# FORGA BULLETIN



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# **Come to the Municipal Division AGM**

Happy New Year to all our Municipal Employees' Division members. To start the year we are pleased to launch this new members' bulletin. This bulletin will appear in your workplace four times a year, to keep you informed of your union's work.

2024 was a busy year for the Division. Working with you we fought to protect jobs and terms. We had a big win for members, securing payment of allowances. We supported members as they decided whether or not to transfer to Uisce Éireann. We increased our ability to stop the use of contractors by getting Dublin City Council to agree to form a joint union and management sub-committee to review the list of contractors hired by the council to undertake specialised work. We delivered for 12 members in Technical University Dublin who have now progressed from lab assistant I to lab assistant II.

We expect 2025 to be equally busy.

Discussions continue for TU Dublin ground staff, there is still work left in moving DCC staff on long-term acting contracts to contracts of indefinite duration, and the fight against outsourcing will keep going.

We hope all members will attend the division's AGM at 5.30pm on Wednesday 5th February in Nerney's Court. We will elect a new committee for the year. It will also be a chance for members to raise issues and have a say in what we prioritise over the next year.



### Bring back the bins!

Good news in the journey toward remunicipalisation of waste services. In October, an Oireachtas Committee published a Report on the Circular Economy. This report recommended a pilot scheme to re-municipalise waste in Dublin City Local Authority.

The Municipal Employees' Division has been a leading voice demanding the remunicipalisation of waste services.

Head of the division, Richy Carrothers welcomed the report. He said "This report backs up what we have been saying. Local authorities should be in charge of waste services. When they are, it's good for workers and the environment."

There was a similar recommendation in the report released by the Taoiseach's Taskforce for Dublin, also released in late 2024.

"Privatised waste services have been a disaster. 1 in 4 households currently have no waste collection." said Richy. "We will now regroup with other campaign stakeholders to map out our next steps. This is an important milestone, and we plan to build on it."





## Hands off our jobs workforce planning

A new 'Workplace Planning' process is underway, the first since 2014. Dublin City Council will map out what they will need for the years ahead. The process will set staffing resources for the next ten years.

Fórsa want to make sure that workers remain at the centre of the process and protect jobs. Key information must be shared with us locally and in a timely fashion.

The union is concerned that this process could be used to outsource jobs currently done by local authority staff. It is also very important that apprenticeships feature in the planning, in particular for General Operatives.

President of the Municipal Employees' Division Tommy Murtagh said: "We have always been clear: our jobs provide public services. Outsourcing our work can't be allowed to happen – it reduces the value of our work. Where it has happened already, the results have been a disaster."





### Contact your rep