



Comhairle Contae Lú  
Louth County Council

### **Cruinniú Speisialta Chomhairle Contae Lú Louth County Council Special Meeting**

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Minutes of the Special Meeting of Louth County Council hosted in the Council Chamber of Co. Hall, Dundalk on Tuesday 29<sup>th</sup> September 2026 at 6.30pm

#### **In Attendance:**

Presiding: Councillor Dolores Minogue – Cathaoirleach

Members: Councillors: Marianne Butler, Kevin Callan, Emma Coffey, Bernie Conlon (online), Eric Donovan (online), Michelle Hall, Seán Kelly (online) Rachel Kerley (online), Pearse McGeough, Shane McGuinness, Paddy McQuillan, Kevin Meenan, Robert Nash, Ejiro O'Hare Stratton (online), Declan Power (online), John Reilly, Pío Smith (online), Maeve Yore.

Apologies: Councillors: James Byrne, Ciarán Fisher, Anne-Marie Ford, Sionainn McCann, Debbie McCole, Andrea McKevitt, Fiona MhicConchoille, John Sheridan, Jim Tenanty, Antóin Watters.

Officials: David Conway, Chief Executive  
Bernadette Woods, Director of Finance  
Thomas McEvoy, Director of Services  
David Jones, Director of Services  
Ger Murphy, Director of Services  
Joanna Kelly, A/Director of Services  
Sinéad Dooley, Meetings Administrator  
Brian Lynch, Financial Accountant  
Anne D Callan, Administrative Officer  
Gavin McLoughlin, Communications Officer

#### **Minute No. 207/26**

#### **To agree a variation to the basic rate of Local Property Tax 2027 – Local Adjustment Factor**

Consideration of the Local Property Tax (LPT) Local Adjustment Factor for 2027 had been deferred from the Ordinary Meeting of Council held on 21<sup>st</sup> September 2026. It was noted that a presentation on the Local Adjustment Factor and its financial implications had been provided at that meeting.

Members were advised that the determination of the Local Property Tax rate was a reserved function of the Council and noted the financial implications associated with varying the rate.

A number of members spoke in support of retaining the current rate, citing ongoing cost-of-living pressures faced by households, including increases in energy, transport and general living costs.

Members also expressed the view that local government should be adequately funded by central government and that the current economic climate was not an appropriate time to increase the charge on property owners. It was further noted that, while the financial benefits of an increase had been outlined, Members were satisfied that retaining the existing rate was the appropriate course of action for 2027.

A motion of '**No Amendment**' to the current LPT rate was:

**Proposed by:** Cllr. Marianne Butler

**Seconded by:** Cllr. Maeve Yore

The result of the roll call vote was as follows:

| Councillor             | For | Against | Abstain | Absent |
|------------------------|-----|---------|---------|--------|
| BUTLER, Marianne       | 1   |         |         |        |
| BYRNE, James           |     |         |         | 1      |
| CALLAN, Kevin          | 1   |         |         |        |
| COFFEY, Emma           | 1   |         |         |        |
| CONLON, Bernie         | 1   |         |         |        |
| DONOVAN, Eric          | 1   |         |         |        |
| FISHER, Ciarán         |     |         |         | 1      |
| FORD, Anne-Marie       |     |         |         | 1      |
| HALL, Michelle         | 1   |         |         |        |
| KELLY, Sean            | 1   |         |         |        |
| KERLEY, Rachel         | 1   |         |         |        |
| MCCANN, Sionainn       |     |         |         | 1      |
| MCCOLE, Debbie         |     |         |         | 1      |
| MCGEOUGH, Pearse       | 1   |         |         |        |
| MCGUINNESS, Shane      | 1   |         |         |        |
| MCKEVITT, Andrea       |     |         |         | 1      |
| MCQUILLAN, Paddy       | 1   |         |         |        |
| MHIC CONCHOILLE, Fiona |     |         |         | 1      |
| MEENAN, Kevin          | 1   |         |         |        |
| MINOGUE, Dolores       | 1   |         |         |        |
| NASH, Robert           | 1   |         |         |        |
| O'HARE STRATTON, Ejiro | 1   |         |         |        |
| POWER, Declan          | 1   |         |         |        |
| REILLY, John           | 1   |         |         |        |
| SHERIDAN, John         |     |         |         | 1      |
| SMITH, Pío             | 1   |         |         |        |

|                 |           |          |          |           |
|-----------------|-----------|----------|----------|-----------|
| TENANTY, Jim    |           |          |          | 1         |
| WATTERS, Antoin |           |          |          | 1         |
| YORE, Maeve     | 1         |          |          |           |
| <b>Totals</b>   | <b>19</b> | <b>-</b> | <b>-</b> | <b>10</b> |

**And Resolved.**

There being no further business, the meeting concluded.

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

Date: 19<sup>th</sup> Oct '26

Cathaoirleach: Dalios Minge

Meeting Administrator: Sinead Dooley