

**Minutes of Meeting of Longford County Council  
held in the Council Chamber and via Microsoft Teams on  
Friday, 5 December 2025 at 4pm**

**PRESIDING:** Councillor Garry Murtagh

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Councillors Paul Ross, Niall Gannon, Peggy Nolan, Gerry Hagan, Padraig McNamara, Martin Skelly, Colin Dalton, Seamus Butler, Uruemu Adejinmi, Mick Cahill, Pat O'Toole, Sean Mimnagh, Martin Monaghan, David Cassidy, Turlough McGovern, Mark Casey, Kevin Hussey

**IN ATTENDANCE:** Mr. Paddy Mahon, Chief Executive  
Ms. Barbara Heslin, Director of Services  
Mr. Michael Nevin, A/Director of Services  
Mr. John Brannigan, Director of Services  
Mr. John McKeon, Director of Finance  
Ms. Samantha Healy, Director of Services  
Ms. Louise Kiernan, Senior Planner  
Mr. Micheal Beirne, Graduate Planner

**APOLOGIES:** None

**MEETINGS**

**ADMINISTRATOR:** Ms. Lorraine McKee

**1. ADOPTION OF MINUTES**

- (i) On the proposal of Councillor Peggy Nolan seconded by Councillor Seamus Butler the minutes of the monthly meeting of Longford County Council held on 12 November 2025, as circulated, were confirmed, and adopted.
- (ii) On the proposal of Councillor Paul Ross seconded by Councillor Peggy Nolan the minutes of the Local Authority Budget Committee Meeting of Longford

County Council held on 17 November 2025, as circulated, were confirmed, and adopted.

(iii) On the proposal of Councillor Seamus Butler seconded by Councillor Paul Ross the minutes of the Statutory Local Authority Budget Meeting of Longford County Council held on 24 November 2025, as circulated, were confirmed and adopted.

**2. MATTERS ARISING FROM MINUTES**

None

**3. DECLARATION OF INTEREST BY MEMBERS**

None

**4. MANAGEMENT REPORT**

The members noted the Management report.

Councillor Peggy Nolan requested that the Information Technology team in the Council attend a meeting in the new year to give a presentation to the members on STEM and STEM projects.

**5. TO NOTE ADOPTED MINUTES OF CORPORATE POLICY GROUP MEETING HELD ON 8 OCTOBER 2025**

Noted

**6. ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT**

**(i) CE REPORT ON IMPLEMENTATION OF THE CORPORATE PLAN**

Chief Executive Paddy Mahon outline the progress to date on the Corporate Plan.

The key points included the following:

- Restructure of Directorates
- First Affordable Housing Scheme
- €7 Thrive funding for Connolly Barracks
- Successfully achieved accreditation to ISO 45001:2018
- Approval of record Revenue expenditure for 2026 - €80m
- Revenue and Capital Expenditure at record levels €177m
- Small rate payer support scheme benefiting 81% of County Longford rate payer
- General MD allocations increased by 30k for 2026
- €49m committed to ongoing Regeneration projects
- Longford Strategy currently provides the potential for further €80m plus investment in Co Longford

- Response to Storm Éowyn
- Delivery of the Strategic Business Plan
- Pride of Place Co:worx
- Albert Reynolds collection
- Memorial bench at Corn Hill dedicated to late Longford legend Mike Prunty
- Winner of the Health & Safety Excellence Award 2025 – Public Sector
- STEM Success
- Health and Wellbeing programmes
- Civic Reception
- Microsoft Dreamsphere
- Pathfinder project
- Longford Lights Festival
- Ministerial visits

The Elected Members commended the work being carried out across the various Council departments. They also welcomed the expansion of Technimark in Longford, as well as the Thrive funding allocated for the regeneration of Connolly Barracks.

The Executive provided responses to the queries raised by the Elected Members.

**(ii) TO NOTE THE MINUTES OF THE ECONOMIC, ENTERPRISE & RURAL DEVELOPMENT SPC MEETING HELD ON 22 JULY 2025**  
Noted.

## **7. PHYSICAL DEVELOPMENT**

**(i) TO NOTE PLANNING APPLICATIONS RECEIVED**  
Noted.

**(ii) CE REPORT NPF IMPLEMENTATION: HOUSING GROWTH REQUIREMENTS**

Senior Planner, Louise Kiernan outlined to the Members NPF Implementation: Housing Growth Requirements Guidelines which highlighted the following:-

- NPF Ministerial Guidance Requirements – Guidelines Housing targets for Longford 2025-2034:  
428 per annum – sufficient zoned lands should be available.  
Consider additional provision of up to 50% over and above the housing growth requirement.
- Existing Development Plan – Review Housing Supply Targets (HST)  
Annualised target (428 units per annum).  
No uplift in existing HST required from the guidelines target.
- HST Progress on New Residential Lands to Date (2021 – 2025)
- New Residential Zoned Lands
- Strategic Residential Reserve' Lands
- Other Considerations

- Conclusion and Recommendation – As per the existing County Longford Development Plan 2021-2027, the existing core strategy is considered in compliance with the ‘NPF Implementation: Housing Growth Requirements’ for the remaining timespan of the Plan (2 Years) and therefore no change or variation is recommended.

The Elected Members commended the work carried out by Louise and her team in the Planning Department. Louise provided responses to the queries raised by the Elected Members.

The Elected Members considered the report and approved the recommendation of the Chief Executive. The report will now be submitted to the Minister and the OPR.

**(iii) TO NOTE THE MINUTES OF THE PHYSICAL DEVELOPMENT SPC MEETING HELD ON 21 JULY 2025**

Noted.

**8. FINANCE, INNOVATION AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY**

**(i) TO NOTE THE MINUTES OF THE GOVERNANCE SPC MEETING HELD ON 28 MAY 2025**

Noted.

**(ii) REVIEW OF NOAC PERFORMANCE INDICATORS 2024**

Director of Finance, John McKeon gave a detailed presentation on Longford County Councils Performance Indicators 2024. The statutory functions assigned to NOAC include the scrutiny of the performance of Local Government bodies against, or in comparison with relevant indicators. There are 46 separate indicators covering 11 areas that NOAC considers appropriate to review. These areas include:

- Housing
- Roads
- Water
- Waste/Environment
- Planning
- Fire Services
- Library/Recreation
- Youth/Community
- Corporate
- Finance
- Economic Development

The significant improvements for Longford include, Housing Vacancy Rates, Litter Pollution Control, Housing Loans Collection Rates, Decrease in Homeless Figures, % of Working Days lost to sickness.

Councillor Paul Ross requested a letter to be written to the TII inviting them to a meeting to discuss budgets and projects.

## **9. SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT**

### **(i) TO NOTE THE MINUTES OF THE SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT SPC MEETING HELD ON 21 JULY 2025**

Noted.

## **10. GENERAL**

### **(i) NOTICE OF MOTIONS**

**The following Notice of Motion was proposed by Councillor Mark Casey seconded by Councillor Turlough McGovern**

I call on Longford County Council to send a letter to all the Irish MEP's and TD's asking them to vote against the Mercosur Trade Deal. This deal has the potential to decimate the Irish Beef industry through cheap and inferior imports from South American countries. The commitment to not support this deal was given in last year's Dail Election and the European Elections.

**Response:**

Longford County Council will write to all Irish MEP's and TD's with regards to this Notice of Motion.

## **11. CORRESPONDENCE**

### **(I) Correspondence re EU Single Common Fund from Clare County Council**

Noted

### **(II) Correspondence from Kerry County Council Minister for Public Expenditure regarding Inheritance Tax**

Noted

### **(III) Correspondence from Kerry County Council Minister for Finance re Inheritance Tax**

Noted

### **(IV) Correspondence from Leitrim County Council Minister of Education Alternative pathway for students following completion of the Junior Cycle**

Noted

### **(V) Correspondence from Kerry County Council Minister for Equality regarding Inheritance Tax**

Noted

### **(VI) Correspondence from Dun Laoighre Rathdown regarding letter to Central Bank of Ireland to end any future complicity in the sale of Israeli was bonds.**

Noted

## **12. TRAINING FOR APPROVAL**

Noted.

## **13. VOTES OF SYMPATHY**

Votes of sympathy were extended to the Carrigy family on the passing of Shane and Michael. May they rest in peace.

## **14. DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING**

The next meeting of Longford County Council will take place on Wednesday, 14 January 2026 at 4pm in the Council Chamber.

Signed: Lorraine McKee

**Lorraine McKee**  
Meetings Administrator

Confirmed and adopted at Meeting of Longford County Council held on 14 January 2026.

Signed: J. O'Boyle

**Cathaoirleach**