

Minutes of the Planning and Support Infrastructure Strategic Policy Committee Meeting to discuss correspondence from Minister for Local Government and Planning on capacity and availability of Residential lands in Co Louth Via Microsoft Teams on Tuesday 26th May 2026 at 4pm

In Attendance

Cllr Rachel Kerley	Louth County Council-Chairperson
Cllr Ciaran Fisher	Louth County Council
Cllr Antoin Watters	Louth County Council
Cllr Ejiro O’Hare Stratton	Louth County Council
Vincent Matthews	Development and Construction Interest
Anthony McArdle	Community & Voluntary Pillar

Officials

Thomas McEvoy	Director of Service
Turlough King	Senior Executive Planner
Frances Hodgers	Staff Officer

Apologies

Cllr Bernie Conlon	Louth County Council
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Cllr Kerley opened the meeting

1. Minutes of Meetings dated 3rd March 2026 & 11th March 2026

3rd March 2026- Proposed: Cllr Kerley. Seconded: Cllr Watters . Adopted

11th March 2026- Proposed: Cllr Watters. Seconded Cllr Kerley. Adopted

2. Update on proposed Variation and non-statutory consultation ‘Call for Sites’

Turlough King gave presentation on the proposed Variation. 98 submissions have been received within the timeframe and evaluated. Lands will be incorporated into consideration for the proposed Variation/County Development Plan. The proposed variation will be put on Public display 26th June with submissions due 24th July, report due 24st August, 6 weeks for Members to consider (2nd Oct), if material alteration will take 16 weeks or more.

3. Update on Development Plan Review

Whilst work is continuing on the preparation of the Draft Development Plan the priority is the preparation of the Variation. Reference was made to the Planning

Bill currently being prepared which may result in the life of the current Development Plan being extended. Following question from Cllr Watters asking if CDP now on the back burner, Turlough King advised that the timeframe is still the same. Thomas McEvoy advised that the Planning Bill is in Draft, expected publication date June 2026. The draft bill will allow extension of current CDP to end 2029/early 2030.

4. Discussion on potential amendments to Shopfront Guidelines

Cllr Kerley advised that the SPC needs to move on shopfront guidelines. Members to put forward suggestions & forward before the next SPC meeting. Neon & inappropriate signage & types of shop was mentioned. Thomas McEvoy advised that the law needs to change before Local Authorities can deal with these issues.
Copy of current shopfront guidelines to be circulated to SPC members.

Meeting closed

The minutes were confirmed on _____

Date:

Chairperson:

Rachel Kerley

Meeting Administrator:

Shirley Hoggan