

Leitrim Local Community Safety Partnership Minutes,

2:30 PM, 18th February 2026, The Landmark Hotel, Carrick on Shannon

Attendance:	15 of 26 members.
Quorum:	Yes
Representation Balance Requirements Met?	Yes

See Appendix 1 for full record of LCSP attendees

Apologies: Enda Stenson, Mary Bohan, Carla Curry, Cara O'Neill, Marie Richardson, Osazuwa Peter-Olabiyi, Joe Rynn, Meryl McGowan, Chris Gonley, Brendan Kieran, Charlotte McCloat

Also in attendance: Mary Quinn (Deputy Chief Executive LCC), Ashling Dunne (Community Safety Coordinator), Suzanne Duffy (SEO LCC Community Section), Jacqueline McKeon (Community Safety Administrator)

1. Welcome by Deputy Chief Executive Mary Quinn

Deputy Chief Executive Mary Quinn opened the meeting and welcomed members to the inaugural meeting of the Leitrim Local Community Safety Partnership. Aisling Dunne, Community Safety Coordinator, took attendance and confirmed that a quorum was present.

2. Election & Appointment of Chairperson presided over by Mary Quinn

As there was only one candidate nominated for Chairperson, with five nominations received, Mary Quinn declared Pat Forde elected as Chairperson of the Leitrim Local Community Safety Partnership.

Pat Forde thanked the members for their nominations and delivered a short address outlining his hopes for the Partnership during his term as Chair. He then assumed the role of Chair and proceeded with the meeting.

3. Election & Appointment of Vice Chairperson presided over by Newly Elected Chair

Two candidates were nominated for the position of Vice Chairperson:
Cllr Maeve Reynolds and Osazuwa Peter-Olabiyi

A secret ballot was conducted, As the candidate with the highest number of votes (14), Cllr Maeve Reynolds was declared elected as Vice Chairperson. Maeve thanked the members for their support and expressed her commitment to working collaboratively with the Partnership.

The Partnership then took a brief break to allow for official photographs.

4. Welcome address by Minister for Justice Jim O' Callaghan (video)

Upon returning to the meeting room, members viewed a welcome address from the Minister for Justice, Jim O'Callaghan.

5. Update from National Office Meeting 5th February 2026 – LCSP Coordinator

Aisling Dunne, Community Safety Coordinator, provided an update from the National Office meeting held on 5th February 2026, which was attended by Minister Jim O'Callaghan.

She reported that 21 Local Community Safety Partnerships have now been established nationally. The Community Safety Fund, in its current form, is under review for 2027, with an announcement on the 2026 funding allocations for each LCSP expected in March 2026.

Members were informed that the Public Consultation on the National Community Safety Strategy is now open. In addition, a national meeting of all LCSP Chairs and Coordinators will take place on 27th May 2026.

6. Agreement of Terms of Reference

The Terms of Reference, as circulated in advance of the meeting, were reviewed and agreed by the members.

Proposed by: Mick O'Rourke

Seconded by: Vincent Dwyer

7. Proposed 2026 Meeting Dates

The Partnership discussed the proposed meeting dates for 2026. It was agreed that meetings will take place on the second Tuesday of every second month at 2:30pm, covering the four required quarterly Partnership meetings, one public meeting and one closed meeting for elected representatives.

It was noted that the August meeting may be moved to September to accommodate annual leave during the summer period. To support member availability, the time and location for each meeting will be confirmed at the preceding meeting.

LCSP Meeting Schedule for 2026

Tuesday, 10th February

Tuesday, 14th April

Tuesday, 9th June

Tuesday, 8th September

Tuesday, 10th November

Tuesday, 8th December

The next LCSP meeting will be held on Tuesday, 14th April at 2:30pm in the Council Chamber. A hybrid option will be available for members wishing to attend online.

8. Agreement of Standing Orders

The Standing Orders, as circulated in advance of the meeting, were reviewed and agreed by the members.

Proposed by: Maeve Reynolds

Seconded by: Linda Halstead

It was agreed that, to support ease of discussion during meetings, media attendance will be permitted only at the designated Public Meeting.

Members also agreed that Declarations of Interest will remain a standing item on each meeting agenda. In addition, a Register of Interests will be required from all Partnership members.

9. Proposal to Establish Youth Drug and Alcohol Awareness Subgroup

As the Youth Drug and Alcohol Awareness group is already an established group, it was agreed that this should be further explored as to it becoming a subgroup of the LCSP. This is to be further discussed at the next meeting. It was agreed that this group should feed into the Community Safety Plan.

The Chairperson then invited nominations from members to form a Community Safety Plan Subgroup, which will oversee preparations for the development of the Local Community Safety Plan.

Members were asked to refer to the concepts of community safety outlined in the induction presentation (attached to the minutes), which highlighted key thematic areas such as:

- Anti-Social Behaviour Reduction
- Crime Prevention and Policing
- Road and Traffic Safety
- Support for Vulnerable Groups
- Community Cohesion and Integration
- Mental Health and Wellbeing Services
- Safe Public Spaces
- Domestic, Sexual and Gender-Based Violence Prevention
- Youth Engagement and Diversion
- Substance Misuse and Addiction Supports
- Water Safety
- Emergency Preparedness and Response

The Chairperson also invited suggestions on themes for the Community Safety Plan and on how the Partnership should prioritise them.

Nominations for the subgroup are to be submitted to the Community Safety Coordinator within two weeks.

Members held a discussion and suggested that:

- Leitrim should examine best practice from the pilot LCSPs and from other counties.

- It may be useful to consider issues emerging from other committees, Community Policing meetings, the Leitrim Residents Network, and relevant Council subgroups.
- A brainstorming exercise would be beneficial to map emerging priorities.
- Community organisations should be notified and included as part of the wider consultation process.
- The Safety Plan should set realistic and achievable targets.

10. Any Other Business

There was no other business. The meeting then concluded.

Next meeting: Tuesday, 14th April at 2:30pm in the Council Chamber. A hybrid option will be available for members wishing to attend online.

Prepared by: Aisling Dunne

Community Safety Coordinator

Adopted by Leitrim Local Community Safety Partnership: 14 / 04 / 2026.

Chairperson Signature: _____

Pat Forde

Appendix One –

Members Attendance Log - Tuesday 10th February 2026

Name	Representative Body	In Attendance?
Sean McGowan	County Councillor	Yes
Maeve Reynolds	County Councillor	Yes
Enda Stenson	County Councillor	No
Brendan Barry	County Councillor	Yes
Gary Prior	County Councillor	Yes
Mary Bohan	County Councillor	No
Padraig Fallon	County Councillor	Yes
Vincent Dwyer	Local Authority Executive	Yes
Carla Curry	Policing & Security	No
Cara O'Neill	Health Service	No
Marie Richardson	Child & Family	No
Tracey Mitchell	Drug Services	Yes
Osazuwa Peter-Olabiyi	Local Resident Representative	No
Kathleen Flanagan	Local Resident Representative	Yes
Bernie Mulligan Dolan	Local Resident Representative	Yes
Matthew Conlon	Local Resident Representative	Yes
Joe Rynn	Youth Representative	No
Meryl McGowan	Minority	No
Chris Gonley	Social Inclusion Sector	No
Linda Halstead	Education Representative	Yes
Brendan Kieran	Business Representative	No
Pat Forde	Ministerial Nominee	Yes
Hazel Humphreys	Older Person Representative	Yes
Gerry McGarry	Rural Interest Representative	Yes
Charlotte McCloat	Victims Of Crime	No
Mick O'Rourke	Sports Representative	Yes
Total Membership	26 (+4 vacancies)	4 Vacancies
Total Attendance	15	11 Apologies
% of Members in Attendance	57.7%	11/26

