no further opposition to their nomination:

Cllr Robert Nash was appointed on the:
Proposal of: Cllr Dolores Minogue,
Seconded by: Cllr Paula Butterly

Cllr James Byrne was appointed on the:
Proposal of: Cllr Emma Coffey
Seconded by: Cllr Andrea McKevitt

Cllr Pio Smith was appointed on the:
Proposal of: Cllr James Byrne
Seconded by: Cllr Michelle Hall

Cllr Paula Butterly was appointed on the:
Proposal of: Cllr Anne-Marie Forde
Seconded by: Cllr Robert Nash

And all Five SPC Chairs were confirmed.

Minute No. 125/24

To agree a schedule of Ordinary Meetings of Louth County Council

In accordance with Louth County Council Standing Order no. 1 of, a schedule of ordinary meetings for the year ahead, was set out before Members on the agenda as follows:

Month	Meeting & Day	Date of Meeting	Notice Deadline	Notice Deadline Day
July 2024	Council 3rd Monday	15/07/2024	30/06/2024	Sunday
September	Council 3rd Monday	16/09/2024	01/09/2024	Sunday
October	Council 3rd Monday	21/10/2024	06/10/2024	Sunday
November	Council 3rd Monday	18/11/2024	03/11/2024	Sunday
December	Council 3rd Monday	16/12/2024	01/12/2024	Sunday
2025				
January 2025	Council 3rd Monday	20/01/2025	05/01/2025	Sunday
February 2025	Council 3rd Monday	17/02/2025	02/02/2025	Sunday
March 2025	Council	24/03/2025	09/03/2025	Sunday
April 2025	Council	28/04/2025	13/04/2025	Sunday
May 2025	Council 3rd Monday	19/05/2025	04/05/2025	Sunday
June 2025	Annual Meeting	16/06/2025		
June 2025	Council 3rd Monday	16/06/2025	01/06/2025	Sunday

Approval of the Schedule was:

Proposed by: Cllr Emma Coffey
Seconded by: Cllr Kevin Callan
And Resolved.

Minute No. 126/24

To agree the Annual Meetings of Municipal Districts

In accordance with Para. 4(4)(b) of Schedule 10 of the Local Government Act, 2001 as amended by Section 57 of the Local Government Reform Act, 2014 the Annual Meeting of Municipal Districts which must not be later than 10 days after that annual meeting of the local authority and not be an excluded day, were agreed as follows:

Tuesday 25th June – Dundalk Municipal District Annual Meeting

Thursday 27th June – Ardee Municipal District Annual Meeting

On the Proposal of: Cllr Kevin Callan, and
Seconding of: Cllr Paddy McQuillan

It was proposed and agreed that the Annual Meeting of the Borough District of Drogheda be followed immediately thereafter by the Ordinary July Meeting, and both held on 1st July 2024.

It was further agreed that the first ordinary meetings of Ardee and Dundalk Municipal Districts be then held on the first Thursday and Tuesday of July respectively.

Minute No. 127/24

Louth Meath Education and Training Board (LMETB)

- Schedule 10, Para. 4(4)(a) of the Local Government Act, 2001 as amended
- In accordance with S.I. no. 243 of 2024 – Education and Training Boards Act 2013 (Composition of Local Authority Membership) Order 2024 Members were advised of a requirement for a panel of both female and male members of which a minimum of two of each gender were required to satisfy a gender balance in the Election of 5 representatives to Louth Meath Education and Training Board.

The Meetings Administrator directed members to the Schedule of ineligible candidates as listed in S.I. no. 141 of 2019 Education and Training Boards Act 2013 (Section 32) Order 2019 and displayed this on large screens in the chamber.

Members were then asked to verbally express interest in joining the board in order of gender by surname by way of a simple 'yes' or 'no'.

The following female panel was then formed of those who expressed interest:

Name
Anne-Marie Ford
Sionainn McCann
Andrea McKeivitt

The following male panel was then formed of those who expressed interest:

Name
Ciarán Fisher
Kevin Meenan
Robert Nash
John Sheridan

As Para.18(3)(c) of Schedule 10 of the Local Government Act specifies that grouping can be considered for ETBs, the grouping system was invoked by the following Members who required 6 to form a group:

Joanna Byrne, Eric Donovan, Sionainn McCann, Pearse McGeough, Fiona Mhic Conchoille, and Kevin Meenan.

The group nominated Cllr Kevin Meenan to be one of the five representatives on the LMETB and in line with Para 18(1)(a) **Cllr Meenan was deemed so appointed** on that nomination without any vote being taken.

Members were then asked to fill the first two female seats on the panel by each naming their preference of two of the three female candidates. A roll call vote was held as follows:

Name	Nominee - Ford	Nominee - McCann	Nominee - McKeivitt	Abstain	Absent
Marianne Butler		1	1		
Paula Butterly	1		1		
James Byrne	1		1		
Joanna Byrne	Part of grouping could not vote				
Kevin Callan	1		1		

Emma Coffey	1		1		
Bernie Conlon					1
Eric Donovan	Part of grouping could not vote				
Ciarán Fisher	1		1		
Anne-Marie Ford	1		1		
Michelle Hall	1		1		
Seán Kelly	1		1		
Sionainn McCann	Part of grouping could not vote				
Pearse McGeough	Part of grouping could not vote				
Shane McGuinness	1		1		
Andrea McKeivitt	1		1		
Paddy McQuillan	1		1		
Kevin Meenan	Part of grouping could not vote				
Fiona Mhic Conchoille	Part of grouping could not vote				
Dolores Minogue	1		1		
Robert Nash	1		1		
Ejiro O'Hare Stratton	1		1		
Declan Power	1		1		
John Reilly	1		1		
John Sheridan	1		1		
Pio Smith	1		1		
Jim Tenanty					1
Antóin Watters		1	1		
Maeve Yore					1
Total	18	2	20	0	3

And **Cllrs Ford and McKeivitt were deemed elected.**

The Meeting Administrator advised that a roll call vote would now be held to elect the second male candidate to comply with the LMETB requirement of a minimum of 2 males and 2 females, following which the fifth nominee would be elected from all remaining candidates who had expressed interest.

Cllr Nash advised that he wished to withdraw his expression of interest to the board, leaving two unelected male candidates of Ciarán Fisher and John Sheridan.

Members were asked to express their preference in a roll call vote which was held as follows:

Name	Nominee - Fisher	Nominee - Sheridan	Abstain	Absent
Marianne Butler		1		
Paula Butterly	1			
James Byrne		1		
Joanna Byrne	Part of grouping could not vote			
Kevin Callan	1			
Emma Coffey		1		
Bernie Conlon				1
Eric Donovan	Part of grouping could not vote			
Ciarán Fisher	1			
Anne-Marie Ford		1		
Michelle Hall		1		

Seán Kelly		1		
Sionainn McCann	Part of grouping could not vote			
Pearse McGeough	Part of grouping could not vote			
Shane McGuinness		1		
Andrea McKeivitt		1		
Paddy McQuillan	1			
Kevin Meenan	Part of grouping could not vote			
Fiona Mhic Conchoille	Part of grouping could not vote			
Dolores Minogue		1		
Robert Nash		1		
Ejiro O'Hare Stratton		1		
Declan Power	1			
John Reilly		1		
John Sheridan		1		
Pio Smith	1			
Jim Tenanty				1
Antóin Watters			1	
Maeve Yore				1
Total	6	13	1	3

And **Cllr John Sheridan was deemed elected** to the LMETB thus satisfying the minimum 2 males / 2 females requirement of the ETB.

As two candidates then remained, a roll call vote was called to establish the final candidate for the LMETB as follows:

Name	Nominee - Fisher	Nominee - McCann	Abstain	Absent
Marianne Butler		1		
Paula Butterly	1			
James Byrne	1			
Joanna Byrne	Part of grouping could not vote			
Kevin Callan	1			
Emma Coffey	1			
Bernie Conlon				1
Eric Donovan	Part of grouping could not vote			
Ciarán Fisher	1			
Anne-Marie Ford	1			
Michelle Hall	1			
Seán Kelly	1			
Sionainn McCann	Part of grouping could not vote			
Pearse McGeough	Part of grouping could not vote			
Shane McGuinness	1			
Andrea McKeivitt	1			
Paddy McQuillan	1			
Kevin Meenan	Part of grouping could not vote			
Fiona Mhic Conchoille	Part of grouping could not vote			
Dolores Minogue	1			
Robert Nash	1			

Ejro O'Hare Stratton	1			
Declan Power	1			
John Reilly	1			
John Sheridan	1			
Pio Smith	1			
Jim Tenanty				1
Antóin Watters		1		
Maeve Yore				1
Total	18	2	0	3

And **Cllr Ciarán Fisher** was confirmed as the final elected Member to the LMETB.

Minute No. 128/24

Association of Irish Local Government (AILG)

- Schedule 10, 4(4)(a) of the Local Government Act, 2001 as amended.
- Election of 3 representatives to the Association of Irish Local Government as delegates to the Association

Director of Services Joe McGuinness advised that recent correspondence from the AILG removed the requirement that each of the 3 representatives had to be from each of the Municipal Districts and the 3 members could be chosen from the Council as a whole.

An Cathaoirleach Cllr Callan called for nominations.

Councillors James Byrne, Pio Smith and Jim Tenanty were nominated on the:

Proposal of: Cllr John Reilly and

Seconded by: Cllr Michelle Hall

And as there were no further nominations deemed appointed.

Minute No. 129/24

Local Authority Members Association (LAMA)

- Schedule 10, 4(4)(a) of the Local Government Act, 2001 as amended.
- To appoint 1 member as the delegate to LAMA.

Following a call for nominees from the Cathaoirleach Cllr Callan:

Cllr Paddy McQuillan was nominated on the:

Proposal of: Cllr Kevin Callan. This was

Seconded by: Cllr Pio Smith.

And as there were no further nominations Cllr McQuillan was deemed appointed.

Minute No. 130/24

Eastern and Midland Regional Assembly

- Schedule 10, 4(4)(a) of the Local Government Act, 2001 as amended.
- To appoint 2 members to the Assembly.

Following a call for nominees from the Cathaoirleach Cllr Callan:
Cllr Emma Coffey and **Cllr Paula Butterly** were nominated on the:

Proposal of: Cllr Robert Nash. This was
Seconded by: Cllr James Byrne.

And as there were no further nominations and this met the required amount of candidates, the two Councillors were deemed appointed to the Assembly.

Minute No. 131/24

Irish Public Bodies Mutual Insurances Ltd

- Schedule 10, Para. 4(4)(a) of the Local Government Act, 2001 as amended.
- Appointment of 1 Representative to Irish Public Bodies Mutual Insurances Ltd.

Following a call for nominees from the Cathaoirleach Cllr Callan:
Cllr Pío Smith was nominated on the:

Proposal of: Cllr Michelle Hall, and
Seconded by: Cllr Kevin Callan

And as there were no further nominations and this met the required amount of candidates, Cllr Smith was deemed appointed as representative to the IPB.

Minute No. 132/24

Local Community Development Committee (LCDC)

- Schedule 10, Para. 4(4)(a) of the Local Government Act, 2001 as amended
- To appoint 4 members to the Committee established under Section 49(a) of the Local Government Act, 2001 as amended.

In accordance with Para. 18 of Schedule 10 of the Local Government Act, 2001 as amended, the grouping system was invoked by the following Members who required 7 to form a group: Joanna Byrne, Eric Donovan, Sionainn McCann, Pearse McGeough, Fiona Mhic Conchoille, Kevin Meenan and Antóin Watters.

The group nominated Cllr Kevin Meenan to be one of the members of the LCDC and in line with Para 18(1)(a) **Cllr Kevin Meenan was deemed so appointed** on that nomination.

Following a call for remaining nominees from the Cathaoirleach Cllr Callan:

Cllrs Shane McGuinness, Ejiro O'Hare Stratton, and Dolores Minogue were nominated on the

Proposal of: Cllr John Sheridan, and
Seconded by: Cllr Andrea McKeivitt,

And as there were no further nominations and the number of nominated candidates thus far met the required amount of candidates, Cllrs Kevin Meenan, Shane McGuinness, Ejiro O'Hare Stratton and Dolores Minogue were deemed appointed as members of the LCDC.

Minute No. 133/24

Carlingford Lough Commission

- Schedule 10, Para. 4(4)(a) of the Local Government Act, 2001 as amended.
- To appoint 1 member to the Commission

The following nominations were received for the Commission:

Cllr Andrea McKeivitt

Proposed by: Cllr Emma Coffey

Seconded by: Cllr John Reilly

Cllr Antóin Watters

Proposed by: Cllr Emma Coffey

Seconded by: Cllr John Reilly

As there was only one position a roll call vote was held as follows:

Name	Nominee - McKeivitt	Nominee - Watters	Abstain	Absent
Marianne Butler			1	
Paula Butterly	1			
James Byrne	1			
Joanna Byrne		1		
Kevin Callan	1			
Emma Coffey	1			
Bernie Conlon				1
Eric Donovan		1		
Ciarán Fisher	1			
Anne-Marie Ford	1			
Michelle Hall	1			
Seán Kelly	1			
Sionainn McCann		1		
Pearse McGeough		1		
Shane McGuinness	1			
Andrea McKeivitt	1			
Paddy McQuillan	1			
Fiona Mhic Conchoille		1		
Kevin Meenan		1		
Dolores Minogue	1			
Robert Nash	1			
Ejiro O'Hare Stratton	1			
Declan Power	1			

John Reilly	1			
John Sheridan	1			
Pio Smith	1			
Jim Tenanty				1
Antóin Watters		1		
Maeve Yore				1
Total	18	7	1	3

And Cllr McKevitt was deemed appointed to the Commission.

Minute No. 134/24

Local Sports Partnership (LSP)

- Schedule 10, Para. 4(4)(a) of the Local Government Act, 2001 as amended.
- To appoint 1 member to the Partnership.

The following nominations were received for the LSP:

Cllr Shane McGuinness

Proposed by: Cllr Dolores Minogue

Seconded by: Cllr Andrea McKevitt

Cllr Eric Donovan

Proposed by: Cllr Joanna Byrne

Seconded by: Cllr Pearse McGeough

As there was only one position a roll call vote was held as follows:

Name	Nominee - McGuinness	Nominee - Donovan	Abstain	Absent
Marianne Butler		1		
Paula Butterly	1			
James Byrne	1			
Joanna Byrne		1		
Kevin Callan	1			
Emma Coffey	1			
Bernie Conlon				1
Eric Donovan		1		
Ciarán Fisher	1			
Anne-Marie Ford	1			
Michelle Hall	1			
Seán Kelly	1			
Sionainn McCann		1		
Pearse McGeough		1		
Shane McGuinness	1			
Andrea McKevitt	1			
Paddy McQuillan	1			
Fiona Mhic Conchoille		1		
Kevin Meenan		1		
Dolores Minogue	1			

Robert Nash	1			
Ejiro O'Hare Stratton	1			
Declan Power	1			
John Reilly	1			
John Sheridan	1			
Pio Smith	1			
Jim Tenanty				1
Antóin Watters		1		
Maeve Yore				1
Total	18	8	0	3

And Cllr Shane McGuinness was deemed appointed to the Local Sports Partnership.

Minute No. 135/24

North East Regional Homeless Forum

- Schedule 10, Para. 4(4)(a) of the Local Government Act, 2001 as amended.
- To appoint 1 member as the Council's representative.

The following nominations were received for the North East Regional Homeless Forum:

Cllr Robert Nash

Proposed by: Cllr Paula Butterly

Seconded by: Cllr John Reilly

Cllr Joanna Byrne

Proposed by: Cllr Eric Donovan

Seconded by: Cllr Pearse McGeough

As there was only one position a roll call vote was held as follows:

Name	Nominee - Nash	Nominee - Joanna Byrne	Abstain	Absent
Marianne Butler			1	
Paula Butterly	1			
James Byrne	1			
Joanna Byrne		1		
Kevin Callan	1			
Emma Coffey	1			
Bernie Conlon				1
Eric Donovan		1		
Ciarán Fisher	1			
Anne-Marie Ford	1			
Michelle Hall	1			
Seán Kelly	1			
Sionainn McCann		1		
Pearse McGeough		1		
Shane McGuinness	1			
Andrea McKevitt	1			

Paddy McQuillan	1			
Fiona Mhic Conchoille		1		
Kevin Meenan		1		
Dolores Minogue	1			
Robert Nash	1			
Ejiro O'Hare Stratton	1			
Declan Power	1			
John Reilly	1			
John Sheridan	1			
Pio Smith	1			
Jim Tenanty				1
Antóin Watters		1		
Maeve Yore				1
Total	18	7	1	3

And Cllr Robert Nash was deemed appointed to the North East Regional Forum.

Minute No. 136/24

North East Regional Drugs and Alcohol Task Force

- Schedule 10, Para. 4(4)(a) of the Local Government Act, 2001 as amended.
- To appoint 1 member to the Task Force.

The following nominations were received for the North East Regional Drugs and Alcohol Task Force:

Cllr Anne-Marie Ford

Proposed by: Cllr Ejiro O'Hare Stratton

Seconded by: Cllr Robert Nash

Cllr Eric Donovan

Proposed by: Cllr Joanna Byrne

Seconded by: Cllr Pearse McGeough

As there was only one position a roll call vote was held as follows:

Name	Nominee - Ford	Nominee - Donovan	Abstain	Absent
Marianne Butler		1		
Paula Butterly	1			
James Byrne	1			
Joanna Byrne		1		
Kevin Callan	1			
Emma Coffey	1			
Bernie Conlon				1
Eric Donovan		1		
Ciarán Fisher	1			
Anne-Marie Ford	1			

Michelle Hall	1			
Seán Kelly	1			
Sionainn McCann		1		
Pearse McGeough		1		
Shane McGuinness	1			
Andrea McKeivitt	1			
Paddy McQuillan	1			
Fiona Mhic Conchoille		1		
Kevin Meenan		1		
Dolores Minogue	1			
Robert Nash	1			
Ejiro O'Hare Stratton	1			
Declan Power	1			
John Reilly	1			
John Sheridan	1			
Pio Smith	1			
Jim Tenanty				1
Antóin Watters		1		
Maeve Yore				1
Total	18	8	0	3

And Cllr Anne-Marie Ford was elected to the North East Regional Drugs & Alcohol Forum.

Minute No. 137/24

Regional Health Forum – Dublin North East

- Schedule 10, Para. 4(4)(a) of the Local Government Act, 2001 as amended.
- To appoint 4 members to the Forum.

In accordance with Para. 18 of Schedule 10 of the Local Government Act, 2001 as amended, the grouping system was invoked by the following Members who required 7 to form a group: Joanna Byrne, Eric Donovan, Sionainn McCann, Pearse McGeough, Fiona Mhic Conchoille, Kevin Meenan and Antóin Watters.

The group nominated Fiona Mhic Conchoille to sit on the Forum and in line with Para 18(3)(f) **Cllr Fiona Mhic Conchoille was deemed so appointed** on that nomination.

Following a call for remaining nominees from the Cathaoirleach Cllr Callan:

Cllrs Shane McGuinness, Ejiro O'Hare Stratton, and Michelle Hall were nominated on the Proposal of Cllr Pio Smith, and
Seconded by Cllr Dolores Minogue,

And as there were no further nominations and this met the required amount of candidates, **Cllrs Fiona Mhic Conchoille, Shane McGuinness, Ejiro O'Hare Stratton and Michelle Hall** were deemed appointed as members of the Regional Health Forum North-East.

Minute No. 138/24

East Border Region Forum

- Schedule 10, Para. 4(4)(a) of the Local Government Act, 2001 as amended.
- Election of 6 members to the East Border Region Forum

- Appointment of 3 members (out of the 6 elected) to the East Border Region Board

In accordance with Para. 18 of Schedule 10 of the Local Government Act, 2001 as amended, the grouping system was invoked by the following Members who required 5 to form a group: Joanna Byrne, Eric Donovan, Sionainn McCann, Pearse McGeough, and Kevin Meenan.

The group nominated Cllr Pearse McGeough to sit on the Forum and in line with Schedule 10, Para. 18(3)(f) **Cllr Pearse McGeough was deemed so appointed** on that nomination.

Following a call for remaining nominees from the Cathaoirleach Cllr Callan:

Cllrs John Sheridan, Michelle Hall, John Reilly, Andrea McKeivitt, and Seán Kelly were nominated on the:

Proposal of: Cllr Robert Nash, and
Seconded by: Cllr Declan Power

And as there were no further nominations and this met the required amount of candidates, Cllrs **Pearse McGeough, John Sheridan, Michelle Hall, John Reilly, Andrea McKeivitt, and Seán Kelly** were deemed appointed to the East Border Region Forum.

Minute No. 139/24

East Border Region Board

An Cathaoirleach Cllr Callan then called for nominations from the appointed forum members to the Board of the East Border Region.

Cllrs John Reilly, Andrea McKeivitt, and Seán Kelly were nominated on the:

Proposal of: Cllr Robert Nash, and
Seconded by: Cllr Declan Power,

And as there were no further nominations and this met the required amount of candidates, Cllrs **John Reilly, Andrea McKeivitt, and Seán Kelly** were deemed appointed to the East Border Region Board.

Minute No. 140/24

Governance/Oversight Committee of the Dublin/Belfast Economic Corridor (DBEC)

- Schedule 10, Para. 4(4)(a) of the Local Government Act, 2001 as amended.
- To appoint 3 members to the Committee.

An Cathaoirleach Cllr Callan called for nominations of 3 members to the oversight of the Dublin Belfast Economic Corridor committee.

Cllrs Shane McGuinness, Paula Butterly, and Declan Power were nominated on the

Proposal of: Cllr Emma Coffey, and
Seconded by: Cllr Andrea McKeivitt,

And as there were no other nominations and this satisfied the number of nominations required, Cllrs McGuinness, Butterly and Power were deemed elected to DBEC.

Minute No. 141/24

Drogheda BIDS (Business Improvement District)

- Schedule 10, Para. 4(4)(a) of the Local Government Act, 2001 as amended.
- To appoint 1 members to Drogheda BIDS

Cllr Paddy McQuillan was nominated on the:

Proposal of Cllr Kevin Callan, and
Seconded by Cllr Declan Power

And as there were no other nominations and this satisfied the number of nominations required, Cllr McQuillan was deemed elected to Drogheda BIDS.

Minute No. 142/24

Dundalk BIDS (Business Improvement District)

- Schedule 10, Para. 4(4)(a) of the Local Government Act, 2001 as amended.
- To appoint 2 members as the Council’s representatives to Dundalk BIDS.

Cllr Sionainn McCann was nominated on the:

Proposal of: Cllr Kevin Meenan, and
Seconded by: Cllr Pearse McGeough.

Cllrs Emma Coffey and John Reilly were nominated on the

Proposal of: Cllr Seán Kelly, and
Seconded by: Cllr Robert Nash.

As there were more candidates than appointment vacancies a roll call vote was held where members were requested to nominate their two preferred candidates as follows:

Name	Nominee - McCann	Nominee - Coffey	Nominee - Reilly	Abstain	Absent
Marianne Butler				1	
Paula Butterly		1	1		
James Byrne		1	1		
Joanna Byrne	1		1		
Kevin Callan		1	1		
Emma Coffey		1	1		
Bernie Conlon					1
Eric Donovan	1		1		
Ciarán Fisher		1	1		

Anne-Marie Ford		1	1		
Michelle Hall		1	1		
Seán Kelly		1	1		
Sionainn McCann	1		1		
Pearse McGeough	1		1		
Shane McGuinness		1	1		
Andrea McKeivitt		1	1		
Paddy McQuillan		1	1		
Fiona Mhic Conchoille	1		1		
Kevin Meenan	1		1		
Dolores Minogue		1	1		
Robert Nash		1	1		
Ejiro O'Hare Stratton		1	1		
Declan Power		1	1		
John Reilly		1	1		
John Sheridan		1	1		
Pio Smith		1	1		
Jim Tenanty					1
Antóin Watters	1		1		
Maeve Yore					1
Total	7	18	25	1	3

And Cllrs Coffey and Reilly were deemed elected to Dundalk BIDS.

Minute No. 143/24

An Táin Arts Centre

- Schedule 10, Para. 4(4)(a) of the Local Government Act, 2001 as amended.
- To appoint 2 members to An Táin Arts Centre.

Cllrs Seán Kelly and Ciarán Fisher were nominated on the:

Proposal of: Cllr Andrea McKeivitt and
Seconded by: Cllr John Reilly.

Cllr Sionainn McCann was nominated on the:

Proposal of: Cllr Kevin Meenan and
Seconded by: Cllr Joanna Byrne.

As there was one more candidate than appointment vacancies, a roll call vote where members were requested to state their two candidate preferences was held as follows:

Name	Nominee - Kelly	Nominee - Fisher	Nominee - McCann	Abstain	Absent
Marianne Butler	1		1		
Paula Butterly	1	1			
James Byrne	1	1			
Joanna Byrne	1		1		
Kevin Callan	1	1			

Emma Coffey	1	1			
Bernie Conlon					1
Eric Donovan	1		1		
Ciarán Fisher	1	1			
Anne-Marie Ford	1	1			
Michelle Hall	1	1			
Seán Kelly	1	1			
Sionainn McCann	1		1		
Pearse McGeough	1		1		
Shane McGuinness	1	1			
Andrea McKevitt	1	1			
Paddy McQuillan	1	1			
Fiona Mhic Conchoille	1		1		
Kevin Meenan	1		1		
Dolores Minogue	1	1			
Robert Nash	1	1			
Ejiro O'Hare Stratton	1	1			
Declan Power	1	1			
John Reilly	1	1			
John Sheridan	1	1			
Pio Smith	1	1			
Jim Tenanty					1
Antóin Watters	1		1		
Maeve Yore					1
Total	26	18	8	0	3

And Cllrs Kelly and Fisher were deemed elected to An Táin.

Minute No. 144/24

Creative Spark

- Schedule 10, Para. 4(4)(a) of the Local Government Act, 2001 as amended.
- To appoint 1 member to the Creative Spark

Cllr Shane McGuinness was nominated on the:

Proposal of Cllr Emma Coffey, and
Seconded by Cllr John Sheridan

And as there was no other nomination, Cllr McGuinness was deemed elected to Creative Spark.

Minute No. 145/24

Droichead Arts Centre

- Schedule 10, Para. 4(4)(a) of the Local Government Act, 2001 as amended.
- To appoint 1 member to Droichead Arts Centre

Cllr Michelle Hall was nominated on the:

Proposal of: Cllr Pio Smith, and
Seconded by: Cllr Andrea McKevitt

And as there was no other nomination, Cllr Hall was deemed elected to represent Louth County Council on Droichead Arts Centre.

Minute No. 146/24

Memorandum of Understanding with Newry Mourne and Down District Council

Following some discussion, it was agreed to defer this item until further clarification was sought on the candidates required and the process for nomination.

Minute No. 147/24

Louth PEACEPLUS Partnership

Following some discussion, it was agreed to defer this item until further clarification was sought on the candidates required and the process for nomination.

Minute No. 148/24

Louth Audit Committee

Joe McGuinness Director of Services advised Members that an audit committee was a required committee of Council and should be set up within 3 months of the election. Two elected members are required to sit on the committee.

Cllrs Ejiro O'Hare Stratton and Seán Kelly were nominated on the:

Proposal of: Cllr Paula Butterly, and
Seconded by: Cllr Andrea McKevitt

And as there was no other nomination, Cllr. Ejiro O'Hare Stratton and Councillor Seán Kelly were deemed elected to Louth County Council Audit Committee.

Minute No. 149/24

Louth Traveller Accommodation Consultative Committee (LTACC)

- Schedule 10, Para. 4(4)(a) of the Local Government Act, 2001 as amended.
- To appoint 3 members to the Committee
- Selection of Chairman of the Committee from the 3 members.

An Cathaoirleach Cllr Callan called for nominees to the Committee in the first instance.

Cllr Kevin Meenan was nominated on the:

Proposal of Cllr Sionainn McCann, and
Seconded by Cllr Pearse McGeough

Cllrs Dolores Minogue and Seán Kelly were nominated on the:

Proposal of: Cllr Pío Smith, and
Seconded by: Cllr Paula Butterly

As there were no further nominations and the number of candidates nominated equalled the number of appointments required, Cllrs Meenan, Minogue and Kelly were deemed appointed to the LTACC.

Minute No. 150/24

Louth Traveller Accommodation Consultative Committee (LTACC) Chair

An Cathaoirleach Cllr Callan then requested nominations from the appointed committee for the position of Chair of the Committee.

Cllrs Minogue and Kelly confirmed that they had no interest in the chair position leaving Cllr Meenan to be appointed as Chair of the Committee.

Minute No. 151/24

Rural Water Programme – Local – County Monitoring

- Schedule 10, Para. 4(4)(a) of the Local Government Act, 2001 as amended.
- To Appoint 4 members to the Monitoring Committee

Director of Services Joe McGuinness informed Members that under Section 51 of the Local Government Act 2001 as amended, the first decision of council was whether they wished the Rural Water Programme committee to reconvene.

Following confirmation sought that meetings of the Rural Water Programme would recommence in 2024 and onwards, it was

Proposed by Cllr Andrea McKeivitt
Seconded by Cllr Paula Butterly
To continue the committee.

Cllrs John Reilly, Andrea McKeivitt and Declan Power were then nominated to the Rural Water Programme Committee on the

Proposal of Cllr Paula Butterly, and
Seconded by Cllr Dolores Minogue.

Cllr Antóin Watters was nominated to the Rural Water Programme Committee on the

Proposal of Cllr Joanna Byrne, and
Seconded by Cllr Sionainn McCann.

As the number of nominated candidates equalled the number of candidates required, Cllrs John Reilly, Andrea McKeivitt Declan Power and Antóin Watters were deemed appointed.

Minute No. 152/24

Louth Drugs and Alcohol Forum

- Schedule 10, Para. 4(4)(a) of the Local Government Act, 2001 as amended.

- To appoint 1 member to the Louth Drugs and Alcohol Forum.

Director of Services Joe McGuinness informed Members that under Section 51 of the Local Government Act 2001 as amended, the first decision of council was whether they wished the Louth Drugs and Alcohol Forum to reconvene.

It was:

Proposed by: Cllr Joanna Byrne
 Seconded by: Cllr Dolores Minogue

And resolved that the forum reconvene

Following a call for nominees to the Forum:

Cllr Anne-Marie Ford was nominated to the Louth Drugs and Alcohol Forum on the

Proposal of: Cllr Dolores Minogue and

Seconded by: Cllr Ejiro O'Hare Stratton.

Cllr Eric Donovan was nominated to the Louth Drugs and Alcohol Forum on the

Proposal of: Cllr Joanna Byrne, and

Seconded by: Cllr Pearse McGeough.

As there was only one available place a roll call vote was held as follows:

Name	Nominee - Ford	Nominee - Donovan	Abstain	Absent
Marianne Butler		1		
Paula Butterly	1			
James Byrne	1			
Joanna Byrne		1		
Kevin Callan	1			
Emma Coffey	1			
Bernie Conlon				1
Eric Donovan		1		
Ciarán Fisher	1			
Anne-Marie Ford	1			
Michelle Hall	1			
Seán Kelly	1			
Sionainn McCann		1		
Pearse McGeough		1		
Shane McGuinness	1			
Andrea McKeivitt	1			
Paddy McQuillan	1			
Fiona Mhic Conchoille		1		
Kevin Meenan		1		
Dolores Minogue	1			
Robert Nash	1			
Ejiro O'Hare Stratton	1			
Declan Power	1			
John Reilly	1			

John Sheridan	1			
Pio Smith	1			
Jim Tenanty				1
Antóin Watters		1		
Maeve Yore				1
Total	18	8	0	3

And Cllr Ford was deemed appointed to the Louth Drugs and Alcohol Forum.

Minute No. 153/24

Placenames Committee

- Schedule 10, Para. 4(4)(a) of the Local Government Act, 2001 as amended.
- To appoint 4 members to Committee.

Director of Services Joe McGuinness informed Members that under Section 51 of the Local Government Act 2001 as amended, the first decision of council under this item was whether they wished the Placenames Committee to reconvene.

A proposal to keep the Placenames Committee was:

Proposed by: Cllr John Sheridan
 Seconded by: Cllr James Byrne
 And resolved.

It was suggested that the committee was previously made up of the Cathaoirleach and one member from each of the Municipal Districts. Following a short discussion, it was agreed to defer the item on appointment of nominations until further clarification was sought on the candidates required and the process for nomination.

Minute No. 154/24

Confirmation of Standing Orders

Joe McGuinness Director of Services referred to the standing orders as set out on the agenda before the Members and advised that they consolidated all standing orders to streamline and ensure consistency of standing orders. They also included reference to Section 19A of the Local Government Act 2001 as amended which allowed for Maternity Leave and temporary absence of members

Adoption of Standing Orders was:

Proposed by: Cllr Kevin Callan
 Seconded by: Cllr Pio Smith

And in accordance with Para. 16(2) of Schedule 10 of the Local Government Act 2001 as amended, a roll call vote was held to confirm that at least half the members approved revocation of previous standing orders and adoption of new standing orders as follows:

Name	For	Against	Abstain	Absent
Marianne Butler	1			

Paula Butterly	1			
James Byrne	1			
Joanna Byrne	1			
Kevin Callan	1			
Emma Coffey	1			
Bernie Conlon				1
Eric Donovan	1			
Ciarán Fisher	1			
Anne-Marie Ford	1			
Michelle Hall	1			
Seán Kelly	1			
Sionainn McCann	1			
Pearse McGeough	1			
Shane McGuinness	1			
Andrea McKeivitt	1			
Paddy McQuillan	1			
Fiona Mhic Conchoille	1			
Kevin Meenan	1			
Dolores Minogue	1			
Robert Nash	1			
Ejiro O'Hare Stratton	1			
Declan Power	1			
John Reilly	1			
John Sheridan	1			
Pio Smith	1			
Jim Tenanty				1
Antóin Watters	1			
Maeve Yore				1
	26	0	0	3

And new Standing Orders were adopted on 21st June 2024, replacing and revoking all previous standing orders.

Minute No. 155/24

Councillors Training Plan

Members considered the Training Plan as set out before them on the agenda and drafted in accordance with Circular Letter LG 04/2024 issued on behalf of the Minister under Section 142 (5)(5)(f) of the Local Government Act 2001 as amended.

Approval of the Training Plan was:

Proposed by: Cllr Paula Butterly

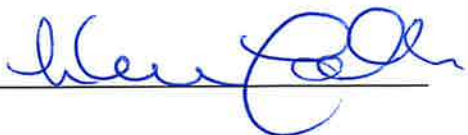
Seconded by: Cllr Emma Coffey

And resolved.

As there was no further business the first Annual Meeting of the 2024 – 2029 Council Term concluded.

The Minutes were confirmed at a meeting of the Council held on:

Date: 15 July 2024

Cathaoirleach: 

Meeting Administrator: 

List of Appointments Made to Committees is below:

Board	Appointed
AILG	James Byrne, Pio Smith and Jim Tenanty
An Táin Arts Centre	Seán Kelly and Ciarán Fisher
Audit Committee	Ejiro O'Hare Stratton and Seán Kelly
Carlingford Lough Commission	Cllr McKeivitt
Creative Spark	Shane McGuinness
Drogheda BIDS	Paddy McQuillan
Droichead Arts Centre	Michelle Hall
Dundalk BIDS	Emma Coffey and John Reilly
East Border Region Board	John Reilly, Andrea McKeivitt, and Seán Kelly
East Border Region Forum	Pearse McGeough, John Sheridan, Michelle Hall, John Reilly, Andrea McKeivitt, and Seán Kelly
Eastern and Midland Regional Assembly	Cllr Emma Coffey and Cllr Paula Butterly
Governance/Oversight Committee of the Dublin/Belfast Economic Corridor (DBEC)	Shane McGuinness, Paula Butterly, and Declan Power
Irish Public Bodies Mutual Insurances Ltd	Cllr Pio Smith
LMETB	Kevin Meenan, Anne-Marie Ford, Andrea McKeivitt, John Sheridan, Ciarán Fisher
Local Authority Members Association (LAMA)	Paddy McQuillan
Local Community Development Committee (LCDC)	Kevin Meenan, Shane McGuinness, Ejiro O'Hare Stratton and Dolores Minogue
Local Sports Partnership (LSP)	Shane McGuinness
Louth Drugs and Alcohol Forum	Anne-Marie Ford
Louth PEACEPLUS Partnership	Deferred
Louth Traveller Accommodation Consultative Committee (LTACC)	Kevin Meenan, Dolores Minogue and Seán Kelly
Louth Traveller Accommodation Consultative Committee CHAIR	Kevin Meenan
Memorandum of Understanding with Newry Mourne and Down District Council	Deferred
North East Regional Drugs and Alcohol Task Force	Anne-Marie Ford
North East Regional Homeless Forum	Robert Nash
Placenames Committee	Deferred
Regional Health Forum – Dublin North East	Fiona Mhic Conchoille, Shane McGuinness, Ejiro O'Hare Stratton and Michelle Hall
Rural Water Programme – Local – County Monitoring	John Reilly, Andrea McKeivitt Declan Power and Antóin Watters
SPC Chairs	Joanna Byrne, James Byrne, Paula Butterly, Robert Nash, Pio Smith