



Comhairle Contae Lú  
Louth County Council

## **Cruinniú Bliantúil Chomhairle Contae Lú Louth County Council Annual Meeting**

Minutes of the Annual Monthly Meeting of Louth County Council hosted in the Council Chamber of Co. Hall, Dundalk on Monday, 16<sup>th</sup> June 2025, at 10:00a.m.

### **In Attendance:**

Presiding: Councillor, Kevin Callan – Cathaoirleach

Members: Councillors: Marianne Butler, James Byrne, Emma Coffey, Bernie Conlon, Eric Donovan, Ciarán Fisher, Anne-Marie Ford, Michelle Hall, Seán Kelly, Rachel Kerley, Sionainn McCann, Pearse McGeough, Shane McGuinness, Andrea McKeivitt, Paddy McQuillan, Fiona MhicConchoille, Kevin Meenan, Dolores Minogue, Robert Nash, Ejiro O'Hare Stratton, Declan Power (online), John Reilly, John Sheridan, Pio Smith, Jim Tenanty, Antóin Watters (online), Maeve Yore.

Apologies: Councillor Debbie McCole

Officials: Thomas McEvoy, Deputy Chief Executive  
Joanna Kelly, Acting Director of Services  
Bernadette Woods, Director of Finance  
David Jones, Director of Services  
Ger Murphy, Director of Services  
David Hanratty, Acting Director of Services  
Colette Moss, Acting Director of Services  
Sinéad Dooley, Meetings Administrator  
Olivia McCormack, Senior Executive Officer  
Helen Divilly, Head of IT  
Finbar Gethins, Senior Executive Officer  
Gavin McLaughin, Communications Officer  
John O'Hagain, Senior Engineer  
Amanda Brannigan, County Librarian  
Aine McDonald, Assistant Staff Officer  
Celine Breen, Assistant Staff Officer  
Susan Deery, Administrative Officer

### **Minute No. 139/25**

### **Election of Cathaoirleach**

An Cathaoirleach of Louth County Council Councillor Kevin Callan thanked the Elected Members, Leas Cathaoirleach John Reilly, outgoing Cathaoirleach of the Municipal Districts of Ardee and Dundalk Cllrs Sheridan and Kell respectively and the Mayor of the Borough District of Drogheda,

Cllr McQuillan, Corporate Policy Group Members, Press and Staff of Louth County Council for their support over the past twelve months, stating that it had been an honour to hold the position of Cathaoirleach for the previous term.

Members congratulated Cllr Callan on his term and expressed sincere appreciation for his steady leadership and his fair and balanced approach to conducting business throughout the year.

An Cathaoirleach Kevin Callan then called for nominees for his replacement for the 2025-2026 term of office.

**Councillor Seán Kelly** was nominated on the:

**Proposal of:** Cllr Andrea McKeivitt

**Seconded by:** Cllr Kevin Callan

**Councillor Eric Donovan** was nominated on the:

**Proposal of:** Councillor Pearse McGeough

**Seconded by:** Councillor Kevin Meenan

As neither candidate rejected the nomination, there were therefore two 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:

<b>Name</b>	<b>Nominee No. 1 - Cllr Kelly</b>	<b>Nominee No. 2 – Cllr Donovan</b>	<b>Abstain</b>	<b>Absent</b>
Marianne Butler				1
James 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			
Rachel Kerley	1			
Sionainn McCann		1		
Debbie McCole				1
Pearse McGeough		1		
Shane McGuinness	1			
Andrea McKeivitt	1			
Paddy McQuillan	1			
Fiona MhicConchoille		1		
Kevin Meenan		1		
Dolores Minogue	1			
Rober Nash	1			
Ejuro 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	
<b>Total Votes</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>2</b>

And **Councillor Seán Kelly** was elected Cathaoirleach of Louth County Council.

## Minute No. 140/25

### Congratulations and Welcome

Having taken the position as the new Cathaoirleach of Louth County Council Councillor Seán Kelly paid tribute to Councillor Eric Donovan and expressed his appreciation for the dedication and service of outgoing Cathaoirleach Councillor Kevin Callan, commending his strong work ethic, determination, and his consistent offering of practical and sincere advice.

Members welcomed Councillor Seán Kelly to the chair and wished him the best on the year ahead.

Deputy Chief Executive, Thomas McEvoy congratulated Cllr Kelly on his election to the position of Cathaoirleach and assured him of the Executive's commitment to support him throughout the forthcoming year.

## Minute No. 141/25

### Election of Leas Cathaoirleach

An Cathaoirleach Councillor Seán Kelly called for nominations for Leas-Chathaoirleach.

**Councillor Andrea McKeivitt** was nominated on the:

**Proposal of:** Cllr Emma Coffey

**Seconded by:** Cllr John Sheridan

**Councillor Pearse McGeough** was nominated on the:

**Proposal of:** Councillor Kevin Meenan

**Seconded by:** Councillor Fiona MhicConchoille

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

Name	Nominee No. 1 - Cllr McKeivitt	Nominee No. 2 – Cllr McGeough	Abstain	Absent
Marianne Butler			1	
James 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			
Rachel Kerley	1			
Sionainn McCann		1		
Debbie McCole				1
Pearse McGeough		1		
Shane McGuinness	1			
Andrea McKeivitt	1			
Paddy McQuillan	1			
Fiona MhicConchoille		1		
Kevin Meenan		1		
Dolores Minogue	1			

Rober 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	
<b>Total Votes</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>1</b>

And Councillor Andrea McKeivitt was deemed elected as Leas-Chathaoirleach.

Members congratulated Councillor McKeivitt on her appointment.

### Minute No. 142/25

#### To agree a schedule of Ordinary Meetings of Louth County Council

In accordance with Louth County Council Standing Order No. 1, 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	Deadline Day
July 2025	Council 3rd Monday	21/07/2025	06/07/2025	Sunday
August 2025	-	-	-	-
September 2025	Council 3rd Monday	15/09/2025	31/08/2025	Sunday
October 2025	Council 3rd Monday	20/10/2025	05/10/2025	Sunday
November 2025	Council 3rd Monday	17/11/2025	02/11/2025	Sunday
December 2025	Council 3rd Monday	15/12/2025	30/11/2025	Sunday
<b>2026</b>				
January 2026	Council 3rd Monday	19/01/2026	04/01/2026	Sunday
February 2026	Council 3rd Monday	16/02/2026	01/02/2026	Sunday
March 2026	Council	16/03/2026	01/03/2026	Sunday
April 2026	Council	20/04/2026	05/04/2026	Sunday
May 2026	Council 3rd Monday	18/05/2026	03/05/2026	Sunday
June 2026	Annual Meeting	15/06/202		
June 2026	Council 3rd Monday	15/06/2025	31/05/2026	Sunday

Approval of the Schedule was:

**Proposed by:** Cllr John Sheridan  
**Seconded by:** Cllr Kevin Meenan

As there was no further business the 2025 Annual Meeting was concluded.

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

Date: 21st July '25

Cathaoirleach: 

Meeting Administrator: Sinead Doolan