



## City of Douglas

---

City Hall,  
Douglas,  
9<sup>th</sup> April, 2025

At a MEETING of the COUNCIL of the CITY OF DOUGLAS, duly convened and holden at 2.30 p.m. on WEDNESDAY, the 9<sup>th</sup> day of APRIL, 2025, 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 S R Pitts

Mr J.E. Skinner

Mr A.J. Bentley

Mr I.J.G. Clague. MBE

Mr D.R. Watson

Mrs C.L. Wells

Mr F. Horning

Ms J. Thommeny

Mr P.J. Washington

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

Apologies for absence were submitted by Mr Councillor S.R. Crellin.

1. **Minutes – 12<sup>th</sup> March, 2025**

The minutes of the monthly Council meeting held on Wednesday, 12<sup>th</sup> March, 2025, were approved and signed.

2. **Minutes – 21<sup>st</sup> March, 2025**

The minutes of the special Council meeting held on Friday, 21<sup>st</sup> March, 2025, were approved and signed.

3. **Minutes – 27<sup>th</sup> March, 2025**

The minutes of the special Council meeting held on Thursday, 27<sup>th</sup> March, 2025, were approved and signed.

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

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

*What would be the implications of reinstating weekly refuse collections?*

Reply by the Chair of the Environmental Services Committee:

*Should a Motion be received to return to weekly refuse collections, the following would need to be investigated and considered:*

- *The exact format required – for example this could be refuse only, refuse with a bi-weekly recycling collection service, refuse with a bi-weekly recycling collection and continuation of the bi-weekly garden waste collection service or a different combination;*
- *The increased ongoing costs to the Council of any one of these formats, which could include the need for additional staff or vehicles, would result in a rate increase assuming an otherwise standstill position.*
  - *For example, returning to weekly refuse collection, bi-weekly recycling collection and ceasing the garden waste collection service would result in an additional annual cost of approximately £200,000, adding 1.5% to the rate assuming all else remained the same. Other combinations are likely to cost significantly more;*
  - *For example, returning to weekly refuse collection, bi-weekly recycling and retaining the garden waste collection service would result in an additional annual cost of approximately £450,000 for an additional vehicle and crew, adding 3% to the rate assuming all else remained the same. In addition, the Council could see a reduction in recycle income and increased costs at the EfW should people choose to dispose of recycle instead of recycling the same material. It is impossible to quantify;*
    - *The one-off costs of city-wide communication to the public; and*
    - *Any reputational damage to the Council.*

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

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

2.1 *What are the current percentages of recycling materials for a) glass b) paper c) cardboard d) cans and e) glass, collected through kerbside collection services and what percentage of materials goes to the Energy from Waste Plant?*

2.2 *What income is currently derived from the sale of the following materials collected through kerbside collection services, a) glass b) paper c) cardboard d) cans and e) glass?*

2.3 *What are the current “gate fees” for disposing of waste materials at the Energy from Waste Plant?*

Reply by the Chair of the Environmental Services Committee:

2.1 *For the period April 2024-February 2025:*

- a) *Paper – 1.47%*
- b) *Plastic – 0.8%*
- c) *Card – 1.12%*
- d) *Cans – 0.72%*
- e) *Glass – 3.78%*
- f) *Garden – 8.75% (which is also now recycled)*

*Therefore, the percentage of refuse collected is 83.34% over the above period.*

*The percentages above represent the total weight of these materials as a percentage of all waste collected over the indicated 11 months. The weights collected in each individual month naturally vary.*

2.2 For the period April 2024-February 2025:

- a) Paper - £12,415
- b) Plastic - £6,361
- c) Card - £55,230
- d) Cans - £59,508

*The Council pays to dispose of glass at an amount per tonne that is **significantly** cheaper (less than 10%) than disposing of glass at the Energy from Waste (EfW) facility. In addition, glass and cans do not have a calorific value and cause operational issues at the EfW.*

*The Council uses a composter for its Garden Waste. The gate fee for disposing of garden waste in this way is **significantly** cheaper (less than a third of the price) than disposing of garden waste at the EfW facility. In addition, recycling garden waste represents one of the only closed loop recycling systems for the Isle of Man.*

2.3 The domestic gate fee at the EfW for 2025/26 is £118.91 per tonne. Commercial gate fees are higher.

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

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

*How many people have taken advantage of visiting the Council's recycling processing area to date?*

Reply by the Chair of the Environmental Services Committee:

2021 – Five tours plus two Manx National Heritage days (Covid year)

2022 – Four tours

2023 – Three tours

2024 – Seven tours

2025 (to date) - Four tours

*The tours are a mix of schools, organisations and the public through the Manx National Heritage Days.*

#### 7. **Standing Order 39 – Question – Mr Councillor S.R. Pitts**

Mr Councillor S.R. Pitts asked the Chair of Environmental Services Committee:

*How many Council vehicles have trackers fitted.*

Reply by the Chair of the Environmental Services Committee:

*There are 63 Council vehicles which have trackers fitted to them.*

Supplementary Question:

*What is the annual cost of the trackers?*

Reply by the Chair of the Environmental Services Committee:

£8,316.

#### 8. **Executive Committee – 27<sup>th</sup> March, 2025 – Clauses A1 to A16**

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 A16 inclusive of report of meeting held on Thursday, 27<sup>th</sup> March, 2025, be received by the Council.”

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

#### 9. **Executive Committee – 27<sup>th</sup> March, 2025 – Clause C17**

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 C17 of report of meeting held on Thursday, 27<sup>th</sup> March, 2025, be received, approved and adopted by the Council.”

Question put on Motion, a vote was taken electronically, and there voted **For** the Motion, Councillors: Mr S.R. Pitts, Mr J.E. Skinner, Mr I.J.G. Clague, Mr A.J. Bentley, Mr D.R. Watson, Mrs C.L. Wells, Mr F. Horning, the Mayor – 8

**Against**, Councillors: Ms J. Thommeny and Mr P.J. Washington – 2

*Motion carried.*

**10. Executive Committee – 27<sup>th</sup> March, 2025 – Clause C18**

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 C18 of report of meeting held on Thursday, 27<sup>th</sup> March, 2025, be received, approved and adopted by the Council, subject to an amendment at Clause (iii) to remove the first bullet point.”

Question put on Motion as amended, a vote was taken electronically, and there voted **For** the Motion, Councillors: Mr S.R. Pitts, Mr J.E. Skinner, Mr I.J.G. Clague, Mr A.J. Bentley, Mr D.R. Watson, Mrs C.L. Wells, Mr F. Horning, the Mayor – 8

**Against**, Councillors: Ms J. Thommeny and Mr P.J. Washington – 2

*Motion carried.*

**11. Housing and Property Committee – 19<sup>th</sup> March, 2025 – Clause A10**

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 A10 of report of meeting held on Wednesday, 19<sup>th</sup> March, 2025, 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, the Director of Housing and Property declared an interest in the item and retired whilst it was considered.*

**12. Housing and Property Committee – 19<sup>th</sup> March, 2025 – Clauses A1 to A9 and A11**

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 A9 and A11 of report of meeting held on Wednesday, 19<sup>th</sup> March, 2025, be received by the Council.”

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

**13. Pensions Committee – 26<sup>th</sup> March, 2025**

Motion moved by Mr Councillor J.E. Skinner, seconded by Mr Councillor F. Horning, “That the minutes of proceedings of the Pensions Committee, as contained in report of meeting held on Wednesday, 26<sup>th</sup> March, 2025, be received by the Council.”

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

**14. Eastern District Civic Amenity Site Joint Committee – 18<sup>th</sup> February, 2025**

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 report of meeting held on Tuesday, 18<sup>th</sup> February, 2025, be received by the Council.”

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

**15. Regeneration and Community Committee – 18<sup>th</sup> February, 2025 – Clauses C1**

Motion moved by Mr Councillor A.J. Bentley, seconded by Mr Councillor J.E. Skinner, “That the minutes of proceedings of the Regeneration and Community Committee, as contained in Clause C1 of report of meeting held on Tuesday, 18<sup>th</sup> February, 2025, be received, approved and adopted by the Council.”

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

**16. Regeneration and Community Committee – 18<sup>th</sup> February, 2025 – Clause C2**

Motion moved by Mr Councillor A.J. Bentley, seconded by Mr Councillor J.E. Skinner, “That the minutes of proceedings of the Regeneration and Community Committee, as contained in Clause C2 of report of meeting held on Tuesday, 18<sup>th</sup> February, 2025, be received, approved and adopted by the Council.”

Question put on Motion; a vote was taken electronically, and there voted **For** the Motion, Councillors: Mr J.E. Skinner, Mr I.J.G. Clague, Mr A.J. Bentley, Mr D.R. Watson, Mrs C.L. Wells, Mr F. Horning, Ms J. Thommeny, Mr P.J. Washington, the Mayor – 9

**Against** – Mr Councillor Mr S.R. Pitts – 1

*Motion carried.*

**17. Regeneration and Community Committee – 18<sup>th</sup> March, 2025**

Motion moved by Mr Councillor A.J. Bentley, seconded by Mr Councillor J.E. Skinner, “That the minutes of proceedings of the Regeneration and Community Committee, as contained in report of meeting held on Tuesday, 18<sup>th</sup> March, 2025, be received by the Council.”

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

**18. Environmental Services Committee – 17<sup>th</sup> March, 2025**

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 report of meeting held on Monday, 17<sup>th</sup> March, 2025, be received by the Council.”

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

**19. Standing Order 30 – Notice of Motion – Mr Councillor J.E. Skinner**

Mr Councillor J.E. Skinner moved the following Motion, notice of which had been given:

“After nominations for the 2025 Local Authority Elections closed many constituencies across the Island were uncontested and a number of seats remain vacant.

In order to generate more political interest particularly amongst young people will the Council and its officers investigate, instigate and facilitate the setting up and running of a Junior “City Council” (Local Authority) with one member elected from each Douglas school.

The aim being to give young people an opportunity to discuss and put forward their views on Council proposals in a Council setting.”

Mr Councillor I.J.G. Clague seconded the Motion.

Under the provisions of Standing Order 30, the matter was referred to the Executive Committee for consideration and report to the Council by 9<sup>th</sup> July, 2025.

**20. Adjournment and Resumption**

The meeting adjourned at 4.35pm and resumed at 4.55pm with the same Members and officers present.

**IN PRIVATE**

**21. Minutes – 27<sup>th</sup> March, 2025**

The minutes of the special private Council meeting held on Thursday, 27<sup>th</sup> March, 2025, were approved and signed.

**22. Executive Committee – 27<sup>th</sup> March, 2025**

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 private report of meeting held on Thursday, 27<sup>th</sup> March, 2025, be received by the Council.”

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

**23. Housing and Property Committee – 19<sup>th</sup> March, 2025**

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, 19<sup>th</sup> March, 2025, be received by the Council.”

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

**24. Pensions Committee – 26<sup>th</sup> March, 2025 – Clause C1**

Motion moved by Mr Councillor J.E. Skinner, seconded by Mr Councillor F. Horning, “That the minutes of proceedings of the Pensions Committee, as contained in Clause C1 of private report of meeting held on Wednesday, 26<sup>th</sup> February, 2025, be received, approved and adopted by the Council.”

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

**25. Environmental Services Committee – 17<sup>th</sup> March, 2025**

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 private report of meeting held on Monday, 17<sup>th</sup> March, 2025, be received by the Council.”

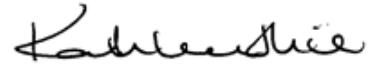
333  
9<sup>th</sup> April  
2025

Question put on Motion; a vote was taken electronically, and there voted **For** the Motion, Councillors: Mr J.E. Skinner, Mr I.J.G. Clague, Mr A.J. Bentley, Mr D.R. Watson, Mrs C.L. Wells, Mr F. Horning, Ms J. Thommeny, Mr P.J. Washington, the Mayor – **9**

**Against** – Mr Councillor Mr S.R. Pitts – **1**

*Motion carried.*

The Council rose at 5.17pm.



Town Clerk & Chief Executive