City of Douglas

MR COUNCILLOR S.R. CRELLIN, JP
MAYOR

City Hall,
Douglas,
7th August, 2026

Dear Sir or Madam,

You are hereby summoned to attend a MEETING OF THE COUNCIL of the CITY OF DOUGLAS to be held on WEDNESDAY, 12th AUGUST 2026, at 2.30 o'clock in the afternoon, in the COUNCIL CHAMBER within the CITY HALL, DOUGLAS for the transaction of the hereinafter mentioned business.

I am,
Yours faithfully

Town Clerk & Chief Executive

Order of Agenda

I - Election of a person to preside (if the Mayor is absent).

II - Any statutory business.

III - Approval as a correct record of the minutes of the last regular and any intermediate Meetings of the Council.

IV - Questions of which Notice has been given by Members of the Council, pursuant to Standing Order No. 39.

V - Consideration of the minutes of proceedings of the Council in Committee.

VI - Consideration of the minutes of proceedings of Committees of the Council in the following order:

(i) The Executive Committee;

(ii) The Housing and Property Committee;

(iii) The Pensions Committee;

(iv) The Standards Committee;

(v) The Eastern District Civic Amenity Site Joint Committee;

(vi) Any other Joint Committee;

(vii) The Regeneration and Community Committee;

(viii) The Environmental Services Committee;

VIII - Consideration of such communications or petitions and memorials as the Mayor or Chief Executive may desire to lay before Council.

IX - Notices of Motion submitted by Members of the Council in order of their receipt by the Chief Executive.

X - Any Miscellaneous Business of which Notice has been given pursuant to Standing Orders.

The above Order of Agenda is in accordance with Standing Order No. 16(1); under Standing Order No. 16(2) it may be varied by the Council to give precedence to any business of a special urgency, but such variation shall not displace business under I and II.

AGENDA

III – Chief Executive to read minutes of the Council Meeting held on Wednesday, 8th July, 2026.

VI(i) - The proceedings of the EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE as follows:

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE – Minutes of Meeting held on Thursday, 23rd July, 2026.

Members Present: Mr Councillor D.R. Watson (Chair), the Mayor, Councillor Mrs N.A. Byron-Teare, Councillor Ms F.T.E. Logan, Mr Councillor F. Horning, Mr Councillor P.J. Washington. Mr Councillor D.C. Cretney was in attendance for Clause C15, in his capacity as Chair of the Standards Committee.

In Attendance: Chief Executive (Miss K.J. Rice), Director of Finance (Mr A.J.T. Boyd), Director of Environment and Regeneration (Mr I. Jackson), Director of Housing and Property (Mr D. Looney), Assistant Chief Officer (Regeneration) (Mr C. Pycroft) (Clause A11), Assistant Chief Officer (Democratic Services) (Mrs L. Radcliffe) (Clauses C14 and C15), Democratic Services Officer (Mrs D. Atkinson) (Clauses C14 and C15), Executive Officer (Mrs J.M. Keig) (taking minutes).

REPORT

PART A –

Matters within the scope of the Executive Committee's delegated authority

A1. **Apologies for Absence**

There were no apologies for absence.

A2. **Declarations of Interest**

There were no declarations of interest.

A3. **Minutes**

The minutes of the meeting held on Thursday 25th June 2026 were approved and signed.

A4. **Matters Arising from Previous Minutes**

There were no matters arising from the previous minutes.

A5. **Referrals from the Environmental Services Committee**

There were no referrals from the Environmental Services Committee meeting held on Monday 13th July 2026.

A6. **Referrals from the Regeneration and Community Committee**

The Committee considered the following referral from the rescheduled Regeneration and Community Committee meeting held on Wednesday 22nd July 2026:

Clause B1 – Douglas Dog Control Byelaws Trials: the Committee had considered a report by the Assistant Chief Officer (Regeneration) proposing a trial of amendments to the Douglas Dog Control Byelaws. It had been noted that officers had begun a review of the current 2018 Dog Control Byelaws, which were due to expire in March 2028. There were several proposed changes that would require an Executive Committee decision not to carry out enforcement action during the trial period.

The Executive Committee discussed the proposed amendments at considerable length, with a number of further suggestions being put forward. While it was recalled that the Executive Committee's remit was to consider the request not to carry out enforcement action during the trial period, it was agreed that there be a further relaxing of the Byelaws in respect of Glen Falcon.

Resolved, "(i) That particulars of the referral be noted on the minutes;

(ii) That the resolution of the Regeneration and Community Committee be endorsed as follows:

(a) That in advance of the drafting of new Dog Control Byelaws a trial be conducted to allow dogs on the whole of Douglas Beach throughout the year on condition that faeces were removed;

(b) That dogs be not permitted in Derby Square, Hilary Park, Hutchinson Square, Olympia, Woodbourne Square or on the lower former pitch area in Noble's Park;

(c) That the trials be publicised widely in the media, social media, and at the sites concerned, with an invitation for the public to submit feedback on the outcome of the trials;

(d) That feedback from the public be used to inform the drafting of new Douglas Dog Control Byelaws in readiness for the expiry of the current Byelaws on 31st March 2028;

(iii) That further to the resolution of the Regeneration and Community Committee, Glen Falcon be designated as a dog-friendly park and that dogs be permitted to be off-lead on condition that they were kept under control and that faeces were removed;

(iv) That in respect of resolutions (ii)(a) and (iii), authority be given for enforcement action not to be carried out during the trial period; and

(v) That the Regeneration and Community Committee be asked to review all parks and garden squares in Douglas with a view to identifying those where the restriction on ball games and the exercising of dogs could be considered for lifting."

A7. **Referrals from the Housing and Property Committee**

There were no referrals from the Housing and Property Committee meeting held on Wednesday 15th July 2026.

A8. **Finance Department Service Plans – Quarterly Performance Monitoring**

The Committee considered a written report by the Director of Finance setting out an update on performance compared against measures outlined in the Finance Department's Service Plans for 2026 – 2028.

The Council had adopted a new Corporate Plan for 2026 to 2030 and following on from this, each Service had its own Service Plan to run for the financial years 2026 - 2028. The report (which replaced the previous Monthly Financial Review Report) would be presented to Committee after the end of each quarter. It set out the performance to date against the Financial Services and the Income Services Service Plans (it being noted that Library Service Plan monitoring would be reported to the Regeneration and Community Committee).

The Director of Finance advised that this was the first year that the accounts would be prepared using the Council's new finance system, and it had presented a number of challenges. Thanks were extended to the Finance Teams and the Digital and Information Services Team in dealing with this significant change in operations.

Resolved "That particulars of the report, including progress against planned actions and performance indicators, be noted on the minutes."

A9. **Planning Application – 'The Snake Pit', Lord Street, Douglas**

The Committee considered a written report by the Dilapidations Enforcement Officer seeking agreement of a response to the Planning Authority in relation to Planning Application PA 26/00467/B, for the conversion of existing public space to a wellness retreat at The Snake Pit, Lord Street.

The proposed development (located within a parcel of land owned by the Council) included the erection of an ablution block, pools, sauna, and ancillary facilities, together with associated landscaping works. If approved, it would lead to a small area of public open space close to the central retail and business districts of Douglas City Centre being revitalised and, given the popularity of such businesses around the Island, this development could also generate an increased footfall in the area, in turn benefitting other businesses in close proximity. It was noted that there would be no cost to the Council as the business operator would undertake the fit-out work (including replacement of the roof on an existing building to improve and weather-proof the structure).

A concern was raised in relation to the proposed waste management arrangements, particularly the reference to kerbside collections and the removal of waste to the Eastern Civic Amenity Site. It was clarified that commercial waste could not be accepted at the Eastern Civic Amenity Site and that, if there was no collection of general waste from the premises, then a charge would be made for the kerbside collection of materials for recycling.

It was also noted that, while the Housing and Property Committee had supported the proposals when they were considered at the March 2026 meeting, the planning application now showed that the area available for public seating as being reduced. This would require to be brought to the attention of the Housing and Property Committee in order for an amendment to the agreement to be determined.

Resolved, "(i) That particulars of the report be noted on the minutes; and

(ii) That a response be submitted to the Planning Authority in support of Planning Application PA 26/00467/B for the conversion of existing public space to a wellness retreat, with erection of ablution block, pools, sauna, and ancillary facilities with associated landscaping works at The Snake Pit, Lord Street, Douglas, subject to the following -

(a) Notification to the Housing and Property Committee in respect of the reduced area available for public seating and subsequent amendment of the agreement between the Council and the business operator for the use of the land; and

(b) Confirmation of the waste management arrangements."

A10. **Fleet Services – Disposal of Equipment**

The Committee considered a written report by the Head of Fleet Services and Stores detailing a number of used items of plant and equipment that had been sold in the first quarter of the 2026 / 2027 financial year in accordance with Standing Order 161, 'Disposal of Surplus Property, Materials, etc'.

The items sold on behalf of the Council had been included in two separate auctions on 11th April 2026 and 27th June 2026.

Resolved, "(i) That particulars of the report be noted on the minutes; and

(ii) That the Schedule of Vehicles, Plant and other equipment sold and the income achieved at auction in the sum of £5,415.00 excluding VAT and less auctioneer's commission in the sum of £270.75, giving net income from the two auctions of £5,144.25, be also noted."

A11. **Local Economy Fund – Sea Defence Wall Artworks**

The Committee considered a written report by the Assistant Chief Officer (Regeneration) seeking authority for a Local Economy Fund grant application to be submitted by the Council, to assist with the cost of manufacturing and installing artworks on the sea defence wall by the Department of Infrastructure.

Members recalled, in 2019, that the Department of Infrastructure (DOI) had received planning consent to construct a wave overtopping reduction wall over a 500m length of Douglas Promenade, from Harris Promenade to Central Promenade. A second phase of the project would involve the installation of the same wall design from the Sea Terminal to Marine Garden No.1 (the wall would not protect the Marine Gardens from wave action or sea water inundation).

The planning approval included the installation of art panels at regular intervals along the length of the wall, which the Council had agreed to illuminate, it being noted that the required cabling and lighting infrastructure had already been installed.

In 2024, artists had been invited by the Department of Infrastructure to submit designs for the panels and, following a selection process, three local artists had been commissioned to each provide five panel designs. The intention was to incorporate ten of the artwork panels into the first phase of the wall construction, with the remaining five panels being installed in the Phase 2 wall construction.

The Isle of Man Arts Council had funded the development of the design of the artworks but, unfortunately, the cost of manufacturing and installing the pieces had been omitted from the DOI's funding bid for Phase 1 of the project. Therefore, although the funding bid for Phase 2 would include the cost of manufacturing and installation of the panels into that phase, the cost of manufacturing the panels and their installation into Phase 1 remained unfunded.

The Department for Enterprise had advised that it would accept an application for a grant from the Local Economy Fund to cover the budget shortfall of £16,000, however, because Government Departments were ineligible to apply, the Council had been asked to consider submitting the grant application. Officers had however raised some concerns about making the request and, while the recommendation was that authority be given to make the grant application, it was subject to several conditions to ensure the Council's interests were protected.

Members concurred with the concerns in relation to the making of the application and it was proposed that the Council should, instead, make a contribution of £16,000 to the Department of Infrastructure to cover the shortfall for the project, but with various conditions attached.

Resolved, "(i) That particulars of the report be noted on the minutes;

(ii) That the recommendation that an application be made to the Local Economy Fund seeking funds of £16,000 towards the manufacture and installation of artwork panels for the Douglas Promenade sea defence wall be not supported;

(iii) That a contribution of £16,000 (funded from the General Revenue Reserve) instead be made to the Department of Infrastructure, subject to the following conditions -

(a) That the amount be ring-fenced specifically for the artwork manufacture and installation project, and be not used for any other purpose; and to be paid only on satisfactory completion and on receipt of invoices;

(b) That a formal agreement be drawn up between the Council and the Department of Infrastructure;

(c) That the Council accepts no ownership of the artworks;

(d) That the Council has no involvement in managing, supervising, or otherwise certifying the quality of the artworks or installation of the pieces;

(e) That the Council accepts no liability for the ongoing condition of the artworks, such as maintenance, repair, or public liability;

(f) That a time limit of twelve months be stipulated for the satisfactory completion of the installation of the artworks; and

(iv) That discussions continue to take place with the Department of Infrastructure regarding the installation of a sea defence wall in the area of the Marine Gardens and that lines of communication be maintained about completion of that project."

A12. **Items for Future Report**

The Committee considered a written report by the Chief Executive identifying those issues on which further reports had been requested or which were outstanding, so that Members and officers were aware of them and could monitor progress.

Resolved, "That particulars of the report be noted on the minutes and that it be considered and monitored at each meeting of the Executive Committee."

A13. **Time and Date of Next Meeting**

The time and date of the next meeting were noted as 10:00am on Thursday 24th September 2026, however, a number of Members submitted their apologies in advance as the date coincided with the House of Keys General Election.

Resolved, "That particulars be noted on the minutes."

PART C –

Matters subject to Council approval

C14. **Independent Person Report**

Mr Councillor D.C. Cretney, Chair of the Standards Committee, joined the meeting for consideration of this clause.

The Committee considered a written report by the Assistant Chief Officer (Democratic Services) seeking approval to make at least two Independent Person appointments to the Standards Committee in order to comply with the Local Government (Amendment) Bill 2023.

The Local Government (Amendment) Bill 2023 had completed its reading in Tynwald and the House of Keys and was awaiting Royal Assent. Once the Bill was passed, there would be a requirement for the Council to appoint at least one Independent Person onto the Standards Committee, whose views must be sought about decisions on any Member allegation which was to be investigated.

As the Council's Constitution did not provide for the appointment of Independent Persons to the Standards Committee, an amendment would therefore be required. It was noted that, although only one was required under the legislation, it was recommended that the Council should appoint two Independent Persons, to avoid any potential conflict of interests and also avoid the Member and the authority consulting the same Independent Person. It was also recommended that the term of office of such Independent Persons be two years, with a provision for extension for a further two years. This arrangement was to make the appointment coterminous with the terms of office of Councillors.

The appointment would therefore be required to be advertised at least once every four years. It was recommended that this be by placement of an advertisement in the local press, inviting people who may be interested in the appointment to submit details accordingly. Following interviews, the Standards Committee would be expected to make a recommendation to Council, with the appointment being ratified at the Special Selection Council Meeting in May in the year of a general election of Councillors and two years thereafter.

There was suggestion that, potentially, the Independent Persons could be shared with other local authorities, and it was agreed that this be explored further.

It was noted that any Member having an allegation made against them would be able to seek the views of the Independent Person. Similarly, the Committee on Standards in Public Life had recommended that authorities should also seek the views of the Independent Person when initially assessing a case before deciding if an allegation should be investigated.

Resolved, "(i) That particulars of the report be noted on the minutes; and

(ii) That it be recommended to Council -

(a) That the position of two Independent Persons on the Standards Committee be advertised, and that applicants be interviewed in due course with a recommendation being made on appointment;

(b) That Part 2 and Part 4 of the Council's Constitution, together with other such parts of the Constitution as required, be amended to include Independent Persons to advise the Standards Committee; and

(c) That the potential to share the Independent Persons with other local authorities be explored further."

Mr Councillor D.C. Cretney was thanked for his attendance and left the meeting.

C15. **Douglas Youth Council – Proposed Change to Terms of Reference**

The Committee considered a written report by the Democratic Services Officer seeking an amendment to the Douglas Youth Council Terms of Reference.

Communication was ongoing with Douglas educational establishments in preparation for the Youth Council to commence in September 2026. There had currently been particular interest from two of the three establishments, with nominations officially due to open in September 2026.

The current Terms of Reference limited each establishment to four spaces, however, to ensure the continuity and flexibility of the initiative, it was proposed to remove this requirement and replace it with an allocation based on balanced representation. Officers would review nominations at the closing date and allocate the available spaces based on a fair balancing exercise, including the level of interest from each school and the number of students at each establishment.

Resolved, "(i) That particulars of the report be noted on the minutes; and

(ii) That it be recommended to Council that the Douglas Youth Council's Terms of Reference be amended at Section 2.1 and Section 3 to remove the requirement for four students per educational establishment, and to move instead to an allocation based on balanced representation."

The Committee rose at 1.35pm.

VI(ii) - The proceedings of the HOUSING AND PROPERTY COMMITTEE as follows:

HOUSING AND PROPERTY COMMITTEE

HOUSING AND PROPERTY COMMITTEE – Minutes of Meeting held on Wednesday, 15th July, 2026.

Members Present: Mr Councillor P.J. Washington (Chair), Mr Councillor D.C. Cretney, Mr Councillor K. Ver Elst.

In Attendance: Director of Housing and Property (Mr D. Looney), Assistant Chief Officer (Housing and Property) (Mr V. Zivave), Assistant Chief Officer (Democratic Services) (Mrs L. Radcliffe), Assistant Chief Officer (Income) (Mrs C. Pulman), Housing and Property Operations Manager (Mr J. Chatwood), Assistant Democratic Services Officer (Mrs C. Maddocks).

REPORT

PART A –

Matters delegated to the Committee

A1. **Apologies**

Apologies for absence were submitted by the Worshipful the Mayor and Councillor Ms C. Traynor.

A2. **Declarations of Interest**

There were no declarations of interest.

A3**. Minutes – 22nd June, 2026**

The minutes of the meeting held on Monday, 22nd June, 2026 were approved and signed.

A4. **Matters Arising**

No matters were raised as arising from the previous minutes.

A5. **Items for future consideration**

The Committee noted the monthly report and schedule setting out items which will be brought forward for consideration to future meetings.

Resolved, “That particulars of the report and schedule be noted on the minutes.”

A6. **Date and Time of Next Meeting**

Members were advised that the next monthly meeting was scheduled to take place at 10.00am on Wednesday, 16th September 2026.

Resolved, “That the date and time of the next meeting be noted on the minutes.”

A7. **Kitchen refurbishments at various locations within Douglas Council Estates**

The Committee considered a report submitted by the Assistant Chief Officer (Housing and Property) seeking approval to progress the final phase of the kitchen refurbishment framework at various locations across the Council's social housing stock.

The report advised that in June 2020, a contractor was appointed to undertake the final phase of the kitchen refurbishment framework. This phase originally comprised of 364 kitchen refurbishments across the Council’s social housing stock. Given the time that had elapsed since the framework was established and unfavourable pricing, officers considered it appropriate to retender the remaining works.

The report further advised that, throughout the duration of the framework, a number of kitchens were not refurbished due to a range of factors, primarily relating to tenants' health and welfare circumstances. The proposed contract will seek to revisit those previously deferred properties wherever possible. However, it is recognised that some properties may remain inaccessible because of ongoing health or welfare considerations and, consequently, some kitchens may remain outstanding when the kitchen refurbishment framework concludes.

The Assistant Chief Officer (Housing and Property) advised that the proposed contract comprises approximately 133 properties across the Council's social housing stock and relates solely to the installation works required to complete the remaining kitchen refurbishments. The Committee had previously approved the continuation of Magnet Trade for the provision of kitchen units and associated

products under the kitchen refurbishment programme. Magnet Trade has supplied the kitchens installed throughout the previous phases of the framework, and their continued use will ensure consistency of specification, quality, component compatibility and continuity across the Council's housing stock.

Following completion of the procurement process, the tender submitted by Cedar was evaluated and determined to represent value for money and was therefore recommended for acceptance.

It was noted that existing funding from the previous petition is available and that the proposed expenditure will be funded from the approved kitchen framework capital budget.

The Committee further noted that the Department of Infrastructure had confirmed that this budget is ring-fenced for kitchen refurbishment works and cannot be reallocated to alternative capital projects.

Resolved, "That particulars of the report and discussion be noted on the minutes;

(i) That the tender submitted by Cedar for up to 12 months for refurbishments of existing kitchens in public sector housing at various locations within Douglas Council Estates be accepted; and

(ii) That the Committee approves the continuation of the kitchen supplier as Magnet Trade."

The meeting ended at 11.00am.

VI(vii) – The proceedings of the REGENERATION AND COMMUNITY COMMITTEE as follows:

REGENERATION AND COMMUNITY COMMITTEE

REGENERATION AND COMMUNITY COMMITTEE – Minutes of Meeting held on Wednesday, 22nd July, 2026.

Members Present: Councillor Mrs N.A. Byron-Teare (Chair), Councillor Miss S. Kewin, Mr Councillor D.C. Cretney.

In Attendance: Director of Environment and Regeneration (Mr I. Jackson), Director of Finance (Mr A.J.T. Boyd), Assistant Chief Officer (Regeneration) (Mr C. Pycroft), Head of Parks (Mrs S. Parkinson), City Centre Manager (Mr O. Cheshire), Democratic Services Officer (Mrs D. Atkinson).

REPORT

PART A –

Matters Delegated to the Committee

A1. **Apologies**

The Mayor and Councillor C. Traynor submitted apologies for the meeting.

A2. **Declarations of Interest**

There were no declarations of interest submitted.

A3. **Minutes – 19th May 2026**

The minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday, 19th May, 2026 were approved and signed.

A4. **Matters Arising**

There were no matters arising from the minutes.

A5. **Update on Association of Town and City Management (ATCM) Summer School**

The Committee considered a report by the City Centre Manager on key findings from attendance at the ATCM Summer School in June 2026.

Members noted that presentations at the event highlighted the changing role of city centres as leisure destinations and the importance of creating attractive, sustainable environments. The Committee also noted the potential benefits of involving younger people in future planning and of delivering smaller events over longer periods, rather than offering larger one-off events.

The report recommended expanding Douglas City Council's representation at future conferences, where relevant, to include officers from City Centre Management and Parks, together with a Member of the Regeneration and Community Committee.

It was further noted that a report proposing a revised format for the Christmas Lights Event had been drafted following a presentation on events as part of the Summer School.

Resolved, "That particulars of the report be noted on the minutes and;

(i) Additional delegates from Douglas City Council be supported to attend future ATCM events when the subject matter is relevant to Douglas; and

(ii) Officers be authorised to share the feedback on the Summer School to relevant external partners such as the Department for Enterprise with a suggestion that they consider sending delegates in the future."

A6. **Christmas Lights Event**

The Committee considered a report submitted by the Assistant Chief Officer (Regeneration) seeking approval to change the date of the Christmas Lights Event from Thursday, 26th November to Saturday 28th November 2026.

Following on from the City Centre Manager's attendance at an ATCM event in 2026, a key message at the event was the decline in footfall within city centres and the importance of ensuring events support local economy activity and sales rather than just delivering footfall. Although the Christmas Lights Event attracts large crowds each year, feedback from the retailers indicates that it delivers little benefit in relation to increased sales. Anecdotal feedback from colleagues with young children also suggests that the current

three hour event does not provide sufficient time for attendees to enjoy the attractions while also visiting shops and hospitality venues.

The report recommended that trialling a new format for the event to take place during a full day on the Saturday 28th November to allow attendees to visit all day, enjoy free events and still have time to shop and eat before the lights switch on as the day turns darker. It was also proposed that the light switch on be brought forward from 7.00pm to 6.00pm.

Members supported the change in format, however agreed that the event should instead take place on Saturday, 21st November 2026. This would allow five weekends and five Thursday late-night shopping events to take place before Christmas. It was noted that Thursday late-night shopping in the city would continue after the Christmas Lights Event on 21st November.

Resolved, "That particulars of the report and discussion be noted on the minutes and the date of the Christmas Lights Event in 2026 be amended from Thursday 26th November to Saturday 21st November to become a daylong event."

A7. **Wind Telephone Suggestions**

This matter was deferred to the September meeting of the Committee.

A8. **Items for Future Report**

The Committee considered a report submitted by the Democratic Services Officer regarding reports for future consideration by the Committee.

Resolved, "That particulars of the matters for future consideration and the discussions be noted on the minutes."

A9. **Date and Time of Next Meeting**

It was noted that the next scheduled meeting of the Committee was Tuesday, 15th September at 10.00am.

PART B –

Matters Referred to Executive Committee

B10. **Dog Byelaw Trials**

The Committee considered a report submitted by the Assistant Chief Officer (Regeneration) proposing a trial of amendments to the Douglas Dog Control Byelaws.

The report advised that the current dog control byelaws are due to expire in March 2028. Officers have started to review the current 2018 byelaws in preparation for renewal. In response to several requests from members of the public and through politicians, the report proposed relaxing the dog byelaws in some open spaces.

There were several proposed changes that are the result of changes of use where dogs are currently prohibited. Further changes may also be required because of projects at Pulrose and Noble's Park. It was noted these matters will be addressed in detail at a later date as part of the drafting process of the new byelaws.

The Assistant Chief Officer (Regeneration) explained that officers had been exploring the removal of dog bans from certain areas and replacing it with a requirement for dogs to be on leads and restricted to footpaths, in addition to the requirement for owners to pick up faeces. The report proposed implementing a trial of these conditions in Derby Square, Glen Falcon, Hilary Park, Hutchinson Square, Olympia, Woodburn Square. The report also proposed trialling the removal of the byelaw prohibiting dogs on Douglas Beach during certain dates and times, and to permit dogs on the former lower pitch of Noble's Park.

The trials would not involve changes to the byelaws but would require an Executive Committee decision not to carry out enforcement action during the trial period.

The Committee discussed the proposals and unanimously agreed to the trial for Douglas Beach to permit dogs all year round at all times of the day, and to permit dogs on leads and restricted to footpaths in Glen Falcon. The Committee did not however support the proposal for the City's squares based on the current use of the squares and green flag status for some of the areas. It was felt there were sufficient dog walking areas in all wards in Douglas, particularly with the relaxation of the Douglas Beach byelaws. Members felt it would be difficult to police dogs remaining on leads and footpaths in squares where young children are often playing and exploring.

Resolved, "That particulars of the report be noted on the minutes and;

(i) In advance of the drafting of new Dog Control Byelaws, a trial is conducted to;

(a) Allow dogs on the whole of Douglas Beach throughout the year on condition that faeces are removed; and

(b) Allow dogs in Glen Falcon on condition they are kept on leads and kept to footpaths and that faeces are removed; and

(c) Dogs not be permitted on the lower former pitch area in Noble's Park, Derby Square, Hilary Park, Hutchinson Square, Olympia, and Woodburn Square;

(ii) The trials be publicised widely in the media, social media and at the sites concerned with an invitation for the public to submit feedback on the outcome of trials; and

(iii) Feedback from the public be used to inform the drafting of new Douglas Dog Control Byelaws in readiness for the expiry of the current byelaws on 31st March 2028."

The meeting ended at 3.43pm.

VI(viii) – The proceedings of the ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES COMMITTEE as follows:

ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES COMMITTEE

ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES COMMITTEE – Minutes of Meeting held on Monday, 13th July, 2026.

Members Present: Mr Councillor F. Horning (Chair), Mr Councillor A. Hall, Mr Councillor D.C. Cretney, the Mayor.

In Attendance: Director of Environment and Regeneration (Mr I. Jackson), Assistant Chief Officer (Regeneration) (Mr C. Pycroft), Assistant Chief Officer (Democratic Services) (Mrs L. Radcliffe), Dilapidations Enforcement Officer, (Mr S. Salter) (Items A5 and A6), Assistant Democratic Services Officer (Mrs C. Maddocks).

REPORT

PART A –

Matters delegated to the Committee

A1. **Apologies**

Apologies for absence were received by Mr Councillor R. Sloane.

A2. **Declarations of Interest**

There were no declarations of interest.

A3. **Minutes – 15th June, 2026**

The minutes of the meeting held on Monday, 15th June, 2026 were approved and signed.

A4. **Matters Arising from the Minutes**

Item A6 - Schedule of Dilapidated, Ruinous or Dangerous Properties. Arising from the July 2026 Council Meeting, the Committee discussed Council Members access to information. The Chair suggested that further GDPR training for all Members would be beneficial. Officers were requested to explore options for sharing the dilapidated properties list with all Members. The Assistant Chief Officer (Regeneration) referred to previous legal advice and the Scheme of Delegation and undertook to review the position and report back to the Committee.

A5. **Planning Application – PA 26/00411/B – 13 Peel Road**

The Committee considered an appraisal of planning application 26/00411/B for the conversion of a former commercial office building into a House in Multiple Occupation (HMO) comprising ten individual units at 13 Peel Road, Douglas.

The Committee had previously considered and supported planning application 25/91190/B for the same site, which was subsequently refused by the Department of Environment, Food and Agriculture's Head of Development Management. The application was refused on the grounds that the height and design of the proposed extension would have a negative impact on the character and appearance of the surrounding area. In particular, the rear extension was considered to be overly bulky, incongruous, and not in keeping with the traditional appearance of the terrace.

Members were advised that the applicant had addressed the original reasons for refusal by revising the design of the upper part of the rear extension. It was also noted that no objections had been received from neighbouring residents in relation to either the original application (25/91190/B) or the current application at the time of writing the appraisal. In relation to bicycle storage, Members were advised that the proposed provision complies with the guidance set out in the Manual for Manx Roads.

The proposed alterations to the front and rear elevations are minor and would not adversely affect the overall appearance of the building. Members also noted that several neighbouring properties have incorporated dormer windows to maximise internal living accommodation, and that the front dormer windows had already been approved under planning application 25/91003/B.

Resolved, “That particulars of the report and discussion be noted on the minutes and the following response be submitted to the Planning Authority:

(i) That planning application 26/00411/B be supported subject to the bin/recycling and bicycle storage unit as shown on the plans be in place prior to the HMO becoming operational.”

A6. **Schedule of Dilapidated, Ruinous or Dangerous Properties**

The Committee considered a schedule of properties in a state of dilapidation or disrepair. Members noted that six properties had been added to the schedule since the last meeting; no properties had been removed; and a total of 42 properties remained on the list.

During discussion of the item, the Chair requested that officers consider appropriate means of sharing the list with all Council Members.

Resolved, "That the schedule of dilapidated properties be noted and that the Director of Environment and Regeneration be authorised to progress improvements to the properties, and report back to Committee if service of Notice and/or legal action is required."

A7. **Items for future report**

The Committee noted a report submitted by the Assistant Democratic Services Officer with an appendix setting out a number of reports that would be brought forward for consideration by the Committee in due course.

Members requested that a report be forthcoming to a future meeting of the Committee setting out options to improve the appearance of the Summerland site, including measures that could be taken to enhance the visual amenity of the site.

A Member further requested an update in relation to bins on the highway along Fort Anne Road and an update in relation to the overgrown vegetation on the South side of the Road and condition of the footpath. It was agreed that a Briefing Note be provided to the Committee.

Resolved, "That particulars of the matters for future consideration be noted on the minutes."

A8. **Date and time of next meeting**

Members were reminded that the next scheduled meeting of the Environmental Services Committee was due to take place at 10.00am on Monday, 14th September, 2026.

Resolved, "That the date and time of the next meeting be noted."

The meeting ended at 11.10am.