

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPORT

THIS MONTH:

Limerick Museum and Archives held an event to celebrate **Limerick Lace** as part of **Heritage Week**.

Calls for expressions of interest to **manage and operate Rathbane Golf Course**.

Limerick Sports Partnership was successful in securing **€123,000** in Dormant Accounts Funding.

769 people availed of the services of the **Local Enterprise Office**.

The University of Limerick signed a **Memorandum of Understanding** between its **Graduate Entry Medical School** and the **Robert Wood Johnson Medical School** located in New Brunswick, New Jersey.

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1. Financial Matters

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Empowering the Citizen

1. Home and Social Development Update

Waiting List

| Approved Applicants for Social Housing Support and Areas | Approved Applicants to the 31st of August 2015 |
|--|--|
| Metropolitan District of Limerick | 3976 |
| Municipal Districts: | |
| Adare-Rathkeale | 339 |
| Cappamore-Kilmallock | 356 |
| Newcastle West | 372 |
| Total | 5043 |

Allocations

| | Metropolitan District | Newcastle West | Adare – Rathkeale | Cappamore – Kilmallock | Total |
|-----------------------------------|-----------------------|----------------|-------------------|------------------------|-------|
| Year to end of last month | 73 | 30 | 29 | 43 | 175 |
| No of Units Allocated August 2015 | 12 | 1 | 0 | 2 | 15 |
| Year to Date | 85 | 31 | 29 | 45 | 190 |

Home Improvement Schemes

| Private Housing Grant Aid | Number of Grants paid at 31st August 2015 | Euro Amount |
|---|---|-------------|
| MAGS (Mobility Adaptation Grant Scheme) | 92 | €370,744.20 |
| HAGS (Housing Adaptation Grant Scheme) | 54 | €496,969.86 |
| HOPS (Housing Aid for Older Persons Grant Scheme) | 86 | €379,097.52 |

Rent Collection

| Opening Balance 01/01/2015 € | Accrued Income € | Total for collection € | Receipts € | Closing balance 31/08/15 € | % Collection |
|------------------------------|------------------|------------------------|------------|----------------------------|--------------|
| 1,830,818 | 8,218,473 | 10,049,291 | 7,887,843 | 2,161,448 | 78.5 |

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2. Cemeteries

Development works continued at Mount Saint Lawrence Cemetery Extension.

3. Awareness

- Limerick Going for Gold 'Community Challenge' Category Communities were interviewed on Live 95fm. There was also a weekly focus on 'Community Challenge' Category Communities in the Limerick Leader throughout August.
- Judging for all categories of Limerick Going for Gold is ongoing.
- Richard Lynch has been announced as MC for Limerick Going for Gold 2015.

4. Irish Business Against Litter Report

- The Irish Business Against Litter report was published in August.
- Limerick City achieved 'Clean to European Norms' standard and was rated 17th out of 40 towns / cities surveyed. This is Limerick's highest ever ranking and is a marked improvement on the last report where Limerick was rated 30th.
- The report stated that sites have improved greatly, as has the overall presentation and maintenance of the city.
- Some of the particularly well presented sites included John's Square (Limerick's Living Cultural Quarter), The Hunt Museum, Bishop's Quay and Bank Place. Dock Road was also a top ranking site.

5. Mungret Park

The Council has invited tenders for civil works for Mungret Neighbourhood Park.

6. Remediation of Illegal Landfill at St. Mary's Park

The remediation of the illegal landfill at St Mary's Park has commenced and is expected to be completed in October. Excavation and waste segregation works are being carried out by Priority Construction and are progressing in line with the programme.

7. Veterinary

- A new facebook page has been set up for Limerick Dog Shelter.
- Since its introduction in late June, re-homing rates have increased dramatically from approx 50% of dogs seized/surrendered to almost 75% of all dogs coming in.

- It has become a valuable point of contact with other rescue organisations.
- It has greatly enhanced the Council's reputation amongst the general public and other dog rescue organisations.
- There are currently over 3,500 followers with a post reach of over 15,000 people per week.

8. Rural Development Programme (RDP)

Ongoing meetings of the Local Community Development Committee (LCDC) RDP Working Group to progress development of Local Development Strategy throughout August 2015.

9. Local Economic and Community Plan (LECP)

LECP Advisory Steering Group met on 26 August, 2015 and approved revised Draft Socio-Economic Statement and High Level Goals following consideration of submissions received as part of Public Consultation process. Revised Draft submitted to LCDC and Economic Development SPC for approval at September meetings.

10. Rathbane Golf Course

Calls for expressions of interest to manage, maintain and operate Rathbane Golf Course issued on 27 August, 2015, under the Negotiated Procurement Process. 3 step process (i) Pre-Qualification Questionnaire (ii) Invitation to Tender (iii) Negotiations with shortlisted tenders on Tender Submissions and conclusion of process.

11. Limerick Sports Partnership

- Limerick Sports Partnership (LSP) was successful in securing €123,000 Euro in Dormant Accounts Funding for Community Sports and Training & Education Initiatives.
Breakdown as follows,
 - €70,000 – to establish a Community Sports Hub in Croom (€50,000 Capital and €20,000 Education and Training)
 - €48,000 – to Deliver 3 x 14 weeks QQI Level 4 Community Coaching programmes for Job Seekers
 - €5,000 to deliver 2 Youth Leader Courses for young people 13+.

The LSP completed their Summer Camp provision in disadvantaged communities with over 1100 participants for ages 5 – 13 years.

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- The LSP secured €15,000 to participate in a Men on the Move Physical Activity Research programme with Waterford IT for 100 Men 30 to 60 Years.

12. Libraries Update

Kilmallock Library held an open invite Group Exhibition of Art during the months of July and August. Now in its 3rd consecutive year this Exhibition works to showcase and support the wealth of creative talent in and around the area. The exhibition entitled Crinniu is a coming together or gathering of works in many mediums. Crinniu 2015 saw 13 artists display works varying from ceramics to needlework, up cycled furniture, painting and sculpture. All of which sat beautifully within the Library space which by the nature of the architecture and light provides a wonderful space for the display of Artwork. An average of 700 visitors per week visited Kilmallock Library during the month of August.

13. Limerick Museum And Archives

Limerick Museum and Archives held an event to celebrate Limerick lace on 25 August as part of Heritage Week. Titled 'Bring Out Your Lace' the public were invited to bring their lace to Merchant's Quay for identification and conservation advice by lace experts and a textile conservator. Over 150 people attended and 65 pieces of lace were brought in. Many of the pieces were high quality Limerick lace while others were foreign lace, crochet or machine made lace. An online exhibition of the day, capturing the lace and the stories behind the lace, will be produced. A beginners lace class was also held during Heritage Week to support the traditional skill of Limerick lace.

Limerick Museum and Archives hosted a major lecture by Kevin Myers in St Mary's Cathedral on 26th August as part

of the Stand Up and Fight Exhibition. 320 people attended the event which focused on 1915 as a year in which Limerick suffered its worst casualties in World War 1, in Gallipoli and on the Western Front.

14. Arts

- Stony Thursday Poetry Book 2015, 340+ submissions processed, currently working with editor Mary O'Donnell on the poetry selections for book (launch in October)
- The Castleconnell Concerts Series in All Saints Church began, with musicians Stuart O'Sullivan & Péter Sebestyén on 25 August
- Provision of free Safeguarding Children Training Course aimed at freelance arts practitioners working in Limerick on 26 August Glenstal Abbey School, Murroe
- Festivals development in partnership with Limerick Marketing Company to promote September as Limerick's Culture Month with Culture Night, Elemental, Love Letters from Limerick, Pulitzer Prize-Winning Novelist Richard Ford, Limerick Jazz Festival and Limerick City Gallery of Art (LCGA).

15. Fire and Emergency Services Update

Work is progressing on the development of the iReports system for electronic incident reporting from the Council's 7 Fire Stations.

16. Freedom of Information

| Freedom of Information Requests 2015 | Freedom of Information Requests August 2015 | Ombudsman Requests 2015 | Ombudsman Requests August'15 | AIE Requests 2015 | AIE Requests August 2015 |
|--|---|-------------------------|------------------------------|-------------------|--------------------------|
| 97 Applications 5 Internal Appeals 1 Information Commissioner Appeal | 11 Applications 1 Internal Appeal. | 16 Applications. | 1 Application. | 7 Applications. | Nil. |

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Economic Development and Planning

1. Planning

- Seventy-nine (79) new planning applications were received during August 2015. Breakdown as follows; Domestic (45), Housing Developments (2); Commercial Developments (3); Industrial (2), Retail (1), Education (4), Other (22).
- The current applications include proposals for two housing developments in Clarina and Ennis Road/NCR Limerick.
- Sixty two (62) planning applications were granted including housing developments in Croom, Thomondgate and Crossagalla. Permission was also granted for Dental Surgeries in Thomas Street, Limerick and for a Bank in Castletroy.

2. Economic Development

- Limerick Footbridge Tender has been advertised in the EU Journal
- Works have commenced on the Colbert Station Plaza.

3. Local Enterprise Office

- During August 2015 **Spring/Summer Training and Development Programme** for Small Business in Limerick was completed.
 - 45 events including information seminars, networking events, training programmes, one to one advice and support for business was provided.
 - 769 people attended or availed of the services of the Local Enterprise Office (some people may have attended multiple events)
 - 359 of the attendees were Male, 410 Female
- The **Autumn/Winter Training and Development Programme** is now available and will provide
- Over 40 training and development opportunities in the period September – December 2015.

Trading Online Vouchers

The voucher is a financial incentive to small business to develop or enhance their ability to trade online. Under the scheme a qualifying business may apply for matching funding to a maximum of €2,500 or 50% of eligible expenditure. LEO Limerick has approved 40 vouchers to date in 2015. The closing date for applications is Friday 25th September 2015. However applications will open again in 2016.

4. Marketing

- In partnership with the European City of Culture 2020 bid team, Limerick Marketing has developed a number of promotional pieces to support the bid including the promotion of the 061 Festival and the placing of signage at key locations including Shannon Airport and the Ennis Road at Bunratty.
- Marketing support to the Limerick Stand at the Milwaukee Irish Fest, one of the largest attended Irish Festivals in the world.
- Limerick Marketing has commenced the process of seeking the Purple Flag for Limerick City which rewards excellence in the management and development of night time economy.
- Tender for the production and design of a Limerick Investment Brochure awarded.
- The Limerick World Club Sevens Tournament took place in Thomond Park on 21/22 August 2015.

5. Innovate Limerick

- Joint submission with Ballyhoura Development and West Limerick Resources under the Retz Programme for funding for Newcastle West and Kilmallock.

6. Travel and Transport

Parnell Street, Davis Street and Wickham Street

The Part VIII for the upgrade of Parnell Street, Davis Street and Wickham Street has been publicly advertised and submissions from the public can be made up to the 11th September 2015.

University of Limerick (UL) to City Centre Bus Corridor

A competition to appoint a Design Team was advertised and tenders were received for the design of the bus corridor from UL to the City Centre. These are currently been reviewed.

Limerick Institute of Technology and Mary Immaculate College to City Centre Cycleway

The Council's design team is currently preparing designs for cycleways from the Limerick Institute of Technology to the City Centre and also from Mary Immaculate College to the City Centre.

Pery Street/Mallow Street Junction Design

Designs are being prepared for Pery Street/Mallow Street junction. The design will provide for improved pedestrian mobility and public realm at this important junction to improve road safety.

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Holycross R512

The Council's Design Team are preparing designs to provide a right turn lane at Holycross in order to improve safety at the junction.

Non National Road Overlays

This project has been tendered and submissions are currently been reviewed. The successful company will be appointed in September. 6 to 8 weeks contract.

Patrickswell Village Renewal Scheme

A tender to appoint a Design Team for this project has been uploaded on e-tenders.

Abbeyfeale Town Centre Traffic Management Scheme

A tender to appoint a Design Team for this project has been uploaded on e-tenders.

Dock Road Enhancement Scheme

A tender to appoint a Design Team for this project has been uploaded on e-tenders.

Kings Island Flood Relief Scheme

ARUP Consulting Engineers have been appointed for planning and design stages of this scheme and preliminary design work has commenced.

Smarter Travel Park Bridge

The upgrade works to Bridge and junctions have been completed and the Bridge re-opened to traffic on Friday the 28th of August. The works included the Installation of new traffic signals, shared surface, speed reduction, traffic calming one way along the Canal to Hymeas Boreen and other upgrading works.

Smarter Travel Route 4 - Castletroy

Works are due to be completed by the end of September. The works include Installation of new table tops at junctions and traffic calming measures.

Smarter Travel Rhebogue Greenway

Works are due to be completed by the 1st week of October. The works include the Installation of new table tops at junctions, traffic calming and speed reduction measures to improve safety for cyclists and pedestrians.

Organisational Development

1. Sister Cities Limerick and New Brunswick

The University of Limerick has signed a Memorandum of Understanding between its Graduate Entry Medical School (GEMS) and one of North America's leading comprehensive medical schools, the Robert Wood Johnson Medical School, located in New Brunswick, New Jersey and part of Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey. The agreement will facilitate the exchange of undergraduate and postgraduate students studying Medicine between both institutions. It will open up opportunities for UL medical students to study overseas as part of their programme at GEMS. It is also hoped to develop research collaboration.

Initial contacts for the agreement developed from discussions between Limerick City and County Council and the City of New Brunswick as part of the ongoing twinning arrangement under the sister cities programme.

2. Schedule of Meetings

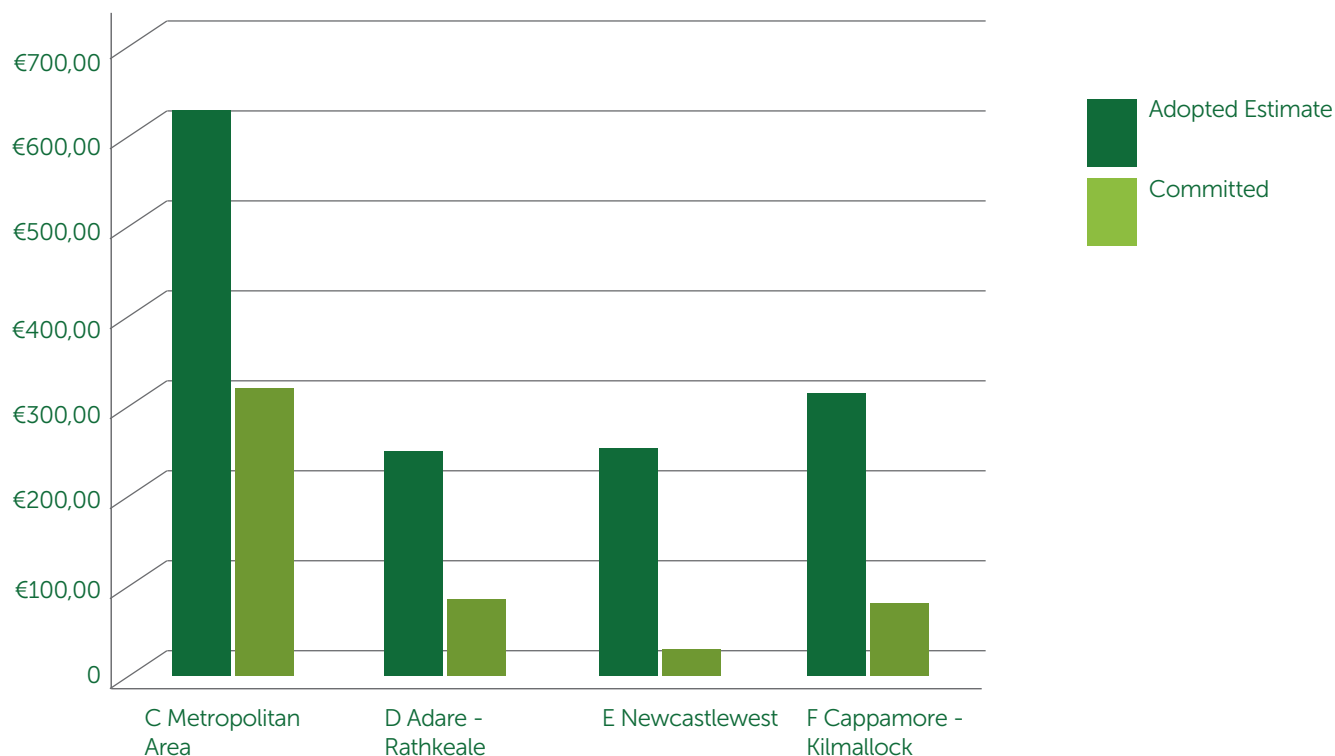
| Name of Meeting | Date | Location |
|--|------------|-----------------------|
| Special Council Meeting | 05.08.2015 | Dooradoyle |
| Local Development Strategy briefing session | 27.08.2015 | Castletroy Park Hotel |
| Municipal District of: Cappamore-Kilmallock | | |
| Report on Budget 2015 | 27.08.2015 | Kilmallock |

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1. Financial Matters

General Municipal Allocation 2015 Adopted Estimate €1.5 Million

Graph outlining adopted budget and committed expenditure up to 31st August 2015



Commercial Rates - Loans

Draft Collection Figures

| Commercial Rates 2015 | Opening Balance 1 Jan € | Accruals € | To Collect € | Receipts € | Arrears € | % |
|-----------------------|----------------------------|------------|--------------|------------|------------|----|
| As at 31st August | 24,966,926 | 51,712,509 | 76,679,435 | 38,894,892 | 37,784,543 | 51 |

| Debtor Loans | Opening Balance 1 Jan € | Accruals € | To Collect € | Receipts € | Arrears € | % |
|-------------------|----------------------------|------------|--------------|------------|------------|----|
| As at 31st August | 24,966,926 | 51,712,509 | 76,679,435 | 38,894,892 | 37,784,543 | 51 |

Recourse To Overdraft Facility

No of days in overdraft 0

Local Authority Limerick City & County Council
Capital Account Income & Expenditure Summary by Service Division
Year to Date to Quarter End 30/06/2015

| | EXPENDITURE | | | INCOME | | | TRANSFERS | | | |
|--|-------------------------|-------------------|------------|----------------------|-----------|--------------------|-------------------------|-----------------------|----------------------|-------------------------|
| | Balance at 01/01/2015 € | Expenditure YTD € | Grants € | Non-Mortgage Loans € | Other € | Total income YTD € | Transfer from Revenue € | Transfer to Revenue € | Internal Transfers € | Balance at 30/06/2015 € |
| Housing & Building | 4,660,555 | 14,083,854 | 11,160,023 | 53,459 | 361,801 | 11,575,283 | 572,310 | 67,360 | 0 | 2,656,935 |
| Road Transport & Safety | 4,154,258 | 5,191,978 | 3,742,252 | 0 | 419,936 | 4,162,187 | 6,854 | 0 | 26,370 | 3,157,693 |
| Water Services | 3,233,365 | 372,402 | 297,124 | 0 | 86,679 | 383,803 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 3,244,766 |
| Development Management | 24,625,296 | 477,871 | 47,837 | 0 | 1,975,189 | 2,023,026 | 600,000 | 750 | (26,370) | 26,743,332 |
| Environmental Services | 4,042,743 | 722,879 | 237,035 | 0 | 66,275 | 303,310 | 0 | 112,868 | 0 | 3,510,306 |
| Recreation & Amenity | 1,628,344 | 564,476 | 371,910 | 0 | 8,075 | 379,985 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1,443,854 |
| Agriculture, Education, Health & Welfare | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Miscellaneous Services | 12,032,516 | 5,008,434 | 2,353,850 | 0 | 71,476 | 2,425,326 | 414,373 | 0 | 0 | 9,863,780 |
| Total | 54,377,078 | 26,421,894 | 18,210,031 | 53,459 | 2,989,431 | 21,252,921 | 1,593,537 | 180,978 | 0 | 50,620,664 |

Local Authority Limerick City & County Council
Revenue Account Income & Expenditure Summary by Service Division
Year to Date to Quarter End 30/06/2015

| | EXPENDITURE | | | | INCOME | | | | NET |
|---|-------------------|----------------------------------|------------------------------|--------------------------|-------------------|----------------------------------|--------------------|----------------------------|--|
| | Expenditure € | Adopted Full Year Budget € | % Budget Spent to date | Budget Remaining € | Income € | Adopted Full Year Budget € | % Budget Raised | Budget outstanding € | Actual Overall Surplus / (Deficit) |
| A Housing & Building | 16,815,255 | 35,279,019 | 48% | 18,463,763 | 17,047,720 | 35,332,212 | 48% | 18,284,492 | 232,465 |
| B Road Transport & Safety | 12,523,669 | 29,876,433 | 42% | 17,352,764 | 6,410,236 | 15,177,857 | 42% | 8,767,621 | (6,113,433) |
| C Water Services | 6,528,823 | 15,812,219 | 41% | 9,283,396 | 5,734,206 | 15,420,905 | 37% | 9,686,699 | (794,617) |
| D Development Management | 6,470,144 | 11,789,066 | 55% | 5,318,922 | 2,333,538 | 3,568,433 | 65% | 1,234,895 | (4,136,605) |
| E Environmental Services | 14,168,804 | 30,112,265 | 47% | 15,943,462 | 3,572,959 | 7,903,372 | 45% | 4,330,413 | (10,595,844) |
| F Recreation & Amenity | 5,997,784 | 11,622,907 | 52% | 5,625,122 | 258,587 | 525,902 | 49% | 267,315 | (5,739,197) |
| G Agriculture, Education, Health & Welfare | 1,295,045 | 2,555,506 | 51% | 1,260,462 | 780,081 | 1,424,047 | 55% | 643,967 | (514,964) |
| H Miscellaneous Services | 10,917,913 | 18,824,694 | 58% | 7,906,781 | 2,998,596 | 6,487,058 | 46% | 3,488,462 | (7,919,317) |
| LG Local Government Fund / GPG | | | 0% | 0 | 7,069,638 | 14,139,276 | 50% | 7,069,638 | 7,069,638 |
| PL Pension Levy | | | 0% | 0 | 1,395,691 | 2,919,982 | 48% | 1,524,291 | 1,395,691 |
| RA Rates | | | 0% | 0 | 26,464,757 | 52,973,063 | 50% | 26,508,306 | 26,464,757 |
| CD County Charge | 0 | 0 | 0% | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0% | 0 | 0 |
| | 74,717,436 | 155,872,109 | 48% | 81,154,673 | 74,066,009 | 155,872,108 | 48% | 81,806,099 | (651,427) |

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