

Motion in the Name of Cllr Rebecca Moynihan:

“This Council is concerned at the impact that Circular Letter PL 02/2018, issued by Minister Eoghan Murphy will have on the ability of elected members to properly understand the technical and planning implications of planning applications in their area. These presentations at our Area Committee are essential in informing our submissions as part of the formal planning process and helping us advise residents on their planning submissions.

We ask that the Chief Executive send a letter to the Minister, outlining our concerns about the impact that this decision will have on our ability to properly carry out our functions as elected representatives, and asking for the following clarification from the Minister in relation to the Circular

- 1. Does the ability of planners to give technical and planning advice to developers in pre planning consultation meetings remain unaffected?*
- 2. Has the Department received legal advice to how this Circular impacts on the Aarhus convention which guarantees Public Access to Information, Public Participation in Decision-making and Access to Justice in Environmental Matters, while issuing no direction to local authority planning staff on their pre part 3 consultation with private developers on the parameters of their application?*
- 3. What impact does this circular have on the holding of planning information meetings with residents?*
- 4. On what legal basis was this direction, which allows the Minister to direct officials about the manner in which they exercise their powers and how they inform elected members regarding planning applications, made?*

We further propose that in the event of this circular not being withdrawn, that all pre planning proposals which will have a significant impact on our local areas be presented to the area committee in advance of a formal planning application being lodged.”

The following Members requested that they be associated with the Motion:

Cllr Dermot Lacey, Cllr Jane Hogan Jones, Cllr Andrew Montague, Cllr Alison Gilliland, Cllr Mary Freehill, Cllr Aine Clancy, Cllr Sonya Stapleton, Cllr Paul Hand, Cllr Daithi Doolan, Cllr Janice Boylan, Cllr Cieran Perry, Cllr David Costello, Cllr Claire Byrne, Cllr Tom Brabazon, Cllr Gaye Fagan, Cllr Damian O’Farrell, Cllr Ciaran Cuffe, Cllr Nial Ring, Cllr Mannix Flynn, Cllr Christy Burke, Cllr Patrick Costello, Cllr Eilis Ryan, Cllr Tina McVeigh, Cllr Teresa Keegan, Cllr Gary Gannon, Cllr David Costello, Cllr Anthony Connaghan, Cllr Edel Moran, Cllr Sean Paul Mahon, Cllr John Lyons, Cllr Deirdre Heney, Cllr Greg Kelly, Cllr Sean Paul Mahon, Cllr John Lyon, Andrew Montague, Cllr Deirdre Heney and An tArdmheara M MacDonncha.