

DM/ZP

6ú Aibreán, 2022

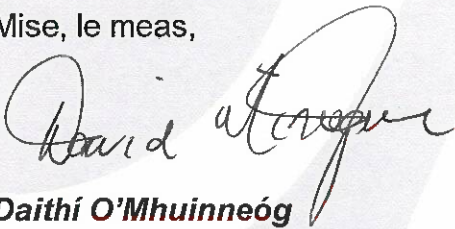
## FÓGRA CRUINNITHE

**Meeting of Wexford County Council  
On Monday 11<sup>th</sup> April, 2022 - 2.00 p.m.  
Council Chamber, County Hall, Wexford**

A Chara,

Tionólfar cruinniú de'n Chomhairle mar a léirítear thuas.

Mise, le meas,



**Daithí O'Mhuinneóg**  
Runai

***Attendees may attend in person or remotely via Teams***

***If you intend to attend remotely please let the County Secretary know by 5pm Friday 8<sup>th</sup> April, 2022 and the necessary TEAMS link will be forwarded to you.***

**County Council Meeting – 11<sup>th</sup> April, 2022 – Agenda**

**1. Confirmation of Minutes:**

1.1 County Council Meeting 28.03.2022

**2. Presentation re: Comhairle Na N'Og**

**3. Consideration of Annual Financial Statement 2021 and AFS Report**

**4. 3 Year Capital Programme 2022 – 2024**

**5. Section 183 of the Local Government Act 2001:**

**5.1 Proposed intention to transfer an area of land at Pairc Charman, Wexford.  
(Statutory Notice Served 24<sup>th</sup> March, 2022)**

**6. Chief Executive's Report  
(in respect of March 2022)**

**7. Minutes of CPG**

7.1 Minutes of CPG Meeting 4<sup>th</sup> April, 2022

**8. Minutes of Meetings (For Noting):**

8.1 Rosslare Municipal District Meeting – 16.02.2022

8.2 Borough District of Wexford Meeting – 21.02.2022

8.3 Enniscorthy Municipal District Meeting – 22.02.2022

**9. Correspondence and Communications**

9.1 Letter from Dun Laoghaire Rathdown County Council re motion dated 22.03.2022

**10. Councillor's Conferences and Training**

**10.1 List of Conferences/Training – List Attached**

**10.2 Councillor Conference Reports**

- Cllr. Cathal Byrne, The Fair Deal Scheme, Carlingford, Co. Louth 1<sup>st</sup> to 3<sup>rd</sup> October 2021
- Cllr. Cathal Byrne, Mental Health Wellbeing, Carlingford, Co. Louth 3<sup>rd</sup> to 5<sup>th</sup> December 2021.
- Cllr. Joe Sullivan, Tourism & Digital Marketing, Carlingford, Co. Louth 4<sup>th</sup> to 6<sup>th</sup> March, 2022.

- Savannah Delegation Report March 2022 – BA Murphy, Cathaoirleach, Cllrs. G. Laffan, G. Carthy, G. Lawlor, M. Sheehan.
- New York Delegation Report March, 2022 –Cllrs. A. Connick, L. McDonald

## 11. Deferred Notices of Motions – County Council Meeting 14<sup>th</sup> February, 2022

### 11.1 Cllr. M. Whelan

"I'm calling on Wexford County Council to support the retaining of the rescue117 helicopter in Waterford to service the Southeast."

#### **Response of the Executive:**

If passed, this Motion will be forwarded to the relevant Minister for consideration.

### 11.2 Cllr. D. Hynes

"This council calls on the Minister for Health to urgently address the appalling lack of dentistry for medical card patients. Most of the Dentists in Wexford will no longer take medical card patients and the cost of having fillings and extractions are out of reach of many low paid and SW patients."

#### **Response of the Executive:**

If passed, this Motion will be forwarded to the relevant Minister for consideration.

### 11.3 Cllr. John Fleming

"That Wexford County Council Calls on the Minister for Transport Eamon Ryan to hugely increase funding for bus shelters in County Wexford.

At a time when bus transport is being encouraged, the lack of bus shelters is a massive deterrent to would- be users . "

#### **Response of the Executive:**

If passed, this Motion will be forwarded to the relevant Minister for consideration.

### 11.4 Cllr. George Lawlor

"Wexford County Council investigates the role and potential advantages of appointing or hiring an EU Affairs Coordinator. "

### **Response of the Executive:**

If passed, the Executive is happy to consider this Motion and to report its findings on the matter to the Members.

#### **11.5 Cllr. C. Byrne & Cllr Codd Nolan**

"In view of the current serious difficulties faced by local community groups in obtaining annual insurance cover for community facilities such as playgrounds, we call on this Council to engage with Irish Public Bodies to provide adequate insurance cover for community facilities such as playgrounds as a matter of urgency."

### **Response of the Executive:**

If passed, the Executive is happy to consider this Motion and to report its findings on the matter to the Members.

#### **11.6 Cllrs M. Sheehan and G. Laffan.**

"That this Council calls on the Department of Education to allow funds allocated for Covid Prevention and Mitigation in Schools to be retained and reassigned by individual schools locally for the sole purposes of increasing resources targeting School Completion, Family Liaison, Career Guidance and Mental Health Programmes to bolster the return to a normal study environment in the school community."

### **Response of the Executive:**

If passed, this Motion will be forwarded to the relevant Minister for consideration.

#### **11.7 Cllr. Lisa McDonald ,On behalf of the women's coalition**

"That Wexford County Council calls on the Government to confront the fear of that exists amongst women for their personal safety with a whole of society response . A multi departmental response is required to deal with the different factors that need to be tackled including –education , policing , criminal justice, domestic violence, coercive control , pornography and safety on line. We call for violence towards women to be put to the forefront of the Government Agenda so that this threat to our society is tackled swiftly and effectively. "

### **Response of the Executive:**

If passed, this Motion will be forwarded to the relevant Minister(s) for consideration.

#### **11.8 Cllr. Fionntán Ó Súilleabháin**

"In light of the recent flooding which caused so much damage across County Wexford, this Council recognises that deforestation and the widescale removal of hedgerows/ditches over recent years has had a large impact in terms of water movement across the country. We further recognise the benefits that would result from

a programme of broadleaf afforestation as a mitigating measure to slow waterflow, as tried in other countries such as Wales.

This year the Council will identify parts of the county where such an approach could be beneficial and will also engage with the relevant agencies this year in an attempt to adopt such an approach. This would also be in line with measures that are advocated to combat climate change.”

#### **Response of the Executive:**

If passed, the Council would be happy to consider opportunities for part-afforestation of lands in Council ownership. In addition, the Motion (if passed) will be forwarded to the relevant Minister for consideration in the context of developing afforestation opportunities for private land owners.

### **11.9 Cllr. Cathal Byrne**

“Wexford County Council calls on the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage to introduce financial assistance to assist in the removal of asbestos from residential dwellings.

And if passed, that this motion be circulated to all local authorities in Ireland.”

#### **Response of the Executive:**

If passed, this Motion will be forwarded to the relevant Minister(s) for consideration and to all local authorities to seek their support of the Motion.

### **11.10 Cllr. Tom Forde**

“This council recognises the important role of the various media outlets in Co. Wexford, both as local employers and as a means of keeping the public informed on local issues and events.

In the interest of ensuring that the council's deployment of its advertising expenditure is based on effectiveness and value for money, we ask that the council conduct a complete and transparent review of its expenditure in this area.

As part of this review, we request that this council write to Minister Catherine Martin and request her to take pro-active steps to ensure that the government plays its part in adequately resourcing local media outlets.

Furthermore, we call on the council to actively pursue the inclusion of smaller local-owned or independent news and media outlets, websites and advertising companies in its media strategy to ensure fairness and equality.”

### **Response of the Executive:**

The Council will provide the Members with details of advertising expenditure incurred in recent years.

If passed, this Motion will be forwarded to the relevant Minister for consideration.

It is the policy of the Council to pursue advertising options that result in the Council's underlying messages and information reaching our target audiences in the most effective, economically efficient and timely manner. This includes, but is not limited to local newspapers, local radio, other periodicals and publications, websites, social media, cinema advertising, and other advertising mechanisms.

#### **11.11 Councillor Barbara-Anne Murphy**

"This Council calls on the Minister for Transport to continue funding for the N24 and N25 - vitally necessary major road infrastructure in the SouthEast region. It is imperative that both projects are funded in 2022.

Similar motions are being put before all 5 counties in the South East Region on this matter."

### **Response of the Executive:**

If passed, this Motion will be forwarded to the relevant Minister for consideration.

#### **11.12 Cllr. Jim Moore**

"Wexford County Council calls on the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage to facilitate a meeting with the Council and the National Coastal Management Strategy Steering Group to highlight the immediate concerns of Wexford County Council and secure the responses required to address the coastal erosion issues in Wexford"

### **Response of the Executive:**

If passed, this Motion will be forwarded to the relevant Minister to facilitate such meeting.

#### **11.13 Cllr. George Lawlor**

"Wexford County calls on the Minister for Health to immediately prioritise the crisis in children's services in the CHO5 area which covers Wexford, Waterford, Carlow/Kilkenny and South Tipperary.

Currently there are 15,960 children awaiting first time intervention in all areas of early intervention in the CHO5 area"



### **Response of the Executive:**

If passed, this Motion will be forwarded to the relevant Minister for consideration.

## **12. Deferred Notices of Motions 28<sup>th</sup> March, 2022**

### **12.1 Cllr. Barbara-Anne Murphy**

Wexford County Council calls on the Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment to demand that the IDA fill the position of Regional Director for the South East as a matter of urgency.”

(Similar motions are being submitted to Carlow, Kilkenny, Tipperary & Waterford Councils).

### **Response of the Executive:**

If passed, this Motion will be forwarded to the Minister for consideration

### **12.2 Cllr. Tom Forde**

“I ask that Wexford County Council write to Minister Darragh Ó Brien and ask him to review and adjust the spending limits imposed on councils when attempting to purchase available and suitable properties for the purpose of social housing so that councils may be able to offer realistic bids and acquire more properties, while also being respectful to potential homeowners.”

### **Response of the Executive:**

If passed, this Motion will be forwarded to the Minister for consideration

### **12.3 Cllr. Leonard Kelly**

“Wexford County Council call on the relevant minister to fund a Local Coordination Group to support the Ukrainian refugee fleeing the invasion of their homeland,.

Similar to the interagency model which was successfully used for the arrival of Syrian refugees a number of years ago, this Local Coordination group would look at areas of health, education, housing and general integration.”

### **Response of the Executive:**

If passed, this Motion will be forwarded to the relevant Minister for consideration

#### **12.4 Cllr. Tom Forde**

“As window/door replacements have been absorbed into the Energy Retrofit Programme, I ask that this council work quickly to establish a comprehensive plan on how to proceed with the programme and in recognition of those that are in urgent need of replacements, and our obligation to upgrade all stock by 2030, create a list of priority estates/houses to be addressed along with a specified time frame for these units.”

#### **Response of the Executive:**

#### **12.5 Cllr. Fiontán Ó Súilleabháin**

“The County Council will support the facilitation of Irish language classes, free at the point of entry, through the Local Authority/local group for both adult beginners and intermediates in conversational Irish to ensure our native language remains a significant part of our heritage and culture for future generations.

Also, that we support Conradh na Gaeilge Loch Garman's initiative 'Gaelú Lich Garman' which was launched recently and which promotes the use of Irish in businesses throughout Co.Wexford”

#### **Response of the Executive:**

The provision of Irish Language classes as described above will require funding to be provided by Wexford County Council to support same.

This Motion will therefore be considered in the context of Budget 2023 and a specific line item for this purpose can be provided in that Budget, subject to Members' approval.

### **13. Notices of Motion**

#### **13.1 Cllr P. Barden**

“That Wexford County Council calls on the Minister for Environment, Climate & Communications and the Office of the Planning Regulator to set as minimum, a set back for wind turbines of six times the turbine height between a wind turbine and the nearest residential property”.

#### **Response of the Executive:**

If passed, this Motion will be forwarded to the Minister and to the OPR for consideration



**13.2 Cllr. Jim Moore on behalf of the Municipal District of Rosslare and all members.**

“Members of Rosslare Municipal District request that urgent communication be issued to the OPW to seek confirmation on the status of the review and report following the flooding events in the Bridgetown/Kilmore and surrounding areas in December 2021 and a timeframe for when possible solutions, plans and timelines will be clarified and formally notified to Wexford County Council. The communication should also include a formal request from Wexford County Council to the OPW seeking a commitment that they will attend a meeting of the Council to present their findings and recommended solutions.

In addition Rosslare MD are calling on the OPW to immediately implement a grant scheme for affected residents and businesses to allow them to secure short term solutions to deal with flood events e.g. flood barriers”.

**Response of the Executive:**

**13.3 Cllr. Michael Sheehan**

“In the interests of fairness, competition and value for money, this Council calls on the Minister for Environment, Climate and Communications and the Commissioner for Energy Regulation to ensure a transparent, robust and thorough procurement process be applied to next Supervisory Body of Electrical Contractors agreement to ensure that all contractor’s views are taken into account and that consideration for two bodies be considered to avoid monopolistic dominance of the market. Upon passage this motion is circulated to all local authorities.”

**Response of the Executive:**

If passed, this Motion will be forwarded to the Minister and to the Commissioner for consideration and will be circulated to all local authorities

**13.4 Cllr. John Hegarty**

“The current system of school wardens across County Wexford plays a very important role in ensuring the safety of primary school children on a daily basis. I propose that the current vacancies be filled in consultation with the relevant primary schools before any change of policy to get rid of wardens be discussed or implemented.”

**Response of the Executive:**

The School Warden process requires an examination of a range of factors before deciding to provide a school warden at any particular school. The most important factor is the number of unaccompanied children that cross the road in the vicinity of the school. These factors also include the availability of a pedestrian crossing at the school. If the numbers of unaccompanied children are not high enough to warrant the provision of an adult school warden service then a controlled pedestrian crossing will be considered.

Where a warden and a crossing are both currently in place at a school, surveys will be undertaken to assess the numbers of unaccompanied children crossing the road at that school. If the numbers of unaccompanied children are below the minimum number required then that warden will not be replaced upon their retirement / resignation. This is to ensure consistency of application of the School warden service at all school locations.

An important factor to note is that an ASW service is only in operation on school days and for a limited time in the morning and afternoon whereas the controlled pedestrian crossing will be in use 24/7 365 days a year. This controlled pedestrian crossing will be available for the entire community throughout the entire year and not just for the school year.

We have given an undertaking to audit the pedestrian crossings at both the Faythe and the CBS national schools over the Summer holidays with a view to making any improvements that are deemed appropriate.

#### **14. Any Other Business**

- 14.1 Section 14 of the Local Elections (Disclosure of Donations and Expenditure) Act, 1999  
- Details of statements, etc. to be furnished to members of local authority.