



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, 13th March 2024 at 09:00am

In attendance:

Cathaoirleach, Cllr: Paula Butterly

Members, Cllrs: Joanna Byrne
Seán Kelly
Pio Smith
John Reilly

Apologies, Cllrs: 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
Thomas McEvoy, Director of Services
Yvonne O'Brien, Director of Services
Gráinne Tuomey, Meetings Administrator

1. Minutes of the Meeting held on 7th February 2024

Approval of the minutes of the meeting of 7th February 2024 was:

Proposed by: Cllr Joanna Byrne
Seconded by: Cllr Pio Smith
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):

- LA Home Loan Drawdown to enable home loans to issue which will require approval from Council
- The AFS and the Local Government Auditor's report on same, and the statutory S60 Reports of the Audit Committee on the Local Government Auditor's report on the AFS – it was noted that the Auditors report on the AFS was very positive in terms of progress
- The Peace Plus Action Plan for noting only as it was approved by the LCDC in February. Peace Plus is a sub committee of LCDC and the action plan budgets for a €4.6m spend but which places

a responsibility that it must affect or encompass actions with 4,600 individuals. The plan allows for two capital projects and a myriad of minor programmes and involved a massive public consultation process of codesign

- The JPC Annual Report 2023 which is before Members for consideration
- The LCDC Annual Report 2023 before Members for noting
- Arts Grant Funding Awards for 2024 before Members for noting. Consideration of grant funding gave greater consideration towards new applicants with 2/3 funding going to new artists
- Ratification of Nomination for DBEC – Members were advised that the Ardee MD had persuaded Cllr Conlon who had submitted her resignation remain on the committee and a proposer and seconder had been recorded, it was therefore before Council for ratification
- Approval to bring Conferences as set out before CPG was Proposed by Cllr Pio Smith, Seconded by Cllr Joanna Byrne and agreed
- Approval to bring Grants as set out before CPG was Proposed by Cllr Seán Kelly, Seconded by Cllr Pio Smith and agreed
- S141 responsibilities – Members were again 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**
- The CE Report will not report on Water and no questions will be responded to as the effective date of Uisce Eireann taking over was the 31st January 2024
- A S183 land disposal is before Members for approval, with David Jones Director of Services advising that lands were valued at €250,000 but it will effectively allow a land swap with another parcel and is tidying up tracts along the PANCR route
- Various Notices of Motion are before Members and each was looked at by the CPG along with the executive response
- Notices of Question were also looked at with the reminder that these are for noting only with no discussion

4. **Members Communication Plan**

A duplication of reps where members of public send the same issue to numerous Councillors would be difficult to counteract or to respond to on for all.

A request to staff 'bcc' Councillors@louthcoco.ie on emails rather than put in main address line was brought to Members, this was in order to reduce the temptation to 'reply all'. A brief discussion took place and it was thought all Members have the capacity to send to other Members as a group and bccing was generally not regarded as desirable by the CPG.

5. **SPC Annual Work Programmes 2024**

Members were reminded that SPC Annual Work Programmes should be brought to CPG before Council.

6. **Any other business**

A proposed Civic Reception by Dundalk Members was confirmed for after the April Plenary Council Meeting.

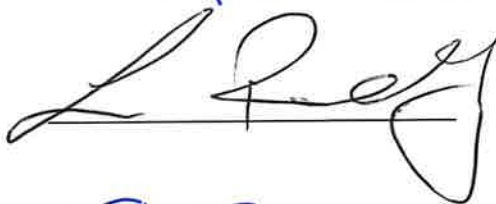
As there was no other business the meeting concluded.

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

Date:

3 April 2024

Cathaoirleach:



Meetings Administrator:

Aisling Nomeny