



Comhairle Contae Lú  
Louth County Council

## **Cruinniú Bardasach Dhún Dealgan / Municipal District of Dundalk**

Minutes of Municipal District of Dundalk Meeting – Council Chamber, Town Hall, Dundalk -  
Tuesday, 10<sup>th</sup> February 2026 at 5:15 pm.

### **In attendance:**

**Cathaoirleach:** Councillor Robert Nash

**Members:** **Councillor(s)** Marianne Butler, Ciaran Fisher, Shane McGuinness, Fiona MhicConchoille, Kevin Meenan, Antóin Watters, Seán Kelly, Andrea McKeivitt, Maeve Yore, John Reilly, Sionainn McCann

### **Apologies:**

**Officials:** David Conway, Chief Executive  
Thomas McEvoy, Director of Services  
Sinéad Dooley, Meetings Administrator  
David Hanratty, Acting Director of Services  
Helen Divilly, Head of Information Systems  
Mark Johnston, Senior Engineer  
Colette Moss, Senior Executive Officer  
Bryan Coughlan, Senior Executive Officer  
Christine Mullen, A/Senior Executive Officer  
Patrick Callan, Senior Executive Engineer  
Gavin McLaughlin, Communications Officer  
Celine Kearney, Senior Staff Officer

### **Minute No. 08/26**

### **Minutes of Monthly Meeting held on Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup> January 2026**

Minutes adopted on the:

**Proposal of:** Cllr. Maeve Yore  
**Seconded by:** Cllr. Fiona Mhic Conchoille

**And approved.**

### **Minute No. 09/26**

### **Matters Arising**

None

## Minute No. 10/26

### Housing Progress Report

Members noted the report as circulated in advance of the meeting. Christine Mullen, Administrative Officer, responded to queries raised by Members. The following matters were noted:

- The Council is responsible for day-to-day maintenance of Long-Term Leasing properties and that landlords carry out structural maintenance within agreed timelines.
- Ms. Mullen will examine the request for advance notice of properties to be advertised under CBL.
- Age -friendly housing units at Knockshee will be advertised under CBL for applicants aged 55 and over and for rightsizing tenants.
- Ms. Mullen will issue a written response regarding responsibility for blocked drains located on private property.
- Funding for the 2026 Energy Efficiency Retrofit Programme is awaited. Ms. Mullen will seek an update and revert to the members.
- Ms. Mullen will revert with a detailed list of emergency accommodation options for individuals experiencing homelessness and addiction.

## Minute No. 11/26

### Roads and Local Services Report

Members noted the report as circulated in advance of the meeting. Patrick Callan, Senior Executive Engineer, responded to queries raised by Members. It was noted that:

- The bollards at Earl Street should be fixed by the end of February.
- QR codes on litter bins are currently non-functional and will be examined. Additional bin collections will be arranged for the Carlingford Half Marathon.
- In response to queries regarding pothole repairs and noting the impact of adverse weather conditions on carrying out works, Members were advised that the JCB Pro is presently operating in South Louth and a hot box machine was received in recent weeks rural areas.
- Consideration will be given to raising public awareness of Irish Public Bodies (IPB) and their role in managing pothole claims.
- The park and ride facility at Junction 16 is operating at capacity; a proposal to extend the facility is under consideration.
- The traffic lights opposite the Gateway Hotel relate to a new housing development. No complaints have been received to date. The traffic lights at Lis Na Dara are incorrectly oriented and will be adjusted.
- Traffic concerns at Major's Hollow involving school buses and parents parking at peak times will be reviewed. A speed survey will be undertaken at Jenkinstown. A broader traffic study for the Dundalk area will be carried out by the National Transport Authority.

### Issues after Storm Chandra

- Investigations will be undertaken regarding damage to the Greenway, damage to the pier at St. John's Castle, caused by an abandoned boat, and the structural safety of the bridge at the Flurry River, Ravensdale.
- Flooding issues at Coe's Road and White Mills, Faughart will be examined. A contractor will be engaged to address drainage issues at Aaran Court, Dowdallshill.
- An update will be provided on the position of Carlingford Harbour Master.
- The potential rollout of a public education initiative on Sustainable Drainage Systems (SuDS) will be explored jointly by the Infrastructure and Operations Sections.

- Options for the storage of sandbags in Carlingford Garda Station and other flood-prone areas, the procurement of tankers for water removal, and in-house gully-cleaning capacity will be considered.
- Clearance of the Blackwater River will continue, with a further assessment scheduled for April.
- Early deployment of advance signage to divert traffic in areas susceptible to flooding, such as the Castletown Road, will be examined.
- A/Director of Services, Mr Hanratty, advised that identified weaknesses in the Council's flood-management system will be addressed and that a full post-incident review will be undertaken.

#### **Minute No. 12/26**

##### **Placemaking Report**

Members noted the report as circulated in advance of the meeting. Mr. Bryan Coughlan, Senior Executive Officer, responded to queries raised by Members. The following matters were noted:

- Members raised concerns regarding vehicles parking on footpaths at Bridge Street and in the vicinity of St. Nicholas Church. Mr. Coughlan advised that enforcement of parking regulations is preferable to the installation of bollards and confirmed that the matter will be followed up.
- Members queried the potential installation of a yellow box at the Fairgreen Road junction to improve traffic flow. Mr. Coughlan confirmed that this proposal will be examined.

#### **Minute No. 13/26**

##### **Presentation on Cyber Security and Meta Compliance Training**

Ms. Helen Divilly, Head of Information Systems, delivered a presentation outlining cybersecurity threats and emphasising the importance of training and vigilance.

David Conway, Chief Executive reiterated the importance of cyber security and advised that it is the third highest risk on the Organisational Risk Register.

#### **Minute No. 14/26**

##### **Road Works Programme 2026**

Members considered the Road Works Programme 2026 as circulated in advance of the meeting. Mr. Mark Johnston, Senior Engineer responded to questions raised by the Members.

Following some discussion the Road Works Programme 2026 was:

**Proposed by:** Cllr. Maeve Yore  
**Seconded by:** Cllr. Andrea McKeivitt  
**And approved.**

#### **Minute No. 15/26**

##### **Tidy Towns Project Scheme**

Members considered the Tidy Towns Project Scheme 2026 as circulated in advance of the meeting.

In accordance with Section 66(1) and 9 of the Local Government Act 2001, the Schedule was:

**Proposed by:** Cllr. Maeve Yore  
**Seconded by:** Cllr. Marianne Butler  
**And approved.**

Members noted Ms. Colette Moss's upcoming retirement from the Local Authority and praised her dedication to public service over the past 42 years.

#### **Minute No. 16/26**

#### **Provision of Assistance for the promotion of interests of local community groups or projects, provided under Section 66 of the Local Government Act 2001**

Members considered the Community Grants as presented to them and approval was:

**Proposed by:** Cllr. Seán Kelly  
**Seconded by:** Cllr. Andrea McKeivitt  
**And approved.**

#### **Minute No. 17/26**

#### **Suspension of Standing Orders**

On the **Proposal of** Cllr. Seán Kelly and **Seconded by** Cllr. Maeve Yore, Standing Orders were suspended to complete the remaining items on the Agenda.

#### **Minute No. 18/26**

#### **Taking in Charge – Carlinn Hall Phase 2**

Members considered the taking in charge of Carlinn Hall Phase 2 and approval was granted on the:

**Proposal of:** Cllr. Seán Kelly  
**Seconded by:** Cllr. Maeve Yore  
**And approved.**

#### **Minute No. 19/26**

#### **Declaration of Roads to be Public – Old Quay Lane, Carlingford**

Members considered the declaration of Old Quay Lane, Carlingford to be a public road and approval was granted on the:

**Proposal of:** Cllr. Maeve Yore  
**Seconded by:** Cllr. Sionnain McCann  
**And Resolved.**

#### **Minute No. 20/26**

#### **Question: Cllr. Ciaran Fisher**

What was the uptake and cost of the Shopfront improvement grant last year?

#### **Reply from Thomas McEvoy, Economic Delivery**

The Shopfront Improvement Grant Scheme is an important scheme available to local retailers and business owners within the County. The purpose of this scheme is to foster good design practices which respect the character of streetscape in terms of detailing, materials and finishes. All changes to a shopfront are guided by the **Louth County Council Shopfront Design Guidelines**.

The 2025 scheme was open for applications from the 7<sup>th</sup> April until the 26<sup>th</sup> September, 60 applications were received with the following breakdown:

No. of Applications	Status	Amounts issued/approved
14	Completed	€17,153.59
16	Approved/letter of offer – works to be completed	€22,424.56
18	Pending – Further information requested	Amount to be determined at approval stage
7	Refused/Ineligible	N/A
5	Planning permission required prior to processing	N/A
Total: 60		

**Minute No. 21/26**

**Condolences**

Condolences were offered to the family and friends of:

- Stephen Woods, Belfry Avenue, Dundalk

As there was no other business, the meeting concluded.

**The Minutes were confirmed on:**

**Date:**

10/3/2026

**Cathaoirleach:**

[Signature]

**Meeting Administrator:**

Sinead Dooley