

MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS AT SPECIAL MEETING OF LIMERICK CITY AND COUNTY COUNCIL HELD IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER, DOORADOYLE AND ONLINE ON TUESDAY, 19TH MAY, 2026, AT 11.30 A.M.

PRESENT IN THE CHAIR:

Príomh Chomhairleoir, Councillor C. Slattery.

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Mayor Moran.

Councillors Beasley, Benson, Butler, Carey, Collins (B), Collins (M), Conway, Daly, Donoghue, Doyle, Foley, Galvin, Gavan, Hartigan (S), Hartigan (T), Hickey-O'Mara, Keary, Kiely, Kilcoyne, McSweeney, O'Donoghue, O'Hanlon, O'Sullivan (O), O'Sullivan (T), Pond, Reale, Ruddle, Ryan (M), Scanlan, Secas, Sheahan, Stokes, Talukder, Teefy, Teskey, Ward.

An apology for their inability to attend the meeting was received from Councillor O'Donovan and Ryan (E).

OFFICIALS IN ATTENDANCE:

Director General (Dr. P. Daly), Deputy Director General and Director, Corporate Services, Human Resources and Organisational Development (Mr. J. Delaney), Director, Regeneration, Community, Sport and Rural Development (Mr. B. McCarthy), Director, Environment, Climate Action and Fire (Mr. K. Lehane), Director, Planning and Ryder Cup (Mr. S. Duclot), A/Director, Finance, Investment and Governance (Ms. I. Griffin), A/Director, Transportation, Mobility and Public Realm (Mr. T. Fitzgerald), Meetings Administrator (Ms. C. Farrell), Administrative Officer, Corporate and Customer Services (Ms. A. Foley), Senior Staff Officer, Corporate and Customer Services (Ms. C. Sheehy), Head of Information Services (Mr. B. McNamara), Assistant Staff Officer, Corporate and Customer Services (Ms. S. Carroll).

At the outset and with the permission of the Príomh Chomhairleoir, the Council extended their condolences and sympathy on the passing of Margaret Angela O'Sullivan, RIP, sister of Councillor Eddie Ryan and aunt of staff member, Brigid Fennessy. Members observed a minute's silence as a mark of respect.

The Príomh Chomhairleoir welcomed everyone to the Special Meeting which had been convened to consider the Motion as set out on the Agenda.

Notice of Motion submitted by John Moran, Mayor of Limerick

I will move at the next Meeting that this Council agrees, subject to the necessary administrative, legal, procurement and data protection arrangements being put in place, and with financial support secured so as to protect existing core services in 2026, that all meetings of the Full Council held after the adoption of this resolution shall be live-streamed and recorded in full by audio and video means, and that such recordings shall be made publicly available on the Council's official website (www.limerick.ie) no later than two

business days following the conclusion of each meeting, without unnecessary barriers or registration requirements.

The Deputy Director General referred to the circulated, report of the Senior Executive Officer, Corporate and Customer Services dated 8th May, 2026, and provided an update to Members. He advised that, at the request of the Mayor, costings had been obtained for the live-streaming and recording of Plenary Meetings only. He outlined that the estimated cost was €21,633, based on 75 meeting hours.

In response to Members' queries, the Deputy Director General confirmed that the information circulated that morning in relation to the cost of live-streaming and recording of Plenary Meetings was the only additional information provided. He further advised that the estimated cost for live-streaming and recording all public meetings was €65,000, subject to site surveys and procurement processes, noting that this estimate was based on a total of 251 meeting hours.

The Members were advised that at the March Meeting, this Motion was discussed and an amendment was proposed and seconded "that all Statutory Meetings be included".

Members stressed that consideration should be given to including District Meetings within the scope of the Motion. Members expressed support for live streaming, however, some Members raised concerns regarding the recording of meetings and were of the view that the recording element should be removed from the Motion. Members further emphasised the need to explore the feasibility of incorporating a delay feature into the system.

The Mayor indicated that he wished to proceed with both the live-streaming and recording of meetings. He confirmed that he was willing to fund the cost of live-streaming and recording of Plenary Council Meetings from the Mayoral Fund.

Some Members welcomed the proposal to record meetings, noting that it would improve accessibility for those unable to attend meetings due to their timing.

The Deputy Director General delivered a presentation to Members outlining the proposed managed solution, including estimated costs, key issues and proposed mitigation measures. He confirmed that Standing Orders would require amendment to facilitate the introduction of live-streaming and recording, which would require the support of at least one half of the total number of Members.

Members queried whether other Local Authorities had delay features in operation. The Deputy Director General confirmed that contact had been made with other Councils in this regard. He further advised that the feasibility of incorporating a delay feature into the proposed system would be examined and costings obtained.

It was agreed on the proposal of Councillor Collins (B), seconded by Councillor Slattery, to take a short adjournment.

Upon resumption, the Mayor and Members agreed that further clarification was necessary regarding recording of meetings and the legal protections available to Members. It was proposed by Councillor Slattery and seconded by Councillor Collins (B) that the Motion be deferred to the next Meeting of the Council.

This concluded the meeting.

Signed:

Príomh Chomhairleoir

Date:
