



## City of Douglas

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City Hall,  
Douglas,  
10<sup>th</sup> January, 2024

At a MEETING of the COUNCIL of the CITY OF DOUGLAS, duly convened and holden at 2.30 p.m. on WEDNESDAY, the 10<sup>th</sup> day of JANUARY, 2024, in the COUNCIL CHAMBER, within the CITY HALL, at which Meeting the following Members were present, that is to say: -

The Mayor

**COUNCILLOR MRS NATALIE BYRON-TEARE, JP**

Councillors

Mr J.E. Skinner

Mr A.J. Bentley

Mr I.J.G. Clague, MBE

Mr D.R. Watson

Mr S.R. Crellin

Mr F. Schuengel

Mrs C.L. Wells

Mr F. Horning

Ms J. Thommeny

Mr P.J. Washington

The Director of Housing and Property as acting Chief Executive, the Director of Finance and the Director of Environment and Regeneration were in attendance.

Apologies for absence were submitted by Mr Councillor S.R. Pitts and the Chief Executive.

1. **Minutes – 13<sup>th</sup> December, 2023**

The minutes of the monthly Council meeting held on Wednesday, 13<sup>th</sup> December, 2023, were approved and signed.

2. **Standing Order 39 – Question – Mr Councillor J.E. Skinner**

Mr Councillor J.E. Skinner asked the Chair of the Environmental Services Committee:

*Fortnightly black bin refuse collections have now been in operation for over twelve months since November 2022. What have been the total amount of actual savings made in the first twelve months to November 2023?*

Reply by the Chair of the Environmental Services Committee:

*The direct savings as a result of a reduction in Energy from Waste fees amounts to £177,000. With the new gate fees coming in from 1<sup>st</sup> April 2024, this would represent a saving of £191,000 in the 2024/25 financial year. Some of the savings will be re-invested to improve the service.*

3. **Standing Order 39 – Question – Mr Councillor J.E. Skinner**

Mr Councillor J.E. Skinner asked the Chair of the Environmental Services Committee:

*Round 3 recyclable materials are normally collected from properties on Wednesdays. Given that 27<sup>th</sup> December was not a public or bank holiday and this Council is openly encouraging recycling is it reasonable that the ratepayers and residents on Round 3 are having to wait four weeks from 13<sup>th</sup> December to 10<sup>th</sup> January for their recyclable materials to be collected?*

*“Whilst a month is admittedly a long time to wait for the next recycling collection”, is it not somewhat presumptuous to expect rate payers to have capacity and facilities to safely stow four weeks’ worth of recycling materials until the next due collection date?*

*Were any recyclable materials collected 27<sup>th</sup> December and if so on which Recycle Round(s) were these recyclable materials collected?*

*Was it only residents on Recycling Round 3 who were affected by no collection on 27<sup>th</sup> December 2023?*

Reply by the Chair of the Environmental Services Committee:

*The Christmas period creates a particular challenge for the collection of recyclate every year as it is not a statutory service. Staff do not work Christmas Day and are entitled to both the 26<sup>th</sup> (a public holiday) and the 27<sup>th</sup> (by virtue of their Terms and Conditions of employment) as leave. Volunteers are sought to work the 26<sup>th</sup> and 27<sup>th</sup> and are recompensed accordingly. As refuse collection is a statutory service and must be provided, it takes priority over recycling collections which cannot be undertaken if there are insufficient staff to cover the holiday dates. Rounds 2 and 3 were affected in 2023. Waste Services do not believe this to be a satisfactory situation and will work with crews to try and provide greater collections in 2024.*

Supplementary Question:

*Is the Chairman aware that on 24<sup>th</sup> December 2023 at 12.00hrs many residents on Round 3 received their usual text reminder advising that their next recycling collection (which did not happen) would be as normal on Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup> December which probably prompted a number of complaints?*

Reply by the Chair of the Environmental Services Committee:

*Yes, this was an oversight by the Waste Services team who had not remembered to disable the automatic text messaging service. This particular issue will be highlighted for future Christmases.*

4. **Standing Order 39 – Question – Mr Councillor J.E. Skinner**

Mr Councillor J.E. Skinner asked the Chair of the Eastern District Civic Amenity Site Joint Committee:

*What is the current disposal route for broken glass which at present is not being accepted at the Amenity Site?*

Reply by the Chair of the Eastern District Civic Amenity Site Joint Committee:

*Broken glass is accepted at the CA site and householders will be directed to the general rubble/builder’s skip. The only glass not accepted is glass which is contained, for example, within a glazing unit such as window frame.*

5. **Standing Order 39 – Question – Mr Councillor J.E. Skinner**

Mr Councillor J.E. Skinner asked the Chair of the Regeneration and Community Committee:

*How many complaints were received by the Council from residents in St Ninian’s Court during the 2023 (a) TT period and (b) Manx Grand Prix period concerning vehicles accessing Nobles Park via the grounds of St Ninian’s Church?*

Reply by the Chair of the Regeneration and Community Committee:

*Two written complaints were received by the Council about TT23 regarding a range of matters including vehicles accessing Nobles park via the grounds of St Ninian's Church. However, Elected Members received several representations directly, of which there is no contemporaneous record.*

**6. Executive Committee – 20<sup>th</sup> December, 2023**

Motion moved by Councillor Mrs C.L. Wells, seconded by Mr Councillor I.J.G. Clague, "That the minutes of proceedings of the Executive Committee, as contained in report of meeting held on Wednesday, 20<sup>th</sup> December, 2023, be received by the Council."

Question put on Motion, a vote was taken electronically, and the Motion was carried unanimously.

**7. Housing and Property Committee – 20<sup>th</sup> December, 2023 – Clauses A1 to B11**

Motion moved by Mr Councillor D.R. Watson, seconded by Mr Councillor P.J. Washington, "That the minutes of proceedings of the Housing and Property Committee, as contained in Clauses A1 to B11 inclusive of report of meeting held on Wednesday, 20<sup>th</sup> December, 2023, be received by the Council."

Question put on Motion, a vote was taken electronically, and the Motion was carried unanimously.

**8. Housing and Property Committee – 20<sup>th</sup> December, 2023 – Clause C12**

Motion moved by Mr Councillor D.R. Watson, seconded by Mr Councillor P.J. Washington, "That the minutes of proceedings of the Housing and Property Committee, as contained in Clause C12 of report of meeting held on Wednesday, 20<sup>th</sup> December, 2023, be received, approved and adopted by the Council."

Question put on Motion, a vote was taken electronically, and the Motion was carried unanimously.

**9. Eastern District Civic Amenity Site Joint Committee – 19<sup>th</sup> December, 2023 – Clause A1**

Motion moved by Councillor Ms J. Thommeny, seconded by Mr Councillor P.J. Washington, "That the minutes of proceedings of the Eastern District Civic Amenity Site Joint Committee, as contained in Clause A1 of report of meeting held on Tuesday, 19<sup>th</sup> December, 2023, be received by the Council."

Question put on Motion, a vote was taken electronically, and the Motion was carried unanimously.

**10. Eastern District Civic Amenity Site Joint Committee – 19<sup>th</sup> December, 2023 – Clause B2**

Motion moved by Councillor Ms J. Thommeny, seconded by Mr Councillor P.J. Washington, "That the minutes of proceedings of the Eastern District Civic Amenity Site Joint Committee, as contained in Clause B2 of report of meeting held on Tuesday, 19<sup>th</sup> December, 2023, be received, approved and adopted by the Council."

Question put on Motion, a vote was taken electronically, and the Motion was carried unanimously.

**11. Regeneration and Community Committee – 19<sup>th</sup> December, 2023**

Motion moved by Mr Councillor A.J. Bentley, seconded by Mr Councillor F. Schuengel, "That the minutes of proceedings of the Regeneration and Community Committee, as contained in report of meeting held on Tuesday, 19<sup>th</sup> December, 2023, be received by the Council."

Further Motion moved by Councillor Mrs C.L. Wells, seconded by Mr Councillor I.J.G. Clague, "That Clause A5 be withdrawn for further consideration by the Committee."

Question put of further Motion, a vote was taken electronically and there voted **For** the Motion, Councillors: Mr A.J. Bentley, Mr I.J.G Clague, Mr D.R. Watson, Mr S.R. Crellin, Mr F. Schuengel, Mrs C.L. Wells, Mr F. Horning, Ms J. Thommeny, Mr P.J. Washington, the Mayor – **10**

**Against** – Mr Councillor J.E. Skinner – **1**

Question put on original Motion, a vote was taken electronically, and there voted **For** the Motion, Councillors: Mr A.J. Bentley, Mr I.J.G Clague, Mr D.R. Watson, Mr S.R. Crellin, Mr F. Schuengel, Mrs C.L. Wells, Mr F. Horning, Ms J. Thommeny, Mr P.J. Washington, the Mayor – **10**

**Against** – Mr Councillor J.E. Skinner – **1**

**12. Environmental Services Committee – 18<sup>th</sup> December, 2023 – Clause A5**

Motion moved by Mr Councillor F. Horning, seconded by Councillor Ms J. Thommeny, "That the minutes of proceedings of the Environmental Services Committee, as contained in Clause A5 of report of meeting held on Monday, 18<sup>th</sup> December, 2023, be received by the Council."

Question put on Motion, a vote was taken electronically, and the Motion was carried unanimously.

*Under the provisions of the Local Government Act 1985, Mr Councillor P.J. Washington declared an interest in the item and retired whilst it was considered.*

**13. Environmental Services Committee – 18<sup>th</sup> December, 2023 – Clauses A1 to A4 and A6 to A11**

Motion moved by Mr Councillor F. Horning, seconded by Councillor Ms J. Thommeny, “That the minutes of proceedings of the Environmental Services Committee, as contained in Clauses A1 to A4 and A6 to A11 inclusive of report of meeting held on Monday, 18<sup>th</sup> December, 2023, be received by the Council.”

Question put on Motion, a vote was taken electronically, and there voted **For** the Motion, Councillors: Mr J.E. Skinner, Mr A.J. Bentley, Mr D.R. Watson, Mr F. Schuengel, Mr F. Horning, Ms J. Thommeny, Mr P.J. Washington, the Mayor – **8**

**Against**, Councillors: Mr I.J.G Clague, Mr S.R. Crellin, Mrs C.L. Wells – **3**

**14. Adjournment and Resumption**

The meeting adjourned at 4.03pm and resumed at 4.20pm with the same Members and officers present.

**IN PRIVATE**

**15. Standing Order 39 – Question – Mr J.E. Skinner**

Mr Councillor J.E. Skinner submitted two questions for response by the Leader of the Council. The questions and responses were noted in the private sitting of the Council.

**16. Executive Committee – 20<sup>th</sup> December, 2023 – Clauses A1 to A7**

Motion moved by Councillor Mrs C.L. Wells, seconded by Mr Councillor I.J.G. Clague, “That the minutes of proceedings of the Executive Committee, as contained in Clauses A1 to A7 inclusive of private report of meeting held on Wednesday, 20<sup>th</sup> December, 2023, be received by the Council.”

Question put on Motion, a vote was taken electronically, and the Motion was carried unanimously.

**17. Executive Committee – 20<sup>th</sup> December, 2023 – Clause C8**

Motion moved by Councillor Mrs C.L. Wells, seconded by Mr Councillor I.J.G. Clague, “That the minutes of proceedings of the Executive Committee, as contained in Clause C8 of private report of meeting held on Wednesday, 20<sup>th</sup> December, 2023, be received, approved and adopted by the Council.”

Question put on Motion, a vote was taken electronically, and the Motion was carried unanimously.

**18. Housing and Property Committee – 20<sup>th</sup> December, 2023**

Motion moved by Mr Councillor D.R. Watson, seconded by Mr Councillor P.J. Washington, “That the minutes of proceedings of the Housing and Property Committee, as contained in private report of meeting held on Wednesday, 20<sup>th</sup> December, 2023, be received by the Council.”

Question put on Motion, a vote was taken electronically, and the Motion was carried unanimously.

**19. Regeneration and Community Committee – 19<sup>th</sup> December, 2023**

Motion moved by Mr Councillor A.J. Bentley, seconded by Mr Councillor F. Schuengel, “That the minutes of proceedings of the Regeneration and Community Committee, as contained in private report of meeting held on Tuesday, 19<sup>th</sup> December, 2023, be received by the Council.”

Question put on Motion, a vote was taken electronically, and the Motion was carried unanimously.

**20. Environmental Services Committee – 18<sup>th</sup> December, 2023 – Clause A2**

Motion moved by Mr Councillor F. Horning, seconded by Councillor Ms J. Thommeny, “That the minutes of proceedings of the Environmental Services Committee, as contained in Clause A2 of private report of meeting held on Monday, 18<sup>th</sup> December, 2023, be received by the Council.”

Question put on Motion, a vote was taken electronically, and the Motion was carried unanimously.

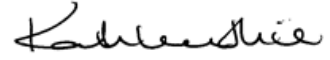
*Under the provisions of the Local Government Act 1985, Mr Councillor J.E. Skinner declared an interest in the item and retired whilst it was considered.*

**21. Environmental Services Committee – 18<sup>th</sup> December, 2023 – Clauses A1 and A3 to B5**

Motion moved by Mr Councillor F. Horning, seconded by Councillor Ms J. Thommeny, “That the minutes of proceedings of the Environmental Services Committee, as contained in Clauses A1 and A3 to B5 of private report of meeting held on Monday, 18<sup>th</sup> December, 2023, be received by the Council.”

Question put on Motion, a vote was taken electronically, and the Motion was carried unanimously.

The Council rose at 5.06pm.



Town Clerk & Chief Executive