

Minutes of the Meeting of Monaghan County Council held in the Council Chamber, M-Tek Building, Armagh Rd, Knockaconny, Monaghan, on Monday 08th June 2026 at 10.00 a.m.

Chair: Cllr PJ O'Hanlon, Cathaoirleach

Present: Cllrs Aughey, Campbell, Carthy, Clerkin, S. Conlon, Flynn, Gibbons, Johnston, Keelan, McAree, McCooey, P. Treanor, S. Treanor and Truell.

Mr. R. Burns, Chief Executive, Ms. C O'Hare, Ms. O. McConnon, Directors of Services, Mr. N. O'Connor and Ms. N. Payne, A/Director of Services, Ms. M. McGarvey, Meetings Administrator and Ms. M. McMahon, Staff Officer.

MS Teams: Cllrs Gilliland and P. Conlon

1. Confirmation of Minutes of Council Meeting held on 11th May 2026

On the proposal of Cllr N. Keelan, seconded by Cllr P. Treanor, it was agreed that the minutes of the Council meeting held on the 11th May 2026, be confirmed.

2. To consider the Chief Executive's Report prepared in accordance with Part VIII of the Planning and Development Regulations 2001 (as amended) for Scotshouse Part 8 Housing Development

Mr. T. Gourley, Senior Executive Planner, outlined the Part VIII Report circulated with the Agenda for a Housing Development at Aghnahola, Scotshouse, Co. Monaghan (to be known as 'An tÚllord').

Mr. Gourley advised that no submissions were received during the public consultation period, and he recommended that members proceed with the proposal.

On the proposal Cllr P. Treanor, seconded by Cllr R. Truell, it was agreed to approve the Housing Development at Aghnahola, Scotshouse, Co. Monaghan (to be known as 'An tÚllord') and associated works, as detailed in the Chief Executive's Report prepared in accordance with Part VIII of the Planning and Development Regulations 2001 (as amended).

3. To consider the Chief Executive's Report prepared in accordance with Part VIII of the Planning and Development Regulations 2001 (as amended) for Newbliss Part 8 Housing Development.

Mr. T. Gourley, Senior Executive Planner, outlined the Part VIII Report circulated with the Agenda for a Housing Development at Main Street, Newbliss, Co. Monaghan (to be known as Plás Darch). Mr. Gourley stated that the proposed works would include; the demolition of the existing derelict dwelling (H18XR81) and substructure floors (H18XF97) and the construction of a new three-unit residential development comprising of 1 2-bed dwelling and 2 1-bed apartments; connection to public services and all ancillary and associated works.

Mr. Gourley advised that no submissions were received during the public consultation period, and he recommended that members proceed with the proposal.

On the proposal Cllr R. Truell, seconded by Cllr P. Treanor, it was agreed to approve the Housing Development at Main Street, Newbliss, Co. Monaghan (to be known as Plás Darch) and associated works, as detailed in the Chief Executive's Report prepared in

accordance with Part VIII of the Planning and Development Regulations 2001 (as amended).

4. To consider Monaghan County Council Litter Management Plan

Mr. N. Malone, Administrative Officer, Environment, provided members with an overview of the Litter Management Plan 2026–2029. Key points to note were:

- The Plan provides a structured approach to preventing and controlling litter, with the aim of supporting clean, safe, and attractive communities over the next three-years.
- Key challenges identified in the development of the plan include, illegal dumping, rural and roadside litter, takeaway and vape/cigarette-related litter, and dog fouling.
- The Plan is based on four pillars: education and awareness, community engagement and partnerships, service delivery, and enforcement, with a balanced focus on prevention and enforcement.
- Ongoing initiatives include Clean Schools, National Spring Clean, and collaboration with Tidy Towns groups.
- In terms of service delivery, the Council will maintain its street cleansing programmes, litter bin provision, and bring bank facilities, while continuing to identify and address litter blackspots.
- Enforcement remains a key component, with the continued use of fines, prosecutions, CCTV monitoring, and targeted enforcement initiatives to address non-compliance.
- Implementation of the Plan will be monitored through key performance indicators, including the number of fines issued, prosecutions taken, and results from national litter surveys.

Mr. Malone also outlined progress achieved under the current Plan in 2025, noting that approximately €1.5 million was invested in litter prevention, control, and environmental maintenance. Significant resources were allocated to street cleansing, waste management, and enforcement, including the investigation of litter complaints and illegal dumping incidents. Community engagement and awareness campaigns continued to perform strongly, alongside improvements in national litter survey rankings and increased participation in initiatives such as bulky waste collection events. He emphasised the ongoing need for behavioural change and continued investment to address persistent challenges.

On the proposal of Cllr R. Truell, seconded by Cllr P. Clerkin, it was agreed that the Litter Management Plan 2026-2029, as presented, be adopted.

Mr. N. Malone responded to Members' questions.

5. To consider recommendations and minutes from Corporate Policy Group

The members noted the minutes of the Corporate Policy Group meeting held on 19th May 2026.

On the proposal of Cllr S. Conlon, seconded by Cllr C. Carthy, it was agreed that the minutes of the Corporate Policy Group meeting held on 19th May 2026 and the recommendations contained therein be approved.

6. To receive a presentation from East Border Region

Ms. D. Hughes, Programme Manager, East Border Region, provided members with an overview of the work of the organisation. She outlined that the East Border Region was established in 1976 to promote cross-border cooperation during a challenging political and economic period and has since evolved into one of the longest-standing cross-border networks. She highlighted the organisation's strong ethos of collaboration and its role in fostering relationships and delivering regional development initiatives.

Ms. Hughes referred to key milestones in the organisation's development, including the introduction of EU funding programmes and the impact of the Good Friday Agreement in supporting cross-border cooperation. She provided members with a summary of initiatives delivered by the organisation, including infrastructure and environmental projects, as well as the rollout of EV charging infrastructure across the region. She also outlined current programmes, including the management of the PEACE PLUS programme, supporting areas such as tourism, skills development, digital innovation and environmental improvements, including water quality initiatives.

Ms. Hughes referred to a number of upcoming events that are planned to mark the organisation's 50th anniversary, including a gala dinner at the Nuremore Hotel, Carrickmacross, international engagement events, and the hosting of a European Border Regions Conference, which is expected to deliver both economic and cultural benefits to the region.

In conclusion, Ms. Hughes highlighted the continued importance of East Border Region membership in fostering relationships, accessing funding opportunities, and delivering tangible benefits for the County.

Members thanked Ms. Hughes for her informative presentation, extended their best wishes to the organisation on the occasion of its 50th anniversary, and acknowledged the valuable work being undertaken by the East Border Region across the area.

7. To receive Management Report – May 2026

The Chief Executive introduced the Management Report for May 2026, which had been circulated with the agenda. He referred to the recent Google AI event held at the Peace Campus, noting that it was timely and that very positive feedback had been received from attendees. He advised that the event attracted participants from across the wider region, highlighting the Peace Campus as an increasingly important venue for regional and national conferences, with a number of such events having been hosted there in recent times.

He also outlined a number of programmes being delivered by the Local Enterprise Office (LEO), including initiatives supporting women in business and participation in regional food development programmes. He acknowledged the significant work being undertaken

by the LEO, noting that 166 SMEs were supported last year, with assistance provided to businesses to develop and expand. The LEO also supported the creation of 90 new jobs last year. The Chief Executive concluded by commending the ongoing work of the LEO and its positive impact on enterprise development within the county.

Lough Muckno Master Plan

Mr. A. Hughes, Senior Planner, provided members with an update on the Lough Muckno Master Plan. He advised that significant work has been undertaken in recent weeks and months, with considerable time and effort contributed to progressing the project.

Mr. Hughes indicated that the project has now reached a stage where public engagement is required, with plans to present initial proposals and gather feedback from the community. He outlined proposals to hold public consultation sessions later in the month, with separate engagements for community groups and the wider public. He noted that the consultation process will be used to further develop and refine the proposals as part of an ongoing and iterative process.

The Chief Executive and Directors of Services responded to queries from the elected members.

The members noted the Management Report for May which had been circulated with the agenda.

On the proposal of Cllr N. Keelan, seconded by Cllr S. Flynn, it was agreed that this Council, in seeking additional funding for roads, writes to the Minister for Transport, Mr. Darragh O'Brien, T.D., requesting a meeting at his convenience and at a location of his choosing, led by the Cathaoirleach, accompanied by a cross-party delegation and a senior official from the Roads Section.

On the proposal of Cllr S. Conlon, seconded by Cllr N. McCooey, it was agreed that this Council write to the relevant Government departments seeking the urgent allocation of funding to compensate for the €1.4 million unbudgeted expenditure incurred following the devastating impact of Storm Chandra.

On the proposal of Cllr R. Truell, seconded by Cllr P. Clerkin, it was agreed this Council write to the Department of Rural and Community Development requesting that additional funding be allocated to the Local Improvement Scheme (LIS) for County Monaghan. Whilst the 2026 LIS Scheme allocation was welcome, the funding available this year will only allow for a small number of lanes to be completed. The current level of funding is insufficient to address the demand that exists across the county. Rural communities depend on these roads to access their homes, farms and businesses. Additional funding from the Department is needed in 2026 to ensure more families and landowners can benefit from this rural scheme.

8. To receive reports from Members attending Conferences/Training events

The members noted the report from Cllr Carthy in relation to his attendance at the following Training event:

- AILG Module 3 Training – Hotel Kilmore, Cavan – 21st May 2026

9. Business Submitted by the Chief Executive

The Chief Executive referred to the correspondence circulated with the agenda, which included an invitation from Mr. D. Mulcahy, Chairman, Project Children, to the Chief Executive and Cathaoirleach to attend upcoming events in the United States.

He advised that a number of screenings of the Project Children documentary are scheduled to take place in July. The first screening will be held in Washington, D.C. on 14th July. The event is expected to be attended by members of the Irish diaspora, participating families, and representatives of related organisations. A second screening will take place at Boston University, Massachusetts, on 16th July, hosted in conjunction with the Irish Cultural Centre and the Irish business community in Boston.

The Chief Executive highlighted that these events form part of wider plans, including the forthcoming launch of a Project Children publication and noted the importance of strengthening cultural, social, and economic links, and the potential to promote County Monaghan as a destination through these connections.

On the proposal of Cllr P. Treanor, seconded by Cllr R. Aughey, it was agreed that a delegation comprising the Chief Executive and the Cathaoirleach attend Project Children's international promotional events taking place in Washington and Boston in July 2026.

10. Matters arising out of the minutes of the Council meeting held on 11th May 2026

On the proposal of Cllr B. McAree, seconded by Cllr C. Carthy, it was agreed that this Council rewrites to the HSE seeking a direct response to the concerns raised in the previous motion requesting that they outline what measures are being taken to improve access to mental health services, reduce waiting times and expand supports for young people and families across Co. Monaghan.

There were no further matters arising out of the minutes of the Council meeting held on 11th May 2026.

11. To receive update on N2 National Primary Road Schemes

No further update on the N2 National Primary Road.

12. To receive update on North South Interconnector Project

The Chief Executive advised members that, at the request of the Minister for Transport, Darragh O'Brien, T.D., he, together with Mr. C. Flynn, Director of Services, and Chief Executives and Directors of Services from Meath and Cavan County Councils, recently attended a meeting to provide an update on the North–South Interconnector Project.

He informed members that the project is currently at post-permission stage, with ongoing assessment of compliance with planning conditions. The Chief Executive noted that the information presented at the meeting had previously been circulated to members.

13. To receive update on the Ulster Canal project

Mr. C. Flynn, Director of Services, advised the members that a notice to grant planning permission had recently been issued in respect of the next stage of the Ulster Canal project.

14. Correspondence

The following correspondence was circulated with the agenda for the meeting:

- Invitation from Mr. D. Mulcahy, Chairman, Project Children, extended to the Chief Executive and the Cathaoirleach to attend International Promotional Events in Washington, D.C. and Boston in July, in connection with the launch of the Project Children book.
- Response from the Private Secretary to Mr. Darragh O'Brien, T.D., Minister for Transport regarding the request for a meeting in order to discuss the funding needs for the maintenance and upgrading of Monaghan's local and regional road network.
- Response from the Private Secretary to Mr. Darragh O'Brien, T.D., Minister for Transport regarding the urgent introduction of a telephone-based booking system to allow passengers to reserve seats on bus services ensuring public transport is accessible to all and for the NTA and Bus Éireann to engage meaningfully with Age Friendly Ireland and the National Older People's Council to ensure that older people are not excluded from essential transport services.
- Response from the Private Secretary to Mr. Michael Moynihan T.D, Minister of State for Special Education and Inclusion regarding how many children with special needs, of the September 2026 cohort, are currently not allocated an adequate school place/SNA and what is the dept. doing to rectify this.
- Responses received to the Parliamentary questions raised by Minister Niamh Smyth, T.D., regarding the move to reclassify the Border region which will see a reduction in EU funding for major infrastructure projects.
- Response to parliamentary question submitted by Brendan Smith T.D. regarding the move to reclassify the Border region which will see a reduction in EU funding for major infrastructure projects.
- Responses received to the Parliamentary questions raised by Minister Brendan Smith, TD, regarding if the Minister believes that the regional disparity in per capita GDP levels means that the Border counties should be classified separately from other counties in the northern and western region with regard to EU funding.
- Response from Senator Joe O'Reilly regarding the request that the NWRA undertakes a detailed study of the diversity of their region and to prioritise examining the implications of the reclassification for EU statistical and funding purposes for 2027.
- Response from the Office of the Planning Regulator regarding the proliferation of shops selling nicotine inhaling products.
- Response from Uisce Éireann regarding the Taken-in Charge process.
- Acknowledgement from the office of An Taoiseach regarding the request that the NWRA undertakes a detailed study of the diversity of their region and to prioritise examining the implications of the reclassification for EU statistical and funding purposes for 2027.
- Acknowledgement from the Oireachtas Liaison Unit of the National Transport Authority (NTA) requesting the urgent introduction of a telephone-based booking system to allow passengers to reserve seats on bus services ensuring public transport is accessible to all and for the NTA and Bus Éireann to engage meaningfully with Age Friendly Ireland and the National Older People's Council to ensure that older people are not excluded from essential transport services.
- Acknowledgement from Bus Eireann requesting the urgent introduction of a telephone-based booking system to allow passengers to reserve seats on bus services ensuring public transport is accessible to all and for the NTA and Bus Éireann to engage meaningfully with Age Friendly Ireland and the National Older People's Council to ensure that older people are not excluded from essential transport services.
- Acknowledgement from the Office of the Minister for Children, Disability and Equality

regarding that funding for the extension of Errigal Truagh Special Needs is expediated and that Minister Foley engages directly with the group in relation to respite provisions in Co. Monaghan.

- Acknowledgement from Private Secretary to the Minister for Public Expenditure, Infrastructure, Public Service Reform and Digitalisation, Mr. Jack Chambers, T.D., regarding concerns over the procurement process and cost overruns on capital projects.
- Acknowledgement from Office of Government Procurement regarding concerns over the procurement process and cost overruns on capital projects.

14.1 Additional Correspondence:

The following additional correspondence which had been received after the agenda had issued were also circulated:

- Resolution from Galway County Council regarding the Comprehensive Economic Trade Agreement.
- Response received by Brendan Smith from the Office of An Taoiseach regarding the care of older people in residential facilities.

Proposals arising out of correspondence:

On the proposal of Cllr S. Flynn, seconded by Cllr S. Conlon, it was agreed that this Council extends an invitation to Ms. C. McGuigan, Chief Officer, Age Friendly Ireland to attend the next meeting of the Strategic Policy Committee for Transport to discuss access to ticket purchases for Bus Éireann services for non-digital service users. It was agreed also that the invitation be extended to any elected member wishing to attend.

On the proposal of Cllr B. McAree, seconded by Cllr P. Treanor, it was agreed that this Council calls on the Department and the NCSE to provide clear figures on, how many children remain without appropriate placement, how many are waiting on specialists supports and what steps are being taken to ensure every child has a school place and the support that they need this September 2026.

On the proposal of Cllr C. Carthy, seconded by Cllr P. Gibbons, it was agreed that this Council supports the resolution from Galway County Council regarding the Comprehensive Economic Trade Agreement (CETA) which provides additional rights to multinational corporations to sue the state outside of ordinary legal systems we currently have, undermining EU social, health and environmental standards.

15. Notices of Motion

1. Cllr S. Conlon proposed, Cllr P. Treanor seconded:

'That this Council opposes the exclusion of trade in services in the Occupied Territories Bill and writes to the Minister for Foreign Affairs and Trade, Helen McEntee, and the Tánaiste and Minister for Finance, Simon Harris, calling on them to include a ban on trade in services in the Government's proposed OTB with immediate effect.'

Following a short debate on the motion, a vote by show of hands resulted in, 9 For and 6 Abstentions.

The Cathaoirleach declared the proposal carried.

2. Cllr P. Gibbons proposed, Cllr S. Flynn seconded:

'That this Council calls on the Minister for Health to immediately initiate the removal of parking charges at hospitals. We feel this is an unfair tax on sick people, their families and frontline workers. We also call on the Minister to commit to providing hospitals with additional funding, at least matching that received from parking fees, so there is no diminution of services provided when pay parking is abolished'.

Following a short debate on the motion, the Cathaoirleach put the motion to the members, and it was agreed unanimously.

3. Cllr A. Johnston proposed, Cllr A. Campbell seconded:

'That this Council writes to the Minister for Finance requesting that Budget 2027 commits to the following:

- (a) the staggered withdrawal of Universal Social Charge over the remainder of the Government's term*
- (b) that the high-rate tax band is widened to at least €46,000*
- (c) that the personal, PAYE and earned income tax credits are each increased by at least €100.*

Following a short debate on the motion, the Cathaoirleach put the motion to the members, and it was agreed unanimously.

4. Cllr A. Johnston proposed, Cllr P. Clerkin seconded:

'That this Council writes to the Minister for Housing to introduce measures that will widen the number of individuals and families that can avail of Affordable Housing by:

- (a) increasing the income multipliers*
- (b) increase the market value cap income ratio*
- (c) allow larger local authority equity stakes*
- (d) remove cliff edge eligibility rules'*

Following a short debate on the motion, the Cathaoirleach put the motion to the members, and it was agreed unanimously.

16.1 Questions and Replies

Cllr S. Conlon asked:

1. Under the National Resilience Programme which aims to further strengthen local resilience and emergency preparedness throughout our local communities during severe storm events, where will the remaining three generator changeover switch units be installed following the installation of one at Magheracloone?

Reply: Monaghan County Council has identified 24 Community Support Centres across the county to support emergency response and community resilience. A programme of works is underway to enable these centres to operate during power outages through the provision of temporary electrical supply.

To date, 16 centres have been equipped with the required infrastructure to facilitate generator connection, with works ongoing to the remaining facilities and scheduled for completion by the end of July 2026.

In addition, the Council has taken delivery of four portable generators under a national allocation of 124 units to local authorities. These generators will be deployed as required to support local response efforts.

2. In efforts at fulfilling Climate Action Strategy 2024 – 2029 objectives, especially those targeting Monaghan Town as the dedicated Decarbonization Zone, what plans are being considered for giving planning permission to households in urban residential locations,

such as terraced houses with no driveways or street front dwellings, to facilitate the installation of EV charging points where domestic electricity tariffs are considerably lower than public charging points, and that will encourage the uptake of Electrical Vehicles as a more economical and environmental friendly motoring option?

Reply: Monaghan County Council recognises the importance of supporting the transition to electric vehicles under the Climate Action Plan 2024–2029. The provision of EV charging for homes without off-street parking is a recognised national challenge.

At present, private EV charging solutions in such cases raise planning, legal and safety issues, particularly where they rely on public footpaths or roads. The installation of private infrastructure in public areas is outside the control of the applicant, and current “private wires” legislation does not permit cables to be laid across public spaces. As a result, cross-pavement charging is not currently allowed in Ireland.

The Department of Transport has acknowledged these constraints and is progressing legislative changes, which may provide a clearer framework for such solutions in future. Alternative approaches, such as recessed cable channels in footpaths, are also being examined nationally but are not currently permitted. As part of the Electric Vehicle Charging Strategy there will be a rollout of Neighbourhood type Electric Vehicle chargers which will cater for urban residential locations, such as terraced houses with no driveways. Neighbourhood type Electric Vehicle charging will be available in a variety of means such as community multi-user EV Charging Pools. It is also anticipated that a footpath channel solution will be permitted to allow for on-street charging solutions for Electric Vehicles (the Private Wires Bill to allow for this charging option is still to be approved). It is also noted that a recent case in Dublin City regarding whether such infrastructure may be considered exempted development is currently under appeal to An Coimisiún Pleanála, with a decision expected in the near term. This may provide further clarification on the planning status of certain solutions. In the interim, the Council will continue to monitor national policy developments in this area to support more flexible solutions for households without driveways.

3. In relation to our municipal twinning arrangements with Prince Edward Island, and previous communications with H.E. Dennis King, Canadian Ambassador to Ireland, as well as the local hosting of the upcoming Treinfhir Clan gathering, all aimed at enhancing our international outreach in promoting County Monaghan’s cultural, heritage, and ancestral links, what plans do this Council have in creating and supporting initiatives with partner agencies and stakeholders?

Reply: On-going support is provided by the Tourism Unit and Cultural Services Team to clan gathering organisers in terms of events funding and advice on non-council funding opportunities, development of trip itineraries, genealogy workshops/talks and provision of information packs etc.

4. What stage of development is the Office of Public Works (OPW) funded Monaghan Flood Relief Scheme designed to protect properties in the Milltown area that will include hard defences such as flood embankments and walls?

Reply: The Office of Public Works that are planned for Milltown is to protect 47 properties, with an estimated cost of €12.5 million. This project falls into the Tranche 2 category and will not be undertaken until the first tranche is completed. The first 100 projects are being rolled out under Tranche 1 of the programme.

5. For the purpose of advancing a District Heating project in the Monaghan Town area, what has been the outcome of the Climate Action Unit’s ‘Expression of Interest’ submission to the SEAI’s District Heating Pre-Construction Fund?

Reply: At the end of May, notification was received that the Expression of Interest submitted by the Climate Action Unit was successful, with Monaghan County Council’s proposal shortlisted among the final 15 out of 40 applicants.

The application stage of SEAI’s District Heating Pre-Construction Fund is open until the

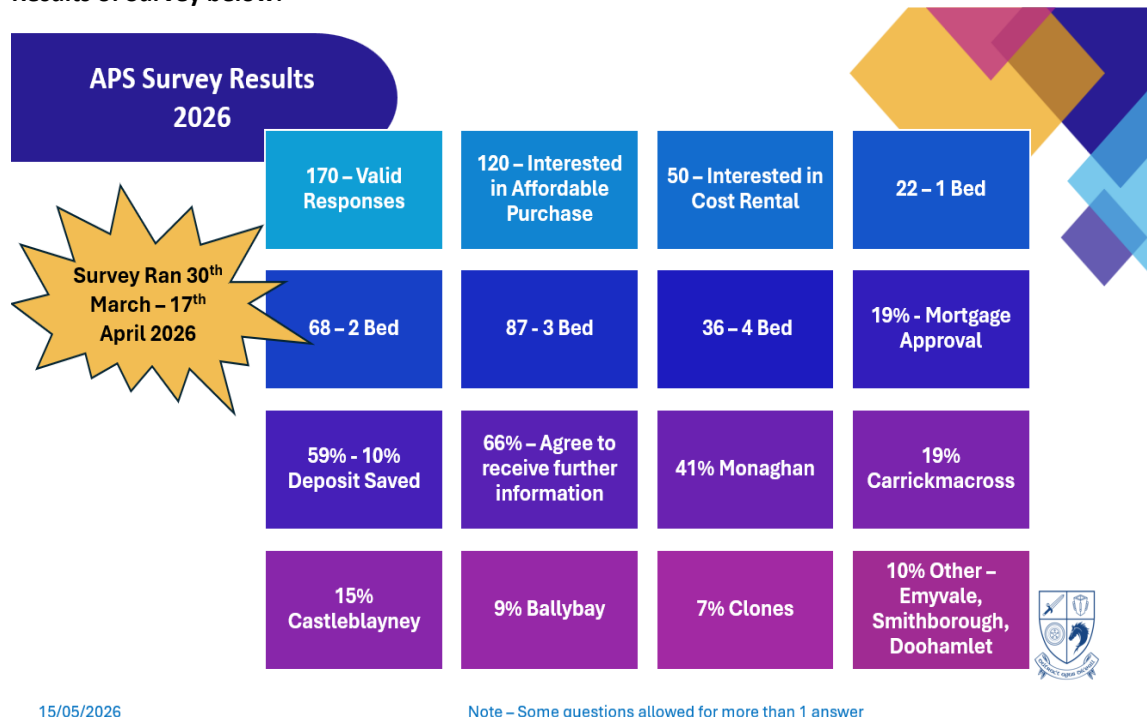
end of June. An application at this stage will seek support to progress the project to Detailed Project Development. This stage would focus on advancing the technical design, commercial framework, customer engagement and procurement approach, supporting progression towards the planning phase and future investment opportunities.

Cllr P. Gibbons asked:

6. The Housing Section recently undertook a survey to help determine the demand for affordable and cost rental. Can the findings of this survey be shared along with plans to develop affordable and cost rental housing in Carrickmacross Castleblayney MD?

Reply: The Housing Section recently undertook a survey to help determine the demand for affordable and cost rental. Can the findings of this survey be shared along with plans to develop affordable and cost rental housing in Carrickmacross Castleblayney MD?

Results of Survey below:



7. The cobble lock pavement on Main Street, Castleblayney has been in place for a considerable number of years and requires attention. I requested an audit be carried out assessing this paving in the context of areas like cleaning, condition of the paving bricks, presence of weeds, condition of kerbs, sections of subsidence, condition and location of manholes on the pavement and location and condition of access points to the pavement being particularly mindful of people with disabilities and people who are pushing children among other areas. I understand the audit has been completed and works recommended. What is the projected timeline for these works?

Reply: Subject to the funding provided under the adopted Carrickmacross-Castleblayney 2026 Footway Programme, repairs to the cobble lock paving along Main Street, Castleblayney, shall be undertaken periodically throughout Q3 and early Q4 2026. Additionally, cleaning of the paving is expected to commence in late June 2026.

8. Can the names of all estates in the Carrickmacross Castleblayney MD not taken in charge yet be provided along with a list of works outstanding in each?

Reply: There are 32 residential developments in the Carrickmacross / Castleblayney Municipal District area that have not been taken in charge. These are detailed in the

table below. Of these, eight are the subject of current taken in charge applications. Commentary on the status of each application and the identified defects has been included in the table.

	Town/Village	Name of Estate Not Taken in Charge	Comments
1	Carrickmacross	Ascaill Rois	
2		Carraig Brooke	
3		Coill an Ri	
4		Convent View	
5		Cúirt Droim Ard	
6		Drummond Etra	
7		Drummond Ross/Clós na Droimainne	
8		Gleann Droimnín	
9		Sean Carraig	Identified defects relate to trip/fall hazards, signage, traffic calming measures, and storm water drainage. There is ongoing consultation with the developer to resolve the issues.
10		Sean Ghairdíní	
11		The Bridge	
12		Tobair Na Carraig	
13		Valley Close	
14	Castleblayney	Ard Na Lurgan	
15		Ashview Court	
16		Blaeberry Walk	This development remains under consideration by Uisce Eireann, and water service defects have not yet been identified. Other identified defects relate to road markings, trip/fall hazards, open space and safety fencing.
17		Bramley Crescent	Uisce Eireann has raised concerns in relation to water infrastructure wayleaves. The Municipal District is reviewing the remaining services, and additional defects may subsequently be identified.
18		Bramley Grove	
19		Coill Darach Phase 2	Uisce Eireann has raised concerns in relation to water infrastructure wayleaves. The Municipal District is reviewing the remaining services, and additional defects may subsequently be identified.
20		Castle Park	
21		Church Heath	
22		Conabury Close/Conabury View	
23		Conabury Hill	Uisce Eireann has identified defects relating to the foul sewerage network. Other identified defects relate to sight lines, storm water network, and the maintenance of open spaces.
24		Crescent Hill	This development is currently being assessed by Uisce Eireann and Monaghan County Council, and defects have not yet been identified.
25		Elm Brook	
26		Killycard Manor	
27		Laurel Hill Place	
28		Radharc an Bhri	Construction works ongoing.
29		The Crescent	
30	Corduff	Sliabh Dubh (DPI)	This development includes developer provided infrastructure and it remains under consideration by Uisce Eireann.
31	Lisdoonan	Forth View	
32	Oram	Sruth an Luir	

9. I previously raised the issue of a lack of a playground in Annyalla and was informed the only 2 villages without a playground are Annyalla and Clontibret. Can the Executive please advise as to the status of the proposed draft Play and Recreation strategy which I understand will outline a plan for this area?

Reply: The draft Play & Recreation Strategy will be launched for public consultation during National Play Week which takes place from 4-12 July. The consultation will be open during July and August. It is planned to have the final Strategy before the members in the autumn.

10. How many approved social housing applicants have included Oram as an area of choice? What is the breakdown as regards housing type required?

Reply: In total 14 Applicants have selected Oram as one of their 3 areas of choice

House Type	Number of applicants
1 Bed	7
2 Bed	2
3 Bed	4
4Bed	1

Cllr N. Keelan asked:

11. What is the up to-date position in relation to the proposed Inniskeen Village and Community plan? When is it hoped to begin the public consultation process with the local community? **Reply: It is anticipated that the successful tenderer for the Inniskeen 'Community Vision and Spatial Land Use Plan' shall sign contracts with Monaghan County Council on 10 June 2026, with initial community consultations to take place in late June / early July.**
12. What plans have the council to progress the construction of a pedestrian/cycle bridge at the river fane in Inniskeen Village? **Reply: Monaghan County Council acknowledges the potential benefit of a pedestrian and cycle bridge at the River Fane in Inniskeen in terms of improving local connectivity, supporting active travel, and enhancing the overall attractiveness of the village. It is important to note, however, that the future development of walking and cycling infrastructure in Inniskeen, including any potential river crossing, is being considered in the context of the wider Inniskeen Village Plan currently being progressed by the Council's Planning Section. Monaghan County Council will continue to monitor opportunities for funding and will consider the progression of a pedestrian/cycle bridge at the River Fane in the context of the adopted Village Plan and the overall prioritisation of projects.**
13. What is the council's policy on the use of AI (artificial intelligence)? What impact, if any, will this evolving technology have on the day to day running of the council? **Reply: Monaghan County Council is taking a measured and controlled approach to the use of artificial intelligence. An AI Acceptable Use Policy is in place to ensure that any use of AI is safe, ethical and compliant with data protection requirements. At present, use is limited and carefully managed, with approved tools supporting staff in routine tasks to improve efficiency, while all outputs remain subject to human oversight and professional judgement. The Council is operating in line with national public service guidance, which emphasises transparency, accountability and risk management, and is progressing governance arrangements to guide any future adoption in a planned and proportionate way.**
14. What information does the council have on the proposal by Government to relax the planning rules on one of rural housing including ribbon development? What is the update on Government proposed policy in relation to planning exemptions for modular type homes in back gardens? What is Monaghan County Council policy on modular type homes in back gardens? **Reply: The Planning Authority has not been informed of any policy changes in relation to one off rural houses or ribbon development. Similarly, the Planning Authority has not been advised of any policy or legislative changes in relation to planning exemptions for modular type homes in back gardens.**

The Monaghan County Development Plan contains no specific policies in respect of modular type homes in back gardens.

15. What is the up-to-date position in relation to the (LIS) Local Lane improvement scheme, including number of lanes on the current list, number of lanes to be completed this year

and funding available? **Reply:** Monaghan County Council has received an initial funding allocation of €385,880 for the Local Improvement Scheme in 2026. Following the tender process for the surfacing of the lanes, this allocation will complete 7 lanes. The tender process has been completed, and FP McCann Ltd. have been awarded the contract. Works are planned to commence by June/July subject to the applicants having the local contribution paid and the drainage / preparatory works completed.

There are 156 eligible lanes applications on the current list.

Cllr C. Carthy asked:

16. Has there been any advance made on bringing a Campervan park to Carrickmacross?

Reply: As part of a study completed in late 2024, a number of sites in Carrickmacross were assessed to determine their potential for development into campervan/motorhome Aires; unfortunately, none were deemed viable. The executive shall continue in its efforts to identify a suitable site.

17. Once the tendering process for design team has concluded, what is the expected timeframe for designs to be completed for Carrickmacross Swimming Pool project and when is it expected an application will be ready to submit for funding the project?

Reply: Once the Design Consultants are appointed, the project will be initially progressed through preliminary designs and subsequently through developed designs and statutory approval stages, including Fire Safety, Disability Access and Part 8 Planning. Subject to relevant statutory approvals, the project will then advance to final detailed designs to facilitate the preparation of tender documentation. These design and planning phases are expected to take a minimum of 18 months. The timing of a funding application will depend on the availability of a suitable funding stream and the specific conditions/requirements attached to it.

18. What plans are in place to deliver social housing for single applicants on our waiting list?

Reply: Virtually all social housing developments planned by Monaghan County Council provide accommodation for single applicants and for older people and for people with disabilities. For example the 86 dwelling social housing development planned for Cornacassa on the Clones Road in Monaghan town will include a single-storey Group Home to accommodate 4 single people with disabilities, 10 accessible bungalows for single older people or couples, 22 own door access apartments for single people / couples / older people / people with disabilities and 24 small 2-bedroom houses that can be allocated to single people or couples who may need a second bedroom.

56 of the 86 social homes proposed at Cornacassa (65%) are age-friendly / disability friendly accommodation that can potentially be allocated to single people or couples in need of smaller homes which reflects genuine local needs. The proposed development will have a good pedestrian link with the Clones road giving good access to the greenway which is important for single people who might not have their own car... it is worth noting that the development proposed will have a negligible impact on traffic on the Clones Road in Monaghan town. This is just one example of how important it is that Monaghan County Council can develop social housing to address particular and specific needs arising in our community... addressing the need for housing for single people, older people and people with disabilities that is not adequately addressed by private sector residential development.

The table below lists projected percentage delivery by unit type:-

3%	33%	33%	4%	0%	6%	9%	2%	0%	100%	10%
House 1 Bed	House 2 Bed	House 3 Bed	House 4 Bed	House 5 Bed	Apt 1 Bed	Apt 2 Bed	Apt 3 Bed	Apt Other	Total Units Expected	TBC

Cllr. S. Flynn asked:

19. Following previous engagements on road safety improvements at Scoil Mhuire Gransha, can the Executive provide an update on progress to date, including engagement with TII, any interim safety measures implemented or planned, and the timeline for further actions or assessments?

Reply: The National Transport Authority (NTA) operates a Safe Routes to School initiative, which enables schools to apply for funding for Monaghan County Council to carry out safety improvement works on their behalf. Gransha National School was notified of this scheme; however, no application was submitted. This location will be brought forward for consideration at the next Speed Limit Committee meeting, and we will request that An Garda Síochána carry out targeted speed enforcement at the site as a short-term measure. Please be assured that we are actively working to build a case to secure TII funding for safety measures at this location. While TII have, to date, referred us to the NTA initiative, we will continue to pursue all available avenues to secure funding to get safety works completed at this location. MCC engineers have raised this location at TII Road Safety meetings, however TII repeatedly respond that they don't have a funding stream for schools along the national road network, unless the road adjacent to the school has been identified under the Road Safety Inspection Programme OR is designated as a High Collision Location. Gransha has not been identified under either of these.

Cllr S. Treanor asked:

20. In relation to allocation of houses by Monaghan County Council from January 2022 to end of May 2026:

- How many houses in total have been allocated each year i.e. 2022,2023,2024,2025, & up to May 2026.
- In each year from 2022 to May 2026, how many houses were allocated to family's from outside the state & from which country did they originate?

Reply: We cannot provide information on the country of origin.

2022	
TOTAL ALLOCATIONS	123
Irish	90
Other EEA	30
Non-EEA	3
2023	
TOTAL ALLOCATIONS	105
Irish	74

Other EEA	25
Non-EEA	6
2024	
TOTAL ALLOCATIONS	153
Irish	101
Other EEA	42
Non-EEA	10
2025	
TOTAL ALLOCATIONS	93
Irish	66
Other EEA	22
Non-EEA	5
2026	
TOTAL ALLOCATIONS	56
Irish	33
Other EEA	20
Non-EEA	3

21. In relation to the current status of the Monaghan County Council housing waiting list:

- a) How many people are on the waiting list?
- b) How many are from outside the state & from which countries are they from?

Reply: We cannot provide information on the country of origin.

TOTAL APPROVED APPLICANTS	1004
Irish	573
UK	6
Other EEA	279
Non-EEA	146

17. Votes of Sympathy/Congratulations

It was agreed that votes of sympathy would be extended to the following:

- The McMahon family, on the death of Henry Arthur McMahon, Killygola, Castleblayney, Co. Monaghan, former member of Big Tom & The Mainliners showband.
- Bernadette McArdle, Senior Executive Engineer, Roads, on the death of her mother Mary McArdle (nee Keaskin), Courtbane, Hackballscross, Dundalk, Co. Louth.

It was agreed that votes of congratulations would be extended to the following:

- Pat Holland on a remarkable 200-year celebration of family ancestry and heritage marked by the launch of his book "The Hollands of Knockacullion, Kith and Kin".
- Monaghan Tidy Towns and the outdoor staff of Monaghan MD and horticulturists on achieving 2nd place in the National Irish Business Against Litter survey.

On the proposal of Cllr A. Johnston, seconded by Cllr P. Clerkin, it was agreed that a civic reception be afforded to Joshua Mullen, Scotstown, and Emma Treanor, Carrickroe, in recognition of their achievements in Irish dancing at World Championship level, representing Scoil Rince Ní Bhrogáin.

On the proposal of Cllr N. Keelan, seconded by Cllr P. Treanor, it was agreed that this Council writes a letter of commendation to Colin and Eithne Bell, founders of the Kevin Bell Repatriation Trust, recognising the significant role they have played in assisting families in repatriating their loved ones.

18. Conferences

On the proposal of Cllr N. Keelan, seconded by Cllr A. Campbell, it was agreed that the Council be represented at the following training events by the members listed below:

Promoting Authority	Subject/Theme	Venue	Dates	Members Selected
AILG	OPR AILG Councillor Planning Training – Southern Region	Waterford Tower Hotel	18 th June 2026	Cllr R. Truell
	(Eastern & Midland/Northern & Western)	Westmeath Hodson Bay Hotel	20 th June 2026	Cllr P. Gibbons Cllr S. Conlon Cllr B. McAree Cllr P. Treanor

Signed: _____
Cathaoirleach

Signed: _____
Meetings
Administrator

Date: _____