

MINUTES OF SPECIAL MEETING OF CORK CITY COUNCIL
HELD ON MONDAY 07TH APRIL 2025

PRESENT	Ardmhéara Comhairleoir D. Boyle.
NORTH EAST	Comhairleoirí J. Maher, J. Kavanagh, M. McDonnell, T. Tynan, O. Moran, N. O'Flynn.
NORTH WEST	Comhairleoirí T. Fitzgerald, D. Boylan, J. Sheehan, M. Gould, K. Collins, B. McCarthy.
SOUTH EAST	Comhairleoirí T. Shannon, K. McCarthy, M.R. Desmond, D. Cahill, H. Kamegni, P. Horgan.
SOUTH CENTRAL	Comhairleoirí S. O'Callaghan, F. Kerins, P. Dineen, N. O'Connor.
SOUTH WEST	Comhairleoirí J. Lynch, T. Coleman, G. O'Brien, C. O'Connor, F. Dennehy.
ALSO PRESENT	Mr. V. O'Sullivan, Chief Executive. Mr. P. Moynihan, Director of Services, Local Area Development and Operations. Mr. D. Joyce, Director of Services, Emergency Management and Climate Action. Ms. R. Loughry, Director of Services, Corporate & Community Affairs. Mr. J. Dempsey, Local Authority Engagement Director, Uisce Eireann. Ms. M. Attridge, Head of Water Operations, Uisce Eireann. Mr. B. O'Leary, Regional Operations Manager (Water), Uisce Eireann. Mr. J. Goulding, Water Networks Operations Manager, Uisce Eireann. Mr. J. Fitzgerald, Asset Operations Lead, Uisce Eireann. Mr. R. Dillon, National DBO Manager (Asset Operations), Uisce Eireann. Mr. B. Flannery, Asset Planning Lead Engineer, Uisce Eireann. Mr. V. Angland, Commercial Senior Manager Infrastructure Delivery, Uisce Eireann. Ms. E. Morey, Regional Communications Manager, Uisce Eireann. Ms. F. White, Head of Local Authority Engagement, Uisce Eireann. Ms. N. Stewart, Meetings Administrator. Ms. R. Lynch, Administrative Officer, Corporate & Community Affairs.

An tArdmhéara outlined the purpose and format of the meeting and sought the approval of Council to suspend standing orders in order to proceed directly to the single item on the agenda.

1. **WATER QUALITY IN CORK**

John Dempsey and Margaret Attridge from Uisce Éireann provided a presentation on their water services in Cork

They confirmed that a written response would be issued the following day to all questions from Councillors received in writing.

Additionally, they committed to following up with written responses to all verbal questions asked during the meeting.

Below is the list of questions submitted to Irish Water by Council in advance of the Special meeting. Further questions were raised at the meeting:

Councillor Peter Horgan –

1. The problem with the pumping station at the Atlantic Pond and the recent incident along with the Costs that were incurred for same along with the plans to rectify and ensure it doesn't happen again.
2. The status of all Pumping stations, regardless of size, in the city limits and the cost for maintaining them in tabular form.
3. The status of wastewater capacity in each of the main conurbations of the South East Ward - Blackrock, Mahon, Ballinlough, Douglas, Rochestown, Maryborough, Donnybrook and Scairt.

Councillor Shane O'Callaghan –

1. Cork City Council first wrote to Uisce Éireann on 16th May 2024 requesting that the CEO Niall Gleeson come before a meeting of Cork City Council to answer questions about the persistent problems of water discolouration and water outages without sufficient notice in large areas of Cork. There have been a number of further requests by Cork City Council asking for his attendance since then. Why has it taken almost 11 months for the senior management of Uisce Éireann to finally agree to attend a meeting of Cork City Council?
2. Why have the senior management of Uisce Éireann only agreed to attend a meeting of Cork City Council on 7th April 2025 on condition that the meeting be held behind closed doors and not be open to either the press or the general public?
3. Please give a detailed account of Uisce Éireann's policy of making payments to members of the public who made complaints which are not resolved within a certain period.

Councillor Noel O'Flynn –

1. What is the average repair time for restoring low water pressure caused by a Breakage in the pipe network.
2. How many water repair staff do they employ across the city to carry out emergency work.

Councillor Michelle Gould –

1. An update on UE's ability to provide water and wastewater infrastructure to new housing developments in Cork
2. Will UE be able to deliver the infrastructure on time so that housing targets in Cork will be met and exceeded
3. A commitment to road and footpath repair and reinstatement fully completed
4. Ann update and full report on the cleaning and management of drains and sewers in Cork City outlining who is (a) responsible to carry out this work and in what areas and (b) who will be funding this work going forward and the projected costs to be incurred by UE and/or Cork City Council
5. Will UE give a commitment to provide bottled water or alternative water supply to areas affected during works or by dirty, unclean water in general.
6. When manganese levels are over the recommended daily intake amount, will UE issue a do not consume notice in the areas affected.
7. Why were previous meetings cancelled and why is this meeting held in committee and not in public.

This concluded the business of the meeting

ARDMHÉARA
CATHAOIRLEACH