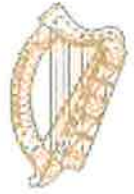


Oifig an Aire Coimirce Sóisialaí
Office of the Minister for Social Protection



Case Number: REPS-2025-46712

Ms Honor Dunphy
Meetings Administrator
Waterford City & County Council
City Hall
The Mall
Waterford

21 July 2025

Dear Ms Dunphy,

I wish to acknowledge receipt of your correspondence to the Minister for Social Protection, Dara Calleary TD, regarding the means test for Carer's Allowance (Ref: PJ/2025/256).

Enquiries are being made and a further letter will issue to you as soon as possible.

Yours sincerely,


Patricia Steacy
Private Secretary

*The Minister is a Designated Public Official under the Regulation of Lobbying Act, 2015
(details available on www.lobbying.ie)*

Ara s Mhic Dhiarmada, Sráid Scórais, Baile Átha Cliath 1, D01 WY03
Áras Mhic Dhiarmada, Store Street, Dublin 1, D01 WY03
minister@welfare.ie | + 353 1 704 3000 | www.welfare.ie

Mandy Nolan Reade

Subject: FW: DES-CU-00559-2025

From: Correspondence Unit <education-correspondenceunit@corr.cloud.gov.ie>
Sent: Tuesday 18 February 2025 10:04
To: Contact User <contact@waterfordcouncil.ie>
Subject: DES-CU-00559-2025

Ms. Honor Dunphy

contact@waterfordcouncil.ie

PLEASE QUOTE REF NUMBER ON ALL CORRESPONDENCE

Our Ref: DES-CU-00559-2025

Dear Ms. Dunphy,

The Minister for Education, Ms. Helen McEntee TD, has asked me to acknowledge your recent letter of 17th February 2025.

The contents have been noted.

Yours sincerely,



Stephen O'Brien

Private Secretary

Mandy Nolan Reade

Subject:

FW: Ref: TTAS-MO-01692-2025

From: Ministers Office <Minister-Transport@corr.cloud.gov.ie>

Sent: Thursday, July 17, 2025 10:25 AM

To: Contact User <contact@waterfordcouncil.ie>

Subject: Ref: TTAS-MO-01692-2025

Our Ref: TTAS-MO-01692-2025

Dear Cllr. Murphy, Mayor of Waterford,

I refer to your correspondence on behalf of Waterford City & County Council seeking a meeting to discuss the development proposed at Waterford Airport.

I wish to assure you that in line with the Programme for Government, this Government commits to working with all stakeholders to quickly progress Waterford Airport's project to lengthen and widen the runway, building on the previous Government decision of 2019.

In line with that commitment, I along with Government colleagues Minister Mary Butler and Minister John Cummins, met with Sean McKeon CEO of Waterford City and County Council and Director of the Board of Waterford Airport and Michael Quinn Director of Services at Waterford City and County Council on 2 July.

Next steps for progressing the project were discussed at this meeting.

With best wishes,

Darragh O'Brien TD



Minister for Transport

The Minister is a Designated Public Official under the Regulation of Lobbying Act, 2015 (details available on www.lobbying.ie)

An Roinn Iompair

Department of Transport

Lána Liosain, Baile Átha Cliath, D02 TR60

Leeson Lane, Dublin, D02 TR60

<https://scanner.topsec.com/?d=1500&r=show&u=www.gov.ie%2Ftransport&t=046fe5c87c753d4d6e52e2ca3167dc85a1d85e28>

Mandy Nolan Reade

Subject: FW: HEA-MO-02516-2025

From: Ministers Office <noreplymo-health@corr.cloud.gov.ie>

Sent: Wednesday, August 13, 2025 9:28:40 AM

To: Honor Dunphy <hdunphy@waterfordcouncil.ie>

Subject: HEA-MO-02516-2025

🔗 External email >

🔗 Contains topics of a financial nature >

⚠️ This email shows signs of phishing >

HEA-MO-02516-2025

13th August 2025

Dear Ms. Dunphy,

On behalf of the Minister for Health, Jennifer Carroll MacNeill, TD, thank you for your correspondence regarding expansion of the BreastCheck screening programme.

The Minister for Health is dedicated to enhancing Ireland's population screening programmes, which are a vital component of our health services. They enable early treatment and care for many people, thereby enhancing the overall health of our community.

The Government has made significant investments in BreastCheck and continues to invest, including an additional €2.9 million allocated this year, with the approval of 22 whole-time equivalent posts. This funding will help expand capacity to develop services that address women's changing needs and ensure equal access for the eligible population.

The BreastCheck screening programme currently invites women aged 50 to 69 years to have a mammogram at regular intervals. International evidence shows that due to incidence and mortality from breast cancer in this age group it is effective to screen women in this age range. The evidence also shows that at a population level the benefits of screening that can be gained by women in this age group outweigh the harms which is one of the fundamental principals of population screening programmes.

The Programme for Government commits to extending the age for BreastCheck in accordance with the latest standards from the Health Information and Quality Authority (HIQA).

Consideration of any changes to Ireland's screening programmes will be facilitated through established evidence-driven protocols. The National Screening Advisory Committee (NSAC) is an independent expert group that advises the Minister for Health on any proposed changes to Ireland's screening programmes. In this regard, NSAC has submitted a request to the Health Information and Quality Authority (HIQA) to undertake a Health Technology Assessment (HTA) to consider the

evidence for proposed extensions to the BreastCheck programme. This includes a proposed expansion of the age range eligibility to those aged 45-49 and 70-74 and the potential introduction of a standardised breast density measurement and I am glad to report that work has now commenced on both.

HTAs are important for evaluating evidence on healthcare technologies, guiding appropriate use and resource allocation for tests, treatments, and screening pathways. They encompass a multi-disciplinary assessment of clinical, economic, ethical, legal, and societal factors influenced by new technologies. It is important to recognise that both reviews are complex and require time-intensive processes. The NSAC process, including the HIQA HTA, ensures that any recommendations are based on solid evidence, which is essential for maintaining effective and safe screening programme standards.

NSAC holds annual Calls for Submissions, which invite proposals from all stakeholders and organisations, including members of the public, HSE and other medical professionals, for the introduction of new screening programmes or changes to existing programmes.

The 2025 NSAC Call for Submissions is currently live and will remain open until 12 September 2025. Any proposals received will be carefully considered by the Committee at its meetings. All prospective applicants are encouraged to check the [NSAC Work Programme](#), which lists submissions received through previous Calls. Further information about NSAC can be found on its website at www.nsaccommittee.gov.ie

It should be emphasised that population-based screening programmes are intended for healthy individuals without symptoms. If someone has any concerns or symptoms related to their breasts, they should not attend screening but instead contact their medical professional for appropriate advice. It is also important that every woman is breast aware, which means knowing what is normal for them so that if any unusual change occurs, they will recognise it and more information is available at [this link](#).

More information is available on www.breastcheck.ie. For queries, participants can call the Freephone information line on 1800 45 45 55, email info@breastcheck.ie or contact their clinic directly.

I wish you all the best and hope this is of assistance to you.

Yours sincerely,

Eoghan Flynn

Private Secretary to the Minister for Health

Mandy Nolan Reade

Subject: FW: PER-MCO-01133-2025

From: Minister Chambers Office <per-minister@corr.cloud.gov.ie>
Sent: Tuesday 22 July 2025 15:49
To: Honor Dunphy <hdunphy@waterfordcouncil.ie>
Subject: PER-MCO-01133-2025

Our Ref: PER-MCO-01133-2025

Your Ref: PJ/2025/256

Honor Dunphy

Meetings Administrator

Waterford City and County Council

email: hdunphy@waterfordcouncil.ie

Dear Ms. Dunphy

The Minister for Public Expenditure, Infrastructure, Public Service Reform and Digitalisation, Mr. Jack Chambers TD, has asked me to acknowledge receipt of your letter dated 15 July 2025.

Yours sincerely

Niamh Kavanagh

Private Secretary to the Minister for Public Expenditure, Infrastructure,
Public Service Reform and Digitalisation

A Member of the Minister for Public Expenditure, Infrastructure, Public Service Reform and Digitalisation staff. The Minister is a Designated Public Official under the Regulation of Lobbying Act, 2015 (details available on www.lobbying.ie)

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Tá an fhaisnéis atá sa ríomhphost seo (agus in aon cheangaltáin) faoi rún agus is don fhaighteoir/do na faighteoirí beartaithe é agus é/iad sin amháin. Mura tusa an faighteoir beartaithe, níor cheart duit an teachtaireacht seo ná aon chuid di a úsáid, a nochtadh, a chóipeáil, a dháileadh ná a choinneáil. Sa chás gur trí earráid a fuair tú an ríomhphost seo, tabhair fógra dom láithreach faoi sin agus scríos



An Roinn Coimirce Sóisialaí
Department of Social Protection

Case Number: REPS-2025-46712

Ms Honor Dunphy
Meetings Administrator
Waterford City and County Council
Email: hdunphy@waterfordcouncil.ie

Your Ref: PJ/2025/256

01 August 2025

Dear Ms Dunphy,

The Minister for Social Protection, Mr. Dara Calleary TD, has asked me to refer to the Resolution passed by Waterford City & County Council at a meeting held on 10 July, seeking the abolition of the Carer's Allowance means test and the introduction of a *'fair and adequate'* payment for recipients of Carer's Allowance and Carer's Benefit *'which truly reflects the time, dedication and compassionate care that carers provided everyday across Ireland.'*

The key role of the Department of Social Protection is that of income support for people experiencing specific contingencies that limit their ability to earn an income. These contingencies include unemployment, illness/disability and caring responsibilities. These payments reflect the fact that, people experiencing these contingencies cannot earn, or can earn only a limited employment income. The payments are accordingly intended to provide an income support to people who have no other means or resources to rely upon.

The Department of Social Protection provides a comprehensive package of carers' income supports including Carer's Allowance, Carer's Benefit, Domiciliary Care Allowance and the

Carer's Support Grant. Combined spending on these payments to carers in 2025 is estimated at over €1.9 billion, with over €1.2 billion allocated specifically to Carer's Allowance, supporting over 100,000 recipients.

The conditions attached to the payment of Carer's Allowance are consistent with the overall conditions that apply to social assistance payments generally. This system provides payments based on an income need with the means test playing a critical role in determining whether or not an income need arises as a consequence of a particular contingency - be that illness, disability, unemployment or caring. As such the Carer's Allowance is an income support payment, it is not and was never intended to be a payment for the provision of care.

There have been significant improvements made to the means test for Carer's Allowance in recent years. As part of Budget 2025, the weekly income disregard increased at the start of July from €450 to €625 for a single person, and from €900 to €1,250 for carers with a spouse/partner. This amounts to cumulative increases to the disregards of €292.50 and €585.00 respectively, or 88%, since June 2022.

This month's increases have resulted in more carers qualifying for Carer's Allowance and many on a reduced rate seeing their payments increase. For example, a carer in a two-adult household with an income of approximately €69,000 will still retain their full Carers payment and even with an income of €97,000 will retain a partial payment.

In addition, as part of Budget 2022 measures, the capital and savings disregard for the Carer's Allowance means assessment was increased from €20,000 to €50,000 bringing it in line with Disability Allowance.

It is important to acknowledge that there are a range of other supports for carers provided by the Department which are not based on a means assessment, these include: -

- Carer's Benefit is a payment made to insured people who leave the workforce to care for someone in need of full-time care and attention. A person may be eligible for Carer's Benefit if they have enough PRSI contributions. It is payable for a period of 2 years (104 weeks) for each care recipient and may be claimed over separate periods up to a total of 2 years (104 weeks).
- Domiciliary Care Allowance is a monthly payment to a parent / guardian in respect of a child aged under 16 who has a severe disability and requires continual or continuous care and attention substantially over and above the care and attention usually required by a child of the same age. Since January 2025, the payment has increased by €20 bringing the value of this monthly payment to €360.
- The annual Carer's Support Grant is available to family carers providing full-time care and assistance, regardless of means. It is paid automatically to recipients of Carer's Allowance, Carer's Benefit and Domiciliary Care Allowance. Other carers not in receipt of one of these payments may also qualify for a standalone grant. The grant is paid in respect of each person being cared for. This year the grant increased by €150 to €2,000, the highest rate since its introduction. On 5 June more than 138,000 grants were paid in respect of 157,000 care recipients, at a cost of €313 million.

The Programme for Government has set out a timeline which commits to significantly increasing the income disregards for Carer's Allowance in each Budget with a view to phasing out the means test during the lifetime of the Government. In addition, it commits to progressively increasing weekly carer's payments and to continue to increase the annual Carer's Support Grant.

Looking forward, it is essential that progress regarding the removal of the means test is made in a way that is sustainable and which balances the allocation of the available budgetary resources each year across all priorities. That is why the Government has committed to a measured and phased approach over a number of budgets.

Minister Calleary has stated that he is keenly aware of the key role that family carers play in Irish society and the challenges they face. He is committed to keeping the range of income supports provided to family carers by this department under review while also acknowledging that any improvements or additions made to current supports would have implications for overall spending and could only be addressed in an overall budgetary and policy context.

I trust this clarifies the position for you.

Yours sincerely,

Sinéad Cannon
Disability & Carers Policy
Áras Mhic Dhiarmada
Store Street
Dublin 1

*The Minister is a Designated Public Official under the Regulation of Lobbying Act, 2015
(details available on www.lobbying.ie)*

Waterford City & County Council

SUMMARY OF PROCEEDINGS AT CONFERENCES/SEMINAR

As per Section 142 (5)(F) of Local Government Act, 2001

NAME OF COUNCILLOR	PAT NUGENT
CONFERENCE ATTENDED	Association of Irish Regionals
CONFERENCE LOCATION	Radisson. Blue Hotel, Athlone
DATE OF CONFERENCE	

General description of subject matter of the conference (e.g. water pollution, waste management, planning)

- 1 Evolving governance
- 2 E.U. and Place based policies
- 3 and the Evolving Planning Space

Issues raised or discussed which I found particularly interesting/informative

I found E.U. placed based policies interesting

Handouts - ~~received~~ / did not receive 'Handouts' or other conference material which might be of interest to other members and which I can make available

N/A

On the whole, I consider that this conference was:

Excellent	Very Good	Good	Fair	Poor
		✓		

Signed: Cllr.

Pat Nugent

Date:

2/6/25

Completed form to be returned with your expenses claim form to Corporate Office, City Hall, The Mall, Waterford. It will be included in Correspondence for the Next scheduled Plenary Meeting and will be published on the Council Website

Waterford City & County Council

SUMMARY OF PROCEEDINGS AT CONFERENCES/SEMINAR

As per Section 142 (5)(F) of Local Government Act, 2001

NAME OF COUNCILLOR	Pat Nugent
CONFERENCE ATTENDED	Association of Irish Regionals
CONFERENCE LOCATION	Radisson. Blue Hotel, Athlone
DATE OF CONFERENCE	

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- 2 E.U. and Place based policies
- 3 and the Evolving Planning Space

Issues raised or discussed which I found particularly interesting/informative

I found E.U. placed based policies
interesting

Handouts - ~~received~~ / did not receive 'Handouts' or other conference material which might be of interest to other members and which I can make available

N/A

On the whole, I consider that this conference was:

Excellent	Very Good	Good ✓	Fair	Poor

Signed: Cllr.

Pat Nugent

Date:

2/6/25

Completed form to be returned with your expenses claim form to Corporate Office, City Hall, The Mall, Waterford. It will be included in Correspondence for the Next scheduled Plenary Meeting and will be published on the Council Website

Waterford City & County Council

SUMMARY OF PROCEEDINGS AT CONFERENCES/SEMINAR As per Section 142 (5)(F) of Local Government Act, 2001

NAME OF COUNCILLOR	Cllr. Tom Cronin
CONFERENCE ATTENDED	Planning 2025
CONFERENCE LOCATION	Hillgrove Hotel, Co. Monaghan
DATE OF CONFERENCE	20 th + 21 st June '25

General description of subject matter of the conference (e.g. water pollution, waste management, planning)

New Planning Act.

New context for new development plans.

Various speakers one being a previous county manager.

Issues raised or discussed which I found particularly interesting/informative

Councillors were updated with current information regarding the new planning context. It highlighted councillors role in this area. Question raised about councillors power under this framework. It wasn't answered.

Handouts - I received / did not receive 'Handouts' or other conference material which might be of interest to other members and which I can make available to my satisfaction.

✓ Leaflet.

On the whole, I consider that this conference was:

Excellent	Very Good	Good	Fair	Poor
	✓			

Signed: Cllr. Thomas Cronin Date: 20th July '25

Completed form to be returned with your expenses claim form to Corporate Office, City Hall, The Mall, Waterford. It will be included in Correspondence for the Next scheduled Plenary Meeting and will be published on the Council Website

Waterford City & County Council

SUMMARY OF PROCEEDINGS AT CONFERENCES/SEMINAR As per Section 142 (5)(F) of Local Government Act, 2001

NAME OF COUNCILLOR	Cllr. Tom Cronin
CONFERENCE ATTENDED	Planning 2025
CONFERENCE LOCATION	Hillgrove Hotel, Co. Monaghan
DATE OF CONFERENCE	20 th + 21 st June '25

General description of subject matter of the conference (e.g. water pollution, waste management, planning)

New Planning Act.

New context for new development plans.

Various speakers one being a previous county manager.

Issues raised or discussed which I found particularly interesting/informative

Councillors were updated with current information regarding the new planning context. It highlighted councillors role in this area. Question raised about councillors power under this framework. It wasn't answered.

Handouts - I received / did not receive 'Handouts' or other conference material which might be of interest to other members and which I can make available to my satisfaction.

✓ leaflet.

On the whole, I consider that this conference was:

Excellent	Very Good	Good	Fair	Poor
	✓			

Signed: Cllr. Thomas Cronin Date: 20th July '25

Completed form to be returned with your expenses claim form to Corporate Office, City Hall, The Mall, Waterford. It will be included in Correspondence for the Next scheduled Plenary Meeting and will be published on the Council Website

Waterford City & County Council

SUMMARY OF PROCEEDINGS AT CONFERENCES/SEMINAR As per Section 142 (5)(F) of Local Government Act, 2001

NAME OF COUNCILLOR	Pat Nugent
CONFERENCE ATTENDED	A11g Training
CONFERENCE LOCATION	Clayton Hotel Galway.
DATE OF CONFERENCE	22-3-25

General description of subject matter of the conference (e.g. water pollution, waste management, planning)
Enhancing Equality - Cultivating Inclusive Communities Town's a City to have a more 4D Design to help all communities. includ. new migrants
Issues raised or discussed which I found particularly interesting/informative
The the discussion of people with disability in our town's
Handouts - I received / did not receive 'Handouts' or other conference material which might be of interest to other members and which I can make available
No conference material except the invitation material at desk

On the whole, I consider that this conference was:

Excellent	Very Good	Good	Fair	Poor
	✓			

Signed: Cllr. Pat Nugent

Date: 22-3-25

Completed form to be returned with your expenses claim form to Corporate Office, City Hall, The Mall, Waterford. It will be included in Correspondence for the Next scheduled Plenary Meeting and will be published on the Council Website

Waterford City & County Council

SUMMARY OF PROCEEDINGS AT CONFERENCES/SEMINAR As per Section 142 (5)(F) of Local Government Act, 2001

NAME OF COUNCILLOR	Pat Nugent
CONFERENCE ATTENDED	Ailg Spring Conference
CONFERENCE LOCATION	Limerick Strand Hotel
DATE OF CONFERENCE	2/3 - 4 - 2025

General description of subject matter of the conference (e.g. water pollution, waste management, planning)

- 1 How to shape our future local Government.
- 2 Local Government - opportunities on all Ireland basis

Issues raised or discussed which I found particularly interesting/informative

A I thought the discussion of future of local Government very interesting especially from the members. The discussion of communities they looking out the box in regard to Tourism.

Handouts - I received / did not receive 'Handouts' or other conference material which might be of interest to other members and which I can make available

On the whole, I consider that this conference was:

Excellent	Very Good	Good	Fair	Poor
	✓			

Signed: Cllr.

Pat Nugent

Date:

2/6/25

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Waterford City & County Council

SUMMARY OF PROCEEDINGS AT CONFERENCES/SEMINAR

As per Section 142 (5)(F) of Local Government Act, 2001

NAME OF COUNCILLOR	Pat Nugent
CONFERENCE ATTENDED	A19 Training Module 4
CONFERENCE LOCATION	Hillgrove Hotel Monaghan
DATE OF CONFERENCE	

General description of subject matter of the conference (e.g. water pollution, waste management, planning)

Planning 2025 - The Councillor and the new Context for Development Plan.

Issues raised or discussed which I found particularly interesting/informative

The most interesting was to understand how far can you go when the variation is open to members.

Handouts - I received / ~~did not~~ receive 'Handouts' or other conference material which might be of interest to other members and which I can make available

Yes

On the whole, I consider that this conference was:

Excellent	Very Good	Good	Fair	Poor
	✓			

Signed: Cllr. Pat Nugent

Date: 7/7/25

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Waterford City & County Council

SUMMARY OF PROCEEDINGS AT CONFERENCES/SEMINAR

As per Section 142 (5)(F) of Local Government Act, 2001

NAME OF COUNCILLOR	LOLA O'Sullivan
CONFERENCE ATTENDED	AILG Module 4 Planning 25
CONFERENCE LOCATION	Hillgrove Hotel Monaghan
DATE OF CONFERENCE	21/6/25

General description of subject matter of the conference (e.g. water pollution, waste management, planning)

Planning 2025 - The Councillor and the New Context for development Plans.

Issues raised or discussed which I found particularly interesting/informative

Transformation of Planning & Development Act 2024, The role councillors have in the amendment of the plan. Revised NPF

Handouts - I received / did not receive 'Handouts' or other conference material which might be of interest to other members and which I can make available

All available on AILG Website including information from speakers Michael Kenny & Pat Slattery

On the whole, I consider that this conference was:

Excellent	Very Good	Good	Fair	Poor
	✓			

Signed: Cllr

Lola O'Sullivan

Date:

22/6/25

Completed form to be returned with your expenses claim form to Corporate Office, City Hall, The Mall, Waterford. It will be included in Correspondence for the Next scheduled Plenary Meeting and will be published on the Council Website



Waterford City & County Council

SUMMARY OF PROCEEDINGS AT CONFERENCES/SEMINAR As per Section 142 (5)(F) of Local Government Act, 2001

NAME OF COUNCILLOR	DECLAN CLUNE
CONFERENCE ATTENDED	AILG TRAINING MODULE 4
CONFERENCE LOCATION	HILLGROVE HOTEL, MONAGHAN
DATE OF CONFERENCE	JUNE 21, 2025

General description of subject matter of the conference (e.g. water pollution, waste management, planning)
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Planning & Development Act 2024• Revised National Planning Framework
Issues raised or discussed which I found particularly interesting/informative
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Context of new P&D Act & NPF• Exempted developments• NPS• Changes to Development Plans• New plans to replace Local Area Plans
Handouts - I received / did not receive 'Handouts' or other conference material which might be of interest to other members and which I can make available
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Will be available on AILG website

On the whole, I consider that this conference was:

Excellent	Very Good	Good	Fair	Poor
✓				

Signed: Cllr.

Date:

June 22, 2025

Completed form to be returned with your expenses claim form to Corporate Office, City Hall, The Mall, Waterford. It will be included in Correspondence for the Next scheduled Plenary Meeting and will be published on the Council Website



Waterford City & County Council

SUMMARY OF PROCEEDINGS AT CONFERENCES/SEMINAR

As per Section 142 (5)(F) of Local Government Act, 2001

NAME OF COUNCILLOR	John O'Leary
CONFERENCE ATTENDED	A.I.C. MEMBERS Training DAY
CONFERENCE LOCATION	Hillgrove Hotel Monaghan
DATE OF CONFERENCE	21/6/25

General description of subject matter of the conference (e.g. water pollution, waste management, planning)
Key Requirements of the N.P.P., Discussion on the Review of Core Strategy, Preparation of all development plans
Issues raised or discussed which I found particularly interesting/informative
Land zoning need to increase for more housing main reason for increase in demand, People living longer Climate Change full employment.
Handouts - I received / did not receive 'Handouts' or other conference material which might be of interest to other members and which I can make available
E-mail received

On the whole, I consider that this conference was:

Excellent	Very Good	Good	Fair	Poor

Signed: Cllr.

John O'Leary

Date:

26/6/25

Completed form to be returned with your expenses claim form to Corporate Office, City Hall, The Mall, Waterford. It will be included in Correspondence for the Next scheduled Plenary Meeting and will be published on the Council Website



Waterford City & County Council

SUMMARY OF PROCEEDINGS AT CONFERENCES/SEMINAR As per Section 142 (5)(F) of Local Government Act, 2001

NAME OF COUNCILLOR	John Pratt
CONFERENCE ATTENDED	ALLG "Planning 2025 - The Councillor and the New context of the Development Plan"
CONFERENCE LOCATION	The Hillgrove Hotel Monaghan
DATE OF CONFERENCE	24/06/25

General description of subject matter of the conference (e.g. water pollution, waste management, planning)
Planning - Planning Act 2024: An Act to Consolidate and revise the law relating to planning and development to provide for proper planning and sustainable development in the interests of the common good.
Issues raised or discussed which I found particularly interesting/informative
Exempted Development / Urban Area Plans / Priority Area Plans + Coordinated Area Plans Flood risk / Energy requirement / Infrastructure / Water Quality all discussed.
Handouts - I received / did not receive 'Handouts' or other conference material which might be of interest to other members and which I can make available
Sent by Email

On the whole, I consider that this conference was:

Excellent	Very Good	Good	Fair	Poor
✓				

Signed: Cllr.

John Pratt

Date:

24/06/25

Completed form to be returned with your expenses claim form to Corporate Office, City Hall, The Mall, Waterford. It will be included in Correspondence for the Next scheduled Plenary Meeting and will be published on the Council Website



Waterford City & County Council

SUMMARY OF PROCEEDINGS AT CONFERENCES/SEMINAR

As per Section 142 (5)(F) of Local Government Act, 2001

NAME OF COUNCILLOR	DAMIEN GEOLHEGAN
CONFERENCE ATTENDED	AILE TRAINING
CONFERENCE LOCATION	HILLGROVE HOTEL MONAGHAN
DATE OF CONFERENCE	21/06/25

General description of subject matter of the conference (e.g. water pollution, waste management, planning)

PLANNING 2025 - THE COUNCILLOR
of THE NEW CONTEXT FOR
Development PLANS

Issues raised or discussed which I found particularly interesting/informative

BOTH SPEAKERS WERE EXCELLENT.

Handouts - I received / did not receive 'Handouts' or other conference material which might be of interest to other members and which I can make available

I RECEIVED HANDOUTS/presentation

On the whole, I consider that this conference was:

Excellent	Very Good	Good	Fair	Poor
	✓			

Signed: Cllr.

Date:

25/06/25

Completed form to be returned with your expenses claim form to Corporate Office, City Hall, The Mall, Waterford. It will be included in Correspondence for the Next scheduled Plenary Meeting and will be published on the Council Website



Waterford City & County Council

SUMMARY OF PROCEEDINGS AT CONFERENCES/SEMINAR As per Section 142 (5)(F) of Local Government Act, 2001

NAME OF COUNCILLOR	DECLAN BARRY
CONFERENCE ATTENDED	AILG TRAINING - MODULE(4).
CONFERENCE LOCATION	CORK
DATE OF CONFERENCE	19 th JUNE 2025.

General description of subject matter of the conference (e.g. water pollution, waste management, planning)

Planning - 2025, The Councillor and the new context for Development Plans.

Issues raised or discussed which I found particularly interesting/informative

The councillor's role in amending development Plans.
The reserved functions of rezoning, to drive the availability of housing.

Handouts - I received / did not receive 'Handouts' or other conference material which might be of interest to other members and which I can make available

On the whole, I consider that this conference was:

Excellent	Very Good	Good	Fair	Poor
	✓			

Signed: Cllr. Declan Barry.

Date:

26th JUNE 2025.

Completed form to be returned with your expenses claim form to Corporate Office, City Hall, The Mall, Waterford. It will be included in Correspondence for the Next scheduled Plenary Meeting and will be published on the Council Website



Waterford City & County Council

SUMMARY OF PROCEEDINGS AT CONFERENCES/SEMINAR

As per Section 142 (5)(F) of Local Government Act, 2001

NAME OF COUNCILLOR	JASON MURPHY
CONFERENCE ATTENDED	WILC TRAINING
CONFERENCE LOCATION	Monaghan
DATE OF CONFERENCE	21/6/25

General description of subject matter of the conference (e.g. water pollution, waste management, planning)

Planning with special focus on Development plans

Issues raised or discussed which I found particularly interesting/informative

Talk regarding amending development plans and councillors role in same

Handouts - I received / did not receive 'Handouts' or other conference material which might be of interest to other members and which I can make available

All available on WILC's website

On the whole, I consider that this conference was:

Excellent	Very Good	Good	Fair	Poor
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Signed: Cllr.

Jason Murphy

Date:

26/6/25

Completed form to be returned with your expenses claim form to Corporate Office, City Hall, The Mall, Waterford. It will be included in Correspondence for the Next scheduled Plenary Meeting and will be published on the Council Website

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Cnoc na Radharc, Gaillimh
H91 H6KX.

Áras an Chontae,
Prospect Hill, Galway,
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and Climate Change
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info@galwaylibrary.ie



CC1-1a-0025 – July 2025 **Comhairle Chontae na Gaillimhe** **Galway County Council**

LK/tc

22nd July 2025

Ms. Jennifer Carroll MacNeill, Minister for Health,
Minister's Office,
Department of Health,
Block 1, Miesian Plaza,
50-58 Lower Baggot Street,
Dublin 2,
D02 XW14.

ministers_office@health.gov.ie

RE: Resolution of Galway County Council – Announcement of HSE to Downgrade Portiuncula Hospital

A chara,

At the July meeting of Galway County Council, the following resolution was passed:

Galway County Council reaffirms its strong support for Portiuncula University Hospital, as recognised under Special Policy Objective H4 of the Galway County Development Plan 2022-2028, and acknowledges PUH's long term strategic importance in the county and beyond as a provider of essential healthcare services and also as a major employer and economic driver in Co Galway.

-Galway County Council calls on the Minister for Health and CEO HSE to support PUH's critical role in maternity care provision in the county and to recognise Portiuncula UH's strategic location as the most accessibly located maternity unit in the country just 800 meters off the M6 in providing crucial timely accessible maternity care for mothers infants and families across a wide and rural catchment in County Galway and to communities in Roscommon, Westmeath, Longford, Leitrim, Offaly, North Tipperary and beyond. Restriction of maternity services poses serious risks to women and infants, especially those in rural and socioeconomically disadvantaged areas with poor transport where they are now facing much increased travel times and reduced local access to crucial maternity services.

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CC1-1a-0025 – July 2025 **Comhairle Chontae na Gaillimhe** **Galway County Council**

LK/tc

22nd July 2025

Mr. Bernard Gloster,
CEO's Office, HSE,
Dr. Steevens' Hospital
Steeven's Lane,
Dublin 8,
D08 W2A8

ceo.office@hse.ie

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CC1-1a-0025 – July 2025 Comhairle Chontae na Gaillimhe Galway County Council

LK/tc

22nd July 2025

Ms. Jennifer Carroll MacNeill, Minister for Health,
Minister's Office,
Department of Health,
Block 1, Miesian Plaza,
50-58 Lower Baggot Street,
Dublin 2,
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Comhairle Cathrach
na Gaillimhe
Galway City Council

8 August 2025

TO: Each Local Authority

Re: Galway City Council Resolution

A Chara,

At the July meeting of Galway City Council held 14 July 2025, the Members passed the following resolution under Agenda Items 8 Correspondence, 8(a). Donegal County Council: Dismantling of the Triple Lock.

"It was proposed that a letter of support issue in relation to the motion passed by Donegal County Council (copy attached) calling to safeguard the Triple Lock component of Irish neutrality. It was further agreed to circulate same to all authorities for their consideration."

At the request of the Council, I am circulating this motion to all Local Authorities for the attention of Elected Members.

Mise, le meas,

Martha Duddy,
Administrative Officer,
Corporate Services.

Cc. Cllr. Niall McNelis.

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Meáin/ Media: Communications@GalwayCity.ie

Fax: +353 (0)91 567493

**Fáiltítear roimh chomhfhreagras i nGaeilge.
Correspondence in Irish is welcome.**

Halla na Cathrach, Bóthar an Choláiste, Gaillimh,
H91 X4K8

City Hall, College Road, Galway, H91 X4K8



13th June, 2025

To: Each Local Authority

Re: Dismantling of the Triple Lock

Dear Meetings Administrator,

I write to inform you that the members of Donegal County Council at their recent meeting resolved to adopt the following resolution:

"Do Chomhairle Contae Dhún na nGall, mar mheabhrúchán gur ghlac Comhairle na hEorpa le Dearbhú Seville i mí an Mheithimh 2002, rud a dheimhnigh nach raibh aon bhagairt ar neodracht na hÉireann mar thoradh ar Chonradh Nice, tugtar le fios gur dheimhnigh an Taoiseach a bhí ann ag an am, an tUasal Ahern, do Theach Laighean : "Athdhearbhaíonn an Dearbhú Náisiúnta ceangal na hÉireann le beartas neodrachta agus dearbhaíonn sé: nach bhfuil Éire páirteach in aon ghealltanais comhchosanta: go ndéanfaimid ár gcinneadh ceannasach féin maidir le ar cheart d'fhórsa cosanta na 26 Contae páirt a ghlacadh i dtascanna daonnúla nó bainistíochta géarchéime arna gcur ar bun ag an AE bunaithe ar an Ghlas Triarach ceadaithe ag na Náisiúin Aontaithe, cinneadh an Rialtais agus glactha leis ag Teach Laighean".

Tá Comhairle Contae Dhún na nGall sásta gur bhain an Dearbhú Náisiúnta Sollúnta le hionstraimí daingniúcháin de chuid na hÉireann a bhain le Conradh Nice agus gur cláraíodh é ina dhiaidh sin ag na Náisiúin Aontaithe, agus gur athdhearbhaigh rialtas Cowan na gealltanais ina dhiaidh sin tar éis diúltú do Chonradh Liospóin ar dtús in 2008.

Mar sin féin, is mian le Comhairle Contae Dhún na nGall a ndíomá a chur in iúl maidir le rún agus polasaí an Rialtais deireadh a chur leis an Ghlas Triarach, ina ndearna an Taoiseach, an tUasal Martin, cur síos air roimhe seo mar "croílár neodrachta na 26 contae".

I bhfianaise an rúin an riachtanas maidir le sainordú ó na Náisiúin Aontaithe a bhaint, aithníonn an Chomhairle seo freagracht na Náisiúin Aontaithe maidir le síocháin agus slándáil idirnáisiúnta a choinneáil agus tosaíocht Chairt na Náisiúin Aontaithe mar dhoiciméad bunúsach de chuid an dlí idirnáisiúnta. Léiríonn an Glas Triarach gealltanais dlíthiúil agus polaitiúil ó stát na hÉireann i leith phrionsabail na Náisiúin Aontaithe. Ag am ina bhfuil méadú ar éagobhsaíocht dhomhanda, iarrann an Chomhairle seo ar rialtas an tSaorstáit an Glas Triarach a chosaint mar chuid lárnach de neodracht na hÉireann agus brú a chur ar iarrachtaí chun síocháin agus taidhleoireacht a chur chun cinn.

Mar sin de tá Comhairle Contae Dhún na nGall go láidir i gcoinne polasaí den chineál seo agus geallann siad go ndéanfar teagmháil le gach Comhairle Contae láithreach ag iarraidh orthu seasamh linn agus leis na forais rialtais cuí chun iad a chur ar an eolas faoina bhfreasúra."

Má cheadaítear an rún go ndéanfar é a scaipeadh ar chomhairlí eile taobh istigh den stát –

"Comhairle Contae Dhún na nGall, recalling that in June 2002 the European Council adopted the Seville Declaration, which confirmed that the Nice Treaty posed no threat to Ireland's neutrality, notes that the then Taoiseach Mr Ahern confirmed to Teach Laighean that: " The National Declaration reaffirms Ireland's attachment to a policy of neutrality and confirms that: Ireland is not party to any mutual defence commitment: that we will take our own sovereign decision on whether 26 Counties defence force should participate in humanitarian or crisis management tasks mounted by the EU based on the Triple Lock of UN endorsement, Government decision and Teach Laighean approval".

Comhairle Contae Dhún na nGall is satisfied that the Solemn National Declaration was associated with Ireland's Instruments of ratification of the Nice Treaty and subsequently registered at the UN, while the undertakings were subsequently reiterated by the Cowan government following initial rejection of the Lisbon Treaty in 2008.

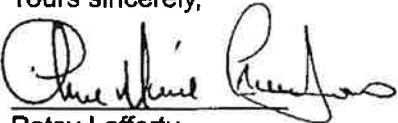
However, Comhairle Contae Dhún na nGall now wishes to express its dismay at the stated intention and policy of the Government to dismantle the Triple Lock, which the Taoiseach Mr Martin previously described as "the core of 26 counties neutrality".

In light of the intention to remove the requirement for a UN mandate, this Council recognises the responsibility of the United Nations in maintaining international peace and security and the primacy of the UN Charter as a foundational document of international law. The Triple Lock represents a legal and political commitment by the Irish state to the principles of the UN. At a time of heightened global instability, this Council calls on the Free State government to safeguard the Triple Lock as a core component of Irish neutrality and to redouble efforts to promote peace and diplomacy.

Comhairle Contae Dhún na nGall therefore states its forceful opposition to such a policy and pledges to immediately contact all County Councils requesting them to join us in this course of action and to inform the appropriate government organs of their opposition."

It was further agreed to circulate same to all other local authorities for their consideration.

Yours sincerely,



P.P. Patsy Lafferty
Meetings Administrator



Comhairle Contae Thibraid Árann
Tipperary County Council

Comhairle Contae
Thibraid Árann,
Oifigi Cathartha,
Cluain Meala,
Co. Thibraid Árann
Tipperary County Council,
Civic Offices, Clonmel,
Co. Tipperary
E91 N512

Comhairle Contae
Thibraid Árann,
Oifigi Cathartha,
An tAonach,
Co. Thibraid Árann
Tipperary County Council,
Civic Offices, Nenagh,
Co. Tipperary
E45 A099

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12th August, 2025

To: Each Local Authority

A Chara,

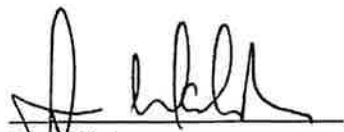
At a meeting of Tipperary County Council held on 14th July, 2025, the following resolution was considered and approved by the members and it was agreed to circulate it to all Local Authorities for support: -

"On behalf of the residents of Tipperary, the elected members of Tipperary County Council should write to the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage to urgently request the publication of regulations for renewable energy, including but not limited to biomethane, solar and wind energy, before any further grants are awarded to facilities by the government or any facilities are granted planning approval.

Furthermore, in recognition of the uncertainty caused by the absence of an up-to-date national regulation, this Council calls on the Minister to introduce a temporary pause on all large-scale projects.

This motion reflects the council's commitment to ensuring that renewable energy development proceeds in a manner that is appropriately planned, environmentally sustainable, respects people's rights and protects health and wellbeing of local communities who need to be prioritised in this legislation".

Yours sincerely,



Ger Walsh
Meetings Administrator



Comhairle Cathrach
& Contae **Luimnigh**

Limerick City
& County Council

Seirbhísí Corparáideacha,
Comhairle Cathrach agus Contae Luimnigh,
Ceannteathrú Chorporáideach,
Cé na gCeannaithe,
Luimneach

Corporate Services,
Limerick City and County Council,
Corporate Headquarters,
Merchants Quay,
Limerick

EIRCODE V94 EH90

8th August 2025.

t: +353 (0) 61 557150
f: +353 (0) 61 415 266

To: EACH LOCAL AUTHORITY

A Chara,

I write to advise that at the July Meeting of Limerick City and County Council, the following resolution was adopted:

“That, Limerick City and County Council agrees to and calls on the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage to relax the current ribbon development rules to allow for the construction of 6 dwellings in a linear arrangement and, where appropriate, that restrictions be set aside entirely for sites within 1 km of an existing settlement boundary once the development is located on a non-regional road with available appropriate sightlines.”

Is mise le meas,


Ciara Farrell,
Meetings Administrator.



Comhairle Cathrach
& Contae **Luimnigh**

Limerick City
& County Council

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8th August 2025.

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To: EACH LOCAL AUTHORITY

A Chara,

I write to advise that at the July Meeting of Limerick City and County Council, the following resolution was adopted:

“That, Limerick City and County Council provide a liaison/link to Community Welfare where support is necessary to enable newly allocated tenants move in speedily.”

Is mise le meas,

Ciara Farrell,

Meetings Administrator.