



Comhairle Contae Lú
Louth County Council

LOUTH COUNTY COUNCIL - CORPORATE POLICY GROUP

Minutes of the Corporate Policy Group Meeting held in the Setanta Room, County Hall Dundalk on
Wednesday, 3rd January 2024 at 09:00am

In attendance:

Cathaoirleach, Cllr: Paula Butterly

Members, Cllrs: Joanna Byrne (Remote)
John Reilly
Pio Smith (Remote)

Apologies, Cllrs: Seán Kelly
Liam Reilly

Officials: Joan Martin Chief Executive
Joe McGuinness, Director of Services
Ger Murphy, Director of Services
David Jones, Director of Services
Bernie Woods, Director of Services
Eamon Woulfe, A/Director of Services
Yvonne O'Brien, Director of Services
Gráinne Tuomey, Meetings Administrator

1. Minutes of the Meeting held on 6th December 2023

Approval of the minutes of the meeting of 6th December 2023 was:

Proposed by: Cllr John Reilly
Seconded by: Cllr Paula Butterly
And agreed.

2. Matters Arising

No matters were raised.

3. Council Meeting Agenda

Members were given a briefing on all items in the Council Agenda including (but not exclusive to):

- S141 responsibilities – Members were reminded that the S141 report to council is an annual report on the activities of a body to which they are appointed and not the minutes of the latest meeting. It is also to give other members the opportunity to raise any item they wish to be brought back to the body in question.
- The Annual Service Delivery Plan is hoped to be completed in time for the agenda release and will be for the adoption of Members only.

- Notices of Motion as submitted were discussed. The Executive advised that they did not consider a motion on twinning appropriate as the resolution of Members to twin is typically the end phase of a process of mutual communication between two town areas who consider what shared interests exist. There is also a set process for twinning under legislation, and a requirement for a budget to be set out. A further Notice of Motion on Greenways sparked a discussion on how Blueway/Greenway routes were planned, methods of funding and where match funding was required for same in some instances.

4. Local Representational Allowance 2024

Members were advised of a Departmental letter which set out that the Local Representational Allowance can only be allocated on a pro-rata basis to the local election, and Members cannot overclaim.

Separately a reminder was issued that the May Council Meeting would be the last opportunity to claim discretionary funding prior to the June Meeting.

5. Members Communication Plan

Reviews of open Sugar cases at Management Team is ongoing. Calls logged to the out of hours service during the Christmas break are being added to the system currently.

It is hoped that once all staff have been migrated on to the Microsoft 365 system by the end of Q1, 2024, a new call management system can be explored and tested. Realistically it is likely that this will not be in place before the June election.

6. SPC Annual Work Programmes 2023

Members were reminded that SPC Annual Work Programmes should be brought to CPG before Council. A plan was expected to be given in early January for the 2024 period up to Local Elections.

7. Any other business

Recent media reports on an FOI request, an overview of what is involved in a Local Area Plan and flooding access and consequences to rivers and byways were discussed.

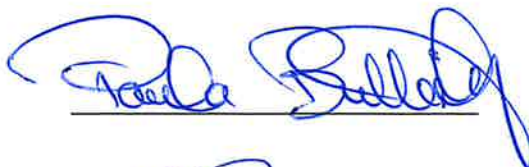
As there was no other business the meeting concluded.

The Minutes were confirmed at a meeting of the Corporate Policy Group held on:

Date:

7 Feb 2024

Cathaoirleach:



Meetings Administrator:

