City of Douglas

MR COUNCILLOR S.R. CRELLIN, JP
MAYOR

City Hall,
Douglas,
4th June, 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, 10th JUNE 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 Annual Council Meeting held on Wednesday, 13th May, 2026.

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

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE – Minutes of Special Meeting held on Wednesday, 13th May, 2026.

Members Present: Mr Councillor D.R. Watson (Chair), the Mayor, Councillor Mrs N.A. Byron-Teare, Mr Councillor F. Horning, Mr Councillor P.J. Washington.

In Attendance: Chief Executive (Miss K.J. Rice), Assistant Chief Officer (Democratic Services) (Mrs L. Radcliffe), Democratic Services Officer (Mrs D. Atkinson)

REPORT

PART A –

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

A1. **Committee Membership 2026 to 2027**

The Committee considered a report submitted by the Assistant Chief Officer (Democratic Services) regarding the appointment of Members to the Environmental Services Committee and the Housing and Property Committee.

Members noted that the vacancies had arisen following the resignation of former Councillor Ms Thommeny. In accordance with Standing Order 86, the Executive Committee is required to fill such vacancies. Due to Member availability and the existing vacancies on both Committees, the May meetings were currently inquorate, and a special meeting had therefore been convened to resolve the issue.

The Committee raised concerns regarding the current constitutional constraints on Committee membership, which have resulted in a limited number of Members being eligible to fill the vacancies.

Members requested that, as part of the constitutional changes required to implement the forthcoming Local Government Amendment Bill, other areas of the Constitution should also be reviewed.

Members specifically requested a report on Standing Orders 80 and 82 (Committee membership and restrictions relating to memberships and Chairs), with a view to alleviating the current issues and ensuring the future sustainability of all Committees.

The Assistant Chief Officer (Democratic Services) reminded Members of a previous suggestion to merge the Regeneration and Community Committee with the Environmental Services Committee, which could help address quorum and membership issues.

The meeting was adjourned for five minutes. Upon resumption, Councillor Ms Charlotte Traynor was elected to the Housing and Property Committee, and Councillor Miss Susan Kewin was elected to the Environmental Services Committee.

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

(i) Councillor Ms C. Traynor be appointed to fill the vacancy on the Housing and Property Committee;

(ii) Councillor Miss S. Kewin be appointed to fill the vacancy on the Environmental Services Committee;

(iii) A review of the Constitution be forthcoming to a future meeting, and in the interim a report on Standing Orders 80 and 82 be submitted to the May meeting to widen eligibility for membership across Committees."

The Committee rose at 10.50am.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE – Minutes of Meeting held on Thursday, 28th May, 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.

In Attendance: Chief Executive (Miss K.J. Rice), Director of Environment and Regeneration (Mrs D. Eynon), Director of Housing and Property (Mr D. Looney), Assistant Chief Officer (Finance) (Mr M. Quayle), Assistant Chief Officer (Income Services) (Mrs C. Pulman) (Clauses A15 and A16), Democratic Services Officer (Mrs D. Atkinson) (Clauses A8 to A14, and C21 and C22), 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**

Apologies for absence were submitted on behalf of the Director of Finance.

A2. **Declarations of Interest**

There were no declarations of interest.

A3. **Minutes**

The minutes of the meeting held on Thursday 26th March 2026 and the special meeting held on Wednesday 13th May 2026 were approved and signed.

A4. **Matters Arising from Previous Minutes**

Clause C19 – Manx Family Library (Request for Funding): there had been no further contact from the Manx Family Library following the Committee's request that, in return for agreed funding of £500 per annum, the Council's sheltered housing complexes be incorporated into the rounds of the mobile library service.

Clause C20 – Draft Friendship and Co-operation Agreement with Dublin City Council: a proposed date for the signing of the Agreement had been received late the previous afternoon, and further information on timings, etc, was being sought.

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

The Committee considered the following referrals from the Environmental Services Committee meeting held on Monday 18th May 2026:

Clause 13 – Post-Christmas Lighting Display: following a request by a Member, the Committee had considered a report by the Head of Electrical Services and Environment & Regeneration Projects in relation to the extension of the lighting display in Douglas City Centre beyond the Christmas period.

A number of options had been put forward for consideration with the Committee agreeing to (i) the proposal for the decorative lighting catenary system to be extended by a two-month period beyond Christmas (at an estimated cost of £2,250 per month, £4,500 in total); and (ii) the purchase of thirteen non-Christmas themed 'gobo discs' (at a cost of £250 each, £3,250 in total).

Authority was sought for the funding to be secured from the General Revenue Reserve for a display in January / February 2027. Thereafter, the additional cost would be rated for within the budget process.

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

(ii) That funding in the sum of £7,750 be approved from the General Revenue Reserve for the purchase of thirteen themed 'gobo discs' and for the extension of the decorative lighting catenary system for a two-month period beyond Christmas."

Clause 14 - Attendance at the Environmental Services & Solutions / Resource & Waste Management Expo in 2026: the Committee had considered a report by the Head of Waste Services seeking approval for the Chair (or Vice-Chair) of the Committee together with officers to attend the Expo at the Birmingham NEC on 16th and 17th September 2026. In addition to the exhibition itself, the event was considered to offer significant value through networking and knowledge-sharing opportunities.

Authority was sought for underwriting from the General Revenue Reserve in the sum of £1,800 to cover the cost of flights, accommodation, and associated expenses should the service budget be insufficient at year-end.

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

(ii) That approval be given for underwriting from the General Revenue Reserve in the sum of £1,800 to cover the cost of flights, accommodation, and associated expenses for attendance at the Environmental Services & Solutions / Resource & Waste Management Expo on 16th and 17th September 2026, should the service budget be insufficient at year-end."

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

The Committee considered the following referral from the Regeneration and Community Committee meeting held on Tuesday 19th May 2026:

Clause B5 – Bereavement Services Webcasting and Recording Services: the Committee had considered a report by the Head of Parks seeking approval for the introduction of fees and charges for new funeral additions - including webcasting, recording, and visual tribute services. At present, the Council provided a webcasting service free of charge, however, as part of the media upgrade, the service would transition to the new provider's system and internal webcasting and recording would no longer be facilitated. As a result, it would no longer be viable to offer this service free of charge.

To cover the costs incurred by the Council, it was proposed to introduce a fee of £90 for webcasting. Recordings would be available for an additional nominal fee; and visual tributes displayed during the service would be available with a proposed fee ranging from £20 to £28.

This approach and charging for such additional services at funerals was standard practice in the UK, and approval was sought to introduce these new fees and charges at the Crematorium.

During discussion, Members raised concerns regarding affordability and accessibility of the webcasting service, including consideration of whether a lower-cost or basic option might be viable. The Committee also agreed that the revised charging structure should operate initially on a trial basis, with a review to be undertaken as part of the next budget-setting process.

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 the schedule of fees and charges for bereavement services webcasting, recording, and visual tribute services be approved, based on a cost-plus pricing model, for implementation when services became available;

(b) That the proposed charges be set on a cost-plus basis to ensure full recovery of supplier costs and associated service delivery overheads, while also providing protection against in-year price increases from the external provider and supporting the long-term financial sustainability of the service; and

(iii) That the schedule of fees be reviewed once data on the up take of these services became available."

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

The Committee considered the following referral from the public minutes of the Housing and Property Committee meeting held on Wednesday 20th May 2026:

Clause 12 – Public Sector General Needs Housing Income Thresholds: the Committee had considered a report by the Assistant Chief Officer (Housing and Property) in relation to the Isle of Man Government's consultation on proposed amendments to public sector general needs housing income thresholds. The Committee had noted the proposed amendments to the Public Sector Allocations Policy and reviewed the proposed response.

Following amendment, the proposed response had been approved for submission to the Department of Infrastructure and was referred to the Executive Committee for noting.

The Executive Committee noted that reference to fixed five-year tenancy terms had been removed from the original draft response prior to its submission to the Department; and discussion ensued on the issue of five-year tenancies and the Public Sector Allocations Policy in general.

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

(ii) That the response submitted to the Department of Infrastructure in relation to the Public Sector General Needs Housing Income Thresholds consultation be noted."

A8. **Consultation Document – Offshore Safety Zones for Renewable Energy**

The Committee considered a written report by the Assistant Chief Officer (Democratic Services) on a consultation document issued by the Department of Infrastructure in relation to the creation of offshore safety zones for renewable energy installations, within the provisions of the Climate Change Act 2021.

The Council of Ministers and the Department of Infrastructure were seeking views on the draft Climate Change (Energy Act 2004) (Application) Order 2026 and the Electricity (Offshore Generating Stations) (Safety Zones) (Application Procedures and Control of Access) Regulations 2026.

Offshore safety zones were required for the safety of maritime users around renewable energy installations. There were currently no legal powers (vires) for the Department of Infrastructure to create such zones, therefore, if this legislation was not pursued, it would not be possible for the zones to be established.

The consultation had opened on 16th March 2026 and closed on 27th April 2026. A draft response (prepared by the Director of Environment and Regeneration and the Assistant Chief Officer (Environment)) had been approved by the Consultation Working Group and submitted accordingly, and was before the Committee for noting.

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

(ii) That the response, as set out in Appendix 4 to the written report, be noted and endorsed."

A9. **Consultation Document – Increasing Land Registration**

The Committee considered a written report by the Assistant Chief Officer (Democratic Services) on a consultation document issued by the Land Registrar.

Views were being sought on how the Land Registry might be able to encourage land registration; and the consultation provided an opportunity for residents, property owners, and stakeholders to share their suggestions. The feedback collected would assist in helping to shape potential measures to make land registration more accessible and attractive, thus ensuring that the system met the needs of the community and supported the efficient management of land on the Island.

The consultation had opened on 23rd March 2026 and closed on 4th May 2026. A draft response (prepared by the Council Advocate) had been approved by the Consultation Working Group and submitted accordingly, and was before the Committee for noting.

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

(ii) That the response, as set out in Appendix 3 to the written report, be noted and endorsed."

A10. **Urgent Business Procedure – Waste Strategy 2025 – 2035**

The Committee considered a written report by the Assistant Chief Officer (Democratic Services) on the use of the Council's Urgent Business Procedure under Standing Order 125.

The Department of Infrastructure was seeking stakeholders' views on the updated Isle of Man Waste Strategy 2025 – 2035. Waste was part of the economy; it impacted the environment, and its management had economic implications for businesses and Government expenditure. The aim was to ensure the Waste Strategy was practical, deliverable, and reflective of community needs across the Island, and that it aligned with the objectives of the Island Plan.

The latest iteration of the Waste Strategy left refuse and recyclate collection within the remit of local authorities. However, while it proposed to strengthen local authority responsibility for collecting recyclate, there was some ambiguity over which recyclate materials should be collected - some narrative suggested that highly-calorific materials should be sent to the Energy from Waste Plant, an approach the Council did not agree with.

It was also suggested that statements made within the document around why local authorities chose to recycle (for profit - despite the evidence suggesting otherwise) should be challenged.

The consultation had opened on 24th March 2026 and closed on 30th April 2026. A draft response (prepared by the Director of Environment and Regeneration and the Assistant Chief Officer (Environment)) had been agreed by the Consultation Working Group and, as this was during the Committee recess, the Leader of the Council and the Chair of the Environmental Services Committee had approved its submission accordingly.

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

(ii) That the resolution under the Urgent Business Procedure – to approve the Waste Strategy Consultation response on behalf of the Council - be noted and endorsed."

A11. **Urgent Business Procedure – Planning Application for a Food and Drink Festival during TT 2026 at the Bottleneck Car Park**

The Committee considered a written report by the Director of Environment and Regeneration on the use of the Council's Urgent Business Procedure under Standing Order 125.

During the April 2026 recess, a planning application had been advertised for Council land, relating to the temporary change of use of the Bottleneck Car Park from a car park to a food and drink festival during the 2026 TT event.

The request to use the car park had been agreed by the Environmental Services Committee in March 2026 and endorsed by Council at its April 2026 meeting. However, under the Council's Planning Scheme of Delegation, applications received for Council land were referred to the Executive Committee and, as the date of the next available Executive Committee meeting was after the start date of the festival, the Urgent Business Procedure had been invoked.

Accordingly, the Leader of the Council and the Chair of the Environmental Services Committee had considered the planning appraisal prepared by officers and had agreed to support the application.

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

(ii) That the resolution under the Urgent Business Procedure – to approve support of planning application 26/00220/C, for the temporary change of use from a car park to a food and drink festival for the period 25th May to 7th June 2026 at the Bottleneck Car Park - be noted and endorsed."

A12. **Urgent Business Procedure – Marine Infrastructure Management Act 2016 (Consultation Response and Reply)**

The Committee considered a written report by the Director of Environment and Regeneration on the use of the Council's Urgent Business Procedure under Standing Order 125.

Members recalled that Ørsted had made an application in respect of the Mooir Vannin Generation Project in accordance with the Marine Infrastructure Management Act 2016 (MIMA). This was effectively the equivalent of a planning application which, due to its national significance, would be determined by the Council of Ministers.

The Council of Ministers had formally referred the application to an Examining Body; and the Examining Body had written to the Council as a Principal Stakeholder to seek further information. The latest request for information had been received during the April 2026 Committee recess and, given the very short turn-around time for the consultation response, it had been necessary to invoke Standing Order 125, Urgent Business Procedure, in order to ensure the Council met the procedural deadline of Tuesday 5th May 2026.

The information requested related to the following items:

- The Applicant had made a non-material change request to remove Port Skillion (and therefore Douglas Head) as a landfall location for the onshore element of the project; and
- The Council's Local Authority Effects Statement (which had been approved by the Committee at its February 2026 meeting and submitted accordingly). Council officers had reviewed the Applicant's response and believed the Council should reply, as a statement made within that response was, in the view of officers, factually incorrect.

The Leader of the Council and the Chair of the Regeneration and Community Committee had considered draft responses for both items and agreed their content.

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

(ii) That the resolution under the Urgent Business Procedure – to agree the Marine Infrastructure Management Act 2016 consultation response on a non-material change request and reply to the Applicant's response to the Council's Local Authority Effects Statement - be noted and endorsed."

A13. **Members' Attendances and Allowances 2025 / 2026**

The Committee considered a written report by the Member Services Officer on the number of meetings of the Council and its Committees that had been held during the 2025 / 2026 municipal year, including details of the attendance of Members at those meetings and the total allowances paid to Members.

It was noted that the Council was required under Schedule 2 of the Local Government Act 1985 to publish this information annually, with an obligation to send a copy of the report to the Department of Infrastructure with a certificate issued by the Council's auditors.

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

(ii) That the schedule setting out Members' attendances at meetings and the allowances paid during the year ended 31st March 2026 be also noted;

(iii) That approval be given for the submission of the schedule to the Council's auditors with the annual accounts, and thereafter to the Department of Infrastructure; and

(iv) That the schedule be made available to the public through the Council's website and at the City Hall Reception desk."

A14. **Chief Executive's Department Service Plan Performance Report**

The Committee considered a written report by the Chief Executive providing an update on performance compared against measures outlined in the Chief Executive's Department's Service Plans for 2024 - 2026.

Following the Council's adoption of a new Corporate Plan for the years 2022 – 2026, each Service had its own Service Plan to run for the financial years 2022 – 2024 and 2024 – 2026.

Service Plans were an important part of the process to ensure that performance and standards were addressed and delivered. Members accordingly noted the actions from the Service Plans, together with an update on performance for the six months to the end of April 2026 (being the final update for the years 2024 – 2026).

Consideration was also requested on how the Council might better communicate with the public (provide more information); and the introduction of a system to track the progress and resolution of enquiries from members of the public. It was also suggested that consideration be given to putting the non-confidential parts of the Members' Bulletin on the website, to improve communication with the public.

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

(ii) That the progress against planned actions and performance indicators be also noted."

Adjournment and Resumption: the Committee adjourned at 1.35pm and resumed at 2.10pm when the following Members were present -

Mr Councillor D.R. Watson (Chair), Councillor Mrs N.A. Byron-Teare, Councillor Ms F.T.E. Logan, Mr Councillor F. Horning, Mr Councillor P.J. Washington.

A15. **Capital Out-turn Report 2025 / 2026**

The Committee considered a written report by the Assistant Chief Officer (Finance) in relation to the financial year-end out-turn position on the Capital Programme.

Members noted the values spent on all Capital schemes in 2025 / 2026 and the variances to the revised estimates. The amounts of underspend on incomplete schemes recommended for carry forward were similarly noted and, as these projects were not yet complete, the remaining budget needed to be made available in 2026 / 2027. Formal approval was also sought for expenditure where schemes had progressed earlier than budgeted for (this was a timing matter and did not represent project overspending).

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

(ii) That the 2025 / 2026 Capital spend of £7,382,000 - made up of public sector housing spend of £4,478,000 and General Rate Funded spend of £2,904,000 (representing 43% of the Original Estimate) - be noted;

(iii) That approval be given to carry forward £2,041,000 of all unspent balances to 2026 / 2027 on projects where work was on-going or where retentions were payable; and

(iv) That early expenditure of £90,600 be also approved."

A16. **Year-End Financial Review – 2025 / 2026**

The Committee considered a written report by the Director of Finance setting out the year-end position in respect of various financial items and key performance indicators for Finance for the 2025 / 2026 financial year.

The report was required to monitor progress against the Finance Department's Service Plan actions and to meet objectives set out in the Corporate Plan 2022 – 2026. It also provided the Committee with key income collection performance data for the financial year.

Resolved, "(i) That particulars of the report be noted on the minutes, including in particular:-

- The rates collection figure of 99.3%, compared with the target figure of 99.5% for the financial year, together with the total gross outstanding balance owing at the year-end of £348,033 (compared to £148,546 for 2024 / 2025);
- The sundry debtors collection figure of 99.1% for the year, compared with the target figure of 99%, together with the outstanding balance owing at year-end of £472,171 (compared to £139,476 for 2024 / 2025);
- The total gross housing rent arrears position of £439,602, compared with the figure of £393,718 for 2024 / 2025 (due to timing differences); and

- The sundry debt write-off during the year of £1,771.39 and the former tenant write-off during the year of £14,996.83, making a total of £16,768.22."

A17. **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 fourth quarter of the 2025 / 2026 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 three separate auctions on 31st January, 28th February, and 28th March 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 £18,205.00 excluding VAT and less auctioneer's commission in the sum of £910.25, giving net income from the three auctions of £17,294.75, be also noted."

A18. **Marine Infrastructure Management Act 2016 – Update on Specific Issue Hearings 5, 6, and 7; and Response to Hearing Actions**

The Committee considered a written report by the Director of Environment and Regeneration setting out an update on discussions during Specific Issue Hearings 5, 6, and 7 and also seeking agreement to a response to the Hearing Action.

Members were reminded that Ørsted had made an application for the Mooir Vannin Generation Project in accordance with the Marine Infrastructure Management Act 2016 (MIMA). This was effectively the equivalent of a planning application which, due to its national significance, would be determined by the Council of Ministers. The Council of Ministers had formally referred the application to an Examining Body.

The Examining Body had held a further public meeting and three further Specific Issue Hearings over 11th – 14th May 2026. Members noted the update on matters discussed during Specific Issue Hearings 5, 6, and 7, which officers had attended in person as requested by the Examining Body. In summary:

- Specific Issue Hearing 5 dealt with Landscape and Visual Impact;
- Specific Issue Hearing 6 dealt with Environmental Matters;
- Specific Issue Hearing 7 dealt with Marine Infrastructure Consent.

Following these, the Examining Body had written to the Council, as a Principal Stakeholder, seeking a response to an element of the Hearing Actions, the deadline for which was 16th June 2026 (no extensions would be granted). Specific Issue Hearing 7 was the most relevant Hearing for the Council and from which the specific question had been posed. Views were sought on how the tension between local adverse effects and national economic benefit could be resolved.

Members discussed the proposed responses for both items, giving consideration to both the adverse and the positive aspects of the Project, and how these weighed against each other. Specific comment was made in relation to the financial benefit to the Island, it being suggested that the Isle of Man Government needed to be specific about how any income generated from the Project was spent, to ensure there was a visible benefit to Island residents. In this respect, an amendment to the response was suggested to include that a sovereign wealth fund should be created by the Isle of Man Government.

Members also noted that the Examining Body had agreed to accept the non-material change request by the Applicant to remove Port Skillion (and therefore Douglas Head) as a landfall location. However, the Applicant had also confirmed that the planned Operations and Maintenance Base would still be situated in Douglas – any planning application for the Base would go through the normal Town and Country Planning process and Council procedures.

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

(ii) That the draft responses to a Hearing Action (as appended to the written report) be approved for submission to the Examining Body subject to the inclusion of a comment that the Isle of Man Government should create a sovereign wealth fund to ensure a visual benefit from any income they generated from the Project."

[*On a vote being taken, Members voted 4 For; 1 Against. Mr Councillor F. Horning requested his vote against be noted on the minutes.*]

A19. **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."

A20. **Time and Date of Next Meeting**

The time and date of the next meeting were confirmed as 10.00am on Thursday 25th June 2026.

PART C –

Matters subject to Council approval

C21. **Constitutional Changes to Implement Douglas Youth Council**

The Committee considered a written report by the Democratic Services Officer seeking approval of changes to the Council's Constitution in order to permit the establishment of a Douglas Youth Council (DYC), and to consider amendments to the Terms of Reference following consultation with Ballakermeen High School.

In March 2026, the Committee had supported the establishment of a Douglas Youth Council, which was unanimously ratified at the April 2026 Council Meeting. Since that approval, officers had begun engaging with schools and reviewing the Constitution. The Isle of Man College/UCM had responded positively to the proposed Terms of Reference with no proposed changes; St Ninian's High School was yet to respond; and the Democratic Services Team had met with Ballakermeen High School to discuss the proposed initiative.

Ballakermeen had expressed strong support for the proposal and the Terms of Reference and indicated a clear willingness to work collaboratively with the Council to support delivery of the initiative. During discussions, a number of suggested amendments had been put forward, which the Committee considered accordingly.

The proposed constitutional changes (as appended to the written report) were also noted, as was the inclusion of a new section within Committee reports to indicate whether DYC consideration was required or had been sought.

The Committee expressed thanks to the Democratic Services Officer and the Democratic Services Team for all the work that had taken place in developing this hugely important project, to ensure its implementation and the continuance of democracy in Douglas in the future.

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

(ii) That it be recommended to Council:-

(a) That the proposed constitutional changes relating to the Douglas Youth Council (as appended to the written report) be approved;

(b) That the proposal to appoint Youth Council members through shortlisting and interview panel not be progressed, but that Ballakermeen High School be thanked for their considered input into the matter;

(c) That the Douglas Youth Council Terms of Reference be amended to permit young people aged between 14 and 18 to join the Youth Council;

(d) That membership of the Douglas Youth Council be for a one-year term;

(e) That a minimum of one meeting of the Douglas Youth Council take place during each half-term period, with the ability to call special meetings if required;

(f) That the Douglas Youth Council meetings take place on the second Wednesday following the Council Meeting (that was, the fourth Wednesday in the month), commencing at 4.00pm;

(g) That meetings of the Douglas Youth Council be held in private and be not open for public attendance;

(h) That two Douglas Councillors – the Leader and one other Councillor on a rotational basis depending on the topic – be invited to attend each meeting of the Douglas Youth Council;

(i) That all officers and Councillors supporting the Douglas Youth Council undertake enhanced DBS checks;

(j) That the proposed requirement for Douglas Youth Council members to reside in Douglas be removed from the Terms of Reference;

(k) That elections for the Douglas Youth Council be co-ordinated by the Democratic Services Team; and

(l) That the Douglas Youth Council Terms of Reference be amended to incorporate (c) to (k) above and be adopted as Part 5(P) of the Council's Constitution."

C22. **Committee Structure and Membership**

The Committee considered a written report by the Democratic Services Officer detailing options for Committee Membership and seeking to review the current restrictions on them.

Following the resignation of a Council Member, four vacancies on Committees had arisen in May 2026 and, at a subsequent Special Meeting of the Executive Committee on 13th May 2026, concerns had been raised that the current Committee structure placed significant pressure on those Members who were not appointed to Chair positions to fill the remaining Committee places. The Democratic Services Team had therefore drawn up a number of options to address the current Membership and quorum issues being experienced, and these were considered accordingly:

- A proposal to merge the Environmental Services Committee and the Regeneration and Community Committee. This proposal had been presented to the Council on two previous occasions - the principle reason for it not being supported in the past being concerns that the remit of a merged Committee would be too wide and that meetings would be too lengthy. However, if the Committees were merged, the membership of the new Committee could be increased to five Members to improve resilience and help ensure that meetings remained quorate.

  The merger of the Committees would also align more closely with the Council's internal structure, in that operational matters within the Department of Environment and Regeneration would be considered by one Committee. In recent years, there had been occasions when matters had been referred between Committees because some responsibilities were closely related and overlapped.

- A suggestion that consideration be given to changing meeting times and dates - bringing meeting times forward to commence at 9.30am or by holding lunchtime meetings, which may assist Members.

- A suggestion that meeting days be altered, as it was acknowledged that back-to-back Committee days may place an additional burden on Members serving on multiple Committees.

It was also noted that officers were currently reviewing the Constitution in preparation for the implementation of the Local Government (Amendment) Bill 2023 and as part of the annual review undertaken by Democratic Services.

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

(ii) That it be recommended to Council:-

(a) That the merger of the Environmental Services Committee and the Regeneration and Community Committee be agreed in principle, with the merged Committee to be named the Environment and Regeneration Committee;

(b) That a further report, setting out the required Constitutional changes, be submitted to a future meeting of the Executive Committee; and

(c) That the report also include proposals for the creation of portfolios within Committees, with Members of the Committee being elected as portfolio holders with responsibility for agreed areas."

The Committee rose at 4.10pm.

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, 20th May, 2026.

Members Present: Mr Councillor P.J. Washington (Chair), the Mayor, Councillor Ms C. Traynor, Mr Councillor K. Ver Elst.

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

REPORT

PART A –

Matters delegated to the Committee

A1. **Apologies**

Apologies for absence were submitted by Mr Councillor D.C. Cretney and the Director of Housing and Property.

A2. **Declarations of Interest**

There were no declarations of interest.

A3. **Minutes – 18th March, 2026**

The minutes of the meeting held on Wednesday, 18th March, 2026 were approved and signed.

A4. **Matters Arising**

No matters were raised as arising from the previous minutes.

A5. **Vacant Properties Update**

The Committee considered the monthly report submitted by the Housing and Property Operations Manager to update on the number of vacant social housing properties.

Appended to the officer's report was a summary chart outlining the number of properties returned in each month, details of the category repair type for each property and the number of void properties in each estate. In addition, trend data was provided illustrating the overall void patterns for 2024/25, 2025/26 and 2026/27, including a comparison of voids received against voids allocated.

Resolved, "That particulars of the report and discussion be noted on the minutes and the schedule of vacant properties be noted on the minutes."

A6. **2025-2026 quarter four performance monitoring**

The Committee considered a report submitted by the Housing and Property Operations Manager to update on the quarter four performance indicators for 2025/26.

Appended to the report was the quarterly performance figures for quarter four, and the statistical trend analysis data for rent arrears for the quarter. As this was the quarter four reporting period, the figures included an average across all four quarters.

Of note for quarter four:

- 100% of emergency repairs had been completed within the target time of twenty-four hours;
- 48.8% of urgent repairs were completed within the target period of 7 working days;
- 100% of standard voids were completed within the target time of five weeks and 66.7% of major voids were completed within the target time of twelve weeks.
- The number of tenant accounts in rent arrears has decreased by 173 since Quarter 3.
- 129 Customer Satisfaction Surveys were submitted by tenants, with an average satisfied percentage of 95.77%.

- Resolved, "That particulars of the report and discussion be noted on the minutes and that the progress made against the performance indicators in the Service Plans for quarter four 2025/26 be noted."

A7. **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."

A8. **Date and Time of Next Meeting**

Members were advised that the next monthly meeting was scheduled to take place at 10.00am on Wednesday, 17th June, 2026.

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

PART B –

Matters requiring Executive Committee approval

B9. **Consultation – public sector general housing needs housing income thresholds**

The Committee considered a report submitted by the Assistant Chief Officer (Housing and Property) regarding the Isle of Man Government's consultation on proposed amendments to public sector general needs housing income thresholds.

It was noted that the consultation proposes amendments to the Public Sector Allocations Policy across three core areas.

1. Updating income eligibility thresholds and introducing automatic annual uplifts;
2. Removing certain priority points not directly linked to housing need; and
3. Introducing greater discretion for local housing authorities in relation to residential requirements.

Appended to the officer's report was the Council's proposed response to the consultation which was reviewed by Members and discussed at length.

Members were advised that, as the Council had received a one-day extension to the response period until 20th May 2026, the response would be submitted to the Department at the conclusion of the meeting and then referred to the Executive Committee for noting.

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

(i) That the responses set out in appendix one of the report be submitted as the Council's response to the Department of Infrastructure's consultation on public sector general needs housing income thresholds;

(ii) That the Council's response to Question 4 be amended by deleting the final sentence, which reads: 'the Department should prioritise moving all tenants onto Fixed Term Tenancies as part of this review'; and

(iii) That the item be referred to the Executive Committee for information."

The meeting ended at 12.50pm.

VI(iii) - The proceedings of the PENSIONS COMMITTEE as follows:

PENSIONS COMMITTEE

PENSIONS COMMITTEE – Minutes of Meeting held on Wednesday, 27th May, 2026.

Members Present: Mr Councillor F. Horning (Chair), the Mayor, Councillor Mrs N.A. Byron-Teare, Mr Councillor K. Ver Elst.

In Attendance: Assistant Chief Officer (Finance) (Mr M. Quayle), Assistant Chief Officer (Project) Mr E.P. Pierce, Democratic Services Officer (Mrs D. Atkinson). Mr J. Glasgow, Hymans Robertson. Ms Deakin and Mr Eksi – BlackRock UK Property Fund (item A7 only via video-link).

REPORT

PART A –

Matters within the scope of the Committee's delegated authority

A1. **Apologies**

Apologies for absence were submitted by Ms A. Christian (Independent Member).

A2. **Declarations of Interest**

No declarations of interest were submitted.

A3. **Minutes – 25th March 2026**

The minutes of the meeting held on Wednesday, 25th March, 2026 were approved and signed.

A4. **Matters Arising**

Item A9 – Pensions Scheme Reform

The Assistant Chief Officer (Finance) advised that a further report on the scheme reform will be forthcoming to the October meeting of the Committee. The report will consider other options in a hope to progress the scheme reform. It was noted there still appears to be no appetite from the Department of Infrastructure to progress the legislative changes. As requested by the Committee, a training presentation has been arranged for July and MHKs and MLCs will be invited. The Committee requested that the press be invited to attend and that a public statement be issued ahead of the meeting.

A5. **Training: Listed Real Estate Investment Trusts (REITS)**

The Committee received a training presentation on REITS which outlined the case for and against investment in listed Real Estate Investment Trusts and considered current market opportunities.

The presentation had been shared with the Committee following a suggestion that the Scheme consider alternative options to the current Property Fund. The Committee had previously indicated an appetite to diversify through any new cash injection into a REIT fund. Mr Glasgow recommended an ETF based REIT fund would provide a diversified approach. It was noted the funds currently invested in property would remain in place, and any future allocations funded through rebalancing activity.

Resolved, "That particulars of the presentation be noted on the minutes and a further report on investing in REIT ETFs be forthcoming to the September meeting."

A6. **Review of Investment Managers' Performance**

The Committee considered a report submitted by Hymans Robertson to review the investment managers' performance during the fourth quarter of 2025.

The Scheme achieved a net return of -0.8% over the quarter, underperforming the benchmark by 0.6%. Returns over 5 years remain positive, albeit slightly behind the overall benchmark. The largest relative outperformer was the Canaccord UK Property Fund, and the largest underperformers were Capital Absolute Return and Canaccord Global Equities ETFs. It was noted the latter had underperformed the benchmark across all time periods.

A brief market update was provided which focussed on current market volatility as a result of the conflict in the Middle East; however, Mr Glasgow advised equities and bond markets had now settled.

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

A7. **Manager Reporting: UK Property Fund**

Representatives from the BlackRock UK Property Fund (facilitated by Canaccord) joined the meeting via video-link for discussion of the item.

The Committee received a presentation from the UK property fund managers on the property fund, as facilitated by Canaccord.

Ms Deakin began by providing an overview of the fund's principles, statistics, target allocation and target risk.

A market background was provided, predominantly focussed around the impact on the middle east war resulting in cautious capital market activity and changes to supply and demand in different sectors. Ms Deakin explained how the fund is navigating the new cycle.

The presentation finished with a portfolio snapshot, demonstrating the diverse allocation to core, core+, and value add and the strategic position, which had resulted in returns ahead of benchmark during the last two quarters. The fund had outperformed in recent periods with fewer asset sales.

In response to a question, Ms Deakin advised that the fund had £300million worth of redemptions remaining to be paid, with over £1billion already paid out. She noted that this had been managed through a combination of deliberate asset sales during the repricing period and measures to attract new capital. In particular, changes to regulations had enabled defined contribution pension schemes to access the fund via Long-Term Asset Plans (LTAPFs), which had helped generate new investors and partially offset redemption pressures.

Resolved, "That particulars of the UK Property Fund (as facilitated through Canaccord) presentation be noted on the minutes."

A8. **Review of Investment Beliefs**

The Committee considered a report submitted by Hymans Robertson to undertake the annual review of the Scheme's investment beliefs. Members had in front of them the seven investment beliefs.

It was noted there were no recommended changes to the investment beliefs at the current time, and that the investment beliefs remain relevant to the Scheme.

Since setting the seven core beliefs in 2017, the Scheme has sought to carry out annual reviews of the investment managers' Responsible Investment (RI) policies. These annual reviews allow the Pensions Committee to determine whether each investment manager's RI policy is in line with the Scheme's adopted policies, and to make changes if necessary. An updated RI policy was approved in September 2025.

Resolved, "That particulars of the report be noted on the minutes and there be no changes made to the Scheme's investment beliefs."

A9. **Review of Statement of Investment Principles**

The Committee considered a report submitted by Hymans Robertson to review the Statement of Investment Principles (the statement). The report explained that the statement, which has been adopted by the Pensions Committee, is required under the regulations and in line with best practice and should be periodically reviewed.

The statement explains the scheme objective, the investment strategy, the types and balance of investment, the risk exposure, expected returns, realisation of investments, the portfolio turnover, consideration of financially material factors in investment arrangements, stock lending and additional voluntary contributions. The statement had been reviewed and updated following the valuation and strategy changes.

Resolved, "That particulars of the report be noted on the minutes and the Statement of Investment Principles be approved and signed by the Chair of the Committee for publication."

A10. **Annual Review of Pensions Risk Register**

The Committee considered a report submitted by the Director of Finance to review the Pensions Risk Register.

Members were reminded that the document is presented annually to the Committee to advise of any risks facing the scheme, and to ensure that the Council, as administering authority, and all of its partners, have effective strategies for the management of those risks. Officers confirmed a review had been conducted together with the investment consultant, actuary and contract administrator.

Members were presented with a table of forty-two risks. The risks were categorised and colour coded by low, moderate and high risks. The risks were re-calculated after chosen action(s) and colour coded accordingly using the red, amber, green model.

It was noted that there were no residual risk scores showing high risk (severe); however, there were eight risks showing high risk (major), an increase of one from 2025. Two new risks were added in relation to benefits paid to pensioners after death and engagement with scheme employers.

It was agreed that the re-calculated risk for PF24 should remain at high risk. It has become apparent regardless of mitigating factors introduced by the scheme to progress reform, there is limited appetite for the Government to advance legislative changes at this time.

Members requested in future years a ‘changes made’ column be included in the document for Committee’s benefit to highlight changes made in the version.

Resolved, “That particulars of the report be noted on the minutes and the updated Pensions Risk Register, as amended, be approved.”

A11. **Items for Future Report**

The Committee considered a report submitted by the Democratic Services Officer setting out items that are to be considered at future meetings and to review any future training requirements. Three additional items were added to the schedule – pension scheme reform, investing in real estate investment trusts and replacement of part of the global equity fund.

Resolved, “That particulars of the items for future report be noted on the minutes.”

A12. **Date and Time of Next Meeting**

The Committee noted that the date and time of the next meeting is Wednesday, 9th September, 2026 at 10.00am.

The Committee rose at 12.55pm

VI(v) - The proceedings of the EASTERN DISTRICT CIVIC AMENITY SITE JOINT COMMITTEE as follows:

EASTERN DISTRICT CIVIC AMENITY SITE JOINT COMMITTEE

EASTERN DISTRICT CIVIC AMENITY SITE JOINT COMMITTEE – Minutes of Meeting held on Tuesday, 19th May, 2026.

Members Present: Mr Councillor F. Horning (Douglas) Vice-Chair, Mr A. Gibson (Onchan), Mr A. Jessopp (Braddan), Mr J. Smith (Garff).

In Attendance: Mrs D. Eynon (Douglas), Mr R. Phillips (Onchan), Mr A. Crook (Contractor, Item A7 only), Mr M. Quayle, (Assistant Chief Officer, Finance) (Douglas), Mrs L. Radcliffe (Committee Administrator, Douglas, taking notes).

REPORT

PART A –

Matters dealt with under delegated authority

The Vice Chair welcomed Mr J. Smith (Garff) as a new Commissioner to the meeting followed by introductions of those present.

A1. **Election of Chair**

The Committee Administrator requested nominations for a Chair for the municipal year 2025/26. Mr A. Jessopp nominated Mr F. Horning and the nomination was seconded by Mr A. Gibson, and Mr F. Horning was unanimously elected and took the chair.

A2. **Election of Vice-Chair**

Nominations were requested for the position of Vice-Chair. Mr F. Horning nominated Mr A. Gibson and the nomination was seconded by Mr A. Jessopp and Mr A. Gibson was unanimously elected Vice-Chair of the Joint Committee.

A3. **Minutes – 17th February 2026**

The minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday, 17th February, 2026 were approved and signed.

A4. **Apologies**

Ms G. Hanson (Santon) and Mrs M. Kermeen (Braddan).

A5. **Matters Arising – Dual Board Membership**

The Committee considered the governance implications arising from the Clerk's dual appointment to both Joint Committee/Board.

The Committee noted that, in the absence of formal conflict-management arrangements, there exists potential exposure to governance, legal, procurement, confidentiality, reputational, and audit-related risks, including the possibility of perceived or actual conflicts of interest.

Members further noted that failure to implement appropriate declaration, withdrawal, and information barrier procedures could undermine public confidence in the integrity and independence of Joint Committee decision-making processes.

The Committee agreed that the implementation of a formal Conflict of Interest and Information Management Procedure would provide proportionate and appropriate mitigation of these identified risks and would strengthen the Joint Committee's governance and internal control framework.

It was agreed:

(i) That the identified governance and business risks associated with the dual Clerk appointment be noted;

(ii) That the Committee supports the adoption of a formal Conflict of Interest and Information Management Procedure;

(iii) The administrator circulates Declaration of Interest forms to representatives and holds a standing Declaration of Interest Register available to members of the public.

A6. **Declarations of Interest**

There were no declarations of interest submitted.

A7. **Operational Contractors Report**

Mr Crook joined the meeting to present the May 2026 operational contractor's report. An overview of all items was requested by Committee for the benefit of the new representative.

7.1 Oversize items - no oversize items have been reported since the last meeting.

7.2 WEEE contract - The Contractor reported at the February meeting, that the Governments Contractor, Middle Park Recycling (MPR), had introduced a charge of £5 for Large Domestic Appliances (LDA's) including washing machines, tumble dryers, cookers and washer dryers. The reason provided for the charge was increased supply chain disposal costs.

It was explained that LDA's were not specified as part of the Governments WEEE contract and, therefore, the tender rate of £495 per tonne did not apply. It had initially been anticipated that MPR's disposal cost would be offset through residual scrap value and by the ECAS contractor removing electrical and electronic components, including printed circuit boards, wiring looms, pumps and motors.

The Contractor advised that notification of the proposed charge had been received in October. Following an assessment of the likely impact, it was concluded that the effect on site would be negligible, as the consumer disposal charge and efficiencies dismantling processes would mitigate the additional cost.

However, at the February 2026 meeting, Members expressed concerns that the charge may have been applied arbitrarily and inconsistently across the four sites. The Contractor was therefore tasked with establishing the arrangements in place between MPR and the other sites.

Since the meeting, responsibility for all invoicing has transferred to the Department of Infrastructure's Waste Management Unit (WMU). Previously, MPR invoiced separately for LDA's, while the WMU invoiced for hazardous WEEE items, including fridges, freezers and televisions, together with all other WEEE covered under the contract. The WMU has subsequently confirmed and ratified the £5 charge for LDA's.

Written confirmation has also been received from the WMU that both NCAS and WCAS are paying the same £5 charge for their respective LDA's. In response to a question, the Contractor was unable to clarify the position in relation to SCAS.

The Contractor confirmed that further correspondence had been sent to the WMU regarding the possibility of establishing a formal agreement covering the charges and the standardisation of how materials are prepared for collection. No substantive response has been received at the time of the meeting, other than confirmation from the WMU that all WEEE items will be retendered later this year, with the revised tender expected to include all categories of WEEE.

In addition, the WMU have been asked to provide annual collection figures for all WEEE items across the four sites; however, this information has not yet been received. The matter will be raised again at the next CA site meeting, expected to be convened by the WMU in June, should no response be received in the interim.

A representative raised their concerns in relation to fly tipping and the need for the full policy of WEEE to be reviewed by Government.

It was agreed:

(i) That Mr J. Smith who is the IOMMA Vice-Chair raise these concerns at the next IOMMA meeting.

(ii) That Mr R. Phillips raise an item for discussion at the next Clerks Forum.

(iii) That Mr A. Jessopp provides some wording for inclusion in a letter from the Chair to the WMU.

7.3 Repair shop – Site staff reported that the arrangement continues to progress slowly, although it has yet to gain significant momentum. It was noted that the quality and reusability of items being deposited at the site had declined recently, which may indicate an increase in activity from charity collection services.

A meeting was held with Men in Sheds on 8th May to discuss progress and consider ways in which the service could be improved, including broadening the range of items accepted for upcycling, which is currently limited to furniture.

Live at Home advised that one of their principal restorers has recently retired, which would account for the recent reduction in activity. However, they were pleased to report, that following the TT period, Men in Sheds would be opening participation to female volunteers. Representatives expressed enthusiasm that this development would help generate renewed momentum for the project.

7.4 Plasterboard - The Contractor reported that the plasterboard arrangements introduced in December 2025 are now fully integrated into site operations. It was noted that the newly acquired proprietary plasterboard skip would shortly be brought into operation.

To date 6.83 tonnes of clean plasterboard has been separated from the waste stream, thereby avoiding landfill disposal, and has been sent to the Government's contractor, Birchall's, for re-processing.

Members were advised that the site has not received any adverse reports regarding plasterboard contamination within either the burnable household waste stream or residual waste sent to the landfill. This was considered an indication that the positioning of containers and associated signage arrangements are operating effectively.

The gate fee for plasterboard sent to Birchall's is £210 per tonne, which is approximately £88 per tonne higher than disposal costs at Wright's Pit North. Based on an estimated throughput of three tonnes per month, the revised arrangements are expected to incur an additional annual cost of approximately £3,170.

It was noted that this additional expenditure may equate to the following breakdown of costs per authority:

Total		Garff	Santon	Onchan	Braddan	Douglas
100%		5.41%	1.71%	17.62%	12.88%	62.38%
3,170.00		171.35	54.32	558.66	408.24	1,977.43

It was agreed:

To monitor the costs throughout the year and report back later in the year should a shortfall persist and not be met through other underspends.

7.5 Insulation - The Contractor reported that the WMU wrote to the CA site operators in March advising of a new disposal route for insulation materials, specifically mineral wool and cellulose products.

Under the revised arrangements, these materials are to be sent to the Energy from Waste Plant, where they will be baled and stockpiled for future landfill disposal. Previously, such materials would have been placed within the plasterboard/asbestos skip destined for disposal at Wrights Pit North (WPN).

Members were advised that insulation materials must now be separated into a dedicated container at the civic amenity site. It was noted that this further reinforces the requirement for increased vigilance by site staff in light of the number of recent operational changes affecting waste segregation procedures.

The Contractor confirmed that the revised arrangements are cost neutral.

7.6 Northern Civic Amenity Site - Members were advised that the contract for the operation of the Northern Civic Amenity Site concluded at the end of March, following which the WMU undertook a tender exercise for the appointment of a new site operator.

The Contract has subsequently been awarded to Manx Rock Limited and the site has now re-opened for business.

It was noted that the temporary closure of the Northern Site during March resulted in a significant increase in weekend throughput on the number of cars per hour at the Eastern Civic Amenity Site.

Members were also reminded of previous reports from householders travelling from the west of the Island to use the Eastern Site, having allegedly been turned away from the Western Civic Amenity Site on the basis that the site was unable to accept household residual waste due to processing limitations.

The Western Civic Amenity Site and WMU has been contacted for comment regarding these reports; however, no response has been received at the time of the meeting. Situation to continue to be monitored.

7.7 Western CA site – The Contractor advised that it has recently been reported that the Western Site is planning to re-open its re-use facility. However, the site will remain closed on a Wednesday afternoon.

7.8 Energy from Waste (EfW) Gate fee 2026/27 – The Contractor reported that the WMU wrote to all interested parties on 26th February 2026 confirming that the EfW gate fee charges, with effect from 1st April 2026 would be increased by 2.71%.

As a result of the increase, the revised domestic charge will be £122.13 plus VAT per tonne, which will also apply to disposal at WPN.

Members noted that the ECAS budget for 2026/27 had been prepared on the basis of an assumed increase of 2.89%. Consequently, the confirmed increase will result in a small budgetary saving for the Committee.

7.9 Joint operational meeting – The Contractor reported that representatives of the four Civic Amenity Sites met with officers from the WMU in February for a joint operational meeting. However, no follow-up meeting has been arranged yet.

Members were advised that the Contractor has written to the WMU requesting a copy of the meeting notes, but no response or documentation has been received at the time of the meeting.

7.10 Skips - The Contractor reported that the newly acquired proprietary plasterboard skip has now arrived on site and will shortly be brought into operational use.

Prior to its intended use for plasterboard, the skip has been trialled for the storage of cardboard as an alternative to the existing roll-top skips. The trial was considered highly successful, particularly as the enclosed design allows cardboard to be collected and stored effectively in all weathers.

In light of the successful trial, it was suggested that one of the two skips approved for repair during the current financial year should be procured in the same propriety design, with the second replacement remaining as a standard 40 cubic yard skip.

It was further recommended that the existing two roll top skips, both of which have sustained cover damage during storms over the past two years but remain otherwise structurally sound, be reassigned to replace two older skips currently in service which are considered beyond economic repair.

Members were advised that British Engineering had recently undertaken an inspection of the skips for safety and serviceability purposes and had identified three skips requiring age-related repairs. Arrangements for the necessary works are currently being progressed.

The Contractor also noted that the disposal of the B.E.R (Beyond Economical Repair) skips has historically proven difficult and that one skip replaced during the previous year remains on site awaiting disposal. Local scrap metal dealers will be approached to determine whether the skips may be accepted as scrap metal, with any income generated to be returned to the Committee.

7.11 Contract Labour – The Contractor reported that, as part of the current operational contract arrangements, the Council employs four direct members of staff and engages up to two agency workers to provide operational cover for the site. It was noted that staffing levels are structured to accommodate seasonal operating hours of the facility, being 56 operating hours per week during the winter period and 68 operating hours per week during the summer period.

The Contractor advised that the current agency workers are supplied by G4S under a contract originally awarded for a two-year term, with provision for a rolling 12-month extension. Members were advised that the existing contract expired on 31st March 2026 and that the arrangement is currently continuing on a monthly extension basis pending the appointment of a new contractor. It was noted under normal circumstances, it may have been anticipated that the 12-month extension option would be exercised, particularly given that the service provided has been reliable and considered to represent good value for money. The Contractor confirmed that the contract labour provision will now be subject to a re-tendering exercise.

7.12 Incidents Lithium Battery Fire – The Contractor reported that, on the morning of Friday 23rd March, the site staff arriving at the facility detected a strong smell of smoke emanating from the rear of the buildings in the vicinity of Gantry 14.

Upon investigation, it was discovered that a handheld battery-powered vacuum cleaner had ignited, resulting in a fire within a plastic recycling container holding vacuum cleaners awaiting battery removal. The fire subsequently spread to a nearby bag containing electrical plugs intended for recycling. However, Members were advised that the fire had extinguished itself overnight.

The affected area was cleared and made safe, with the yard remaining closed for approximately thirty minutes while staff removed the burnt materials and confirmed that the fire had fully extinguished.

The Contractor explained that the area in question is used for the removal of cables, motors and WEEE batteries from handheld portable electrical equipment. The location had originally been selected as it is sufficiently close to the public gantries to facilitate the acceptance of small WEEE items, whilst remaining adequately separated from buildings and fuel storage areas to minimise the risk of fire spread.

Members were advised that the Site Manager and Health and Safety Officer had subsequently undertaken a fire risk assessment, following which a number of immediate operational changes had been implemented, including:

- Items awaiting the removal of batteries and cables are now initially placed within tote bags, with removed batteries relocated at the end of each working day to a metal container positioned away from all buildings and skips.
- A large metal storage container has been obtained from the Council's Parks Services and is currently being modified for the storage of WEEE batteries.

- As an interim measure to reduce the risk of fire spread from lithium batteries, batteries are currently being stored within the drawers of an old metal filing cabinet located well away from the buildings.
- A formal fire safety plan is currently being developed and will be submitted to the site regulators before the end of May.

It was noted that the implementation of the fire safety plan may necessitate additional materials and/or storage facilities, which could require further funding provision in order to ensure compliance with both the fire safety requirements and the site operating licence.

7.13 Complaint Site Staffing Levels – The Contractor reported that the Council's Director of Environment & Regeneration had been contacted by a number of Douglas Councillors, including both the current and a former Chairpersons of the ECAS Committee, following a recent visit to the site.

Members had expressed concern regarding what they believed to be insufficient level of staffing on site, which they considered to be below the contractually agreed staffing requirement. Concerns were also raised regarding staff welfare, specifically that staff had reportedly advised that they were not consistently able to take their required breaks.

The Contractor was therefore requested to investigate whether there had been any discrepancy between the scheduled staffing levels, and the number of operatives present on the day in question.

Following investigation, the Contractor confirmed that three operatives had been scheduled to be on site on that day, in accordance with the current contractual arrangements. At the time the Councillors attended the site, one operative had sought permission to briefly leave the premises for operational reasons. The Site Manager had authorised the request and was travelling to the site to provide temporary cover until the operative returned. However, the operative had returned before the Site Manager arrived.

It was reported that this was considered to be a rare and one isolated occurrence and that, under normal circumstances, such situations would ordinarily be covered by a scheduled relief operative from the Council's Cleansing Team.

The Contractor further advised that the matter had highlighted a wider issue, namely that some Members appeared to be operating under the expectation that four operatives should be present on site at all times. Accordingly, the Contractor considers it appropriate to restate the current contractual staffing requirements.

Members were reminded that, in November 2023, Douglas City Council Waste Services submitted a tender for the operation of the Eastern Civic Amenity Site. The original specification sought the following staffing arrangements:

- Winter Operations: 0800 to 1600, Monday to Sunday with four operatives on site at all times and a fifth HGV driver/ supervisor present on skip movement days.
- Summer Operations: 0800 to 1800, Monday to Saturday, and 0800 to 1600 on Sundays with four operatives on site at all times with a fifth HGV driver/ supervisor present on skip movement days.

However, having considered the tendered costs submitted by Waste Services, the Contractor advised that Waste Services had subsequently been requested to resubmit its pricing based upon the staffing arrangements contained within the previous contract, namely:

- Three staff on site at all times; and
- An HGV driver/supervisor present on skip movement days only.

It was noted that skip movements currently take place on Mondays, Wednesdays, Fridays and Saturday's.

It was further noted that a number of significant changes have occurred since the contract was awarded and that these changes should be reflected in the review, namely, plasterboard handling, insulation and small WEEE.

It was agreed:

That the Contractor undertake an operational manning review to ensure that sufficient staffing resources are in place to meet licensing, regulatory and customer service level requirements.

A8. **Date and Time of Next Meeting**

Tuesday, 15th September 2026 at 2.30pm.

The meeting ended at 4.23pm.

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 Tuesday, 19th May, 2026.

Members Present: Councillor Mrs N.A. Byron-Teare (Chair), the Mayor, Councillor Ms. C. Traynor, Councillor Miss S. Kewin.

In Attendance: Director of Environment and Regeneration (Mrs D. Eynon), Assistant Chief Officer (Income) (Mrs C. Pulman), Assistant Chief Officer (Regeneration) (Mr C. Pycroft), Assistant Chief Officer (Democratic Services) (Mrs L. Radcliffe), Democratic Services Officer (Mrs D. Atkinson), City Librarian (Mrs J. Macartney) (Item A8 only), Deputy City Librarian (Mrs S. Goodwin) (Item A8 only).

REPORT

PART A –

Matters delegated to the Committee

A1. **Apologies**

Mr Councillor D.C. Cretney submitted apologies for the meeting.

A2. **Declarations of Interest**

There were no declarations of interest submitted.

A3. **Minutes – Tuesday, 17th February, 2026**

The minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday, 17th February, 2026 were approved and signed.

A4. **Matters Arising**

There were no matters arising from the minutes.

A5. **Noble's Park Masterplan**

The Committee considered a report submitted by the Head of Parks updating on the Noble's Park masterplan and seeking approval of the draft masterplan for publication at a consultation event.

Following the presentation on broad concepts for the masterplan in February, further work had progressed on the development of a draft masterplan. Members were presented with the draft outline masterplan incorporating the principal recommendations identified during the assessment process. Two phases were presented to the Committee, phase 1 incorporated the proposed works that could be developed into a phased action plan over the next 25 years, and phase 2 illustrated a longer-term aspiration that involved the relocation of the Pavilion Building to a more strategic position over a longer period of 50 years.

The next stage of the project involves public consultation. The report recommended holding a public consultation in the park on 13th June. The consultation would present draft proposals and ideas to gather public opinion and stakeholder feedback. It was proposed that, following this consultation, a final version of the masterplan would be presented to the October meeting of the Committee. Members asked that public consultation take place as part of the Noble's Park Fun Day. Officers supported the idea and suggested that, due to timeframes, the initial consultation take place on 13th June, with the final plan revealed at the Fun Day, where the public would be consulted on the priorities for action.

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

(i) The progress made to date on the Noble's Park masterplan be noted;

(ii) A public consultation take place in Noble's Park on 13th June 2026 to present the draft masterplan;

(iii) A final version masterplan be presented at the Noble's Park Fun Day to seek public feedback on prioritising elements of the plan;

(iv) Following public consultation and further review, the finalised masterplan be presented to the October 2026 Committee for consideration and approval."

A6. **Inter-Island Environment Meeting 2026**

The Committee considered a report seeking approval for the Head of Parks and Assistant Head of Parks (Technical) to attend the Inter-Island Environment Meeting in Guernsey.

The report explained that the Inter-Island Environment Meeting provides an opportunity for officers to share knowledge, collaboration, and strategic alignment with other Crown Dependencies and island communities. The theme for 2026 is 'Nature for the Next Generation'. It was noted the Isle of Man hosted the meeting in 2025 and the Head of Parks and Assistant Chief Officer (Regeneration) attended and gained valuable insights into best practice, partnership working and innovative approaches.

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

(i) The Head of Parks and Assistant Head of Parks (Technical) be authorised to attend the Inter-Island Environment Meeting in Guernsey from 30th September to 1st October 2026;

(ii) The cost of £1,500 for both delegates, inclusive of travel, accommodation and attendance, be approved and funded within existing budgets."

A7. Quarterly Performance Monitoring – Parks Services and City Centre Management Service Plans

Members considered a report submitted by the Director of Environment and Regeneration to update on the performance made against measures outlined in the Environment and Regeneration Department Service Plans, as relevant to the Regeneration and Community Committee.

Appended to the report were the measures as outlined for the Parks Service, and Douglas City Centre Management as at the fourth quarter of 2025/26. A red, amber, green and black status had been applied to each measure.

It was noted that, in Parks Services, three out of 22 measures were behind schedule and awaiting input from others, four measures had been completed, and all other measures had extended deadlines and would feature in the new service plan. In City Centre Management, two out of 14 measures were behind target and would not be achieved. The report explained that the initial target was, in hindsight, set too high and would be reduced in future service plans. All other measures were either completed or on target.

Resolved, "That particulars of the report and the progress made against performance indicators in the Environment and Regeneration Department Service Plans as relevant to the Regeneration and Community Committee for quarter four of 2025/26 be noted on the minutes."

A8. Quarterly Performance Monitoring - Douglas City Library Service Plan

The Committee considered a report submitted by the City Librarian to update on the performance against measures outlined in the Library Service Plan.

Appended to the report were the actions as outlined in the Library's Service Plan, together with an update on performance as at the fourth quarter of 2025/26. It was noted all actions had been completed and were marked green on the table.

Members received the user statistics during the quarter which had generally increased in comparison to the same quarter in 2025.

The Chair asked that consideration be given to providing advice to the public on how to respond to Government consultations using the hub facilities available at the Library. The City Librarian advised that the Government Hub is already promoted within the Library, and that further work could be undertaken to develop the service.

Resolved, "That particulars of the Douglas City Library Service Plan and user statistics for quarter four of 2025/26 be noted."

A9. Items for Future Report

The Committee considered a report submitted by the Democratic Services Officer regarding reports for future consideration by the Committee. It was agreed that the planned replacement of play parks be added to the schedule.

In response to a question, it was suggested that the maintenance of play parks be added to the Members Bulletin to report on any maintenance undertaken monthly.

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

A10. Date and Time of Next Meeting

The next scheduled meeting was due to take place on Tuesday, 16th June, 2026.

PART B –

Matters Referred to Executive Committee

B11. **Bereavement Services Webcasting and Recording Services**

The Committee considered a report submitted by the Head of Parks seeking approval for the introduction of fees and charges for new funeral services, including webcasting, recording and visual tribute services.

The report explained that following the Committee's approval to upgrade the bereavement services media system, the Council will have the ability to offer additional services such as webcasting, visual tributes and recordings of funeral services.

At present, the Council provides a webcasting service free of charge using Vimeo. As part of the media upgrade to the new provider, the service will transition to the provider's camera and full media system. Internal webcasting and recording will therefore no longer be facilitated. As a result, it will no longer be viable to offer this service free of charge.

Several funeral directors currently use their own webcam equipment to provide webcasting; however, under the proposed arrangements, this will no longer be permitted. To cover the costs incurred by the Council, it is proposed that a fee of £90 be introduced for webcasting. Officers advised that, while the service was previously provided free of charge and therefore widely taken up, it was not always fully utilised. Introducing a fee will ensure the service is requested where required, rather than being used as a free add-on that results in unnecessary staff time. Recordings will also be available for an additional nominal fee.

In addition to webcasting, the Council will be able to offer visual tributes displayed during the service. The report proposed a fee ranging from £20 to £28, depending on the number of images, inclusion of music and whether downloads are required.

All proposed fees include a nominal cost-plus pricing factor to ensure the Council can deliver the service and absorb any potential supplier price increases without operating at a loss. It was noted this approach, and charging for such additional services at funerals, is standard practice in the UK.

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

(i) The schedule of fees and charges appended to the report for bereavement services webcasting, recording and visual tribute services be approved, based on a cost-plus pricing model, for implementation when services become available; and

(ii) The proposed charges be set on a cost-plus basis to ensure full recovery of supplier costs and associated service delivery overheads, while also providing protection against in-year price increases from the external provider and supporting the long-term financial sustainability of the service."

The meeting ended at 11.07am.

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

ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES COMMITTEE

ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES COMMITTEE – Minutes of Meeting held on Monday, 18th May, 2026.

Members Present: Mr Councillor F. Horning (Chair), the Mayor, Mr Councillor A. Hall, Councillor Miss S. Kewin.

In Attendance: Director of Environment and Regeneration (Mrs D. Eynon), Assistant Chief Officer (Regeneration) (Mr C. Pycroft), Assistant Chief Officer (Environment) (Mr I. Jackson), Assistant Chief Officer (Democratic Services) (Mrs L. Radcliffe), Assistant Chief Officer (Finance) (Mr M. Quayle), Dilapidation Enforcement Officer (Mr S. Salter) (Item A9 only), Assistant Democratic Services Officer (Mrs C. Maddocks).

REPORT

PART A –

Matters delegated to the Committee

A1. **Apologies**

Apologies for absence were submitted by Mr Councillor D.C. Cretney.

A2. **Declarations of Interest**

There were no declarations of interest.

A3. **Appointment of Vice-Chair 2026-2027**

As a consequence of a Member's resignation from Council, the Chair invited nominations for the election of a Vice-Chair to act in the illness or absence of the Chair for the remainder of the municipal term 2025 to 2027.

Mr Councillor A. Hall was nominated by Mr Councillor F. Horning, seconded by Councillor Miss S. Kewin.

Resolved, "That Mr Councillor A. Hall be elected Committee Vice-Chair for the municipal term 2026 to 2027."

A4. **Minutes – 16th March, 2026**

The minutes of the meeting held on Monday, 16th March, 2026 were approved and signed.

A5. **Matters Arising from the Minutes**

No matters were raised as arising from the previous minutes.

A6. **Proposed Environmental Campaign for 2026/27**

The Committee considered a report submitted by the Head of Waste Services seeking agreement to run a focussed dog fouling campaign in 2026/27.

Members were advised that as part of its new service plan for 2026-28, Waste Services are committed to conducting at least one environmental campaign per annum. The proposed campaign for 2026/27 is dog fouling, which had last been undertaken in 2023/24. The principal aim of a dog fouling campaign is to reduce dog fouling by changing behaviour through deterrence, social accountability and enforcement.

Set out within the officer's report were the four proposed campaign posters. Members were advised that hot spot locations have been identified as the primary focus for the posters and the wider Douglas area will be targeted through social media and the use of stencils.

It was noted that the cost of the campaign is covered as part of the Council's Keep Britain Tidy membership and that any other sundry campaign items will be covered within existing budgets.

Resolved, "That particulars of the report be noted on the minutes and that a dog fouling focused campaign, using a range of Keep Britain Tidy, tried and tested solutions be approved for 2026/27."

A7. **Quarter four service plan performance monitoring 2025/26**

The Committee considered a report submitted by the Director of Environment and Regeneration to update on the performance made against measures as outlined in the Environment and Regeneration Service Plans as relevant to the Environmental Services Committee.

Appended to the officer's report were the measures as outlined in each Service Plan together with an update on the performance as at the end of quarter four 2025/26. A red, amber, green and black status had been applied to each measure.

Members noted that for quarter four:

- Within Building Control, two measures out of four were slightly behind target due to resourcing issues. The remaining two measures were met and targets for these measures will be increased in future service plans;
- Within Electrical Services, three measures out of 22 are behind due to earlier recruitment issues. Now that the civils and painting teams are fully established, it is anticipated that the backlog will be cleared. All other measures were completed;
- In Fleet Services, only one out of nine measures was slightly behind target. All other measures were met and completed;
- Within Community and Enforcement, seven measures out of 18 were not met due to factors outside the Council's control. One measure was completed slightly behind target, all other measures were completed and/or met;
- In Waste Services, five measures out of 15 were not met mostly due to factors beyond the Council's control or due to resource constraints. All other targets were achieved.

It was noted that following agreement to the new corporate plan for 2026-2030, reporting on quarter one of the new service plans will be in September 2026.

Resolved, "That particulars of the report be noted on the minutes and that the progress made against performance indicators in Service Plans for quarter four 2025/26 be noted."

A8. **Planning refusal notice – planning application 26/00197/C – Summerland Site**

The Committee considered a report submitted by the Dilapidation Enforcement Officer regarding the planning refusal notice for planning application 26/00197/C, relating to the temporary use of part of the Summerland Site, King Edward Road, Douglas, for car parking.

Members were reminded that, when the application was considered in March 2026, the Committee had resolved to object to the proposal on the grounds that it was contrary to Isle of Man Strategic Plan 2016 General Policy 2 (b) and (c) and did not comply with the COMIN directive relating to temporary car parks. It was noted that the application was subsequently considered by the Planning Committee on 27th April 2026 and was refused for the reasons set out in the planning officer's report.

Committee was advised the applicant had submitted an appeal and, Council officers have reviewed the grounds of appeal and concluded that no new evidence had been submitted which would justify the Council withdrawing its objection or supporting the application.

The Director of Environment and Regeneration advised that the applicant had requested the appeal be dealt with by written submissions only, with no hearing to be held.

The Committee agreed that officers prepare a statement for the appeal process which would be circulated to the Chair for agreement.

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

(i) That the Committee agrees to forward a letter for consideration by the Planning Appeals Inspector to confirm the Council's original decision objecting against planning application 26/00197/C."

A9. **Schedule of Dilapidated, Ruinous or Dangerous Properties**

The Committee considered a schedule of properties in a state of dilapidation or disrepair. Members noted that three properties had been added to the schedule since the last meeting; four properties had been removed because work had been completed; and a total of thirty-four properties remained on the list.

Resolved, "That the schedule of dilapidated properties be noted and approved 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."

A10. **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.

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

A11. **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, 15^{th} June, 2026.

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

PART B –

Matters requiring Executive Committee approval

B12. **Post Christmas lighting display**

The Committee considered a report submitted by the Head of Electrical Services and E&R Projects to consider whether the lighting display within Douglas City Centre should be extended beyond the Christmas period.

Members were reminded that the Regeneration and Community Committee had previously requested an evaluation of extending illuminations within the City for a period after the Christmas decorative lighting had been switched off. Set out within the officer's report was an evaluation of four aspects of the Council's Christmas displays.

It was proposed that the decorative lighting catenary system installed across Ridgeway Street, Victoria Street, Windsor Road, The Terrace, North and South Quay, Douglas Head, The Drives, and Victoria Road be retained beyond the Christmas period. Members noted that extending the use of the existing installations could be implemented easily, would require no additional infrastructure, and would help maintain a consistent level of visual amenity during the winter months. The cost of extending the festoon catenary illumination was estimated at £2,250 per month, based on current Manx Utilities rates.

It was further proposed that replacement gobo discs featuring alternative seasonal designs be purchased at a cost of £250 each. Members noted that 13 gobo projectors are currently installed at locations including City Hall, Shaw's Brow, and Strand Street. These project illuminated images onto surrounding buildings and walkways using interchangeable etched discs. This option was considered to provide a flexible and relatively low-cost solution with minimal operational impact.

Consideration had also been given to the use of street lighting pole-mounted features; however, this option was not recommended, as the features are specifically designed for Christmas and were considered unsuitable for display outside the festive season.

An extension to the Strand Street net curtain display was also not recommended, as any extension would place additional demands on resources, potentially delay the resumption of normal service delivery, reduce the visual impact associated with the Christmas period, proportionally shorten the service life of the installation and lead to access issues for building owners.

Members agreed to the proposals relating to the decorative lighting catenary systems and the purchase of replacement gobo discs for a two-month extension period during January and February annually.

The Chair raised concerns regarding funding the proposal from general revenue reserves. Members opined that the proposal should be implemented from the 2026/27 financial year; however, they acknowledged that, if delayed, the project could instead be considered as part of the next annual budget-setting process.

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

(i) That the decorative lighting catenary system be extended by option b) a two-month extension beyond Christmas at a cost of £4,500;

(ii) That 13 themed gobo discs be purchased as a cost of £250 each, £3,250 total; and

(iii) That the matter be referred to the Executive Committee seeking agreement to funding from the general revenue reserves."

B13. **Attendance at the Environmental Services & Solutions / Resource & Waste Management Expo in 2026**

The Committee considered a report submitted by the Head of Waste Services seeking approval for a delegation to attend the Environmental Services & Solutions (ESS) and Resource & Waste Management (RWM) Expo at the Birmingham NEC on 16^{th} and 17^{th} September 2026.

It was proposed that the Chair of the Committee, the Assistant Chief Officer (Environment), and the Head of Fleet Services attend the event in 2026.

Members were advised that the delegation will be looking at refuse, recycling and street cleansing vehicles, waste and recycling receptacles, material processing plant and equipment, specialist street cleaning plant and equipment as well connecting with potential suppliers, waste processors and attending seminars in the various theatres.

In addition to the exhibition itself, the event is considered to offer significant value through networking and knowledge-sharing opportunities. It enables engagement with existing suppliers, the exploration of potential new partnerships, and provides insight into how other local authorities and organisations are addressing similar operational challenges.

The Chair suggested that consideration be given to attendance by the Vice-Chair in place of the Chair. It was agreed that the Committee's representative would be determined at a later date.

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

(i) That either the Chair or the Vice-Chair of the Committee, together with the officers, attend the ESS and RWM Expo at the Birmingham NEC on 16th and 17th September 2026; and

(ii) That the matter be referred to the Executive Committee seeking approval for underwriting from General Revenue Reserves in the sum of £1,800 to cover the cost of flights, accommodation, and associated expenses should the service budget be insufficient at year end."

The meeting ended at 12.41pm.

IX – Motions, of which Notice has been given by Members of the Council pursuant to Standing Order 26:

MOTIONS

1. Mr Councillor K.W.F. Ver Elst to move:

That the policy on the frequency of general household waste collections and the current policy of fortnightly general household waste collections be reviewed; and to conduct a public consultation with residents as to whether they support a return to weekly general household waste collections, on the understanding that recycling will continue and that weekly collections may involve additional costs.

A further report to be made on the consultation results, implementation options and associated costings. Mr Councillor Ver Elst has agreed to send supporting information to Councillors ahead of the meeting.

Upon being moved and seconded, the Motion shall stand referred to the Executive Committee for consideration and report to the Council by 12th August, 2026.

X – MISCELLANEOUS BUSINESS, of which Notice has been given as follows:

MISCELLANOUS BUSINESS

1. Election of a Member to be Chair of the Standards Committee for the remainder of the two-year term until April 2027.

2. Election of a Member to the Pensions Committee for the remainder of the two-year term until April 2027.

The vacancies have arisen through the resignation of former Councillor Ms Janet Thommeny.