



Limerick City Council

comhairle cathrach luimnigh

ANNUAL REPORT 2002

VISION TO REALITY | 2002



Limerick City Council | Comhairle Cathrach Luimnigh

vision to reality

Limerick, is essentially the community that makes and shapes the unique character that is our City. Though difficult at times to live by, this simple but powerful idea in action will always deliver results. On a daily basis, the enormous task with the provision of vital city and community services, challenges us to remain mindful in our understanding of the basic principals that make a successful city. At the very core of this idea is the realisation that our vision and plans are most effective when they spring from the realisation that cities evolve organically and from within. As always our Local Government leadership and objectives of quality social and economic community support builds most effectively on a solid foundation of community strength and harmony.



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Councillor John Cronin | Limerick City Mayor

Message from the Mayor

This report has as its theme the concept - Vision to Reality. The simplicity of this concept belies a reality that enormous goodwill and work are central for the delivery to our community essential benefits of good visionary thinking. As Mayor and citizen of Limerick I am delighted to report that daily I have the pleasure of witnessing large and small manifestations of this wonderful collective vision in action throughout our City.

My election as the 806th Mayor of Limerick was the greatest moment of my public life. As a native of Limerick, I am deeply conscious of our city's tradition of local government stretching back to the granting of the first charter in 1197. But while we all take pride in our history, we are also proud of the current progress in Urban Renewal, Sport and Culture that has transformed our city. The past year has again maintained the impressive pace at which Limerick City has continued to develop and progress in recent years.

While enormous progress has been made in terms of the structural and physical redevelopment of our city, the level of voluntary and community work is something which has made an outstanding contribution toward the well-being and development of society generally. I would like to pay very special tribute to the people who have given so freely and generously of their time in this regard and whose efforts have made such a positive and significant impact within our community.

As a region heavily dependant on International tourism and foreign investment, it is important that every attempt should be made to forge closer links with other communities and countries. In this regard, I was particularly pleased to visit, with St Munchins Youth Exchange, our friends in Cloppenburg and to strengthen our relationships with our twin city of Quimper and our sister city of Spokane.

I would like to thank the people of Limerick, the Members of the City Council, the City Manager and staff of Limerick City Council for their help and support during my term as Mayor.

It has been a great honour for me to serve as Mayor of this city. I am confident it has a very bright and prosperous future.



The Management Team

a) BRENDAN KEATING
City Manager
resigned (1/12/2002)

b) TOM MACKEY
City Manager
appointed (14/4/2003)
d) PAT DOWLING
Director of Service
Community & Enterprise

e) SEUMAS O'SULLIVAN
Director of Service/City Engineer
Transportation & Infrastructure

c) CONN MURRAY
Director of Service Social Policy
& Housing/Corporate Services

f) OLIVER O'LOUGHLIN
Director of Service Planning
& Environment

g) ALAN WALLACE
Senior Executive Officer

h) MICHAEL O'FLOINN
Law Agent

j) MARIE CANTILLON
Secretary to Management Team

i) JOHN FIELD
Head of Finance

Members of the Limerick City Council | comhairle cathrach luimnigh



a) Alderman Peter Power TD
FF

b) Councillor Diarmuid Scully
FG

c) Alderman Pat Kennedy
Non-Party

d) Councillor Kathleen Leddin
Non-Party

e) Councillor John Gilligan
Non-Party

f) Councillor Ger Fahey
FG

g) Councillor Maria Byrne
FG

h) Councillor Jo Leddin
Lab

i) Lilly Wallace
Non-Party
Co-opted Feb 2003

j) Councillor Larry Cross
FF

k) Councillor John Cronin
FF

l) Michael Hourigan
FG

m) Councillor Dick Sadler
FF

n) Councillor Kieran O'Hanlon
FF

o) Alderman Jan O'Sullivan TD
Lab

p) Councillor Jack Bourke
FF

q) Councillor John Ryan
Lab

Sectorial Representatives | on the city council's strategic policy committees



Vacant Positions: Environment x 2
Transportation & Infrastructure x 1



a) Mr. Stephen Finn
Social Policy & Housing

b) Ms. Monica McElvaney
Social Policy & Housing

c) Mr. Albert Cullen
Social Policy & Housing

d) Mr. Derek Mulchay
Social Policy & Housing

h) Mr. Bill Windrim
Culture & Sport

e) Mr. David O'Mahony
Culture & Sport

f) Mr. Ray Collins
Culture & Sport

g) Ms. Phyl McCarthy
Culture & Sport

i) Mr. Dick Collins
Environment

j) Mr. Glen McLoughlin
Environment

k) Mr. Tony Brazil
Transportation &
Infrastructure

l) Mr. Michael O'Brien
Transportation
& Infrastructure

m) Mr. Sean Treacy
Transportation &
Infrastructure,
Economic Development
& Future Planning

n) Mr. Tony O'Shea
Economic Development
& Future Planning

o) Mr. Jim Long
Economic Development
& Future Planning

p) Mr. Tadhg Kearney
Economic Development
& Future Planning

Highlights of the Year

As with tradition Limerick City Council hosted many popular civic receptions to honour the achievements of our city's communities and individuals.

Following are photographs from a selection of the many receptions held during 2002. Needless to say, behind the achievements of all successful community and individuals are groups of dedicated and selfless Limerick people. Our congratulations go out to you all again.



Emer Cregan

| Mayoral Reception - 31 October 2002

Mayor John Cronin held this special reception in acknowledgement of the great success of Emer Cregan, who was selected for the Irish team to represent Ireland at the World Cup Hockey Tournament in Australia.

The reception was attended by city councillors, City Council personnel, and family and friends of Emer.



Basketball Team

| Civic Reception - 12 March 2002

Limerick City Council and Mayor Dick Sadlier had great pleasure in hosting this civic reception to mark the victory of the Limerick Super League Team in winning the ESB Senior Mens National Basketball Cup 2001/2002.





Limerick F.C.
| Civic Reception - 12 March 2002

Mayor Dick Sadler and Limerick City Council organised this reception to honour the victory of Limerick Football Club in the FAI Eircom League Cup.

The reception was attended by city councillors, city council personnel, team members, family and supporters.



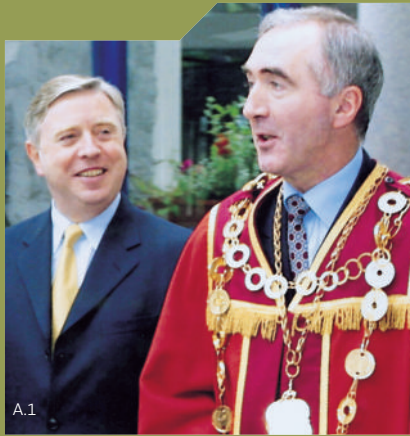
CIVIC RECEPTIONS



Pat Cox Conferred with Freedom of Limerick City

The granting of the Freedom of Limerick City is one of the oldest ceremonies conferred by Limerick City Council. The first granting of the Freedom of Limerick City was in 1877. It is the highest honour that can be bestowed by the City Council and is entirely an honorary position.

The conferring ceremony was held in City Hall, on Friday 24th May, followed by a reception.



A.1



A.2



A.3



A.4



A.5



A.6

- A.1 Pat Cox President of European Parliament with Mayor Dick Sadlier
- A.2 Proceeding in procession to the conferring suite in City Hall
- A.3 Pat Cox accepts the Freedom of Limerick City
- A.4 Cathy Cox and family during the ceremony
- A.5 Pat Cox delivers his acceptance speech
- A.6 Signing the "Roll of Freedom"
- A.7 Cathy Cox, Dick Sadlier, Pat Cox and Mary Sadlier



A.7



A.8



A.9



A.10



A.11



A.12

A.8 Dick and Mary Sadler with Patrick and Cathy Cox and family, Ann, Peter, Grace and Patrick

A.9 Dr. Brendan O'Regan chats with Cllr Jack Bourke

A.10 Conn Murray with Pat Cox

A.11 Dick Sadler, Pat Cox, JP McManus and Brendan Keating

A.12 Pat Cox with his son Patrick and the famous All Black Ball

A.13 Cathy Cox with her mother-in-law Mrs Ellen Cox

A.14 Honorary Freeman - John Hunt (1997), G.E. Russell (1995), Dr Brendan O'Regan (1995), and J.P. McManus (2001)

A.15 Pat Cox and Paddy O'Byrne share a laugh together.



A.13



A.14



A.15

Highlights of the Year continued...

As ever Limerick people go about there lives with great energy and commitment. This years highlights confirm that this culture of achievement remains as strong as ever.

The opening of the Carrol Collection at the Georgian House and Garden on 8th November 2002 by Sir Ivor Roberts, British Ambassador to Ireland. (A.1) The Donor and trustees of the Carrol Collection with the ambassador. (l-r) Mrs June O'Carroll-Robertson (donor), Mrs Davina Vickers, Capt. David Gwynne-James and Sir Ivor Roberts. (A.2) (l-r) Sir Ivor Roberts, (British Ambassador) Mike Finn - alias Major General Sir William Parker Carrol and Hiram Wood, Chairman of the Civic Trust



(A.3) Folk Dance Group Livradoue Danjaire Ambert Region Auvergne France visited Limerick City Hall, Saturday 31 August 2002.

(A.4) Mayor Cronin pictured with the Cloppenburg Group, Josef Kuper, Raphaela Kompio, Hans Eveslage and Patrick Cronin, Saturday 10 August 2002.

(A.5) Mayor John Cronin and Cllr. Brigid Teefy, Cathaoirleach, Limerick County Council, with members of the Limerick Special Olympics squad and their coaches at a mayoral reception in City Hall, Saturday 5 October 2002

(A.6) Three of the Special Olympians pictured with Mayor John Cronin at their mayoral reception.



B.1



B.2



B.3



B.4

(B.1) Romanian Fans Mihai Bilauca and Ovidiu Suteu, both living in Limerick City, scrum down with Mayor John Cronin, Friday 6 September 2002.

(B.2) The Munster Team play an exciting game against Gloucester in Thomond Park.

(B.3) Children give the thumbs up to the Mayor of Limerick, John Cronin, at the path and new green area in New Road Thomandgate, Limerick.

(B.4) Face painting fun at Expo 2002.

(B.5) "Minister launches city arts strategy" Mayor John Cronin, Minister O'Donoghue, Sheila Deegan and Brendan Keating, Tuesday 27 July 2002.

(B.6) US Rotary visit Mayor in City Hall, picture of Sydney Wallen and Rachel Shepherd, Friday 19 July 2002.



B.5

| 2002



B.6

Supporting Economic and Social Development

A city is a living thing and as with all living things its needs are diverse and many. Limerick City Council is charged with the provision of vital services that are universally the signature elements of a dynamic city. Among the services we provide are the essential road network maintenance, planning and improvement.

The promotion of an integrated sustainable public transport system is a key part of a city's infrastructure which must be improved and maintained for us to enjoy a sustainable quality of life. Though there is a view in Limerick that we get more than our share of the world's water by way of rain the provision of quality water through the city remains a huge challenge. Sanitary Services are at work every day of the year in their task of providing the levels of water quality we come to expect.

Transportation and Infrastructure

Continuing to improve and maintain the road network within the city, promote and encourage an integrated sustainable public transport system with due regard for safety and amenity. Providing a quality infrastructure to support the economic and social development of the city. Working closely with the elected members of the City Council, the Strategic Policy Committee, the National Roads Authority, the Department of the Environment and Local Government and the general community of the city of Limerick.



Road Schemes Completed in 2002

Specific Improvement Grants: *(Surfacing and Footpaths)*

- Roxboro Road
- Corbally Road
- Longpavement

Special Block Grant: *(Surfacing and Footpaths)*

- Kileely
- Rathbane
- Wolfe Tone Street
- Henry Street
- South Circular Road
- North Circular Road
- Summerville Avenue
- Mill Road
- Wellfield, Garryowen

Other Works undertaken include:

- Corbally Link Road (Phase 1)
- Northern Relief Road Phase 3 at Thomondgate
- N7 Parkway Realignment
- Surfacing at Bawney's Bridge
- Joint Sealing and Footpath Ecoflexing
- Barcelona Convention Footpath Works (€10k)
- Splitter Island at Bishops Quay
- Public Lighting Improvements
- Programme of Gulley and Manhole Maintenance/ Replacement
- Replacement of Railing at O'Dwyer Bridge
- New Pedestrian Right of Way at Norwood Park
- New Footpath at St. Patricks Road (Wellfield Jct. To Hilltop)
- Footpath Reconstruction at Athlunkard St. (NRR to Nicholas St.)
- Splitter Island at Oakview Drive
- Clanmaurice Footpaths (€12k)
- Footpath upgrading at Roundwood Estate and Rosbrien Road (€6k)
- New Temporary Footpath at Old Dominick Street
- Surfacing of Back lanes in O'Malley Park
- Ecoflex Surfacing of three lanes off Broadstreet
- General Footpath Renewal and Construction
- Hazard / Fault Repair and Elimination



Parkway Retail Park



(l-r) New Traffic Layout, The Parkway Roundabout and Harveys Quay

New Limerick City Council Fleet

Over 70% of the City Council's fleet was renewed during the year with the purchase of 41 new vehicles, at an approximate cost of €250,000.00/year over 5 years. Purchases included 19 vans, 13 pick up trucks, 4 road sweepers, and 1 Refuse Collection Vehicle. The purchase of these vehicles has meant a substantial reduction in the number of hired vehicles in the City Council and should prove to be cost effective in the long term.



New Fleet for Limerick City Council 2002

Sanitary Services

New Mains

New Water Mains were laid at the following locations:

Clare Street	330 meters
Baker Place	220 meters
Ballysimon Rd	750 meters
Wolfe Tone Street	400 meters

New Connections

Over 60 new properties were provided with water service connections.

There were over 25 major water main bursts in the City and of these, 16 were caused by contractors and the remainder broke due to wear and tear. All water main bursts were repaired immediately with effects, generally confined to period not exceeding 12 hours

- Over 200 leaks on the distribution system were located and fixed by our water conservation crews during 2002. These leaks varied in size from 0.1 l/sec to 20 l/sec.
- Over 140 water meters were installed on commercial premises in the city.
- 45 new fire hydrants were installed on the network during the year

Reduce, Recycle & Recover

Environmental awareness in action is an essential ingredient for the cities prosperity and quality of life.

Our Environment

- Implementing the principles of reduction, recycle and recover waste generated
- Achieving a major reduction in street litter
- Achieving measurable improvements in the quality of air and pursuing the achievements of unpolluted water
- Ensuring a reduction of non-renewable energy usage

The main activities to address our objectives:

- Development and implementation of effective educational programmes in homes, schools and business
- Foster public/private community partnerships
- Provision for compost units throughout the city
- Increase number of bring banks and improve location of recycling facilities
- Develop schemes to encourage more newspaper recycling
- Identify and eliminate litter black spots
- Review street cleaning and litter management with on-going consultation with business, public and staff
- Ensure smokeless fuel regulations are exercised
- Monitor discharges or pollutants to our watercourses
- Investigate and evaluate the use of alternative energy vehicles for the city council's fleet

(1) Overall winner Orlaith Crowe, Scoil Mhaithair Dé in the Limerick City Council Anti Litter Awareness Art Competition for Primary Schools.

(2) Limerick City Council is one of five finalists for a Repak Award for the plastic bottle recycling initiative.

(3) Mrs Delahunty of 77 Ballinacurra Gardens, who won the first prize in the Best Hard Surface Garden Category in this years Limerick City Council Tidy District and Garden competition. Presenting her prize, the Mayor John Cronin and Chris Holliday of Garden World (joint sponsors).





Achievements 2002

- 4,756 tonnes of street cleaning waste collected
- 700 litter fines were issued, 322 of these successfully completed. The remaining number are being pursued
- Adoption of Litter Management Plan
- Adoption of Litter Action Plan contained 3 strategies concentrating on: Blackspots, Enforcement, Education and Awareness
- Anti-litter poster printed and distributed to local businesses
- Business stickers and posters advertising freephone litterline and the cost of litter fine produced
- Cinema anti-litter advert commenced 22nd November '02 and ran for 6 weeks
- Tidy District Competition held in October
- 623 compost bins sold
- Three household hazardous waste collections
- A second Litter Monitoring Survey was completed by November 2002
- 16 schools registered for Green Schools Campaign and 1 green flag was awarded
- Control of Horse Forum was established
- Participated in annual pollution exercises



Recycling

The number of bring banks in the city is 20. This is the recommended number in the waste management plan i.e. one per 1,000 households. This number was reached in 2001 and maintained in 2002.



Street Cleaning & Environmental Protection

Cost of street cleaning per citizen in 2001 & 2002 is €52 per citizen.



Cost of environmental protection/conservation per citizen in 2001 & 2002 is €14 per citizen.

(4)&(7) Pupils from St Munchins Girls School, Ballynanty win the Taisce 'Snap Into Action' anti litter competition for National Spring Clean.

(5) The Environment Department distributed over 2,500 re-usable shopping bags marking the launch of the plastic bag levy.

(6) River Shannon Clean Up takes place and the hard work pays off.



Housing Support Network

Limerick City Council has approximately 3,219 rented properties in its ownership. Every year, a number of new houses are built and a number of houses are also sold to existing tenants under the Tenant Purchase Scheme.

In 2002, the number of applicants for this accommodation on Limerick City Council's housing list at any one time averaged approximately 700.

Limerick City Council's adoption of the Corporate Plan 2001-2004 is a clear demonstration of its commitment to a dynamic programme of Social Housing Development. In its desire to deliver practical effect to the solid objectives of the corporate plan the Housing Development has prepared a working Operational Plan. This plan sets out the key areas for the housing department to focus its resources for the realisation of its goals. The Housing Department's goals are directly linked to the clear strategies set out in the innovative Corporate Plan. Key elements of the plan's strategies are:

- Increase the availability of affordable and social housing
- Enhance the support network necessary in the provision of social housing
- Develop an effective system of management for our housing stock



Social Policy & Housing Department

Number of Houses Refurbished

2001 - 15 Units
2002 - 15 Units

Number of Social Housing Units 2002

106 Units Commenced
27 Units completed

Average Rent

2001 - €27.76
2002 - €28.99



Housing Department

The Social Policy and Housing Department provide a range of services to a variety of customers including:

- Accommodation to those who cannot provide same from their own resources
- Maintenance and Management Services to Residents of Council owned houses
- General Estate Management Services to Council built estates
- Advice and Information on accommodation options in the City to the general public
- Funding and assistance to other social housing providers
- Loans to those who wish to purchase a home
- Grants to those who are in need of physical alterations to their houses
- Regulation of the private rented sector for landlords and tenants

Achievements in 2002

- Work commenced on the construction of 106 new units of accommodation under the Multi-Annual Building Programme
- 24 new units of accommodation were completed under the Multi-Annual Building Programme
- 41 units sold in Rhebogue under the Affordable Housing Scheme
- 35 units completed and occupied under the Voluntary Housing Scheme, including 6 units of transitional supported accommodation
- Direct Access Hostel for street homeless opened in December
- €81,898 paid out to seven estate management groups to fund their staffing and operational costs
- Review of Traveller Accommodation Plan commenced
- Compilation of Residents Charter commenced

List of Recent Developments:

Top left: Fairview Crescent, Garryowen

Top Centre: Verdant Crescent, Kings Island

Top Right: James Court, James Street

Lower Left: Fairview Crescent

Lower Right: Sunnyside Court, John Carew Park

Left: Detail of Verdant Crescent, Kings Island



Social Inclusion

Facilitating the widening role of Limerick City Council in tackling social exclusion and poverty in Limerick City.

Limerick City Council will become a leading organisation in developing and implementing meaningful and sustainable policies based on equality and fairness which empower the citizens of Limerick to participate fully in society from an economic, social and cultural perspective.

The Social Inclusion Unit was established in April 2002 and works closely with the management and staff of Limerick City Council, the elected members of the City Council, the Strategic Policy Committees and the City Development Board in order to ensure that resources are targeted to those in greatest need.



Achievements in 2002

- A Social Inclusion Officer was recruited in April 2002
- Limerick City Council joined the Local Government Anti-Poverty Learning Network and participated regularly in training and meetings facilitated by Combat Poverty Agency
- A Social Inclusion Steering Committee was established and comprises representatives of relevant departments of Limerick City Council
- Production of an information document on asylum seekers and presentation to the Social Policy and Housing SPC. A sub-group of this SPC was established to develop a policy on accommodation, anti-racism, staff training and language accessibility for asylum seekers and refugees in Limerick City. The sub-group will complete its work in 2004
- Completion of review of Limerick City Council's rent scheme which resulted in a movement from operating a "banded" rent scheme (which contributed to the creation of poverty traps) to a "fixed percentage" rent scheme, which does not contribute to the creation of poverty traps
- DORAS Luimni and Limerick City Council jointly received a grant of €11,800 from Combat Poverty Agency for an anti-poverty project. (DORAS is the support organisation for refugees and asylum seekers in Limerick City.) The project involves the translation of selected Housing Department and DORAS information documents / leaflets into French, Arabic and Russian, followed by intercultural training for selected staff of both organisations
- The Social Inclusion Unit worked in partnership with the ICT Department of Limerick City Council to begin the process of incorporating National Disability Authority guidelines on IT accessibility for disabled people into the development of its Internet and Intranet
- A review of National Anti-Poverty Strategy (NAPS) and the poverty proofing process was completed. The objective of the review was to identify the key features of NAPS and establish a preliminary framework for the development of a poverty proofing process for Limerick City Council
- A framework document was developed for the review of Limerick City Council's programmes and services and their impact on poverty. The review itself will be completed in 2003
- The Social Inclusion Unit co-ordinated the review of Limerick City Council
- Housing Strategy - This review will be completed in 2003
- A preliminary study into developing a socio-economic profile of Limerick City Council tenants was carried out. It is proposed that this profile of Limerick City Council tenants will commence in 2003
- Presentations were made to the Management Team, Programme Teams and the Social Policy and Housing SPC on the delivery of socially inclusive programmes and services by Limerick City Council
- Review of Limerick City Council's consultation policy and practice was initiated - This review will be completed in early 2003
- A Social Inclusion Analyst was recruited in December 2002

Top Left: Clowning around - part of the "I'm from Limerick" Campaign 2002

Top Right: Happy Potato printers taking part in Summer Arts Activity at the City Library

Culture & Sport

The cultural & sporting recreational remit of Limerick City Council represents a clear example of the evolution and growth of the role of Local Government with an all embracing range of strategies and objectives.

The operational achievements of 2002 are underpinned by the council's core principles with regard to customer service, sustainable development and prioritising social inclusion across all services.

The aim of the Cultural and Sporting Department is to endeavour to enrich the cultural lives of the citizens through the improved awareness and access to our facilities in our Libraries, Museums, Art Gallery, recreational amenities and others. Furthermore, a clear focus will be the development of strategic alliances and linkages with external agencies and sectoral interests in areas such as sport, developing the cultural identity of our city and others.

Our Vision: To increase participation in recreational and cultural activities throughout the City and encourage the provision of appropriate facilities.



The following usage was achieved at the main sports facilities in 2002.

	Usage	Revenue Generated
Moylish Leisure Centre	39,276	€90,114.31
Roxboro Swimming Pool	34,495	€82,319.90
Rathbane Golf Course	19,107	€255,031.00

Rathbane Golf Course

During 2002, tenders were invited for a new combined management and maintenance contract for Rathbane Golf Course. Following a selection process, negotiations were successfully completed and a new management company have taken over the total day-to-day running of this golf course from the 1st of January 2003. The new arrangement allows for an ambitious maintenance and improvement programme for this course in order to ensure it reaches its full potential. The new Management Company also has innovative plans to market the course including the "first tee" programme, which is specifically targeted at getting young people from disadvantaged areas involved in the game of golf.

Parks Department

In 2002 over 300 acres of grass was mowed and 750,000 spring and summer bedding plants were raised in our Mill Road Nursery. Plant containers and hanging baskets were planted and distributed throughout the city in partnership with Shannon Development, Limerick Tourism Trade Association, Limerick Chamber of Commerce and LODIS. Trees were planted between December and March and trees were pruned to improve their longevity and safety. The Parks Department was responsible for the daily maintenance of Rathbane Municipal Golf Course.

Cemeteries

The city's existing cemeteries i.e. Mt. St. Laurence/Extension, Mount St. Oliver were maintained and developed to as high a visual standard as possible including the provision of new grave spaces.

Number of Burials 2002: Mount St. Laurence: 241 / Mount St. Oliver: 234





Limerick poet Mae Leonard with some of the city's young poets from Presentation School, at her workshop in the city as part of the Cuisle Poetry Festival. This event was organised by the Limerick City Council and The Belltable Arts Centre.



"Here's one we made earlier" 3 Day Mural Project with artist Alison Treacy. (part of Limerick City Library summer Arts Activity Programme 2002).

Limerick City Library - a clear focus

Ensuring effective responses to the growing information and learning deficits that exist in our communities.

The city library service looked strategically at a number of key areas, which will continue to improve its effectiveness in the provision of information and education, including:

- Decentralise the service to marginalised areas such as Moyross and Roxboro and proceed with the building of a library at Moyross and investigate issue of costing for next stage together with staffing.
- A Primary School Library Service is provided to 7,000 children in 32 Primary Schools. A new delivery van will give a higher quality and regular service to schools.
- Allow general public access to all library holdings via the Internet.
- Continue and promote the Business Information Service in partnership with City Enterprise Board and Chamber of Commerce.

Library Usage in 2002

Increase in usage of PC's and the Internet Service:

Granary: 15,765 users / Roxboro: 3,615 users

Total Issues 2002: Granary: 179,348 / Roxboro: 21,764

New Registrations: Granary: Adults: 3,551 / Children: 1,579
Roxboro: Adults: 180 / Children: 618

Note: 30% of the people using the library did not borrow any material. 67% of the public seeking information needed to consult a member of staff.

Internet facilities were used by 67% for e-mail; 67% for Study/Research & 91% for Distance Learning.

Library user survey

The Public Library User Survey took place in all libraries around the country in February 2002. When asked what they did when visiting Limerick City Library:



Limerick Archives

Limerick Archives holds a large collection of local authority archives, records of previous administrative bodies including Board of Guardian records and Rural District Council records, as well as a significant amount of records of private origin including estate papers from the Monteagle estate.

In 2003 it is intended to examine the issue of permanent accommodation for the archives, with appropriate environmental conditions and access for researchers.

Number of members 2001 - 8,106

New members 2002 - 6,860

Limerick Ancestry

Limerick Ancestry provides a genealogical research service for Limerick City and County and works closely with, and shares some common records with Limerick Archives.

Clients are mainly drawn from countries to which the Irish emigrated in the late 1700s, throughout the 1800s and the early 1900s. In 2002, 1096 people visited the office for the purpose of finding their family roots.

Clients are drawn from U.S.A., United Kingdom, Australia, New Zealand, Canada, South Africa, Borneo and, of course, an ever-increasing number from Ireland. By undertaking various publicity campaigns we want to encourage people to research their families by post.

Enhanced Cultural Identity

Development of an enhanced cultural identity of the city and to preserve and maintain the city's heritage, physical, cultural and portable.



School children enjoy the sunshine and fun of EXPO 2002, an absolutely magic day was had by all involved.



The Kate O'Brien Weekend, with guest lecturer Giulia Lorenzoni.

Limerick Arts Service

In 2002 a number of events, residences and support schemes were undertaken by the Arts Service in recognition and in support of the level of activity taking place within the cultural life of Limerick. Besides non-grant development support, and indirect assistance through funding to artists' and resource organisations, The Arts Service undertook, in partnership with The Belltable, the second Cuisle Poetry Festival in October 2002, which concentrated on the poetry and music as complementary art forms. Alongside the traditional reading aspect of the festival, workshops for children and adults took place, with Mae Leonard and Mark Roper.

In association with Limerick City Council the Sionna Festival of European Tradition Music was devised and organised by The Irish World Music Centre at the University of Limerick. The Family Day at City Hall engaged children and adults in listening and participating to music from Scotland, Finland, Russia, Sweden and Ireland.

Educational projects were undertaken in partnership with The Irish Chamber Orchestra including 'Summer Music on The Shannon' and 'Fresh Film Festival'. All of these events were guided by the principles of inclusion, access and participation, core principles of the Integrated Arts Strategy.

Limerick City Gallery of Art

A total of 19 Exhibitions were held at LCGA in 2002. Of particular note were the John Shinnors, Gerard Byrne and Vivienne Dick Exhibitions, which were regarded very highly in a national context. The 'Great Escape' exhibition of work by Limerick Prisoners was a highly engaging and worthwhile interaction and 'Sound Shapes' was a tremendous interactive exhibition for young people of all ages.

Examples of Audiences figures:

Exhibitions	Dates	Audience
Audiences Figures	March 02- Dec 02	22,699
Eva Exhibition	March-May	6,882
John Shinnors/ Sound shapes	Sept 19th –Nov 10th	6,936

Limerick City Museum

There were more than 1500 additions to the museum collection in 2002.

The 'Limerick History through Artifacts' exhibition, consisting of archeological finds from Limerick Main Drainage, was opened on the second floor of the museum by Mayor Dick Sadlier on 28 June. This exhibition was financed by Limerick Main Drainage and is superintended by SES scheme employees.

The Carroll Collection, more than 1300 objects comprising paintings, medals, swords, papers etc relating to the Carroll family of Lissenhall, near Nenagh, C18th – 1980s was taken in to prevent its loss to the nation and to display it at the Limerick Civic Trust Georgian House at Pery Square. The British ambassador opened that exhibition on 9 November.

An additional 10,691 records were added to the museums computerised catalogue, which now contains 49,210 records.

4522 digitised images of objects in the collection were added to the museum catalogue, bringing the total to 9384.

Visitor numbers were up from 8,400 in 2001 to 14,558 in 2002.

Fire and Rescue Services

Minimising the risk of fire and other emergencies to life, property and environment and provide an integrated organisational response to fire and major emergencies.

A Dedicated Team, Limerick Fire Service

The Service operates from the Fire Station, Mulgrave Street, Limerick and provides fire and rescue services to an area of approximately 419 sq. kilometres and a population in excess of 100,000 people within the Borough itself and in adjoining areas in counties Limerick and Clare. The Service also includes a Fire Prevention & Building Control Department, which deals with fire safety and building control matters in the City Council's administrative area.

Limerick City Fire and Rescue Service, Operational Department also provides a response to road traffic accidents, flooding and other emergencies.



Achievements 2002

- Attended 799 fires
- Attended 596 Special Services Incidents such as Road Traffic Accidents, Water Pumping / Flooding etc
- Average Mobilising Time 1.5 minutes
- 2 new Fire Appliances acquired with the Department of the Environment and Local Government grant aid
- Establishment of Building Control department



- A new 'Diamond' database software system was purchased for tracking fire safety certificate applications and storing data relating to the fire safety of premises
- Number of Fire Safety Certificate Applications received: 136
- Total number of inspections for Licensing of Premises: 327 Community Fire Safety
- 3 talks were given on fire safety to various groups

Top Left: Limerick City Fire Training
Top Right: Fire Safety Training Exercises
with City Council personnel.



Economic Policy Development & Future Planning

Realising the economic potential of the City by the provision of infrastructure and the promotion of retailing, tourism & general commercial and industrial development.

The Planning and Development Department provides planning and development services to the City of Limerick and to the other departments of Limerick City Council.

These services include;

- The review of the City Development Plan
- The control of Development
- The implementation of Government programmes for tax exempt developments
- The Conservation of Natural and Built environment
- The enhancement of public spaces
- The improvement of Amenities
- The provision of advice and guidance

During 2002, the department achieved a considerable scope of work including the following;

- Limerick City Development Plan 1998 varied to include the Rezoning of Downes Land and the inclusion of the Childcare Strategy and Architectural Conservation Area.
- Two additional variations initiated - Rezoning of land at St. Marys Park and Additions to List of Protected Structures
- Limerick Corporation's Casual Trading Bye-laws, 1998 implemented and Designated Casual Trading Area set up
- Retail Strategy brought to draft stage
- Case Report submitted to Government on Limerick/Shannon Rail Link as part of the National Rail Strategy
- Implemented new Planning Regulations, 2001
- Development Plan Review Process Commenced
- City Centre Remodelling Programme commenced under Urban & Village Renewal Scheme
- A Character Study of the North Circular Road Area was completed





Vision to Reality

Nicholas de Jong Associates' vision for a 'New Look' Limerick City Centre becomes reality;

- Creation of high quality open space
- Enhanced accessibility for pedestrians, cyclists and public transport

The Tait Square with its renovated dominant public monument is now a great addition to the street scape of the city.



Left: Bishops Gate, Henry Street.

Top Left: Tait Square & Detail of pedestrianised zone.

Lower Left: Dunnes Stores, Lower Henry Street.

Lower Right: Milanos Restaurant, Harveys Quay

Bottom: The North Circular Road Area, Eden Terrace.

Community & Enterprise

Limerick is a city of opportunity. Dynamic, and attractive with respect, pride and the highest quality of life and environment for the community.



A.1



A.2

Reflecting the dedication of Limerick City Council to working partnerships and consultation together with a firm commitment to redress social exclusion.

1. Promoting close working relationships between local government, local development, state agencies and the social partners and create better local integration of the broad range of public services.
2. Leading, reinforcing, promoting and guiding Limerick City Council's activity related to community development.
3. Engaging in new and innovative measures to address social exclusion in the city in partnership with agencies and community groups.

The mandate of the Community and Enterprise Department is to support the City Development Board in developing a strategy for the City and in co-ordinating the delivery of public services in the city.

The Community and Enterprise Department was given the task of co-ordinating the Limerick CDB, which comprises a partnership of local government, local development, state agencies and the social partners including the community/voluntary sector. The composition of the 27-Member Board reflects the high degree of experience the constituents bring to the process, and their direct representation ensures the active involvement of all the key stakeholders.

Achievements in 2002

In January, the Minister for the Environment and Local Government, Mr. Noel Dempsey successfully launched the Limerick City Development Board strategy document. Against the backdrop of eight complimentary themes, 159 objectives and over 400 actions, the strategy maps out a ten-year vision for Limerick as a dynamic, inclusive, attractive city of the river Shannon, as a city of opportunity, respect and pride with the highest quality of life and environment for the community.

In July, the CDB endorsed the establishment of five implementation/working groups (Economics, Learning, SIM, Culture, Environment) to serve as a mechanism for monitoring the progress of the strategy and to optimise the input of the key stakeholders.

In November, Minister for Justice, Equality and Law Reform, Mr. Michael McDowell launched the Childcare Strategy. The strategy lays a firm foundation to 2006 for the development of effective services for children, parents and service providers.

Limerick City Community Forum hosted a meeting of the Mid-West Regional Fora in November, highlighting the growing stature of the voice of the community. A number of newsletters were published.

The CDB website became available on the Internet in December and now represents a new means of engaging the wider community in the ongoing work of the department.



A.3



A.4



A.5

RAPID Main Achievements

The rapid programme acts as lead agency and to Limerick City Council's role surrounding Limerick City Development Board in drawing up and implementing an ambitious 10 year Strategy on Economic, Social and Cultural Development.

1. Publication and distribution of a RAPID Newsletter.
2. Focused on facilitating members of the community groups to participate in the RAPID process.
3. Consultation on the progress of the RAPID Programme have been organised with the following:
 - a) Local area-based Community Forums
 - b) Community interest groups
 - c) Special needs groups
 - d) CEO's of Statutory agencies
 - e) National Government Departments
- briefing on funding allocations.
 - f) 24 Area Implementation Team meetings
 - g) 7 Citywide Team meetings
 - h) Networking with personnel from other RAPID areas
4. Team Building event for the Area Implementation Team members.
5. The establishment of a Community Representatives RAPID Network.
6. Specific issue based research was commissioned and completed in South Limerick City and the City Centre.
7. Community outreach offices established in each RAPID area.



Community & Enterprise Reality

The co-ordination of services at point of delivery to citizens was recognised as an important way forward. To this end the task force on the integration of local Government and Local Development services was formed. The result of their deliberations was to establish City/ County Development Boards (CDB) in each City and County local Authority. The inaugural meeting of Limerick City Development Board took place in March 2000.

1. The Community & Enterprise Department has been given the task of co-coordinating the CDB, which comprises of a partnership of local Government, local Development, State Agencies & the Community/Voluntary sector.
2. Formulating and implementing a Strategy for Economic Social and Cultural Development.

The aim of the Community and Enterprise Department is to support the City Development Board developing a strategy for the City in co-coordinating the delivery of public services in the city. The City Development Board will prepare and implement a comprehensive Strategy for Economic Social and Cultural Development in the City.

- (A.1) Launch of Limerick City Development Board strategy document.
 (A.2) Deirdre Frawley - City of Limerick VEC, Jim O'Connor - Dept of Social & Family Affairs Superintendent, Tony Kenneally

Above - Some of the many Participant in the "I'm from Limerick" Campaign.

(A.3) Brothers from Glenstal Abbey

(A.4) J.P. McManus, Honorary Freeman of Limerick City (2001)

(A.5) Emma O'Driscoll, a member from the pop group 'SIX'

Corporate Services

Bringing together the various sectors of our community both public and private, to focus and inspire



Management Services

Bridging the divide between the Political and Executive Functions of the Organisation.

The Management Services Department is an integral part of a bigger grouping called Corporate Services which represents a combination of internal support services, namely, The Human Resource Department, The Information Systems Department, The Law Department, The Corporate Development Unit, The Partnership Department and The Health, Safety and Welfare Department.

Achievements in 2002

- Adoption of Naval Ship, L.E. NIAMH
- Organisation of Area Meetings in accordance with Better Local Government
- Organisation of Training of Councillors
- Introduction of Representational Payments to Members
- Assessment, processing and monitoring of all payments to Elected Members of Limerick City Council
- Publication of Draft Register of Electors and Register of Electors
- Assessing, processing and payment of Higher Education grants in a speedy and efficient manner
- Ongoing communication with C.V.O. and Food Safety Authority for the purpose of consumer protection
- Successful introduction of staff to ECDL Training
- Successful operation of City Centre Co-Ordination Office

Above: Ceremony celebrating the Adoption of Naval Ship, L.E. NIAMH.

ICT - Information Technology

Maintaining and enhancing existing ICT Services and introducing new services in the various departments of the organisation.

An ICT Strategy 2000-2004 was prepared by Gartner Group and adopted by the City Council in 2000. This document was based on the Organisation's requirements and was formulated following consultation with each service area, discussions with management, DOELG, LGCSB. Better Local Government proposals and other strategic documents were considered in the formulation of the strategy. Developments in ICT industry were also considered. The plan sets out options for the future management of the ICT function and listed initiatives to be undertaken over a 5-year period.

ICT Achievements in 2002

- Euro Compliance achieved for all systems
- Financial Management System - Billings module commenced
- Implementation of SQL Planning and Register of Elector Systems
- IT Training - User Training in ECDL, Advanced ECDL, Microsoft Products, Printer management and Basic Computer Literac.
- Geographic Information Systems - Implementation of Maproad, Tagging of Roads Schedule, Mapping of Land bank on Fixed Assets Register, Mapping for Development Plan, Preparation of presentations for Limerick Enterprise Development Project
- Housing System - Housing Applications EMOS system implemented
- Intranet - Staff Details and Document Library set up
- Library System - Provided technical platform for the deployment of Web based Library application
- Enhancements of Security through installation of Firewall
- City Council Members - Notebook PCs and Printers Installed and training conducted



Human Resources Achievements in 2002

Training took place in the following areas:

Development:

Project Management
 Diploma Library Information Studies
 Train the Trainer
 Payroll Administration
 Joint Examination Board-Teaching Diploma
 Diploma in Marketing, Advertising & PR
 Diploma in Safety Health and Welfare
 Bachelor of Business Studies Degree
 Master of Arts Course
 Certificate Local Government
 Higher Certificate Local Government
 Diploma Horticulture
 Graduate Diploma-Highway Technology
 Diploma Human Resources
 Diploma Health & Safety

Skills:

Confined Spaces
 Manual Handling
 Road & Trench Reinstatement
 Basic First Aid
 Winter Maintenance Training
 Safety Awareness for Cash Handlers
 Abrasive Wheels Training
 Interview Skills
 Safe Pass
 Violent & Aggressive Behaviour Training
 Distribution System Operation & Maintenance
 Courtroom Skills
 Management Challenge
 Noise Training
 Complete Information
 System User Training Course
 Cable Location Course
 Pre-Retirement Course
 FOI Training

Organisational:

Induction
 Disability Awareness Training
 FMS Training
 Retirement
 People Management
 Customer Care
 First Aid
 Non-National Roads Training
 Violent & Aggressive Behaviour
 Safe Pass
 Manual Handling
 Time Management

The following policies were introduced:

- Retirement Policy
- Code of Practice for People with Disabilities
- Procedure for Claiming Sick Pay Class A
- Policy on Study/Exam Leave
- Induction Policy
- Smoking Policy
- Sick Pay Scheme – Temporary Officers/Contract Workers
- Identification of alternative duties for pregnant firefighters
- Effective circulation of information to all staff

The following policies were revised:

- Annual Leave
- Compassionate/Mortality Leave
- Rules for the operation of Flexi-Time for all officer grades

The following procedures were introduced:

- Adoptive Leave
- Force Majeure
- Maternity Leave
- Paternity Leave

Corporate Services

A strategy for economic, social and cultural development

Partnership

Inclusion, Employment and Competitiveness, a national agreement for the continued development of an efficient and modern economy.

A central component of this agreement was a commitment on action to modernise the public service and in this regard Chapter 10 of Partnership 2000 articulates that: "successful change must be based on a partnership approach...where the objective is to achieve joint ownership by management, unions and staff of the entire process". The objectives articulated in this agreement have since been broadened and expanded upon in the Programme For Prosperity and Fairness. The need for all organisational stakeholders to embrace the principles of participation, consultation, information sharing and co-operation.

- Participation in a Learning By Monitoring Study at the request of the National Centre for Partnership and Performance. Limerick City Council was one of only four public bodies in Ireland selected for this study. The study hopes to develop best practice guidelines for the operation of partnership within the public sector nationally.
- Establishment of Special Olympics Committee to work with Community and Enterprise Department to explore actions which could be undertaken by Limerick City Council to welcome the Austrian Delegation to Limerick in June 2003 and to heighten awareness amongst City Council staff on the wider area of disability.

Achievements in 2002

- Launch of 'Return To Learning' training initiative in conjunction with City of Limerick VEC. Seven members of staff successfully completed this training which took place over a period of 20 weeks.
- Completion of Pilot Stress Study carried out by University of Limerick in four departments, i.e. Finance, Information Technology, Rates/Revenue, Housing and Finance. Survey involved 48 staff members.
- Reconstitution of Canteen committee and implementation of Hazard Report Recommendations.
- Development of a policy on Smoking.
- Non-Smoking Implementation of the policy will take place early in 2003.
- In co-operation with Information Technology department, development and implementation of Basic I.T. Skills training programme for staff. 70 staff members received training.
- In conjunction with Corporate Development Unit, establishment of Staff Customer Service Panel.
- In conjunction with the Environment Department; development of Litter Action Proposals in relation to Blackspots, Enforcement, Education & Awareness. These proposals went before City Council on 2nd December, 2002.
- Establishment of Uniform Committee to organise new female staff uniform. 73 staff members availed of the uniform which was launched in October 2002.
- Completion of Review Process for Partnership Steering Committee and Joint Participation Committees. Two new Joint Chairs were selected while new nominations were sought for the Steering Committee.

Limerick Enterprise Development Park

- MH Transport & Distribution, 5000 sq ft facility opened.
- Unit F0 FAS pilot training program for construction operatives opened.
- A founding principal of LEDP is community representation as an equal partner in formulation and implementation of the objectives as they evolve.
- South Side Forum community representatives begin formal participation on Board of LEDP.
- Ledp presented a review of the project to the full meeting of the Limerick City Council.

This review included a vision for future developments in Limerick City South which outlined the possible drivers for sustainable social economic development into the next decade.

Based on the results to date: 500 employed on the Former KRUPS site:

- 300 engaged in skills training on an annual basis with FAS & CERT.
- A total of 17 organisations on site delivering employment, supporting community projects, providing education & advice services.

€16.5m investment to date on site.

€190k stakeholder investment by City Council in '99.

"The council enthusiastically mandated LEDP to bring forward proposals in the form of an outline master plan for sustainable economic development in Limerick City South. The plan will have as its focus employment provision, education & sports facilities underpinned private sector investment".

Liam McElligott - Chairman of Shannon Development.



Health & Safety Department

Promoting a strong health & safety culture and demonstrating our commitment to safety, health and welfare. Creating greater awareness of Health and Safety among employees, suppliers and customers of Limerick City Council

- Arranged monthly meetings of Safety Representatives in order to identify common H&S problems and suggest practical solutions.
- Continued the development of the skills of Safety Representatives.
- Consulted and communicated with staff on H&S developments and concerns through Safety Representatives.
- Developed & organised a programme of events for H&S Week.
- Undertook an ergonomic assessment of office workstations. Selected provider, obtained report/recommendations.
- Checked radon levels in City Hall.
- Reviewed the requirements for fire extinguishers in the depots and rectify shortfalls.

Corporate Development Unit

Carrying out relevant policy research and to ensure a clear understanding of the objectives of Limerick City Council
Developing a customer focused organisational climate, for promoting a positive image of the organisation and to support compliance with the requirements of the Freedom of Information Act.

Ensuring better service to the public.

The Unit has produced a Quality Customer Care document, a Consultation Policy and Guidelines for how best to consult depending on circumstances and results required, a paper on handling of correspondence with response times to correspondence outlined together with the format which should be used by all staff in the interest of presenting a professional image and having a clear corporate identity for the City Council and a paper on suggestions for improved communications throughout the organisation.

Tom Handy, Gardener
35 year service to Limerick City Council

The Unit continues to meet the requirements of the Freedom of Information Act in full by tracking requests received, providing advice to Freedom of Information decision makers, sending monthly returns to Department of Finance, keeping up to date with the Information Commissioner findings and advises on Freedom of Information from the office of the Attorney General and being the designated Freedom of Information liaison person for the Information Commissioner Office.

The Administrative Officer in the section is also the nominated liaison person for CMOD Content Management Project dealing with the BASIS & OASIS projects which are websites developed as public service portals to deliver information on public sector services to the business user and the citizen.

Achievements in 2002

- Annual Operational Plans submitted to Management Team 25th March 2002. Designed and printed professionally and circulated to relevant staff.
- Framed editions of High level objectives of the Corporate Plan placed on display in the various receptions areas, also Framed Editions of Mission Statement displayed in the lobby areas.
- Staff Customer Service Panel established in line with commitment given in Customer Service Action Plan under "Internal Customer" principle.
- Second Edition of the Freedom of Information Act Section 15 Reference Book. Also Second Edition of Freedom of Information Act, Section 16, Manual.
- External Consultants New Ground Ltd commissioned by Corporate Development Unit / Social Inclusion Unit to carry out a review of Limerick City Councils Consultation Policy / Best Practice guidelines.

Financial Statements

for year ended 31st december 2002

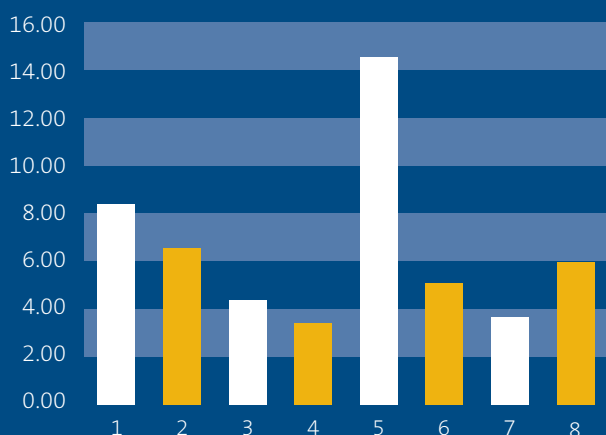
The Revenue Account Statement brings together all the revenue related receipts and expenditure. It shows the surplus/(deficit) for the year.



REVENUE ACCOUNT STATEMENT FOR YEAR ENDED 31st December 2002

Expenditure by Programme Group	Note	Gross		Net	Net
		Expenditure	Receipts	Expenditure	Expenditure
		€	€	€	€
		2002	2002	2002	2001
Housing & Building		8,446,658	6,418,821	2,027,837	1,856,044
Roads Transportation & Safety		6,793,262	4,731,252	2,062,010	2,161,228
Water & Sewerage		4,745,180	2,825,418	1,919,762	1,749,101
Development Incentives & Controls		3,116,775	1,346,830	1,769,945	1,418,067
Environmental Protection		14,831,347	4,176,276	10,655,071	10,602,866
Recreation & Amenity		5,253,258	1,200,121	4,053,137	3,382,336
Agriculture, Education, Health & Welfare		3,346,215	2,414,881	931,334	(527,489)
Miscellaneous		6,006,705	1,610,575	4,396,130	4,725,064
Total Expenditure\Receipts	Note 1- 3	52,539,400	24,724,174	27,815,226	25,367,217
Net cost of programmes to be funded from county rates & local government fund		52,539,400	24,724,174	27,815,226	25,367,217
Rates				17,530,370	16,082,610
Local Government Fund				7,619,437	6,067,548
Charges to Urbans				-	-
Surplus\ (Deficit) for Year before Transfers				(2,665,419)	(3,217,059)
Transfers to/from Reserves				-	-
Overall Surplus/(Deficit) for Year				(2,665,419)	(3,217,059)
General Reserve @ 1st January 2002				(8,049,311)	(4,832,252)
General Reserve @ 31st December 2002				(10,714,731)	(8,049,311)

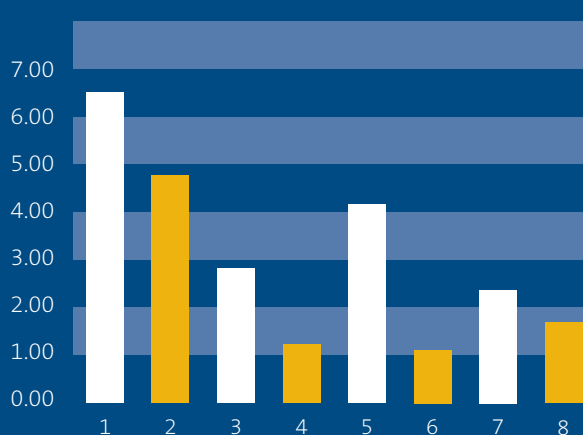
€m Revenue A/C Expenditure for year ended 31/12/02



Programme Groups -

1. Housing & Building
2. Road Transportation & Safety
3. Water Supply & Sewerage
4. Development Incentives & Controls

€m Revenue A/C Income for year ended 31/12/02



5. Environmental Protection
6. Recreation & Amenity
7. Agriculture, Education, Health & Welfare
8. Miscellaneous Services

Financial Statements

for year ended 31st december 2002

SUMMARY OF CAPITAL PAYMENTS AND RECEIPTS

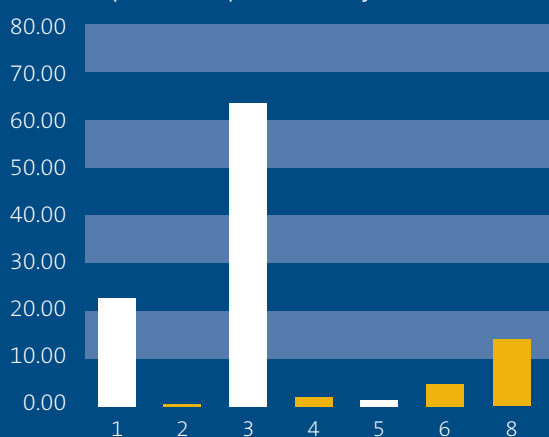
Payments (Net of Internal Transfers)*

	€ 2002	€ 2001
Housing & Building	23,041,131	24,058,706
Roads Transportation & Safety	5,032,539	3,012,130
Water & Sewerage	73,421,231	61,268,388
Development Incentives & Controls	2,110,470	4,987,652
Environmental Protection	995,096	3,415,350
Recreation & Amenity	2,018,971	1,054,131
Agriculture, Education, Health & Welfare	-	-
Miscellaneous	4,647,912	7,385,329
Total Payments	111,267,351	105,181,686

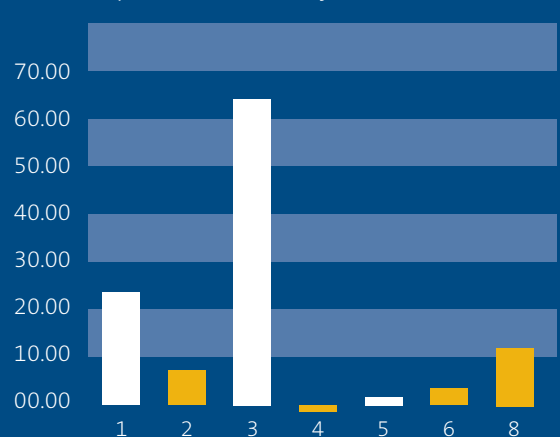
Receipts

Housing & Building	24,382,920	24,052,141
Roads Transportation & Safety	5,661,637	2,882,041
Water & Sewerage	63,949,695	64,732,428
Development Incentives & Controls	(1,332,515)	1,365,064
Environmental Protection	741,475	2,397,714
Recreation & Amenity	2,202,294	588,031
Agriculture, Education, Health & Welfare	-	-
Miscellaneous	2,146,961	7,381,790
Total Receipts	97,752,467	103,399,209
Surplus\ (Deficit) for year	(13,514,884)	(1,782,477)
Balance (Debit)\ Credit @ 1st January	5,385,984	7,168,461
Balance (Debit)\ Credit @ 31 December	(8,128,900)	5,385,984

€m Capital A/C Expenditure for year ended 31/12/02



€m Capital A/C Income for year ended 31/12/02



Strategic Policy Committees



Visiting Yacht 'Crusader', preparing to depart from Limerick for Greenland.

The Economic Policy Development & Future Planning Strategic Policy Committee

The Committee met on five occasions in 2002. Discussions were held and recommendations were made on the following:

- Recreation Strategy
- Retail Strategy
- Limerick - Shannon Rail Link
- Casual Trading
- Inclusion in lists of Protected Structures
- Variation of Development Plan to provide for:
- Proposed architectural conservation area
- Childcare Strategy
- Rezoning of land at Downes Land

Culture and Sporting Strategic Policy Committee

The Committee met on five occasions in 2002. Presentations were received and discussions were held on a wide range of issues including:

- a) Limerick City & Environs Recreation & Sports Policy Framework Plan
- b) Shelbourne Park
- c) Mayorstone Park
- d) O'Brien Park
- e) Peoples Park
- f) Mount St Laurence
- g) Integrated Arts Strategy
- h) Moyross Library
- i) Changing Faces of Limerick Corporation/City Council 1197-2004 by Dr. Matt Potter
- j) Urban Forestry Initiative
- k) The Belltable
- l) Baggot Estate
- m) General Landscaping

The following recommendations were made to the City Council for approval:

- New Management/Maintenance Contract for Rathbane Golf Course.
- The report and recommendations of CHL Consulting on the feasibility study for a crematorium in Limerick City
- Approval of grants for 2002 under the Arts Act:

The Torch Players	€500
The Quarry Players	€500
Limerick Cribblers	€200
Limerick Music Association	€600
Children's Book Week, City Library	€500
Limerick Youth Theatre	€300
St. Johns Brass & Reed Band	€150
Voices of Limerick City Council - City of Limerick Choirs	€300
Planxty O'Rourke	€200
Helena Walsh	€200
John Walsh	€200
Limerick Choral Union	€500
La Cosa Nostra Theatre Company	€800
The Irish Chamber Orchestra	€1,000
The Kate O'Brien Weekend	€650
The Irish Rambling House	€200
St. Mary's Local Arts Group	€500
Claughtaun GAA Club (book)	€500
Conrad na Gaeilge	€300
Ouch! Electro (performing Group)	€400



Social Policy & Housing Strategic Policy Committee

The members of the Social Policy and Housing Strategic Policy Committee met on six occasions in 2002

The Director of Service provided updates and discussions took place on the following issues:

- The Traveller Accommodation Plan
- The Multi-Annual Building Programme
- Implementation of the Homeless Action Plan
- Disabled Persons Grant Scheme
- Estate management in Limerick City
- The Planned Maintenance Programme

The Strategic Policy Committee was consulted in relation to the compilation of the new Residents Handbook and a number of suggestions were put forward by the members.

A review of the rent scheme was undertaken and the members forwarded a recommendation to the City Council that the scheme be changed from a banded system to more equitable fixed system.

The members noted report detailing the Assessment of Housing Need 2002, an extensive survey which the local authority is required to undertake every three years.

The members recommended that a policy be developed on accommodation and other issues relating to Asylum seekers and Refugees. The establishment of a subgroup to examine this issue was recommended to the City Council.

Presentations regarding new developments within the Housing and Social Policy area, such as the establishment of the Social Inclusion Unit in Limerick City Council, took place.

The Strategic Policy Committee forwarded recommendations to the City Council for the payment of Social and Community Grants in the sum of €125,000 and Estate Management Grants totalling €81,898.

Report on Transportation & Infrastructure Strategic Policy Committee.

The Committee met on six occasions in 2002. Presentations were received and discussions were held on a wide range of issues including:

- City Centre Strategy
- Limerick City (Parking Places)(Amendment)
- Bye-Laws 2002
- Road Grant Allocations and Roads Programme
- Flooding
- Water Services Capital Works Projects
- Limerick Main Drainage Project
- Urban and Village Renewal
- Water Abstraction Proposal
- Adaptive Urban Traffic Control System
- Taking in Charge
- Metropolitan Area Network
- Water Conservation
- Extinguishment of Public Rights of Way

The following recommendations were made to City Council for approval:

- Extinguishment of public rights of way at a number of locations
- Reports on various Notices of Motion
- Adoption of Limerick City (Parking Places)(Amendment)
- Bye Laws 2002
- Proposed Traffic Alterations at Baker Place

Report on Environment Strategic Policy Committee

The members met on five occasions in 2002. Presentations were received and discussions were held on a wide range of issues including:

- Waste Management Infrastructure
- Enforcement of Litter and Waste legislation
- Control of Horses
- Waste Collection Permits
- Environment Awareness Initiatives
- Repak
- Westfields
- Subsidy Scheme for low income groups
- Environmental Fund
- Long Pavement

The following recommendations were made to City Council for their approval:

- Litter Management Plan
- Establishment of a Control of Horses Forum
- Control of Horses Action Plan
- Litter Action Plan focussing on Education and Awareness, Litter Black Spots and Enforcement

Service Indicators

A review of the years expenditure and income statistics



Housing

H1 The percentage of dwellings that are empty.

- (a) Availability for letting of awaiting minor repairs: 0%
(b) Fire Damaged/Upgrading/Redevelopment: 5.66%

H2 Average time taken to re-let dwellings available for letting or awaiting minor repairs: 1-2 days

H3 Housing Rents
Amount collected at year end as a percentage of amount due: 94.95%



Motor Tax

M1 Percentage of Applications which were postal: 26%

M2 Number of Postal Applications: 8664

Dealt with from Receipt of Applications

- | | |
|-----------------------------|-----|
| a) On the same day | 40% |
| b) On the third day or less | 53% |
| c) On the fifth day or less | 4% |
| d) Over 5 days | 3% |

M3 Public opening hours, average number per week: 30 hours

M4 Transaction costs per unit: €7.95

Human Resources

Percentage of work lost through sickness absence in 2002: 5.6%



City Library

Number of Books issued per head of population for 2002: 3.51

Number of other items issued per head of population for 2002: 0.36



Road Surfacing

R1 Cost per square metre for dense bitumen macadam surfacing of roads. This includes a minimum addition of 110 mm of base course and wearing course macadam. Additional items such as planning of existing roads and strengthening of weak areas may be required.

€48 per square metre approx. (C.S.O. Index linked)

R2 Cost per square metre of thin surfacing of roads
€15 per square metre approx

R3 Percentage of Local Roads surfaced (method 1 or 2) per annum: 3%

R4 Percentage of National Roads surfaced (method 1 or 2) per annum: 3%

R5 Percentage of Regional Roads surfaced (method 1 or 2) per annum: 9%

Top Middle: Papier Maché craft session, part of the City Library Summer Arts Activity Programme 2002.

Top Right: Limerick City, 'It's easy to make a difference' Litter campaign poster.



Environment

- E1. Monitoring of water quality in Shannon, Abbey and Ballynacclough (Creek) Rivers. 4 times per annum
- E2. Monitoring of River Shannon water quality in vicinity of Corbally in accordance with Bathing Water Directive Monthly during the Summer period.
- E3. Continuous measurement of Air Quality within City for Sulphur Dioxide and Particular Matter. 100% in compliance with National Air Quality Standards.
- E4. Measurement of noise levels within City In response to public request – 100%
- E5. Time, in minutes, to mobilise fire brigades in full time station. Average mobilisation time – 1 minute 41 seconds
- E6. Bring Facilities, i.e. facilities for recycling of bottles, cans, clothes etc. Number and category type in facilities provided, including number of locations per 5000 population. Note: population in Limerick City Council functional area was taken to be 52,000 from 1996 census.

Category	Number of Facilities	Number of locations per 5,000 population	Amount Collected
Glass	16	1.5	340.63 tonnes
Cans	19	1.8	16.54 tonnes
Textiles	1 Limerick City Council. plus 6 Charity Shops	0.1	20 bags collected per fortnight
Batteries	2	0.2	131 car batteries
Oils	1	0.1	4,700 litres
Others:			
Newspapers	3	0.3	211 tonnes
Fluorescent tubes	1	0.1	1924 tubes
Toys and books	1	0.1	not quantifiable



- E7. Packaging
 - a) Number of businesses registered with Repak in accordance with Waste Management (Packaging) Regulations 1997: 68
 - b) Number of businesses self registered with Limerick City Council in accordance with Waste Management (Packaging) Regulations 1997: 2
- E8. Achievements under Regional Waste Management Plan. Commencement of in house recycling initiative for ink cartridges, batteries, office paper, cardboard, newspapers / magazines and mobile phone batteries. Continuation of plastic bottle recycling initiative. Schools battery recycling initiative continued.
- E9. Number of City schools registered with An Taisce under European wide Green Schools initiative: 16
2 schools received Green Flags under this program in 2002.



E10. Litter

- a) Number of Environment / Litter Wardens: full time, part time and in total as a proportion of the population 1 full time and 4 part – time wardens – population base: 52,000 the appointment of a second full time litter warden is being considered.
- b) Number of on-the-spot fines: 700
- c) Number of successful prosecutions: 54

Monitoring of Litter Pollution in line with Limerick City Council Litter Management Plan.

Continuously

- E12. Monitoring of Litter Pollution in line with Pollution Monitoring System and Litter Survey Guidelines for Local Authorities. Annual Surveys taking place.

Service Indicators

A review of the years expenditure and income statistics



Sanitary Services

- 5.1 Percentage compliance with sampling requirements of sampling of drinking water in compliance with Drinking Water Regulations 1998: 100%
- 5.2 Compliance of drinking water samples with statutory requirements* based on a basket of 13 specified parameters set out in Table 4.1 of the EPA report - The quality of Drinking Water in Ireland.

Bacteriological exceedance resulted from a single sample taken from a city centre bar, all other samples taken in the area were clear.

Fluoride exceedances resulted from Low levels of fluoride (under allowable limits of 800 – 1000ug/L).

- 5.3 Sampling of public water supply at Water Treatment Plant. Everyday

- 5.4 Sampling of public water supply within the distribution system. 7 samples per week

- 5.5 Other sampling of public water. On demand

- 5.6 Sampling of raw water at source in accordance with E.C. quality of Surface water intended for abstraction of drinking water regulations 1989.

Weekly for 7 parameters
(Cannot be carried out daily due to the shortage of personnel)
Monthly for 12 parameters
Quarterly for 20 parameters

Limerick City Drinking Water % Compliance 346 Samples Analysed in 2002

Parameter	%Compliance
Total Coliforms	98.1
Faecal Coliforms	99.1
Total Bacteria 37°C	100
Total Bacteria 22°C	100
Temp	100
PH	100
Conductivity	100
A1	80
Nitrate	100
Nitrite	100
Ammonium	100
Fluoride	45
Turbidity	100
Free Chlorine	100
Iron	100
Lead	100

Top Right: A dedicated team working on the Shannon River Clean Up 2002



Frank McCourt contributor to the "I'm from Limerick" Campaign 2002

Human Resources

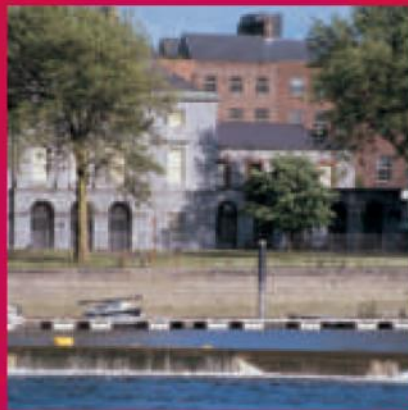
Our permanent workforce, of approximately 590, ranges over the areas of management, technical, engineering, clerical/administrative, craftsmen, general operatives, fire-fighters and in addition employee staff under Community Employment and other schemes.

Limerick City Council Personnel Retirements During 2002

Laurence Coyle - Senior Executive Engineer
Brendan Rossiter - Senior Executive Solicitor
Dan Carroll - Station Officer
John Cosgrove - Firefighter
Kevin Hayes - Firefighter
Kevin Hogan - Firefighter
Pat Ryan - Firefighter
Vincent Fitzgerald - Sub-Station Officer
Patrick Broe - Sewer Man
Edward Kiely - Pump Attendant
Christy Cahill - Caretaker
Michael Spillane - Superintendent
Ross Keogh - Car Park Attendant







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