

# ANNUAL REPORT 2013













# MANAGER'S FOREWORD



**Conn Murray**  
*Limerick City & County Council  
Manager*

2013 was an ambitious year as we move towards a renewed Limerick, a unified Limerick and a Limerick with a bright future.

A once in a generation plan, Limerick 2030 has been unveiled to guide the economic, social and physical renaissance of Limerick city centre, the wider county and Mid-West region.

Limerick 2030 will allow us to work together to bring much needed investment to Limerick, to revitalise and substantially invest in the city centre and to project a positive image giving confidence to

investors, businesses and the local community. It is by design a flexible, dynamic framework capable of responding to changing circumstances and providing, perhaps for the first time, a holistic perspective on Limerick's future. And it's timely, as we move towards the full merger of Limerick City and County Councils next year.

That process is well underway and I wish to express my appreciation to the staff of both local authorities for their dedication to service throughout the change programme.



I acknowledge that it hasn't been easy. However, the services the local authorities provide to the people of Limerick continue to be delivered with less resources due to the commitment of staff in every section. Flexibility, teamwork and a public service ethos have ensured that the impacts of reduced resources have been minimised.

It's been a year of significant adjustment and will continue to be until the transition to the new single authority is realised in 2014.

With difficult fiscal times still prevailing, both local authorities remain very much focused on economic development and leading change.

An historic reduction of commercial rates in the City in 2013 will make Limerick even more competitive for business and next year a single annual rate of valuation will be realised for the first time in both the City and County. This unprecedented reduction will further help stimulate the local economy and underline our commitment to economic growth in order to generate employment and create an environment for continued prosperity.

The establishment of a new marketing company to sell Limerick as one of Ireland's top destinations for business, tourism and education to national and international audiences will play a pivotal role in the re-emerging Limerick. It aims to double the number of tourists and foreign direct investors coming here over the next five years but overall to re-brand Limerick as a welcoming, creative, vibrant and resourceful location. From here on we will have one voice marketing, packaging and selling our message smarter than ever before to make sure Limerick is to the fore when key investment decisions are being made.

After a challenging start, the overall Regeneration programme now has a practical and deliverable roadmap with the publishing of the Limerick Regeneration Framework Implementation Plan. This will provide a major boost in construction employment and having listened carefully to communities, the plan is very much evidence based raising standards of living, opportunity and health and well being for all residents of regeneration areas. Naturally, funding will be key to the project's success and I'm reassured by the Minister's establishment of a cross-departmental Programme Delivery Group which will act as a forum to ensure any hurdles to projects can be released.

The countdown continues to our reign as the first National City of Culture and I look forward to this unique opportunity for the spotlight to shine on Limerick, which has been awarded this important accolade and honour for 2014.

I believe wholeheartedly that we will achieve our goals as we embrace, lead and deliver the steps necessary towards a new model of local governance and service delivery. It is a huge honour for us all, Elected Members, staff and management to play a part in the development of a new and revitalised Limerick.

**Conn Murray**  
*Limerick City and County Council*  
Manager



# INTRODUCTION

## BY THE MAYOR AND CATHAOIRLEACH



**Cllr. Kathleen Leddin,**  
*Mayor of Limerick*



**Cllr. John Sheahan,**  
*Cathaoirleach, Limerick County Council*

We are delighted to introduce the Limerick City and County Council's Annual Report for the calendar year 2013. The details of the Councils' achievements in 2013 are set out under each Directorate's report but we would like to take this opportunity to highlight some of the many services provided by the Councils, their Departments and the Elected Members during the year.

2013 was a year marked by a number of significant and progressive developments relating to the economic development of Limerick.

The 15.8% reduction in Limerick City's commercial rates was a key moment in the ongoing process of merging Limerick City and County Councils. The reduction brought about a single Annual Rate of Valuation (ARV) in Limerick and was widely welcomed by the local business community. The commercial rates reduction in December has provided a platform on which the merged authority will continue to lead and ensures that Limerick will remain a key destination for indigenous and foreign companies, now and in the future.

The success of the Councils' continued contribution to making Limerick an attractive investment location was evidenced in 2013 by Marks and Spencers' plans to establish a major presence here, and the news that American biopharmaceuticals firm Regeneron intends developing a new facility at Raheen Business Park.

One of the highlights of 2013 was the launch of the Limerick 2030 Economic and Spatial Plan, the blueprint by which the future development of Limerick City will be guided in the coming years. The newly established Limerick Marketing Company is leading the rollout of this marketing plan.

The Strategy was complemented by the launch of the Limerick Regeneration Framework Implementation Plan which is based on a people-focused and community-led approach to





establishing well-serviced and attractive neighbourhoods that are physically connected and fully integrated with the social, economic and cultural life of Limerick.

In the area of tourism, the King John's Castle redevelopment project was completed bringing about an enhanced visitor experience to one of the Mid-West's biggest attractions. Significant progress was also made in relation to a major riverfront project in the Howley's Quay area of Limerick City. This project will provide a high quality waterside environment for public use, as well as a unique setting for the on-going revitalisation of the city centre.

Tourism is a key driver of economic growth and a vital source of income to Limerick. Consequently, the Councils supported a number of key tourism festivals and events during the year including the St. Patrick's Day International Band Parade, Fitzgerald Clan Gathering, Festival of Speed, Limerick International Fashion Design Week 2013, Riverfest, Fleadh by the Feale, Limerick Civic Trust Legends International Tag Rugby Festival, and the Abbey Fishermen Homecoming.

Cultural highlights in 2013 included the preparations for Limerick becoming Ireland's first National City of Culture in 2014. The impressive City of Culture Programme that was developed during 2013 showcases the huge and diverse cultural capacity of the City.

Limerick City and County Councils played a key role in the Gathering Ireland initiative which helped to attract thousands of additional overseas visitors to all parts of Limerick during 2013.

Limerick City and County Councils, through the Limerick Arts Office, supported a number of other arts and culture developments during 2013 including the launch of the country's first subsidised living space scheme for artists, the establishment of Dance Limerick at the former St John's Church and the opening of H-Q, a cultural hub for artists at No.9 Lower Cecil Street. Other annual community festivals and events such as the 14th annual Éigse Michael Hartnett in Newcastle West, Cuisele and the sixth annual Culture Night Limerick initiative were supported.

John's Square, now considered Limerick's Living Cultural Quarter, reopened to the public following a €1.5 million redevelopment. The scheme forms part of the Councils' strategy to further enhance and develop the steady growth in cultural infrastructure in Limerick that in turn helps to support the local cultural economy.

In the area of travel and transportation, the Limerick Smarter Travel Office continued to make significant progress in establishing Limerick as a model Smarter Travel location for all other towns around Ireland to replicate. The Public Bicycle Share Scheme for Limerick City Centre was progressed and once operational in 2014 will provide an environmentally-friendly means of public transport.





The Office also implemented a Workplace Travel Plan involving a number of large businesses and organisations, which has set a target of reducing dependency on car transportation throughout the City.

The investment in water and wastewater infrastructure continued ahead of Irish Water assuming control of Water and Sewerage infrastructure throughout the City and County in January 2014. We would like to acknowledge the contribution of staff, both past and present, of Councils' Water Services Departments for their contribution to establishing and maintaining a quality water and wastewater infrastructure network. Such work is highlighted by the fact the Kilmallock Water Supply was named 'Strategic Water Initiative of the Year' at the annual Chambers Ireland Excellence in Local Government Awards, while the Council was awarded ISO 24512:2007 certification for its management of the Kilmallock Water Treatment Plant, the first Irish recipient of the prestigious internationally-recognised quality standard for the delivery of drinking water. Despite the financial constraints faced by Local Government, the Councils maintained their core objective of providing a quality service to local communities across Limerick during 2013. The Councils continued to work closely with local community groups, organisations, residents associations and businesses throughout the City

and County in delivering positive changes for those who live in, work and visit Limerick.

The process of establishing a more age friendly community in Limerick was launched with work starting on the development of an Age Friendly Action Plan and Strategy.

The Local Authority's involvement in the Limerick Going for Gold competition again showed what can be achieved when the local authority and other regional development agencies and businesses engage and work together with community groups.

The Environment Improvement Grant Initiative provided funding to assist groups to carry out environmental work in their community. Elsewhere, the Councils provided valuable support to communities involved in the National Tidy Towns Competition, Limerick In Bloom, County Limerick Burial Grounds Awards and Pride of Place.

The Councils once again hosted the Comhairle na nÓg in the County and City which enabled young people across Limerick to put forward their opinions on a wide range of issues that affect them and their communities.

Coinciding with the amalgamation of Limerick City and County Councils, the Limerick City and Limerick County Childcare Committees were



merged to form the Limerick Childcare Committee which is aimed at ensuring that both City and County based providers have equal access to support provided by the new body.

From a sports and recreation perspective, the Limerick Sports Partnership continued its programme of community initiatives aimed at increasing participation in sport and promoting a healthy lifestyle for all of Limerick's citizens. The Councils also continued their support for the Great Limerick Run which is now one of the highlights of the sporting and social calendar in Limerick.

Our Emergency Services were extremely active in 2013 providing an invaluable public service throughout Limerick City and County. It was a particularly busy year for Limerick Civil Defence and Limerick Marine Search and Rescue who carried out their duties with great diligence and commitment. Limerick Fire & Rescue Service responded to numerous forest, bog and gorse fires during 2013 while it also hosted a Firefighters' training course at

Foynes for newly commissioned Firefighters, highlighting the high regard in which the Service is held nationally.

As Mayor and Cathaoirleach, we are pleased to confirm that the results achieved during 2013 met and exceeded the expectations at the start of the year.

The commitment of Council staff is to provide a quality service to the people of Limerick, combined with a supportive Council and continued good relations with local communities and other agencies. We are confident our 2014 work programmes under a merged local authority will help contribute to the further economic, social and cultural development of all of Limerick.

*Le meas,*

**Cllr. Kathleen Leddin**, Mayor of Limerick  
and **Cllr. John Sheahan**, Cathaoirleach,  
Limerick County Council.









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<b>Human Resources</b>	<b>55</b>	<b>Sports &amp; Culture</b>	<b>99</b>
Jimmy Feane, Director of Services, Human Resource		Kieran Lehane, Director of Services, Sport & Culture	
<b>Travel &amp; Transport</b>	<b>61</b>	<b>Economic Development &amp; Planning</b>	<b>111</b>
Paul Crowe, Director of Services, Travel & Transportation		Tom Enright, Director of Services, Economic Development & Planning	
<b>Water, Emergency &amp; Environment Services</b>	<b>69</b>	Limerick County Council Economic Development & Planning	112
Josephine Cotter-Coughlan, Director of Services, Water and Emergency Services		Limerick City Council Economic Development & Planning	117
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# LIMERICK CITY & COUNTY COUNCIL MEMBERS



**John Sheahan**  
*Cathaoirleach*



**John Egan**  
*Leas Chathaoirleach*



**Cllr. Kathleen Leddin**  
*Mayor*



**Cllr. Orla McLoughlin-McCarthy**  
*Deputy Mayor*



## MEMBERS OF LIMERICK COUNTY COUNCIL

## RATHKEALE, ELECTORAL AREA



Stephen Keary  
Clogh, Croagh,  
Co. Limerick. (FG)



David Naughton  
Ballysteen, Askeaton,  
Co. Limerick. (FG)



John Sheahan  
Ballyguilteneane, Glin,  
Co. Limerick. (FG)



Kevin Sheahan  
Cloonreask, Askeaton,  
Co. Limerick. (FF)

## CASTLECONNELL, ELECTORAL AREA



John Egan  
Abington, Murroe,  
Co. Limerick. (FG)



Noel Gleeson  
Cullenagh, Cappamore,  
Co. Limerick. (FF)



Mary Harty  
Corelish West,  
Pallasgreaun,  
Co. Limerick. (FG)



Mary Jackman  
5 Newtown, Castletroy,  
Co. Limerick. (FG)



Michael Sheahan  
'Sona Villa', Old  
Schoolhouse Road,  
Monaleen,  
Co. Limerick. (FG)



Brigid Teefy  
Ballybricken, Grange,  
Co. Limerick. (NP)



Eddie Wade  
Cahernorry, Drombanna,  
Co. Limerick. (FF)

## KILMALLOCK, ELECTORAL AREA



Mike Donegan  
21 Millmount,  
Kilmallock, Co. Limerick.  
(FF)



Mike Houlihan  
Bresheen,  
Kilmallock, Co. Limerick.  
(FF)



David Moloney  
Castle Street,  
Kilfinane, Co. Limerick.  
(LAB)



William O'Donnell  
The Waterfall, Bruff,  
Co. Limerick. (FG)



Eddie Ryan  
Castlecreagh,  
Galbally, Co. Limerick.  
(FF)





## ADARE, ELECTORAL AREA



*Rose Brennan  
14 Park Avenue,  
Adare, Co. Limerick. (FG)*



*James Collins  
Collins Bar, Dooradoyle,  
Co. Limerick. (FF)*



*Richard Butler (RIP)  
Dooradoyle Road,  
Dooradoyle, Co.  
Limerick. (FG)*



*Patrick C. Fitzgerald  
Anhid, Croom,  
Co. Limerick. (NP)*



*Leonard Enright  
Ballyanrahan,  
Patrickswell, Co.  
Limerick. (FF)*



*Tomás Hannon  
4, Dromore Rise,  
Raheen, Co. Limerick.  
(LAB)*



*Leo Walsh  
Lr Raheen, Ballyneety,  
Co. Limerick. (FG)*

## NEWCASTLE, ELECTORAL AREA



*Michael Collins  
Ballinvallig, Newcastle  
West  
Co. Limerick.  
(FF)*



*Francis Foley  
2 Foxfield, Elliswood,  
Killarney Road,  
Abbeyfeale,  
Co. Limerick. (FF)*



*Liam Galvin  
Ballaugh,  
Abbeyfeale, Co.  
Limerick.  
(FG)*



*Damien Riedy  
Crean,  
Newcastlewest,  
Co. Limerick.  
(FG)*



*Jerome Scanlan  
Ballydonnell,  
Feohanagh,  
Co. Limerick.  
(FG)*

## MEMBERS OF LIMERICK CITY COUNCIL

## ELECTORAL AREA LIMERICK CITY EAST



*Cllr. John Gilligan  
(NP)*



*Cllr. Kieran O'Hanlon  
(FF)*



*Cllr. Gerry McLoughlin  
(NP)*



*Cllr. Denis McCarthy  
(FG)*

## ELECTORAL AREA LIMERICK CITY NORTH



*Cllr. Michael Hourigan  
(FG)*



*Cllr. Cormac Hurley  
(FG)*



*Cllr. Tom Shortt  
(LAB)*



*Cllr. Kevin Kiely  
(FG)*

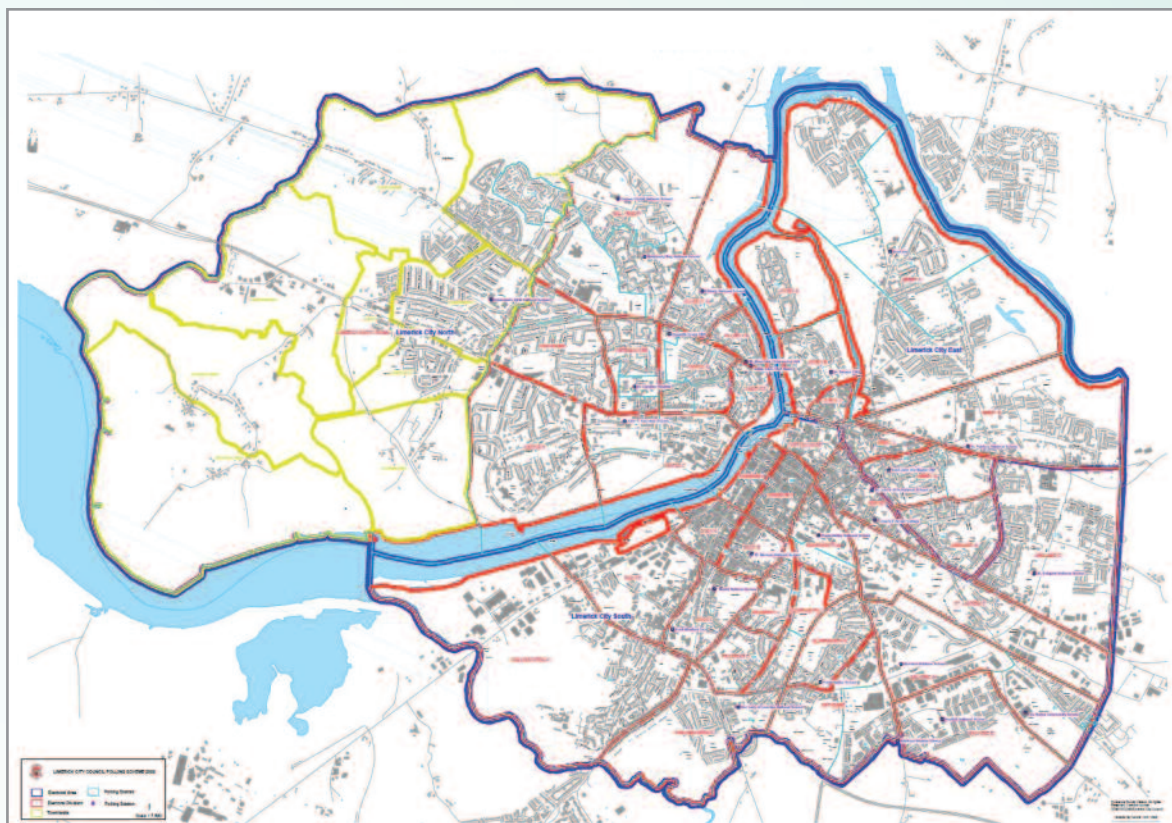


*Cllr. Maurice Quinlivan  
(SF)*



*Cllr. Kathleen Leddin  
(NP)*





## ELECTORAL AREA LIMERICK CITY SOUTH



Cllr. Joe Leddin  
(LAB)



Cllr. Maria Byrne  
(FG)



Cllr. Ger Fahy  
(FG)



Cllr. Pat Kennedy  
(NP)



Cllr. Orla  
McLoughlin-  
McCarthy  
(LAB)



Cllr. Diarmuid Scully  
(FG)



Cllr. Jim Long  
(FG)







# COUNCIL MEMBERS & MEETINGS



## LIMERICK COUNTY COUNCIL COUNCIL MEMBERS & MEETINGS

There are 28 members on the Council – 7 members in the Adare Electoral Area, 7 members in the Castleconnell Electoral Area, 5 members in the Kilmallock Electoral Area, 5 members in the Newcastle Electoral Area and 4 members in the Rathkeale Electoral Area.

Council Meetings are normally held on the fourth Monday of each month (except August when there is no meeting) in the Council Chamber at County Hall. The full Council met on 19 occasions (excluding committee meetings).

### Corporate Policy Group

The Corporate Policy Group (CPG) is a Committee of the Council consisting of the Cathaoirleach of the Council and the Chairs of each of the Strategic Policy Committees.

Membership is as follows:-

- Councillor John Sheahan, Cathaoirleach
- Councillor Stephen Keary, Chairperson of the Planning & Development SPC
- Councillor Leo Walsh, Chairperson of the Environmental SPC
- Councillor Tomás Hannon, Chairperson of the Housing SPC
- Councillor Francis Foley, Chairperson of the Social, Cultural and Community Development SPC
- Councillor Rose Brennan, Chairperson of the Transportation and Infrastructural SPC

The CPG links the work of the different SPCs, acts as a type of cabinet and provides a forum where policy positions can be agreed for submission to the full Council which will retain the decision making authority. The CPG also monitors the performance of the local authority and plays a key role in preparing the budget. The CPG met on 5 occasions.

### Committees of the Council

#### Strategic Policy Committees

Title	No. of Members	No. of Meeting
Housing	18	3
Transportation and Infrastructural	18	4
Planning and Development	18	6
Social, Cultural and Community Development	15	3
Environmental	15	4

#### Electoral Area Committees

Title	No. of Members	No. of Meeting
Adare Area	7	12
Castleconnell Area	7	11
Kilmallock Area	5	11
Newcastle Area	5	12
Rathkeale Area	4	18

#### Other Committees

Title	No. of Members	No. of Meeting
Traveller Accommodation Consultative Committee	12	2
Rural Water Committee	11	1
Audit Committee	5	3*
* A Joint Workshop was also held with the Limerick City Council Audit Committee		
Joint Policing Committee	27	3



## Strategic Policy Committees

Each Strategic Policy Committee comprises of elected Councillors and Sectoral Representatives, working together in a more participative form of democracy, thereby providing a more effective policy focus on the functions and activities carried out by Limerick County Council. Each SPC is supported in its work by a Director of Services. While each SPC formulates and develops policy, the final decisions will rest ultimately with the full Council.

### Planning & Development SPC

#### Members:

Councillor Liam Galvin  
Councillor Stephen Keary (Chairperson)  
Councillor Mary Jackman.  
Councillor Mary Harty.  
Councillor Jerome Scanlan.  
Councillor John Sheahan.  
Councillor Damien Riedy  
Councillor Patrick C. Fitzgerald.  
Councillor Michael Collins.  
Councillor Eddie Wade.  
Councillor Noel Gleeson.  
Councillor Kevin Sheahan.

#### Sectoral Representatives

- **Agriculture/Farming:**  
Mr. Gerald Quain
- **Development/Construction & Business/Commercial:**  
Mr. Tony O'Shea
- **Environment:**  
Patti O'Neill
- **Community & Voluntary, including Conservation, Culture and Disadvantaged:**  
Ms. Ann Gill  
Mr. Charles Richardson  
Mr. Seamus Hunt

Six meetings of the Planning & Development Strategic Policy Committee (SPC) took place during 2013.

Issues discussed included:

- Designation of Clár areas;
- Impact of European designation on agriculture;
- Draft Strategic Integrated Framework Plan for the Shannon Estuary (2013 – 2020);

- Mapping of the curtilage of protected structures;
- Planning Decisions overturned by an Bord Pleanála;
- Development Contribution Scheme Review;
- Economic and Spatial Plan for County Limerick;
- Local Community Development Committee;
- Wind farm locations in Limerick.

### Environment & Emergency Services

#### Strategic Policy Committee

#### Members

Councillor Mary Jackman.  
Councillor Leo Walsh (Chairperson)  
Councillor Richard Butler (RIP)  
Councillor Mary Harty.  
Councillor Stephen Keary.  
Councillor John Egan.  
Councillor David Moloney  
Councillor James Collins.  
Councillor Michael Collins.  
Councillor Mike Donegan.

#### Sectoral Representatives

- **Agriculture/Farming:**  
Mr. Eddie Scanlon
- **Development/Construction & Business/Commercial:**  
Mr. Liam Garvey,
- **Environment:**  
Mr. Patsy Peril
- **Community & Voluntary/ including Conservation, Culture and Disadvantaged:**  
Ms. Marie Wright  
Mr. Mick McGrath

4 meetings of the County Council's Environment & Emergency Services SPC were held in 2013 including a joint meeting with the City SPC. Policy making, reports and strategies in relation to the following matters were discussed:

- Litter Management / Tidy Towns / Environment Grants & Supports.
- Grass Cutting in Housing Estates.
- Signage in County Limerick.
- Regional Waste Management Planning.
- Registration / Inspection of Domestic Waste Water Treatment Systems.
- Household Food Waste & Bio-Waste Regulations.
- Smarter Travel – Bike Rental Scheme.
- Fire Risks - "Keeping Communities Safe".
- Control of Horses.

- Draft Tree Strategy
- I.A.S.C. Group – Lough Gur.

## Housing SPC

### Members

Councillor Tomás Hannon (Chairperson)  
 Councillor Rose Brennan.  
 Councillor Richard Butler (RIP)  
 Councillor William O'Donnell.  
 Councillor Mike Houlihan.  
 Councillor David Naughton.  
 Councillor John Sheahan.  
 Councillor Brigid Teefy.  
 Councillor Eddie Wade.  
 Councillor James Collins.  
 Councillor Francis Foley.  
 Councillor Eddie Ryan.

### Sectoral Representatives Development/Construction & Business/Commercial:

Mr.Liam McArdle

### Trade Union:

Mr. Mike McNamara

### Community & Voluntary, including Conservation, Culture and Disadvantaged:

Ms. Alice McAuliffe  
 Mr. Jeremiah O'Connor  
 Ms. Ann Gill  
 Mr. Seamus Hunt

A number of Joint Limerick City and County Council Strategic Policy meetings took place. The Director of Service provided reports, reviews were completed and discussions took place on the following issues;

- Preparation and adoption of a joint Traveller Accommodation Plan
- Preparation and adoption of a Regional Homeless Action Plan
- Office of Regeneration framework implementation plan
- Presentation on the Housing Assistance Payment (HAP)
- Presentation on the Energy Efficiency and SEAI Programmes

The following recommendations were approved by Limerick City and County Council:-

- That a Joint Traveller Plan be prepared for adoption by Limerick City and County Council.
- To adopt the Mid West Regional Homelessness Action Plan 2013-2018.
- Limerick City and County Council write to Minister Jan O'Sullivan in the context of pending legislation for the Housing Assistance Payments stating the importance of local authorities role in relation to dealing with anti-social behaviour.
- Limerick City and County Council write to the Department of Finance to furnish the exact details of the recent Home Improvement Scheme. Clarification must be sought in relation to exact works involved under the scheme and if any further initiative in relation to environmental works are available under this scheme.

## Social, Cultural and Community Development SPC

### Members

Councillor Kevin Sheahan  
 Councillor Michael Sheahan.  
 Councillor Leo Walsh.  
 Councillor William O'Donnell.  
 Councillor John Egan.  
 Councillor David Naughton.  
 Councillor David Moloney.  
 Councillor Patrick C. Fitzgerald.  
 Councillor Francis Foley.(Chairperson)  
 Councillor Leonard Enright.

### Sectoral Representatives

- **Agriculture/Farming:**  
 John Walsh
- **Development/Construction &  
 Business/Commercial:**  
 John Quinn
- **Community and Voluntary, including  
 Conservation, Culture and Disadvantaged:**  
 Mr. Brian Ruttle  
 Mr. Seamus Ryan  
 Ms. Joan Hayes



There were 3 meetings of the Social, Cultural & Community Development SPC in 2013.

Among the items discussed were the Gathering, Limerick City of Culture, a Draft Public Library Strategy 2013-2017 and the Mount Saint Lawrence Digitisation Project.

## Transportation and Infrastructural SPC

### Members

Councillor Mike Houlihan  
Councillor Rose Brennan. (Chairperson)  
Councillor Liam Galvin.  
Councillor Michael Sheahan.  
Councillor Jerome Scanlan.  
Councillor Damien Riedy.  
Councillor Tomás Hannon.  
Councillor Brigid Teefy.  
Councillor Leonard Enright.  
Councillor Mike Donegan.  
Councillor Eddie Ryan.  
Councillor Noel Gleeson.

### Sectoral Representatives

- **Agriculture/Farming:**  
Mr. Aidan Gleeson
- **Development/Construction & Business/Commercial:**  
Mr. Seán Murtagh
- **Trade Union:**  
Mr. Mark Quinn
- **Environment:**  
Mr. John Dawson
- **Community & Voluntary, including Conservation, Culture and Disadvantaged:**  
Ms. Marian Harnett.  
Mr. John Mortell

## Transportation & Infrastructural S.P.C.

The Council's Transportation & Infrastructural Committee met on four occasions in 2013, including the first Joint meeting between the City & County SPC members. Items discussed by the Committee include:

- Progress on Smarter Travel Programme in the City & Environs
- Progress on Establishment of Irish Water
- Winter Maintenance Programme

## Representation on Other Bodies

### Association of County and City Councils

(formerly General Council of County Councils)  
Cllr. Brigid Teefy  
Cllr. Michael Sheahan  
Cllr. Jerome Scanlan

### County Limerick Vocational Education Committee

Cllr. Eddie Wade.  
Cllr. Eddie Ryan.  
Cllr. Mary Jackman.  
Cllr. Rose Brennan.  
Cllr. Liam Galvin.  
Cllr. Mike Houlihan.  
Cllr. Michael Sheahan.  
Cllr. Damien Riedy.  
Cllr. David Moloney.

### Mid-West Regional Authority

Cllr. Mike Donegan.  
Cllr. Noel Gleeson.  
Cllr. John Egan.  
Cllr. Leo Walsh.  
Cllr. William O'Donnell.  
Cllr. Stephen Keary.  
Cllr. Richard Butler (RIP)

- Operational Committee of Mid-West Regional Authority  
Cllr. John Sheahan, Cathaoirleach  
Cllr. John Egan.

### Southern and Eastern Regional Assembly

Cllr. Leo Walsh.  
Cllr. Stephen Keary.

**Limerick Market Trustees**

Cllr. John Sheahan, Cathaoirleach  
 Cllr. Mary Jackman.  
 Cllr. Michael Sheahan.  
 Cllr. Leo Walsh.  
 Cllr. William O'Donnell.  
 Cllr. Tomás Hannon.  
 Cllr. John Egan.  
 Cllr. James Collins.  
 Cllr. Eddie Wade.

- Management Committee of Limerick Market Trustees  
 Cllr. Mary Jackman.  
 Cllr. Michael Sheahan.

**Shannon Foynes Port Compnay**

Cllr. David Naughton.

**Library Association of Ireland**

Cllr. Michael Sheahan.

**Irish Public Bodies Mutual Insurances:**

Cllr. William O'Donnell

**Local Authority Members' Association**

Cllr. Mary Jackman.

**National University of Ireland, Cork – Governing Authority**

Cllr. Mary Jackman.

**University of Limerick - Governing Authority**

Cllr. John Sheahan, Cathaoirleach

- Advisory Committee, Graduate Medical School, University of Limerick  
 Cllr. John Sheahan, Cathaoirleach

**Adare Heritage Trust Ltd.**

Cllr. John Sheahan, Cathaoirleach

**Limerick County Enterprise Board**

Cllr. Michael Collins.  
 Cllr. Mary Harty.  
 Cllr. David Naughton.  
 Cllr. Jerome Scanlan.

**West Limerick Resources Limited**

Cllr. Francis Foley.  
 Cllr. John Sheahan.  
 Cllr. Damien Riedy.  
 Cllr. Stephen Keary.

**Ballyhoura Development Limited**

Cllr. William O'Donnell.  
 Cllr. Michael Sheahan.

**RCCN (Rural Community Care Network)**

Cllr. Jerome Scanlan.  
 Cllr. Stephen Keary.

**Hunt Museums Trust**

Cllr. Mary Jackman.

**Regional Health Forum West**

Cllr. Kevin Sheahan.  
 Cllr. Rose Brennan.  
 Cllr. Richard Butler (RIP)  
 Cllr. Damien Riedy.

**Special Purpose Enterprise Company**

Cllr. John Sheahan, Cathaoirleach  
 Cllr. Mary Harty  
 Cllr. Jerome Scanlan

**Interagency Forum for Rathkeale Town**

Cllr. David Naughton.  
 Cllr. Stephen Keary.

**RAPID Action Implementation Team for Rathkeale**

Cllr. Stephen Keary.

**Limerick/Ballybrophy Rail Link Partnership Group:**

Cllr. Mary Jackman.  
 Cllr. Michael Sheahan.

**County Rural Water Monitoring Committee**

Cllr. Eddie Ryan.  
 Cllr. William O'Donnell.  
 Cllr. Mary Harty.

**Audit Committee:**

Cllr. Jerome Scanlan.  
 Cllr. David Naughton.



**Joint Policing Committee:**

Cllr. John Sheahan, Cathaoirleach  
(ex-officio member).

Cllr. Kevin Sheahan.

Cllr. James Collins.

Cllr. Francis Foley.

Cllr. Mike Donegan.

Cllr. Patrick C. Fitzgerald.

Cllr. Leo Walsh.

Cllr. Mary Jackman.

Cllr. John Egan.

Cllr. Liam Galvin.

Cllr. David Naughton

Cllr. Mary Harty.

Cllr. Stephen Keary.

Cllr. Damien Riedy.

Cllr. Tomás Hannon.

**Local Traveller Accommodation  
Consultative Committee**

Cllr. Mary Jackman.

Cllr. David Naughton.

Cllr. Tomás Hannon.

Cllr. Francis Foley.

Cllr. Patrick C. Fitzgerald.

**County Development Board**

Cllr. John Sheahan, Cathaoirleach

Cllr. Stephen Keary

Cllr. Leo Walsh

Cllr. Tomás Hannon

Cllr. Francis Foley

Cllr. Rose Brennan

**Social Inclusion Measures Group of County  
Development Board**

Cllr. Mary Jackman.

## LIMERICK CITY COUNCIL COUNCIL MEMBERS & MEETINGS

There are 17 members on the Council – 6 members in the Limerick City North Electoral Area, 4 members in the Limerick City East Electoral Area, and 7 members in the Limerick City South Electoral Area. Council Meetings are normally held on the fourth Monday of each month (except July and August when there are no meetings) in the Council Chamber at City Hall. The full Council met on 11 occasions (excluding committee meetings).

### Corporate Policy Group

The Corporate Policy Group (CPG) is a Committee of the Council consisting of the Mayor and the five Chairs of the Strategic Policy Committees.

Membership is as follows :

- Cllr. Kathleen Leddin, Mayor;
- Cllr. Ger Fahy, Chairman, Transportation and Infrastructure Strategic Policy Committee;
- Cllr. Diarmuid Scully, Chairman, Economic Policy Development and Future Planning Strategic Policy Committee;
- Cllr. Michael Hourigan, Chairman, Cultural and Sporting Strategic Policy Committee;
- Cllr. Tom Shortt, Chairman, Social Policy and Housing Strategic Policy Committee;
- Cllr. John Gilligan, Chairman, Environmental Strategic Policy Committee;

The CPG links the work of the different SPCs, acts as a type of cabinet and provides a forum where policy positions can be agreed for submission to the full Council which retains the decision making authority. The CPG also monitors the performance of the local authority and plays a key role in preparing the budget. The CPG met on 10 occasions.

### Number of Meetings held:

Monthly Council Meetings/ Annual Meeting	11
Special Meetings	2
Protocol Meetings	1
Transportation & Infrastructure SPC Meetings	4
Social Policy & Housing SPC Meetings	4
Cultural & Sporting SPC Meetings	2
Economic Policy Dev. & Future Planning SPC Meetings	2
Environmental SPC Meetings	3
Area Meetings	4
Joint Policing Meetings	1



## Limerick City Council Strategic Policy Committee

### Environmental SPC

#### Elected Members

- Cllr. John Gilligan, Chairman
- Cllr. Maurice Quinlivan
- Cllr. Cormac Hurley
- Cllr. Kathleen Leddin
- Cllr. Jim Long
- Cllr. Orla McLoughlin
- Cllr. Kieran O'Hanlon
- Cllr. Gerry McLoughlin

#### Sectoral Interests

- **Business / Commercial / Development**  
Ms. Catherine O'Farrell
- **Environment / Conservation / Culture**  
Mr. Sean Griffin
- **Community / Voluntary / Disadvantaged / Trade Union**  
Mr. Cathal McCarthy
- **Education Sector**  
Dr. Colin Fitzpatrick

4 Meetings of the City Council's Environment & Emergency Services SPC were held In 2013 including a joint meeting with the County Council's SPC.

Policy making, reports and strategies In relation to the following matters were discussed:

- Litter Management / Tidy Towns / Environment Grants & Supports.
- Grass Cutting in Housing Estates.
- Signage in County Limerick.
- Regional Waste Management Planning.
- Registration / Inspection of Domestic Waste Water Treatment Systems.
- Household Food Waste & Bio-Waste Regulations.
- Smarter Travel – Bike Rental Scheme.
- Fire Risks - "Keeping Communities Safe".
- Control of Horses.
- Draft Tree Strategy
- I.A.S.C. Group – Lough Gur.

## Social Policy And Housing SPC

#### Elected Members

- Cllr. Tom Shortt
- Cllr. Joe Leddin
- Cllr. Ger Fahy
- Cllr. John Gilligan
- Cllr. Pat Kennedy
- Cllr. Denis McCarthy
- Cllr. Maurice Quinlivan

#### Sectoral Interests

- **Urban Planning / Architecture / Engineering**  
Mr. Michael Landers
- **Education Sector**  
Professor Des McCafferty
- **Community / Voluntary / Disadvantaged / Trade Union**  
Mr. Jim Prior  
Mr. Michael McNamara

A number of Joint Limerick City and County Council Strategic Policy meetings took place. The Director of Service provided reports, reviews were completed and discussions took place on the following issues;

- Preparation and Adoption of a Joint Traveller Accommodation Plan
- Preparation and Adoption of a Regional Homeless Action Plan
- Office of Regeneration Framework Implementation Plan
- Presentation on The Housing Assistance Payment (Hap)
- Presentation on the Energy Efficiency and Seai Programmes

The following recommendations were approved by Limerick City and County Council

- That a joint Traveller Plan be prepared for adoption by Limerick City and County Council.
- To adopt the Mid West Regional Homelessness Action Plan 2013-2018
- Limerick City and County Council write to minister Jan O'Sullivan in the context of pending legislation for the Housing Assistance Payments stating the importance of local authorities role in relation to dealing with anti-social behaviour.
- Limerick City and County Council write to the Department of Finance of furnish the exact details of the recent Home Improvement

Scheme. Clarity must be sought in relation to exact works involved under the scheme and if any further initiative in relation to environmental works is available under this scheme.

## Culture And Sporting SPC

### Elected Members

- Cllr. Michael Hourigan
- Cllr. Kevin Kiely
- Cllr. Cormac Hurley
- Cllr. Kathleen Leddin
- Cllr. Denis McCarthy
- Cllr. Tom Shortt

### Sectoral Interests

- **Environmental / Conservation / Culture**  
Ms. Elaine Barry  
Ms. Joanne Beirne
- **Community / Voluntary / Disadvantaged / Trade Union**  
Ms. Jennifer O'Brien  
Ms. Jennifer Moroney Ward

There were 3 meetings of the Social, Cultural & Community Development SPC in 2013. Among the items discussed were the Gathering, Limerick City of Culture, a Draft Public Library Strategy 2013-2017 and the Mount Saint Lawrence Digitisation Project.

## Economic Policy Development And Future Planning SPC

### Elected Members

- Cllr. Diarmuid Scully
- Cllr. Kevin Kiely
- Cllr. Maria Byrne
- Cllr. Michael Hourigan
- Cllr. Jim Long
- Cllr. Gerry McLoughlin

### Sectoral Interests

- **Business / Commercial Development**  
Mr. Tony Connolly  
Mr. John McNerney
- **Environment / Conservation / Culture**  
Mr. Mike Fitzpatrick
- **Urban Planning / Architecture / Engineering**  
Mr. Richard Rice

- **Education Sector**  
Ms. Marian Duggan

The Committee met twice in 2013. Presentations and discussions took place on a range of issues including:

- Limerick Economic And Spatial Plan - Limerick 2030
- Development Contribution Scheme
- Limerick And Clare Joint Sports And Physical Recreation Strategy.
- Old Royal Cinema
- Strategic Integrated Framework Plan For The Shannon Estuary 2013-2020
- Development Of The Site Formally Known As The Opera Centre
- Events And Festivals
- Derelict Sites

## Transportation & Infrastructure SPC

### Elected Members

- Cllr. Ger Fahy
- Cllr. Maria Byrne
- Cllr. Pat Kennedy
- Cllr. Joe Leddin
- Cllr. Orla McLoughlin
- Cllr. Kieran O'Hanlon
- Cllr. Diarmuid Scully

### Sectoral Interests

- **Business / Commercial / Development**  
Mr. Tony Brazil
- **Environment / Conservation / Culture**  
Mr. James Nix
- **Urban Planning / Architecture / Engineering**  
Ms. Maria Kyne
- **Education Sector**  
Professor Merritt Bucholz

The Council's Transportation & Infrastructural Committee met on four occasions in 2013, including the first Joint meeting between the City & County SPC members. Items discussed by the Committee include:

- Progress On Smarter Travel Programme In The City & Environs
- Progress On Establishment Of Irish Water
- Winter Maintenance Programme



## Representation on Other Bodies

### Association Of Municipal Authorities Of Ireland

Cllr. Maurice Quinlivan  
Cllr. Denis McCarthy

### Association Of City And County Councils

Cllr. Kieran O'Hanlon  
Cllr. Denis McCarthy  
Cllr. Michael Hourigan

### Local Authority Members Association

Cllr. Pat Kennedy

### Mid West Regional Authority

Cllr. J. Leddin, Chairman  
Cllr. Kathleen Leddin  
Cllr. Denis McCarthy  
Cllr. Michael Hourigan  
Cllr. Diarmuid Scully  
Cllr. Ger Fahy

### Southern And Eastern Regional Assembly

Cllr. Denis McCarthy

### Regional Health Forum West

Cllr. Joe Leddin  
Cllr. Michael Hourigan  
Cllr. Ger Fahy

### Board Of Governors Of St. John's Hospital

Cllr. Kathleen Leddin (Ex Officio)  
Cllr. Jim Long  
Cllr. John Gilligan  
Cllr. Kieran O'Hanlon  
Cllr. Denis McCarthy

### Board Of Paul Partnership

Cllr. Denis McCarthy  
Cllr. Gerry McLoughlin  
Cllr. Maurice Quinlivan

### Membership Of The Hunt Museum Company

Cllr. Kathleen Leddin

### Hunt Museum Trust

Cllr. Cormac Hurley

### Management Committee Of The Market Trustees

Cllr. Tom Shortt  
Cllr. Diarmuid Scully

### Board Of The Limerick Market Trustees

Cllr. Kathleen Leddin (Ex Officio)  
Cllr. John Gilligan  
Cllr. Kieran O'Hanlon  
Cllr. Tom Shortt  
Cllr. Maria Byrne  
Cllr. Diarmuid Scully  
Cllr. Ger Fahy  
Cllr. Michael Hourigan  
Cllr. Maurice Quinlivan

### Board Of Governors Of St. John's Hospital

Cllr. Kathleen Leddin (Ex Officio)  
Cllr. John Gilligan  
Cllr. Kieran O'Hanlon  
Cllr. Jim Long  
Cllr. Denis McCarthy

### Limerick City Sports Partnership

Cllr. Maria Byrne

### Joint Policing Committee

Cllr. Michael Hourigan (Chairman)  
Cllr. Cormac Hurley  
Cllr. Denis McCarthy  
Cllr. Ger Fahy  
Cllr. Maria Byrne  
Cllr. Diarmuid Scully  
Cllr. Orla McLoughlin  
Cllr. Tom Shortt (Resigned 11th November, 2013)  
Cllr. Gerry McLoughlin  
Cllr. Maurice Quinlivan  
Cllr. Kieran O'Hanlon  
Cllr. Kathleen Leddin  
Cllr. John Gilligan

### Vocational Education Committee

Cllr. Orla McLoughlin  
Cllr. Joe Leddin  
Cllr. John Gilligan  
Cllr. Denis McCarthy  
Cllr. Maria Byrne  
Cllr. Jim Long  
Cllr. Cormac Hurley  
Cllr. Michael Hourigan  
Cllr. Kieran O'Hanlon

### Irish Public Bodies Mutual Insurances Limited

Cllr. Ger Fahy

### Board Of Management Of St. Enda's Sports Complex

Cllr. Ger Fahy  
Cllr. Orla McLoughlin  
Cllr. Pat Kennedy

**Board Of Directors Of The Belltable Arts Centre**

Cllr. Tom Shortt

**Limerick Civic Trust**

Cllr. Michael Hourigan

**Limerick City Enterprise Board**

Cllr. Gerry McLoughlin

Cllr. Maria Byrne

Cllr. Diarmuid Scully

Cllr. Kathleen Leddin

**Eu Operational Committee**

Cllr. Kathleen Leddin, Mayor

Cllr. John Gilligan

**Audit Committee**

Cllr. Kathleen Leddin (Current Mayor)

Mr. John Quinn, former Mayor

and retired Councillor

Mr. Tom Kirby, Former Director Mid West

Regional Authority

Ms. Deirdre Frawley, Limerick City Vec

Mr. Tom Kennedy, Lecturer, University of Limerick

**Board Of Directors Of Moyross****Community Enterprise Centre Ltd**

Cllr. Kevin Kiely

**Board Of Management Of St. Munchin's****Community Development Company Limited**

Cllr. Kevin Kiely

**Local Traveller Accommodation****Consultative Committee**

Cllr. Gerry McLoughlin (Chairman)

Cllr. Joe Leddin

Cllr. Jim Long

Cllr. Ger Fahy

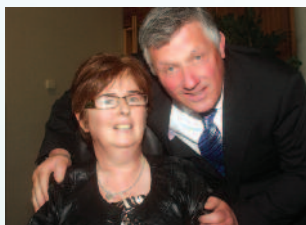
Cllr. Maurice Quinlivan

**Health Service Executive**

Cllr. Michael Hourigan, Vice Chairman



# EVENTS & HIGHLIGHTS OF 2013





## EVENTS &amp; HIGHLIGHTS OF 2013

**International Band Championship**

Mayor Gerry McLoughlin congratulates winning participants in the 2013 Limerick International Band Championship. More than 30,000 people gathered on the streets of the city for one of the highlights of the St Patrick's Festival which saw musicians from all over Ireland, Europe and the USA join Limerick's finest marching bands.







## St. Patrick's Day

The 2013 Limerick St Patrick's Festival turned the Treaty City green with a huge display of St Patrick's to celebrate the Year of the Gathering. Street theatre company Macnas entertained the estimated 70,000 crowd who also enjoyed exciting floats, dancers and musicians at Ireland's largest regional parade.

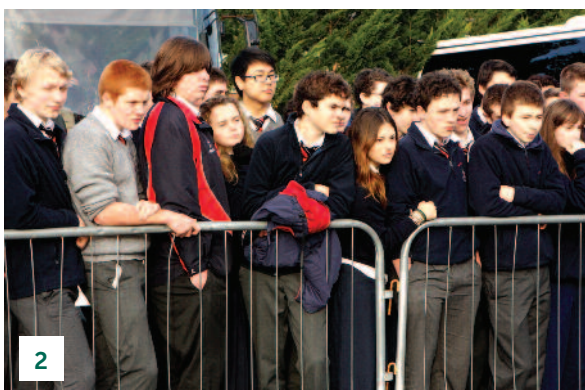




## EVENTS &amp; HIGHLIGHTS OF 2013



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## Life Saver Project

- 1 John Ryan, Station Officer, Rathkeale, actress, Lynn Daly, Dooradoyle and Keith Mullane, Advanced Paramedic, taking part in the crash scene scenario during the Life Saver Project in the South Court Hotel
- 2 Students watching the crash scene scenario during the Life Saver Project in the South Court Hotel

- 3 Garda Pat Kirwan, Forensic Collision Investigator, Garda Tony Miniter, Garda Traffic Corps, Chief Superintendent, Dave Sheehan, Superintendent Dan Keane, Pat Mooney, Senior Manager, National Ambulance Service, Mid-West Region, Keith Mullane, Advanced Paramedic, Rory McDermott, Road Safety Officer, Limerick City Council and Karen Butler, Road Safety Officer, Limerick County Council, at the Life Saver Project in the South Court Hotel

Pictures by Dave Gaynor





## Health in Sports

- 1 Part of the huge crowd taking part in Operation Transformation in Castletroy
- 2 Mark Fleming, CEO Fleming Medical, presented a Defibrillator to Jason and Jamie Harty, Rathkeale Boxing Club, who were the overall winners of the Fleming Medical Performance in Sport Award event 2013. Also in the picture are; Teresa McHugh, operations manager, Fleming Medical and Rob Williams, coach with Rathkeale Boxing Club.

- 3 Adrian O'Sullivan, Equipment Sales Coordinator, Fleming Medical, presented the Performance in Sport award for May to Louise Masterson, coach of the Limerick Gymnastics Club, in the presence of Elaine O'Connor, coordinator of Limerick City Sports Partnership, Phelim Macken, coordinator of Limerick County Sports Partnership and Ellen Larkin and Deirbhile Kiely, Limerick Gymnastics Club
- 4 Former Munster and Irish International rugby legend Jerry Flannery launched the Kids Run For Fun by facilitating a training session for students at Milford National School, Castletroy

Pictures by Dave Gaynor



## EVENTS &amp; HIGHLIGHTS OF 2013



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## Celebrating Africa

- 1 Mahlet and Blen Alemayheu, Caleb Samuel and Azeb Dsehy, Dock Road, at the Africa Day, Family Celebration in City Hall
- 2 Mayor Gerry McLoughlin, with, Sherifat and Farodq Muniru, Castletroy, Omolcara and Faida Opowu, Castletroy, Sidiqat Odufuwa, Steamboat Quay and Binta Adejomehin, Mulgrave Street, at the Africa Day, Family Celebration in City Hall
- 3 Children playing African drums at the Africa Day, Family Celebration in City Hall
- 4 Laurent Mpenda, Maurice Kikangala, Pauline Kamau and Odyke Nzewi, performing at African Stories and Song event in the Hunt Museum
- 5 Mayor Gerry McLoughlin with the performers at the African Stories and Song event in the Hunt Museum. From left; Etienne Curron, Laurent Mpenda, Florence Ajibade, Pauline Kamau, Maurice Kikangala and Odyke Nzewi

Pictures by Dave Gaynor





## Mayoral Receptions

- 1 Mayor Kathleen Leddin, Gerard Duffy, President of Richmond RFC (seated), Cllr John Sheahan, Cathaoirleach of Limerick County Council, Cllr Kieran O'Hanlon and members of Richmond RFC at the mayoral reception in Limerick City Hall to honour Limerick FC, the Irish Women's Rugby Team and Richmond RFC
- 2 Mayor Kathleen Leddin, Pat O'Sullivan, chairman of Limerick FC (seated centre), Cllr John Sheahan, Cathaoirleach of Limerick County Council, and Limerick FC players, management and supporters at the mayoral reception in Limerick City Hall to honour Limerick FC, the Irish Women's Rugby Team and Richmond RFC
- 3 Mayor Kathleen Leddin, Joy Neville, Irene Flanagan, (seated), Fiona Hayes and Gillian Burke, Irish Women's Rugby Team, and Cllr John Sheahan, Cathaoirleach of Limerick County Council at the mayoral reception in Limerick City Hall to honour Limerick FC, the Irish Women's Rugby Team and Richmond RFC



- 4 Mayor Kathleen Leddin with 3rd year students from Castletroy College during their visit to City Hall

Pictures by Dave Gaynor

## EVENTS &amp; HIGHLIGHTS OF 2013

**River Road Book Launch**

- 1 Paul O'Kelly, Cllr Maurice Quinlivan, Kate Taylor, Fiona Reilly, Nora Bermingham, Mayor Kathleen Leddin, Dr Par Wallace, Graham Hull, Ronan Swan, Cllr Mary Jackman and Frank Coyne at the launch of the book, *River Road in King John's Castle*
- 2 Fiona Reilly, Dublin, Artist Padraic O'Hoara and Donie Gould, Kilmallock, at the launch of the book, *River Road in King John's Castle*
- 3 Limerick man Dr Pat Wallace former Director of the National Museum, who launched the book *River Road, The Archaeology of the Limerick Southern Ring Road*, at King John's Castle, looking through the book with Mayor Kathleen Leddin

Pictures by Dave Gaynor







## Book of Condolences for Nelson Mandela

- 1 Mayor Kathleen Leddin signing the book of condolence in memory of the former South African President, Nelson Mandela R.I.P. at Limerick City Hall, in the presence of, from left; Winterrose Mahaye, Singobile Makhanya and Precious Jenga, ANC Ireland, and Cllr Maurice Quinlivan
- 2 Cllr John Sheahan, Cathaoirleach of Limerick County Council, signing the book of condolence in memory of the former South African President, Nelson Mandela R.I.P. at the Limerick County Hall, Dooradoyle, in the presence of Precious Jenga, ANC Ireland

Pictures by Dave Gaynor



## Book of Condolences for Garda Detective Adrian Donohue

- 1 Jerome Scanlan, Cathaoirleach of Limerick County, signing the book of condolences for the family and colleagues of Detective Garda Adrian Donohue at the County Hall, Dooradoyle, in the presence of Eugene Griffin, secretary of Limerick County Council

Pictures by Dave Gaynor

## EVENTS &amp; HIGHLIGHTS OF 2013



## Cathaoirleach Receptions

- 1 At a Cathaoirleach Reception in Limerick County Hall to honour the achievements of the County Teams, were, from left, Seamus Hickey, Captain of the Limerick Senior Hurling Team, Cllr John Sheahan, Cathaoirleach of Limerick County Council, Michelle Casey, Captain of the Limerick Senior Camogie Team, Richard English, Captain of the Limerick Minor Hurling Team and Mayor Kathleen Leddin
- 2 Cllr John Sheahan, Cathaoirleach of Limerick County Council presenting a scroll to Seamus Hickey, captain of the Limerick Senior Hurling Team at a Cathaoirleach Reception in Limerick County Hall.
- 3 Cllr John Sheahan, Cathaoirleach of Limerick County Council presenting a scroll to Michelle Casey, captain of the Limerick Senior Camogie Team at a Cathaoirleach Reception in Limerick County Hall.
- 4 Cllr John Sheahan, Cathaoirleach of Limerick County Council presenting a scroll to Richard English, captain of the Limerick Minor Hurling Team at a Cathaoirleach Reception in Limerick County Hall.

Pictures by Dave Gaynor





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## Foynes Fire Fighter Recruits

- 1 Fire fighter recruits from Limerick, Laoise, Cavan and Waterford, tackling a blazing fire before their passing out parade, after completing a Fire Fighters Basic Recruitment Course and Manual Handling Course at Foynes Fire Station, County Limerick
- 2 Limerick fire fighter recruits who received certificates after completing a Basic Fire Fighter Course and Manual Handling Course at Foynes Fire Station, are, front row Ger O'Donoghue, Limerick City Fire Service, Tony Dowling, Kilmallock Fire Station, Chris McMahon and Brian Sheehy, Cappamore Fire Station and Shawn Browne, Newcastle West Fire Station, Back row, Owen Madigan ( third left) Newcastle West Fire Station, and

Shane McCann (second right) Kilmallock Fire Station. Also in the picture are back row from left; Paul McMahon, Senior Assistant Fire Officer, Limerick City and County, John Mulready, Station Officer, Cappamore, Eoin Kelly, Station Officer, Foynes, Mark Manning, Sub Station Officer, Limerick City, and Michael Ryan , Chief Fire Officer, Limerick City and County

- 3 Fire fighter recruits from Limerick, Laoise, Cavan and Waterford, tackling a blazing fire before their passing out parade, after completing a Fire Fighters Basic Recruitment Course and Manual Handling Course at Foynes Fire Station, County Limerick

Pictures by Dave Gaynor



## EVENTS &amp; HIGHLIGHTS OF 2013



## Junior School Wardens

- 1 Pupils from 5th and 6th classes at Ballylanders National School, who were presented with junior school warden certificates by Cllr William O'Donnell, chairman of the Kilmallock electoral area committee. Also in the picture are, from left; Marian Whyte, principal of the school, teacher, Sheila Flynn, Garda Sergeant Damien Holohan, and Karen Butler, Roads Section, Limerick County Council
- 2 Cllr John Sheahan, chairman of the Rathkeale Electoral Area Committee, presented pupils from St Joseph's Boys School, Rathkeale, with Junior School Warden certificates, in the presence of, Garda Leslie Moloney, Karen Butler, Roads Section, Limerick County Council, teacher, Eamon Roche and Patricia Quaid SNA
- 3 Cllr John Sheahan, chairman of the Rathkeale Electoral Area Committee, presented pupils from St Anne's Girls School, Rathkeale, with Junior School Warden certificates, in the presence of, Garda Leslie Moloney, Karen Butler, Roads Section, Limerick County Council, and teacher, Charlotte O'Brien



Pictures by Dave Gaynor





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## County Council AGM

- 1 Cllr John Egan, Leas Chathaoirleach of Limerick County Council with his wife Theresa, and from left: son in law Paul Ryan, daughters: Theresa and Catherine, son Andrew, and sisters: Eleanor Keays and Noreen Kelly at the Limerick County Council AGM in Limerick County Hall
- 2 Cllr John Sheahan, Cathaoirleach of Limerick County Council with his mother Anne, wife Mary and daughters: Nicola and Claire at the Limerick County Council AGM at Limerick County Hall
- 3 Cllr Mary Harty and Cllr John Egan, Leas Chathaoirleach of Limerick County Council, at the Limerick County Council AGM in Limerick County Hall
- 4 Cllr John Sheahan, Cathaoirleach of Limerick County Council and Cllr John Egan, Leas Chathaoirleach of Limerick County Council

Pictures by Dave Gaynor

## EVENTS &amp; HIGHLIGHTS OF 2013

**Twinning of Adare and Villecresnes**

- 1 Lady Geraldine Dunraven, Cllr Jerome Scanlan, Cathaoirleach of Limerick County Council, Eugene Griffin, Secretary of Limerick County Council and Meriel Clarke, Chairman of Adare Community Council, gathered in Adare, for the twining of Adare and Villecresnes, France
- 2 Bridging Communities; Meriel Clarke, Chairman of Adare Community Council, Cllr Jerome Scanlan, Cathaoirleach of Limerick County Council and William Rostende, Deputy Mayor of Villecresnes, France, gathered in Adare, for the twining of Adare and Villecresnes, France
- 3 Bridging Communities; Meriel Clarke, Chairman of Adare Community Council, William Rostende, Deputy Mayor of Villecresnes, France, and Cllr Jerome Scanlan, Cathaoirleach of Limerick County Council, gathered in Adare, for the twining of Adare and Villecresnes, France

*Pictures by Dave Gaynor*





## Opening of the new section of the Great Southern Trail

- 1 Minister Leo Varadkar T.D. and Phelim Macken, Coordinator of the County Limerick Sports Partnership, cycle along the new section of the Great Southern Trail between Abbeyfeale and Kilmorna
- 2 Minister Leo Varadkar T.D. cutting the ribbon to officially open the new section of the Great Southern Trail between Abbeyfeale and Kilmorna, before going for a cycle along the trail

- 3 Minister Leo Varadkar T.D. unveiled a plaque at the opening of the new section of the Great Southern Trail between Abbeyfeale and Kilmorna, in the presence of, from left; Anthony Coleman, Limerick County Council, Deputy Mayor of Limerick Cllr Maria Byrne, Limerick City and County manager, Con Murray and Cllr Jerome Scanlan, Cathaoirleach of Limerick County Council

Pictures by Dave Gaynor



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## Visits to Limerick County Hall

- 1 Pupils and teachers from Schlossgymnasium visit Limerick County Hall
- 2 Barbara Wagner, english teacher at Schlossgymnasium, Kunzelsau, Germany, presented a framed picture of the school to Cllr Jerome Scanlan, Cathaoirleach of Limerick County Council, in the presence of Cllr and teacher Martin Braun, Schlossgymnasium and Justin Daly, german teacher at St Fintan's CBS and /St Joseph's, Doon.
- 3 Cllr Jerome Scanlan, Cathaoirleach of Limerick County Council, presented a bog oak, desk pen holder to Thomas Nader, Ambassador of Austria to Ireland, during his courtesy visit to Limerick County Hall, in the presence of, from left; Eugene Griffin, secretary of Limerick County Council, Con Murray, CEO/Manager of Limerick City and County Councils and Wilhelm Nest, Commercial Counsellor, Austrian Embassy, Commercial Section
- 4 Cllr Jerome Scanlan, Cathaoirleach of Limerick County Council, Mike Hopkins, Principal of South and City College, Birmingham, Pat Maunsell, Director of the Limerick College of Further Education, and Deputy Mayor, Maria Byrne, at a reception in County Hall, for a delegation from South and City College, Birmingham, who were in Limerick to set up a partnership with Limerick College of Further Education

Pictures by Dave Gaynor



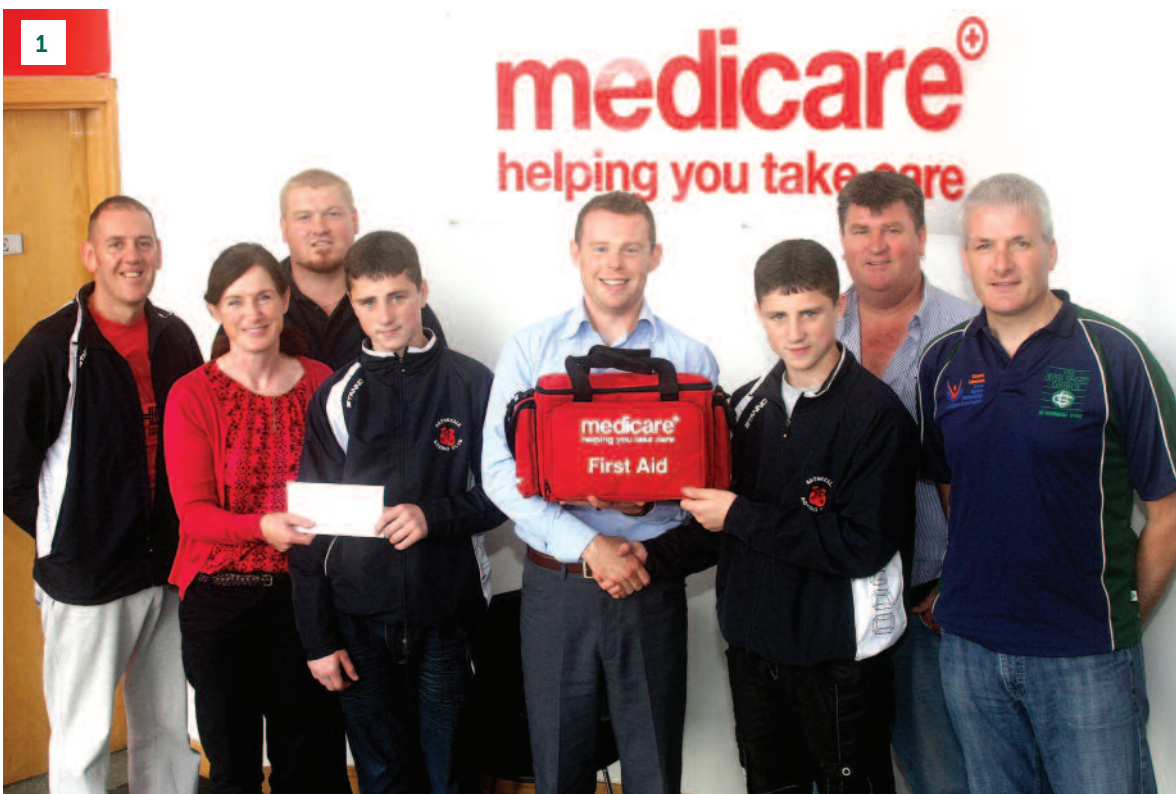


## Fleming Medical Sports Awards

- 1 Sara Hurley, Fleming Medical, presenting a First Aid Kit to Vera Sheehan, for the Granagh/ Ballingarry camogie team in the presence of, from left, Phelim Macken, Coordinator of the Limerick Sports Partnership, Tony Fitzgibbon, Mairead Fitzgerald, Aoife Sheehan, Emma Noonan and Tracy Mahedy, Limerick Sports Partnership
- 2 Sara Hurley, Fleming Medical, presenting a First Aid Kit to cyclist Autumn Collins, Knockaderry, in the presence of, Phelim Macken, Coordinator and Tracy Mahedy, Limerick Sports Partnership

- 3 Vera Sheehan, Mairead Fitzgerald, Emma Noonan and Aoife Sheehan, Granagh/ Ballingarry camogie team and cyclist Autumn Collins, Knockaderry, ( third right) at Fleming Medical

Pictures by Dave Gaynor



### Fleming Medical Sports Awards

- 1 Kevin Healy (coach), Elaine O'Connor, Limerick City Sports Partnership, Peter Williams (coach), Jamie Harty, Adrian O'Sullivan, Fleming Medical, Jason Harty, Jack Harty and Phelim Macken, County Limerick Sports Partnership

*Pictures by Dave Gaynor*



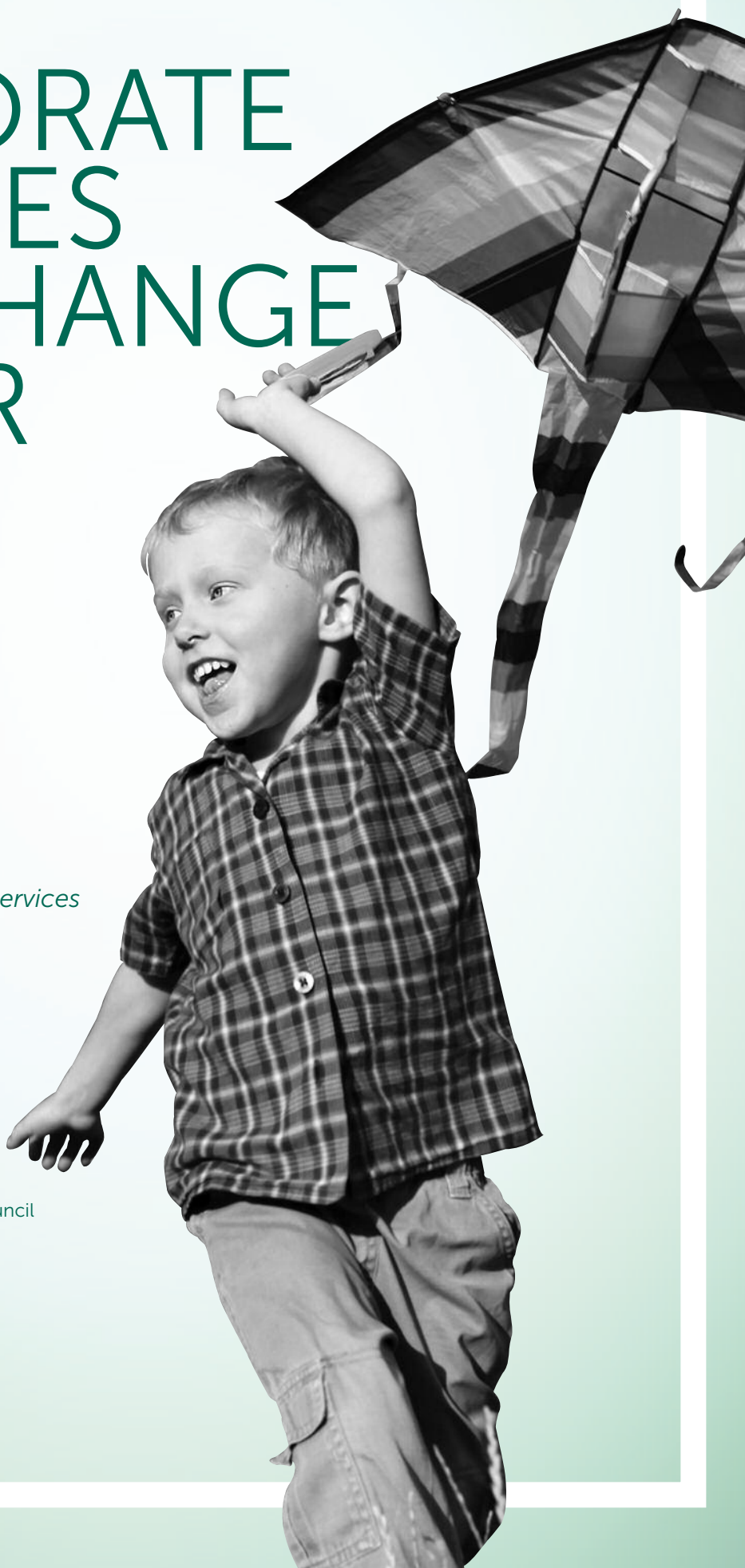
# CORPORATE SERVICES AND CHANGE LEADER



**Pat Dowling**

*Director of Services, Corporate Services  
and Change Leader*

- Corporate Services
- Change Leader
- General Administration
- Higher Education Grants
- Health & Safety
- Overview of Energy Usage in 2013
- Twinning Arrangements Limerick County Council and Limerick City Council
- Community Group Twinning Arrangements In Limerick County
- Twinning Relationships Limerick City Council



## CORPORATE SERVICES AND CHANGE LEADER

### Corporate Services

The Corporate Services and Change Leader Department covers a wide range of services in addition to providing Management Support Services. The Department deals with areas such as Facilities Management, Higher Education Grants, Register of Electors, Freedom of Information, Customer Services, Purchasing, Partnership, Health & Safety and a wide variety of ancillary services relating to Council business. The Department also deals with matters relating to the new Single Authority.

### Change Leader

The Change Programme for the creation of a new single organisation for Limerick City and County Council continued in 2013. A Senior Change Management Team was put in place to support the Management Team in planning and implementing the merge to a single authority.

A move programme was planned and implemented during 2013 to unify departments in the transition towards the single authority. Most departments, apart from Planning, environment & emergency services, were merged by the September 2013 deadline set by the Manager as a result of the co-operation given by staff. A Records Management System was developed and training given to staff to ensure proper management of records during the move. Considerable work was carried out by the IT department to ensure that staff had access to their IT and phone systems after they moved. The move also required some upgrading of the offices in Merchants Quay. Improvements were also carried out to the reception area, motor tax and the cash desk with the establishment of a new customer services desk.

Structures have been put in place to ensure staff and councillors are kept informed of developments. A staff reference group has been established to inform the development of proposals in relation to the operational delivery of Areas and Depots in the new merged authority. A communications plan is being prepared to assist with internal and external communications.

A steering group has been established with representation from all departments to determine the information and communications technology that will be required to enable the efficient and effective operation of the new authority.

The Senior Change Management Team has been reviewing the extensive range of services provided by Limerick City and County Council and in 2013 commenced a pilot project with staff in the environment department to carry out an extensive review of environment services from a customer service perspective. It is planned to extend this services analysis across all departments and review with both internal and external stakeholders during 2014.

Customer Services Desks were put in place in both MQ and DD in 2013 to ensure continuity of services to the public during the move programme and both Dooradoyle and Merchants Quay are now open to the public from 9 am to 5pm. It is planned to expand the role of Customer Services in 2014 so that as many services as possible will be provided as close as possible to the customer across the City and County.

### Freedom of Information

During 2013 there were 39 Freedom of Information Requests

Granted	22
Part- Granted	8
Refused	2
Withdrawn	1
Live Cases at the end of 2013	8
<b>Total</b>	<b>39</b>

The policy of Limerick County Council is:

- To give members of the public access to information held by this Authority, to the greatest extent possible, in accordance with the provisions of the Freedom of Information Acts 1997 & 2003 and consistent with the public interest and the right to privacy of the individual.

Further information and application form is available on the Councils website [www.limerick.ie](http://www.limerick.ie)



## General Administration

### Register of Electors

The Register of Electors is updated and produced annually and comprises a list of all persons over the age of 18 years resident in the City and County who are entitled to vote in Elections to the Dáil, the European Assembly, Presidential and Local Elections and Referenda. The publication date for the Register of Electors is 1st February and the Register comes into effect on the 15th February each year.

### Statistics For Limerick County

There are 3 Dáil Constituencies in County Limerick where there were previously 2, Limerick East and Limerick West. The constituencies are as follows and the number of Dáil Seats in each-

Limerick City	-	4 Seats
Limerick	-	3 Seats
Kerry North/		
West Limerick-		3 Seats

The Presidential Electorate stands at 97,496 on the Live 2013/2014 Register of Electors.

The Local Government Electorate stands at 100,634 on the Live 2013/2014 Register of Electors published in February 2013 and is broken down as follows between the 5 Local Areas-

Adare	22,908
Castleconnell	25,030
Kilmallock	18,684
Newcastle	18,544
Rathkeale	15,468

### Statistics For Limerick City

There is 1 Dail Constituency in Limerick City with 4 Dáil Seats in this Constituency.

The Presidential Electorate stands at 36,181 on the Live 2013/2014 Register of Electors.

The Local Government Electorate stands at 37,963 on the Live 2013/2014 Register of Electors published in February 2013 and is broken down as follows between the 3 Local Areas-

Limerick City East	8,844
Limerick City North	14,440
Limerick City South	14,679

During 2013 two Referenda were held: - Abolition of Seanad Eireann (32nd Amendment) and the Court of Appeal (33rd Amendment) held on Friday, 4th October, 2013.

The Local Electoral Area Boundary Committee Report on changes to Local Areas was published on 30th May, 2013.

These recommendations were incorporated in the first merged Draft Register of Electors 2014/2015 for Limerick City and County Council which was published on 1st November, 2013.

A summary of the recommendations is contained in the table below:

Local Electoral Areas	Number of Members
<b>Metropolitan District Local Electoral Areas</b>	
Limerick City East	8
Limerick City North	6
Limerick City West	7
Sub-Total	21

<b>County Local Electoral Areas</b>	
Adare-Rathkeale	6
Cappamore-Kilmallock	7
Newcastle West	6
Sub-Total	19
<b>Total</b>	<b>40</b>

Members of the public can check if they are registered correctly on the Electoral Register online enquiries on [www.lcc.ie/Register\\_of\\_Electors/](http://www.lcc.ie/Register_of_Electors/) or [www.limerickcity.ie](http://www.limerickcity.ie). If your details are incorrect or you are not registered, please apply for an application form to [electoralregister@limerickcoco.ie](mailto:electoralregister@limerickcoco.ie)

## Higher Education Grants

Limerick City & County Council administered the Higher Education Grants Scheme for Renewals only for the 2012/2013 academic year. All new Higher Education Grant applications and applications for students who changed course were processed by the single awarding authority Student Universal Support Ireland (SUSI).

Limerick County Council processed over 790 applications. Total expenditure amounted to over €4.3m this includes an amount of €427,257 that was paid out as Special Rate of Maintenance Grants. A total of 160 students were awarded the Special Rate of Maintenance Grant in 2012/2013.

Limerick City Council processed over 310 applications. Total expenditure amounted to over €1.2m this includes an amount of €130,967 that was paid out as Special Rate of Maintenance Grants. A total of 97 students were awarded the Special Rate of Maintenance Grant in 2012/2013.

Existing Limerick City & County Council grant holders who have not changed course and are continuing their studies are being assessed and paid by Limerick County Council until they have reached the end of their current course.

## Health & Safety

Key activities during 2013 were as follows:

- Structuring of the Health and Safety Section
- The ongoing development of a safety management system that will demonstrate good governance in respect of health and safety.
- Continuation of the Employee Assistance Programme (EAP) offering confidential assistance and a specialist information service to employees and their families.
- Establishment of a joint Safety Monitoring Committee.
- Ongoing development of Risk Assessments.
- Development and management of safety statements.
- Safety Consultation with staff including City and County Safety Representatives Committee.
- Safety Training including: Health and Safety Induction, First Aid, Safe Pass, Working at Heights, Site Dumper, Temporary Traffic Management, Signing, Lighting and Guarding update, Employee Assistance programme, Driver CPC,
- Maintenance and Inspection.
- Review of National Health and Safety Policies and Procedures.
- Safety Inspections.
- Management of the accident investigation and reporting system.



## Overview of Energy Usage in 2013

The following tables set out the energy cost & consumption for Limerick City & County Council in 2013

### Limerick City & County Council - Annual Report /Energy Cost & Consumption 2013 €

2013 Total Energy Spend	€5,946,391
2013 Electricity - Total Annual Spend	€4,409,016
2013 Electricity - Annual Spend on Water Services	€1,659,496
2013 Electricity - Annual Spend on Public Lighting	€1,961,681
2013 Electricity - Other than water & PL	€787,839
2013 Road Fuels (diesel / petrol / biofuel) - Total Annual Spend	€1,249,654
2013 Heating Fuels (Gas/ oil/ biomass etc) - Total Annual Spend	€287,688
2013 Misc. other fossil fuels (sml lpg etc) - Total Annual Spend	

### Limerick City & County Council - Annual Report - Energy Savings Report

#### Actions Undertaken in 2013

In 2013 {Limerick City & County Council} undertook a range of initiatives to improve our energy performance, including:

1	Water Services Upgrades	916	MWh of savings
2	Building Fabric & Services Upgrades	308	MWh of savings
Total 2013		1,224	MWh of savings

In 2014 {Limerick City & County Council} intends to undertake a range of initiatives to improve our energy performance, including:

1	Transport Energy	294	MWh of savings
2	Building Fabric & Services Upgrades	874	MWh of savings
Total 2014		1168	MWh of savings

## **Twinning Arrangements Limerick County Council and Limerick City Council**

### **Limerick County Council and Hohenlohekreis, Germany**

The Councils of Limerick County and Hohenlohekreis have had a twinning partnership since 1990. 2011 marked the 21st anniversary of the official twinning partnership between Limerick County Council and Hohenlohekreis. Respective delegations from each of the Authorities alternate visits each year between Hohenlohe and Limerick. In May 2013 a delegation of 26 from Limerick County Council visited Hohenlohe and in 2014 there will be a delegation from Hohenlohe visiting Limerick. In May 2013, Annette Aherne representing Kilmallock as part of the Irish Walled Towns Network travelled to Hohenlohe with the delegation to visit Niedernhall.

### **Limerick County Council and Bermingham**

There has been an exchange of visits between Limerick County Council and Bermingham since the early 1990's. In 2013 representatives from South and City College Bermingham travelled to Limerick to meet with representatives from Limerick College of Further Education. There was a formal reception in County Hall on 15th May 2013.

### **Limerick County Council and New Brunswick**

Limerick County Council and New Brunswick signed a sister cities/twinning agreement in April 1999. In recognition of the friendship that formed between them they signed a further agreement pledging continued cooperation between them in April 2009. A relationship has built up over the years between Members of Limerick County Council and New Brunswick with regular visits back and forth. In 2013 a delegation from New Brunswick visited Limerick and as part of the delegation there were representatives from Robert Wood Johnson Medical School who visited representatives from the Graduate Entry Medical School from the University of Limerick. Formal Agreement has been signed between UL Medical School and Rutgers New Jersey Medical School.

### **Limerick Exiles Association, London and Limerick County Council**

The Limerick Exiles Association held an official launch on 21st October 2011 which was attended by the Cathaoirleach and Mr. Eugene Griffin. There have been frequent visits made by representatives of Limerick County Council to London for various events being celebrated by the Association over the past number of years.



## Community Group Twinning Arrangements In Limerick County

### Villecresnes and Adare

This twinning arrangement commenced in 2013 when a delegation from Villecresnes visited Adare for the first time. The delegation was hosted by various families in Adare and a declaration to form a twinning partnership was signed in 2013. In November 2013 a delegation from Adare visited Villecresnes Autumn Fare and had a stand at the Fare. The delegation from Adare was hosted by families in Villecresnes. Limerick County Council had held a reception for the visitors from France in the course of their initial visit to Adare. Limerick County Council has agreed to make a small contribution towards the expenditure incurred by members of Adare Twinning Project in visiting Villecresnes and when they host a delegation from Villecresnes.

### Évry-Grégy and Murroe

Murroe Parish entered into a twinning arrangement in 1996 with Évry-Grégy which is located approximately 25km outside Paris. Limerick County Council provides a contribution towards Murroe Twinning Project when they host a delegation from Évry-Grégy. The Council funds 50% of the expenditure incurred subject to a maximum of €1000.

### Partnership Between Schlossgymnasium In Kunselsau Germany and St Fintan's And St Joseph's Schools In Doon

A partnership was established in 2013 between the above schools and this was as a result of contacts which were made through the Hohenlohekreis connection. A group of students from the above schools travelled to Kunselsau in April 2013 and subsequently a group of students travelled from Kunselsau to St. Fintan's and St. Joseph's schools in Doon. Limerick County Council made a small contribution by paying cost of coach from Dublin Airport and also hosted a reception in County Hall.

## Twinning Relationships Limerick City Council

### Twinning with Quimper, France

Limerick's first twin city lies a few miles inland from the sea in Brittany, France. Quimper has a similar population size to Limerick. The Twinning Committees in both cities had, as their objective over the years, strengthened and broadened the bonds of friendship between both cities, however, not much communication has taken place in the latter years.

### Sister City Relationship with Spokane, Washington State

The Limerick Spokane Sister City Relationship was officially begun on 4th March, 1990 when the Mayors of Spokane and Limerick signed a joint agreement linking the two cities. Amongst the objectives of the Sister City Relationship is to foster and encourage bonds of friendship and understanding between the two cities and to bring events of Irish Culture to Spokane. A delegation of 60 people from Spokane visited Limerick in 2013 and it is expected that a small delegation from Limerick City Council will visit Spokane in 2014.

## Procurement

A Procurement Officer was appointed for Limerick City and County Councils in January 2013.

The role of the officer includes the carrying out of Corporate wide procurements, the provision of guidance and support on procurement, to assist in the preparation of tender documents and to develop standard documentation and templates for use in the procurement process,

During 2013 the following was achieved:

- 40 staff received in-house training on National and European Public Procurement Rules.
- Signed up to national energy framework and progressed the implementation of national frameworks
- A cleaning services tender was run which has resulted in a new contractor being put in place for Merchant's Quay, Dooradoyle, Lissanalta House, Watchhouse Cross and Dooradoyle Librarys.







# HUMAN RESOURCES



**Jimmy Feane**

*Director of Services,  
Human Resources*

- Staffing Complement
- Gateway Scheme
- Staff Training and Development
- CORE
- Pensions
- Work Life Balance Measures
- Human Resources Service Indicators
- Management Publication Comparison Report – 2013



## HUMAN RESOURCES

### Staffing Complement

During 2013 Limerick City and County Council continued to manage its staffing requirements within the context of a period of continuing economic constraint. Demands increased in certain areas but declined in others. The staffing complement including part-time employees at 31st December 2013 was 1191.

A limited number of competitions were held to fill sanctioned essential posts, in addition to facilitating participation in national employment schemes, such as Job-Bridge and Redundant Apprentice Placement, etc. A total of 71 students were also facilitated during 2013 with placements to assist with their studies.

Breakdown of posts for interview on male/female basis

	Male	Female
Number of candidates	229	115
Number of candidates called for interview	86	41
Number placed on panel	71	36
Number employed	22	11

### Gateway Scheme

This is a Government initiative introduced during 2013 to provide short-term work opportunities for the longer-term unemployed. The Council committed to facilitate 150 participants under this scheme and recruitment commenced towards the latter half of the year with a total of 174 people interviewed.

### Staff Training and Development

The Council is committed to a level of training and staff development to ensure that employees have the skills and competencies required to carry out their duties effectively. A training plan is developed annually which incorporates the essential training needs identified by staff and their Line Managers through the Performance Management and Development System. Health and Safety Training continues to form a significant part of the 2013 Training Plan. The Council also supported further education, where possible, by providing funding to individual employees.



## CORE

CORE is the Council's software system for administering all human resource systems including payroll, pension, training and time/attendance.

Worked commenced on creating a single system for new Council in March 2013 and took 10 months to complete. Staff from various Departments ie. Human Resources, I.T. Finance and Line Managers/Administrative staff based in our various depots/offices were involved in this task. The go live date of the 10th December 2013 was achieved.

## Pensions

15 lump sum gratuities were paid out during 2013 in accordance with the City pension scheme. The total value of these payments is as follows:

Gross Lump Sums paid	€443,449.55
Deductions made	€31,086.77
Nett Lump Sums paid	€404,748.31

12 employees resigned under the Voluntary Redundancy Scheme and the value of the lump sums paid was €447,058.97.

16 lump sum gratuities were paid out during 2013 in accordance with the County pension scheme. The total value of these payments is as follows:

Gross Lump Sums paid	€543,740.96
Deductions made	€21,637.29
Nett Lump Sums paid	€522,103.67

11 employees resigned under the Voluntary Redundancy Scheme and the value of lump sums paid was €487,210.09.

## Work Life Balance Measures

The Council operates schemes that facilitate staff remain within the workforce but maintain family responsibilities or pursue other opportunities. The numbers involved are

Parental Leave	60
Work-sharing	76
Career Break/Secondment	46
Shorter Unpaid leave	15

## Service Indicators:

Training City – 4.82% County – 4.01%

Uncertified Sick Leave – 0.40%

Certified Sick leave – 4.06%

## Human Resources Service Indicators

### C1 Working Days lost to Sickness

A.	Percentage of working days lost to sickness absence through certified leave	4.06 %
B.	Percentage of working days lost to sickness absence through uncertified leave	0.40 %
	Number of working days lost to sickness absence through certified leave	9549
	Number of working days lost to sickness absence through uncertified leave	947.5
	Total number of staff (Whole Time Equivalent) at the end of December 2012 (as per DECLG staffing return for the end of 2012)	1035.89

### C2 Staff Training and Development

A.	Expenditure on Training and Development as a percentage of total payroll costs:	3.93 %
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# TRAVEL & TRANSPORT



**Paul Crowe**  
*Director of Services,  
Travel & Transportation*

- Road Works Programme 2013
- Smarter/Sustainable Travel
- Road Safety
- Local Government Service Indicators 2013  
- Limerick County Council
- The City Quays Project
- Road Resurfacing program 2013
- Green Routes
- Mid West National Road Design Office



## TRAVEL & TRANSPORT



*Mungret Village*

### Road Works Programme 2013

#### Resurfacing Works on National Roads

Localised resurfacing works were carried out at a number of locations on the N69 as well as overlay work at Clarina.

Overlays were also carried out on the N21 at Adare and Attyflynn

#### Mungret Village Improvement Works

Work was carried out at Mungret Village to improve road safety and enhance the visual amenity of the village. The works consisted of the construction of new footpaths, walkways, green areas and new Public Lighting. The existing Regional Road was narrowed generally to 6m with 3 no. raised pedestrian crossing facilities, a new urban roundabout and shared parking and walking areas. The Public Lighting Scheme is the first in the County to use LED light technology.

#### Specific Improvement Works

A grant of €1,060,000 was received for improvement works at a number of locations on Regional Roads in 2013. Among the works carried out were completion of pavement improvements on R523 Carrickerry, Athea and R522 Dromcollogher road.

#### Low Cost Safety Improvements

A grant of €170,000 was received for Low Cost Safety Improvements at four locations in the County and works were advanced at four locations Farnane, Murroe; Normoyles Cross, Grouse Lodge & Ardromin.

#### Surface Dressing & Reconstruction

The Council provided Surface Dressing on 14 km of Regional Roads and 61 km of Local Roads in 2013. In addition re-construction works were carried out on 14 km of Regional Roads and 81 km of Local Roads in the same period.

#### Regional Road Signposting

Work continued in 2013 towards the programme to improve Signage on Regional Roads in the County.

#### Winter Maintenance

Once again the Winter Maintenance season was a busy time for Council staff involved in pre-treating and treating Priority 1 & priority 2 routes to keep them free of ice.





*Mechanical Gym Equipment on Park Canal*



*Limerick City - Smarter Travel*

## Smarter/Sustainable Travel

In 2012 the Department of Transport Tourism & Sport announced that a joint submission by Limerick City Council & Limerick County Council in partnership with the University of Limerick was ranked first, out of 39 applications, in what was described as an "Excellent Proposal" to promote Smarter Travel in the greater Limerick City area which resulted in an investment of €9 million over the period to 2016.

The aim of the scheme is to transform people's travel behaviour, with support from local businesses and communities and should result in reduced congestion and pollution, improved road safety, create local employment opportunities, and improve people's health and fitness, as well as enhancing town and streetscapes locally.

Infrastructural Works commenced in 2013 on the existing pathway which extends from Athlunkard Bridge along the river bank as far as the Guinness Bridge at Park Canal. There are two rest areas along the route providing seating and bike stands. Mechanical gym equipment has also been installed for recreational use. For the safety of the patrons of the path CCTV and street lighting have been installed. The next phase of the infrastructural works: the link between Limerick City and the University of Limerick along the Dublin Road will commence March 2014.

The provision of secure cycle parking in City Centre has commenced, the construction of indoor secure bicycle parking within the Anne St multi-storey car-park in the City has been completed. The Public Bicycle Rental Scheme is to come to Limerick in the Summer of 2014. Limerick Smarter Travel (LST) has commissioned a new website as part of the marketing and communications programme. It is due to be launched in April 2014.

The Limerick Smarter Travel School Project is being delivered in partnership with An Taisce Green-Schools Travel programme. The Limerick Smarter Travel (LST) Project aims to work with all 51 schools within the study area. A total of 15 schools were engaged during the pilot, in September 2013, 7 further schools were invited and 2 additional schools joined to the LST Programme bringing the total number of schools engaged to 24. To date, eight of Limerick's largest workplaces and campuses are currently participating in the first phase of LST's Workplace and Campus Programme developing a Travel Action Plan.

In February 2014, Community Travel Initiative will be launched here 10 parishes will be consulted around travel planning for their local area.

## Road Safety

Road fatality figures released by the Road Safety Authority (RSA) indicate that there were 5 fatalities in Country Limerick in 2013, which was the same as 2012. While every effort should be made to reduce the number of deaths further, this figure is considerably less than that for the three years prior to 2012.

### Lifesaver Project

The successful Lifesaver Project initiative, which is led by An Garda Síochána and supported by the Limerick Ambulance Service, the H.S.E., Limerick City & County Fire Service and the Road Safety Departments of Limerick County & City Councils continued during 2013 with two presentations held in the Southcourt Hotel Raheen on the 19th & 20th November, 2013.

This programme has been very well received by second & third level institutions in both City & County and has become part of the transition year programme. The event was attended by over 1600 second level & Youthreach students during 2013. Lifesaver Project is a very honest account of the reality of Road Safety in Ireland today with students participating in the programme receiving poignant, focused information and advice on the dangers and consequences of road traffic collisions.



*Lifesaver Project Road Safety Event, South Court Hotel Raheen*

### Junior School Wardens

The Junior School Wardens of Rathkeale & Ballylanders primary schools continued to provide safe crossing facilities for their classmates during 2013. This scheme which has been in operation in the County since 1975 owes its success to the huge commitment from the pupils, parents, teachers and Gardai.



*Junior School Wardens Rathkeale*

### Cycling Safety Training

2013 proved once again a very successful year for the Cycling Safety & Skills programme with 648 pupils from twenty one primary schools in the County participating during 2013. The programme which provides children with an understanding of cycling safety theory, bicycle care and practical bicycle safety is conducted on the schools grounds and planned to work into the school timetable.

The programme is subvented by Limerick County Council and also receives support funding from the Road Safety Authority.

### Road Safety Together Committee

The Road Safety Together Committee which comprises representatives of the Road Safety Authority, The Garda Síochána, The National Roads Authority, Limerick Cycling, University of Limerick, the Health Service Executive & Limerick County Council met on three occasions during 2013 and discussed such topics as:

- Public Transport/Smarter Travel.
- Speed Limits
- Collisions
- Road Safety Education.
- Traffic Management at Emergencies.
- Health & Safety.
- Signposting.
- Road Safety Plan.



**Speed Limit Bye Laws**

The Road Traffic (Speed Limit) County Limerick Bye-Laws 2013 was passed by the Council in 2013 which had the effect of extending the 60kph speed limit at O'Rourkes Cross on the N20 and introducing a 60kph speed limit at Croagh on the N21 following traffic calming works at that location.

**Transportation & Infrastructural S.P.C.**

The Council's Transportation & Infrastructural Committee met on four occasions in 2013, including the first Joint meeting between the City & County SPC members. Items discussed by the Committee include:

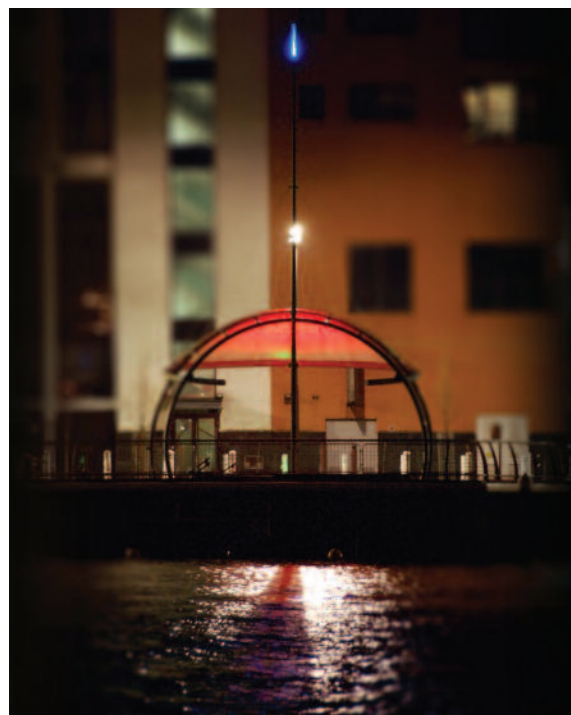
Progress on Smarter Travel Programme in the City & Environs  
Progress on Establishment of Irish Water  
Winter Maintenance Programme

**Local Government Service Indicators 2013 - Limerick County Council****R1: Road Restoration Programme - Indicator A – Restoration Programme**

Road Category	Restoration Improvement (Kms)	Restoration Maintenance (Kms)	Category Total (Kms)
Regional	17.7	14.8	32.5
Local	82.8	61	143.8
Works category total	100.5	75.8	176.3
<b>Restoration Programme Total (Kms)</b>			<b>176</b>

**R1: Road Restoration Programme - Indicator B – Specific Improvement Grants**

Length of Road constructed under Specific Improvement Grant 2013 (Kms)	2.53 Kms
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## The City Quays Project

The upgrade of Bishops, Howleys, and Harveys Quays, Lower Cecil Street, and Lower Shannon Street including the installation of a new Zebra Crossing on Lower Mallow Street was completed at the end of 2013.

This work follows on from recently completed upgrades of streets in Limerick City Centre and O'Callaghan and Clancy Strands. The completion of this project provides a high quality city centre waterside environment for public use and enjoyment of the riverside and the business along it.

The upgrade is intended to act as the catalyst to increase business on these streets and to attract in additional business and visitors. The work consisted



of the provision of a new 900 m2 Boardwalk, new high quality paving, new riverside railings, new public lighting as well as planting and new street furniture.

The area will be provided with free Wifi and will be a major area in the city centre for hosting events. The works costing approximately €5.0 million Euros was part funded by a Grant from the Tourism Infrastructure Investment fund administered by Fáilte Ireland with Limerick City Council funding the balance.

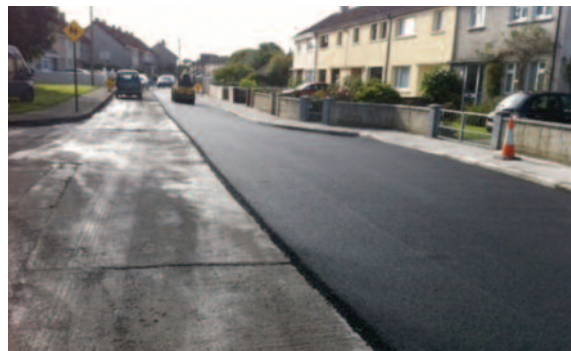


## Road Resurfacing Program 2013

During 2013 The Travel and Transport Department continued to maintain the Roads and Footpaths in Limerick City. A vast amount of minor repairs to roads and footpaths were carried out throughout

the City. In the table below we have detailed where significant road and footpath improvement works costing over €1,500,000 were carried out.

Corrib Drive	Ennis Road	Merval Park
Ashbrook	Fort Mary Park	Iona Drive
North Circular Road	Farrenshone Road	Bellfield Gardens
Cashel Lane	Mount Kenneth Place	New St Scoil Carmel
Hennessy Avenue	Cogan Street	St Francis St
Davis St	Mungret St	Little Gerald Griffin St
Denmark St	Marketsfield Terrace	Bawnmore Road Kennedy Park
Downey St	Greenhill Road	Granville Park
Bloodmill Road	Abbey Avenue	Strandville Gardens
Georgian Villas	Old Windmill St	Colbert Avenue Janesboro
Cratloe Road	Summerville Avenue	Courtbrack Avenue
Southville Gardens	Gurteen Gardens	Summerville Gardens
Cathedral Place	Delmerge Park	Greenpark Roundabout
Kyleglass	Sarsfield Gardens	Dalgaish Park
Pineview Gardens	Cosgrove Park	Hartigan Villas



## Green Routes

A contract for the construction of a Green Route on Ballinacurra Road commenced during 2013. This project provides for the construction of an inbound bus lane and street improvement measures from the city boundary at Ballinacurra Creek on the Ballinacurra Road R526 to its junction with Childers Road R509 and further footpath, public lighting and traffic signal upgrades from Childers Road junction up to Punches Cross.

The project works will also include the reassignment of traffic flow within the carriageway to provide inbound and outbound traffic lanes, an inbound bus lane and parking on the inbound side of the carriageway as shown on the scheme drawings. To facilitate these bus priority measures, upgrade works to footpaths, traffic signals, pedestrian crossings and improvement to bus stops will be carried out along the length of the route.

The project works form part of Limerick City's Southern Green Route, and will connect with the Green Route works carried out by Limerick County Council on Saint Nessen's Road in Raheen.



*Green Route works being carried out*



## Foynes to Limerick Scheme

Limerick City and County Council has commenced the procurement of Engineering Consultancy Services for the Foynes to Limerick Road Improvement Scheme. The scheme will provide a high quality road to connect the Port of Foynes with the M7/N18 at Limerick. The N69 National Secondary Road currently connects Foynes to Limerick along 32km of single carriageway.

The scheme will provide improved access to the Port of Foynes and support the envisaged expansion of its capacity and usage as outlined in the government's National Ports Policy 2013. Upgrading the road infrastructure to the Port of Foynes from Limerick was a key recommendation in the Shannon Foynes Port Company master plan Vision 2041, published earlier this year.

Limerick City and County Council, through the Mid West National Road Design Office, will manage the scheme. The first major stage in the process has commenced with the advertisement for consultants to progress the scheme through route selection, design and statutory procedures. It is expected that consultants will be appointed later this year with a preferred route selected in 2014. A major consultation process with the public, landowners and other key stakeholders will be undertaken.

The scheme and the expansion of the Port of Foynes have the potential to support sustainable economic growth and deliver employment for Limerick and the Mid West Region.

## External Accreditation

The Mid West National Road Design Office continues to retain both the ISO 9001:2008 standard with the NSAI and CPD accreditation with Engineers Ireland.



# WATER, EMERGENCY & ENVIRONMENT SERVICES



**Josephine Cotter-Coughlan**

*Director of Water, Emergency & Environment Services*

## WATER SERVICES

- Water Conservation
- Water Capacity
- General Operations Water and Waste Water
- Water Quality
- Private Well Grants
- Transition to Irish Water
- Water Metering Contract
- Notification of Water Supply Interruptions

## EMERGENCY SERVICES

- Fire Prevention, Building Control & Dangerous Buildings Department
- Disability Access Certificates
- Fire & Emergency Operations
- Major Emergency Management
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## ENVIRONMENT SERVICES

- Environment Department
- Waste Infrastructure
- Waste Regulation - Authorisations including Granting and Auditing
- Litter Management
- Street Cleaning in Limerick City
- Southern Region Regional Waste Management Office
- Education and Awareness
- Veterinary Services
- Parks and Horticulture
- Pollution Control and Water Quality Management
- Burial Grounds / Cemeteries 2013
- Management Publication Comparison Report – 2013



## WATER SERVICES

Limerick City and County Council provides drinking water supplies to approximately 61,000 households in the City and County and to more than 8,500 farming, business, commercial and industrial locations. In addition a total of 54 wastewater facilities are operated by the Council, serving the larger settlements in the City and County.

Limerick City and County Council is committed to the implementation of its five-year Water Services Strategy as approved by the Department of the Environment Heritage and Local Government. The strategy provides for the strategic provision, rehabilitation and maintenance of the water production, distribution and conservation systems within the City and County area.

The Water Services Department, incorporating water and waste water, managed in 2013 a significant capital and revenue programme. The efficient provision of water and wastewater services in the City and County remains the priority within this department.

The investment in water and waste water infrastructure continued in 2013 with considerable progress being made on various water and sewerage schemes throughout the City and County. The major projects undertaken included Find & Fix Projects, Water Conservation Mains Rehabilitation Projects, and construction works on the Mungret Sewerage Scheme, the Kilmallock Sewerage Scheme and the Patrickswell Sewerage Scheme.

### Water Conservation

Conservation of water is a major focus for Limerick City and County Council to ensure the provision of safe, secure and efficient drinking water supplies throughout all its public water schemes.

A central priority of the Department is the achievement of a reduction in the level of unaccounted for water. In this regard the Council identified and repaired a significant number of leaks in 2013 which resulted in the saving of a substantial amount of water.

Consumers should refer to the Water Services Section of the Council website: <http://www.lcc.ie>

to become aware of measures which each consumer can take to assist in reducing water usage levels.

### Water Capacity

The capacity of the Clareville Water Treatment Plant has increased over time from 50 million litres per day to 87 million litres per day. The additional strategic development of this water production facility could lead to a further significant increase in capacity of the plant in the longer term and safeguard the provision of potable water to the City and County.

### General Operations Water and Waste Water

Limerick City & County Council Water Services Department has a 91 man out door work force which responds to the day to day requirements of the consumers and the general public. In 2013 they responded to a significant number of recorded complaints. These complaints varied between blocked sewers to low water pressure, etc.

The average waiting time for a complaint to be dealt with was less than 1 day and in many cases in times of extreme emergency an immediate response was provided. In addition to this these crews responded to new water main connection requests, water main breaks and new sewer connection requests.

### Water Quality

Information on drinking water quality for public and private water supplies is available by clicking on the 'Drinking Water Quality' button on the Limerick County Council website homepage. This information includes details of –

- Each drinking water sample analysis carried out by Limerick County Council;
- The Environmental Protection Agency report on the quality of the Drinking water supplied by the Council;
- Details of Audit Reports carried out by the EPA on individual water supplies; and



- Remedial Action List improvements to specific water supplies addressing particular water quality issues.

In accordance with the Drinking Water (No.2) Regulations 2007, Limerick City and County Council is responsible for monitoring the quality of drinking water supplied to the public. Limerick City and County Council Laboratory communicates regularly with the Environmental Protection Agency, which is the Supervisory Authority for all drinking water supplied by the Council.

In addition to its role in monitoring drinking water, the Laboratory also carries out monitoring of wastewater treatment plant discharges, river water and bathing water quality.

Under the Waste Water Discharge (Authorisation) Regulations 2007 (S.I. No. 684 of 2007) local authorities are required to apply to the EPA for authorisation of all discharges from their waste water works to all waters. Waste Water Treatment Plants are licenced by the EPA. A list of all licenced agglomerations is available on the Limerick County Council website.

The relevant licence application, discharge licence granted by the EPA and the Annual Environmental Return (AER) can be viewed from the EPA website: <http://www.epa.ie>

#### **Rural Water Programme 2013:**

Limerick County Council received a Rural Water Programme grant allocation of €1,098,630 in 2013 from the Department of the Environment, Community & Local Government and the allocation enabled investment in areas such as:

- Grants to Upgrade existing Group Water Schemes
- Takeover of Group Water Supply Schemes
- Improvements to Small Public Water and Sewerage Schemes

#### **Subsidy towards the Operational Costs of Group Water Schemes:**

The operational subsidy grant provides assistance to group water schemes supplying water for domestic use. Group water schemes are entitled to claim an annual and advance subsidy each year. 42 Group Water Schemes received a subsidy towards their operational costs in 2013 with a total of €841,400 being paid out.

### **Private Well Grants**

Grants totaling €132,648 were paid to 78 individuals under this heading in 2013. The purpose of the grant is to help private individuals provide good quality, potable drinking water for their homes. A maximum grant of €2,031 or 75% of the cost of the works, whichever is the lesser, may be awarded. Application form and details are accessible from the Water Services section of the Limerick County Council website.

### **Transition to Irish Water**

Staff of Limerick City and County Council undertook a considerable workload in 2013 in preparation for the transition to Irish Water. Staff concerned completed significant fact finding questionnaires and engaged with Irish Water staff in relation to the Council's Water Services financial position, infrastructural performance, staffing and reporting requirements and facilitated the compilation of data necessary for the development of the national Service Level Agreement.

The Council staff also engaged with staff from the Irish Water Programme in relation to the carrying out of an Impact Assessment to facilitate the development of a Transition Plan for 2014 – 2016.

### **Water Metering Contract**

Limerick City and County Council staff in 2013 carried out surveys throughout the City and County to establish the extent of public and private water supplies. The results of these surveys facilitated the commencement of the Water Metering Contract by Irish Water.

### **Notification of Water Supply Interruptions**

Information and updates relating to major interruptions to water supplies, burst watermains etc. are made available on the Limerick County Council website <http://www.lcc.ie> and on the Limerick City Council website <http://www.limerickcity.ie>. All of this information is also Tweeted from the Limerick Council Twitter account, any member of the public can follow Limerick Council on Twitter @LimerickCouncil.



Kilmallock Sewerage Scheme – New WWTP



Construction Works at Patrickswell Sewerage Scheme

### Service Indicators:

The Service Indicator for Water Services is as follows:

Unaccounted for water (UFW) as a percentage of total volume of water supplied under the water supply schemes that the local authority is responsible for

Limerick County Council: 29%

Limerick City Council: 49.2%

## EMERGENCY SERVICES

### Fire Prevention, Building Control & Dangerous Buildings Department

The function of the Fire Prevention, Building Control & Dangerous Buildings Department is to ensure the health, safety and welfare of people who occupy or use buildings, through ensuring the reduction of fire risk, proper means of escape, the access for people with disabilities and the conservation of fuel and energy.

To achieve these, a summary of the duties of this department include assessing Fire Safety Certificate applications and Disability Access Certificates, inspection of commercial buildings and apartment complexes, investigating complaints and giving Community Fire Safety talks.

F3. Fire Prevention	CITY	COUNTY
Total number of fire safety certificate applications received	56	95
Total number of fire safety certificate applications processed (including cases deemed invalid)	48	86
Total number of applications deemed invalid.	2	5

F5. New Building Inspection	CITY	COUNTY
New Buildings Inspected		14%
Buildings inspected as a % of new buildings notified to the local authority		
Total number of new buildings notified to the local authority	25	273
Number of new buildings notified to the local authority that were inspected		37



## Disability Access Certificates

2013 Statistics for County	CITY	COUNTY
Total No. of valid Disability Access Certificates received	35	72
Total No. of Disability Access Certificates processed (incl. cases deemed invalid)	36	70
Total No. of Disability Access Certificates invalidated	0	3

## Fire & Emergency Operations

The Limerick City Fire Service successfully attended 1153 incidents and the Limerick County Fire service attended 446 incidents from 1st January to 31st December, 2013.

ISO9001:2008 Quality Standard Certification and OHSAS 18001:2007 Health & Safety Certification was maintained in Limerick County Fire Service. The former fire prevention offices at Limerick City Fire Station were converted to a training and development centre by Limerick City Fire Fighters and Officers.

Training continued on the roll-out of the National Standard Operating Guidelines (SOGs), NDFEM-accredited Sub Officer Course, Breathing Apparatus (BA) Refresher training, recruit training, cardiac First Responder, Approved Driving Instructor, Driver Training, Emergency First Responder, Marine VHF Radio, Methods of Entry, Road Traffic Collision Procedures as well as various Senior and Junior Officer Training Courses and Seminars.

Fire Extinguisher and Fire Warden training was provided to staff from Limerick City and County Council and to the Limerick Division of An Garda Síochána by Fire Service instructors.

Fire personnel presented the Schools Fire Safety programme to 4th Class pupils in primary schools. The Fire and Rescue Service Safety Statement was reviewed and updated.

Fire fighters from Limerick City participated in a joint research study with the University of Limerick on the biomechanics of extrication from crashed vehicles.

F1. Fire Service Mobilisation	CITY	COUNTY
Average time taken, in minutes, to mobilise fire brigades in Full-Time Stations in respect of fire	1min 32 secs	n/a
Average time taken, in minutes, to mobilise fire brigades in Part-Time Stations (retained fire service) in respect of fire	n/a	5min 11secs
Average time taken, in minutes, to mobilise fire brigades in Full-Time Stations in respect of all other emergency incidents	1min 44secs	n/a
Average time taken, in minutes, to mobilise fire brigades in Part-Time Stations (retained fire service) in respect of all other emergency incidents	n/a	5min 45secs
F2. Percentage of Attendances at Scenes	CITY	COUNTY
Percentage of cases in respect of fire in which first attendance is at the scene within 10 minutes	86.52	27.59
Percentage of cases in respect of fire in which first attendance is at the scene after 10 minutes but within 20 minutes	11.95	55.17
Percentage of cases in respect of fire in which first attendance is at the scene after 20 minutes.	1.536	17.24
% of cases in respect of all other emergency incidents in which first attendance is at the scene within 10 minutes	82.19	26.49
% of cases in respect of all other emergency incidents in which first attendance is at the scene after 10 minutes but within 20 minutes	14.57	53.64
% of cases in respect of all other emergency incidents in which first attendance is at the scene after 20 minutes	3.239	19.87

Total number of incidents in respect of fire	794	203
Number of cases in respect of fire in which first attendance is at the scene within 10 minutes	507	56
Number of cases in respect of fire in which first attendance is at the scene after 10 minutes but within 20 minutes	70	112
Number of cases in respect of fire in which first attendance is at the scene after 20 minutes	9	35
Total number of incidents in respect of all other emergency incidents (i.e. not including fire)	359	151
Number of cases in respect of all other emergency incidents in which first attendance is at the scene within 10 minutes	203	40
Number of cases in respect of all other emergency incidents in which first attendance is at the scene after 10 minutes but within 20 minutes	36	81
Number of cases in respect of all other emergency incidents in which first attendance is at the scene after 20 minutes	8	30

## Major Emergency Management

- Major Emergency Management Committee meetings held throughout the year.
- Attended MEM Inter-Agency Regional Working and Steering Groups meetings for the Mid-West Region.
- Trained Limerick City & County Council personnel in the following:
  - Information Management Officers
  - Media Liaison Officers (Inter-Agency Seminar)
- Updated and tested the Atlantic Fuels External Emergency Plan in accordance with the SEVESO II Directive
- Merged Limerick City & County Council's MEM Risk Assessments.
- Merged Limerick City & County Council's Saadian Text Messaging Services.
- Chairperson for the Mid-West Region Mass Fatality Plan and Voluntary Emergency Services Sub-Groups.
- Completed the National Annual Appraisal on Limerick City & County Council's preparedness for Major Emergency Management.

## Civil Defence

Through the Local Authority and Emergency Services, the Civil Defence responds to emergency relief and support to ensure the operation of vital services and the maintenance of public life as well as the many community based events during the year.

Basic training for volunteers consists of Manual Handling, Cardiac First Response, Occupational First Aid, Communications, Fire Awareness, Footdrill, Map reading, GPS, Basic Search & Rescue, Child Protection Courses and Equipment Familiarisation. Twenty Four Recruits successfully completed their induction training and received certification as Cardiac First Responders and Occupational First Aiders

Volunteers then specialise in different areas with Emergency First Response, Emergency Medical Technician, Instructional Methods, Auxiliary Fire Service, Pump Operation, VHF Marine Radio Licence and Coxswain - Level 2 & Level 3 Certificates, communications.

The Civil Defence College in Roscrea trains the Instructors in all disciplines and upskills our volunteers in many difference areas – CISM,



instructional methods, Search Manager, etc. During 2013, Civil Defence have assisted in many searches for missing persons, provided medical cover in Thomond Park for Munster Rugby and Limerick FC games. During the year Civil Defence had participated in many searches on and along the River Shannon.

Limerick County Civil Defence had a very active year. Training continued throughout the County while Civil Defence personnel participated in Operational activities / Training Exercises and also provided numerous types of assistance to their local Communities.

#### Training Events Included:

- Participation in National Exercise - Templemore
- Avian Flu Training - Mallow
- Ex Foynes – (Boat Exercise River Shannon)
- Annual Training Camp Lisdoonvarna
- Rescue Skills Weekend – Annacotty / Bruff
- Casualty Upskilling Weekend Annacotty
- Ambulance Competition Annacotty

#### Training Locations

First Aid, Auxiliary Fire Service (AFS), Rescue and Communication classes were carried out in the following locations:

- Annacotty Occupational First Aid, Search & Rescue, Comms and AFS
- Askeaton Occupational First Aid, Search & Rescue
- Rathkeale Kayaking
- Doon AFS
- Killaloe / Foynes Boating

#### Courses

- Local - Members completed courses and received certification in Occupational First Aid, Cardiac First Response, Radio Communications, and Power Boat level Two.
- Civil Defence College - Members attended courses and received certification in CISM, Instructional Methods Course, Cardiac First Responder Instructor Course, Emergency First Responder Course, Radio Instructor Workshop, Search Manager Course, Search Skills Course and Search Skills Instructor.

#### Recruitment

- Twenty Four Recruits successfully completed their induction training and received certification as Cardiac First Responders and Occupational First Aiders.

#### Community Events / Operations

Civil Defence provided assistance and operational support to numerous Local, National and International events including:

Searches for missing Persons	Schools World Marathon Challenge - UL
Milford 10k Walk	Great Limerick Run & Fun Run
Motor Neuron 5k Walk Pallasgreen	Rás Luimni Cycle Race
Operation Transformation Castletroy	St Patrick's Parade Newcastle West
Intervarsity's Kayak Competition UL	Bike Week Family Day UL
Lough Gur Summer Festival	Milford Harvest Fair
Cappamore Agricultural Show	Limerick National School Sports - UL
Limerick Women's Mini Marathon	Referees Seminar – Askeaton
Chernobyl Children Project	Glin Triathlon
Paidi O'Se Charity Cycle	Irish Indoor Rowing Championships
James Keating Memorial rugby-Bruff	Opening Staker Wallace Club House
Ballingarry 10k Charity Run	Knockainey Village Fair
Visit of Relic St Don Bosco-Pallaskenry	Doon Vintage Show
Deel 2.5k Swim	Nenagh Classic Cycle Race
Limerick Vintage Car Show	Kilfinny Group Water Supply
West Limerick Outreach Group	Visit Kennedy Family Bruff
Thomond Swim	Amputee Soccer UL
Stryker Family Day	Shannon Estuary Swim
New Year Celebration City of Culture	Human Race UL

**2013 Highlights in the Community  
for Civil Defence.**

St. Patrick's Day Festival, Thomond Park Events, Limerick FC, Riverfest Festival, Great Limerick Run, Dingle Marathon and Limerick Pride Festival, searches for missing persons, Milford 10K walk, Lough Gur Summer Festival, Cappamore Agricultural Show to name but a few.



*Riverfest Festival*



*St. Patrick's Day Festival*



## ENVIRONMENT SERVICES

### Environment Department

The Environment Department covers a broad area of activity including waste, litter, pollution, veterinary services, parks, playgrounds and cemeteries.



*Together We Can Make a Difference*

### Waste Infrastructure

The infrastructure unit operates a full range of public and internal waste management facilities. Some of the services in this area include:

- (1) 2 licensed Landfills, Gortadroma (active) and Longpavement (closed)
- (2) 5 Civic Amenity Centres located at Mungret, Kilmallock, Newcastle West, Park Road Depot and Gortadroma Landfill cater for the recycling of comprehensive range of materials including green waste, timber and larger items like white goods and furniture.
- (3) 70 Bring Banks are located in settlements through out the City and County for Glass and Cans
- (4) 1 waste to energy plant at Gortadroma producing 1 MW of electricity.

#### End of Life Vehicles

End of Life Vehicles continued to be a priority for the waste enforcement team and unauthorised facilities are either regularised through the permitting process or shut down. A multi-agency operation involving the City and County staff, Gardai, Customs and Revenue was carried out on 1 illegal site in the City. Prosecutions are ongoing in relation to this site. At the end of 2013, there were 13 County and 1 City Approved Treatment Facility permits (Scrap Yards) in Limerick.

#### Unauthorised Waste Activities

The Council continues to target unauthorised waste activities, including construction and demolition waste and scrap yards. A major clean up operation involving nearly 2000 barrels of hazardous paint solvents was undertaken with Department funding in the County to resolve a long running environmental issue.

### Waste Regulation - Authorisations including Granting and Auditing

There are a large number of waste sites in Limerick which are governed by various regulations under the Waste Management Act including

- 51 (39 County and 12 City) Waste Facilities Permits/Registrations are active in Limerick at the end of 2013 covering a range of activities from soils and stone, paper, compost, Transfer Stations to End of Life Vehicles.
- 16 (13 County and 3 City) new/reviews of Waste Facility Permits/Registrations in 2013.

In addition there is an on-going monitoring / permitting programme in relation to a broad range of activities across the general waste area which is carried out in line with EPA and Waste regulation requirements on an annual basis.

### Litter Management

During 2013, the Council's Litter Management team was actively involved in enforcing the provisions of the Litter Pollution Acts and Waste Management Acts together with the Bye-Laws for the "Presentation, Storage & Segregation for the purpose of and in the course of the Collection of Household and Commercial Waste". It is recognised that an effective enforcement policy complemented by targeted awareness campaigns are necessary in making progress in reducing the volume of litter generated.

- 5 No. Environmental Control Officers / Inspectors / Litter Wardens.
- A total of 3393 complaints were recorded relating to litter and waste.
- Almost 700 on-the-spot fines were issued to offenders for litter related offences.

- 130 prosecutions taken under the Litter Pollution Act 1997 and Waste Management Acts.
- Clean-up works were undertaken at litter "Black Spots" and "No Dumping" signs were erected at sites and on routes prone to illegal dumping. Furthermore, CCTV units were placed at selected sites, where feasible.
- Dog litter is a significant problem in both City and County and will require a targeted approach to deal with this issue in the coming years.



Scouts and Guides Anti Dog Litter Campaign



Grange Residents at launch of National Spring Clean 2013

## Southern Region Regional Waste Management Office

Limerick City and County Council are now joint lead authority with Tipperary Local authorities for the New Southern Waste Region. Notice of commencement of the New Draft Waste Management Plan was published in October 2013 and this was followed by a two-month public consultation phase. Progress in prevention programmes and recycling rates has continued for households, communities and business/industry. New Draft Plans will be published in quarter three 2014.

The Region is a partner in a European Project-Regions for Recycling( Interreg IVC) which is examining compilation of Municipal Waste Statistics and sharing best practice in terms of recycling programmes. The project is funded under the ERDF.

## Street Cleaning in Limerick City:

In addition to our regular 365 days a year street sweeping and bin emptying programme, the Street Cleaning team also provided support services for the many events which took place during 2013 including the St Patricks Day festival, Great Limerick Run, Riverfest and National Spring Clean and for various organisations including Tidy Towns, Going for Gold, Retail Excellence Ireland and Community Groups.

Graffiti removal and weed control services were also delivered and our IBAL ranking reflected the City as "Clean to European Norms".

IBAL Certificate





## Education and Awareness

The development of a greater level of focus on the environment and in the creation of awareness amongst the general population and in particular the younger members of society of the importance of a clean green environment is one of the key goals of our educational awareness unit.

The unit carries out an extensive campaign each year working with schools, community groups and the business sector to promote this message.

- There are 159 schools registered for the An Taisce Green Schools programme. 118 Schools have Green flags.
- The schools play a very active role with teachers attending seminars and workshops under the Green schools programme and spreading the message to the large school community.
- There are also workshops held throughout the year for a variety of individuals and community groups under the general environment banner which have been very well supported at a variety of venues in the City and County.
- The unit also helps promote participation in the Annual Tidy Towns competition and holds seminars for groups to assist in increasing participation and in achieving top results. In

tandem with this approach, the unit manages the annual Limerick in Bloom competition for the county area and the Going for Gold competition in the city area. Both competitions have been very successful in fostering the great work being done by a large number of local community groups improving their own areas.

- The overall winner in Limerick in Bloom was the Athea Tidy Towns.
- Limerick Going for Gold campaign was run in conjunction with the JP McManus Charitable Foundation. The overall winner of the Going for Gold Tidy Towns Category was Annacotty Tidy Towns, while South Limerick City were successful in the Community Challenge Category.
- Over 2000 volunteers participated in 150 clean-up events during National Spring Clean. Bags, gloves, litter pickers were given to schools, residents associations, community groups, etc. The Environment Department continues to support groups with clean ups throughout the year.
- The first Urban Bioblitz in the country was hosted in the People's Park in Limerick City in August. 454 records were generated of 249 different species in a 24 hour period.
- The City celebrated its 8th Fairtrade birthday and participated in Fairtrade Fortnight.



Annacotty Tidy Towns – Going for Gold "Tidy Towns" Category Winners



*Athea Tidy Towns – Winners of Limerick In Bloom 2013*

## Veterinary Services

The Veterinary Section provides veterinary controls in 22 approved meat processing premises during the year. This service is provided under a contract arrangement with the Food Safety Authority of Ireland. The premises supervised included abattoirs, fresh meat cutting establishments and meat product plants located in Limerick City and County.

At the abattoirs all animals intended for slaughter for human consumption were inspected by a veterinary inspector before and after slaughter, as required under food safety law. Total numbers inspected in 2013 were as follows; Cattle 2245, Sheep 4345, Pigs 144, Horses 3576

Supervision of animal welfare standards at abattoirs is also the responsibility of the veterinary inspector. A total of 83 meat samples were submitted to official food control laboratories for analysis under the national residue and microbiological monitoring programmes. All samples proved satisfactory.

Our Dog Control Service covers both the Limerick City and County. Our dog wardens dealt with a total of 806 stray and unwanted dogs during the year. Of these, 51 were reclaimed and 378 re-homed. Regrettably, it was necessary to put 376 dogs to sleep.

New controls in relation to dog breeding were introduced in 2012. Owners of premises on which 6 or more breeding bitches are kept are now required to apply to the local authority to have their establishments registered. Standards relating to the construction, maintenance, operation and management of establishments apply. 5 breeding establishments were inspected and registered in 2013 on foot of applications received.

Responsibility for dealing with wandering or stray horses also comes under the remit of the Veterinary Service. 352 stray horses were seized and impounded in 2013 of which 18 were reclaimed by their owners. This service is part funded by the Department of Agriculture but is a significant draw on the resources of both authorities each year.



## Parks and Horticulture:

Limerick City and County Council Parks and Horticulture directly maintained 12 public parks in 2013 and managed and maintained the playgrounds associated with the parks.

The grass cutting programme covered over 700 acres and the Parks and Horticultural departments were involved in tree planting programmes, bridges in bloom and garden competitions. The Parks and Horticultural departments also provided advice and assistance to numerous residents and community groups with regard to planting and maintenance.

Some of the parks played host to wonderful entertainment events including "4th of July celebration", National Recreation Week, National Bike Week and Christmas Carols in the park.

The work of the Parks Department is very visible throughout the City and County thanks to the seasonal arrays of flowers and plants on view on the bridges and main pedestrian areas in the City. This gives a very welcoming view to the visitors to the City and will hopefully enhance the experience for the ever increasing number of tourists to the area and for those living and working there.

## Pollution Control and Water Quality Management

The Pollution Control Division is responsible for the implementation of Local Government Environmental Legislation in the following areas: air, water, noise and nuisance. A new area of involvement for the section in 2013 was the inspection of Septic Tanks. Also, there was some good news on the River Deel, following over a decade of work to improve water quality in the catchment.

### Septic Tank Inspections

The Water Services (Amendment) Act 2012 required the registration and inspection of septic tanks and other onsite treatment systems. There are approximately 25,000 such systems in County Limerick, of which over 90% have registered. Limerick was required to complete a minimum of 50 inspections of systems between July 2013 and July 2014.

Four members of staff in the Pollution Control Section were trained as inspectors in 2013 and registered with the EPA. Systems for inspection were selected in accordance with the National Inspection Plan published by the EPA in February 2013. Inspections began in August 2013 and 52 inspections were completed by 31st Dec 2013.



*Heidi the Barn owl and friend at Urban Bioblitz*

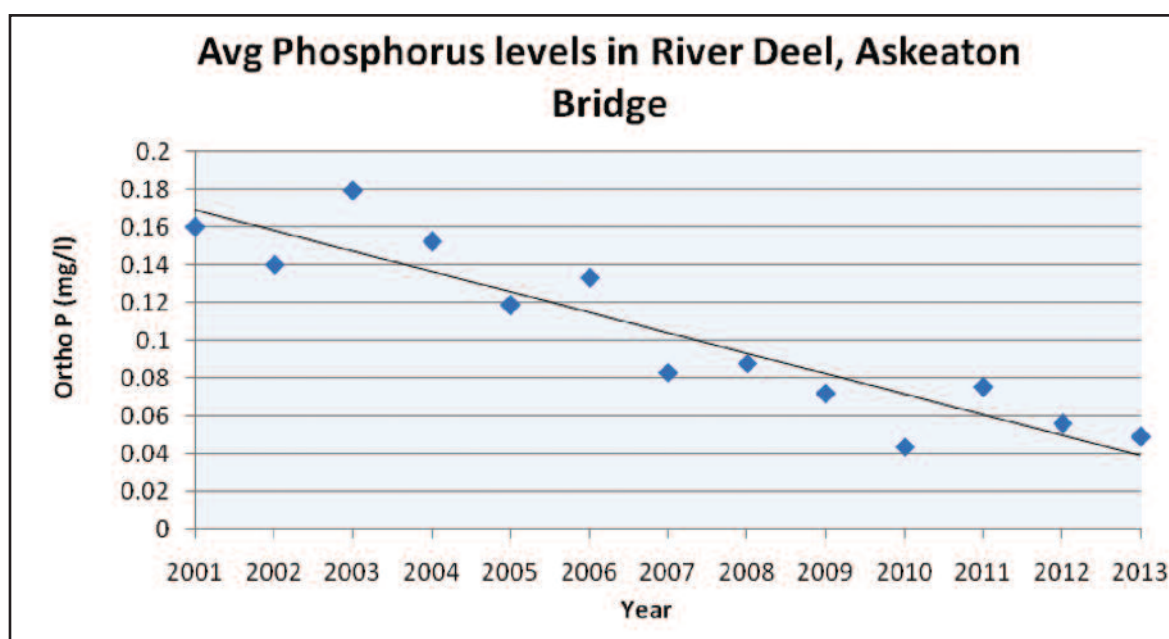
### The River Deel Project

A water quality management team was established in 2002. The team began working in the River Deel Catchment at that time and work on that river is on going, even though the team's work has expanded to include other areas of the County. A review of the nutrient status in the River Deel shows that water quality in the catchment has improved dramatically since 2002. The graph below shows the trend in the average Phosphorus level in the Deel at Askeaton between 2001 and 2013. Phosphorus is the main nutrient responsible for eutrophication of rivers and reducing inputs of P is key to improving water quality.

The improvement can be attributed in large part to a number of factors related to the teams work:

- Diversion of poultry litter out of the catchment to tillage land in Cork and Kildare.
- Significant investment in farm infrastructure.
- Reduced fertilizer usage.
- Enforcement of the Good Agricultural Practice Regulations.

While average P levels remain above the desirable level of 0.035mg/l, significant progress has been made and it is hoped that in the coming years, the status of the River Deel will be improved to Good Status throughout its length.



### Burial Grounds / Cemeteries 2013

The annual maintenance of over 160 burial grounds in the County is very much dependent on the great work done locally by burial ground committees who take great care and pride in their own local cemetery.

The Burial Ground Competition was again very successful with prizes going to

- Donoughmore Burial Ground.
- St. Fintan's Burial Ground, (Doon).
- Bruff Church of Ireland Graveyard.
- Galbally Burial Ground.
- Aglish Burial Ground.
- Coolcappa Burial Ground.

The overall winners were:

- St. Marys Askeaton Church of Ireland Burial Ground.
- Reilig Naomh Ide, Feenagh.

There were a total of 400 burials in Mount St. Lawrence & Mount St. Oliver cemeteries in 2013. During the year adjoining land was purchased by the City Council for an extension to the Mount St. Lawrence facility which will provide some much needed additional capacity in this area.



## Management Publication Comparison Report – 2013

	01/01/11 - 31/12/11 (Annual)	01/01/12 - 31/12/12 (Annual - NWCPO Data)	01/01/13 - 31/12/13
<b>E.3 Waste Segregation</b>			
A. Percentage of households who receive a waste collection service and are provided with segregated waste collection for dry recyclables			
Limerick City Council	99.57	100%	100%
Limerick County Council	99.49	98%	98%
B. Percentage of households who receive a waste collection service and are provided with segregated waste collection for organics			
Limerick City Council	48.49	42%	42%
Limerick County Council	40.92	46%	46%
C. Total number of households provided with a waste collection service			
Limerick City Council	17673	15413	15413
Limerick County Council	27032	27576	27576
D. Number of households provided with a segregated waste collection service for recyclables			
Limerick City Council	17597	15370	15370
Limerick County Council	26894	26964	26964
E. Number of households provided with a segregated waste collection service for organics			
Limerick City Council	8570	6429	6429
Limerick County Council	11062	12709	12709

## Management Publication Comparison Report – 2013 (Continued)

	01/01/11 - 31/12/11 (Annual)	01/01/12 - 31/12/12 (Annual - NWCPO Data)	01/01/13 - 31/12/13
<b>E.4 Housing Waste Sent for Recycling</b>			
A. Percentage of household waste collected from kerbside, which is sent for recycling			
Limerick City Council	29.5	39%	39%
Limerick County Council	33.46	37%	37%
B. Tonnage of household waste collected from kerbside, which is sent for recycling			
Limerick City Council	4735.84	5958	5958
Limerick County Council	8490	9917	9917
C. Total tonnage of household waste collected from kerbside			
Limerick City Council	16056.14	15348	15348
Limerick County Council	25375	26768	26768
D. Tonnage of household waste collected from kerbside, which is sent for recycling			
Limerick City Council	4735.84	5958	5958
Limerick County Council	8490	9917	9917
E. Tonnage of household waste collected from kerbside, which is landfilled			
Limerick City Council	11320.3	9385	9385
Limerick County Council	16885	16846	16846



## Management Publication Comparison Report – 2013

	01/01/11 - 31/12/11 (Annual)	01/01/12 - 31/12/12 (Annual - NWCPO Data)	01/01/13 - 31/12/13
<b>E5: Household Waste Sent for Landfill</b>			
A. The percentage of household waste collected which is sent to landfill			
Limerick City Council	70.5	61%	61%
Limerick County Council	66.54	63%	63%
B. The tonnage of household waste collected which is sent to landfill			
Limerick City Council	11320.3	9385	9385
Limerick County Council	16885	16846	16846
C. Total tonnage of household waste collected			
Limerick City Council	16056.14	15348	15348
Limerick County Council	25375	26768	26768
D. Tonnage of household waste which is sent to landfill			
Limerick City Council	11320.3	9385	9385
Limerick County Council	16885	16846	16846







# HOME & COMMUNITY



**Oliver O'Loughlin**  
*Director of Services,  
Home & Community*

- Capital Investment
- Home Improvement Programmes
- Housing Maintenance
- Energy Efficiency Programmes
- Allocations
- Inspections
- Tenancy Enforcement Unit
- Rental Accommodation Scheme
- Homeless Services
- Traveller Accommodation
- Estate Management/Tenancy Enforcement
- Traveller Accommodation
- Housing Service Indicators - 2013
- Office of Regeneration Programme
- Other Projects
- Safety Partnership
- Community
- Limerick Lifelong Learning Festival
- Limerick Integration Working Group
- Limerick City Childcare Committee
- Traveller Interagency Services





## HOME & COMMUNITY

The main achievements can be summarised under the following headings:

### Capital Investment

- Continued progress achieved on capital investment such as construction, acquisition, Voluntary Housing Assistance, Local Authority DPGs, and Energy Efficiency Programme.
- Total capital expenditure €35.78m

### Home Improvement Programmes

- Expenditure of €2.74m on grant assistance for Limerick City and County areas. The schemes involved are the Home Adaptation Grants, Mobility Aids Grants & Housing Aid for Older Persons. These schemes are very successful and a significant number of families have benefited from the grant schemes.

### Housing Maintenance

- Expenditure of €4m on continued maintenance and improvement of Council housing stock, in order to achieve good quality and well maintained accommodation, which meets the highest standards expected, and is cost effective.
- Expenditure of €280,000 on planned maintenance and boiler servicing programmes
- 66 Local Authority DPGs completed at a cost of €250,000.

### Energy Efficiency Programmes

- Rolling annual programme to enhance the energy efficiency of Council housing stock.
- SEAI Area Based Projects in both City and County.
- Energy Efficiency and Jobs Stimulus Programme for occupied houses.
- Total expenditure in 2013 on these programmes was €2.2m, with 991 houses upgraded.

### Allocations

- Over 250 households were accommodated by Limerick City and County Councils in 2013. The types of accommodation ranged from small type to family type accommodation.

### Inspections

- 1609 property inspections were carried out by Limerick City Council on it's housing stock.

### Tenancy Enforcement Unit

- Over 75% of complaints received were resolved by this unit in 2013 - City.

### Rental Accommodation Scheme

- 132 applicants were transferred to Private and Voluntary Housing under this Scheme in 2013. This brings the total number of people housed in RAS accommodation in Limerick City & County to 1189 since the inception of the scheme in 2006.
- 756 inspections of properties were carried out by this unit on behalf of Limerick City & County Council and the Private Residential Tenancies Board.

### Homeless Services

Expenditure of €3.6m on regional Homeless Services. 2013 saw the introduction of the PASS (Pathway Accommodation & Support System) software system which tracks and monitors both the patterns and movement of homeless persons and the availability of emergency homeless beds within the Region's Services. This information has proven key in terms of the day to day support requirements and it has aided in facilitating the planning of long term accommodation provision within the City and wider Region.

### Traveller Accommodation

- Limerick City Council maintains 8 Halting Sites in the City.
- Expenditure of €368,000, in 2013, on continued maintenance and refurbishment of these sites.
- A Housing Welfare Service operates across all sites.

## Estate Management/Tenancy Enforcement

Estate management is comprised of two main strands: (i) provision of supports to improve quality of life and develop community spirit within Council housing estates and (ii) dealing effectively with tenancy breaches and, in particular, incidents of anti-social behaviour.

### (i) Provision of Supports

- The Council's estate management unit continued to work directly in the County in encouraging the formation of residents' committees and supporting the implementation of key actions identified by those groups to improve their estates. The support provided varied from assistance in provision of minor infrastructural works such as fencing, walls, signage etc. and softer measures such as contributing towards clean-up days, events for kids etc.
- Two meetings of the very successful Estate Residents Representative Forum were held in 2013. The main purpose of the Forum is to provide a platform where representatives from each residents association can meet with each other and with Council officials with a view to sharing information and experiences.
- Castlevue estate was chosen for entry in the All-Ireland National Pride of Place competition in the Housing Estates category. Huge work went into preparing the estate by the committee and residents, in partnership with the Council, leading up to the visit by the judges on the 18th July 2013 and one could sense that the judges were very impressed by the community spirit displayed. This spirit paid off when they were announced as national winners in their category at the awards ceremony held in Derry in November.
- Estate management support in the larger urban estates was provided mainly through the Office of Regeneration and/or through approved bodies grant-aided by the Council.

### (ii) Tenancy Enforcement

- Almost four hundred (400) complaints were received by the Council's Tenancy Enforcement Unit in 2013, with approximately half of these relating to anti-social behaviour. The Council's policy is to respond to these issues quickly and firmly and it works in close co-operation with An Garda Síochána where necessary.

- The nature of the Council's response to complaints of anti-social behaviour varies in accordance with the severity and scale of the behaviour concerned and having regard to the provisions of the adopted Anti-Social Behaviour Strategy.

## Traveller Accommodation



*Residents of Caemore Court, Croom, with Arthur Murphy, estates liaison officer, Limerick City & County Council, completing paving works at site of public art feature*

The provision of Traveller accommodation and associated support services resulted in continued progress being made in 2013. The preparation of a joint draft Traveller Accommodation Programme for Limerick City and Limerick County for the period 2014-2018 was completed in consultation with members of the Traveller community and other key stakeholders.

The draft programme was subject to a consultation process and will be considered for adoption by both Councils in 2014. Both Local Traveller Accommodation Consultative Committees met during the year to consider accommodation related issues for members of the Traveller Community in the City and County.

In November 2013 an annual count of Traveller families was completed and there was an estimated six hundred and fifty four Traveller families, including Traveller trader families living in Limerick City and County.

## Housing Service Indicators - 2013

### H1: Housing Vacancies

A.	The total number of dwellings in local authority stock	5197
B.	The total number of dwellings, excluding those subject to major refurbishment projects	4963
C.	The overall percentage of dwellings that are empty (excluding those subject to major refurbishment projects)	4.3
D.	The percentage of empty dwellings unavailable for letting	62.84
E.	The percentage of empty dwellings available for letting	37.16
	The average number of dwellings in local authority stock (City & County amalgamated stock)	5197
	The average number of dwellings, excluding those subject to major refurbishment projects	4963
	The average number of dwellings that are empty (excluding those subject to major refurbishment projects)	213.25
	The average number of empty dwellings unavailable for letting	134
	The average number of empty dwellings available for letting	79.25

### H2: Average Time Taken to Re-let Available dwellings

	The average time taken (in weeks) from the date of vacation of dwelling to the date when all necessary repairs are carried out which are deemed necessary to re-let the dwelling	21
	The average time taken (in weeks) from the works (above) being completed to the date of the first rent debit	17

### H3: Housing Repairs

	Number of repairs completed as a percentage of the number of valid repair requests received	87.96
	The number of repairs completed	6673
	The number of valid repair requests received	7586

### H4: : Traveller Accommodation

	Total number of traveller families accommodated as a percentage of the targets set in the local traveller accommodation programme	38.46
	Number of Traveller families accommodated	5
	Target number of Traveller families to be accommodated in the year, as set out in the local Traveller accommodation programme	13



**Housing Service Indicators - 2013** *(Continued)***H5: Enforcement of standards in the private rented sector**

A.	Total number of registered tenancies	11459
B.	Number of dwelling units inspected	594
C.	Number of inspections carried out	756
D.	Number of dwellings inspected as percentage of registered tenancies (i.e. B as percentage of A)	5.18
	Total number of registered tenancies	11459
	Number of dwelling units inspected	594
	Number of inspections carried out	756

**H6: Grants to adapt housing for the needs of people with a disability**

A.	Average time taken (in weeks) to process applications under the Mobility Aids Grant Scheme, including any necessary inspection(s), from the date of receipt of a valid application to the date of decision on the application	16
B.	Average time taken (in weeks) to process applications under Housing Adaptation Grant for People with a Disability, including any necessary inspection(s), from the date of receipt, to the date of decision on the application	26

**H7: Pre-Tenancy Familiarisation Courses**

A.	Total number of new local authority tenants	122
B.	Percentage of new local authority tenants who have been offered pre-tenancy familiarisation courses	100
	Total number of new local authority tenants	122
	Number of new local authority tenants who have been offered pre-tenancy familiarisation courses	122

## Office of Regeneration Programme

The Draft Limerick Regeneration Framework Implementation Plan was launched by Minister of Housing & Planning, Jan O'Sullivan, T.D. in September, 2013. The Plan sets out how the shared vision for stronger communities can and will be delivered. The vision for the regeneration areas is to create safe and sustainable communities of opportunity where people of all ages enjoy a good quality-of-life, a decent home and a sense of pride about their place. Well-serviced and attractive neighbourhoods will be physically connected and fully integrated with the social, economic and cultural life of Limerick. The delivery of the plan will generate significant positive spin-offs in terms of economic activity & construction employment.

The following provides a list of the main work programme in 2013 for each of the areas:

### Southill

- The 35-unit scheme at Colivet Drive is nearing completion and will provide new modern homes for their respective communities;
- Works are ongoing to the Steering Wheel at the Roxboro Shopping Centre to relocate the Southside Area Office. It is expected that the new location will make the team and services more accessible to the community.

### Ballinacurra Weston

- The proposed 79-unit scheme at Lord Edward Street, close to the regeneration area of Ballinacurra Weston, has advanced and the tender process has been completed with work on site due to commence in early 2014. The sensitive redevelopment of this historic edge of city centre site will contribute to the rejuvenation of this area of Limerick City;
- The 29-unit scheme at Vizes Court (Phase 2) is nearing completion and will provide new modern homes for their respective communities;

### Moyross

- 34 homes as part of the Cliona Park have been completed. This scheme has recently won a prestigious Irish Council for Social Housing award;
- An Integrated Design Team has been appointed to progress the second phase of the award winning Cliona Park development and is due to be submitted as a Part 8 planning application.
- An Integrated Design Team has been also been

appointed to progress a new replacement housing scheme at Cosgrave Park with a Part 8 planning application scheduled for submission.

- Part 8 Planning permission has been secured for a new entrance and landscaping works St. Nessan's Community College, Moylish. Works will be carried out in 2014.

### St. Mary's Park

- An Integrated Design Team has been appointed to progress 32 new homes, as part of an elderly housing scheme at Googoos Hill (the 'Orchard' site). A Part 8 planning application is due to be submitted for this scheme in 2014;
- An Integrated Design Team has been appointed to progress 8 new homes at Sheep Street/Athlunkard Street. A Part 8 planning application is due to be submitted for this scheme in early 2014;
- Refurbishment of 3 units at Gaol Lane have obtained approval from the Department of Environment, Community and Local Government.

## Other Projects

### Opera Centre

- Stabilisation works on the Opera Centre were completed in 2013.

### Policy on Social Benefit through Public Procurement

- A policy document on Social Benefit through Public Procurement was adopted by the elected members of Limerick City Council in July 2013. The policy embeds social benefits into public procurement practices as a primary consideration and offers the potential to have a major positive impact by ensuring that the objectives of physical regeneration were integrated with social and economic regeneration.

### Thermal Upgrades

- A pilot scheme to upgrade the thermal performance of 49 houses carried out within the regeneration areas proved successful and this scheme will be rolled out to 300 homes in 2014.

Development proposals have been advanced within the framework of the Implementation Plan refocused following direct engagement with the communities. The City & County Manager's report to adopt the draft Limerick Regeneration

Framework Implementation Plan will go before the Members of Council in February following the conclusion of the formal public consultation process in 2013.

Strategic demolitions continued in 2013 with 100 houses demolished. These demolitions were aligned with the overall strategic objectives. The extent of future demolition has been re-evaluated with the number of units proposed for demolition being reduced from that originally envisaged. Retention and refurbishment will be pursued where feasible. Small scale capital projects continued in 2013 with a view to enhancing the environment, improving security and strengthening connectivity.

The Social Regeneration Programme in 2013 influenced how mainstream funds are applied to social policy interventions to address social exclusion in the City, with specific focus on the regeneration areas. The strategy also aims to improve the coordination of the overall package of State funding into policy interventions in the regeneration areas. This is part of the "whole of government" approach.

The Economic Regeneration Plan will require access to public, private & philanthropic funding sources and could include experimentation with new sources of funding to support enterprise development.

## Safety Partnership



*Cast and Crew of St. Nessans CC*

Following the success of 'Safety Street' over the last 3 years, Limerick City Community Safety Partnership Ltd. invited Transition Year students, youth groups and our older person's groups from across Limerick City and County to come together to experience various realistic scenes in a safe environment.

'Safety Street', Ireland's first purpose built interactive centre was hugely successful in previous years. However, it was felt that the interactive centre would not be user friendly for this year's target audience therefore our drama was set on stage and focused on the impact of relationships between our old and our young.

From Wednesday 16th and Thursday 17th October 2013 Transition Year students and our older persons groups from across the City and County looked at how both groups interact, the way in which we communicate with each other and our potential learning from one another. Based around the shared experience of loss (Teresa's husband and David's friend) they found a common ground and realised that despite their ages they still have similar fears and hopes. Intercutting this story were short scenes and monologues not directly related to the characters but to issues they both encounter: Misunderstanding/Misconceptions, Loss, Loneliness and Safety.



The audience were encouraged to look at changes or interventions for achieving more positive outcomes.

This drama was held at 69 O'Connell Street (formerly The Belltable) and was facilitated by Transition Year students from St. Nessan's Community College.

The purpose for those attending 'Safety Street' 2013 was:

- have an increased awareness of the effects of isolation and loneliness
- be aware of the consequences of our choices and actions
- be encouraged to take a positive, active role in highlighting the issues of those living alone in our community
- be aware of services who offer advice and support to our older people and our young people
- The production was written, directed and produced by Ann Blake in partnership with Limerick City Community Safety Partnership Ltd.

## Community

### Limerick County And City Community And Voluntary Forums

During 2013, the Limerick County Community and Voluntary Forum developed a strategic plan following a series of area based consultations with local communities in 2012. The Strategy will inform the work programmes of the Forum for the next 3 years.

Limerick City Community Forum continued to support participation of member group representatives on local government and other local development structures during 2013. Considerable work on consolidating membership of the Forum was also undertaken during the year.

The Forums continue to represent the voice of the Community and Voluntary sector on a number of local authority committees in Limerick.

### Pride Of Place

Limerick City and County continued its fine tradition of success in the annual Pride of Place Competition in 2013.

Limerick City and County Council nominated Moyross Residents Forum, Foynes and District Community Council, Castlevue Housing Estate, Newcastle West, and Limerick Youth Service to represent Limerick in the 2013 IPB Pride of Place Competition.

Judging took place in July and the awards were announced at the gala ceremony in The Venue, Derry on Saturday 16 November, 2013.

Castlevue Residents Association took top prize in Category 9, the Housing Estates Category. Limerick also had two runners-up awards in the Competition - Moyross Residents Forum in Category 2 Population greater than 1,000 people and Limerick Youth Service in Category 5, a Single Issue category for Enterprise and Youth Projects.

### Limerick Age Friendly Programme

Limerick City Council and Limerick County Council approved the participation of Limerick City and County Councils in the Age Friendly Cities and Counties Programme. Both Councils committed to the principles enshrined in the Dublin Declaration on Age Friendly Cities and Communities at a European-wide signing ceremony held in Dublin in June 2013.

The Limerick Age Friendly Programme was officially launched at an event in the Woodlands House Hotel, Adare on 10th December, 2013. The primary aim of the Programme is to make Limerick City and County a great place in which to grow old. The Programme is overseen by a voluntary Alliance of state sector bodies and community organisations which provide services to Older Adults. The voice of the Older Adult is central to the Programme.

2013 saw the development of 2 Age Friendly Town Plans – Cappamore in County Limerick and a northside study area in Limerick City. The Age Friendly Town Plans were developed following extensive consultation with Older Adults in the study areas, and in conjunction with the state and community/voluntary sector bodies operating within the areas.

### Limerick City And County Comhairlí NA Nóg

The Comhairle na nÓg in County Limerick held its AGM in County Hall, Dooradoyle on the 4 October, 2013. A total of 66 delegates attended the AGM. The delegates discussed the issue of bullying and cyberbullying.

A Youth Council of 30 delegates was elected at the Comhairle na nÓg AGM to participate in the enhanced programme of events for the period 2013-2015.

The Youth Council met 10 times in 2013, and worked on informing policy and the school curriculum on the issue of relationships and sexual education in secondary schools (RSE). The Comhairle members made a number of presentations on the subject to the Regional Manager for RSE and to RSE teachers.

The Youth Council achieved its objective of raising awareness about bullying, and the need for people to act collectively to prevent and stop bullying and to raise awareness about the supports and services available to young people who are the victims of bullying.

Limerick City Comhairle na nÓg is a local youth council, which gives young people the opportunity to be involved in the development of local services and policies. Limerick City Development Board with the support of key partner Limerick Youth Service is responsible for the delivery of the Comhairle na nÓg programme as part of implementing the National Children's Strategy at local level.

The following were the main activities for 2013:

- Participation in Dáil na n-Óg – National Youth Parliament
- Comhairle na nÓg Annual General Meeting
- Launch of Information Mental Health Guidelines
- "Promoting Positive Mental Health in Limerick City "A guide for young people by young people"

Initial work with Limerick City & County Comhairle na nÓg Steering Committees to develop a vision for how a new Limerick wide Comhairle na nÓg will operate has begun.

### Limerick Lifelong Learning Festival

The 2013 Limerick Lifelong Learning Festival took place between 18th and 24th March 2013. More than 130 learning activities took place during the festival including arts and crafts, culture, gardening, recreation, health and well-being, and IT. The festival culminated with a showcase event in Thomond Park at which over 25 different activities were available to experience.

### Limerick Integration Working Group

The Limerick Integration Working Group continued its work towards making Limerick a migrant friendly City and County by launching a new Integration Plan for the 2013 to 2016 period. The Plan endeavours to improve the quality of life for migrants in Limerick under 6 key headings: Language, Education and Lifelong Learning; Information, Advice and Direct Support Services; Access to Public Services; Intercultural Awareness; Active Citizenship and Supporting Communities; and Employment.

Preliminary discussions have taken place with the Council of Europe towards Limerick becoming an Intercultural City in 2014.

### Limerick City Childcare Committee

The Limerick City Childcare Committee has responsibility for the delivery of the Local Implementation Plan for 2013 and is also involved in an amalgamation process with County Limerick Childcare Committee with a deadline of 1st January 2014.

The Local Implementation Plan 2013 for Limerick City CC had 5 objectives:

- To develop comprehensive childcare supports, infrastructure and services where the holistic wellbeing of children and families are fundamental
- To enhance quality early childhood education and care and school age provision
- To consolidate investment in the sector in order to support the continuing development of a stable, integrated and sustainable infrastructure.
- Through ongoing professional development, to build on the capacity of the ECCE sector to enhance and develop quality services for children and their families
- To ensure effective and transparent collaboration, communication and consultation, and optimum use of resources by all stakeholders in early childhood care and education.

LCCC consulted with local childcare services and stakeholders in developing the relevant actions, which included training programmes (focussing on quality and business support), mentoring, clinics, networking opportunities, information provision,

and supporting access to funding schemes for Childminders, Full day services, School Age Childcare Services, Preschools, Parent and Toddler Groups and Parents.

There are currently 49 Childcare services operating in Limerick City, with 47 participating on the Free Preschool Year scheme, 19 on the CCS (Community Childcare Subvention) Scheme, 20 on the CETS (Childcare Education and Training Scheme), and 8 on the DSP Subsidised After Schools Programme. Details of participating services can be accessed at [www.limerickcitychildcare.ie](http://www.limerickcitychildcare.ie) or by contacting the office.

In 2013, 10 Limerick City based Childcare services were approved funding under the Capital Grant scheme, and 7 Parent and Toddler groups were approved under the Parent and Toddler Grant scheme.

Limerick City Childcare Committee and County Limerick Childcare Committee are amalgamated to become Limerick Childcare Committee from the 1st January 2014.

## Traveller Interagency Services

Limerick City and County Traveller Interagency Groups hosted two events on 21st May, 2013 to mark National Traveller Pride Week.

The first event "Travellers Doing It For Themselves" was held in the Kemmy Business School, University of Limerick and was aimed at highlighting the talents, abilities and achievements of members of the Travelling Community in Limerick City and County and was aimed at policy makers, service providers, community representatives, members of the public and most particularly Travellers themselves.

The second event "Fun in the Factory" was hosted in the Factory, Southside Youth Space, Galvone with over 100 members of the Traveller Community from Limerick City sites and its environs attending.

In addition to continuing to deliver actions under the current Traveller Interagency Plan, a Traveller Engagement Process has commenced on a pilot basis on two sites; one on the northside and one on the southside. The aim of this pilot is to engage with Travellers in relation to a number of questions focusing on specific actions in the Interagency Plan and to communicate with them in relation to the new Interagency Plan which is due to be prepared in 2014.

Discussions took place between the Chairs of both Limerick City and County Traveller Interagency Groups during the year at which agreement was reached to create a new Limerick wide Traveller Interagency Group in 2014.



## Community & Voluntary Forum Service Indicators

### Groups Registered with the Community & Voluntary Forum

Number of groups registered with the Community & Voluntary Forum:	135
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### Comhairle na nOg:

#### CP1: Participation in local Youth Council/Comhairle na n-Óg scheme (City)

Percentage of local schools and youth groups involved in the local Youth Council /Comhairle na n-Óg scheme	25%
Total number of local schools and youth groups	44
Number of local schools and youth groups involved in the local Youth Council /Comhairle na n-Óg scheme	11

#### CP1: Participation in local Youth Council/Comhairle na n-Óg scheme (County)

Percentage of local schools and youth groups involved in the local Youth Council /Comhairle na n-Óg scheme	37.5%
Total number of local schools and youth groups	40
Number of local schools and youth groups involved in the local Youth Council /Comhairle na n-Óg scheme	15



# SPORTS & CULTURE



**Kieran Lehane**  
*Director of Services,  
Sport & Culture*

- Limerick County & City Local Sports Partnership
- Askeaton Pool and Leisure Ltd
- Africa Day
- National Commemoration Ceremony
- Library Service Highlights 2013
- Arts Service
- Limerick Archive
- Limerick City Gallery of Art
- Contribution Scheme 2012 - 2013
- The Gathering





## SPORTS &amp; CULTURE

**Limerick County & City  
Local Sports Partnership**

In 2013, County Limerick Local Sports Partnership (LSP) and Limerick City Sports Partnership continued meeting its key objectives around information, education and implementation of programmes throughout Limerick.

The LSP's provided education and training to 1094 coaches/administrators and teachers in the various sporting clubs and schools throughout the County. These programmes/courses are part of the "Continuous Professional Development" (CPD) for the participants. They ensure that safety, best practice and efficient governance are available to our coaches and the participants at grassroots level. 1040 coaches have completed the Code of Ethics "basic awareness" course to date with another 34 completing the Children's Officer Course.

Education and training courses delivered also include Active Leadership, Sports First Aid and Club Development Seminars with over 140 coaches/administrators attending the seminar series programme.

Jointly, Limerick County and City Sports Partnerships have had direct contact through targeted programmes with 20,046 participants from key target groups; disadvantaged youth, older adults, travellers, young people, teenage girls and mothers. Programmes included active girls and mothers, meet and train, gaelic for girls, older adult sports fests, mass participation events (run/walks/jogs/cycles), school completion physical activity programmes, Link2BActive, girls outside, fittlesticks and fitwalk.

In partnership with Fleming Medical the LSP launched a monthly Performance in Sport Award in 2013 which was devised to honour the best local sporting performance each month, beginning in February and running until the end of November.

Each monthly award winner received €500 voucher towards the cost of a new Cardiac Science Powerheart G5 AED (Automated External Defibrillator) and a sports first aid kit worth €60. The overall winners were the Harty Brothers of Rathkeale Boxing Club and they received an AED (provided by Fleming Medical) worth €2400 and an

AED training evening for 8 people worth €600.

CLLSP also developed programmes aimed at a number of target groups namely Gaelic 4 Girls & Mum and Me Camogie Programmes in Monaleen, Ballingarry and Killeedy which aim to increase girls and their mother's involvement in physical activity (80 participants) and Bootcamp programmes in Banogue, Rathkeale, Castletroy and Ballybricken (66 participants). Programmes that support Traveller Health were developed in Askeaton, Newcastle West, Abbeyfeale, Rathkeale and Kilmallock and the LSP will continue to work with these groups in 2014.

Older Adult groups that promote physical activity have been developed in 42 communities across the County and the LSP delivered Active Ageing Physical Activity Programmes to over 560 older adults during the year. These included Older Adult Fests, Community Health & Wellness Information Presentations and FitWalk/Physical Activity Programmes. The number of PAL's trained in County Limerick has now increased to 125.

**Key Activities Include:**

- World Marathon Challenge
- Women on Wheels cycling programme with 24 beginner cyclists, 12 of which completed 35k and 18 completing the Tour de Burren
- Operation Transformation and Let's Go Walking Limerick 2013 with over 1,100 participants
- FitWalk & FittleSticks (Older Adults Groups)
- Active Men's Shed and Men on the Move in Abbeyfeale and Rathkeale
- Meet and Train Groups & Feet on the Street
- Gaelic for Girls Programme
- Mum & Me Camogie
- New Year, New Start
- Splash & Dash – Primary School programme in Askeaton and UL
- Older Adults Sports Fest
- School Completion Programmes based around health and physical activity
- Step in the City
- Continuous Professional Development (CPD) Seminars
- Community Health & Wellness
- Mother of all Sport – Tag Rugby
- Positive Mental Health Programmes
- Benefits of Healthy Eating and Physical Activity Presentations
- Active Angels Programme

- Way to go Kids Programme (programme to tackle obesity)
- VIP Programme
- Coordinated activities and programmes around Bike Week, Recreation Week, Mobility Week, World Heart Day, National Trails Day, World Diabetes Week, National Play Day activities
- Sportshall Athletics programme with 8 post primary schools and 150 kids
- 2013 Get BACK Challenge Cycle Series with 210 participants
- Limerick City Sports Partnership Club Community Grants Programme - €30,000 allocated to Sports Clubs
- Contribution to Sport Awards 2013

One of the key successes of the LSP is its ability to work in partnership with a number of agencies so that programmes and projects can be developed further and can become more sustainable. This is very evident in the case of projects developed with Limerick City & County Council, West Limerick Resources, VEC, University of Limerick, The Gardaí, HSE, Foroige, Limerick Youth Service, Ballyhoura Development Ltd., Mid West Regional Drugs Task Force and the County Childcare Committee.

In 2013 the LSP ran the inaugural Great Limerick Run "Kids Run for Fun" where over 1460 kids aged 4-12 took part in a 1k walk/jog event, 1k wheelchair event and a 2 mile run event. The LSP delivered a 4 week pre event training programme with 20 Limerick schools. On the day 18 local sports personalities from athletics, basketball, soccer, Gaelic Football and hurling acted as pace runners during the event. The LSP are looking forward to the GLR Kids Run for Fun in 2014.

In partnership with the City LSP we have a dedicated development officer (SIDO), Rosemary Ryan – former Olympian who promotes and develops programmes for people with a disability. There are numerous programmes running across the County and participation numbers are growing each quarter. The LSP hope to provide the opportunity to clubs and community groups with education and equipment grants during the year and hope to continue this programme as many other funding streams have discontinued.

As and from the 1st January 2014 both Limerick City and County Sports Partnership will merge as one "Limerick Sports Partnership". The new Sports Partnership will be based in the UL Sport Arena and our new website will be up and running shortly. In

the meantime see [www.cllsp.ie](http://www.cllsp.ie) or [www.limerickcitysports.ie](http://www.limerickcitysports.ie) for any information on events/courses!

## Askeaton Pool and Leisure Ltd

Askeaton Pool and Leisure Centre continued to offer a broad range of leisure and recreation opportunities to the West Limerick area in 2013. In addition to memberships and pay-as-you-go usage options, the Centre provides lessons to 46 schools from all over Limerick County. The Centre caters for swimmers of all ages and abilities and is now open three mornings a week at 7:30am. Public lessons are also available 5 days a week. Askeaton Swimming Club train at the Centre 7 days a week, and 4 galas were hosted in 2013, as well as 2 Community Games galas. There were also a number of week long camps during the Easter and Summer holidays.

The Centre offers 26 fitness classes a week, which include aqua aerobics, Fitbike, Kettlebells, Peak Physique and weight loss classes.

In conjunction with Limerick Sports Partnership, a "Splash and Dash" participation event to encourage primary school children to exercise was held in 2013.

## Africa Day

Limerick City Council in co-operation with the Limerick City/County Integration Working Group hosted Africa Day celebrations at the request of Irish Aid from 23rd – 25th May, 2013.

### Events included;

- African Drumming and Storytelling at Limerick City Library
- Fairtrade Primary Schools Poster Competition
- Art workshop at Limerick City Gallery of Art
- Africa and Ireland in Harmony Concert at St. Mary's Cathedral
- Symposium on Trade and Development "The Relationship Between Ireland and Africa"
- Limerick Sportsfest at Crescent College
- Lunch time Concert at Hunt Museum
- Family Fun Day at City Hall

## National Commemoration Ceremony

Limerick hosted a Day of Commemoration Ceremony in July 2013 to honour all Irish men and Irish women who died in past wars or on service with the United Nations. This was the third year in which this Ceremony was held in Limerick. Representatives of the Roman Catholic Church, the Church of Ireland, the Presbyterian and Methodist Churches, the Jewish Community and the Islamic community conducted the multi-faith commemoration at which the Mayor of Limerick and the Cathaoirleach of County Limerick presided.



*New Blue Sue, We Or Me performing at The Granary Library*

## Library Service Highlights 2013

### Cultural and Civic Events 2013

In addition to our regular programme of events to celebrate the Bealtaine Festival, Seachtain na Gaeilge, Library Ireland Week and Culture Night, an exciting range of events was held in 2013, including:

- **Romania Night**, a celebration of Romanian Culture attended by Iulian Buga, Romanian Ambassador to Ireland was a hugely successful event for The Granary Library.
- In February, Kilmallock Library played host to the award ceremony of the **ISO Water Quality Award** which was awarded to Limerick City and County Council by Minister of the Environment, Phil Hogan, TD.
- Watch House Cross Library facilitated a **Women's Drama Group** who staged an excellent production in the Library as part of a North Side Family Variety Show. This was a great success and very well attended by the local community.
- The internationally renowned **Eigse Michael Hartnett Festival** was launched at Newcastle West Library with an opening address by Noel Curran, Director General of RTE.
- The Granary Music Library hosted a number of events, including live performances by New Blue Sue, We Or Me from Chicago, the Limerick Gospel Choir for Culture Night and a drumming workshop for **Africa Day**.
- A special dramatic presentation was staged in Newcastle West Library to celebrate **International Women's Day in March**.
- Michael Smith, author of **Ice Man and An Unsung Hero** about Antarctic explorer Tom Crean, visited the City Library and spoke to an appreciative audience of both adults & children.
- A genealogy workshop was held in Adare Library as part of the **Adare Weekend of Welcomes** in the year of the Gathering.



*Mayor of Limerick, Gerry McLoughlin, making a special presentation to Iulian Buga, Romanian Ambassador to Ireland at Romania Night in The Granary Library*

### Children's Events 2013

- Watch House Cross Library's literacy programme '**Read Together, Learn Together, Family Reading**', has become an annual event for parents and teachers and was greatly enhanced this year by regular story sessions with local author Roisin Meaney.
- **Children's Book Festival** was celebrated across the City and County with a varied programme of events including visits from such notable authors as Darren Shan, Michael Smith, Sarah Webb & Gabriel Fitzmaurice, science workshops with Michael Moylan, story time and lively art and craft sessions.
- **Drum Dance Ireland** held some lively and enjoyable drumming workshops in The Granary for Africa Day.
- **Children's art exhibitions** were held in Newcastle West and Abbeyfeale Libraries and puppet shows were enjoyed in Watch House Cross and Adare.
- **The Summer Reading Challenge** proved a huge success in both City and County branches with over 1,000 children taking part.





*Darren Shan with a captivated audience at The Granary*



*Artist Gerry Fenniman with his family at the launch of his exhibition at Newcastle West Library*



*Dowtcha Puppet show at Watch House Cross Library*

- **The Summer Reading Challenge** proved a huge success in both City and County branches with over 1,000 children taking part.
- **Regular parent and toddler story time sessions** at Watch House Cross and Kilmallock Libraries were an ongoing and popular attraction for our youngest readers.
- Christmas was celebrated by our young readers in all our library branches with highlights such as story time, tree decoration workshops and even a visit from Mrs. Claus to the happy children of Adare.

#### **Limerick Studies, The Granary & Lissanalta House**

The digitisation of local materials continued throughout 2013. The Limerick Socialist, Our Catholic Life and Hatch 33 were added to our digitised, online journals collection and The Limerick Leader Newspaper Project in collaboration with the National Library and the Limerick Leader continued with the weekend county edition of this newspaper for the 1980's and 1990's being microfilmed and added to stock to complete holdings of both City and County from 1960 to 2013.

One of the highlights of the year was the production of a series of 'Then and Now' postcards as part of a Library project for the Gathering. Photographs of six towns in County Limerick and six places in Limerick City were chosen for the postcards used to invite visitors to Ireland.

2013 was the fourteenth year of the History Lecture series at the Granary Library. Six lectures were held during the year.

#### **Exhibitions 2013:**

- Kilmallock Library held its first open invite Group Exhibition of Art entitled Crinniú during the summer months. A total of 19 local artists exhibited work of amazing quality varying from Ceramics to Photography, Stone Sculpture, Woodwork and Painting.
- The Irish Wheelchair Association exhibited some lovely art and crafts at Watch House Cross Library in April.
- An exhibition of carvings by internationally renowned woodsculptor Ian Norbury was held at Abbeyfeale Library in March.
- Newcastle West Library hosted an exhibition of the work of artist Gerry Fenniman which showcased many of his unique and beautiful wooden pieces.

#### **Service Indicators 2013**

- Registered Readers: 33,879
- Items issued: 754,898
- Recorded Visits: 708,372

- Hours of Internet/Wi-Fi use: 93,804
- Exhibitions: 18
- Events & Activities: 650



*Tess O'Mahony dancing to the rhythm of the Limerick Gospel Choir in the City Library.*

## Arts Service

2013 was a busy year for the Arts Service in Limerick City and County Councils, with preparations for Limerick's designation as first National City of Culture in 2014, the launch of the Artists' Apartments, 1-2 John's Square, subsidised living space scheme for artists and the Limerick Arts Encounter, a collaboration between the Arts Office, the Arts Council and the Lime Tree Theatre to ensure continued provision for the arts for artists and audiences in Limerick following the closure of the Belltable Arts Centre. In September 2013, due to the retirement of Joan McKernan, Arts Officer, Limerick County Council the service of the Arts Office was amalgamated and transferred to City Hall.

Limerick Arts Office supports provision for the arts across all arts forms. Support was divided into the following areas;

### 1. Information and Advice

- Support and advice for people in the arts community and those interested in engaging with the arts as well as inquires for individuals and members of the public.

### 2. Supporting and developing The Arts Infrastructure of the City and County

- Recommendations on revenue funding for established arts organizations.
- Recommendations on Grants under the Arts Act.

- Artists in Schools Programme.
- Facilitation of development of cultural infrastructure through partnership.
- Management of Limerick Artists' Studios, the Artists Apartments, 1-2 John's Square and 69 O'Connell Street.
- Membership of the boards of management committees of a number of events, organisations and institutions.

### 3. Support for the Individual Artist

- For residencies, travel bursaries and specific originated arts interventions.

### 4. Festival Programming

Annual events such as Culture Night, The Kate O'Brien Weekend, eva International, Cuisle Limerick City International Poetry Festival, Eigse Michael Hartnett and Open House Limerick. Culture Night and Open House were delivered for the first time from one Arts Office, providing shared programming, administration and resources and attracting positive feedback from audiences across the City and County.

Other festivals not directly organized by the Arts Office but in receipt of funding and other support: Fresh Film Festival, Make A Move Festival, Elemental Arts and Culture Festival, Limerick Jazz Festival, Fleadh by the Feale, Fleadh Cheoil na Mumhan, Féile na Máighe, The Seán Ó'Faoláin Weekend and The Lough Gur Storytelling Festival.

### 5. Arts Programming

Youth Arts (County Limerick Youth Theatre, County Limerick Youth Choir and the Integrated Youth Drama Programme), Arts in Health with Integrated Dance, The Music Programme (The Castleconnell Concerts Series, the Community Voice and Singing Initiative, Drombanna Community Choir and the West Limerick Singing Club Garry McMahon Singing weekend), the Literature Programme and the yearly poetry anthology *The Stony Thursday Book*, edited this year by Paddy Bushe and launched at Cuisle.

### 6. Art form development

- Support for festivals as part of the annual cultural calendar.
- Support for organisations involved in art forms such as theatre, dance, visual art, music, literature, architecture, community arts.

### 7. Art and Education

Each event organised by The Arts Office endeavours to provide an educational aspect to allow younger audiences to participate fully in the yearly programme of events, e.g. *The Cuisle Young Poet of the Year Competition*.

### 8. Portfolio of Arts Buildings within the remit of The Arts Office

2013 saw several buildings fall within the remit of the Arts Office, bringing a total portfolio of:

Dance Limerick, 1-2 John's Square, ground floor and basement and Daghdha Space.	A resource for Dance in Limerick and the region, offices and studio space along with a separate performance venue known as the Daghdha Space.
Artists' Apartments, 1-2 John's Square, floors 1-2.	6 residential, 2 short-term studio-style apartments.
Artists' Studios, Cappamore	4 new artists studios.
James Street Artists' Studios	8 artists' studios.
69 O'Connell Street (formerly Belltable)	Theatre and offices for use by arts organizations.

### Limerick Arts Encounter

Limerick Arts Encounter was developed as a collaboration between the Arts Office in Limerick City & County Council and the Lime Tree Theatre in light of the closure of The Belltable Arts Centre. The theatre side of 69 O'Connell Street was re-opened in September 2013 through the Limerick Arts Encounter Programme, in partnership with the Arts Council, the Lime Tree Theatre and Limerick Arts Office. The collaboration has proved to be an important development in arts provision for audiences and artists. The programme which is running from mid-September 2013 to March 2014 encompasses theatre, film, visual art, sonic art, dance and literature.

### Social media 2013

Started in July of 2013 The Arts Office Newsletter is a weekly e-zine that provides information on upcoming artistic and cultural events and funding opportunities reaching over 900 people. The Arts Office uses a range of social media to promote events, with Facebook (583 followers) and Twitter (2422 followers). Alongside the enewsletter, advertising and social media, it is planned to build on the benefits of joint promotion further in 2014.



*Soprano, Claudia Boyle accompanied by Mairead Hurley on piano, performed at the opening of the Kate O'Brien weekend at Daghdha, John's Square*



## Limerick Archive

Limerick City Archives acquired the archives of St Joseph's Hospital in March 2013. The Hospital was founded in 1828 as Limerick Lunatic Asylum and over the years thousands of Limerick people have passed through its doors. A legal agreement was drawn up with the HSE ensuring that the records are available for genuine historical research while protecting the privacy of individuals.

In August 2013 Limerick City Archives in partnership with Mary Immaculate College launched a free searchable database to the burial register for Mount St Lawrence cemetery. This allows easy access to the almost 70,000 people buried in the old cemetery.



Left: Mayor of Limerick Kathleen Leddin officially launched an online, searchable database of 70,000 people buried at Mount St. Lawrence Cemetery. At the event are from left: Emma Gilleece, Caherdavin, Sharon Slater, Limericks Life and Elizabeth O'Connor, Rosxboro

Below: St Josephs Arc: Former psychiatric nurse Gerry White, examines one of the ward books for St Joseph's Hospital Dr. Maura Cronin, Mary Immaculate College; John Hayes and Flan Haskett, Cemetery Services; and Jacqui Hayes, City Archivist in Mount St Lawrence cemetery



## Limerick City Gallery of Art

Limerick City Gallery continued its strong attendance through 2013, with visitor numbers being around 70,000. Through 2013, LCGA connected to partners in Northern Ireland with Belfast Exposed and CCA Derry Londonderry, as well as with Gallery of Photography, Temple Bar Galleries and Studios, and Pallas Projects / Studios, with its Labour related exhibitions, marking the 100th anniversary of the 1913 Lockout. In the broader picture, in 2014 it will continue its development of partnerships and showcasing excellent art for Limerick's citizens and visitors. There was much press coverage of the exhibitions, with LCGA earning its reputation of being a key regional provider of Contemporary Culture in the South West.

Beginning the year with one of Ireland's most eminent artists, Michael Warren, truly ground-breaking sculpture commences the LCGA offering for the Limerick City of Culture year. This work, in the exhibition entitled *THOSE WHO GO / THOSE WHO STAY*, is the product of 2 year's work by Warren, and has been hailed a truly break-through event for sculpture and its contemporary exponents.

In 2014, LCGA will continue its partnership with EVA International Biennale of Art this year with a substantial Access programme associated with the exhibition curated by Bassam El Baroni.

Other partnerships will continue with the Softday collective, with support from Limerick City of Culture and Limerick City Council's regeneration office, in a project to bring Urban Beekeeping back into the City, entitled *A Buzz around Limerick*. Another project is the projection of large scale portraits of Limerick's citizens in an outdoor location in Christina Gangos's *Landlocked*. Other projects will include working with Urban Street artists and continuing the relationships with primary and secondary schools and students, as well as third level collaborations.

Later in the year, Dennis McNulty presents new work, curated by Mary Conlon. It is intended to present work from Eastern Europe in exhibition, focusing on Poland, as well as marking the centenary of World War 1 by looking at what War means in the contemporary understanding, as homage to those fallen in Europe's Great War, the War to end all Wars.



*REREDOS, 2013, by Michael Warren. Sycamore, cedar of Lebanon, steel 270 x 300 x 180 cm in Limerick City Gallery of Art*

LCGA will celebrate Limerick's Artists at the end of the year, with new work by some of Limerick's most accomplished and beloved artists, including John Shinnors and Andrew Kearney. 2014 will be a watershed year for Limerick's cultural providers and should be a year that will have seen the public engage closely with all that their City has to offer, across all the Arts. LCGA will play its part in this, energetically and enthusiastically.



*BARBED TREFOIL, 2013, by Michael Warren. Macrocarpa, steel 3 x (276x200x100cm) in Limerick City Gallery of Art*

## Contribution Scheme 2013

	2013
University Concert Hall Ltd.	18,000
Foynes Aviation & Maritime Museum	15,000
Hunt Museum	2,500
Irish Chamber Orchestra	5,000
Adare Heritage Trust	10,000
Friarsgate Theatre	3,000
Askeaton Civic Trust Heritage Centre	5,000
Comhaltas Ceoltóirí Éireann	2,000
Community Games	2,000
Limerick Marine Search & Rescue	5,000
Limerick SPCA	1,000
Limerick Animal Welfare	1,000
St. Gabriels Hydrotherapy Pool	2,000
West Limerick Community Radio	2,000
East Limerick Community Radio	2,000
Abbeyfeale Town Park	2,000
Lough Gur Development Assoc	3,000
Abbeyfeale Search & Rescue	5,000
Balltable Arts Centre	5,000
Limerick Musical Society	1,000
Limerick Youth Service	1,500
Rape Crisis Mid-West	2,000
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>95,000</b>





*Mayor of Limerick, Cllr. Kathleen Leddin presented a Certificate of Irish Heritage to Mr. Jimmy Carr, British Comedian and TV Personality*

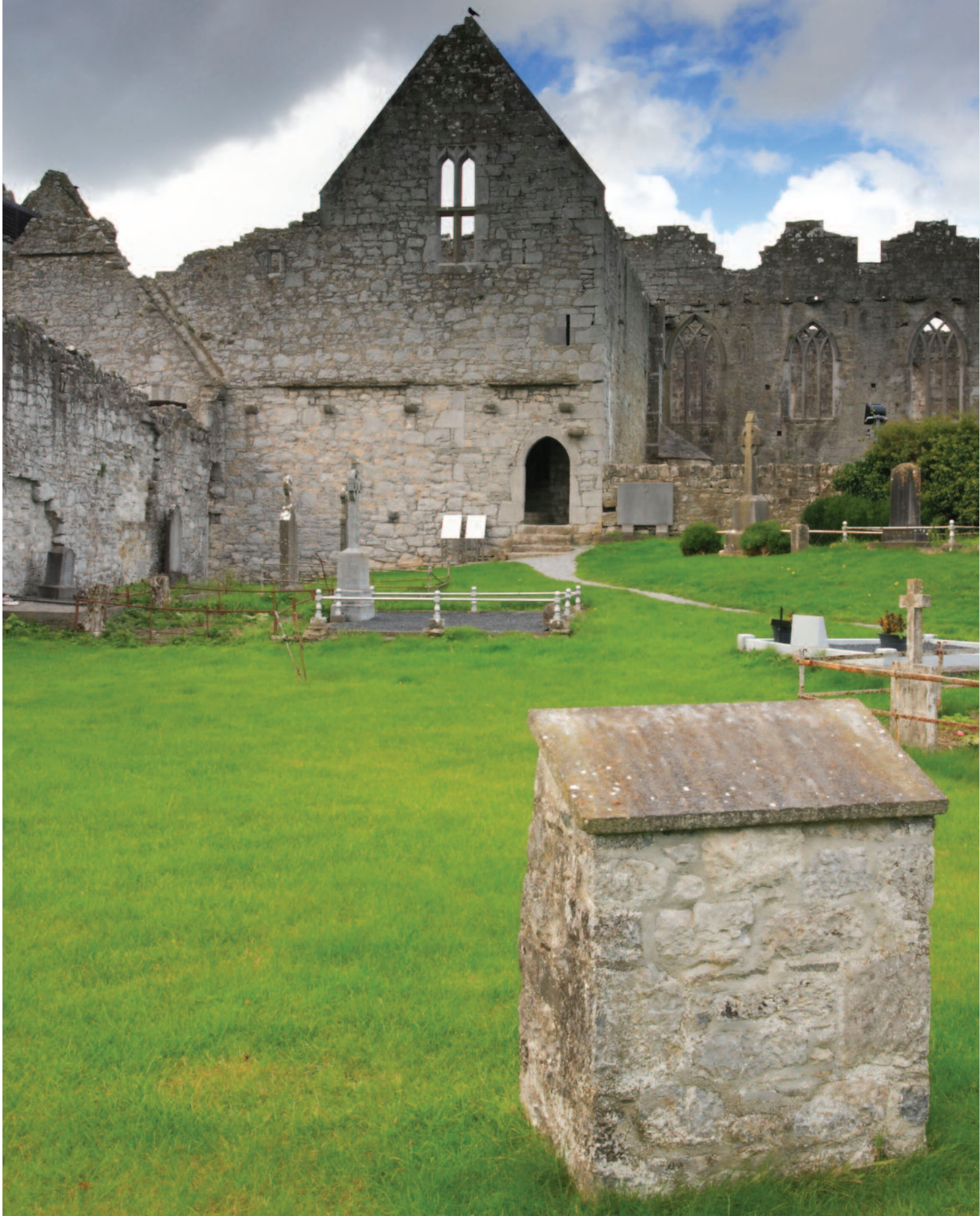
## The Gathering

Limerick had a very successful "Gathering Year" in 2013, with almost 200 Gathering Events held in almost every town and village in the County, bringing thousands of visitors to Limerick to join our year long celebration of Irishness. A variety of events took place, ranging from Clan Gatherings and sporting events to Food Festivals and Concerts. In addition to the Local Community Events held, the City and County Council nominated three flagship events which were supported financially by IPB insurances.

These events were the Irish Festival Of Speed, The Civic Trust Tag A Legend Rugby Event and the Limerick International Fashion and Design Competition, which was nominated for the prestigious "Excellence in Local Government Awards". This event also featured on RTE's Nationwide Programme and brought a very positive focus to Limerick.

During the year of the Gathering, Limerick City and County Council awarded a Certificate of Irish Heritage to Mr. Jimmy Carr, British Comedian and TV Personality, due to the fact that both his parents hail from Limerick. This award was presented to Jimmy Carr by the Mayor of Limerick, Cllr Kathleen Leddin at the University Concert Hall Limerick on the 23rd November 2013.







# ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT & PLANNING



**Tom Enright**

*Director of Services, Economic  
Development & Planning*

**LIMERICK COUNTY COUNCIL**

- Economic Development & Planning
- Development Management
- Enforcement
- Development Contributions
- Forward Planning
- Development Fund Project Allocations for 2013
- County Limerick Planning Key Performance Indicators Report – 2013

**LIMERICK CITY COUNCIL**

- Planning
- Economic Policy Development & Future Planning Strategic Policy Committee
- Limerick City Planning Key Performance Indicators – 2013





## LIMERICK COUNTY COUNCIL ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT & PLANNING

### Economic Development & Planning

The Directorate continued to meet its statutory requirements in relation to planning applications, planning enforcement matters and review and preparation of Local Area Plans as well as playing a proactive role in encouraging and facilitating enterprise development and employment opportunities throughout the County.

### Development Management

The Development Management Section processed just over 770 planning applications in 2013.

During 2013, the public's access to planning services was enhanced through increased public counter opening hours.

The average waiting time for a preplanning meeting to discuss potential planning applications remains at six working days.

#### Key Statistics:

- 777 planning applications were received by Limerick County Council in 2013;
- 27 applications were deemed invalid at the beginning of the planning process in 2013 with a further 50 subsequently being deemed invalid as the site notice did not comply with regulatory requirements;
- Decisions were made in respect of 654 applications in 2013: 634 decisions to grant planning permission and 31 decisions to refuse, giving a grant rate of 95.3 % and a refusal rate of 4.7 %;
- 153 planning applications for individual houses and 18 applications for housing development were decided in 2013;
- Of the 153 decisions made in respect of individual houses, 92% were decisions to grant planning permission;
- Environmental Impact Statements were submitted with six applications;
- Of the 39 decisions made by the Council appealed to An Bord Pleanála and determined by them in 2013, 29 were upheld, giving a confirmation rate of Council decisions of 74 %;

- 328 preplanning meetings with prospective applicants for planning permission were held in 2013. The average waiting time for such meeting was six working days;
- 103 applications to extend the duration of planning permissions were received in 2013.

### Enforcement

In accordance with the statutory requirements of the Planning and Development Act 2000-2013 Limerick County Council initiated enforcement action in order to ensure compliance with planning permission and to prevent unauthorised development. The table below sets out the enforcement action taken during 2013

Complaints Received	353
Complaints Dismissed	21
Complaints Resolved	265
Warning Letters Issued	203
Enforcement Notices Issued	134
Prosecutions	53

### Development Contributions

New Guidelines to assist Planning Authorities in reviewing their Development Contribution Scheme were published in January 2013. This guidance was designed to assist planning authorities to achieve, through their development contribution schemes, a balance between the costs of the services provided and the need to support economic activity. Therefore, a key aim for future development contribution schemes must be to promote sustainable development patterns, secure investment in capital infrastructure and encourage economic activity.

Limerick County Council commenced a review of its development contribution scheme in 2012. A Draft Development Contribution Scheme 2014-2016 was then prepared and published in accordance with the statutory procedure for preparing a Contribution Scheme as set out in

Section 48(6) of the Planning and Development Acts, 2000-2013. Submissions were received on same and the new Development Contribution Scheme 2014-2016 was adopted by Limerick County Council at its meeting held on the 16th December 2013. This scheme provides for significant reductions in the level of development contributions across a wide range of developments. The collection and follow up of outstanding development contributions has been greatly improved by the Planning & Development Contribution (PDC) System which was put in place in 2011. However with a significant decrease in construction activity, there continues to be seen a significant fall in income in this area as was the situation in 2012 and this in turn has impacted on the number of projects funded from the Development Fund. It is a continual challenge to ensure that funding continues to be available to address the advancement of capital projects and to address the infrastructural deficits within the County.

<b>Monies Received in 2013 in accordance with Development Contribution Scheme</b>	<b>€1,150,354.67</b>
Monies outstanding relating to applications which have commenced in 2013 in accordance with Development Contributions Scheme	<b>€1,516,907.98</b>

## Forward Planning

The Forward Planning Section is responsible for the research, preparation and production of planning policy documents and planning for the sustainable development of housing, infrastructure, economic and environmental development in the County.

### Local Area Plans:

Following a period of extensive public consultation the Castleconnell Local Area Plan was prepared and adopted in October 2013. The aim of the Local Area Plan is to establish a framework for the planned, coordinated and sustainable development of the village of Castleconnell, including the conservation and enhancement of its natural and built environment over the next six years and beyond.

The review of the Abbeyfeale and Newcastle West Local Area Plans commenced in the last quarter of 2013 with the publication of "First Issues" documents for both towns and public consultation workshops in October 2013.

### Community Plans

In consultation with the local community a draft Village Design Statement was prepared for Dromcolliher, which described the distinctive characteristics of the locality, and provides design guidance to influence future development and improve the physical qualities of the area. Planning advice and guidance was also provided to community groups in the preparation of Community Plans, including the Knocklong Community Plan, which was prepared by the Knocklong Development Association.

### Conservation

The Council continues to provide a planning advisory service to any person wishing to carry out works to buildings of architectural significance and protected structures within the County. A total of 40 Section 57 declarations were issued outlining the type of works which would or would not materially affect the character of protected structures or any element of the structures.

Under the Department of Arts, Heritage and the Gaeltacht, Structures at Risk Fund €22,400 was secured for two projects, i.e. Caherconlish Church, Barrack Street and Fennessey's Thatched Pub, Askeaton.

### Heritage

The Heritage Officer through the preparation of screening reports for Strategic Environmental Assessments and Appropriate Assessments for various infrastructural projects ensures the ongoing protection and conservation of Limerick's heritage.

## Development Fund Project Allocations for 2013

Project	Funding allocation (€)
Unfinished Estates	120,000
Land Acquisition – Southern Environs Park	65,000
Croom Community Enterprise Centre	30,000
Lough Gur Heritage Centre	20,000
Kilmallock Community Enterprise Centre	25,000
Kantohar Community Enterprise Centre	30,000
Foynes Aviation and Maritime Museum	30,000
Lough Gur Amenity Works	50,000
Ballyneety WWTP	60,000
Mungret Village Renewal	170,000
Abbeyfeale Property Acquisition	110,000
Area Funding	150,000
Caherconlish Carpark	15,000
Road Access to Community Lands in Adare	50,000
Water Services Infrastructure	150,000
Forward Planning Costs	150,000
	<b>1,105,000</b>



## County Limerick Planning Key Performance Indicators Report – 2013

Time Period	Jan - Dec 2013
<b>New Housing Development</b>	
No. of applications decided	18
No. decided within 8 weeks	4
No. of decisions which required the submission of further information.	14
No. of decisions where an extension of time was agreed to by the applicant, under Section 34(9).	0
Average length of time taken (in days) to decide a case where further information was sought	78
No. of grants	15
No. of refusals	3
No. of cases where the decision was confirmed, with or without variations, by An Bord Pleanala	0
No of cases where the decision was reversed by An Bord Pleanala	0
<b>Individual Houses</b>	
No. of applications decided	153
No. decided within 8 weeks	39
No. of decisions which required the submission of further information.	110
No. of decisions where an extension of time was agreed to by the applicant, under Section 34(9).	4
Average length of time taken (in days) to decide a case where further information was sought	77
No. of grants	141
No. of refusals	12
No. of cases where the decision was confirmed, with or without variations, by An Bord Pleanala	3
No.of cases where the decision was reversed by An Bord Pleanala	4
<b>Other: Not Requiring Eia</b>	
No. of applications decided	488
No. decided within 8 weeks	205
No. of decisions which required the submission of further information.	277
No. of decisions where an extension of time was agreed to by the applicant, under Section 34(9).	6
Average length of time taken (in days) to decide a case where further information was sought	77
No. of grants	473
No.of refusals	15
No.of cases where the decision was confirmed, with or without variations, by An Bord Pleanala	22
No.of cases where the decision was reversed by An Bord Pleanala	4
<b>Other: Requiring Eia</b>	
No. of applications decided	6
No. decided within 8 weeks	1
No. of decisions which required the submission of further information.	5
No. of decisions where an extension of time was agreed to by the applicant, under Section 34(9).	0
Average length of time taken (in days) to decide a case where further information was sought	101
No of grants	5
No. of refusals	1
No. of cases where the decision was confirmed, with or without variations, by An Bord Pleanala	4
No. of cases where the decision was reversed by An Bord Pleanala	2

County Limerick Planning Key Performance Indicators Report – 2013 *(Continued)*

Time Period	Jan - Dec 2013
<b>Public Opening Hours</b> Average number of opening hours per week	32.5
<b>Consultations</b> Number of pre-planning consultation meetings held Average length of time (in days) from request for consultation with local authority planner to actual formal meeting for pre-planning consultation.	328 6
<b>Planning Enforcement</b> Total number of cases subject to complaints that were investigated Total number of cases subject to complaints that were dismissed Total number of cases subject to complaints that were resolved through negotiations Number of enforcement procedures taken through warning letters Number of enforcement procedures taken through enforcement notices Number of prosecutions	353 1 265 203 134 53
<b>Taking In Charge Of Estates</b> A: Number of residential estates for which planning has expired in respect of which formal written request for taking in charge (from residents or developers) were on hands at the beginning of the year B: Number of estates taken in charge in the year in question C: Number of dwellings in respect of B above D: No. of estates in column A not completed to the satisfaction of the planning authority in line with the planning permission E: Number of estates in column D in respect of which enforcement action was taken in the year in question /or the bond was called in F: Number one estate in column D in respect of which works were undertaken by the authority to bring the estate to taking in charge standard	69 20 1182 29 19 2

## LIMERICK CITY COUNCIL ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT & PLANNING

### Planning

Realising the economic, social and cultural potential of the City by the provision of infrastructure and the promotion of retailing, tourism and general commercial and industrial development. Ensure that all those who have an interest in the planning and economic development of the City have an input to the formulation of planning policies.

#### Key services of this department include:

- Regulating and managing development proposals to ensure proper planning and sustainable development of the City
- Provision of Advice and Guidance including free pre-planning meetings
- Control of Development
- Adherence to the City Development Plan
- Implementation of Government programmes for tax exempt developments
- Conservation of the Natural Environment
- Protecting and enhancing the City's Architectural and Urban Heritage.
- Operation of casual trading areas and licenses
- Co-ordination and licensing of Events and Festivals

#### Work carried out during the year included:

- Review and adoption of new Development Contribution Scheme
- Participation in Limerick Regeneration Masterplan
- Development and branding of 'Limerick Street Traders' and 'Saturdays on Cruises Street' casual trading
- Launch of the Shannon Integrated Framework Plan (SIFP)
- Co-ordination of licensing of two major events - Bruce Springsteen concert and City of Culture
- New Year's Eve open air celebrations
- Liaison with festivals committees regarding St Patricks Festival, Riverfest, Elemental, Make a Move etc.
- Administered structures at Risk Fund
- Grant to Limerick Civic Trust
- Received Part IX to relocate Courts Service to Mulgrave Street
- Publication of 'Planning an Event' Guide
- Progressed implementation of Smarter Travel

Significant Planning permissions granted in 2013 included:

- 10 city centre change of use
- New primary school at Roxboro Road
- New access to St Nessen's School
- Gas Works
- LYS Youth Centre, Ballynanty
- Planning permission for concerts in the Gaelic Grounds

#### Part VIII

New Office of Regeneration for Southside  
Extension of Mount Saint Laurence Cemetery  
Development Contributions  
Development Contributions of €645,000 were collected in 2013

### Economic Policy Development & Future Planning Strategic Policy Committee

The Committee met twice in 2013.

Presentations and discussions took place on a range of issues including:

- Limerick Economic and Spatial Plan - Limerick 2030
- Development Contribution Scheme
- Limerick and Clare Joint Sports and Physical Recreation Strategy.
- Old Royal Cinema
- Strategic Integrated Framework Plan for the Shannon Estuary 2013-2020
- Development of the site formally known as the Opera Centre
- Events and Festivals
- Derelict Sites



## Limerick City Planning Key Performance Indicators - 2013

**P1 Planning Applications – Decision Making – INDIVIDUAL HOUSES**

A	Number of applications decided	1
B	Number of decisions in A which were decided within 8 weeks	0
C	Number of decisions in A which required the submission of further information	1
D	Number of decisions in A where an extension of time was agreed by the applicant, under Section 34(9) of the Planning & Development Act 2000-2013	0
E	Average length of time taken (in days) to decide an application where further information was sought	62
F	Percentage of applications granted	100%
G	Percentage of applications refused	0
H	Percentage of cases where the decision was confirmed, with or without variations, by An Bord Pleanala	0
I	Percentage of cases where the decision was reversed by An Bord Pleanala	0

**New Housing Development**

A	Number of applications decided	0
B	Number of decisions in A which were decided within 8 weeks	0
C	Number of decisions in A which required the submission of further information	0
D	Number of decisions in A where an extension of time was agreed to by the applicant, under Section 34(9) of the Planning & Development Act 2000-2013	0
E	Average length of time taken (in days) to decide an application where further information was sought	0
F	Percentage of applications granted	0
G	Percentage of applications refused	0
H	Percentage of cases where the decision was confirmed, with or without variations, by An Bord Pleanala	0
I	Percentage of cases where the decision was reversed by An Bord Pleanala	0

**Other: Not Requiring Environment Impact Assessment**

A	Number of applications decided	151
B	Number of decisions in A which were decided within 8 weeks	79
C	Number of decisions in A which required the submission of further information	69
D	Number of decisions in A where an extension of time was agreed to by the applicant, under Section 34(9) of the Planning & Development Act 2000-2013	0
E	Average length of time taken (in days) to decide an application where further information was sought	67.8
F	Percentage of applications granted	93.3
G	Percentage of applications refused	6.6
H	Percentage of cases where the decision was confirmed, with or without variations, by An Bord Pleanala	66.6
I	Percentage of cases where the decision was reversed by An Bord Pleanala	33.3

**Limerick City Planning Key Performance Indicators - 2013** *(Continued)***Other: Requiring Environment Impact Assessment**

A	Number of applications decided	1
B	Number of decisions in A which were decided within 8 weeks	0
C	Number of decisions in A which required the submission of further information	1
D	Number of decisions in A where an extension of time was agreed to by the applicant, under Section 34(9) of the Planning & Development Act 2000-2013	0
E	Average length of time taken (in days) to decide an application where further information was sought	77
F	Percentage of applications granted	100
G	Percentage of applications refused	0
H	Percentage of cases where the decision was confirmed, with or without variations, by An Bord Pleanala	0
I	Percentage of cases where the decision was reversed by An Bord Pleanala	0

**P2 Planning Enforcement**

A	Total number of cases subject to complaints that were investigated	99
B	Total number of cases subject to complaints that were dismissed	20
C	Total number of cases subject to complaints that were resolved through negotiations	8
D	Number of enforcement procedures taken through warning letters	71
E	Number of enforcement procedures taken through enforcement notices	24
F	Number of prosecutions	4

**P3 Planning Public Opening Hours**

A	Average number of opening hours per week	35
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**P4 Pre-Planning Consultations**

A	Number of pre-planning consultation meetings held	134
B	Average length of time (in days) from request for consultation with local authority planner to actual formal meeting for pre-planning consultation	7

**Limerick City Planning Key Performance Indicators - 2013** *(Continued)*

<b>P6 Taking Estates in Charge</b>		
A	The number of residential estates for which the planning permission has expired, in respect of which formal written requests for taking in charge (from residents or developers), were on hands at the beginning of the year	50*
B	Number of estates that were taken in charge in the year in question	0
C	Number of dwellings in respect of B	0
D	Percentage of estates in A not completed to satisfaction of the planning authority in line with the planning permission	0
E	Number of estates in D in respect of which enforcement action was taken in the year in question and/or the bond was called in	5
F	Number of estates in D in respect of which works were undertaken by the authority to bring the estate to taking in charge standard	0

\* *Planning Department took over in June 2013 and following a review of all files transferred, these are our findings.*











# FINANCE & ICT



**Tom Gilligan**  
*Head of Finance & ICT*

LIMERICK COUNTY COUNCIL

- Income and Expenditure Review
- Balance Sheet
- Income & Expenditure Account Statement

Information & Communication Technologies (ICT)

LIMERICK CITY COUNCIL

- Income and Expenditure Review
- Balance Sheet
- Income & Expenditure Account Statement





## FINANCIAL REVIEW LIMERICK COUNTY COUNCIL YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2013

### Income And Expenditure Review

#### Revenue Expenditure Review

Revenue expenditure for the year amounted to €99,790,355 before transfers. Transfer to Reserves amounted to €7,085,827 giving a total expenditure figure for 2013 of €106,876,182. Actual income for 2013 was €107,454,822 leading to a revenue surplus for 2013 of €578,640. This when added to the opening deficit of €-549,283 gives an accumulated surplus at 31 December 2013 of €29,357.

Payroll continues to be one of the most significant costs with a total payroll cost in 2013 of €36,812,027 (excludes VEC Pensions). In 2012 payroll costs (excluding VEC pension) represented 37% of total expenditure and this percentage remained at 37% of

overall expenditure in 2013. This indicates the need for the continued commitment to re-align pay and non-pay expenditure within the County Council. Payroll costs in 2013 reduced from 2012 levels due to the introduction of measures that continued to control payroll costs including the non renewal of temporary contracts and the non filling of vacancies that arose in 2013. Pensions & Gratuities are lower in 2013 compared to 2012 mainly due to the costs associated with the early-exit scheme at end of February 2012. The pay costs and staff numbers will continue to be examined during 2014 in order to identify further savings where possible.

Expenditure is summarised by main area of expenditure as follows:

	2013 % of Expenditure		2012 % of Expenditure	
	€	%	€	%
Payroll	36,812,027	34.4%	38,107,672	35.1%
Operational expenses	50,939,929	47.7%	52,532,797	48.5%
Administration expenses	3,393,799	3.2%	2,953,623	2.7%
Establishment expenses	225,834	0.2%	243,539	0.2%
Financial expenses	7,089,129	6.6%	7,702,636	7.1%
Miscellaneous	1,329,638	1.2%	2,718,928	2.5%
Transfer to Reserves	7,085,827	6.7%	4,164,020	3.8%
<b>Total Expenditure</b>	<b>106,876,182</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>108,423,215</b>	<b>100.0%</b>

**Revenue Income Review**

Revenue income for the year amounted to €107,454,822. This represented a decrease of €804,038 on the total income in 2012 (€108,258,860). The following table summarises the main income sources:

	<b>2013</b>		<b>2012</b>	
	€	%	€	%
Grants & Subsidies	23,954,112	22%	25,820,218	24%
Contributions from other local authorities	318,493	0%	279,713	0%
Goods & Services	34,748,716	32%	34,421,902	32%
	<b>59,021,321</b>	<b>54%</b>	<b>42,504,572</b>	<b>56%</b>
Local Government Fund	17,668,930	17%	17,229,946	16%
Rates	29,070,112	27%	28,807,773	26%
Pension Related Deduction	1,694,459	2%	1,699,308	2%
	<b>107,454,822</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>108,258,860</b>	<b>100%</b>

Despite the overall reduction of income, Limerick County Council made every effort to minimise the impact of such reductions in the provision of services for 2013. The Council is constantly monitoring its income streams and ensures that the collection of monies remains a priority.

**Balance Sheet Review**

The Balance Sheet presented shows that Limerick County Council in 2013 had total Fixed Assets Costs of €3,057,478,531. The majority of this figure relates to Roads and Infrastructure of €2,098,870,969 and Water / Sewerage networks of €551,704,452. The Net Value of Assets after depreciation amounted to €2,782,605,16.

Total capital expenditure including transfers for 2013 was €23,839,779. The comparison figure for 2012 was €31,086,015, a reduction in expenditure of 23%. The capital income, including transfers for 2013 was €26,113,521 and this compared to €36,456,709 for 2012, a reduction of 28%

Collection percentages for other debt including Commercial Rates and Water were under constant pressure during 2013 mainly due to the recent economic downturn. The arrears outstanding in relation to commercial rates at the 31st December, 2013 was €5,399,823. This figure represents 82% collection for the year, the same as 2012..

**Summary**

The General Revenue Reserve at 31st December, 2013 was €29,357. The balance on the Capital Account at 31st December, 2013 was €22,404,131. The services that Limerick County Council provides play a critical role in supporting businesses throughout Limerick. We will continue to manage our finances to ensure that essential services are delivered to a high quality and represent value for money for the citizens of Limerick. We will continue to monitor financial spending and make the necessary adjustments where changing circumstances dictate.

## BALANCE SHEET AT 31ST DECEMBER 2013

This account summarises Limerick County Council's financial position at the year end, indicated by the value of its assets less its liabilities and the level of balances and reserves at its disposal.

	2013 €	2012 €
<b>Fixed Assets</b>		
Operational	382,975,526	385,119,776
Infrastructural	2,376,477,945	2,383,392,101
Community	552,748	552,748
Non-Operational	12,302,624	12,302,624
	<b>2,772,308,843</b>	<b>2,781,367,249</b>
<b>Work in Progress and Preliminary Expenses</b>	41,188,237	33,687,431
<b>Long Term Debtors</b>	25,144,904	26,252,185
<b>Current Assets</b>		
Stocks	240,675	296,852
Trade Debtors & Prepayments	14,217,039	11,742,337
Bank Investments	16,186,020	17,958,311
Cash at Bank	3,184,859	1,136,520
Cash in Transit	5,075	5,075
Urban Account	-	-
	<b>33,833,668</b>	<b>31,139,095</b>
<b>Current Liabilities (Amounts falling due within one year)</b>		
Bank Overdraft	-	-
Creditors & Accruals	15,353,697	16,528,712
Urban Account	-	-
Finance Lease	-	-
	<b>15,353,697</b>	<b>16,528,712</b>
<b>Net Current Assets / (Liabilities)</b>	<b>18,479,971</b>	<b>14,610,383</b>
<b>Creditors (Amounts falling due after more than one year)</b>		
Loans Payable	56,161,861	59,432,285
Finance Leases	-	-
Refundable deposits	1,454,225	1,508,311
Other	99,713	433,184
	<b>57,715,799</b>	<b>61,373,780</b>
<b>Net Assets</b>	<b>2,799,406,156</b>	<b>2,794,543,468</b>
<b>Represented by</b>		
Capitalisation Account	2,772,308,843	2,781,367,249
Income WIP	39,369,856	35,194,647
Specific Revenue Reserve	384,904	384,904
General Revenue Reserve	29,361	(549,283)
Other Balances	(12,686,810)	(21,854,052)
<b>Total Reserves</b>	<b>2,799,406,154</b>	<b>2,794,543,465</b>



## INCOME & EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT STATEMENT FOR YEAR ENDING 31ST DECEMBER 2013

The Income and Expenditure Account Statement brings together all the revenue related income and expenditure. It shows the surplus/(deficit) for the year.

### Expenditure by Division

	Gross Expenditure 2013 €	Income 2013 €	Net Expenditure 2013 €	Net Expenditure 2012 €
Housing & Building	10,247,424	10,788,682	(541,258)	(571,711)
Roads Transportation & Safety	22,674,814	15,004,282	7,670,532	8,221,321
Water Services	20,749,314	11,144,178	9,605,136	11,074,672
Development Management	5,279,687	1,002,644	4,277,043	4,486,407
Environmental Services	22,292,681	13,342,925	8,949,757	9,765,637
Recreation & Amenity	4,531,436	268,577	4,262,859	4,619,449
Agriculture, Education, Health & Welfare	4,555,432	3,766,196	789,236	676,440
Miscellaneous Services	9,459,563	3,703,837	5,755,726	5,465,147
	-	-	-	-
<b>Total Expenditure/Income</b>	<b>99,790,351</b>	<b>59,021,321</b>		

<b>Net cost of Divisions to be funded from Rates &amp; Local Government Fund</b>	<b>40,769,030</b>	43,737,362
Rates	29,070,112	28,807,773
Local Government Fund - General Purpose Grant	17,668,930	17,229,946
Pension Related Deduction	1,694,459	1,699,308
	-	-
<b>Surplus/(Deficit) for Year before Transfers</b>	<b>7,664,471</b>	<b>3,999,665</b>
<b>Transfers from/(to) Reserves</b>	(7,085,827)	(4,164,020)
<b>Overall Surplus/(Deficit) for Year</b>	<b>578,644</b>	<b>(164,356)</b>
<b>General Reserve @ 1st January 2013</b>	(549,283)	(384,927)
<b>General Reserve @ 31st December 2013</b>	<b>29,361</b>	<b>(549,283)</b>

## FINANCIAL REVIEW LIMERICK CITY COUNCIL YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2013

### Income And Expenditure Review

#### Revenue Expenditure Review

Revenue expenditure for the year amounted to €75,870,998 before transfers. Transfer to Reserves amounted to €6,134,930 giving a total expenditure figure for 2013 of €82,005,928. Actual Income for the year was €82,024,018 leading to a revenue surplus for 2013 of €18,090. This when added to the opening surplus of €526,300 gives an accumulated surplus at 31 December 2013 of €544,390.

Payroll continues to be the most significant cost with a total payroll cost in 2013 of €29,708,735 (excludes VEC Pensions). In 2012 payroll costs (excluding VEC pension) represented 38% of total expenditure and this percentage reduced to 36% of

overall expenditure in 2013. This indicates the need for the continued commitment to re-align pay and non-pay expenditure within the City Council.

Payroll costs in 2013 reduced from 2012 levels due to the introduction of measures that continued to control payroll costs including the non renewal of temporary contracts and the non filling of vacancies that arose in 2013. Pensions & Gratuities are lower in 2013 compared to 2012 mainly due to the costs associated with the early-exit scheme at end of February 2012. The pay costs and staff numbers will continue to be examined during 2014 in order to identify further savings where possible.

Expenditure is summarised by main area of expenditure as follows:

	2013 % of Expenditure		2012 % of Expenditure	
	€	%	€	%
Payroll	29,708,735	36.2%	31,176,419	38.0
Operational expenses	29,356,959	35.8%	27,068,162	33.0%
Administration expenses	5,675,516	6.9%	5,391,627	6.6%
Establishment expenses	2,407,212	2.9%	2,861,803	3.5%
Financial expenses	7,377,927	9.0%	7,526,687	9.2%
Miscellaneous	1,344,650	1.6%	1,026,495	1.3%
Transfer to Reserves	6,134,930	7.5%	7,010,752	8.5%
<b>Total Expenditure</b>	<b>82,005,928</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>82,061,946</b>	<b>100.0%</b>

**Revenue Income Review**

Revenue income for the year amounted to €82,024,018. This represented a decrease of €66,770 on the total income in 2012 (€82,090,775). The following table summarises the main income sources:

	Appendix	2013		2012
	€	%	€	%
Grants & Subsidies	12,822,396	16%	13,038,133	16%
Contributions from other local authorities	10,937,124	13%	10,720,218	12%
Goods & Services	19,642,412	24%	18,746,221	23%
	<b>43,401,932</b>	<b>53%</b>	<b>42,504,572</b>	<b>52%</b>
Local Government Fund	8,264,861	10%	7,758,879	9%
Rates	29,020,604	35%	30,468,252	37%
Pension Related Deduction	1,336,621	2%	1,359,072	2%
	<b>82,024,018</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>82,090,775</b>	<b>100%</b>

A number of income areas performed ahead of budget in 2013 resulting in surplus income over budget. In particular the non-principal private residence charge and housing related income contributed to a favourable outturn versus budget. I would like to commend the significant effort by staff in these sections to generate additional income. The benefit of other increases in income such as Accommodation of Homeless Persons would be cancelled by similar increases in expenditure.

**Balance Sheet Review**

The Balance Sheet presented shows that Limerick City Council had Fixed Assets of €1,032,560,157 and Work In Progress of €18,163,710 as at 31 December 2013.

Capital expenditure for 2013 amounted to €51.6m. The comparison figure for 2012 was €46.5m an increase in expenditure of €5.1m. Capital income amounted to €58.2m in 2013, an increase of €8.5m on the 2012 figure of €49.7m. Grants accounted for 85% of total capital income in 2013.

Collection percentages for areas of debt including Commercial Rates and Water were under constant pressure during 2013 mainly due to the ongoing economic downturn and level of vacancy in Limerick City.

**Summary**

The Revenue Surplus for 2013 is €18,090. As a result the accumulated revenue surplus at the end of 2013 is increased to €544,390 compared to €526,300 at the end of 2012. The retention of cumulative surplus for an eighth year is a very positive reflection of the efforts of the elected members to address the historic financial situation of Limerick City Council, and is also reflective of the continuous efforts of the staff of the Council in achieving better value for money and increasing overall efficiencies during these challenging economic times.



## BALANCE SHEET AT 31ST DECEMBER 2013

This account summarises Limerick City Council's financial position at the year end, indicated by the value of its assets less its liabilities and the level of balances and reserves at its disposal.

	2013 €	2012 €
<b>Fixed Assets</b>		
Operational	352,573,415	345,615,375
Infrastructural	654,931,912	649,335,542
Community	6,203,911	6,138,038
Non-Operational	18,850,919	18,850,919
	<b>1,032,560,157</b>	<b>1,019,939,875</b>
<b>Work in Progress and Preliminary Expenses</b>	18,163,710	21,217,275
<b>Long Term Debtors</b>	13,810,743	14,743,189
<b>Current Assets</b>		
Stocks	163,577	199,157
Trade Debtors & Prepayments	13,436,870	16,669,450
Bank Investments	35,164,476	17,283,731
Cash at Bank	636,779	6,996,552
Cash in Transit	-	-
Urban Account	-	-
	<b>49,401,702</b>	<b>41,148,890</b>
<b>Current Liabilities (Amounts falling due within one year)</b>		
Bank Overdraft	-	-
Creditors & Accruals	17,358,013	15,492,151
Urban Account	-	-
Finance Lease	-	-
	<b>17,358,013</b>	<b>15,492,151</b>
<b>Net Current Assets / (Liabilities)</b>	<b>32,043,689</b>	<b>25,656,738</b>
<b>Creditors (Amounts falling due after more than one year)</b>		
Loans Payable	19,267,416	21,372,734
Finance Leases	-	-
Refundable deposits	475,166	512,225
Other	138,874	264,581
	<b>19,881,456</b>	<b>22,149,540</b>
<b>Net Assets</b>	<b>1,076,696,843</b>	<b>1,059,407,537</b>
<b>Represented by</b>		
Capitalisation Account	1,032,560,157	1,019,939,875
Income WIP	18,111,151	19,168,472
Specific Revenue Reserve	-	-
General Revenue Reserve	544,390	526,300
Other Balances	25,481,145	19,772,890
<b>Total Reserves</b>	<b>1,076,696,843</b>	<b>1,059,407,537</b>

## INCOME & EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT STATEMENT FOR YEAR ENDING 31ST DECEMBER 2013

The Income and Expenditure Account Statement brings together all the revenue related income and expenditure. It shows the surplus/(deficit) for the year.

### Expenditure by Division

	Gross Expenditure 2013 €	Income 2013 €	Net Expenditure 2013 €	Net Expenditure 2012 €
Housing & Building	15,021,291	15,731,998	(710,707)	(843,616)
Roads Transportation & Safety	11,025,395	4,803,547	6,221,848	4,180,439
Water Services	12,330,259	10,056,093	2,274,165	3,480,133
Development Management	4,890,348	1,541,513	3,348,836	3,103,738
Environmental Services	17,601,761	7,101,248	10,500,513	11,456,632
Recreation & Amenity	5,064,442	408,466	4,655,977	4,735,044
Agriculture, Education, Health & Welfare	1,411,992	1,041,004	370,988	539,089
Miscellaneous Services	8,525,510	2,718,063	5,807,446	5,895,163
	-	-	-	-
<b>Total Expenditure/Income</b>	<b>75,870,998</b>	<b>43,401,932</b>		

<b>Net cost of Divisions to be funded from</b>	<b>32,469,066</b>	32,546,622
Rates & Local Government Fund		
Rates	29,020,604	30,468,252
Local Government Fund - General Purpose Grant	8,264,861	7,758,879
Pension Related Deduction	1,336,621	1,359,072
	-	-
<b>Surplus/(Deficit) for Year before Transfers</b>	<b>6,153,020</b>	7,039,581
<b>Transfers from/(to) Reserves</b>	(6,134,930)	(7,010,752)
<b>Overall Surplus/(Deficit) for Year</b>	<b>18,090</b>	28,829
<b>General Reserve @ 1st January 2013</b>	526,300	497,471
<b>General Reserve @ 31st December 2013</b>	<b>544,390</b>	526,300

## INFORMATION & COMMUNICATION TECHNOLOGIES (ICT)

The Information Systems Sections of Limerick City Council & Limerick County Council amalgamated from January 2013, to support the process of merging the two authorities in a new single authority, while continuing to support sections in achieving their objectives.

We continued to maintain & upgrade existing end-user systems, monitor security, consolidate servers, maintain & upgrade WEB sites, and provide a user Helpdesk, throughout 2013.

**Some of the major areas of activity were :**

### Move Management

This involved the relocation of staff between Merchants Quay and Dooradoyle, and relocation within the both buildings. The move process commenced during April, and in total over 250 staff moved location.

ICT staff carried out the following tasks in preparation for the move :-

- Installed a Data link between Merchants Quay and Dooradoyle offices.
- Linked the telephone systems to enable internal calls between the offices, and facilitate forwarding of publically advertised numbers between buildings.
- Developed a Joint Intranet to facilitate access to systems.
- Create a Link between the two networks (Trust Relationship) to enable users in each network access systems, printers etc. on the other network.

### New Mail System

Work commenced on the new email system in July, after a Business Case\Cost Benefit Analysis was prepared, with MS Exchange 2013 being the preferred option. All Members and Staff will have an @limerick.ie email address on completion.

The servers were built, and fault tolerant\high availability system put in place and tested. Migration of users commenced during November, with over 750 users to migrate. The migration project will run until May, 2014.

### Merger of Systems

Planning for merging Council systems commenced early in 2013. This involved preparing a catalogue of systems in use by both Authorities, aligning versions where the same system is in place, selecting a preferred system where different systems are in place, appointing Project Leaders and project Teams. Careful planning is required as many systems rely on each other, e.g. Agresso, Core, PDC, iPlan, iDocs etc.

Merger of systems will involve 102 separate projects, which will require development of detailed plans. It is proposed to divide the merger of systems into three phases as set out :-

- Phase I - Critical systems, to be merged for 1st June 2014.
- Phase II - High Importance systems, to be merged by end of 2014.
- Phase III - Remainder of systems, to be merged early 2015.

### City of Culture

The City of Culture project commenced for ICT during May with the fit-out of offices in Pery Square. This project was different to other fit-out projects undertaken by ICT, as the building was a protected structure, and we were limited with where and how we could install equipment. However the building was ready for occupation during July.

ICT also developed the City of Culture website which was developed using Open-Source software 'Drupal', and is hosted on Council servers.

### Limerick.ie

The ICT section continued to provide support and development resources to the limerick.ie project to ensure a 100% availability rate. Development commenced on a new Open-Source version of the site using 'Drupal' software. This will enhance features of the site, and facilitate the development of a mobile application.



### **New Single Network**

The design for a new single network was prepared during 2013, with detailed plans for migration of all systems and users to the new network. Many systems are reliant on network username & password authentication, and systems are unusable if this does not operate correctly. Migration to the new network will commence June 2014.

### **New Single Website**

The design of a new joint Website for Limerick City & County Council commenced during 2013. The design is based on the Council service catalogue, the site will be user friendly and jargon free. Users will retrieve information quickly and easily online on all services available to them. The site will be live from 1st June 2014.

### **Customer Relation Management System (CRM)**

Design on a new Open-Source Customer Relation Management System (Sugar CRM) has commenced. This will be used initially in Customer Services and will be implemented throughout the council following a successful pilot.







# AREA DEVELOPMENT

- Adare & Castleconnell Area
- Kilmallock Area
- Newcastle West Area
- Rathkeale Area





## AREA DEVELOPMENT

### Adare and Castleconnell Electoral Areas

The Adare and Castleconnell Offices provide a wide range of services to the suburbs of Limerick City, as well as the more rural areas of the Castleconnell and Adare Electoral Areas. The diversity of needs in these areas provides its own challenges, and in 2013, despite decreased resources in both finances and manpower, the Annacotty and Croom offices met these challenges well.

Several staff retired during 2013 from both the Croom and Annacotty area offices, including Jimmy Collins, Liam Joyce and Michael McNamara. John Quillinan, Roads Supervisor retired after forty years of dedicated service.



*"No more drinking from a flask,  
And sorting meal allowance.  
Health and happiness to you  
The one and only - Mister Q"*

*A Verse from a Poem by Joe Healy marking the retirement of John Quillinan*

#### Road Services

Roads Services activities throughout the year included road surface improvement and restoration, provision and restoration of footpaths, drainage works, pedestrian crossings, etc.

#### Adare

1. Local Road Restoration & Improvement, (examples, footpath improvements, drainage, masonry works, and road surface works), €865,569
2. Local Road Surface Dressing, €205,619;
3. Specific Improvement Grant for Croom Bruff Road €363,000;

4. Regional Road Restoration and Improvement, €82,945;
5. Regional Road Surface Dressing, €62,670.

#### Castleconnell

1. Restoration Maintenance Allocation (Non National roads); €368,220  
This grant allocation includes for Surface dressing on Local and Regional roads. This grant allocation shows a monetary reduction of €65,000 (15%) on 2012 levels.
2. Restoration Improvement Allocation (Non National roads); €1,079,200
3. Specific Improvement Grant:  
Low Cost Safety Scheme – LP1160/ 1161 – Farnane, Murroe  
Allocation of €50,000 has been made available to improve safety for pedestrians along the LP1161 route. This route within the 50kmph zone has been the scene of two separate pedestrian fatalities in the past 5 years.
4. Additional Grant – June 2013  
Note a further Grant allocation of €400,000 was received by the Castleconnell Roads area from the N.R.A. during June 2013 for additional Restoration Maintenance and Restoration Improvement works. This allocation was used for works as described above and included construction of footpaths, signage and other safety issues.

#### Adare & Castleconnell Electoral Area Committees.

Adare Electoral Area Committee met 11 times in 2013. 2013 ended on a sad note for the Adare Electoral Area Committee, with the passing of the much respected Cllr. Richard Butler (RIP). Ar Dheis Dé go raibh a anam.

During 2012 Cllr. Walsh took over the role of Chairman from Cllr. Fitzgerald.

Castleconnell Electoral Area Committee held 10 meetings in 2013. Our outgoing Chairperson, Councillor Eddie Wade, handed the chain of office to Councillor Michael Sheahan, in September. Agenda items included the Disposal of Land, graveyard improvements, housing grants, etc.

#### Housing and Water Services

- Local Authority Rented Houses ~ a figure of approximately €151,000, was invested in the maintenance and upgrading of our rented

homes and €100,000 was invested in pre-letting repairs. In 2013 we continued our investment in energy efficiency upgrading our housing stock. This consisted of a mix of attic and cavity wall insulation, double glazed windows installation, draught excluders and low cost energy bulbs.

- New Purchases ~ 2 houses were purchased in the Castleconnell Area in 2013, for letting to persons in need of housing. 1 was purchased in Dooradoyle and adapted to suit the needs of someone with a disability.
- Housing Grant Schemes ~ for privately owned housing, there are 3 schemes available, Housing Aid for Older People, Housing Adaptation Grant for People With a Disability, Mobility Aids Grant. A total of 37 grants were paid in 2013 amounting to approximately €264,000. As always, needs far outweigh available resources.
- Connections to Water Supply: 22 applications were received in 2013 and 5 new sewer connections were also made.
- General Maintenance of 11 water supplies at a cost of €1.43m.
- General Maintenance of 10 Waste Water Treatment Schemes in the Castleconnell area cost €1.2m.
- Private Well Grants ~ in tandem with Water Services Section, 10 applications were processed and approved. These grants are aimed at improving private supplies not capable of being served by a public or group scheme.
- Improvement works in the area included additional rising main to Oola Water Supply to increase chlorine contact time, Energy efficiency upgrade work in Caherconlish WWTP, minor process upgrades in Cappamore WWTP, Doon WWTP, Health and Safety Improvement Works in various treatment plants.



*In 2013 the second phase of works were carried out on Caherconlish Church by Limerick County Council, the works were again assisted by a grant from the Structures at Risk Fund. Works concentrated on the medieval chancel and the east and south walls of the later church – see pictures above of before and after the works.*

## Kilmallock Electoral Area

### Kilmallock Area Committee

During 2013 Kilmallock Area Committee held eleven meetings.

At the meeting of 17 July Cllr. David Moloney assumed the Chair for a period of 1 year. The committee received deputations from Garryvurragha, Kilbehenny; St. Joseph's Foundation, Charleville and Kilmallock Tidy Towns Association at its January, November and December meetings respectively.

A reception was held prior to the February meeting to mark Knockainey's achievement in securing one of the top awards in the 2012 IPB Pride of Place competition. The committee members presented the Knockainey Community Council with a commemorative scroll honouring the group's achievement in beating off stiff competition from all over the country to be crowned overall winners of Population Category 3.



*Cllr. William O'Donnell, Chairman, Kilmallock Area Committee presenting a commemorative scroll to Mary O'Grady of Knockainey Pride of Place group at a reception held at Aras Mainchin Seighe on 21st February 2013.*

### Roads

Under the new Community Involvement Scheme launched in 2013 six schemes were completed in the Kilmallock Roads Area with a total budget of €104,350.

These were carried out on local tertiary roads and the works involved consisted of drainage works, concrete channels and road reconstruction.

There was also an allocation of €30,000 from the Development Fund for accommodation works at Granagh graveyard (stone wall at new car park- €15,000), and new footpaths at The Square, Galbally and towards the Darby's Bed walk on the Tipperary road (€15,000).

### Unfinished Housing Estates

Work continued during 2013 to bring a number of unfinished estates up to a standard to facilitate taking in charge by the Council.

The following estates were taken in charge in the Kilmallock area in the past year:

Brackvaun, Bruff, The Waterfall, Bruff, Tread na Ri, Kilfinane, Cois an Sruthan, Kilfinane



*Cois an Sruthan Unfinished Estate February 2013*



*Cois an Sruthan following works under Unfinished Estates Programme*

### Housing

A total of 120 social housing units had energy efficiency improvement works carried out during 2013 in the Kilmallock Electoral Area. Limerick County Council, in conjunction with Southill Cooperative Ltd. received SEAI funding to carry out energy efficiency work to houses in Glenfield Estate,



Kilmallock, Oliver Plunkett Tce. Ballylanders, and Bank Place, Hospital.

A total of 35 social units and 6 private houses had energy improvement works carried out, involving attic and cavity wall insulation and associated ventilation in accordance with current Building regulations, insertion of CLF bulbs and BER certification.

New boiler and Central Heating systems were installed in Oliver Plunkett Tce. Ballylanders, and in Bank Place, Hospital.

In addition, a total of 58 units had energy efficiency works carried out by Kingspan Energy in association with Limerick County Council.

Attic and Cavity Wall Insulation works were carried out under this scheme to houses located at Bruff, Hospital, Kilfinane, Galbally, Knocklong, Bruree and Ballyagran.

A further 27 houses had similar work carried out by Limerick County Council in Killeely, Kilmallock, Ballyorgan, Kilbehenny and Glenosheen.

## Burial Grounds

In 2013 the Council provided financial assistance to Castletown Cemetery Committee to aid the development of a new burial ground adjacent to the existing cemetery.

## Water Services

In December 2013, the sewage from Kilmallock town was diverted to the new Design, Build and Operate Waste Water Treatment plant. The new plant was built by Coffey Water Group at a contract value of €2.4 million. The new plant will produce effluent to the highest standards and represents a significant environmental improvement for the River Loobagh. The old plant, which operated under difficult conditions for a long number of years will be demolished in early 2014.

The Department of the Environment, Community and Local Government provided funding to replace lead pipe connections in Bruff and Hospital. The works were undertaken and completed using direct labour.

On 13th November 2013 Council Cathaoirleach John Sheahan, Director of Services Josephine Cotter Coughlan, Kilmallock Water Treatment Plant Operator Richard O'Neill and Council officials from

Kilmallock Office travelled to the Burlington Hotel, Dublin, to receive a 2013 Chambers Ireland Excellence in Local Government award, held in association with the Department of the Environment, Community and Local Government. Limerick beat off competition from 33 other local authority areas to be named winner of the "Strategic Water Initiative of the Year" award for the Kilmallock Water Treatment Plant.

The project was shortlisted alongside Erne Valley Water Scheme Partnership.(Caven) and Shanganagh Bray Main Drainage Scheme (Dun Laoghaire Rathdown).

The Kilmallock plant had already earned the prestigious quality standard for the delivery of drinking water ISO 254512:2007, and serves 2500 customers in south east Limerick.



*Phil Hogan T.D., Minister for the Environment, Community and Local Government, makes a presentation to Richard O'Neill, Limerick County Council, at the 2013 Chambers Ireland Excellence in Local Government Awards. Also included are Mark Fearon, Tipperary Crystal, Cllr. John Sheahan, Cathaoirleach, and Ian Talbot, Chief Executive, Chambers Ireland.*

## Kilmallock Town Wall

Limerick County Council supported another very successful Kilmallock Walled Town's Day Festival, which ran on Saturday 17th August.

## Newcastle West

The Newcastle West Area Office, Áras William Smith OBrien, provides a broad range of services throughout West Limerick, including Road Maintenance, Housing, Burial Grounds, Water Services, Planning Clinics, Motor Tax, as well as operation of the Council's Machinery Yard & Bitumen Depot.

### Roads

Expenditure on maintenance and improvement works in Newcastle West Roads Area in 2013 was financed by way of Government Grants, and the Council's own resources.

#### Road expenditure programs included:

- Major road surface overlay on the N21 at Barnagh, NCW.
- Road strengthening and surface dressing schemes on regional and local roads.
- Road overlays at Dromcollogher
- Footpath upgrading at Mountcollins, Abbeyfeale and Newcastle West.
- Development funds at Newcastle West and Athea
- Upgrade local bridge: Broadford

### Great Southern Trail, Abbeyfeale

Upgrade of existing Railway line in Abbeyfeale to a pedestrian walkway. The works consisted of three walkway bridges totalling 3km, extending towards Kilmorna from the Railway Bar Abbeyfeale, to the County boundary with Kerry. The official opening of this section of the trail was performed by Minister Varadkar on Saturday, 23rd February, 2013.

### Smarter Travel Newcastle West

Completion of a Smarter Travel Walking & Cycling Strategy for Newcastle West.

This report sets out a strategy to encourage walking and cycling as a feasible travel option and to increase public awareness of the benefits of same. It recommends the provision of safer routes for cyclists and pedestrians, cycle lanes, pedestrian facilities etc. This report has been forwarded to the Department of Transport, Tourism and Sport for funding.

### Demesne, Newcastle West

This public amenity continues to increase in popularity, with large numbers enjoying the facilities. Large numbers are also attending the playground at the entrance to the Demesne.

## Housing

### Housing Grants Scheme

Eighteen applications under the Housing Adaptation Grants for People with a Disability were approved in 2013 at a cost of €159,607.54. Thirty three applications under the Mobility Aids Housing Grants were approved in 2013 at a cost of €128,108.18. Forty five applications under the Housing Aid for Older People were approved in 2013 at a cost of €262,882.14.

Also approximately 100 Council houses were insulated by Airtricity in 2013. A small number of houses were also insulated under an energy efficiency scheme with windows and doors being replaced in a number of houses.

The Housing Maintenance crew for the Newcastle West Electoral Area is also based in the Area Office.

### Water Services

The Newcastle West Area Office operates and maintains a large number of water and sewerage schemes throughout West Limerick. These include modern water treatment plants at Newcastle West and Abbeyfeale, which are two of the largest towns in the County, and between them produce in the region of 1.5 million gallons of water per day.

### Ballingrane Bitumen Depot & Machinery Yard

The Bitumen Depot at Ballingrane and the Machinery yard based in Newcastle West continues to play a central role in the Road Works Programme. All bitumen used in the County is distributed through the central depot at Ballingrane and the Council fleet of vehicles is maintained by the Machinery Yard.

### Motor Taxation

The Motor Taxation Section in Newcastle West had takings of almost €6.4 million in 2013 with the number of routine transactions carried out during the year totalling 33,835. A further 2,200 statutory off the road declarations were also processed by the office.

## **Rathkeale Electoral Area**

The Rathkeale Area Office, Áras Sean Finn provides a wide range of engineering and administrative services to the Rathkeale Electoral Area including Road Improvement & Maintenance, Housing & Customer Services, Burial Grounds, Community Play Grounds, Water & Waste-Water Services.

### **Roads**

Substantial improvement works were undertaken during the year to the Rathkeale Area roads network which included:-

- Major road surface overlay at Carrigkerry & Ballingarry
- Road Strengthening & Surface Dressing on local & regional roads
- Bridge Repairs at Mohernagh & Ballyhahill
- Footpath upgrade at Glin

### **Glin Pier**

Funding was secured from the Department of Agriculture, Food & the Marine during 2013 to carry out surface restoration works at Glin Pier.









# APPENDICES

## Appendix 1 Conferences & Seminars attended

## APPENDIX 1

## Limerick County Council Conferences Attended 2013

Date	Title	Venue	No.
11th & 12th January	Civil Liability Legislation and how it affects Local Authorities	Wesport Plaza Hotel, Wesport, Co Mayo	02
11th to 13th January	Budget Seminar 2013	Four Seasons Hotel, Carlingford, Co. Louth	03
17th to 19th January	Tourism in Recessionary Times	Falls Hotel, Ennistymon, Co. Clare	02
18th to 20th January	Local Electoral Area Boundaries	Silver Tassie Hotel, Letterkenny, Co Donegal	06
25th to 27th January	Debt Solutions- The new Personal Insolvency Legislation	Celtic Ross Hotel, Rosscarbery, Co. Cork	01
8th & 9th February	Equal Status (Amendment) Bill 2012	Manor West Hotel, Tralee, Co Kerry	02
8th to 10th February	Tourism Seminar Making the Difference	Four Seasons Hotel, Carlingford, Co Louth	05
15th & 16th February	AMAI Spring Seminar	Bandon House Hotel, New Ross, Co. Wexford	01
15th & 16th February	Protection of the individual vs Freedom of Expression	Carlton Hotel, Dublin Rd, Galway	04
22nd to 24th February	24th Colmcille Winter School	Gartan, Churchill, Letterkenny, Co Donegal	01
28th February to 1st March	Mid-West Regional Authority 18th Annual Conference "Economic Recovery – Progress in the Regions"	Horse & Jockey Hotel, Thurles, Co Tipperary	01
1st & 2nd March	Action Plan for Jobs	Kingsvalley Hotel, Ingsvalley Hotel, Dublin Rd, Galway	02
7th & 8th March	Association of County & Councils Annual Conference "Wonderful Waterford"	Tower Hotel, Waterford	02
8th & 9th March	Public Policy Making and the Councillor	Great Northern Hotel, Bundoran, Co Donegal	04
8th & 9th March	Local Government Supporting Volunteerism	Manor West Hotel, Killarney Rd, Tralee, Kerry	02
8th to 10th March	Local Authorities as Drivers of Local Development	Four Seasons Hotel, Carlingford, Co Louth	05
15th & 16th March	The Right to Privacy Data Protection (Amendment) Act 2003	Westport Plaza Hotel, Westport, Co Mayo	01
15th to 17th March	Community & Local Development Leader Funding and the Councillor	Four Seasons Hotel, Carlingford, Co Lough	02



**Limerick County Council Conferences Attended 2013** *(Continued)*

Date	Title	Venue	No.
22nd & 23rd March	Employment Initiatives and Supports for the Unemployed	Kingsvalley Hotel, Merlin Pk, Dublin Rd, Galway	02
22nd to 24th March	20th Amendment – Are plans to abolish and amalgamate Local Authorities unconstitutional?	Silver Tassie Hotel, Letterkenny, Co Donegal	02
5th & 6th April	LAMA Spring Seminar 2013” Local Authorities in Ireland; New Challenges - New Opportunities	Ashdown Park Hotel, Gorey, Co Wexford	03
12th & 13th April	The Future of Local Government in Ireland	Kingsvalley Hotel, Merlin Pk, Dublin Rd, Galway	05
12th to 14th April	Starting & Growing a Chamber of Commerce in Your Community	Four Seasons Hotel, Carlingford, Co Louth	01
18th to 20th April	11th Carlow Tourism National Conference “The Gathering- Diaspora Tourism Matters”	The Lord Bagenal Hotel, Leighlinbridge, Co. Carlow	01
19th & 20th April	Local Government & The Consumer	Great Northern Hotel, Bundoran, Co Donegal	01
19th to 21st April	Local Property Tax: Logistics, Implications and Consequences for Irish Consumer	Mullingar Park Hotel, Co. Westmeath	01
26th to 28th April	Renewable Energy & Energy Management for Local Authorities	Maldron Hotel, Galway	01
3rd & 4th May	Public Service Agreement 2010-2014	The Connacht Hotel, Dublin Rd, Galway	04
3rd to 5th May	Countdown to Local Elections 2014	Mount Errigal Hotel, Letterkenny, Co Donegal	04
10th & 11th May	Flood Risk Assessment	Westport Plaza Hotel, Westport, Co. Mayo	01
10 & 11th May	Local Tourism & The Councillor	The Talbot Hotel, Wexford	01
17th To 19th May	How to Access Funding for Community Programmes Relevant to Councillors	Maldron Hotel, Portlaoise, Co Laois	01
24th & 25th May	Common Agricultural Policy after 2013	The Connacht Hotel, Dublin Rd, Galway	01

**Limerick County Council Conferences Attended 2013** *(Continued)*

Date	Title	Venue	No.
24th to 26th May	West Cork Tourism Seminar	Celtic Ross Hotel, Rosscarbery, West Cork	01
30th & 31st May	SAM (Sport Aiding Mental-Health) National Conference on Sport and Mental Health	Jacksons Hotel, Ballybofey, Co Donegal	01
31st May to 1st June	The Nursing Home Support Scheme	The Connacht Hotel, Dublin Rd, Galway	03
7th June	Nuclear Free Local Authorities Ireland Spring Seminar	Fingal County Hall, Main St, Swords, Co Fingal	01
7th & 8th June	Standards for Rented Houses	Westport Plaza Hotel, Westport, Co Mayo	02
7th to 9th June	European Legislation and Local Authorities	Four Seasons Hotel, Carlingford, Co Louth	01
14th & 15th June	Putting People First, Electoral Boundary Shake Up & Local Government	Bunratty Castle Hotel, Bunratty, Co Clare	01
14th to 16th June	Preparing for New National and Regional Strategies	Silver Tassie Hotel, Letterkenny, Co Donegal	02
21st & 22nd June	Seminar Local Property Tax	Westport Plaza Hotel, Westport, Co Mayo	01
27th to 30th June	The Synge Summer SchoolRathdrum,	Co Wicklow	01
28th to 30th June	European Movement Ireland	Celtic Ross Hotel, Rosscarbery, West Cork	01
12th & 13th July	Local Elections 2014	West Cork Hotel, Skibbreen, Co Cork	01
19th & 20th July	Taxing Goods and Services	Manor West Hotel, Tralee, Co Kerry	03
19th & 20th July	Aiding Local Communities in Job Creation	Talbot Hotel, Wexford	03
28th July to 2nd August33rd	Annual MacGill Summer School "Looking to 2016 – How Stands The Republic?"	Glenties, Co Donegal	02
2nd & 3rd August	Tax for the Business Sector	The Connacht Hotel, Dublin Rd, Galway	01
2nd to 4th August	Rural Crime Prevention & Detection	Clanree Hotel, Letterkenny, Co Donegal	01

**Limerick County Council Conferences Attended 2013** *(Continued)*

Date	Title	Venue	No.
16th to 18th August	Investment in Cultural Services	Silver Tassie Hotel, Letterkenny, Co Donegal	03
30th & 31st August	Changing Social Relations of Housing Tenure	Westport Plaza Hotel, Westport, Co Mayo	01
6th to 8th September	Dignity at Work – A Guide to Bullying & Harassment in the Workplace	Four Seasons Hotel, Carligford, Co Louth	02
6th to 8th September	Making Small Business Work	Louis Fitzgerald Hotel, Newlands Cross, Dublin	04
6th to 8th September	Anthony Trollope International Summer School	Drumsna & Carrick on Shannon, Co Leitrim	01
13th to 15th September	Benedict Kiely Literary Weekend	Strule Arts Centre, Omagh	01
13th to 15th September	The Defining Document on the New Local Government Structure for June 2014	Silver Tassie Hotel, Letterkenny, Co Donegal	04
18th to 21st September	Rattoo Heritage Society Annual Conference	Golf Hotel, Ballybunion, Co Kerry	01
20th & 21st September	Financial Emergency Measures in the Public Act 2013	Manor West Hotel, Tralee, Co Kerry	02
27th to 29th September	The Wealth and Future of the Language – Saibhreas agus Dan na Teanga - An Ghealtacht	Ionad an Bhlascaoid Mhoir, Dun Chaoin, Co Chiarrai	01
27th to 29th September	2013 La Touch Legacy Seminar "Local Government – A New Dawn?"	Charlesland Golf & Country Club Hotel, Greystones, Co Wicklow	01
4th & 5th October	Community Living for Older People	The Connacht Hotel, Dublin Rd, Galway	02
4th to 6th October	Seminar Internet Elections	Louis Fitzgerald Hotel, Newland's Cross Naas Rd Dublin 22	01
11th & 12th October	LAMA Autumn Seminar "Local Authorities Driving Economic Development"	The Falls Hotle, Ennistymon, Co Clare	03
18th & 19th October	Local Government & Enterprise Development	The Holyrood Hotel, Bundoran, Co Donegal	01
18th & 19th October	Local Government & Enterprise Development	The Holyrood Hotel, Bundoran, Co Donegal	01



**Limerick County Council Conferences Attended 2013** *(Continued)*

Date	Title	Venue	No.
25th & 26th October	Supporting Enterprise in the Community	The Connacht Hotel, Dublin Rd, Galway	01
25th to 27th October	Design Guidelines for the Planning & Development for Rural Housing	Celtic Ross Hotel, Rosscarbery, West Cork	01
1st & 2nd November	The Local Government Budget 2014	The Holyrood Hotel, Bundoran, Co Donegal	02
1st & 2nd November	Electoral, Local Government & Planning & Development Act 2013	Westport Plaza Hotel, Westport, Co Mayo	02
1st to 3rd November	Council Budgets Preparation, Adoption & Amendments	Quality Hotel, Killarney, Co Kerry	02
8th & 9th November	Local Authority Rates and Diminishing Returns	The Connacht Hotel, Dublin Rd, Galway	01
8th to 10th November	A Practical Guide to Budget 2014	Four Seasons Hotel, Carligford, Co Louth	01
15th to 17th November	Local Authority Budgets 2014	Silver Tassie Hotel, Letterkenny, Co Donegal	01
15th to 17th November	The Effects of Budget 2014 on the Irish Economy	The Park Hotel, Clonmel, Co Tipperary	01
22nd to 24th November	Budget 2014 for Canvassing	Louis Fitzgerald Hotel, Newland's Cross, Naas Rd., Dublin 22	03
29th & 30th November	Early Education & Childcare in your Community	Manor West Hotel, Tralee, Co Kerry	02
29th November to 1st December	SIPO( Standards in Public Office) & Councillors Obligations	Louis Fitzgerald Hotel, Naas Road, Dublin 22	02
6th & 7th December	Preparing a Development Contribution Scheme	The Connacht Hotel, Dublin Rd, Galway	01
13th & 14th December	Housing Grants & Schemes	The Connacht Hotel, Dublin Rd, Galway	05
13th to 15th December	Tourism Technology & Competitive Strategies for 2014	Celtic Ross Hotel, Rosscarbery, West Cork	01
20th & 21st December	Improving Road Safety Traffic Management	Westport Plaza Hotel, Westport, Co Mayo	03
20th to 22nd December	Microsoft Excel Training Workshop for Councillors	Celtic Ross Hotel, Rosscarbery, West Cork	01

## Limerick City Council Seminars / Conferences 2013

Date	Title	Venue	No.
11-13 January	Conference organised by Ace Training "Budget Seminar 2013"	Carlingford, Co. Louth	02
16 January	Immigrant Council of Ireland 'Fresh Momentum: Building a Fair and Equal Ireland'	Dublin	02
17 January	National Radon Forum 'Launch of the Public Consultation on the Draft National Radon Control Strategy for Ireland'	Dublin	02
18 - 19 January	Seminar organised by Esperanza Enterprises "The Criminal Consequences of Breaching Local Authority Regulations"	Tralee, Co. Kerry	01
18 - 20 January	Conference organised by Kadenza Consultancies "Local Electoral Area Boundaries"	Letterkenny, Co. Donegal	01
24 January	Field Trip to Unicorn Grocery Co-Op	Manchester, England	01
January - April	Diploma in Local Government Studies - Tutorials	Tutorials in Tullamore, Co. Offaly and Ennis, Co. Clare	01
25 - 27 January	Conference organised by Celtic Conferences "Debt Solutions - The New Personal Insolvency Legislation"	Rosscarbery, Co. Cork	02
1 - 3 February	Merriman Winter School 2013	Westport, Co. Mayo	01
8 - 10 February	Seminar organised by Ace Training "Tourism Seminar making the Difference"	Carlingford, Co. Louth	03
14 February	ACCEPT Pluralism / UCD Institute for British-Irish Studies Conference "Tolerance and Diversity in Ireland - North and South"	Dublin	03
19 - 20 February	Review Innovations concerning Shared Service Platforms and Back Office Services of Sefton Borough Council	North Manchester, England	03
22 - 24 February	Conference organised by Celtic Conferences "Public Health Seminar on HSE Tobacco Control Policy"	Rosscarbery, Co. Cork	5
22 - 24 February	Colmcille Winter School "Will the euro, the single european currency survive"	Churchill, Letterkenny, Co. Donegal	1
27 February	Climate Change Lecture "A Time for Giant Steps : A Science Perspective"	Dublin	1
7 - 8 March	Association of County and City Councils Annual Conference	Waterford	1

**Limerick City Council Seminars / Conferences 2013** *(Continued)*

Date	Title	Venue	No.
8 - 10 March	Conference organised by Ace Training "Local Authorities as Drivers of Local Development"	Carlingford, Co. Louth	06
22 - 24 March	Training Seminar organised by Kadenza Consultancies "Are plans to abolish and amalgamate Local Authorities unconstitutional"	Letterkenny, Co. Donegal	02
22 - 24 March	Conference organised by Celtic Conferences "Drug and Alcohol Abuse Seminar"	Rosscarbery, Co. Cork	01
23 - 24 March	Social Event with Limerick Exiles Association London and Limerick V London National Football League Fixture	London, England	01
5 - 6 April	LAMA Spring Seminar 2013 "Local Authorities in Ireland; New Challenges - New Opportunities"	Gorey, Co. Wexford	01
5 - 7 April	Munster V Harlequins Heineken Cup Quarter Final	London, England	01
11 April	Teagasc and RDS Public Lecture Series 212-2014 "Europes Role in Food and Nutrition Security"	Dublin	01
12 - 14 April	Conference organised by Ace Training "Starting and Growing a Chamber of Commerce in your Community"	Carlingford, Co. Louth	03
13 April	1916 Conference "A Decade of Commemoration"	Enniscorthy, Co. Wexford	01
24 April	Eures Cross Border Partnership Tourism Conference 2013 "Sustainable Tourism - Practical Ideas for your Business"	Dundalk, Co. Louth	02
26 - 28 April	Conference organised by Celtic Conferences "Meeting Management Principles and Best Practice"	Rosscarbery, Co. Cork	02
30 April	Energy Bridge Conference "Exploring the Supply Chain Opportunities for Irish Business"	Tullamore, Co. Offaly	02
May - June	Bridging Course, Bachelor of Arts	IPA Headquarters, Dublin	01
3 May	Military Conference "For Flag and Country - The Emigrant Irish in Military Service"	Roscommon	01
10 - 12 May	Conference organised by Ace Training "HSE Tobacco Control Policy"	Carlingford, Co. Louth	01
17 - 18 May	Seminar organised by Esperanza Enterprises "Dealing with Unfinished Housing Estates"	Tralee, Co. Kerry	01



**Limerick City Council Seminars / Conferences 2013** *(Continued)*

Date	Title	Venue	No.
17 - 19 May	Seminar organised by Premier Consultancy "Substance Awareness"	Ballinamore, Co. Leitrim	01
24 - 26 May	Conference organised by Celtic Conferences "West Cork Tourism Seminar"	Rosscarbery, Co. Cork	05
31 May - 1 June	Seminar organised by Esperanza Enterprises "The Nursing Home Support Scheme"	Galway	01
6 June	Conference organised by Phil Prendergast MEP "Sustaining a Living Countryside - Resilient Communities at the Edge"	Cork	01
7 - 9 June	Conference organised by Ace Training "European Legislation and Local Authorities"	Carlingford, Co. Louth	05
19 June	Regional Assemblies Joint Annual Conference "Contribution of Cohesion and Urban Policy to Economic Recovery"	Kilmainham, Dublin	01
28 - 30 June	Conference hosted by Celtic Conferences "European Movement Ireland"	Rosscarbery, Co. Cork	03
28 - 30 June	19th Byrne / Perry Summer School "Men and Masters : The Great Lockout of 1913"	Gorey, Co. Wexford	01
12 - 14 July	Seminar organised by Ace Training "Seminar on Drug and Alcohol Abuse for Local Authorities"	Carlingford, Co. Louth	02
26 - 28 July	Conference organised by Celtic Conferences "Future is Food, Seminar on Employment Opportunities in Artisan Foods"	Rosscarbery, Co. Cork	03
28 July - 2nd August	MacGill Summer School 2013 "Looking to 2016 - How Stands the Republic"	Glenties, Co. Donegal	02
2 - 4 August	Seminar organised by BG Seminarz "Rural Crime Prevention and Detection"	Letterkenny, Co. Donegal	01
11 - 16 August	Parnell Summer School 2013 "Parnell and Kennedy : Lost Leaders"	Rathdrum, Co. Wicklow	01
14 - 18 August	2013 Merriman Summer School "Ireland North and South : Two Societies Growing Apart?"	Lisdoonvarna, Co. Clare	04
16 - 18 August	Conference organised by Ace Training "Benefits of Jobs Creation Tax Entitlements Seminar"	Carlingford, Co. Louth	02
23 - 25 August	Conference organised by Celtic Conferences "Public Presentation and PR Management Seminar"	Rosscarbery, Co. Cork	03
29 - 31 August	Signing of Agreement and Learning from the Provence of Limburg about their experience in bidding for European Capital of Culture 2018 which Limerick are bidding for in 2020	Maastricht, The Netherlands	02

**Limerick City Council Seminars / Conferences 2013** *(Continued)*

Date	Title	Venue	No.
6 - 8 September	Seminar organised by Ace Training "Dignity at Work - A Guide to Bullying and Harassment in the Workplace"	Carlingford, Co. Louth	02
6 - 8 September	Training Seminar for Councillors "Making Small Business Work"	Dublin	01
12 - 14 September	Association of Municipal Authorities of Ireland Annual Conference	Clonakilty, Co. Cork	02
18 - 21 September	Annual Kerry Environmental, Cultural and Heritage Conference and Training Seminar	Ballybunion, Co. Kerry	01
20 - 21 September	The James Fintan Lalor Inaugural School 2013	Portlaoise, Co. Laois	01
21 September	Epilepsy Ireland National Conference 2013 "Exploring Epilepsy Health and Lifestyle Issues"	Tullamore, Co. Offaly	02
27 - 29 September	Conference organised by Celtic Conferences "The Life and Times of Michael Collins"	Rosscarbery, Co. Cork	01
4 - 6 October	Seminar organised by Ace Training "New Tendering Requirements for Local Authorities"	Carlingford, Co. Louth	02
4 - 6 October	Training Seminar for Councillors "Internet Elections"	Dublin	02
9 October	Front Line Defenders "Dublin Platform 2013" Event with Women's Human Rights Defenders	Dublin	01
2013 - 2014 Year 1	Diploma in Genealogy Studies	UCC, Cork	01
18 - 19 October	Seminar organised by Superior Training Services "Local Government and Enterprises Development"	Bundoran, Co. Donegal	01
18 - 20 October	"Back to Our Past" Seminar organised by the Association of Professional Genealogists in Ireland	Dublin	01
23 - 24 October	Shared Histories, Smart Futures Summit	Dublin	01
25 - 27 October	Seminar organised by Kadenza Consultancies "CDBs out - LCDC's in, Insolvency Service of Ireland, Seanad - The Result"	Letterkenny, Co. Donegal	01
25 - 27 October	Seminar organised by Celtic Conferences "Design Guidelines for the Planning and Development of Rural Housing"	Rosscarbery, Co. Cork	02
8 - 10 November	Seminar organised by Ace Training "A Practical Guide to Budget 2014"	Carlingford, Co. Louth	01
13 November	2013 Excellence in Local Government Awards	Dublin	01

**Limerick City Council Seminars / Conferences 2013** *(Continued)*

Date	Title	Venue	No.
16 November	Pride of Place Awards Ceremony	Derry	01
20 November	Briefing for Members of the Oireachtas, Public Representatives and Members of the Northern Assembly on Immigration Reform for Irish in the United States	Dublin	01
22 - 24 November	Seminar organised by Celtic Conferences "Debt Solutions - The New Personal Insolvency Legislation"	Rosscarbery, Co. Cork	04
22 - 24 November	Training Seminar "Budget 2014 for Canvassing"	Dublin	02
29 - 30 November	Seminar organised by Esperanza Enterprises "Early Education and Childcare in your Community"	Tralee, Co. Kerry	01
29 November - 1 December	Training Seminar "SIPO and Councillors' Obligations"	Dublin	02
6 - 8 December	Seminar organised by Ace Training "Local Authority Employment - Law, Practice and Procedure"	Clonmel, Co. Tipperary	01
13 - 14 December	Seminar organised by TGR seminars "Putting People First - Update on Local Government Reform to Date"	Bunratty, Co. Clare	01
13 - 15 December	Seminar organised by Celtic Conferences "Tourism Technology and Competitive Strategies for 2014"	Rosscarbery, Co. Cork	03
15 - 22 December	2013 Mid West Clinic 67th Annual Conference	Chicago, U.S.A.	01
20 - 21 December	Seminar organised by Esperanza Enterprises "Improving Road Safety Traffic Management"	Westport, Co. Mayo	02
20 - 22 December	Conference organised by Celtic Conferences "Microsoft Excel Training Workshop for Councillors"	Rosscarbery, Co. Cork	03









