

**WEXFORD COUNTY COUNCIL****Minutes of Meeting of Wexford County Council Held on Monday 14<sup>th</sup> April 2025  
in the Council Chamber at 2.30pm (with some remote attendance)****Attendance:****In the Chair:** Cllr. Pip Breen, Cathaoirleach.**Councillors:**

<b>Barden</b>	<b>Pat</b>	<b>Forde</b>	<b>Tom</b>	<b>O'Brien</b>	<b>Aoife Rose</b>
<b>Barron</b>	<b>Vicky</b>	<b>Kavanagh</b>	<b>Paddy</b>	<b>O'Rourke</b>	<b>John</b>
<b>Boland</b>	<b>Nicky</b>	<b>Kehoe</b>	<b>Pat</b>	<b>Shannon</b>	<b>Raymond</b>
<b>Browne</b>	<b>Aidan</b>	<b>Kelly</b>	<b>Leonard</b>	<b>Sheehan</b>	<b>Michael (Online)</b>
<b>Carthy</b>	<b>Ger</b>	<b>Kenny</b>	<b>Donal</b>	<b>Staples</b>	<b>Frank (Online)</b>
<b>Codd</b>	<b>Jim</b>	<b>Laffan</b>	<b>Garry (Online)</b>	<b>Staples</b>	<b>Robbie</b>
<b>Donohoe</b>	<b>Anthony</b>	<b>McDonald</b>	<b>Darragh</b>	<b>Sullivan</b>	<b>Joe</b>
<b>Doyle</b>	<b>Craig</b>	<b>McDonald</b>	<b>Lisa</b>	<b>Walsh</b>	<b>Catherine</b>
<b>Dwyer</b>	<b>John</b>	<b>Murphy</b>	<b>Barbara- Anne</b>	<b>Walsh</b>	<b>Oliver</b>
<b>Farrell</b>	<b>Mary</b>	<b>Murphy</b>	<b>Bridín</b>		
<b>Fleming</b>	<b>John</b>	<b>Murphy</b>	<b>Marty</b>		

**Officials:**

Ms. Jacqueline Carroll, Director of Services  
 Mr. Michael Drea, County Secretary  
 Ms. Carolyn Godkin, Director of Services  
 Mr. Eamonn Hore, Director of Services  
 Ms. Liz Hore, Director of Services  
 Ms. Lynda Lacey, Director of Finance  
 Mr. Eddie Taaffe, Chief Executive

**Apologies:** Cllr. Jackser Owens

### **Votes of sympathy:**

The Cathaoirleach offered the sympathy of the Council to:

- The family of Raymond Hunt, father of Graeme Hunt, Executive Planner and father-in-law of Sonia Hunt, Executive Planner.
- The family of Mary Wadding, mother of Bernard Wadding, Finance Section.
- The family of Jack Stanley, father of Liz Stanley and father-in-law of Debbie Stanley, Gorey Municipal District Office.
- The family of Mary Kate Broaders, mother of Geraldine Broaders (former employee).
- The family Patsy Whelan, sister of Dymphna O'Connor, Community Section, Angie Malone, Local Enterprise Office and aunt of Craig Flaherty, Finance Section.
- The family of Barry Wotton father of Jamie Chamberlain, CSU and father-in-law of Aoife Cullen, Finance Section.
- The family of Eamonn White, Roleen, Duncormick, brother of Anne White (former employee) and uncle of Fiona Bennett, Special Projects.
- The family of Fr. John Hennebry O.S.A, former Principal of Good Counsel College.
- The family of Kathleen Delaney (née Fortune), Glenour, Adamstown.

### **Congratulations:**

- Cllr.'s A. Browne and J. Fleming congratulated the Wexford Football League on their extra-time victory against Limerick to win the Oscar Traynor Trophy.
- Cllr. J. Fleming congratulated Rory McIlroy on completing the career grand slam by winning the Masters.
- Cllr. J. Codd congratulated Paddy Berry, President of Craobh Loch Garman for his lifetime contribution to traditional music and culture.
- Cllr. J. Codd congratulated Alice and Caitlin Kavanagh for calling out racism they were subjected to in the Bullring in Wexford.
- Cllr. J. Codd congratulated all those involved in the Ability's Got Talent event, particularly Karina Browne, overall winner.
- Cllr. A.R. O'Brien congratulated all those involved with the inaugural Pecker Dunne festival, particularly Cllr. T. Forde who organised it and Cllr.'s L. Kelly, J. Codd, and J. Owens for their contributions.
- Cllr. J. Dwyer congratulated New Ross River Search and Rescue who have saved four people from the river in recent times.
- Cllr. C. Walsh congratulated Wexford CBS on winning the All-Ireland U17 Schools Soccer Final.
- Cllr. C. Walsh congratulated all those involved in the launch of Fleadh Cheoil na hÉireann 2025.

Mr. E. Hore, Deputy Chief Executive welcomed new Director of Services Ms. J. Carroll to Wexford County Council and wished her well in her new role.

## **1. Confirmation of Minutes**

### **1.1 County Council Meeting 10th March, 2025**

On the proposal of Cllr. B.A. Murphy, seconded by Cllr. J. Fleming the Council resolved to confirm the minutes of the County Council Meeting on 10th March, 2025.

Matters Arising:

Cllr. G. Carthy outlined his belief that Wexford County Council has a duty of care to have regard to the environmental impact when considering planning exemptions. Cllr. Carthy asked that the intensification of development at the Denby Lodge be notified to the EPA.

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

**2.1 Intention to grant a deed of easement – Maudlintown, Forth, Co. Wexford**

On the proposal of Cllr. T. Forde, seconded by Cllr. R. Shannon the Council resolved to grant a deed of easement at Maudlintown, Forth, Co. Wexford, in accordance with the terms set out in the S.183 Notice as circulated.

**2.2 Intention to allow for the provision of a wayleave – traverses land at Nos. 11 and 12 Nolan's Lawn, Bellefield, Enniscorthy, Co. Wexford**

On the proposal of Cllr. A. Browne, seconded by Cllr. B.A. Murphy the Council resolved to allow for the provision of a wayleave which traverses land at Nos. 11 and 12 Nolan's Lawn, Bellefield, Enniscorthy, Co. Wexford, in accordance with the terms set out in the S.183 Notice as circulated.

**2.3 Intention to dispose of property at 22 High Hill Street, New Ross, Co. Wexford**

On the proposal of Cllr. J. Fleming, seconded by Cllr. B. Murphy the Council resolved to dispose of property at 22 High Hill Street, New Ross, Co. Wexford, in accordance with the terms set out in the S.183 Notice as circulated.

**2.4 Intention to dispose of property at 16 Haughton Place, New Ross, Co. Wexford**

On the proposal of Cllr. J. Fleming, seconded by Cllr. B. Murphy the Council resolved to dispose of property at 16 Haughton Place, New Ross, Co. Wexford, in accordance with the terms set out in the S.183 Notice as circulated.

**2.5 Intention to dispose of property at 16 Chapel Lane, New Ross, Co. Wexford.**

On the proposal of Cllr. J. Fleming, seconded by Cllr. B. Murphy the Council resolved to dispose of property at 16 Chapel Lane, New Ross, Co. Wexford, in accordance with the terms set out in the S.183 Notice as circulated.

**3. Part XI of the Planning and Development Act, 2000 (as amended) and Part 8 of the Planning and Development Regulations, 2001 (as amended)**

**3.1 LAC2407** - Construction of 92 no. residential units along with a full-size soccer pitch, smaller training/astroturf pitch, parking area and changing facilities. The 92 no. housing units will consist of: 20 no. maisonette one-bed apartment units; 8 no. single storey one-bed independent and supported living units; 24 no. two-storey semi-detached and terrace two-bed houses; 2 no. single storey two-bed supported living units; 34 no. two-storey semi-detached and terrace three-bed houses; 4 no. two-storey semi-detached four-bed houses and associated site works, New Ross, Co. Wexford.

Having considered the report of the Chief Executive, on the proposal of Cllr. J. Fleming, seconded by Cllr. M. Murphy, the Council resolved to approve the Part 8 for the construction of 92 no. residential units along with a full-size soccer pitch, smaller training/astroturf pitch, parking area and changing facilities at Castlemoyle, New Ross, in accordance with the terms of LAC2407, as circulated.

**4. Draft Casual Trading Bye-Laws Fleadh Cheoil na hEireann, 2025**

On the proposal of Cllr. V. Barron, seconded by Cllr. R. Staples the Council resolved to adopt the Casual Trading Bye-Laws Fleadh Cheoil na hEireann, 2025.

**5. Draft Street Performance Bye-Laws 2025**

On the proposal of Cllr. V. Barron, seconded by Cllr. C. Walsh the Council resolved to adopt the Street Performance Bye-Laws 2025.

**6. Local Authority Home Loan (LAHL)**

Ms. L. Lacey informed the Council that Wexford County Council has been notified that its Local Authority Home Loan allocation for lending in 2025 is €9,710,000. Ms. Lacey advised that the Department has also authorised Wexford County Council to seek approval for borrowing of 20% of the 2025 allocation for 2026. This is to ensure there are no delays in issuing approval in principle letters in 2026 pending the official notification of the 2026 allocation.

In accordance with Section 106 of the Local Government Act 2001 on the proposal of Cllr. B.A. Murphy, seconded by Cllr. A. Donohoe the Council resolved to approve borrowings of €9,710,000 in respect of 2025 and €1,942,000 in respect of 2026 to fund Local Authority Home Loans.

**7. Annual Financial Statement 2024 and AFS Report**

Ms. L. Lacey gave an overview of the 2024 Wexford County Council Final Accounts Report to Members, as circulated. In accordance with Section 104 of the Local Government Act 2001, Ms. Lacey sought the approval of the Council to:

- Budget adjustments in respect of exceptional items together with the Increased Cost of Business (ICOB) Grant, Increased Cost of Business 2 (ICOB2) Grant, Power Up Grant (PUG), 2024 roads grant movement and additional expenditure over 2024 budget amounting to €31.2m, as outlined in Part 1, 2, and 3 of the circulated report.

On the proposal of Cllr. J. Dwyer, seconded by Cllr. B.A. Murphy, the Council resolved to approve the Annual Financial Statement 2024 and the budget adjustments in respect of exceptional items.

**8. Housing Construction Estate Naming Policy**

On the proposal of Cllr. B.A. Murphy, seconded by Cllr. J. Fleming, the Council resolved to adopt the Housing Construction Estate Naming Policy, as circulated.

**9. Invitation to delegation from Wexford – 50th Anniversary Twinning Agreement Lugo-Kulmbach 2nd May, 2025 to 4th May, 2025**

On the proposal of Cllr. A. Donohoe, seconded by Cllr. B.A. Murphy, the Council resolved to approve a delegation to travel to Lugo for the 50th Anniversary Twinning Agreement.

**10. Invitation to delegation to travel to 6th International Symposium of the Remembrance Cities network – Dunkirk (France) and Ypres (Belgium) – 21st May, 2025 to 24th May, 2025**

On the proposal of Cllr. A. Donohoe, seconded by Cllr. B.A. Murphy, the Council resolved to approve a delegation to travel to 6th International Symposium of the Remembrance Cities network – Dunkirk (France) and Ypres (Belgium).

**11. Approval sought for delegation to travel to KIMO Board Meeting Denmark - May 2025**

On the proposal of Cllr. A. Donohoe, seconded by Cllr. B.A. Murphy, the Council resolved to approve a delegation to travel to the KIMO Board Meeting in Denmark.

On the proposal of Cllr. B.A. Murphy, seconded by Cllr. A. Browne, the Council resolved to appoint Cllr. L. McDonald as the KIMO delegate.

**12. PPN Sectoral Nominations to SPC's**

On the proposal of Cllr. A. Donohoe, seconded by Cllr. O. Walsh, the Council resolved to appoint the following PPN sectoral nominations to SPC's:

SPC 1	Economic Development & Enterprise	Environmental Rep	Roisin Markham
SPC 4	Community & Rural Affairs	Social Inclusion Rep Community/Voluntary Rep	John Waters Peter O'Connor
SPC 5	Climate Change, Environment and Biodiversity	Environmental Rep	Natasha Ariff

**13. Nomination of Ms. Inez Brennan to LCDC replacing Ms. Meghan Callanan, Department of Social Protection**

On the proposal of Cllr. C. Walsh, seconded by Cllr. A. Browne, the Council resolved to appoint Ms. Inez Brennan to the LCDC replacing Ms. Meghan Callanan, Department of Social Protection.

**14. Draft Annual Report 2024**

On the proposal of Cllr. B.A. Murphy, seconded by Cllr. O. Walsh, the Council resolved to adopt the draft Annual Report 2024.

Eddie Taafe, Chief Executive joined the meeting at this point.

**15. Chief Executive's Report**

The Chief Executive and members of the Management Team responded to a wide range of queries from the Elected Members regarding the following:

- Concern expressed in relation to Uisce Éireann's forward planning on projects. Kilmore Quay project was referenced as an example where the expenditure was to bring the plant up to current regulation standards rather than providing additional capacity for future development.
- Request that mediation be used to try and resolve the impasse between two groups in Kilmore in relation to a proposed ORIS funded walking trail where the community is at risk of losing out on funding of €0.5m.
- Disappointment expressed that the funding secured for pavement improvement works in Killinick won't result in any traffic calming measures to reduce speed.
- Update sought on the Clohamon and Ballycarney junctions.
- Clarification sought on whether vacant commercial premises which aren't available to let can avail of a rates abatement.
- Query in relation to the timeline for the drafting of development plans for the towns.
- Request that Wexford County Council write to TII asking that the section of road at Leeches bend be realigned thereby bypassing the dangerous bend.
- How many units does Wexford County Council think it can acquire through the tenant in situ scheme having regard to the budget and revised terms of the scheme?
- How many tenant in situ applications does Wexford County Council have on hand from 2024?
- Request that the Housing Department consider a policy whereby if a tenant of Wexford County Council has room in their property, they would be allowed to let another family member(s) reside in the property. This was proposed as a method of relieving overcrowding in certain cases.
- Query if costings have been obtained for an additional road gritter to service some rural roads which currently aren't on the winter maintenance programme.
- Update sought on the timeline for the completion of the Curracloe Water Sports centre.
- Frustration expressed in relation to water pressure issues and outages being experienced in Wexford town in areas such as Whiterock Hill.
- Update sought on Castlebridge active travel proposals.

- Query if Wexford County Council provides advice in relation to best practice to community groups engaging in large scale funding applications such as Oris.

Cllr. Michael Sheehan joined the meeting at this point.

- What Trinity Wharf works are planned to take place in 2026?
- Does the Planning Department employ an ecologist considering nature restoration targets?
- Has the ESB provided an update in relation to the resilience of the network in Wexford?
- Update sought on the plans for the Dun Mhuire site.
- Request that people at risk of being evicted be treated favourably when it comes to social housing allocations.
- Clarification sought if increases in old age social welfare allowance for over 80's are disregarded for rent purposes.
- Is there a timeframe for social workers to respond to issues once brought to their attention?
- Request that discretion be exercised in relation to the commencement of rent charges where tenants cannot move into their local authority house within 1 week.
- Case of lady who is having issues surrendering her four-bed house in New Ross was raised.
- Who is responsible for ensuring planning exemption is in place and fire safety regulations are met for IPAS centres?
- View expressed that there needs to be more prosecutions for dumping.
- View expressed that the RSA needs to put a course in place educating young people who are driving heavy machinery.
- What steps have been taken to improve housing wrap around services?
- Request for a briefing on the cost rental scheme.
- How will tenant in situ applicants who were carried over from 2024 but are no longer eligible under the new terms of the scheme be dealt with?
- Request for additional signage on the left-hand side of the N25 for junctions as you travel from Wexford.
- Query how the 60km speed limit which was introduced in Killinick for road works can be retained and implemented at the Coal Bunker in Drinagh.
- Request for a briefing memo setting out the facts of the tenant in situ scheme including funding.
- Update sought on the active travel plans for the Old Dublin Road Business Park in Enniscorthy.
- Query what the plans are for the HPBA in Enniscorthy and what has been spent on it to date.
- Is there a local or national policy on the installation of speed ramps?
- Request that the signage at Ballycarney Junction include flashing lights and the wording "Dangerous Junction Ahead".
- Congratulations extended to all those involved in bringing McDonald's to New Ross.
- Update sought on plans for the old Court House in New Ross and Bumble Bee site.
- What are Wexford County Council's plans to increase housing delivery and targets in light of the new Planning Framework?

The meeting adjourned for a comfort break at this point.

Cllr.'s F. Staples, J. O'Rourke, and O. Walsh left the meeting at this point.

**16. Minutes of CPG**

16.1 Minutes of CPG Meeting 7th April, 2025

On the proposal of Cllr. B.A. Murphy, seconded by Cllr. D. Kenny the Council resolved to adopt the minutes of the CPG Meeting on 7<sup>th</sup> April, 2025.

**17. Minutes of Meetings (for Noting):**

17.1 Gorey-Kilmuckridge Municipal District Meeting – 18<sup>th</sup> February, 2025

17.2 New Ross Municipal District Meeting – 12<sup>th</sup> February, 2025

17.3 Borough District of Wexford Meeting – 17<sup>th</sup> February, 2025

17.4 Protocol Meeting - Borough District of Wexford – 17<sup>th</sup> February, 2025

17.5 Enniscorthy Municipal District Meeting – 18<sup>th</sup> February, 2025

17.6 Rosslare Municipal District – 24<sup>th</sup> March, 2025 & 19<sup>th</sup> February, 2025

17.7 Housing SPC - 27th February, 2005

The Members noted the minutes, as circulated.

**18. Correspondence and Communications**

18.1 Letter from Clare County Council re: motion dated 11<sup>th</sup> March, 2025

18.2 Letter from HSE, South East Community Healthcare re: motion dated 12<sup>th</sup> March, 2025

18.3 Email from TII re motion dated 18<sup>th</sup> March, 2025

The Members noted the correspondence, as circulated.

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

19.1 List of Conferences / Training

9<sup>th</sup> – 11th April                      Irish Planning Institute – Annual Planning Conference  
Salthill Hotel, Galway. Fee €515 per attendee.

On the proposal of Cllr. B.A. Murphy, seconded by Cllr. B. Murphy, the Council resolved to approve attendance at the Irish Planning Institute Annual Planning Conference from the 9<sup>th</sup> – 11<sup>th</sup> April.

19.2 Delegation Reports:

- Australia Delegation – 27<sup>th</sup> February – 7<sup>th</sup> March, 2025
- Hartford Delegation – 13<sup>th</sup> – 18<sup>th</sup> March, 2025
- Savannah/Atlanta, Georgia Delegation – 12<sup>th</sup> – 21<sup>st</sup> March, 2025
- New York Delegation Report – 12<sup>th</sup> March, - 20<sup>th</sup> March, 2025
- Coetentin, Normandy, France – 20<sup>th</sup> March, - 24<sup>th</sup> March, 2025



The Members noted the reports, as circulated.

## 20. Notices of Motion

### 20.1 Cllr. Craig Doyle

"I call on this council to conduct an audit of all vacant and derelict buildings with a view of identifying suitable buildings to be turned into schools for children with special needs. If passed I also call for this motion to be circulated to all other local authorities to do the same"

This motion wasn't moved.

### 20.2 Cllr. John Dwyer

"That this council calls on the Minister for Health to urgently consider a diversion programme for suicide prevention to establish a professional 24/7 counselling service attached to and working in conjunction with existing accident and emergency departments throughout the country".

The motion was proposed by Cllr. J. Dwyer, seconded by Cllr. P. Breen and agreed by all.

Cllr. A. Donohoe left the meeting at this point.

### 20.3 Cllrs. Tom Forde, Aoife Rose O'Brien, Craig Doyle

"Wexford County Council fully recognises the positive role the Tenant In Situ Scheme has played in preventing many adults and children from entering homelessness.

We are concerned that restrictions to the scheme will reduce the ability of the Council to do everything that it can to prevent people from losing their home.

We are particularly concerned that the capital allocation for 2025 will be less than the final spend on the scheme in 2024; that refurbishment costs will be excluded; that an arbitrary 2 year in receipt of social housing support rule will be applied to properties.

We agree to write to the Minister for Housing, James Browne, urging him not to increase the risk of adults and children entering homelessness by removing the new restrictions to the operation of the Tenant-In-Situ scheme or reductions in funding to this vital homeless prevention measure."

The motion was proposed by Cllr. T. Forde and seconded by Cllr. A.R. O'Brien.

The Cathaoirleach advised that there would be a roll call vote on the motion. The outcome was the motion was carried with fifteen in favour, ten against, and one abstention. The voting was as follows:

<b>Barden, Pat</b>	<b>AB</b>	<b>Kavanagh, Paddy</b>	<b>F</b>	<b>Sullivan, Joe</b>	<b>A</b>
<b>Barron, Vicky</b>	<b>F</b>	<b>Kehoe, Pat</b>	<b>A</b>	<b>Walsh, Catherine Biddy</b>	<b>F</b>
<b>Boland, Nicky</b>	<b>F</b>	<b>Kelly, Leonard</b>	<b>F</b>		

<b>Breen, Pip</b>	<b>A</b>	<b>Kenny, Donal</b>	<b>A</b>
<b>Browne, Aidan</b>	<b>A</b>	<b>Laffan, Garry</b>	<b>A</b>
<b>Carthy, Ger</b>	<b>F</b>	<b>McDonald, Darragh</b>	<b>A</b>
<b>Codd, Jim</b>	<b>F</b>	<b>Murphy, Barbara - Anne</b>	<b>A</b>
<b>Doyle, Craig</b>	<b>F</b>	<b>Murphy, Bridín</b>	<b>A</b>
<b>Dwyer, John</b>	<b>F</b>	<b>Murphy, Marty</b>	<b>F</b>
<b>Farrell, Mary</b>	<b>F</b>	<b>O'Brien, Aoife Rose</b>	<b>F</b>
<b>Fleming, John</b>	<b>A</b>	<b>Shannon, Raymond</b>	<b>F</b>
<b>Forde, Tom</b>	<b>F</b>	<b>Sheehan, Michael</b>	<b>F</b>

#### **20.4 Cllr. Michael Sheehan**

“Recognising the huge contributions that Local Schools, Boards of Management, School Principals and staff, families and students play in the vitality of our local villages and parishes, this Council calls on the Minister for Education to review the funding for smaller schools to ensure their continued viability and operation by basing support grants and funding on (the physical) school size rather than enrolment numbers. Furthermore, this Council calls on Minister Mc Entee to ensure all schools have access to the €30M in the day to day support fund. “

Cllr. V. Barron proposed an amendment to the motion to read “funding on (the physical) school size and condition of the school.”

Cllr. J. Fleming proposed an amendment to the motion to read “funding on school size (square footage) and condition of the school.”

The proposed amendments were accepted by Cllr. M. Sheehan.

On the proposal of Cllr. M. Sheehan, seconded by Cllr. V. Barron, and agreed by all, the following amended motion was carried:

“Recognising the huge contributions that Local Schools, Boards of Management, School Principals and staff, families and students play in the vitality of our local villages and parishes, this Council calls on the Minister for Education to review the funding for smaller schools to ensure their continued viability and operation by basing support grants and funding on school size (square footage) and condition of the school rather than enrolment numbers. Furthermore, this Council calls on Minister Mc Entee to ensure all schools have access to the €30M in the day to day support fund. “

**20.5 Cllr. Aoife Rose O'Brien**

"We ask that Wexford County Council write to the Minister for Justice, Jim O'Callaghan asking for the Department of Justice to introduce a live garda register for previous domestic violence offenders, similar to Claires Law."

The motion was proposed by Cllr. A.R. O'Brien, seconded by Cllr. M. Farrell and agreed by all.

**20.6 Cllr. Joe Sullivan**

"I call on this council to write to the Department of Housing Local Government and Heritage to request that they upwardly review the thresholds of income eligibility for social housing supports in County Wexford."

The motion was proposed by Cllr. J. Sullivan, seconded by Cllr. C. Doyle and agreed by all.

**20.7 Cllr. Tom Forde**

"We ask that Wexford County Council introduce a 'receipts' based system for the public when submitting housing applications and related documents to the council which would provide a record for the submission of documents."

The motion was proposed by Cllr. T. Forde, seconded by Cllr. M. Farrell and agreed by all.

**20.8 Cllr. Michael Sheehan**

"That this Council recognises the need to protect and enhance Town Centres and protect Town Centre Retail provision, agrees to direct the Planning and Development SPC to review and reinforce Wexford County Council's policies and guidelines to protect ground floor retail space and to discourage the conversion of dedicated shop areas into apartments and bedsits in urban centres. Furthermore, this council calls on the Government to make funding available to assist the reopening of vacant shop units. "

The motion was proposed by Cllr. M. Sheehan, seconded by Cllr. V. Barron and agreed by all.

**20.9 Cllrs. Jim Codd & John Dwyer**

"We call on WCC's Housing Section to provide emergency accommodation, where possible, as close to where the person is living and has their social support structures."

Cllr. J. Codd proposed an amendment to the motion to add the wording "and where appropriate" which was agreed by all.

On the proposal of Cllr. J. Codd, seconded by Cllr. J. Dwyer, and agreed by all, the following amended motion was carried:

"We call on WCC's Housing Section to provide emergency accommodation, where possible and where appropriate, as close to where the person is living and has their social support structures."

On the proposal of Cllr. B. Murphy, seconded by Cllr. J. Sullivan and agreed by all, standing orders were suspended to allow the meeting to proceed beyond 5.30pm.

Mr. M. Drea advised that he had received a motion which was submitted by Cllr. M. Sheehan and carried at the New Ross Municipal District meeting, which the Members of New Ross Municipal District wished to be put before the full Council as an urgent business motion.

Mr. Drea informed the Members that in accordance with Standing Order no. 20 “Notwithstanding any other provisions of these Standing Orders a motion may be proposed without notice for the purpose of dealing with urgent business related to a function of the local authority, subject to the requirement that not less than 18 members vote in favour.” On a show of hands, the Council resolved to allow the motion to be proposed without notice for the purpose of dealing with urgent business.

On the proposal of Cllr. M. Sheehan, seconded by Cllr. J. Dwyer, and agreed by all, the following motion was carried:

“That this Council calls on the Minister for Integration to refrain from engaging IPAS Contracts in locations where there is a shortage of bed nights and the engagement would deprive the local community of essential services or that the signing of a Service Level Agreement would remove the one last facility, such as a hotel or community hall in the area.

Furthermore, this Council calls for meaningful engagement and communications with locally elected representatives as part of the deliberation process. Upon passage, this motion is forwarded to the Oireachtas members for their public support.”

## **21. Any Other Business**

There was no other business.

**THIS CONCLUDED THE BUSINESS OF THE MEETING.**

**Daingithe ar an                      lá de Bealtaine, 2025.**

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***Cllr. Pip Breen***  
***Cathaoirleach***

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***Michael Drea,***  
***County Secretary***