

**PHYSICAL DEVELOPMENT
STRATEGIC POLICY COMMITTEE**

Minutes of Physical Development Strategic Policy Committee Meeting

Meeting location: Council Chamber & Microsoft Teams

Date: Tuesday, 21 October 2025

Time: 11.30am

PRESIDING: Councillor Turlough McGovern

PRESENT: Councillor Peggy Nolan, Councillor Uruemu Adejinmi, Councillor Seamus Butler and James Kiernan

IN ATTENDANCE: Ms. Barbara Heslin – Director of Services
Ms. Martha Kelly, Administrative Officer
Ms. Grainne Harte, Senior Executive Officer
Mr. Con Diffley, Senior Executive Engineer
Ms. Claire Reehill, Administrative Officer
Ms. Louise Kiernan, Senior Planner
Mr. David Tubridy, Senior Executive Engineer
Ms. Louise Connaughton, Clerical Officer

APOLOGIES: Councillor Martin Skelly
Mr. Emmet Duffy
Ms. Breda Murphy
Ms. Joanna Pearman
Mr. Brendan Farrell

MEETINGS

ADMINISTRATOR: Mr. Lorraine McKee

1. INTRODUCTION

Chairperson Councillor Turlough McGovern welcomed the members to the Physical Development Strategic Policy Committee meeting.

2. DECLARATION OF INTERESTS

No declaration of interests declared.

3. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON 21 JULY 2025

On the proposal of Councillor Peggy Nolan seconded by Councillor Uruemu Adejinmi, the minutes of the Physical Development Strategic Policy Committee on the 21 July 2025 were adopted.

4. DRAFT CASUAL TRADING BYE LAWS

Martha Kelly, Administrative Officer made a detailed presentation updating members on the draft casual trading bye laws and answered questions raised by the Elected Members. The presentation included the following:-

- Legislative background
- Why new bye-laws
- Designated trading areas
- Licencing requirements
- Types of licences
- Proposed trading areas
- Proposed licence fees
- Enforcement and penalties
- Next steps

It was noted that a presentation was made to the three Municipal Districts as part of the drafting process.

On the proposal of Councillor Peggy Nolan seconded by Councillor Uruemu Adejinmi, it was agreed the draft casual trading bye laws would go to public consultation and it will be placed on the agenda for the November meeting of Longford County Council to alert all Councillors of the consultation.

5. SUPPLEMENTARY DEVELOPMENT CONTRIBUTION SCHEME – LONGFORD'S DEVELOPMENT CONTRIBUTION SCHEME 2023-2027

The members considered the proposals regarding changes to the current Development Contribution Scheme. The Strategic Policy Committee considered and approved the changes to the Council's Development Contribution Scheme 2023 – 2027. This will facilitate the development of a Supplementary Development Contribution Scheme.

The proposed changes include:

- Under Special Development Contribution Scheme include – *For clarification purposes, exemptions and reductions shall not apply to Special Development Contributions.*

- Under Supplementary Development Contribution Scheme remove – *It is not proposed to draft a Supplementary Contribution Scheme at this stage.*
- Changing *An Bord Pleanála* to *An Coimisiún Pleanála*

On the proposal of Councillor Uruemu Adejinmi seconded by Councillor Peggy Nolan it was agreed to forward the proposed changes to the Development Contribution Scheme to the November CPG for consideration and approval in advance of consideration and adoption by the full Council in November.

It was noted that the development of a a Supplementary Development Contribution Scheme will require a holistic and strategic approach with a focus on the delivery of strategic infrastructure to deliver economic, social and community development. The initial scheme will be for Longford Town and the delivery of the strategically important Abbeycartron sustainable transport proposal.

The SPC also recommended that a review of the current Development Contribution Scheme be undertaken in 2026. The development of the new scheme will commence in parallel with Capital Budget 2026 – 2028 and reflect capital budget once adopted by the Council.

6. COUNTY DEVELOPMENT PLAN AND THE NATIONAL PLANNING FRAMEWORK IMPLEMENTATION – HOUSING GROWTH REQUIREMENTS

Senior Planner Louise Kiernan made a presentation on the County Development Plan (CDP) and the National Planning Framework Implementation and answered questions raised by the members. The presentation highlighted the following:

- Ministerial Guidance
- NPF Implementation: Housing Growth Requirements
- Other Considerations: Links of CDP with NPF/RSES
- Higher Level Document Revisions – Impact on preparation of the new CDP
- Preparation of New County Development Plan
- Variation Process

Director of Services, Barbara Heslin responded to questions raised by the Elected Members.

The members thanked the team in Forward Planning for their work in carrying out the review. It was noted that the CPG will be provided with a briefing in November. The full Council will have an opportunity to consider the conclusions and recommendation from the Chief Executive at their meeting in December.

7. COUNTY LONGFORD PHASE 2 ROAD SAFETY ACTION PLAN 2025-2027

Administrative Officer Claire Reehill made a detailed presentation outlining County Longford’s Phase 2 Road Safety Action Plan 2025-2027 and responded to questions raised by the Elected Members.

The presentation highlighted the following:

- Ireland’s Government Road Safety Strategy 2021-2030

- Phase 2 Longford County Council Action Plan 2025-2027
- Phase Structure and Safe System Approach
- Seven Safe System Intervention Areas
- Phase 1 VS Phase 2: What's Different?
- Key Achievements: Phase 1 2021-2024
- Action Plan 2025-2027
- Key Primary Action Highlights
- Critical Success Factors Required
- Monitoring and Reporting
- Road Safety Team 2025 Events
- Longford County Council in collaboration with Local GAA Club's and An Garda Síochána Road Safety Promotion

The members considered the County Longford Phase 2 Road Safety Action Plan 2025 – 2027. They reflected on the achievements achieved to date and the ambition to improve road safety in the county.

On the proposal of Councillor Peggy Nolan seconded by Councillor Turlough McGovern it was agreed to bring the County Longford Phase 2 Road Safety Plan 2025-2027 to the November CPG for consideration and approval in advance of consideration and adoption by the full Council in November.

8. PHASE 2 REVIEW OF TRAFFIC CALMING POLICY/PRESENTATION

Senior Executive Engineer Con Diffley made a presentation regarding Longford's Traffic Calming Policy and answered questions raised by the members.

The presentation highlighted the following:

- Background and context
- Policy Objectives and Aims
- Longford County Council Traffic Calming Policy Statement
- Public Consultation
- Prioritising of Traffic Calming Schemes
- Guidance on Traffic Calming
- Typical Traffic Calming Measures
- Examples of Locations where Raised Tables/Platform may be appropriate.
- Examples of Locations where ramps speed cushions may be appropriate
- Consultation

The members considered the Council's Traffic Calming Policy. It was noted that a presentation was previously made to the SPC as part of the review process and feedback from the SPC members is reflected in the updated policy. The draft was also circulated externally for comments.

On the proposal of Councillor Peggy Nolan seconded by Councillor Turlough McGovern it was agreed to bring the Traffic Calming Policy for consideration and approval by the CPG at their November meeting in advance of consideration and adoption by the full Council in November.

9. REVIEW OF WORK PROGRAMME

Director of Services, Barbara Heslin provided an update to the members on the work that has been carried out by the SPC to date. She thanked all the teams in her Directorate for their work in developing policies for consideration by the SPC members and on all the presentations provided to the members.

Barbara made a call to the members to forward any additional items and presentations for the work plans to the Meetings Administrator, Lorraine McKee.

10. DATES FOR 2026 MEETINGS

DATE	TIME
16 February	11.30am
27 April	11.30am
20 July	11.30am
19 October	11.30am

11. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The proposed date for the next meeting of the Physical Development Strategic Policy Committee is Monday, 16 February 2026 to which the members unanimously agreed.

This concluded the business of the meeting.

Confirmed and adopted at Physical Development Strategic Policy Committee Meeting held on the 16 February 2026.