



**Minutes of Special Meeting of Kildare County Council
Held at 12.00 on Wednesday 25th of March 2026
in the Council Chamber, Áras Chill Dara, Devoy Park, Naas, Co. Kildare and online.**

Members Present: Cllr. Carmel Kelly (Cathaoirleach), Cllr. Anne Breen, Cllr. Suzanne Doyle, Cllr. William Durkan, Cllr. Angela Feeney, Cllr. Rupert Heather, Cllr. Tracey O'Dwyer, Cllr. Chris Pender, Cllr. Evie Sammon.

Online: Cllr. Pat Balfe, Cllr. Veralouise Behan, Cllr. Aoife Breslin, Cllr. Fintan Brett, Cllr. Bernard Caldwell, Cllr. Bill Clear. Cllr. Noel Connolly, Cllr. Brian Dooley. Cllr. Kevin Duffy. Cllr. Tim Durkan, Cllr. Mark Leigh, Cllr. Daragh Fitzpatrick, Cllr. Padraig McEvoy., Cllr. Paula Mulroe, Cllr. Peggy O' Dwyer, Cllr. Donna Phelan, Cllr. Robert Power, Cllr. Claire O'Rourke. Cllr. David Trost, Cllr. Paul Ward, Cllr. Brendan Wyse.

Apologies/Absent: Cllr. Paul Brooks, Cllr. Ger Dunne, Cllr. Noel Heavey, Cllr. Ivan Keatley, Cllr. Nual Killeen, Cllr. Tom McDonnell, Cllr. Peter Melrose, Cllr. Seamie Moore, Cllr. Brian O'Loughlin, Cllr. Declan Ryan

Officials Present: Alan Dunney - Director of Services, Ger Maher - Senior Executive Officer, Jane O'Reilly - Senior Planner, Amy Granville – Senior Planner, Tony Shanahan – Senior Executive Officer, Carroll Melia - Senior Executive Planner, Louise Murphy – Executive Planner, Caroline Talbot – Administrative Officer, Mary Mc Carthy – Administrative Officer, Joanne Farrell - Staff Officer, Catherine Howard – Assistant Staff Officer, Carol Forde - Assistant Staff Officer.

Cllr. Carmel Kelly (Cathaoirleach) welcomed the Members and Officials to the meeting.



1. Dearbhuithe um (a) coinbhleachtaí leasa nó (b) leasanna airgid nó leasanna tairbhiúla faoi Alt 177 den Acht Rialtais Áitiúil 2001, arna leasú.

Declarations of (a) conflicts of interest or (b) pecuniary or beneficial interests under Section 177 of the Local Government Act 2001, as amended.

The Cathaoirleach asked Members if there were any declarations of (a) conflicts of interest or (b) pecuniary or beneficial interests under Section 177 of the Local Government Act 2001, as amended.

There were no such declarations.

The Cathaoirleach then moved to the next item on the agenda:

2.To consider the Chief Executive’s Report to An Coimisiún Pleanála regarding an application for permission for development under Section 37E of the Planning and Development Act, 2000 (as amended) - Uisce Éireann Strategic Infrastructure Development (SID) application - Water Supply Project Eastern and Midlands Region. Development Act, 2000 (as amended) - Uisce Éireann Strategic Infrastructure Development (SID) application - Water Supply Project Eastern and Midlands Region.”

Carroll Melia, Senior Executive Planner gave a brief presentation on the proposed project.

Councillors McEvoy, Caldwell, Pender, Heather, W. Durkan, O’Rourke, Trost, T. Durkan expressed their views on the proposed project which are summarised as follows:

Community Benefit Scheme:

That the Community Benefit Scheme keep open the possibility of funding being allocated to public bodies, such as Kildare County Council, for projects that may deliver community and environmental benefits—such as biodiversity restoration works at Ballinafagh Lake, water quality restoration in conjunction with LawPro/IFI, or similar initiatives.



Support for the Report of the Community Department's dated 12/03/2026 appended at Appendix 2 of the Chief Executive's Report, given the disproportionate nature of the proposed scheme and impact on this part of County Kildare.

That the cap on funding available to projects under the Community Benefit Scheme should be index linked from now or the start of the project.

Ecological & Biological Impacts:

Close scrutiny needs to be carried out on any assessments submitted with the proposal.

Roads & Traffic:

ACP should assess likely impacts on the roads in the vicinity of the proposed route.

Tony Shanahan, Senior Executive Officer provided an overview of the Report of the Community Department's dated 12/03/2026 and advised that the granular detail is for An Coimisiún Pleanála to assess.

It was agreed by all Members present in the Chamber and all Members online, that Chief Executive's Report to An Coimisiún Pleanála regarding an application for permission for development under Section 37E of the Planning and Development Act, 2000 (as amended) - Uisce Éireann Strategic Infrastructure Development (SID) application - Water Supply Project Eastern and Midlands Region be noted.

3. To consider the Report on extension of plan period for the Leixlip Local Area Plan 2020-2023 (as extended and amended) in accordance with Section 81 of the Planning and Development Act 2024 (as amended) by a further 3 years (i.e. up to 30th March 2029).

Mr. Maher advised the Members that the Chief Executive's Report was circulated on 13th March and noted that no motions had been submitted by the Members.

Mr. Maher read the following resolution into the record:



It is resolved to extend the life of the Leixlip Local Area Plan 2020-2023 by a further 3 years (i.e. up to 30th March 2029), in accordance with the provision of Section 81 of the Planning and Development Act, 2024 (as amended), in order to provide certainty and clarity to secure the strategic objectives of the Leixlip Local Area Plan 2020-2023 (as extended), which are in accordance with the proper planning and sustainable development of the area”.

On the proposal by Cllr. Bernard Caldwell and seconded by Cllr Tracey O' Dwyer and agreed by the Members, the life of the Leixlip Local Area Plan 2020-2023 is extended by a further 3 years (i.e. up to 30th March 2029), in accordance with the provision of Section 81 of the Planning and Development Act, 2024 (as amended), in order to provide certainty and clarity to secure the strategic objectives of the Leixlip Local Area Plan 2020-2023 (as extended), which are in accordance with the proper planning and sustainable development of the area

The Cathaoirleach thanked the Members and staff of the Planning Department.

This concluded the business of the meeting