

MINUTES OF ORDINARY MEETING OF CORK CITY COUNCIL
HELD ON MONDAY 11th MAY 2026

PRESENT	Ardmhéara Comhairleoir F. Dennehy.
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, S. Martin, F. Kerins, D. Boyle, N. O'Connor.
SOUTH WEST	Comhairleoirí C. Kelleher, J. Lynch, A. Deasy, T. Coleman, G. O'Brien, C. O'Connor.
ALSO PRESENT	Ms. V. O'Sullivan, Chief Executive. Mr. B. Geaney, Assistant Chief Executive. Mr. R. Loughry, Director of Services, Corporate, Community & Cultural Affairs. Mr. N. Ó Donnabháin, Director of Services, Planning & Integrated Development. Mr. G. O'Beirne, Director of Services, Infrastructure Development. Mr. D. Joyce, Director of Services, Emergency Management and Climate Action. Mr. J. Stapleton, Director of Services, Local Area Development & Operations. Mr. C. Ó Súilleabháin, Director of Services, City Centre Development & Operations. Mr. J. Hallahan, Head of Finance. Ms. N. Stewart, Meetings Administrator. Ms. R. Lynch, Administrative Officer, Corporate, Community & Cultural Affairs. Ms. V. Keating, Staff Officer, Corporate, Community & Cultural Affairs.

An tArdmhéara recited the opening prayer.

1. VOTES OF SYMPATHY

- The Meade family on the death of Kevin Meade.
- The Fitzpatrick family on the death of Cathy Fitzpatrick.
- The Murphy family on the death of Don Murphy.
- The Buckley family on the death of Denis Buckley.
- The Scannell family on the death of May Scannell.

- The Hurley family on the death of Damian Hurley.
- The McSweeney family on the death of Maria McSweeney.
- The Geaney family on the death of Cecil Geaney.
- The O’Flynn family on the death of Victor Francis O’Flynn.
- The Sweeney family on the death of John (JP) Sweeney.
- The Maye family on the death of Cecil Maye.
- The Brothers family on the death of Francis (Frankie) Brothers.
- The McCarthy family on the death of Margaret McCarthy.
- The Mescall family on the death of Barraí Mescall.
- The Dwyer family on the death of John Dwyer.
- The Buckley family on the death of Christopher Buckley.
- The Quinlan family on the death of Ted Quinlan.
- The Griffin family on the death of Vivienne Griffin.
- The O’Reilly family on the death of Margaret O’Reilly.
- The Lee O’Connell family on the death of Josh Lee O’Connell.
- The Carroll family on the death of Joe Carroll.
- The Ross family on the death of Catherine Ross.
- The Lucey family on the death of Theresa Lucey.
- The Kelleher family on the death of Bertie Kelleher.
- The King family on the death of Darragh King.
- The O’Connell family on the death of Kieron O’Connell.
- The Greene family on the death of Olive Greene.
- The Burke-McCarthy family on the death of Shirley Burke-McCarthy.
- The Falvey family on the death of Michael Falvey.
- The McCarthy family on the death of Denis McCarthy.
- The Dorney family on the death of Nora Dorney.
- The McCarthy family on the death of Noreen McCarthy.

2. **VOTES OF CONGRATULATIONS/BEST WISHES**

- Ringmahon Rangers on holding a walk in memory of Josh Lee O’Connell.
- Cillian Ó Ríordáin on winning the Best Project Award at SciFest in MTU Cork.
- Mahon Community Centre on their 40 years of service to the community.
- Halle McCarthy on representing Cork City at Dáil na nÓg 2026.
- Cork City Council’s Communications Department on the exemplary organisation and successful delivery of the Dog Fouling Awareness Campaign in recent weeks.
- The Cork City Council team on taking part in the Dragon Boat Challenge for the first time in Cork.
- Sir David Attenborough on celebrating his 100th birthday.

3. **LORD MAYOR’S ITEMS**

3.1 **LORD MAYOR’S CIVIC AND CULTURE AWARDS**

An tArdmhéara advised, and An Chomhairle approved, the Lord Mayor’s nominations for Civic and Culture Awards 2026 as follows:-

- **Victor Tabone** - In recognition of his long-term service and dedication to Togher Community Association, and his commitment to driving positive change in Togher.
- **John Wiseman** - In recognition of his contribution to the Cork County Boxing Board, and his role in the revival of boxing in Cork.
- **Bob Donovan** - In recognition of his leadership and outstanding service to Cork football as a player, mentor and chairman.
- **Olive Morris** - In recognition of her long-term commitment to supporting and empowering young people and families in Cork.
- **Damien Cuffe** - In recognition of his exceptional leadership in coordinating the community-driven restoration of the Moore family home.
- **Patricia Cotter** - In recognition of her outstanding commitment to strengthening social inclusion and community wellbeing in Cork City.
- **Culture Award** - jointly to Evelyn Grant and Gerry Kelly for their contribution to the Arts in Cork City and their commitment to developing young peoples' appreciation of and involvement in music.

3.2 **ANNUAL MEETING**

An Chomhairle considered and approved the holding of the Annual Meeting on Friday 19th June 2026.

3.3 **EU NET ZERO CITIES MISSION CONFERENCE**

An Chomhairle considered and approved the travel of An tArdmhéara to Turin from 26th to 30th May 2026 to participate in the EU Net Zero Cities Mission Conference, taking place 27th to 29th May 2026.

3.4 **CIVIC RECEPTION FOR THE CORK PRESENTATION SISTERS**

An Chomhairle considered and approved the holding of a Civic Reception for the Cork Presentation Sisters on their 250th Anniversary.

3.5 **RECENT FESTIVALS**

An tArdmhéara noted the success of both the recent Lifelong Learning Festival and the Cork International Choral Festival and commended everyone involved.

3.6 **WHO EUROPEAN HEALTHY CITIES NETWORK**

An tArdmhéara sought approval from members that Cork City Council apply to Phase VIII of the Who European Healthy Cities Network in order to build on the significant progress already achieved through participation in previous phases of the programme.

An Chomhairle agreed that the application proceed.

3.7 **RETIREMENT OF COMHAIRLEOIR T. TYNAN**

An tArdmhéara invited Comhairleoir T. Tynan to speak on his retirement. This was followed by contributions from An Chomhairle and the Chief Executive, all of whom extended their best wishes to Comhairleoir Tynan.

3.8 **SUSPENSION OF STANDING ORDERS**

An tArdmhéara invited Comhairleoir A. Deasy to address An Chomhairle on motion 39 on Appendix 1, Urgent Decanting of Tenants in Substandard Flat Complexes:-

‘That Cork City Council notes that a stock condition survey is currently underway for the Togher flat complexes, while no comprehensive regeneration plan is yet in place for this or other problematic older flat complexes across the city. Council believes no tenant should remain in substandard conditions — including damp, mould, rat infestations and structural defects — while awaiting long-term solutions. Council therefore calls on the Chief Executive to immediately adopt a ‘Decant First’ approach by prioritising the urgent rehousing of all affected tenants in the worst-affected units to suitable, good-quality accommodation in their local area.’

(Proposers: Cllr. A. Deasy, Cllr. N. O’Flynn 26/286)

On the proposal of Comhairleoir A. Deasy, seconded by Comhairleoir N. O’Flynn, a vote was called for on the suspension of standing orders, where there appeared as follows:-

FOR: Comhairleoirí J. Maher, T. Tynan, O. Moran, N. O’Flynn, M. Gould, K. Collins, B. McCarthy, K. McCarthy, H. Kamegni, P. Horgan, F. Kerins, N. O’Connor, J. Lynch, A. Deasy, C. O’Connor. (15)

AGAINST: Comhairleoirí J. Kavanagh, M. McDonnell, T. Fitzgerald, D. Boylan, J. Sheehan, T. Shannon, M.R. Desmond, D. Cahill, S. O’Callaghan, S. Martin, F. Dennehy, C. Kelleher, T. Coleman, G. O’Brien. (14)

ABSTAIN: (0)

As those voting in favour of the proposal to suspend standing orders did not meet the 2/3 majority required in accordance with standing orders, An tArdmhéara declared the proposal defeated.

On the proposal of An tArdmhéara, it was agreed that the motion be referred to the Housing Strategic Policy Committee.

3.9 **SUSPENSION OF STANDING ORDERS**

An Chomhairle invited Comhairleoir K. Collins to address An Chomhairle on the following motion:-

‘That Cork City Council agrees to suspend Standing Orders to discuss the below motion:

That Cork City Council notes:

- With concern, the confirmation that the old prison site at the Glen will be demolished and a new prison will be constructed there
- That this proposal will be almost more than 20% higher than the capacity of the existing prison on the site that closed in 2016
- Co-location of men and women’s prisons has been proven to negatively impact women
- No consultation has taken place with the community on this proposal

And agrees that:

- We oppose the building of any new prison in the Glen
- Cork City Council will write to the Minister for Justice outlining opposition to this proposal citing the lack of community consultation, the previous commitments given surrounding the old prison site, the potential for community use on the site and the opposition to co-location of male and female prisoners.’

On the proposal of Comhairleoir K. Collins, seconded by Comhairleoir M. Gould, a vote was called for on the suspension of standing orders, where there appeared as follows:-

FOR: Comhairleoirí J. Maher, T. Tynan, O. Moran, N. O’Flynn, M. Gould, K. Collins, B. McCarthy, K. McCarthy, H. Kamegni, P. Horgan, F. Kerins, D. Boyle, N. O’Connor, J. Lynch, A. Deasy, C. O’Connor. (16)

AGAINST: Comhairleoirí J. Kavanagh, M. McDonnell, T. Fitzgerald, D. Boylan, J. Sheehan, T. Shannon, M.R. Desmond, S. O’Callaghan, S. Martin, F. Dennehy, C. Kelleher, T. Coleman, G. O’Brien. (13)

ABSTAIN: (0)

As those voting in favour of the proposal to suspend standing orders did not meet the 2/3 majority required in accordance with standing orders, An tArdmhéara declared the proposal defeated.

4. **CHIEF EXECUTIVE’S ITEMS**

4.1 **ACQUISITION OF HISTORIC COUNTING HOUSE FOR NEW PUBLIC LIBRARY**

The Chief Executive confirmed to members that Cork City Council had concluded the purchase of the historic Counting House complex on South Main Street to be reborn as a new world-class Cork City Public Library.

The building was acquired for €35m (plus VAT) with the support of the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage and the Government's Towns and Cities Regeneration Investment Fund (formerly the Urban Regeneration and Development Fund [URDF]). It has been acquired from JPDC Ltd, part of the BAM Contractors Limited Group in Ireland.

The acquisition represents one of the largest cultural investments in Cork City in a generation.

The CE outlined how the site had been identified as the best location for a new city library following a detailed review, involving local input, national and international experts, of several other city centre options. The CE also confirmed the next steps which will include a Part 8 planning process and detailed design work which will determine the costs associated with the next stage of the project.

The announcement was welcomed by members and congratulations offered to all of the team involved in the acquisition.

5. **MINUTES**

On the proposal of Comhairleoir M.R. Desmond, seconded by Comhairleoir C. O'Connor, An Chomhairle considered and approved the minutes of:-

- Ordinary Meeting of An Chomhairle held, 13th April 2026.

An tArdmhéara approved Comhairleoir A. Deasy's request that these minutes be amended to note his dissension to Item 4.2 - Strategic Infrastructure Development At Block 8003, Blarney Business Park, Shean Upper, Blarney, Cork.

6. **QUESTION TIME**

6.1 **BUS SERVICE FOR UPPER GLANMIRE**

In response to the following question submitted by Comhairleoir J. Kavanagh, a written reply was circulated as outlined below:-

Can the CE please provide an update on the timeline for delivery of a Bus Service or Upper Glanmire?

REPLY

Public bus services are regulated and managed by the National Transport Authority (NTA) and the PSO services in Cork are operated by Bus Eireann. The NTA have published plans for the improvement and expansion of the bus network across the city as part of the Network Redesign Section of the Cork BusConnects programme.

This included for the establishment of bus services to Upper Glanmire. The NTA is currently arranging for the establishment of the new stops required for the expanded network including a new stop /turning facility at Upper Glanmire which is now at an advanced stage of delivery. It is expected that the new network will be introduced on

a phased basis in the period ahead and the related timing for this service has yet to be confirmed. Members will be kept apprised of further details/updates as they are notified by the NTA.

Gerry O’Beirne,
Director of Services,
Infrastructure Development.

6.2 **TRANSFER OF LISHEENS SITE**

In response to the following question submitted by Comhairleoir C. O’Connor, a written reply was circulated as outlined below:-

To ask the Chief Executive of Cork City Council to outline the current status and timeline for the transfer of the Lisheens site in Ballincollig to the Department of Education for the proposed Ballincollig Education Campus, and the progression of the South Lee Educate Together school on lands already acquired from the Council by the Department of Education, and to confirm what actions the Council is taking to ensure there are no delays on its side in enabling the advancement and planning of both projects.

REPLY

The land at Lisheen, Ballincollig remains in City Council ownership awaiting completion of the formal vesting process which will subsequently enable advancement of the formal disposal process to the Department of Education and Youth. The conveyancing process in this case does not impede the advancement of the design or planning for the school.

The design of an intended education campus for both locations, Lisheens, Ballincollig & Lehenaghmore, (South Lee Educate Together) rests with the Department of Education and Youth to advance. Cork City Council has engaged in initial pre planning discussions on both sites and awaits further engagement with the Department of Education and Youth if required to progress the delivery of these two important educational facilities.

Niall Ó Donnabháin,
Director of Services,
Planning & Integrated Development Directorate.

6.3 **FUTURE OPERATION OF DRONES**

In response to the following question submitted by Comhairleoir P. Horgan, a written reply was circulated as outlined below:-

To ask the Chief Executive if she is aware of any plans by the IAA to offer a seat to Cork City Council on the National Working Group on UAS Geographical Zones in order to ensure this local authority will be involved in the establishment of processes and procedures, including determining the powers for competent authorities like Cork City Council for the future operation of drones in, on and above our city.

REPLY

The National Policy Framework for Unmanned Aircraft Systems (UAS) was launched in August 2025. A national Implementation Action Plan was published earlier this year, and under Action 2 “a National Working Group on UAS Geographical Zones, led by the Irish Aviation Authority, will be established to develop transparent processes and procedures for the designation of UAS Geographical Zones”.

The latest available information is that the Working Group is currently being stood up and membership is being discussed and considered at Department level, led by the Department of Transport. Details on membership, including how local authorities may be represented, is expected in due course.

Niall Ó Donnabháin,
Director of Services,
Planning & Integrated Development Directorate.

6.4 TREES OFFICER

In response to the following question submitted by Comhairleoir H. Kamegni, a written reply was circulated as outlined below:-

Can the Chief Executive confirm whether all relevant planning applications are referred to the Trees Officer.

REPLY

Yes, all relevant valid planning applications are referred to the Trees Officer as part of the internal referral process.

Niall Ó Donnabháin,
Director of Services,
Planning & Integrated Development Directorate.

6.5 MOUNT FARRAN RESURFACING OF ESTATE ROADS

In response to the following question submitted by Comhairleoir O. Moran, a written reply was circulated as outlined below:-

To ask the Chief Executive the approximate cost of resurfacing the estate roads in Mount Farran in Blackpool to a condition before works carried out by Uisce Éireann; and options available to Cork City Council to recoup the costs of restoration from Uisce Éireann.

REPLY

Uisce Éireann completed all required permanent reinstatement works in Mount Farran, Blackpool in compliance with the “Guidelines for the Opening, Backfilling and Reinstatement of Trenches in Public Roads” (the Purple Book). The Purple Book

sets out the obligations for reinstatement and resurfacing of roads following road openings by utility companies or others. The full roadway must be renewed if the road surface is less than 5 years old or rated 9 or 10 on the condition index.

The road surface in Mount Farran did not meet the above criteria and as such, Uisce Éireann were only required to reinstate the trench. Note Cork City Council has no discretion in this matter as the Purple Book is a national guide published by the Dept of the Environment & Local Government.

Cork City Council inspected the area in advance of the works and during the construction and reinstatement phases. The reinstatement was completed in accordance with national guidance. If any problems arise within the two-year defect liability period, the Council will engage directly with Uisce Éireann to ensure that any necessary remedial works are undertaken in accordance with their statutory responsibilities.

It will therefore not be possible to recoup resurfacing costs from Uisce Éireann for the reasons set out above.

John Stapleton,
Director of Services,
Local Area Development & Operations Directorate.

6.6 **HOMELESSNESS**

In response to the following question submitted by Comhairleoir D. Boyle, a written reply was circulated as outlined below:-

To ask the Chief Executive the extent to which this Council, as a housing authority, seeks anticipatory data on at risk groups of homelessness, identifying medium and long term trends?

REPLY

Cork City Council seeks anticipatory data on groups at risk of homelessness through integrated data collection and inter-agency collaboration. This involves using data from housing services, the HSE, Tusla, the Department of Social Protection, Threshold, and NGOs to identify individuals and households showing early indicators of housing instability.

Key risk indicators include Notices of Termination, Rent Arrears, Overcrowding, Domestic Violence referrals, and people exiting Care, Prison, Direct Provision and Hospital settings. Systems such as PASS (Pathway Accommodation and Support System) support the monitoring of homelessness presentations and emerging patterns.

Partnerships with community organisations is also important, as frontline services can identify hidden homelessness and emerging issues before they appear in official statistics. Together, these approaches support early intervention and more effective homelessness prevention planning.

Such examples are;

- Regular engagement with Threshold on the data of Notices of Terminations issued in the City.
- Regular engagement with Tusla Aftercare services on Youths aging out of care
- Regular meetings with the Irish Prison Services, the HSE and Tusla.

Adrian Quinn,
Acting Director of Services,
Housing Directorate.

6.7 **COPPER VALLEY HEIGHTS SOCIAL HOUSES**

In response to the following question submitted by Comhairleoir J. Maher, a written reply was circulated as outlined below:-

To ask the CE for an update on the empty social houses in Copper Valley Heights, Glanmire?

REPLY

Cork County Council remain the owners of these properties presently. The County Council are actively endeavouring to resolve final legal issues with title and the formal disposal of the properties to Cork City Council is awaited, subject to resolution.

Cork City Council has commenced remedial works on the properties, in anticipation of formal disposal, having entered into a licence agreement with the County Council to take possession and prepare the properties for use and occupation.

Adrian Quinn,
Acting Director of Services,
Housing Directorate.

6.8 **HOUSING MEANS POLICY 2026**

In response to the following question submitted by Comhairleoir J. Lynch, a written reply was circulated as outlined below:-

To ask the CE if Cork City Council has fully integrated the updated Household Means Policy 2026 - recently published by the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage - into its assessment of applications for social housing support and its calculation of differential rents.

REPLY

Revisions to the Household Means Policy were introduced under Circular 11/2026 in March 2026. This included changes in the treatment of maintenance payments paid and received by applicants for social housing support and rent assessment. These changes were implemented with immediate effect.

Adrian Quinn,
Acting Director of Services,
Housing Directorate.

6.9 **OUTSOURCED COUNCIL SERVICES**

In response to the following question submitted by Comhairleoir K. Collins, a written reply was circulated as outlined below:-

Can the CE report on what major services have been fully outsourced in the last 3 years i.e. boiler services and out of hours call services and whether these are permanent arrangements?

REPLY

Housing Directorate	The boiler servicing programme was introduced in 2012 and has always been outsourced because of the volumes involved. The only Housing Directorate newly outsourced service in the last 3 years is heat pump servicing.
Local Area Development & Operations Directorate	No major services have been outsourced in the last three years from the Local Area Development & Operations Directorate
Corporate, Community & Cultural Affairs Directorate	Cork City Council, through its Corporate, Community and Cultural Affairs Directorate procured an Out of Hours' service for a 12 month period in September 2025. The project is being evaluated with a view to tendering for a longer contract duration following the pilot.

Adrian Quinn,
A/Director of Services,
Housing Directorate.

John Stapleton,
Director of Services,
Local Area Development & Operations.

Rebecca Loughry,
Director of Services,
Corporate, Community, Cultural Affairs.

6.10 **GRAFFITI REMOVAL**

In response to the following question submitted by Comhairleoir A. Deasy, a written reply was circulated as outlined below:-

Can the Chief Executive confirm for each of the past five years:

- The number of Fixed Penalty Notices issued, and court prosecutions taken in relation to graffiti enforcement.
- The total sums collected by Cork City Council from graffiti-related Fixed Penalty Notices and/or court prosecutions.
- The total amount expended by Cork City Council on graffiti removal.

REPLY

There have been no fixed penalty notices issued, nor have any court prosecutions been initiated, in relation to graffiti over the past five years. The Council has enforcement powers in relation to graffiti however, enforcement typically requires the offender to be identified at the time of the offence. In practice, this presents significant challenges, particularly as graffiti incidents frequently take place late at night or in circumstances where the offender cannot be readily identified.

The Council does not operate a dedicated graffiti removal team; however, the power washing unit has been deployed on occasion to remove graffiti. In addition, the Council has worked with the Probation Service on specific graffiti removal initiatives, including projects on Oliver Plunkett Street and North Main Street. Support has also been provided to community groups undertaking graffiti removal works. For these reasons it is not possible to identify the total amount spent on removal of graffiti.

Notwithstanding the above, Section 20 of the Litter Pollution Act 1997 places a legal responsibility on property owners to remove graffiti from their property.

John Stapleton,
Director of Services,
Local Area Development & Operations Directorate.

6.11 **RETROFITTING OF HOUSES**

In response to the following question submitted by Comhairleoir N. O'Flynn, a written reply was circulated as outlined below:-

The present retrofit schemes are to be complemented. I am advised that the current schemes will be completed in 2030. I am also advised that all housing stock will not be completed by 2050, which is 24 years from now would the c.e.o agree that we must secure additional government funding and accelerate this project to ensure all of our housing stock is brought up to a BER 2 standard by 2035.

REPLY

The Energy Efficiency Retrofit Programme commenced in 2021 and targeted the retrofitting of 36,500 local authority homes by 2030.

Through this programme the Department of Housing, Local Government & Heritage (DHLGH) funded more than 11,000 local authority retrofits to BER B2 level or cost optimal equivalent between 2021 and 2025, including the installation of some 9,300 heat pumps. This built on the 73,500 or so local authority shallow retrofits supported by the DHLGH between 2013 and 2020.

The allocation to Cork City Council has increased from 116 properties in 2025 to 175 properties in 2026. This represents a funding allocation of €6,650,000 to Cork City Council.

Cork City Council continues to seek additional funding from the DHLGH so that it can accelerate its delivery of the Energy Efficiency Retrofit Programme. The additional funding would help to ensure that all of Cork City Council's social housing stock achieves an energy rating of 125kwhr/m2/yr or better as soon as possible.

Adrian Quinn,
Acting Director of Services,
Housing Directorate.

7. **STATUTORY ITEMS**

7.1 **MATERIAL CONTRAVENTION OF THE CORK CITY DEVELOPMENT PLAN 2022-2028**

An Chomhairle considered the material contravention of the Cork City Development Plan 2022-2028 in relation to the development of (I) A new vehicular set down and drop off circulation area at City End side of the stadium, accessed from Monahan Road, to the south of the existing public concourse and east of the existing pedestrian walkway, (II) New landscaping, planting beds and nature based SuDS measures including swales and a retention basin, (III) A new road junction design, including raised tables to maintain pedestrian priority, and a pedestrian crossing on Monahan Road and, (IV) all associated public lighting and site development works at Pairc Uí Chaoimh and Marina Park on Monahan Road, Ballintemple, Cork, under Planning Reference No. 25/43977.

On the proposal of Comhairleoir T. Shannon, seconded by Comhairleoir C. Kelleher, a vote was called for on the approval of the material contravention of the Cork City Development Plan 2022-2028, where there appeared as follows:-

FOR: Comhairleoirí J. Kavanagh, M. McDonnell, T. Tynan, N. O'Flynn, T. Fitzgerald, D. Boylan, J. Sheehan, M. Gould, K. Collins, B. McCarthy, M.R. Desmond, S. O'Callaghan, S. Martin, F. Kerins, F. Dennehy, C. Kelleher, J. Lynch, A. Deasy, T. Coleman, G. O'Brien. (20)

AGAINST: Comhairleoirí J. Maher, O. Moran, T. Shannon, K. McCarthy, D. Cahill, H. Kamegni, P. Horgan, D. Boyle, N. O'Connor, C. O'Connor. (10)

ABSTAIN: (0)

As those voting in favour did not meet the required 3/4 of the total number of the members of the planning authority, An tArdmhéara declared the vote defeated.

7.2 **PROPERTY DISPOSALS**

An Chomhairle considered and approved the report of the Chief Executive, dated 30th April 2026 on the following property disposal:-

1. Disposal of property situated at Station Road, Blarney, Cork (0.1695 Hectares approximately) to Clare Forrest c/o PJ O'Driscoll & Sons LLP, 72 South Mall, Cork, for €630,000.00.

On the proposal of Comhairleoir S. Martin, seconded by Comhairleoir C. Kelleher, An Chomhairle approved the disposal.

7.3 **PROPOSED RESIDENTIAL DEVELOPMENT AT OLD MARKET PLACE**

In accordance with Section 179(4)(a) of the Planning and Development Act 2000, as amended, An Chomhairle considered and approved the proposed development at Old Market Place, Gurranabraher, in the City of Cork and the report of the Chief Executive thereon as required under Section 179(3) of the Planning and Development Act, 2000, as amended, dated 29th April 2026.

On the proposal of Comhairleoir K. Collins, seconded by Comhairleoir T. Fitzgerald, An Chomhairle further agreed to adopt the following Resolution, noting the dissention of Comhairleoir A. Deasy:-

“Now Council hereby RESOLVE THAT having considered the proposed development at Old Market Place, Gurranabraher, in the City of Cork and the report of the Chief Executive, Cork City Council thereon, it is hereby resolved pursuant to the provisions of Section 179 (4) of the Planning and Development Act, 2000, as amended, that the development at Old Market Place, Gurranabraher, in the City of Cork be carried out as recommended in the said report of the Chief Executive, Cork City Council, which was put before Council on the 11th May 2026.”

7.4 **CORK CITY LIBRARY BYE LAWS 2026**

On the proposal of Comhairleoir D. Boyle, seconded by Comhairleoir P. Horgan, An Chomhairle considered and approved the Cork City Library Bye Laws 2026.

7.5 **TEMPORARY AMENDMENTS TO CORK CITY APPOINTED STANDS (TAXI) BYE-LAWS 2020**

In accordance with Section 13(1) of the Cork City Appointed Stands (Taxi) Bye-Laws 2020 and Section 13(2) of the Cork City Appointed Stands (Taxi) Bye-Laws 2020,

An Chomhairle considered the report of the Director of Services, City Centre Development and Operations, dated 7th May 2026.

On the proposal of Comhairleoir J. Lynch, seconded by Comhairleoir F. Kerins, a vote was called for on the approval of the proposed temporary amendments, where there appeared as follows:-

FOR: Comhairleoirí J. Maher, J. Kavanagh, O. Moran, N. O’Flynn, T. Fitzgerald, D. Boylan, J. Sheehan, B. McCarthy, K. McCarthy, M.R. Desmond, D. Cahill, H. Kamegni, P. Horgan, S. O’Callaghan, S. Martin, D. Boyle, N. O’Connor, F. Dennehy, C. Kelleher, A. Deasy, T. Coleman, C. O’Connor. (22)

AGAINST: Comhairleoirí M. Gould, K. Collins, F. Kerins, J. Lynch. (4)

ABSTAIN: (0)

As those voting in favour were greater than those voting against, An tArdmhéara declared the vote carried and the proposed temporary amendments approved. On the proposal of Comhairleoir D. Cahill, seconded by Comhairleoir J. Maher, An Chomhairle further agreed to adopt the following Resolution:-

“Now Council hereby resolves, pursuant to Section 13(1) and Section 13(2) of the Cork City Appointed Stands (Taxi) Bye-Laws 2020 to endorse the temporary amendments as recommended in the said report of the Director of Services.”

8. **CORPORATE POLICY GROUP – 5th MAY 2026**

An Chomhairle considered and noted the minutes of the Corporate Policy Group from its meeting held, 5th May 2026.

8.1 **FINANCIAL STATEMENT TO 31/03/2026**

An Chomhairle considered and noted the Financial Statement to 31/03/2026.

8.2 **UNAUDITED 2025 ANNUAL FINANCIAL STATEMENT**

An Chomhairle considered and noted the Unaudited 2025 Financial Statement.

On the proposal of Comhairleoir S. Martin, seconded by Comhairleoir C. Kelleher, An Chomhairle agreed to adopt the following Resolution:-

‘The Annual Financial Statement for 2025 and pursuant to Section 104 of the Local Government Act 2001, the under/over expenditure as outlined in note 16 are hereby approved’.

8.3 **IRISH LANGUAGE PLAN**

An Chomhairle considered and approved the report of the Director of Services, Corporate, Community & Cultural Affairs, dated 30th April 2026 on the Cork City Council Irish Language Action Plan 2026-2029.

9. **PARTY WHIPS – 27th APRIL 2026**

An Chomhairle considered and noted the minutes of the Party Whips from its meeting held, 27th April 2026.

9.1 **MOTIONS**

9.1.1 **REVOKE US SENATOR GEORGE MITCHELL’S FREEDOM OF CORK**

An Chomhairle considered the following motion:-

‘Former US Senator George Mitchell has been proved to have been lying when he said he cut all ties with the paedophile Jeffrey Epstein after he was convicted. He continued to have contact with him and may even have met him. This Council commends the decision of Queen’s University Belfast in removing the name of their former chancellor George Mitchell from the Institute for Global Peace, Security and Justice and also removing a bust of him from campus. This Council also commends the decision of the US-Ireland Alliance in removing his name from their scholarship programme. This motion calls on Cork City Council to follow their example and show we stand with survivors by revoking the Freedom of Cork given to Mitchell in 1998.’

(Proposer: Cllr. B. McCarthy 26/180)

On the proposal of Comhairleoir K. McCarthy, seconded by Comhairleoir S. Martin, a vote was called for on the approval of the motion, where there appeared as follows:-

FOR: Comhairleoirí J. Maher, O. Moran, D. Boylan, J. Sheehan, M. Gould, K. Collins, B. McCarthy, D. Cahill, H. Kamegni, P. Horgan, S. O’Callaghan, F. Kerins, D. Boyle, N. O’Connor, C. Kelleher, J. Lynch, G. O’Brien, C. O’Connor. (18)

AGAINST: Comhairleoirí J. Kavanagh, M. McDonnell, N. O’Flynn, T. Fitzgerald, K. McCarthy, M.R. Desmond, S. Martin, F. Dennehy, A. Deasy, T. Coleman. (10)

ABSTAIN: (0)

As those voting in favour of the motion were greater than those voting against, An tArdmhéara declared the vote carried. On the proposal of Comhairleoir B. McCarthy, seconded by Comhairleoir S. O’Callaghan, An Chomhairle approved the motion.

10. **TRANSPORT & MOBILITY STRATEGIC POLICY COMMITTEE / COISTE BEARTAIS STRAITÉISIGH - IOMPAR & SOGHLUAISTEACHT – 20th APRIL 2026**

An Chomhairle considered and noted the minutes of the Transport & Mobility Strategic Policy Committee from its meeting held, 20th April 2026.

SUSPENSION OF STANDING ORDERS

On the proposal of Comhairleoir T. Fitzgerald, seconded by Comhairleoir K. McCarthy, An Chomhairle agreed to suspend standing orders to continue the meeting past 8pm.

10.1 MOTIONS

10.1.1 TRAFFIC SIGN TO ADVISE MOTORISTS OF UNSUITABLE STREETS

An Chomhairle considered and approved the report of the Director of Services, Local Area Development & Operations, dated 20th April 2026 on the following motion:-

‘That Cork City Council will invite ideas for the design of a traffic sign or other means to advise motorists and hauliers not to follow satellite navigation systems when it directs them towards certain unsuitable streets; and will pilot the use of signage for this purpose in the city.’

(Proposer: Cllr. O. Moran 26/075)

The report of the Director of Services stated that clear and effective traffic signs are essential for the efficient operation of the road network, for the enforcement of traffic regulations and for road safety. The Traffic Signs Manual provides details of the traffic signs which may be used on roads in Ireland, including their layout and symbols, the circumstances in which each sign may be used and rules for positioning them. Only traffic signs which are in accordance with the Traffic Signs Manual or associated Regulations shall be provided on public roads.

10.1.2 CITY BUS SERVICES

An Chomhairle considered and approved the report of the A/Director of Services, Infrastructure Development, dated 20th April 2026 on the following motion, noting the dissention of Comhairleoirí H. Kamegni and O. Moran:-

‘Recognising the continued unsatisfactory bus service and that a one-size-fits-all approach is not fit for purpose in Cork, that Cork City Council supports the creation of “Cork Bus” to take control of city bus services in Cork, as a new public service under the direction of Cork City Council, to achieve minimum standards in reliability and frequency through accountable management with the autonomy to offer competitive driver salaries tailored to Cork, and to coordinate effectively with the Council's housing, planning and roads functions, so that compact growth is supported by the key enabler of sustainable mobility, as detailed in the National Planning Framework and the Cork City Development Plan.’

(Proposer: Cllr. H. Kamegni 26/085)

The report of the A/Director of Services stated that the provision of public bus services, both local and regional are managed by Bus Eireann under contract to the

NTA. Cork City Council has no statutory powers for the provision and management of bus services.

10.1.3 **INDOOR BICYCLE PARKING**

An Chomhairle considered and approved the report of the Director of Services, City Centre Development & Operations, dated 20th April 2026 on the following motion:-

‘That this Council restores and works towards increasing access to and availability of indoor bicycle parking in the city centre.’

(Proposer: Cllr. D. Boyle 26/097)

The report of the Director of Services stated that the National Transport Authority are currently developing a strategy for secure bike parking which will identify potential locations in Cork city and are working in partnership with Cork City Council on this strategy.

10.1.4 **EMERGENCY ROAD FUNDING**

An Chomhairle considered and approved the report of the Director of Services, Local Area Development & Operations, dated 20th April 2026 on the following motion:-

‘That Cork City Council calls on the Minister for Transport and the Minister for Public Expenditure and Reform to provide additional emergency and capital funding to support the drainage, maintenance, and resurfacing of roads across the city in response to the recent period of unrelenting rainfall.

The Council notes that prolonged wet weather has significantly deteriorated road surfaces, exacerbated existing defects, and created new hazards for motorists, cyclists, and pedestrians. Additional targeted funding is now required to allow the Council to carry out the necessary drainage improvements and road restoration works in a timely and effective manner.’

(Proposer: Cllr. D. Boylan 26/120)

The report of the Director of Services stated that Cork City Council received a 2026 funding allocation of €12.16 million from the Department of Transport to support the maintenance and restoration of the regional and local road and street network across Cork City. This represents a 3% increase on the 2025 allocation and a 12% increase on the 2024 allocation, reflecting a continued uplift in investment in road infrastructure.

Funding for the maintenance and restoration of the road and street network is provided by the Department of Transport (DOT) under the following programmes:

- Restoration Improvement Programme
- Discretionary Grant Programme
- Strategic Rehabilitation Regional Roads Programme

- Other targeted grant measures, including safety and climate adaptation–related funding, as applicable

TII, working on behalf of the Dept of Transport, provided a separate allocation of €5,872,152 in 2026 to support the maintenance, upgrade and improvement of the National Road Network.

Cork City Council maintains regular engagement with both the DOT and TII regarding our funding requirements for the maintenance and upkeep of our roads & streets. Both organisations have been advised of the deterioration experienced across sections of the road and street network arising from the prolonged periods of heavy rainfall during the recent winter months.

The Council will continue to actively communicate the ongoing condition of the network and to highlight our requirement for additional and sustained investment to address maintenance backlogs and ensure the safe and efficient operation of Cork City’s road and street network.

10.1.5 **AMEND THE “PURPLE BOOK”**

An Chomhairle considered and approved the report of the Director of Services, Local Area Development & Operations, dated 20th April 2026 on the following motion:-

‘That this Council will seek to amend the “Purple Book” so that temporary resurfacing on carriageways and paths are flush with existing road and footpath surfacing as a matter of requirement during works and that whole roads in estates, where applicable works take place, would be resurfaced by the applicant, where defects exist.’

(Proposer: Cllr. P. Horgan 26/123)

The report of the Director of Services stated that the Council notes the concerns raised regarding the standard of reinstatement of carriageways and footpaths following licenced works.

The Guidelines for Managing Openings in Public Roads (“Purple Book”) already require that all temporary reinstatements on roads and footpaths are laid flush with existing levels and maintained in a safe and serviceable condition for all road users. Any reinstatement that does not meet the specified tolerances is subject to corrective action by the Licence Holder during the works stage or within the guarantee period, at no cost to the road authority.

The Guidelines also provide specific protections for recently resurfaced roads. Where works take place within the protected period (five years for carriageways and asphalt footways, and ten years for concrete footways), the Licence Holder is required to carry out full lane-width reinstatement of the affected roadway or full bay-width reinstatement of the affected footway, rather than a localised repair. This requirement also applies where a section of roadway, prior to excavation, has an associated condition rating of ‘No Visible Defects’ (rating 10) or ‘Minor Surface Defects’ (rating 9) or it is clear that adjacent sections of roadway/footway have been damaged by construction vehicles involved in undertaking the works.

In addition, the Purple Book allows the road authority, where appropriate, to separately agree that the Licence Holder carries out reinstatement of additional adjoining defective surfaces, at an agreed cost to the road authority. This provides flexibility to address localised preexisting defects where considered proportionate and value for money.

While the Guidelines do not generally require whole-road resurfacing within estates following individual openings, such matters are assessed on a case-by-case basis having regard to the extent of works, existing road condition, proportionality and available resources.

The Council notes the concerns raised by the Councillor and these will be conveyed to the Road Management Office (RMO) for consideration in the context of any future review or revision of the Purple Book. In the meantime, the Council will continue to enforce the existing licensing, inspection and guarantee provisions to ensure high-quality reinstatement standards are achieved.

10.1.6 **REVIEW OF PARKING PERMIT REGULATIONS**

An Chomhairle considered and approved the report of the Director of Services, Local Area Development & Operations, dated 20th April 2026 on the following motion:-

‘That this Council undertake a review of parking permit regulations in order that similar number of permits per household are available in all parts of the city, and the rigorous application be made that permits given to rental properties are properly registered with the Residential Tenancies Board.’

(Proposer: Cllr. D. Boyle, Cllr. C. O’Connor 26/164)

The report of the Director of Services stated that the Parking Permits Scheme 2022, adopted by Full Council in March 2022 sets out the maximum number of permits permitted in eligible households. Parking Permits are available to eligible households in Douglas, Ballincollig and where pay parking is in place within Cork City Councils administrative area.

The maximum number of permits allowed within the former city area has reduced to 3 per dwelling for any new applications. There are a limited number of properties that are eligible for Residents Parking Permits in Ballincollig and Douglas area. There is far greater demand for parking spaces within the old city area, therefore the number of permits permitted is higher to meet this need.

10.1.7 **MOBILITY HUBS**

An Chomhairle considered and approved the report of the Director of Services, City Centre Development & Operations, dated 20th April 2026 on the following motion:-

‘That mobility hubs being established in the city will also contain recharging facilities for e-bikes and e-scooters.’

(Proposer: Cllr. D. Boyle 26/165)

The report of the Director of Services stated that the current Cork City Mobility Hub project focuses on the delivery of EV car share services only as the city already has an active bike share system delivered through the TFI Regional Bike Scheme. The National Transport Authority is looking to provide enhanced Micromobility (e-bikes and e-scooters) as part of the retendering of this service, and the National Transport Authority can look at providing recharging facilities for e-bikes and e-scooters as part of the retendering process. This contract will be retendered by the National Transport Authority towards the end of 2026 with any new operator in place early/mid 2027 taking into the required mobilisation period. The new TFI contract plan will include a 1 year e-scooter trial.

10.1.8 **NOISE ACTION PLAN**

An Chomhairle considered and approved the report of the Director of Services, Local Area Development & Operations, dated 20th April 2026 on the following motion:-

‘That Cork City Council will amend the recently adopted Noise Action Plan to add Chestnut Meadows as a MIA to the plan; and that this motion will be forwarded to the next meeting of the Transport & Mobility SPC for consideration.’

(Proposer: Cllr. O. Moran 24/)

The report of the Director of Services stated that Cork City Council wrote to TII in relation to transport noise from the M8 at Chestnut Meadows and while TII have acknowledged receipt of the correspondence, Cork City Council are awaiting a response.

11. **STRATEGIC, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, ENTERPRISE & PLANNING STRATEGIC POLICY COMMITTEE / COISTE BEARTAIS STRAITÉISIGH - STRAITÉISEACHT, FORBAIRT EACNAMAÍOCH, FIONTAR & PLEANÁIL – 20th APRIL 2026**

An Chomhairle considered and noted the minutes of the Strategic, Economic Development, Enterprise & Planning Strategic Policy Committee from its meeting held, 20th April 2026.

11.1 **MOTIONS**

11.1.1 **NEW HOME FOR CORK CITY MISSING PERSONS SEARCH & RECOVERY**

An Chomhairle considered and approved the report of the Director of Services, Planning and Integrated Development, dated 20th April 2026 on the following motion:-

‘That Cork City Council will commit, in consultation with CCMPSR, to providing a space for a new home for the Cork City Missing Persons Search & Recovery on the river before they begin works on the North Docks.’

(Proposer: Cllr. J. Maher 26/235)

The report of the Director of Services stated that Cork City Council recognizes the essential work of Cork City Missing Persons Search And Recovery (CCMPSAR) in conducting land, river and sea searches and responding to callouts from An Garda Siochana, Irish Coast Guard, Cork Fire Brigade and the families of missing people.

Cork City Council engaged with Cork City Missing Persons, Search & Recovery (CCMPSAR) prior to the development of the Cork Docklands Framework Plan and have continued ongoing engagement with them in respect to the plans for the North Quays and future use of the river.

Port Of Cork have agreed in principle to transfer the quay, including the North Quays, to Cork City Council but for now they are still the current owner of North Quays and have an arrangement with CCMPSAR for their use of Dowdall Buildings (large green shed on Horgan's Quay).

While Cork City Council are progressing plans to redevelop Horgan's Quay, as per the granted Part VIII planning, to create a world class river side public realm we are also committed to working with CCMPSAR to secure a long term home for their needs. In the interim CCMPSAR will not be required to relocate from the Dowdall Buildings until suitable alternate facilities have been identified.

11.1.2 **2025 NEIGHBOURHOOD PROFILES**

An Chomhairle considered and approved the report of the Director of Services, Planning and Integrated Development, dated 20th April 2026 on the following motion:-

‘That Cork City Council will invite the Cork City Public Participation Network to review and comment on the boundaries of the neighbourhoods described in the 2025 Neighbourhood Profiles.’

(Proposer: Cllr. O. Moran 26/076)

The report of the Director of Services stated that the neighbourhood boundaries of the Cork City Neighbourhood Profile are the result of a detailed, methodical process by Cork City Council's Strategic Planning and Community teams, working with the All-Island Research Observatory (AIRO) based at Maynooth University, in consultation with the wider community involving Cork City's RAPID coordinators and community workers. The boundaries were defined through a bottom-up approach based on the identification of existing community centres and their real-time 10-minute walking catchments, having regard to the location of community buildings, local street names, parks, sports clubs and housing estate names. These catchments were then overlaid onto CSO Census 'Small Area' boundaries.

‘Small Areas’ are the foundation blocks of Census data, and it is essential that the neighbourhood boundaries align with Small Areas in order to ensure that reliable Census data is available. The benefit of having stable boundaries for these

neighbourhoods is that trend data becomes available over time. Trend data is particularly important in spatial planning as it allows planners and the wider community to understand change – how individual areas grow, develop and evolve over time – and to transform historical and current data into actionable objectives for the future. Reliable trend data becomes very difficult to obtain if boundaries change.

The first Neighbourhood Profile was published in 2021 based on the 2016 Census, with the second edition published in 2024 based on the 2022 Census. In August 2025, Cork City Council launched the Neighbourhood Profiles Digital Hub, an interactive version of the Neighbourhood Profile and innovative digital tool aimed at neighbourhoods, communities, planners, consultants and developers. This Hub allows for analysis of trends between Census 2016 and 2022.

It is important to note that the purpose of the Neighbourhood Profile boundaries was not an attempt to define the social or cultural boundaries of the multitude of communities across the city. The neighbourhoods as defined have particular spatial relevance and are designed to assist in the strategic planning of the city. Using a series of indicators based on Census data, the Neighbourhood Profile provides the material to allow developers, planners and the wider community to make more informed evidence-based decisions on the nature, mix and form of new development at neighbourhood level, and to understand the dynamics of how the city functions (for example, how people move across the city for work). The Neighbourhood Profile is a tool to be used in combination with other relevant information, data and stakeholder input to form part of understanding the ever-changing profile of the city's neighbourhoods. In addition, CSO 'Small Area' Census data is publicly available, and any person can avail of it should they require data that does not align with the boundaries of Cork City 5 Council's Neighbourhood Profile. An explanatory note can be added to the Hub that clarifies the purpose of the Neighbourhood Profile boundaries.

11.1.3 **BILLBOARD TAX**

An Chomhairle considered and approved the report of the Director of Services, Planning and Integrated Development, dated 20th April 2026 on the following motion:-

'That Cork City Council will investigate the potential for the operation of a 'billboard tax' in the city, for example by requiring the payment of development contributions by outdoor advertisers, and limiting the term of the grant of planning permission.'

(Proposer: Cllr. O. Moran 26/078)

The report of the Director of Services stated that applications for planning permission for billboards or advertising displays are subject to the provisions of the local authorities Development Contribution Scheme. It is also worth noting that billboards are also liable for commercial rates.

The Cork City Development Plan 2022-2028 (as varied) sets out the policies for Advertising Hoardings (Billboards) under section 11.196. It states excessive outdoor advertising will be strictly controlled and that new advertising hoardings and

billboards will generally not be permitted. Permanent cross-street banners/ advertisement symbols will not be permitted in any location within the city unless an agreed timetable for use has been approved by Cork City Council.

12. **HOUSING STRATEGIC POLICY COMMITTEE / COISTE BEARTAIS STRAITÉISIGH - TITHÍOCHT – 22nd APRIL 2026**

An Chomhairle considered and noted the minutes of the Housing Strategic Policy Committee from its meeting held, 22nd April 2026.

12.1 **HOUSING PROGRESS REPORT**

An Chomhairle considered and noted the Housing Progress report for February 2026.

12.2 **MOTIONS**

12.2.1 **‘BEFORE WE DIE CAMPAIGN’**

An Chomhairle considered and approved the report of the Acting Director of Services, Housing, dated 20th April 2026 on the following motion:-

‘That Cork City Council’s Housing Department would engage with the ‘Before We Die Campaign’ with regard to housing policy in relation to people with disabilities to assess how Cork City Councils’ housing policy could best serve in the long term to enable people to live as full and independent lives as possible.’

(Proposer: Cllr. J. Sheehan 26/150)

The report of the Acting Director of Services stated that Cork City Council operate in accordance with the legislation and guidance provided by the Department of Housing, Local Government & Heritage. The current Guidelines for housing people with a disability came into effect from October 17th, 2017. These guidelines assist us with the management of the housing assessment and allocation process for people with disabilities, including those living in the community and those transitioning to the community from residential care.

Housing and Disability Steering Groups (HDSGs) were established in each local authority area under the National Housing Strategy for People with a Disability 2011 to 2016 (extended to 2021). The National Housing Strategy for People with a Disability 2022-2027 follows on from the previous National Strategy with an aim to support people with disabilities in community-based living with maximum independence and choice. The steering group provides a forum for Cork City Council, Cork County Council, HSE Disability Services, HSE Mental Health Services, Approved Housing Bodies, Disability Groups and the Housing Agency to meet quarterly. A representative of the Before We Die Campaign was invited to attend the most recently held meeting.

The setting up of the Regional Interagency Group is also in progress. The role of this group will be to bring together the local authority disability representatives and the HSE dedicated housing representatives for both disability services and mental health

services to allow for co-operation and collaboration at an operational level. The groups will be facilitated by The Housing Agency, who will chair and provide administrative support to the groups and will meet at least each quarter. Senior representatives of Cork City Council have also held a number of meetings with representatives of the 'Before We Die Campaign' and will continue to engage.

The Allocations Section are happy to accept representations made by the Before We Die Campaign on behalf of applicants once we have confirmation that the applicant has provided the necessary consent.

12.2.2 **SEAI HOME ENERGY UPGRADE GRANTS**

An Chomhairle considered and approved the report of the Acting Director of Services, Housing, dated 20th April 2026 on the following motion:-

'That Cork City Council will report on options for Cork City Council tenants to access SEAI home energy upgrade grants, including PV solar, individual energy upgrades, and fully funded energy upgrades, including applications by Cork City Council to the SEAI as a landlord.'

(Proposer: Cllr. O. Moran 26/159)

The report of the Acting Director of Services stated that the SEAI Home Energy Upgrade Grant is a grant process for private homeowners, private landlords and approved housing bodies.

Energy upgrades to local authority homes are supported in the main through the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage (DHLGH) Local Authority Energy Efficiency Retrofit Programme, focusing on deep retrofits for warmer, cheaper-to-heat and more comfortable housing, with funding supporting insulation, window upgrade and renewable heating systems such as heat pumps.

Recognising that there is a cohort of local authority homes that could still benefit from shallow upgrade measures, local authorities are being allowed to access Better Energy Homes grants for attic and cavity wall insulation and heating controls. Cork City Council is engaging with the DHLGH to establish how this might be made available to Cork City Council and individual tenants and will update the Committee as soon as such details are available.

12.2.3 **DIFFERENTIAL RENT SCHEME**

An Chomhairle considered and approved the report of the Acting Director of Services, Housing, dated 20th April 2026 on the following motion:-

'That Cork City Council shall undertake to revise its differential rent scheme to exclude child maintenance payments from its calculation of household means.'

(Proposer: Cllr. J. Lynch 26/228)

The report of the Acting Director of Services stated that one of the Pillars of the new Housing Plan - Delivering Homes, Building Communities 2025-2030 is “Supporting People” which aims towards making homes accessible and affordable. It focuses on protecting children and families particularly those in insecure housing. In line with the Programme for Government commitment, the Government established a Child Maintenance Review Group to examine certain issues in relation to child maintenance in Ireland. Following a review of submissions received by the Group, in June 2024, the Minister for Social Protection removed child maintenance payments from all social welfare means tests. Building on this, at the end of February 2026, the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage approved the removal of child maintenance as assessable income for the purposes of social housing support.

Therefore, child maintenance payments, both paid and received, are no longer considered as assessable income for the purposes of social housing support. Spousal maintenance payments remain assessable.

Local authorities are required to gather all information on maintenance payments paid and received to ascertain which are spousal and which are for children so that they can be differentiated. Cork City Council has incorporated this recommendation into rent assessments with effect from March 2026

13. **CLIMATE ACTION COMMITTEE – 14th APRIL 2026**

An Chomhairle considered and noted the minutes of the Climate Action Committee from its meeting held, 14th April 2026.

13.1 **LOCAL AUTHORITY CLIMATE ACTION PLAN YEAR TWO REPORT**

An Chomhairle considered and noted the Local Authority Climate Action Plan 2024 – 2029 Year Two Report.

14. **DOCKLANDS COMMITTEE – 16th APRIL 2026**

An Chomhairle considered and noted the minutes of the Docklands Committee from its meeting held, 16th April 2026.

15. **FINANCE & ESTIMATES COMMITTEE – 5th MAY 2026**

An Chomhairle considered and noted the minutes of the Finance & Estimates Committee from its meeting held, 5th May 2026.

15.1 **FINANCE RELATED REPORTS**

15.1.1 **FINANCIAL STATEMENTS TO END OF MARCH 2026**

An Chomhairle considered and approved the Financial Statements to the end of March 2026.

15.2 **MOTIONS**

15.2.1 **ONLINE SYSTEM FOR CLAIMS**

An Chomhairle considered and approved the report of the Chief Financial Officer on the following motion:-

‘That Cork City Council develops an online system for people who wish to make claims against Council.’

(Proposer: Cllr. J. Maher 26/161)

The report of the Chief Financial Officer stated that Personal Injury claims are generally initiated by a Solicitor’s Letter. Any online system would only be used in relation to claims for material damage to vehicles from striking potholes or other road defects.

In 2025, Cork City Council settled 52 claims valued at €15,098.30. The number of claims settled reflects less than half of the claims received with the balance being:

1. Passed to the relevant third party.
2. Not being pursued by the claimant.
3. Liability being denied by Cork City Council.
4. A small number are awaiting payment or further information.

This level of claims and the value of same does not warrant the development of a dedicated online claims system. Full details of claims should be submitted through the Customer Service Request platform which will be forwarded to the Claims Section who will then manage the claim.

16. **SOUTH CENTRAL LOCAL AREA COMMITTEE – 27th APRIL 2026**

An Chomhairle considered and noted the minutes of the South Central Local Area Committee from its meeting held, 27th April 2026.

17. **SOUTH WEST LOCAL AREA COMMITTEE – 27th APRIL 2026**

An Chomhairle considered and noted the minutes of the South West Local Area Committee from its meeting held, 27th April 2026.

18. **NORTH WEST LOCAL AREA COMMITTEE – 27th APRIL 2026**

An Chomhairle considered and noted the minutes of the North West Local Area Committee from its meeting held, 27th April 2026.

19. **NORTH EAST LOCAL AREA COMMITTEE – 27th APRIL 2026**

An Chomhairle considered and noted the minutes of the North East Local Area Committee from its meeting held, 27th April 2026.

20. **SOUTH EAST LOCAL AREA COMMITTEE – 28th APRIL 2026**

An Chomhairle considered and noted the minutes of the South East Local Area Committee from its meeting held, 28th April 2026.

21. **CORRESPONDENCE**

An Chomhairle noted correspondence received.

An Chomhairle agreed that the correspondence received from Cork County Council dated 16th April 2026 be referred to the Corporate Policy Group for noting.

22. **CONFERENCE/SEMINAR SUMMARIES**

An Chomhairle noted summaries of conferences/seminars attended as follows:-

- Comhairleoir O. Moran at the Safer Roads Road Safety Conference 2026, held at Gleneagles, Killarney, Co. Kerry, 11th - 12th March 2026.
- Comhairleoir J. Kavanagh at the AILG Annual Training Conference 2026, held at Hotel Minella, Clonmel, Co. Tipperary, 22nd - 23rd April 2026.

23. **SECTION 141 REPORTS**

None received.

24. **CONFERENCES/SEMINARS**

24.1 **LOCAL COMMUNITY SAFETY PARTNERSHIPS**

An Chomhairle considered and approved the travel of Comhairleoirí T. Shannon and C. O'Connor to Athlone from 26th to 27th May 2026 to attend a meeting of all Chairs and Vice Chairs of the Local Community Safety Partnerships.

24.2 **IPB AGM**

An Chomhairle considered and approved the attendance of Comhairleoir S. Martin at the IPB AGM 2026, held in the Mansion House in Dublin on 1st May 2026.

25. **TRAINING**

None received.

26. **CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S MONTHLY MANAGEMENT REPORTS**

An Chomhairle considered and noted the Chief Executive's monthly management report for March 2026.

27. **MOTIONS REFERRED TO COMMITTEES**

An Chomhairle noted the motions on Appendix 1 attached, that have been referred to the relevant Committees as determined by the Meetings Administrator, due notice of which has been given.

An Chomhairle noted that motion 39, Urgent Decanting of Tenants in Substandard Flat Complexes, would be referred to the Housing Strategic Policy Committee.

28. **MOTIONS**

28.1 **US AND ISRAEL'S WAR ON IRAN**

An Chomhairle considered and approved the following motion:-

‘That Cork City Council write to the Prime Minister of Spain Pedro Sánchez to commend him and the Spanish government for their courage in speaking truth to power by strongly condemning United States President Donald Trump and Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu’s illegal, unprovoked and unjustified war on Iran; a war that has already led to the deaths of numerous innocent civilians, the destabilisation of the middle east and an enormous increase in energy costs and which has the potential to lead to a regional or even world war and a global economic depression.’

(Proposer: Cllr. S. O’Callaghan 26/197)

28.2 **IRISH UNITY**

An Chomhairle considered and approved the following motion, noting the dissention of Comhairleoir B. McCarthy:-

‘That Cork City Council writes to the Office of An Taoiseach, seeking the Irish Government to plan and prepare for Irish unity, through the following actions:

Recognises that the reunification of Ireland is an objective of Bunreacht na hÉireann and there is a growing national discussion around constitutional change with people from diverse backgrounds now exploring the possibility of Irish unity

Notes that:

The Good Friday Agreement 1998 provides the democratic and peaceful means to achieve reunification through the provision of unity referendums.

The significant Joint Oireachtas Committee on the Implementation of the Good Friday Agreement report ‘Perspectives on Constitutional Change: Finance and Economics’ which recommends the establishment of Citizen Assemblies and other relevant forums, a designated Joint Oireachtas Committee and a Government Department to take responsibility for planning and preparing for constitutional change, received cross-party support.

Establish an all-island representative Citizens Assembly or Assemblies, to allow for informed debate, and a Joint Oireachtas Committee on Irish Unity to enable careful planning.

Produce and publish a plan towards Irish unity in conjunction with civic society and key stakeholders.

Engage with northern protestant and unionist opinion about the future of Ireland and work to secure a date for the referendums on unity provided for in the Good Friday Agreement.'

(Proposers: Cllr. K. Collins, Cllr. P. Dineen, Cllr. F. Kerins, Cllr. M. Gould, Cllr. J. Lynch, Cllr. N. O'Connor, Cllr. J. Maher 26/254)

28.3 **EUROPE DAY**

An Chomhairle considered and approved the following motion:-

'To mark Europe Day, that Cork City Council will write to the Government, including the Taoiseach and Minister of State for European Affairs, to request that Ireland's Presidency of the Council of the European Union will champion making Europe Day a common public holiday across Europe.'

(Proposer: Cllr. H. Kamegni 26/263)

28.4 **SUPPORT FOR UKRAINIANS LIVING IN IRELAND**

An Chomhairle considered and approved the following motion:-

'That this Council views with concern Government proposals to eliminate support for Ukrainians living in Ireland, whose country continues to suffer the effects of war and aggression.'

(Proposer: Cllr. D. Boyle 26/279)

28.5 **OFFSHORE EXPLORATION AND ENERGY SECURITY**

An Chomhairle considered the following motion:-

'That Cork City Council acknowledges the worsening global energy crisis and its potential severe impact on Ireland's economy and households. Council calls on the Chief Executive to write immediately to An Taoiseach urging that the ban on offshore exploration be lifted so that Ireland can develop its own indigenous energy resources and protect against future energy insecurity and economic damage.'

(Proposers: Cllr. A. Deasy, Cllr. N. O'Flynn 26/287)

On the proposal of Comhairleoir P. Horgan, seconded by Comhairleoir N. O'Connor, a vote was called for on the approval of the motion where there appeared as follows:-

FOR: Comhairleoirí N. O’Flynn, S. O’Callaghan, A. Deasy. (3)

AGAINST: Comhairleoirí J. Kavanagh, O. Moran, D. Boylan, J. Sheehan, B. McCarthy, K. McCarthy, P. Horgan, F. Kerins, D. Boyle, N. O’Connor, G. O’Brien, C. O’Connor. (12)

ABSTAIN: Comhairleoir F. Dennehy. (1)

As those voting for the motion were less than those voting against, An tArdmhéara declared the vote and the motion defeated.

28.6 **MANNA DELIVERY DRONES**

An Chomhairle considered and approved the following motion:-

‘That this Council expresses its concern at the hundreds of complaints made by the public over Manna delivery drones in recent weeks, especially since this is just the testing phase for expansion across the entire T2 geozone. This Council demands that a full review of the impact of these drones on the public, the environment and the impact of the IAA restrictions on other drone users in the testing phase be carried out by the IAA and made available to the public before any further expansion or the service goes ahead.’

(Proposer: Cllr. B. McCarthy 26/294)

This concluded the business of the meeting

ARDMHÉARA
CATHAOIRLEACH