



## City of Douglas

---

City Hall,  
Douglas,  
13<sup>th</sup> November, 2024

At a MEETING of the COUNCIL of the CITY OF DOUGLAS, duly convened and holden at 2.30 p.m. on WEDNESDAY, the 13<sup>th</sup> day of NOVEMBER, 2024, in the COUNCIL CHAMBER, within the CITY HALL, at which Meeting the following Members were present, that is to say: -

The Mayor

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

Councillors

Mr S.R. Pitts

Mr J.E. Skinner

Mr I.J.G. Clague, MBE

Mr A.J. Bentley

Mr D.R. Watson

Mr S.R. Crellin

Mrs C.L. Wells

Mr F. Horning

Ms J. Thommeny

Mr P.J. Washington

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

Apologies for absence were submitted by Mr Councillor F. Schuengel.

1. **One Minute Silence**

The Council stood to observe a one-minute silence for former Tramways Superintendent, Mr M.C. Crellin who had sadly passed away.

2. **Minutes – 9<sup>th</sup> October, 2024**

The minutes of the monthly Council meeting held on Wednesday, 9<sup>th</sup> October, 2024, were approved and signed.

3. **Standing Order 39 – Question – Mr Councillor P.J. Washington**

Mr Councillor P.J. Washington asked the Chair of the Housing and Property Committee:

1.1 *In the last five years, how many letters have been sent out by Douglas City Council's Housing Department to tenants stating that, following the death of your husband who was the tenancy holder, can you come down and sign a new five-year fixed term tenancy.*

1.2 *In the last five years, how many letters have been sent out by Douglas City Council's Housing Department to tenants stating that, following the death of your wife who was the tenancy holder, can you come down and sign a new five-year fixed term tenancy.*

1.3 *As a result, of sending out the above letters, in the last five years, how many widowers have been placed on a five-year fixed term tenancy.*

1.4 *In the last five years, how many widowers have been placed on a one-year fixed term tenancy.*

1.5 *In the last five years, how many widows have been placed on a five-year fixed term tenancy.*

1.6 *In the last five years, how many widows have been placed on a one-year fixed term tenancy.*

Reply by the Chair of the Housing and Property Committee:

*The Council is unable to provide an answer to questions 1.1 to 1.6 as this information is not currently collected and collated. However, the process that the Council follows in these difficult scenarios is in accordance with the Department of Infrastructure's 'Guidelines on the Implementation and Management of Fixed Term Tenancies in Public Sector Housing 2023'.*

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

Mr Councillor J.E. Skinner asked the Chair of the Housing and Property Committee:

2.1 *How many tenants does the Council currently have residing in domestic properties?*

2.2 *Of the current tenants what percentage pay:*

*a) by Direct Debit monthly*

*b) by cash weekly*

*c) by other means?*

Reply by the Chair of the Housing and Property Committee:

2.1 *There are currently 2,299 tenants residing in the Council's domestic properties.*

2.2 *a) Direct debit - 43%*

*b) Cash - 7%*

*c) Other means – 50%*

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

Mr Councillor J.E. Skinner asked the Leader of the Council:

*Following the Department of Infrastructure's recent decision to stop paper collection at the Eastern Amenity Site will the current operators take over this collection service for members of the public who use the facility?*

Reply by the Leader of the Council:

*The contractor operating the site has suggested to the Eastern District Civic Amenity Site Joint Committee that they continue to provide a paper recycling service for the site, and a price has been provided. This suggestion is currently being considered by the Committee, who it is hoped will make a determination at its next meeting on 19<sup>th</sup> November 2024.*

**6. Executive Committee – 29<sup>th</sup> October, 2024 – Clauses A1 to A14**

Motion moved by Councillor Mrs C.L. Wells, seconded by Mr Councillor I.J.G. Clague, “That the minutes of proceedings of the Executive Committee, as contained in Clauses A1 to A14 inclusive of report of meeting held on Tuesday, 29<sup>th</sup> October, 2024, be received by the Council.”

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

**7. Executive Committee – 29<sup>th</sup> October, 2024 – Clause C15**

Motion moved by Councillor Mrs C.L. Wells, seconded by Mr Councillor I.J.G. Clague, “That the minutes of proceedings of the Executive Committee, as contained in Clause C15 of report of meeting held on Tuesday, 29<sup>th</sup> October, 2024, be received, approved and adopted by the Council.”

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

**8. Housing and Property Committee – 16<sup>th</sup> October, 2024 – Clauses A1 to B7**

Motion moved by Mr Councillor D.R. Watson, seconded by Mr Councillor P.J. Washington, “That the minutes of proceedings of the Housing and Property Committee, as contained in Clauses A1 to B7 inclusive of report of meeting held on Wednesday, 16<sup>th</sup> October, 2024, be received by the Council.”

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

**9. Housing and Property Committee – 16<sup>th</sup> October, 2024 – Clause C8**

Motion moved by Mr Councillor D.R. Watson, seconded by Mr Councillor P.J. Washington, “That the minutes of proceedings of the Housing and Property Committee, as contained in Clause C8 of report of meeting held on Wednesday, 16<sup>th</sup> October, 2024, be received, approved and adopted by the Council.”

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

**10. Pensions Committee – 23<sup>rd</sup> October, 2024**

Motion moved by Mr Councillor J.E. Skinner, seconded by Mr Councillor F. Horning, “That the minutes of proceedings of the Pensions Committee, as contained in report of meeting held on Wednesday, 23<sup>rd</sup> October, 2024, be received by the Council, subject to withdrawal of the second paragraph of Clause A11.”

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

**11. Eastern District Civic Amenity Site Joint Committee – 15<sup>th</sup> October, 2024**

Motion moved by Councillor Ms J. Thommeny, seconded by Mr Councillor F. Horning, “That the minutes of proceedings of the Eastern District Civic Amenity Site Joint Committee, as contained in report of meeting held on Tuesday, 15<sup>th</sup> October, 2024, be received by the Council, subject to correction in Clause A2.3 to amend Chair to Council’s Representative and the deletion of the pound signs from the bullet points in Clause B10.”

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

**12. Chair of the Meeting**

Under the provisions of the Local Government Act 1985, the Mayor declared an interest in the next item and relinquished her seat as Chair. Mr Councillor P.J. Washington was unanimously elected to Chair the meeting.

**13. Regeneration and Community Committee – 23<sup>rd</sup> October, 2024 – Clause A5**

Motion moved by Mr Councillor A.J. Bentley, seconded by Mr Councillor S.R. Crellin “That the minutes of proceedings of the Regeneration and Community Committee, as contained in Clause A5 of report of meeting held on Wednesday, 23<sup>rd</sup> October, 2024, be received by the Council.”

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

*Under the provisions of the Local Government Act 1985, the Worshipful the Mayor and Councillor Ms J. Thommeny declared an interest in the item and retired whilst it was considered.*

**14. Regeneration and Community Committee – 23<sup>rd</sup> October, 2024 – Clauses A1 to A4 and A6 to A9**

The Mayor resumed her seat as Chair.

Motion moved by Mr Councillor A.J. Bentley, seconded by Mr Councillor S.R. Crellin “That the minutes of proceedings of the Regeneration and Community Committee, as contained in Clauses A1 to A4 and A6 to A9 inclusive of report of meeting held on Wednesday, 23<sup>rd</sup> October, 2024, be received by the Council.”

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

**15. Environmental Services Committee – 14<sup>th</sup> October, 2024**

Motion moved by Mr Councillor F. Horning, seconded by Councillor Ms J. Thommeny, “That the minutes of proceedings of the Environmental Services Committee, as contained in report of meeting held on Monday, 14<sup>th</sup> October, 2024, be received by the Council.”

Question put on Motion, a vote was taken electronically, and there voted **For** the Motion, Councillors: Mr A.J. Bentley, Mr D.R. Watson, Mrs C.L. Wells, Mr F. Horning, Ms J. Thommeny, Mr P.J. Washington, the Mayor – 7

**Against**, Councillors: Mr J.E. Skinner, Mr S.R. Pitts, Mr I.J.G. Clague, Mr S.R. Crellin – 4

*Motion carried.*

**16. Appointment of a Member to the Isle of Man Municipal Association**

Motion moved by Mr Councillor S.R. Crellin, seconded by Mr Councillor P.J. Washington, “That Councillor Ms J. Thommeny be appointed to serve as the Council’s representative to the Isle of Man Municipal Association until April 2025.”

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

**17. Adjournment and Resumption**

The meeting adjourned at 3.50pm and resumed at 4.05pm with the same Members and officers present.

**IN PRIVATE**

**18. Executive Committee – 29<sup>th</sup> October, 2024 – Clause A3**

Motion moved by Councillor Mrs C.L. Wells, seconded by Mr Councillor I.J.G. Clague, “That the minutes of proceedings of the Executive Committee, as contained in Clause A3 of private report of meeting held on Tuesday, 29<sup>th</sup> October, 2024, be received by the Council.”

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

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

**19. Executive Committee – 29<sup>th</sup> October, 2024 – Clauses A1, A2, A4 and A5**

Motion moved by Councillor Mrs C.L. Wells, seconded by Mr Councillor I.J.G. Clague, “That the minutes of proceedings of the Executive Committee, as contained in Clauses A1, A2, A4 and A5 of private report of meeting held on Tuesday, 29<sup>th</sup> October, 2024, be received by the Council.”

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

**20. Executive Committee – 29<sup>th</sup> October, 2024 – Clause C6**

Motion moved by Councillor Mrs C.L. Wells, seconded by Mr Councillor I.J.G. Clague, “That the minutes of proceedings of the Executive Committee, as contained in Clause C6 of private report of meeting held on Tuesday, 29<sup>th</sup> October, 2024, be received, approved and adopted by the Council.”

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

**21. Housing and Property Committee – 16<sup>th</sup> October, 2024 – Clause B4**

Motion moved by Mr Councillor D.R. Watson, seconded by Mr Councillor P.J. Washington, “That the minutes of proceedings of the Housing and Property Committee, as contained in Clause B4 of private report of meeting held on Wednesday, 16<sup>th</sup> October, 2024, be received by the Council.”

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

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

**22. Housing and Property Committee – 16<sup>th</sup> October, 2024 – Clauses B1 to B3 and B5**

Motion moved by Mr Councillor D.R. Watson, seconded by Mr Councillor P.J. Washington, “That the minutes of proceedings of the Housing and Property Committee, as contained in Clauses B1 to B3 and B5 inclusive of private report of meeting held on Wednesday, 16<sup>th</sup> October, 2024, be received by the Council.”

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

**Against**, Councillors: Mr J.E. Skinner, Mr S.R. Crellin, Ms J. Thommeny – **3**

*Motion carried.*

**23. Regeneration and Community Committee – 23<sup>rd</sup> October, 2024**

Motion moved by Mr Councillor A.J. Bentley, seconded by Mr Councillor S.R. Crellin, “That the minutes of proceedings of the Regeneration and Community Committee, as contained in private report of meeting held on Wednesday, 23<sup>rd</sup> October, 2024, be received by the Council.”

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

**Against**, Councillors: Mr S.R. Pitts, Mr J.E. Skinner – **2**

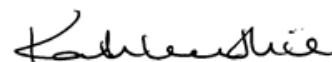
*Motion carried.*

**24. Environmental Services Committee – 14<sup>th</sup> October, 2024**

Motion moved by Mr Councillor F. Horning, seconded by Councillor Ms J. Thommeny, “That the minutes of proceedings of the Environmental Services Committee, as contained in private report of meeting held on Monday, 14<sup>th</sup> October, 2024, be received by the Council.”

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

The Council rose at 4.45pm.



Town Clerk & Chief Executive