

Limerick City Council
Comhairle Cathrach Luimnigh

Annual Report Tuarascáil Bhliantúil 2005











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Message from the Mayor

Diarmuid Scully, Mayor of Limerick City



2005 was a great year for Limerick City

Our public finances were brought firmly under control and the current account deficit was cleared for the first time in a generation. This enabled the Council to cut the commercial rate, making us the only local authority in the history of the state ever to bring down the cost of doing business. The wisdom of this decision can be seen in the flood of new commercial developments now being planned for the city centre.

Not so long ago, Limerick City was seen as a case study in urban decline. Now we can look to the future with confidence and hope. This transformation in our fortunes could not have been achieved without the hard work of all the staff in City Hall and every member of the City Council.

2005 was also a year of innovation. Limerick established the first Young City Council in Ireland, creating a forum whereby the youth of our city could bring their concerns to the heart of local government. Our first Young City Mayor, Anthony Byrne began his term in office in December and has served with great distinction ever since.

The proud association of Limerick with rugby was given further impetus during the Heineken Cup home matches. While the Munster team performed magnificently on the pitch, Limerick City Council ensured that there was plenty of entertainment on the streets of our city. Though the greatest day in our rugby history was to come in 2006, the efforts last year helped to establish once and for all Limerick's reputation as Ireland's rugby capital.

The ice-rink returned for Christmas and proved as great a success as it did in 2004. The festive season was kicked off with the lighting of one million new Christmas lights, jointly provided by the Limerick City Business Association and City Council: a bright and fitting end to a successful year for our city.



Teachtaireacht ón Méara

Diarmuid Scully, Méara Luimnigh

Bliain shármhaith do Chathair Luimnigh ba ea 2005

Coimeádadh smacht ar ár n-airgeadas poiblí agus glanadh easnamh an chuntais reatha den chéad uair riamh le glúin anuas. Chuir sé seo ar chumas na Comhairle an ráta tráchtála a ghearradh, rud a chiallaigh gur muid an t-aon údarás áitiúil i stair an stáit a d'ísligh an costas a bhain le gnó a dhéanamh. Tugann an raidhse forbairtí tráchtála nua atá beartaithe do lár na cathrach léargas ar chlisteacht an chinnidh seo.

Ní fada ó shin ar chor ar bith go raibh an dearcadh ann gur cás-staidéar i meath uirbeach ba ea Cathair Luimnigh. Anois is féidir linn féachaint amach romhainn lán de mhuinín agus dóchas. Ní bheadh an t-athrú seo inár gcinniúint bainte amach gan an obair chrua a rinne an fhoireann i Halla na Cathrach mar aon le gach ball foirne den Chomhairle Cathrach.

Forbraíodh rudaí nua in 2005 freisin. Is i Luimneach a bunaíodh an chéad Chomhairle Cathrach don Óige in Éirinn, Comhairle a chruthaigh fóram trína bhféadfadh glúin óg na Cathrach na rudaí a bhí ag déanamh imní dóibh a thabhairt os comhair an rialtais áitiúil. Chuir an chéad Mhéara Óg a bhí againn sa Chathair, Anthony Byrne, tús lena théarma oifige i mí na Nollag agus tá obair den scoth déanta aige ó shin i leith.

Cuireadh tuilleadh dlúis fós leis an gceangal atá ag Luimneach le rugbaí i rith chluichí baile Chorn Heineken. Cé gur éirigh thar barr le foireann na Mumhan ar pháirc na himeartha, rinne Comhairle Cathrach Luimnigh deimhin de go raibh neart síamsaíochta ar shráideanna na cathrach. Cé gur tharla an lá is fearr riamh inár stair rugbaí in 2006, chabhraigh na hiarrachtaí a rinneadh an bhliain seo caite le cáil Luimnigh a bhunú mar is ceart mar phríomhchathair rugbaí na hÉireann.

Díreach mar a tharla in 2004 bhí an oighear-rinc ar ais anseo don Nollaig agus mheall sí na sluaite. Cuireadh tús leis an Nollaig nuair a lasadh aon mhilliún solas Nollag nua, soilse a chuir Cumann Gnó Chathair Luimnigh agus an Chomhairle Cathrach ar fáil: críoch gheal agus oiriúnach ar shárbhliain anseo sa chathair.

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Introduction

Tom Mackey, City Manager



The annual report for the year 2005 sets out the continuing progress that was made by the Council and the city on a number of fronts.

Following considerable consultation amongst staff and councillors, the Council adopted its new Corporate Plan at the February meeting. This important document sets out 8 objectives for the term of the Council. These are supported by 47 strategies that will guide the organisation in its progress towards better customer service and increased efficiency. The first objective challenges us to work harder to improve the image of the city, a desire that is widely shared by all.

Following on from the above, the Council adopted a new Traveller Accommodation Plan, a Sports and Recreation Strategy and introduced a new Housebound Service by the City Library that is ably supported by volunteers.

Three distinguished Limerick men received the ultimate accolade in June by being conferred with the Freedom of the City. They were Fr. Jack Finucane, Fr. Aengus Finucane and an tUasal Ciarán MacMathuna.

During 2005 the Council received and considered the submissions from the respondent authorities of Counties Clare and Limerick to the Council's Boundary Extension application. Following this, a revised application was approved by the Council and sent to the Minister for the Environment in October.

The Council continued to make good progress in its finances in 2005. This was evidenced by the history making decision to reduce the annual rate on valuation by .5% in adopting the budget for 2006, being the first local authority to do so. It is vitally important for the future of the city that we provide the optimum conditions to drive economic activity. Numerous construction projects were started in 2005, complimented by continued work in the street enhancement scheme notably in Bedford Row.

I am indebted to the staff of the Council in delivering the above and many other worthwhile achievements. I want to express my thanks to the Mayor Cllr Diarmuid Scully and his predecessor Cllr. Michael Hourigan, together with all the members of the Council for their assistance, support and understanding throughout the year.

Réamhrá

Tom Mackey, Bainisteoir Cathrach

Leagann an tuarascáil bhliantúil do 2005 amach an dul chun cinn leanúnach a rinne an Chomhairle agus an chathair maidir le roinnt gnéithe.

I ndiaidh neart comhairliúcháin i measc ball foirne agus comhairleoirí, ghlac an Chomhairle lena Phlean Corparáideach nua ag cruinniú mhí Feabhra. Leagann an cháipéis thábhachtach seo amach na hocht gcuspóirí atá ann do thréimhse na Comhairle. Tá 47 straitéis ag tacú leis na cuspóirí seo, straitéisí a bheidh mar threoir don dul chun cinn a dhéanfaidh an eagraíocht i dtreo seirbhís níos fearr do chustaiméirí agus éifeachtúlacht mhéadaithe. Tugann na chéad chuspóirí dúshlán dúinn níos mó oibre a dhéanamh chun íomhá na cathrach a fheabhsú, mian atá againn go léir.

Ag leanúint ar aghaidh ón méid thuasluaite, ghlac an Chomhairle le Plean Cóiríochta nua don Lucht Siúil, Straitéis Spóirt agus Áineasa, agus chuir Leabharlann na Cathrach tús le Seirbhís nua do Dhaoine atá Gafa ina dTithe, scéim a bhfuil oibrithe deonacha ag tacú léi.

Fuair triúr fear mór le rá ó Luimneach an t-aitheantas is mó is féidir a fháil i mí an Mheithimh nuair a bronnadh Saoirse na Cathrach orthu. Ba iad an triúr sin an tAthair Jack Finucane, an tAthair Aengus Finucane agus an tUasal Ciarán Mac Mathúna.

I rith 2005 fuair agus mheas an Chomhairle na haighneachtaí a fuarthas ó údarais Chontaetha an Chláir agus Luimnigh ar iarratas Méadaithe Teorann na Comhairle. Ag leanúint ar aghaidh ón iarratas seo, cheadaigh an Chomhairle iarratas athbhreithnithe agus seoladh chuig an Aire Comhshaoil é i mí Dheireadh Fómhair. Lean an Chomhairle le dul chun cinn sásúil a dhéanamh ó thaobh cúrsaí airgeadais in 2005. Bhí sé seo soiléir ón gcinneadh stairiúil a rinneadh an ráta bliantúil ar luacháil a laghdú .5% le linn glacadh leis an mbuiséad do 2006, an chéad údarás áitiúil a rinne amhlaidh. Tá sé ríthábhachtach maidir le todhchaí na cathrach go soláthróimid na coinníollacha is fearr dá bhfuil ann chun gníomhaíocht eacnamaíoch a chur chun cinn. Cuireadh tús lena lán tionscadal tógála in 2005, tionscadail ar chabhraigh an obair leanúnach a bhí ar siúl sa scéim feabhsaithe sráide leo, go háirithe i Rae Bedford.

Táim go mór faoi chomaoin fhoireann na Comhairle as ucht na n-éachtaí thuasluaite agus neart éachtaí fiúntacha eile a bhaint amach. Is mian liom buíochas a ghabháil leis an Méara, an Comhairleoir Diarmuid Scully agus lena réamhtheachtaí an Comhairleoir Michael Hourigan mar aon le baill uile na Comhairle as ucht an chúnamh agus na tacaíochta a fuair mé uathu agus a thuisceanaí agus a bhí siad i rith na bliana.

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Members of Limerick City Council Baill de Chomhairle Cathrach Luimnigh



1. Cllr. Kieran Walsh, Labour

2. Cllr. Jim Long, Non-P.

3. Cllr. Lilly Wallace, Non-P.

4. Cllr. Ger Fahy, Fine Gael

5. Cllr. Diarmuid Scully, Fine Gael

6. Cllr. Gerry McLoughlin, Non-P.

7. Cllr. Kevin Kiely, Fine Gael

8. Cllr. Maria Byrne, Fine Gael

9. Cllr. Michael Hourigan, Fine Gael

10. Cllr. Joe Leddin, Labour

11. Cllr. Kathleen Leddin, Non-P.

12. Cllr. James Houlihan, Labour

13. Cllr. John Gilligan, Non-P.

14. Cllr. Pat Kennedy, Non-P.

15. Cllr. John Cronin, Fianna Fáil

16. Cllr. Kieran O'Hanlon, Fianna Fáil

17. Cllr. John Ryan, Labour

Map of Electoral Areas

Léarscáil na dToghcheantar

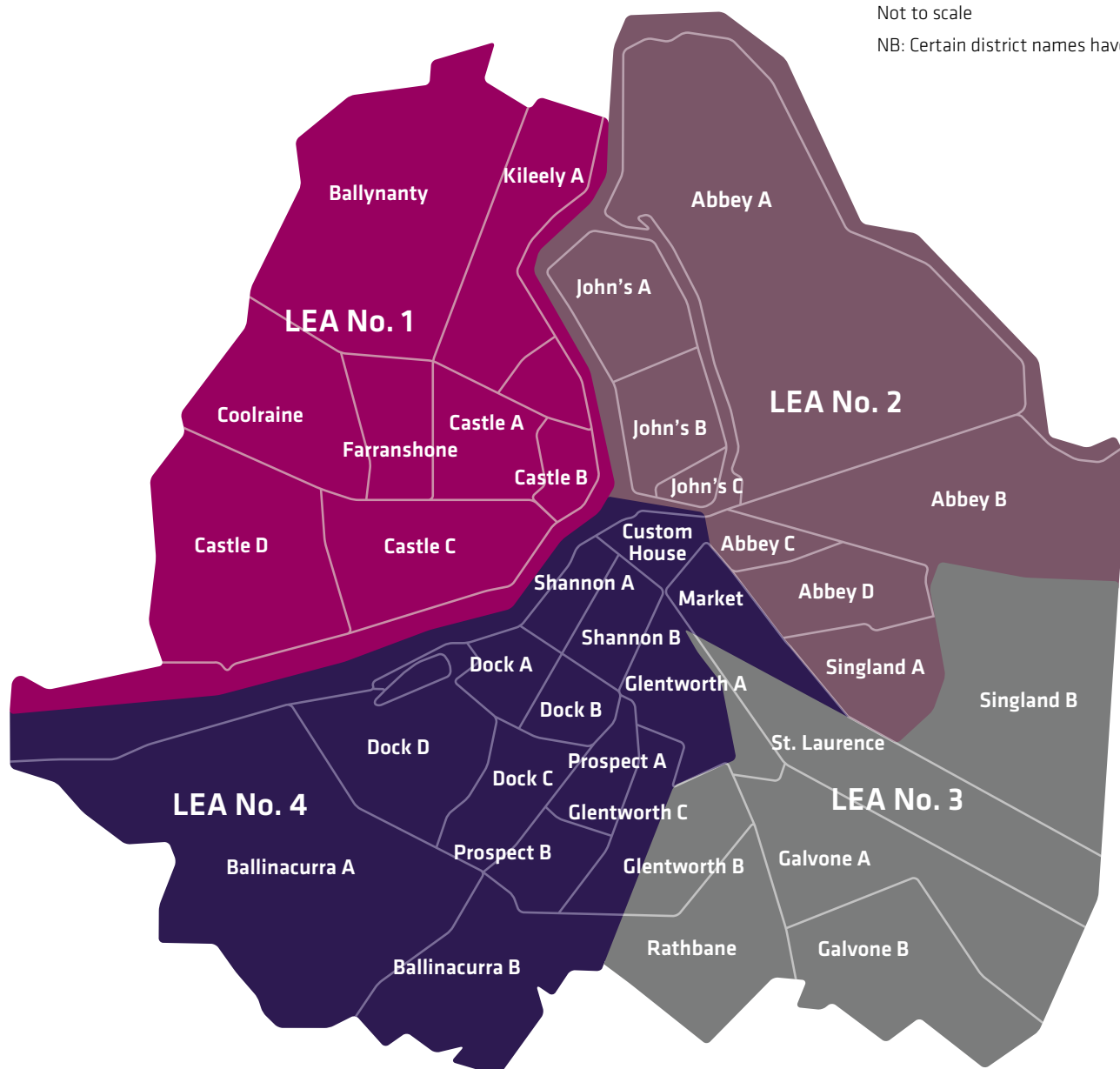
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Electoral Areas:

1 2 3 4

Not to scale

NB: Certain district names have been edited.





Freedom of the City of Limerick Saoirse Chathair Luimnigh

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 and honorary position.

Conferring Ceremory June 21st 2005

The Freedom of the City of Limerick was bestowed on:

- Fr. Aengus Finucane CSSp, Honorary President Concern Worldwide US
- Fr. Jack Finucane CSSp
- Ciarán MacMathúna



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9.



10.



7.



8.



11.

1. The Boherbuoy Band lead freedom recipients, councillors and guests on the Riverside Walk
2. <L-R> Ciarán MacMathúna, Fr Aengus Finucane, Fr Jack Finucane & Mayor Michael Hourigan.
3. <L-R> Signing of the Roll of Freedom by Ciarán MacMathúna in the presence of City Manager Tom Mackey
4. <L-R> Mayor Hourigan presents the Certificate of Freedom to Fr. Aengus Finucane
5. <L-R> Mayor Hourigan presents the Certificate of Freedom to Fr. Jack Finucane
6. <L-R> Fr Jack Finucane addresses councillors and guests during the conferring ceremony in the grounds of City Hall
7. <L-R> Ciarán MacMathúna with Tony Bromell
8. <L-R> Family, friends and guests at the ceremony
9. <L-R> Freedom recipients accompanied by Director of Service Kieran Lehane on the riverside walk
10. <L-R> Mayor Michael Hourigan with Dolly & Ciarán MacMathúna
11. <L-R> Fr Aengus Finucane & Fr Jack Finucane



1.



2.



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4.



5.



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Highlights of 2005

Buaicphointí na bliana 2005

- 1. <L-R> Visit to City Hall by President Mary McAleese 28th February 2005
- 2. <L-R> Mayor Michael Hourigan, President Mary McAleese, City Manager Tom Mackey & Dr. Martin McAleese
- 3. <L-R> President Mary McAleese addresses councillors, city council staff and guests
- 4. <L-R> Cllr. Diarmuid Scully, Mayor Hourigan & President McAleese
- 5-7. <L-R> Civic Reception for Limerick Minor Hurling Team 12th September 2005
- 8-11. Civic Reception for UL/Bohemians U20's at City Hall 31st May 2005
- 12-14. Civic Reception for Shannon Rugby Football Club at City Hall





15. <L-R> Fr. Gerry Daly at reception in City Hall in his honour with Mayor Scully December 12th 2005

16. <L-R> On 1st of June 2005, the Mayor invited for a Mayoral Reception Laurel Hill Secondary School Winners of the National Concern Debating Competition.
Team members: Una Donovan, Jean O'Dwyer, Orlaith O'Connor, Gillian Kelly.

17. <L-R> Mayor Scully with Captain Egan at a reception to honour Capt. Egans victory in the World Piping Championships. Also in photograph is Mary Costello.

18-19. <L-R> His Worship the Mayor, Cllr. Michael Hourigan held a civic reception on Tuesday 1st February, 2005 to formally congratulate Mr. Tom O'Donnell for his exceptional dedication and service to the people of Limerick and in recognition of his achievements as a Member of Dail Eireann, Minister for the Gaeltacht and Member of the European Parliament and his contribution to community development including President, Irish Peace Institute, Chairman, City/County Strategy Group and Chairman, PAUL Partnership



Highlights of 2005

Buaicphointí na bliana 2005

1. Fireworks at Mary Immaculate College to launch the college foundation, Dec.
2. Carnival atmosphere during 'Feet On The Street', Bedford Row July 28th
- 3-4. Fans celebrate success of Limerick Hurling Team



5.



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4.

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5-6. St Patrick's Day Festival March 2005

7-8. Riverfest May 2005

9. Disable Sports, Enable Ireland, at University Arena Sept 2005

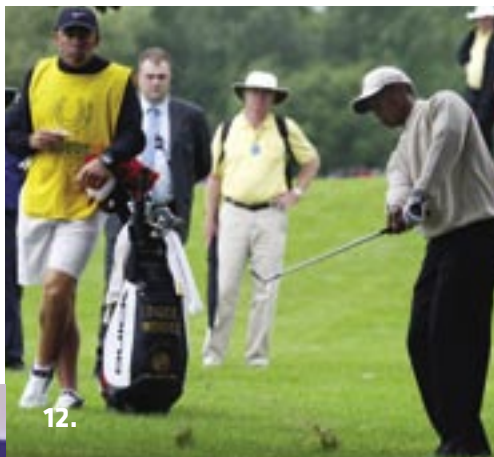
10-11. Limerick City Council Ice Rink at the Potato Market Dec 2005

12-14. JP McManus Invitational ProAm July 2005 featuring Tiger Woods & Padraig Harrington

15. Limerick Dog Show August 2005

16-17. Mayoral Charity Ball, Radisson Hotel May 2005

18. Anthony Foley awarded most influential rugby player in Heineken Cup History



Corporate Services Seirbhíai Corparáideacha

Management Services, Human Resources, ICT, Health & Safety Department, Partnership.
Seirbhísí Bainistíochta, Acmhainní Daonna, An Rannóg Sláinte & Sábháilteachta, Comhpháirtíocht.

MANAGEMENT SERVICES

Achievements in 2005

The Freedom of the City was granted to Father Aengus Finucane CSSp, Father Jack Finucane CSSp and Ciarán MacMathuna on the 21st June, 2005.

Successful operation of meetings of City Council.

Successful liaising and management of members of City Council.

Organisation of Civic and Mayoral Receptions.

Publication of Draft Register of Electors, Register of Electors and Edited Version of Register of Electors.

Assessing, processing and payment of Higher Education Grants.

Ongoing communication with C.V.O. and Food Safety Authority for the purpose of consumer protection.

Continued updating information on City Council website and intranet.

Innovative participation in the promotion of the city.

HUMAN RESOURCES

Industrial and Employee Relations

During the year the Human Resource Department, working in conjunction with the group of Unions within the partnership process, continued to seek and achieve change under the flexibility modernisation agenda as set out in sustaining progress.

The HR policy of fostering good industrial relations at corporate level in an effort to resolve staff issues at the earliest possible time continued to succeed in 2005.

Training

The City Council also continued to develop its training programme and undertook in excess of 50 courses during the course of the year.

During 2005 the Council commenced a new programme to up-skill existing staff with a view to delivering courses directly to other employees. 5 staff are currently involved in this programme.

Recruitment

The staff complement for Limerick City Council at 31st December 2005 was 617 and categorised as follows:

Managerial/Administrative	185
Professional/Technical	42
Craft, general and related grades	329
Other staff	61
Whole time equivalents	573.6

Management Services, Human Resources, ICT, Health & Safety Department, Partnership.



< BACK > Michael O'Kelly - Housing, Helen Rooney - RAS, Gerry Ryan - Housing
 < FRONT > Majella O'Callaghan, Moira O'Dwyer, Sinead Burke - Housing



< L-R > Sadie Doyle - Finance, Ester Ryan - PMDS



< L-R > Carmel Buckley, Kieran Reeves, Joan O'Brien, Jack O' Hurley - Planning



< L-R > Aoife O'Brien Slater - Property, Kieran Kennedy - PMDS,
 John Murnane - Property

Work Experience/Work Placements

The City Council continue to place emphasis on strengthening our relationship and supporting the various placement schemes for second and third level schools throughout the county and city and also with many other organisations including FAS and the VEC. 31 students availed of this facility in 2005.

Community Employment schemes / Jobs Initiative Scheme

Limerick City Council continued to support the employment of 32 staff members under the Community Employment Scheme/Job Initiative scheme in conjunction with FAS.

Policies and Procedures

In line with existing legislation and best practices, the department continued to develop, implement and update the following policies/procedures throughout the year:

- Grievance and Disciplinary Procedures - Staff Guidelines
- Travel and Subsistence circulars
- Code of Conduct for Employees
- Various Circulars regarding pay increases from the DOEHLG and also various circulars in relation to superannuation entitlements.
- Limerick City Council-Cultural Diversity-member of the Travelling Community
- Limerick City Council Equality and Diversity Management
- Probation Policy Employees

Family Friendly Policies

The number of staff who have availed of leave under the various schemes in 2005.

Parental leave	33
Term Time	17
Worksharing	38
Flexitime	134
Career Breaks	14

Staff Counselling

The HR Department continues to recognise the importance of a Staff Counselling Service which is available to all staff and which provides an opportunity to access professional counselling to assist staff on a confidential basis.

ICT services 2005

Maintaining and enhancing existing ICT services and introducing new vital services.

Telecommunications & Network Services

- Reinvested in new desktop computers
- Upgraded of Libraries online system to give better access to visitors Internet user in the Library
- Facilitated major refurbishment of City Hall
- Web Browsing enhanced
- Security improved.

Geographic Information Systems

- A new planning system was implemented that allows council staff and public alike to view the digital planning register on-line. This is a new Internet based mapping technology.
- In addition the 1980's and 1990's planning register maps have been scanned and can be viewed on-line in conjunction with the new digital planning register.
- Mapping was produced for the Housing Analysis project.

Web Services

- A new complaints system was designed and developed to record, and deal with complaints and requests for repairs in a more efficient way. This application was successfully rolled-out to Water Services.
- An intranet based Leave System and a Room Booking system was implemented for the organisation.

Business Applications

- Introduced new Housing application.
- Introduced new Parking Fines system including Hand Held devices to issue parking tickets.

Health & Safety

The annual health and safety programme is based on compliance with the wide-ranging safety legislative requirements relating to Limerick City Council's work activities and the provision of improved safety standards at the workplace in order to facilitate effective work performance.

Achievements in 2005

- The number of lost time accidents continued its downward trend.
- Organised a H&S awareness programme for

Safety Week in October 2005, which included fitness tests, head and neck massage and presentations on noise and bullying.

- Provided extensive consultation (ten meetings) on H&S issues through the Safety Representatives Committee
- Completed a major update of the Safety Statement for City Hall.
- Trained eight groups in Manual Materials Handling.
- Trained four groups in the Safe Pass Course
- Introduced a new safe system of work plan (SSWP) in Water Services
- Monitored radon levels in City Hall
- Provided H&S induction training for new employees.
- Developed safety guidelines covering Aggressive Behaviour and Bobcat machine.
- Improved emergency evacuation plans for City Hall by means of the introduction of a Visitor's Register, EVAC + Chairs for emergency evacuation down stairwells and improved facilities for Fire Wardens.
- Provided H&S info for staff on a variety of topics
- Safety Office achieved chartered IOSH status
- Developed emergency plans covering assault on Traffic Wardens.
- Developed specifications for Safe Pass, MMH, SSWP and H&S Induction training.

Partnership

Partnership is now an established way of doing business involving management, unions and employees at all levels addressing a wide range of issues of strategic and operational importance, and delivering positive outcomes to all stakeholders. The partnership process provides a neutral ground where discussions can take place, the objective being to replace the adversarial approach to change with an open co-operative process based on effective consultation and participation by all concerned for the progression and implementation of strategic goals, service delivery objectives, and associated action programmes.

During 2005 the Partnership process in Limerick City Council focussed on tackling a number of significant issues including the Council's modernisation/change agenda and progress was made in a number of departments. In addition the Steering Committee established a series of sub-committees to discuss issues of concern on a departmental basis. Partnership organised workshops to facilitate

employee involvement in the development of the Corporate Plan and a series of consultation meetings were held with staff in relation to PMDS and Training.

Partnership was also centrally involved in the development of a Customer Complaints System and Customer Surveys during 2005.

Funding was also received for a variety of other projects during the year including –

- Long Term Service Awards
- Employee Welfare
- Basic IT Skills
- Train the Trainer
- Equality Awareness Programme
- Customer Service
- Staff Interaction Day



< L-R > Paddy Meneghan, John FitzGerald, Michael McCarthy



< L-R > Ger McNamara, Paddy Rainsford, Joe O'Donoghue



< BACK > Norah O'Connor - Management Services, Sinead McNamara - Finance
< FRONT > Eleanor Buckley - Management Services, Kathleen Sheehy - Reception



< L-R > Sarah O'Sullivan, Mary Moloney, Sara Lyons - Childcare



< BACK > Jason Murphy, Patricia O'Dwyer, Alfie Jones - I.T.
< FRONT > Aedin Bennis, Grainne Teahan, Patricia Wright - I.T.



< BACK > Vincent Murray - Roads, Pat Eyres - Roads,
< FRONT > John Irwin - Water & Sewerage, Sean McGlynn - Roads

SEIRBHÍSÍ BAINISTÍOCHTA

Éachtaí in 2005

Bronnadh Saoirse na Cathrach ar an Athair Aengus Finucane, CSSp, ar an Athair Jack Finucane CSSp agus ar Chiarán Mac Mathúna ar an 21 Meitheamh 2005.

Reachtáladh cruinnithe na Comhairle Cathrach mar is ceart.

Bhí idirchaidreamh agus bainistíocht éifeachtach le baill den Chomhairle Cathrach.

Eagraíodh Fáiltithe Cathartha agus Méaracha.

Foilsíodh Dréachtchlár na dToghthóirí, Clár na dToghthóirí agus Eagrán Atheagraithe de Chlár na dToghthóirí.

Measúnaíodh, próiseáladh agus íocadh Deontais Ardoideachais.

Cumarsáid leanúnach leis an C.V.O. agus Údarás Sábháilteachta Bia na hÉireann chun críche tomhaltóirí a chosaint.

Leanadh le nuashonrú faisnéise ar láithreán gréasáin agus inlíon na Comhairle Cathrach.

Bhí rannpháirtíocht nuálaíoch i gcur chun cinn na cathrach.

ACMHAINNÍ DAONNA

Caidrimh Thionsclaíocha agus Caidrimh idir Fostaithe

I rith na bliana lean an Roinn Acmhainní Daonna, ag obair in éineacht leis an ngrúpa Ceardchumann laistigh den phróiseas comhpháirtíochta, le hathrú a lorg agus a bhaint amach faoin gclár oibre nuachóirithe solúbtha mar atá leagtha amach in Ag Cothabháil an Dul Chun Cinn.

In 2005, leanadh leis an mbeartas Acmhainní Daonna chun dea-chaidrimh thionsclaíocha a chothú ar leibhéal corparáideach - beartas a bhfuil sé mar aidhm leis saincheisteanna foirne a réiteach a luaithe agus is féidir.

Oiliúint

Lean an Chomhairle Cathrach lena chlár oiliúna a fhorbairt agus thug an Chomhairle faoi bhreis agus 50 cúrsa i rith na bliana.

I rith 2005, chuir an Chomhairle tús le clár nua chun scileanna nua a thabhairt do bhaill foirne reatha agus é mar aidhm cúrsaí a sheachadadh go díreach d'fhostaithe eile. Faoi láthair, tá cúigear ball foirne páirteach sa chlár seo.

Earcaíocht

Ag an 31 Nollaig 2005, 617 duine a bhí fostaithe ag Comhairle Cathrach Luimnigh arna chatagóiriú mar seo a leanas:

Foireann Bainistíochta/Riaracháin	185
Foireann Ghairmiúil/Theicniúil	42
Foireann ar ghráid cheardaíochta, ghinearálta agus ghaolmhara	329
Foireann eile	61
Coibhéiseach lánaimseartha	573.6

Seirbhísí Bainistíochta, Acmhainní Daonna, TFC, An Rannóg Sláinte & Sábháilteachta, Comhpháirtíocht.

Taithí Oibre/Socrúcháin Oibre

Leanann an Chomhairle Cathrach le béim a leagan ar ár ngaolmhaireacht a neartú agus tacú leis na scéimeanna socrúcháin éagsúla do scoileanna dara leibhéal agus tríú leibhéal ar fud an chontae agus na cathrach agus le go leor eagraíochtaí eile, FÁS agus an Coiste Gairmoideachais san áireamh. Bhain 31 mac léinn leas as an áis seo in 2005.

Scéimeanna Fostaíochta Pobail / Scéim Tionscnaimh Post

Lean Comhairle Cathrach Luimnigh ag tacú le 32 ball foirne a fhostú faoin Scéim Fostaíochta Pobail/ Scéim Tionscnaimh Post in éineacht le FÁS.

Beartais agus Nósanna Imeachta

Ag cloí leis an reachtaíocht agus na dea-chleachtais reatha, lean an rannóg seo ar aghaidh ag forbairt, ag cur i bhfeidhm agus ag nuashonrú na mbeartas/nósanna imeachta seo a leanas i rith na bliana:

- Nósanna Imeachta Casaoide agus Disciplín
- Treoirínte do Bhaill Foirne
- Ciorcláin Taistil agus Chothabhála
- Cód Iompair d'Fhostaithe
- Ciorcláin Éagsúla maidir le harduithe pá ón Roinn Comhshaoil, Oidhreacht & Rialtais Áitiúil mar aon le ciorcláin eile a bhaineann le teidlíochtaí aoisliúntais.
- Comhairle Cathrach Luimnigh-Éagsúlacht Cultúir-Ball den Lucht Siúil
- Bainistíocht Comhionannais agus Éagsúlachta Chomhairle Cathrach Luimnigh
- Beartas Promhaidh Fostaithe

Beartais a Oireann don Teaghlach

An líon foirne a thóg saoire faoi na scéimeanna éagsúla in 2005.

Saoire do thuismitheoirí	33
Saoire Scoilbhliana	17
Postroinnt	38
Tráthanna oibre inathraithe	134
Sosanna Gairme	14

Comhairleoireacht Foirne

Leanann an Rannóg Acmhainní Daonna ag tabhairt aitheantais don tábhacht a bhaineann le Seirbhís Comhairleoireachta Foirne a thugann deis do gach ball foirne rochtain a bheith acu ar chomhairleoireacht ghairmiúil le cabhrú le baill foirne ar bhonn rúnda.

Seirbhísí TFC 2005

Na seirbhísí TFC atá ann a chothabháil agus a fheabhsú agus seirbhísí ríthábhachtacha nua a chur ar bun.

Seirbhísí Teileachumarsáide & Líonra

- Athinfheistíodh i ríomhairí deisce nua
- Nuashonrú ar chóras ar líne na Leabharlann chun rochtain níos fearr a thabhairt do chuairoteoirí ar an Idirlíon sa Leabharlann
- Éascaíodh mórbair athchóirithe ar Halla na Cathrach
- Feabhsaíodh Brabhsáil Gréasáin
- Feabhsaíodh cúrsaí slándála.

Córais Faisnéise Geografacha

- Cuireadh córas pleanála nua i bhfeidhm a cheadaíonn d'fhoireann na comhairle agus don phobal araon féachaint ar an gclár pleanála digití ar líne. Teicneolaíocht léarscáilíochta nua Idirlín-bhunaithe atá anseo.
- Lena chois sin scanadh an clár léarscáileanna pleanála a bhaineann leis na 1980idí agus 1990idí agus is féidir féachaint orthu ar líne in éineacht leis an gclár pleanála digití nua.
- Cuireadh an léarscáilíocht le chéile don tionscadal Anailíse Tithíochta.

Seirbhísí Gréasáin

- Dearadh agus forbraíodh córas gearán nua le déileáil le gearáin agus iarrataí do dheisiúcháin ar bhealach níos éifeachtaí. Cuireadh an córas seo i bhfeidhm i Rannóg na Seirbhísí Uisce.
- Cuireadh Córas Fágála agus córas Áirithinte Seomra inlín-bhunaithe i bhfeidhm don eagraíocht.

Iarratais Ghnó

- Cuireadh tús le hiarratas Tithíochta nua.
- Cuireadh tús le córas nua d'Fhíneálacha Páirceála lena n-áirítear gléasanna láimhe chun ticéid pháirceála a eisiúint.

Sláinte & Sábháilteacht

Tá an clár bliantúil sláinte agus sábháilteachta bunaithe ar chomhlíonadh leis na ceanglais sábháilteachta reachtúla fairsinge a bhaineann le gníomhaíochtaí oibre Chomhairle Cathrach Luimnigh agus soláthar caighdeán sábháilteachta feabhsaithe san ionad oibre d'fhonn feidhmíocht oibre éifeachtaí a éascú.

Éachtaí in 2005

- Leanadh leis an treocht anuas sa mhéid ama a cailleadh de dheasca timpistí.
- Eagraíodh clár feasachta Sláinte & Sábháilteachta don tSeachtain Sábháilteachta i mí Dheireadh Fómhair 2005, a d'áirigh scrúduithe corpacmhainne, suathaireacht chinn agus mhuiníl agus cuir i láthair faoi thorann agus bulaíocht.
- Soláthraíodh dianchomhairliúchán (deich gcruinniú) faoi shaincheistean Sláinte & Sábháilteachta trí Choiste na nIonadaithe Sábháilteachta.
- Comhlánaíodh nuashonrú ar an Ráiteas Sábháilteachta do Halla na Cathrach.
- Oileadh ocht ngrúpa i Láimhsiú Ábhar.
- Oileadh ceithre ghrúpa sa Chúrsa Pas Sábháilte
- Cuireadh tús le plean nua maidir le córas sábháilte oibre (PCSO) i Seirbhísí Uisce
- Rinneadh monatóireacht ar leibhéil radóin i Halla na Cathrach
- Cuireadh oiliúint ionduchtaithe Sláinte & Sábháilteachta ar fáil d'fhostaithe nua.
- Forbraíodh treoirlínte sábháilteachta a d'áirigh lomptraíocht lonsaitheach agus meaisín Bobchait.
- Feabhsaíodh pleananna aslonnaithe éigeandála feabhsaithe do Halla na Cathrach trí Chlár Cuairteoirí a bheith acu, mar aon le EVAC + Cathaoireacha d'aslonnú éigeandála anuas loig staighre agus áiseanna feabhsaithe do Mhaoir Dóiteáin.
- Soláthraíodh faisnéis Sláinte & Sábháilteachta d'fhoirne faoi réimse ábhar
- Bhain an Oifig Sábháilteachta stádas cairte IOSH amach
- Forbraíodh pleananna éigeandála a d'áirigh ionsaí ar Mhaoir Tráchtá.

- Forbraíodh sonraíochta do Phas Sábháilte, MMH, PCSO agus oiliúint Ionductaithe Sláinte & Sábháilteachta.

Comhpháirtíocht

Is éard atá i gcomhpháirtíocht anois bealach bunaithe le gnó a dhéanamh, bealach a áiríonn bainistíocht, ceardchumainn agus fostaithe sna leibhéil uile chun aghaidh a thabhairt ar raon leathan saincheistanna a mbaineann tábhacht straitéiseach agus oibriúcháin leo, agus torthaí dearfacha a sheachadadh do na páirtithe leasmhara uile. Soláthraíonn an próiseas comhpháirtíochta ardán neodrach inar féidir plé a dhéanamh, agus é mar chuspóir teacht in ionad an chuir chuige sáraíochta d'athrú a chur ar bun trí phróiseas comhoibrithe oscailte bunaithe ar chomhairliúchán agus rannpháirtíocht éifeachtach na ndaoine uile a bhfuil baint acu le dul chun cinn agus cur i bhfeidhm spriocanna straitéiseacha, cuspóirí seachadta seirbhíse agus na cláir ghníomhaíochta gaolmhara.

I rith 2005 dhírigh an próiseas Comhpháirtíochta i gComhairle Cathrach Luimnigh ar dhul i ngleic le roinnt saincheistanna suntasacha, ina measc clár oibre nuachóirithe/athraithe na Comhairle agus rinneadh dul chun cinn i roinnt rannóg. Lena chois sin bhunaigh an Coiste Stiúrtha sraith fochoistí chun plé a dhéanamh ar ábhair is cúram do rannóga éagsúla.

D'eagraigh comhpháirtíocht ceardlanna chun an bhaint atá ag fostaithe le forbairt an Phlean Chorpáraidigh a éascú agus reáchtáladh sraith cruinnithe comhairliúcháin leis an bhfoireann maidir le CBFF agus Oiliúint.

Ina theannta sin bhí baint lárnach ag Comhpháirtíocht le forbairt ar Chóras Gearán do Chustaiméirí agus Suirbhéanna Custaiméirí i rith 2005.

Fuarthas maoiniú freisin do roinnt tionscadal eile i rith na bliana lena n-áirítear –

- Gradaim Seirbhíse Fadtréimhsí
- Leas Fostaithe
- Scileanna Bunúsacha TF
- Oil an tOiliúinóir
- Clár Feasachta Comhionannais
- Seirbhís do Chustaiméirí
- Lá Idirghníomhaíochta Foirne



Alison O'Reilly, Siobhan Corkery
- Social Inclusion



< L-R > Stuart Roche, Sínead O'Donnell,
Mary O'Sullivan - Environment

Social & Affordable Housing

Tithíocht Shóisialta Inacmhainne

Creating and preserving sustainable communities.
Pobail inbhuanaithe a chruthú agus a chaomhnú.

Key elements of the Annual Operational Plan:

- Deliver on targets set out in Action Plan for Social & Affordable Housing 2004 - 2008
- Implement a more comprehensive planned maintenance programme.
- Implement Traveller Accommodation Programme.
- Setting and delivering quality service standards.
- Working in greater partnership with our communities and combating social exclusion and reducing marginalisation.

Housing Stock:

	2003	2004	2005
Housing Stock	3216	3223	3279
Housing Waiting List	800	1200	1300

Main achievements during the year:

- Commenced the construction/acquisition of 58 housing units.
- 44 No. units added to Limerick City Councils housing stock
- 10 No. houses identified for refurbishment under the DOEHLG Voids Scheme
- Design team appointed to Phase 2 of the O'Malley Park Remedial Works Scheme.
- Adopted Traveller Accommodation Plan 2005-2008
- €150,000 paid to 15 voluntary and community groups under the Social & Community Grants Scheme 2005.
- €114,200 paid to seven estate management groups in respect of staffing and office administration costs.
- 23 projects commended under Improvement Works in Lieu Scheme & Extensions to Local Authority Houses Scheme with a total expenditure in 2005.

- Contributed €320,000 towards the Disabled Persons Grant Scheme. A total of 128 grants received provisional approval.
- Initiated Phases 4 & 5 of Windows and Doors Replacement Programme encompassing 357 houses in the Moyross and Thomondgate areas.
- Completed Phase 1 of Central Heating Programme which saw the installation of Central Heating in 150 Local Authority rented houses.
- Project Manager appointed to Rental Accommodation Scheme.
- Official opening of Sarsfield Park (72 units), Kileely Court (18 units), The Abbey Phase 2 (4 units) and St. Munchins Community Centre, Kileely.
- Tenders received in respect of new community facility in O'Malley Park.



Príomhghnéithe an Phlean Oibríocháin Bhliantúil:

- Na spriocanna atá leagtha amach sa Phlean Gníomhaíochta do Thithíocht Shóisialta Inacmhainne 2004 – 2008 a bhaint amach
- Clár cothabhála pleanáilte agus níos cuimsithí a chur i bhfeidhm.
- Clár Cóiríochta don Lucht Siúil a Chur i bhFeidhm.
- Seirbhísí ar ardchaighdeán a bhunú agus a sheachadadh.
- Níos mó comhpháirtíochta a bheith againn lenár bpobail agus eisiamaí sóisialta a chosc agus imeallú a laghdú.

Stoc Tithíochta:

	2003	2004	2005
Stoc Tithíochta	3216	3223	3279
Liosta Feithimh do Thithíocht	800	1200	1300

Príomhéachtaí i rith na bliana:

- Cuireadh tús le tógáil/seilbh ar 58 aonad tithíochta.
- Cuireadh 44 aonad le stoc tithíochta Chomhairle Cathrach Luimnigh
- Aithníodh deich dteach chun obair athchóirithe a dhéanamh orthu faoi Scéim na dTithe Folmha de chuid na Roinne Comhshaoil, Oidhreacht agus Rialtais Áitiúil
- Foireann dearaidh ceaptha do Chéim 2 de Scéim Oibreacha Feabhais Pháirc Uí Mháille.
- Plean Cóiríochta 2005-2008 don Lucht Siúil Curtha i bhFeidhm
- Íocadh €150,000 le 15 grúpa deonach agus pobail faoi Scéim Deontas Sóisialta & Pobail 2005.

- Íocadh €114,200 le seacht ngrúpa bainistíochta eastáit do chostais foirne agus riaracháin oifige.
- Cuireadh tús le 23 tionscadal faoi Scéim na nOibreacha Feabhsúcháin & Síntí do Scéim Thithe Údaráis Áitiúil le caiteachas iomlán in 2005.
- Cuireadh €320,000 ar fáil do Scéim Deontais na nDaoine Faoi Mhíchumas. Ceadaíodh 128 deontas go sealadach.
- Cuireadh tús le Céimeanna 4 & 5 den Chlár Athsholáthair Fuinneog agus Doirse a d'áirigh 357 teach i gceantar Mhaigh Rois agus Sparr Thuamhan.
- Críochnaíodh Céim 1 den Chlár Téimh Lárnaigh a shuiteáil Téamh Lárnach i 150 teach de chuid an Údaráis Áitiúil, tithe atá ar cíos.
- Ceapadh Bainisteoir Tionscadail le bheith ag obair ar an Scéim Cóiríochta Cíosa.
- Osclaíodh Páirc an tSáirséalaigh (72 aonad), Cúirt Chill Liadhaine (18 aonad), Céim na Mainistreach 2 (4 aonad) agus Ionad Pobail Naomh Mainchín, Cill Liadhaine go hoifigiúil.
- Fuarthas tairiscintí maidir le háis nua pobail i bPáirc Uí Mháille.

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Transportation & Infrastructure Iompar & Infrastruchtúr

The following is a list of the works completed by The Roads Department during 2005

In 2004 Limerick City Council Transportation and Infrastructure Department held Area meetings with the Elected members and took submissions for numerous projects, in addition to these meetings several representations and Notice of Motions were incorporated within the development of this Proposed Road Maintenance Programme. Against this background the programme was developed with due regard for the above but an Engineering assessment was also carried out to determine the most advantageous area for expenditure of the Grant and Revenue allocation for 2005, which would sustain urban development and eliminate as much as possible the hazards encountered by the public in the course of their day.

NRA Grants:

Following our receipt of €1.1m of grants from the National Roads Authority, we were successful in completing large scale footpath upgrade and resurfacing works in the city centre of approximately 1km of the N20 between Mallow St and Wolfe Tone St.

Specific Improvement Grants:

An allocation of €710,000 was received to upgrade the road and the footpath from the Abbey Bridge on Clare St for approximately 1600m towards the Parkway roundabout.

An allocation of €130,000 was received to upgrade the Pennywell Road and footpath surface from it's junction with the Dublin Road to it's junction with St. Lelia St or approximately 450m of carriage way.

Block Grant:

An allocation of €494,000 was received and this was divided to facilitate footpath upgrades, public lighting improvements and repairs, Traffic Management ongoing costs and a traffic capacity study. Some of the projects completed with this grant were as follows:

- Upgrade of city centre traffic route lighting
- Upgrade of approx 2,000m² of public footpath
- Elimination of hazards to general public
- Upgrading of the road markings

Special Block Grant:

An allocation of €623,000 was received for the footpath and carriageway reconstruction for Local Roads. €390,000 of the total allocation was used for road resurfacing with the remainder used for footpath thin surface overlay and reconstruction. Works completed with these grants are as follows, Installation of a 3rd lane on Carey's Rd (Boherbuoy), 2.8km of resurfacing and footpath upgrades on city streets incl Brown's Quay, Joseph St., Roches St., Mill Rd., St.Patrick's Rd. 6,500m² of thin surface overlays to city footpaths. 4,000m² of thin surface overlays of estate roads.

City Council's Development Levies and own Resources:

An allocation of €900,000 was made for the reconstruction and maintenance of roads and footpaths within the city. €420,000 of this total allocation was used for road reconstruction, with €100,000 for Public Lighting standard replacement, €80,000 for Traffic Calming and the remaining for hazard repairs and footpath replacement. Road resurfacing completed with this allocation include Rhebogue Rd and Clancy Strand.



<ABOVE> Bedford Row Pedestrian Street.

<RIGHT> Launch of hand held automatic electronic system for parking offence management.



Upper Bedford Row Pedestrianisation

After consultation with the Business reps. and property owners on Upper Bedford Row the contract for the full pedestrianisation of Bedford Row was awarded to Craddock Civil Engineering. This contract which commenced in September is valued at almost €3,000,000 and is expected to be finished in mid 2006. Funding for this scheme is being provided by the DEHLG through the Urban and Village Renewal Grant.

Cycle Tracks

A contract was prepared and awarded in late 2005 for the construction of 1.5 km of High Grade Cycle Track and Footpath along the Childers Road from Childers Road Retail Park to Kilmallock Roundabout. These works will be completed during March 2006.

The following is a list of the National Primary Routes that were resurfaced

O Connell Avenue, N20 Resurfacing

The following is a list of the Non-National Primary Routes that were resurfaced

Dublin Road, Pennywell Road, Roches Street, Clancy Strand, Careys Rd (3 Lane), St. Patricks Road, Browns Quay, Garryowen Rd, Mill Road, Joseph Street.

The following is a summary of the works carried out by the Traffic Section during 2005**(1) Traffic management provisions to enable:**

- Spring Festival and St. Patrick's Day
- EVA and other cultural and sporting, historical events and celebrations.

(2) Traffic management provisions to enable:

- Major public and private developments approved by the Planning Authority.
- To effect demolitions, site developments and infrastructure provisions.
- Incidents and emergencies.

Note: The works at (1) and (2) generally involve significant off-peak or night-time works so as to minimise traffic congestion.

(3) Implementation of the largest non-dedicated bus priority provisions (outside of Dublin City) to improve public transport service.

(4) Implementation of Phase 1 of the Urban Traffic Control System with priority assigned to improving pedestrian crossing facilities in the city and reducing pedestrian wait times.

(5) The Design and context award of the 2nd phase of U.T.C for the city's parking guidance system, designed to reduce the volumes of circulating traffic and seeking parking in the city and to further promote business and commerce in the city.

(6) Implementation of Traffic Signal Fault Management and Energy Management System.

(7) The Design approval of variable message and travel information signage and systems for integration of Southern Ring Road, Phase II – Tunnel Project.

(8) The Design of proposed Green Route network.

(9) The Design and implementation of Phase 1 of the city's Cycle Network.

(10) The Design and facilitation (Traffic) of Phase II of the City Centre Pedestrianisation Strategy.

(11) Ongoing Design of the City Orbital Route to enable the possible roll-out of O'Connell Street pedestrianisation.

(12) Roll-Out of traffic calming schemes in each electoral area.

(13) Design and Construction of low cost accident reduction schemes.

(14) The Design and Implementation of RAPID schemes.

(15) Implementation of National Disability scheme and the commencement of access audits.

(16) The Management of on-street parking and the introduction of a new automated electronic system of parking offence management.

(17) The Management of residents parking permits.

(18) The Pilot Trials of mobile phone enabled disc parking – ‘Park Magic’ and added value to disc parking.

(19) The Management and training of adult School Wardens and appointed crossing places.

(20) The Promotion of Road Safety in the city schools.

(21) The introduction of cycle training to city schools.

(22) The Presentation of new Taxi Rank Draft Bye-Laws and Appointed Stands and the setting up of the new Taxi Forum.

(23) The Management of Skips and Road Opening Licences.

(24) The undertaking of the National Road Traffic Census and local traffic and parking survey.

WATER SERVICES

Waste Water

All contracts under the Limerick Main Drainage scheme were completed in 2005 and will feed into the Waste Water Treatment Plant in Bunlicky opened originally in 2004. The Limerick Main Drainage Project, which has involved the carrying out of 19 major engineering contracts over the last 4 years, has been promoted by Limerick City Council as lead authority in association with Limerick and Clare County Council. Funding for the Project was provided by the Department of the Environment, Heritage and Local Government under the National Development Plan and by the E.U. Cohesion Fund.

This project will enable the sustainable growth and development of Limerick City and its Environs well into the future whilst protecting the river environment and enhancing the amenity value of the Abbey and Shannon Rivers for the benefit of Limerick residents and visitors.

Water

The European Communities Drinking Water Regulations, 2000. (S.I. 439 of 2000) and Directive 98/83/EC came into effect on the 1st January 2004 and the 1998 regulations ceased to have effect. These new regulations have increased the amount of monitoring and the number of parameters local authorities must test drinking water for Limerick City Council produced in excess of 18.5 million cubic meters of potable drinking water in 2005 and achieved an average compliance with the new regulations of 99.2%, which is amongst the highest compliance rates in the country. Compliance with Drinking Water Regulations is now included as one of the 42 National Performance Indicators. There was a 100% compliance rate with microbiological parameters during 2005 and only minor non compliances with chemical parameters where technical problems at the treatment plant resulted in low fluoride levels and slight exceedences of aluminium levels.

The Limerick City Water Conservation project made more progress during 2005 and has succeeded in further reducing unaccounted for water levels in the city by an average of 1500m³/day.

Considerable progress was also made during the year installing new flow meters and Telemetry on the distribution system, which gives the network managers greater control over the system. In excess of 2000 meter of old watermain was replaced during 2005 and new water connections were provided for 65 major new developments in the City. The contract for the additional room and upgrade of Clareville Water Treatment works was progressed to final tender stage during 2005. A contractor should be appointed to advance this project during 2006.

The Department of the Environment, Heritage & Local Government requires that local authorities in Ireland achieve universal metering of the non-domestic customers of the public water and Waste-Water Services by year end 2006. Limerick City has already approximately 25% of the required meters installed and has considerably advanced procurement of a contractor for the installation and maintaining of the remainder of these meters.





Seo a leanas liosta de na hoibreacha a chríochnaigh Rannóg na mBóithre i rith 2005

In 2004, reáchtáil Rannóg Iompair agus Infrastruchtúir Chomhairle Cathrach Luimnigh cruinnithe Ceantair leis na Baill tofa agus glacadh le haighneachtaí do neart tionscadal, le cois na gcruinnithe seo áiríodh roinnt léiriúcháin agus Fógraí Foriarratais laistigh d'fhorbairt an Chláir Chothabhála Bóthair Mholta seo.

Bunaithe air seo, forbraíodh an clár ag féachaint don mhéid thuasluaite ach rinneadh measúnacht Innealtóireachta freisin chun cinneadh a dhéanamh faoin gceantar a mbaineann na buntáistí is mó leis do chaiteachas an Deontais agus leithdháileadh loncaim do 2005, a chothódh forbairt tuaithe agus a chuireadh deireadh a mhéid agus is féidir leis na guaiseacha a mbeadh ag an bpobal dul i ngleic leo i rith an lae.

Deontais an Údaráis um Bóithre Náisiúnta:

I ndiaidh dúinn deontas de €1.1 milliún a fháil ón Údarás um Bóithre Náisiúnta, d'éirigh linn mórbair feabhais a dhéanamh ar chosáin agus oibreacha athdhromchlaithe a chríochnú i lár na cathrach, thart ar 1 ciliméadar den N20 idir Sráid Mhala agus Sráid Wolfe Tone.

Saindeontais Feabhais:

Fuarthas leithdháileadh de €710,000.00 chun an bóthar agus cosán ó Dhroichead na Mainistreach ar Shráid an Chláir a fheabhsú, thart ar 1600 méadar i dtreo thimpeallán Parkway.

Fuarthas leithdháileadh de €130,000.00 chun Bóthar Pennywell agus dromchla an chosáin a uasghrádú ón acomhal le Bóthar Baile Átha Cliath chuig an acomhal le Sráid Lile Naofa nó thart ar 450 méadar den charrbhealach.

Blocdheontas:

Fuarthas leithdháileadh de €494,000 agus roinneadh é seo chun cosáin a fheabhsú, feabhsúcháin agus deisiúcháin ar shoilsiú poiblí a éascú, mar aon leis na costais leanúnacha a bhaineann le Bainistíocht Tráchtas agus staidéar acmhainne tráchtas. Seo a leanas cuid de na tionscadail a chríochnaíodh leis an deontas seo:

Soilsiú bealach tráchtas lár na cathrach a fheabhsú. Thart ar 2,000 méadar cearnach de chosán poiblí a fheabhsú. Fáil réidh le guaiseacha don phobal i gcoitinne. Marcanna bóthair a fheabhsú.

Blocdheontas Speisialta:

Fuarthas leithdháileadh de €623,000 d'atógáil an chosáin agus an charrbhealaigh do Bhóithre Áitiúla. Úsáideadh €390,000 den leithdháileadh iomlán d'athdhromchlú bóthair agus úsáideadh an t-airgead a bhí fágtha chun forleagan tanaí a chur ar chosáin agus obair atógála a dhéanamh.

Seo a leanas na hoibreacha a tugadh chun críche leis na deontais seo. An tríú lán a shuiteáil ar Bhóthar Uí Chiara (Bóthar Bui) 2.8 ciliméadar d'athdhromchlú agus obair feabhais ar chosáin ar shráideanna na cathrach, Cé Brown, Sráid Sheosaimh, Sráid an Róistigh, Bóthar an Mhuilinn agus Bóthar Naomh Pádraig san áireamh. 6,500 méadar cearnach d'fhorleagan tanaí ar chosáin na cathrach. 4,000 méadar cearnach d'fhorleagan tanaí ar bhóithre eastát.

Tobhaigh Forbartha na Comhairle Cathrach agus Acmhainní na Comhairle:

Rinneadh leithdháileadh de €900,000 d'atógáil agus cothabháil bóithre agus cosán laistigh den chathair. Úsáideadh €420,000 den leithdháileadh iomlán seo d'atógáil bóithre, €100,000 d'athsholáthar soilisithe de Shoilsiú Poiblí, €80,000 do Mhoilliú Tráchtas agus úsáideadh an t-airgead a bhí fágtha do dheisiúcháin agus d'athsholáthar cosán. I measc an athdhromchlaithe bóthair a rinneadh leis an leithdháileadh seo bhí Bóthar Rhebogue agus Trá Mhic Fhlannchaidh.

Áirithiú do Choisithe ar Rae Bedford Uachtarach

I ndiaidh comhairliúcháin leis na hionadaithe Gnó agus úinéirí maoine ar Rae Bedford Uachtarach bronnadh an Conradh d'áirithiú do choisithe a dhéanamh ar Rae Bedford ar Craddock Civil Engineering. Is fiú beagnach €3,000,000 an Conradh seo ar cuireadh tús leis i mí Mheán Fómhair agus táthar ag súil go mbeidh sé críochnaithe faoi lár 2006. Is í an Roinn Comhshaoil, Oidhreachtas agus Rialtais Áitiúil atá ag soláthar maoinithe don scéim seo tríd an Deontas Athnuachana Uirbí agus Sráidbhailte.

Raonta Rothar

Ullmhaíodh agus bronnadh Conradh go deireanach in 2005 chun 1.5 ciliméadar de Raon Rothar agus Cosán Ardghráid a thógáil feadh Bhóthar Childers ó Pháirc Miondíola Bhóthar Childers chomh fada le Timpeallán Chill Mocheallóg. Críochnófar na hoibreacha seo i rith Márta 2006.

Seo a leanas liosta de na Príomhbhóithre Náisiúnta ar cuireadh dromchla nua orthu
Ascaill Uí Chonaill, Athdhromchlú an N20

Seo a leanas liosta de na Príomhbhóithre Neamh-Náisiúnta ar cuireadh dromchla nua orthu

Bóthar Bhaile Átha Cliath, Bóthar Pennywell, Sráid an Róistigh, Sráid Mhic Fhlannchaidh, Bóthar Uí Chiara (3 Lána), Bóthar Naomh Pádraig, Cé an Bhrúnaigh, Bóthar Gharraí Eoin, Bóthar an Mhuilinn, Sráid Sheosaimh.

Seo a leanas achoimre de na hoibreacha a rinne an Rannóg Tráchta i rith 2005

(1) Forálacha bainistíochta tráchta ionas go bhféadfaí na himeachtaí seo a réachtáil:

- Féile an Earraigh agus Lá Fhéile Pádraig
- EVA agus imeachtaí agus ceiliúradh cultúrtha, spóirt agus stairiúil eile.

(2) Forálacha bainistíochta tráchta chun na rudaí seo a leanas a éascú:

- Mórforbairtí poiblí agus príobháideacha ceadaithe ag an Údarás Pleanála.
- Obair scartála, forbairt suímh agus forálacha infrastruchtúir a dhéanamh.
- Teagmhais agus éigeandálaí.

Nóta: I gcás (1) agus (2) thuas is iondúil go mbíonn go leor de na hoibreacha ar siúl i rith uaireanta seach-bhuaice agus i rith na hoíche chun brú tráchta a mhaolú.

(3) Na forálacha neamhthiomanta is mó (lasmuigh de Chathair Bhaile Átha Cliath) maidir le tosaíocht a thabhairt do bhusanna a chur i bhfeidhm chun seirbhísí iompair poiblí a fheabhsú.

(4) Céim 1 den Chóras Rialaithe Tráchta Uirbí a chur i bhfeidhm le tús áite á thabhairt d'áiseanna trasriain choisithe sa chathair a fheabhsú agus an méid ama a bhíonn ar choisithe fanacht a laghdú.

(5) Dearadh agus bronnadh chéim 2 d'Am Uilíoch Lárnach do chóras treorach páirceála na cathrach, deartha d'fhonn an méid tráchta atá ag gluaiseacht agus an méid ama a thógann sé áit pháirceála a fháil sa chathair a laghdú agus gnó agus tráchtáil a chur chun cinn sa chathair.

(6) An Córas Bainistíochta do Lochtanna i gComharthaíocht Tráchta agus Córas Bainistíochta Fuinnimh a chur i bhfeidhm.

(7) Dearadh comharthaíocht do theachtaireachtaí inathraithe agus faisnéis taistil mar aon le córais do chomhtháthú an Chuarbhóthair Theas, Céim II – Tionscadal an Tolláin.

(8) Lónra an Bhealaigh Ghlais beartaithe a dhearadh.

(9) Dearadh agus cur i bhfeidhm Chéim 1 de Lónra Rothair na cathrach.

(10) Dearadh agus éascú (Trácht) de Chéim II de Straitéis Áirithiú do Choisithe Lár na Cathrach.

(11) Dearadh leanúnach de Sheachbhóthar na Cathrach chun áirithiú do choisithe Shráid Uí Chonaill a chinntiú.

(12) Scéimeanna moillithe tráchta a rolladh amach i ngach toghcheantar.

(13) Scéimeanna laghdaithe timpiste ar phraghas íseal a dhearadh agus a thógáil.

(14) Scéimeanna RAPID a dhearadh agus a chur i bhfeidhm.

(15) Scéim Náisiúnta Míchumais a chur i bhfeidhm agus tús a chur le hiniúchtaí rochtana.

(16) Páirceáil sráide a bhainistiú agus tús a chur le córas leictreonach uathobrithe nua do bhainistíocht cionta páirceála.

(17) Ceadanna páirceála do chónaitheoirí a bhainistiú.

(18) Trialacha Píolótacha de pháirceáil diosca cumasaithe ag an bhfón póca – 'Park Magic' agus breisluach a chur le páirceáil diosca.

(19) Bainistíocht agus oiliúint Maor Scoile aosaigh agus trasrianta ainmnithe.

(20) Sábháilteacht ar Bhóithre a chur chun cinn i scoileanna na cathrach.

(21) Tús a chur le hoiliúint rothaíochta i scoileanna na cathrach.

(22) Dréacht-Fhodhlíthe do Stad Tacsáí nua agus Stadanna Ainmnithe agus an Fóram Tacsáí nua a bhunú.

(23) Scipeanna Bruscair agus Ceadúnais Oscailte Bóthar a Bhainistiú.

(24) Tabhairt faoin Daonáireamh Náisiúnta um Thrácht ar Bhóithre agus suirbhé ar thrácht agus páirceáil áitiúil.

SEIRBHÍSÍ UISCE

Fuíolluisce

Críochnaíodh na conarthaí uile faoi Phríomhscéim Draenála Luimnigh in 2005 agus rachaidh an t-uisce chomh fada le hionad Cóireála Fuíolluisce Bhun Leice a osclaíodh in 2004. Chuir Comhairle Cathrach Luimnigh Príomhthionscadal Draenála Luimnigh chun cinn, tionscadal a raibh 19 mórchonradh innealtóireachta i gceist leis le ceithre bliana anuas, mar phríomhúdarás in éineacht le Comhairle Chontae Luimnigh agus Comhairle Chontae an Chláir. Ba í an Roinn Comhshaoil, Oidhreacht agus Rialtais Áitiúil faoin bPlean Forbartha Náisiúnta agus faoi Chiste Comhtháthaithe an AE a sholáthair maoiniú don Tionscadal.

Éascóidh an tionscadal seo fás agus forbairt inbhuanaithe Chathair Luimnigh agus a Phurláin amach anseo agus ag an am céanna cosnóidh sé timpeallacht na habhann agus cuirfidh sé le luach taitneamhachta Abhann na Mainistreach agus Abhann na Sionainne ar son leasa phobal agus chuairteoirí Luimnigh.



Maintenance on Clanmaurice Avenue
Water Services Department crew in operation

Uisce

Tháinig Rialacháin Uisce Óil na gComhphobal Eorpach, 2000. (I.R. 439 de 2000) agus Treoir 98/83/EC i bhfeidhm ar an 1 Eanáir 2004 rud a chur deireadh le héifeacht rialacháin 1998. Ó tháinig na rialacháin nua seo i bhfeidhm tá méadú tagtha ar an méid monatóireachta agus líon na bparaiméadar nach mór d'údaráis áitiúla a dhéanamh ar uisce óil. Sholáthair Comhairle Cathrach Luimnigh breis agus 18.5 milliún de mhéadair chiúbacha d'uisce óil inólta in 2005 agus baineadh amach meánchomhlíonadh de 99.2% leis na rialacháin nua, leibhéal comhlíonta atá i measc na rátaí comhlíonta is airde sa tír. Tá comhlíonadh leis na Rialacháin Uisce Óil san áireamh anois mar cheann amháin de 42 Táscaire Feidhmíochta Náisiúnta. Bhí ráta comhlíonta 100% ann leis na paraiméadair mhicribhitheolaíocha i rith 2005 agus ní raibh ach fadhbanna teicniúla ann le samplaí de neamhchomhlíonadh le paraiméadair cheimiceacha ag an ionad cóireála agus mar thoradh air seo bhí leibhéil fluairíde ísle agus sáraíodh na leibhéil alúmanaim beagán.

Rinne tionscadal Caomhnaithe Uisce Chathair Luimnigh tuilleadh dul chun cinn i rith 2005 agus mar thoradh ar an tionscadal tá laghdú tagtha ar leibhéil uisce gan tuairisc sa chathair, laghdú 1500m³/lá ar meán.

Rinneadh dul chun cinn suntasach freisin i rith na bliana nuair a suiteáladh sreabhmhéadair nua agus Teiliméadracht ar an gcóras dailte, a thugann níos mó smachta ar an gcóras do bhainisteoirí an líonra. Athchuireadh breis agus 2000 méadar den tsean-phríomhlíne uisce i rith 2005 agus cuireadh cónaisc uisce nua ar fáil do 65 príomhfhorbairt nua sa Chathair. Shroich an conradh don seomra breise agus uasghrádú oibreacha Cóireála Uisce Clareville an chéim tairisceana i rith 2005. Ba cheart go mbeadh conraitheoir ceaptha i rith 2006 chun an tionscadal seo a chur chun cinn.

Éilíonn an Roinn Comhshaoil, Oidhreacht & Rialtais Áitiúil go n-éiríonn le húdaráis áitiúla in Éirinn méadrú uilíoch de chustaiméirí nach custaiméirí gnó iad d'uisce poiblí agus Seirbhísí Fuíolluisce a bhaint amach faoi dheireadh 2006. Cheana féin tá thart ar 25% de na méadair riachtanacha suiteálaithe i gCathair Luimnigh agus tá dul chun cinn suntasach déanta ar chonraitheoir a fháil do shuiteáil agus cothabháil na méadar atá fós fágtha.

Environmental Awareness Feasacht Comhshaoil

Creating cleaner and greener neighbourhoods
Comharsanachtaí níos glaine agus níos glaise a chruthú

Environment Highlights

Promotion of Fair Trade Initiative, which contributed to Limerick achieving fair-trade status

New textile banks added to the bring bank network

Production of information leaflet on Recycling and Waste Disposal for Householders in Limerick City

2000 Bin Your Butt receptacles distributed with additional receptacles available from the Environment Department

Anti litter jigsaw distributed to Primary Schools

Production of Scoop the Poop leaflet

600 reusable shopping bags distributed during Repak National Recycling Week

5 Sustainable Energy Workshops held

201 compost bins sold

Viewing platform and information signage erected at the Westfield Wetlands

Limerick City Council Presentation & Collection of Household Waste & Commercial Waste Bye-Laws 2005 adopted in March

A fifth Litter Monitoring Survey was completed with a 25% increase in the number of sites surveyed

Audits carried out on all holders of Waste Collection Permits and Waste Permits within Limerick city

16 areas surveyed on their refuse disposal methods

797 litter fines issued and 74 successful prosecutions secured

122 cases were taken against individuals/ companies for breaches of the Waste Management Act 1996 and 40 successful prosecutions were secured

61 horses impounded under Control of Horses legislation during 2005

148 inspections carried out under the Ban on Bituminous Coal Regulations

Participation in annual pollution exercises throughout 2005

- Limerick Looking Good & City Neighbourhoods Competitions

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

- Adoption of the Collection & Presentation of Household Waste & Commercial Waste Bye Laws 2005
- Grants under the Environment Improvement Initiative Scheme
- Notices of Motion received from Councillors



Westfield Wetlands viewing platform



Launch of 'Bin Your Butt' receptacle campaign.



Promotion of 'The Place for Litter is in the Bin' campaign by Mayor Scully



Mayor Scully with Sinead O'Donnell, City Environmental Officer at the launch of the 'Scoop the poop' campaign.



Mayor Scully and Cllr. Gerry McLoughlin at the launch of Limerick as a Fair Trade city initiative.

Buaicphointí Comhshaoil

An Tionscnamh Cóirthrádála a chur chun cinn, tionscnamh a chabhraigh le Luimneach stádas cóirthrádála a bhaint amach

Bainc nua teicstíle curtha le líonra na mBanc Athchúrsála

Bileog faisnéise curtha le chéile faoi Athchúrsáil agus Diúscairt Dramhaíola d'Áitritheoirí i gCathair Luimnigh

Dáileadh 2000 coimeádán Bin Your Butt agus tá coimeádáin bhreise ar fáil ón Roinn Comhshaoil

Dáileadh míreanna mearaí ar Bhunscoileanna, a raibh teachtaireacht in aghaidh an bhruscair orthu

Cuireadh an bhileog faisnéise Scoop the Poop le chéile

Dáileadh 600 mála siopadóireachta ath-inúsáidte i rith Sheachtain Athchúrsála Náisiúnta Repak

Reachtáladh 5 Cheardlann ar Fhuinneamh Inmharthana

Díoladh 201 bosca múirín

Suiteáladh ardán féachana agus comharthaíocht faisnéise ag Bogaigh an Ghoirt Thiar

Glacadh le Fodhlíthe Bailiúcháin Fuíollábhar Teaghlaigh & Fuíollábhar Tráchtála 2005 Chomhairle Cathrach Luimnigh i mí Márta

Críochnaíodh an cúigiú Suirbhé Monatóireachta Bruscair agus bhí méadú 25% le tabhairt faoi deara i líon na suíomh a ndearnadh suirbhé orthu

Rinneadh iniúchtaí ar shealbhóirí uile Ceadanna Bailiúcháin Dramhaíola agus Ceadanna Dramhaíola laistigh de Chathair Luimnigh

Rinneadh suirbhé ar 16 ceantar maidir le modhanna diúscairthe dramhaíola

Eisíodh 797 fíneáil bruscair agus rinneadh 74 ionchúiseamh

Tógadh 122 cás in aghaidh daoine aonair/cuideachtaí do sháruithe ar an Acht um Bainistiú Dramhaíola, 1996 agus d'éirigh le 40 ionchúiseamh

Gaibhníodh 61 capall faoi reachtaíocht Gaibhnithe Capall i rith 2005

Rinneadh 148 iniúchadh faoi na Rialacháin um Thoirmeasc ar Ghual Biotúmanach

Glacadh páirt i gcleachtaí truaillithe bliantúla i rith 2005

- Comórtais Limerick Looking Good & City Neighbourhoods

Cuireadh na moltaí seo a leanas faoi bhráid na Comhairle Cathrach d'fhonn iad a fhormheas

- Cuireadh Fodhlíthe Bailiúcháin & Cur i Láthair Fuíollábhar Teaghlaigh & Fuíollábhar Tráchtála 2005 i bhfeidhm

- Deontais faoi Scéim Tionscnaimh Feabhais an Chomhshaoil

- Fógraí Foriarratais faighte ó Chomhairleoirí



Many smokers manage to make a dirty habit even dirtier.

Don't make your litter problem a problem for everyone else.
Did you know 60-65% of all street litter is cigarette-related? Or that it takes 9-12 years for cigarette butts to bio-degrade. When you're finished your cigarette, stub it out and put it in the bin.

**On the spot fine: €125
maximum fine: €3,000
or imprisonment**

LOVE LIMERICK. DON'T LITTER.

Report litter or illegal dumping: Freephone Litterline 1800 216 816

www.limerickcity.ie



Some people don't understand what 'take away' means.

Don't make your litter problem a problem for everyone else.

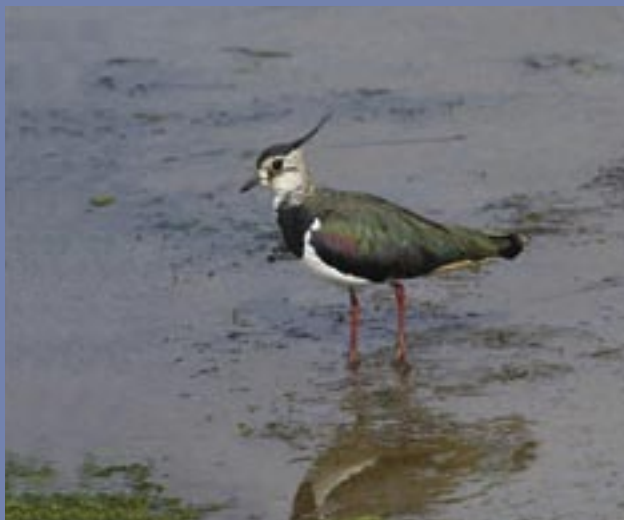
If you buy food from a take out or convenience store, enjoy the food - and put the packaging in the bin.

**On the spot fine: €125
maximum fine: €3,000
or imprisonment**

LOVE LIMERICK. DON'T LITTER.

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Lapwing at Westfield Wetlands



Westfield Wetlands viewing platform

38 Policy Development & Future Planning Forbairt Bheartais & Pleanáil Todhchaí

Realising the economic potential of our city
Poitéinseal eacnamaíoch ár gcathair a bhaint amach

Policy Development and Future Planning

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

Key services of this department 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 provision of advice and guidance

A considerable scope of work was achieved during the year, which included :

- Survey of Conservation Area
- Submission of revised case for the City Boundary Extension to the Minister for the Environment, Heritage and Local Government
- Final certification issued in relation to development sites under the Integrated Area Plan, and levies collected amounting to €608,000
- Completion of the works on the Canal under the "Water in Historic Cities" Project
- Completion of Consultants' Report on Docklands.

Significant planning permissions issued in 2005 included

- (i) mixed use development incorporating apartments, hotel which includes leisure centre, bar and restaurant, conference centre/function room, meeting rooms, and 3 No. retail units at O'Callaghan Strand, Ennis Road;
- (ii) Four-storey hotel at Limerick Enterprise Development Park, Childers Road;
- (iii) mixed use development comprising residential apartments and hotel including swimming pool and gym at Henry Street Bedford Row.

Development levies in the amount of €7.8 million were collected.



<TOP> Mixed use development at O'Callaghan Strand.

<ABOVE LEFT> Commercial units at Courtbrack Avenue.



<ABOVE RIGHT> The Clarion Suites, Ennis Road.



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Forbairt Beartais agus Pleanáil don Todhchaí

Poitéinseal eacnamaíoch na Cathrach a bhaint amach trí infrastruchtúr a sholáthar agus miondíoltóireacht, turasóireacht agus forbairt ghinearálta tráchtála agus thionsclaíoch a chur chun cinn

I measc príomhsheirbhísí na rannóige seo tá:

- Athbhreithniú ar Phlean Forbartha na Cathrach
- Forbairt a Rialú
- Cláir an Rialtais d'fhorbairtí díolúine cánach a chur i bhfeidhm
- An timpeallacht Nádúrtha agus Tógtha a Chaomhnú
- Comhairle agus treoirlíne a sholáthar

Rinneadh neart oibre i rith na bliana, lena n-áirítear:

- Suirbhé ar Limistéar Caomhantais
- Cuireadh an cás athbhreithnithe do Leathnú Theorann na Cathrach chuig an Aire Comhshaoil, Oidhreacht agus Rialtais Áitiúil
- Eisíodh an deimhniú deiridh maidir le láithreáin forbraíochta faoin bPlean Cónasctha Limistéir, agus bailíodh tobhaigh ar fiú €608,000 iad
- Na hoibreacha ar an gCanáil a chríochnú faoin tionscadal "Water in Historic Cities"
- Tuairisc an Chomhairleora faoi Cheantar na nDugaí críochnaithe.

I measc na gceadanna pleanála suntasacha a eisíodh in 2005 bhí

(i) forbairt le húsáid mheascstha a áiríonn árasáin, óstán a bhfuil ionad fóillíochta, béar agus bialann, ionad comhdhála/seomra ócáide, seomraí cruinnithe agus 3 ionad miondíola ar Thrá Uí Cheallacháin, Bóthar na hInse ann:

(ii) Óstán ceithre urlár i bPáirc Forbartha Fiontair Luimnigh, Bóthar Childers;

(iii) forbairt ar úsáid mheascstha ina bhfuil árasáin chónaithe agus óstán lena n-áirítear linn snámha agus giomnáisiam ar Shráid Anraí/Rae Bedford.

Bailíodh luach €7.8 milliún de thobhaigh forbartha.

Fire & Rescue Services

Seirghísí Dóiteán & Tarrthála

An Integral Organisational Reponse to Fire and Major Emergencies
Freagra eagrúcháin chomhtháite do dhóiteán & mór-éigeandálachta

Mission - To minimise the risk of fire and other emergencies to life, property and environment and provide an integrated organisational response to fire and major emergencies.

The service operates 24 hours a day, 365 days per year from the Fire Station, Mulgrave Street, Limerick. It 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. It also provides a response to road traffic accidents, flooding and other emergencies.

The service also includes a Fire Prevention and Building Control Department that deals with fire safety and building control matters.

Achievements in 2005

Fire & Rescue

- Attended 1014 fires;
- Attended 314 special services incidents such as road traffic accidents, water pumping / flooding etc;
- An additional radio communications channel was installed with the Department of the Environment, Heritage & Local Government grant aid at Woodcock Hill to improve radio communications with fire appliances;
- One new Ford Transit High roof van was purchased with grant aid from the DoEHLG;
- Additional gas detectors and breathing apparatus communications sets were purchased with grant aid from the DoEHLG;
- Two thermal imaging cameras were purchased with grant aid from the DoEHLG, thus enhancing the Fire Brigade's response in dealing with fires/rescues;
- Three automatic external defibrillators were purchased with grant aid from the DoEHLG, enhancing our service to both the public and health and safety of the fire personnel;
- Two air rescue mats were purchased with grant aid from the DoEHLG which improves the swift-water rescue capability;
- In-house swift-water rescue training was provided to 16 personnel by our own instructors;
- Average mobilising time was 1 minute and 43 seconds.



Fire Prevention & Building Control

Planning Application Referrals

- 132 planning applications were referred to the Fire Prevention & Building Control Department and reports on them were issued to the Planning Department under Section 13 of the Fire Services Act 1981 and Part M of the Building Regulations 1997

Fire Safety Certificate Applications:

- Number of Applications received: 128.

Number of Commencement Notices Received:

- Commencement Notices: 154.

Licensing of Premises (S.24 of The Fire Services Act 1981):

- Total number of inspections: 8.

Event Planning:

- The Fire Prevention Department was involved in an advisory capacity in relation to 8 major events.

Management of Sports Events:

No. of events	No. of inspections
3	5

Dangerous Buildings (Sanitary Services Act 1964):

No. of structures	No. of inspections
20	31

Inspections of Existing Buildings (Building Control and Fire Prevention):

No. of premises	No. of inspections
40	55

Munster Regional Communications Centre Introduction

In 1992, Limerick City Council, as lead Authority, initiated a project to establish a regional mobilisation and communications system on behalf of the Fire Authorities in Munster. This project was completed in 1993 and has been improved upon and expanded up to present time. The Munster Regional Communications Centre is now part of a national network of three fire service mobilisation and communications centres, and reflects current best practice in all aspects of its activities, including its operational response, technology and management.

The Centre currently provides emergency call-taking and mobilisation services for 9 Local Authority Fire Services in the Munster Region; namely Clare County Council, Cork City Council, Cork County Council, Kerry County Council, Limerick City Council, Limerick County Council, North Tipperary County Council, South Tipperary County Council, and Waterford County Council. Waterford City Council Fire Service will also be joining the system in the very near future.

Since its inception in 1992, the Centre has processed in excess of 166,000 calls, and now mobilises 65 retained and 3 full-time Fire Stations in Munster. The Centre itself is a 24x7x365 operation, and employs a system of procedures to ensure that it operates to the highest possible standard. Approximately 16,000 999/112 emergency calls are answered and processed per annum in a speedy and efficient manner, so that the correct Fire Brigade is mobilised to an emergency incident in as efficient a manner as possible. The centre also provides a mobilising service for Limerick Marine Search and Rescue.

Munster Regional Communications Centre Training Programs

Munster Regional Communications Centre Staff are an essential resource. All staff should have the skills required to ensure their work is quality work. Staff members are also responsible for maintaining their own levels of expertise by completing a minimum of one hours training per day. The purpose of Communications Centre training is to achieve organisational requirements, maintain and surpass standards previously achieved.

The Munster Regional Communications Centre is also a provider of External and Project Training for participating Fire Authorities. Internal Major Emergency Exercises are planned and the performance of staff, equipment and procedures is assessed and evaluated. It is intended that the Major Emergency Exercises will be integrated with external Fire Authority Training in the future.

Management Information Systems

The Communications Centre also provides Management Information resources and technology to the member authorities in terms of their service indicators and other areas which require analysis. Management Information Systems have also been developed for internal analysis of performance to aid in the process of continual improvement of the quality of service.

Project Implementation

Cork City were recently integrated into the system in May of 2005 and Waterford City are currently working on joining the system in the near future.

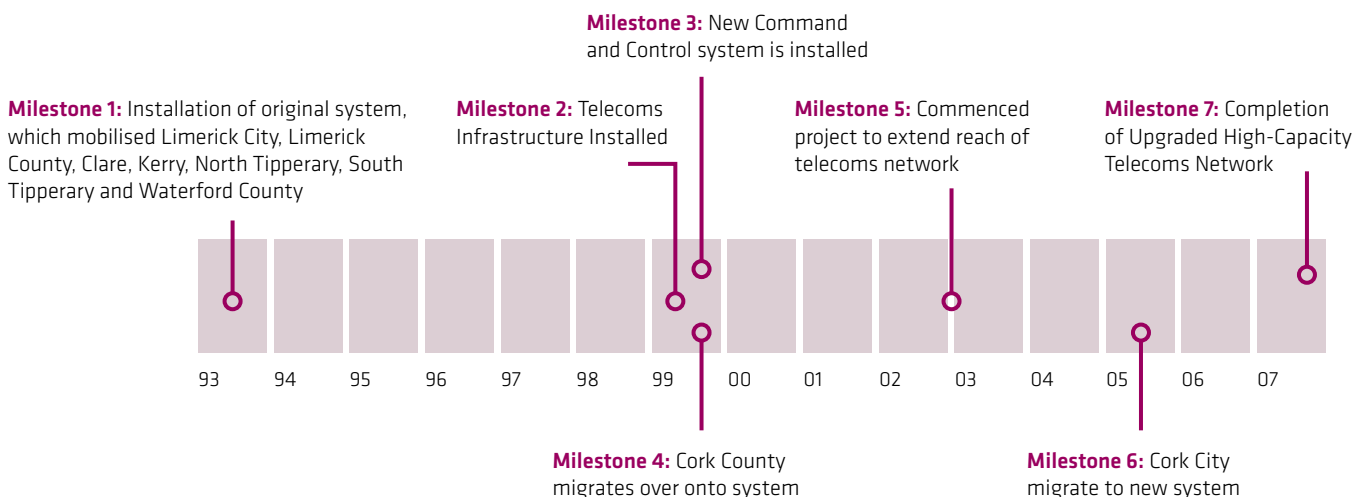
The Munster Regional Communications Centre (MRCC) supports an advanced telecommunications network across the

region. The historical evolution of the telecommunications network at the MRCC is illustrated in the diagram below.

ISO9001:2000

The Munster Regional Communications System was awarded certification to the prestigious, internationally recognised ISO9001:2000 quality award by the National Standards Authority of Ireland in 2005. This certification was awarded across all areas of the systems operation, Operational incident processing, Finance, Training, Management Information Systems, Project Management etc.

Historical evolution of telecommunications network



Misean: An baol dóiteáin agus éigeandálaí eile ar shaol, maoin agus an timpeallacht a laghdú agus freagairt eagraíochtúil chomhtháite ar dhóiteáin agus mór-éigeandálaí a sholáthar.

Bíonn an tSeirbhís ar fáil 24 uair in aghaidh an lae, 365 lá in aghaidh na bliana ón Stáisiún Dóiteáin, Sráid Mulgrave, Luimneach. Soláthraíonn an Stáisiún Dóiteáin seirbhísí dóiteáin agus tarrthála do cheantar a bhfuil thart ar 419 ciliméadar cearnach ann mar aon le níos mó ná 100,000 duine laistigh den Bhuirg agus sna ceantair chónagaracha i gCo. Luimnigh agus i gCo. an Chláir. Lena chois sin, freastalaíonn an Stáisiún ar thimpistí bóthair, tuilte agus éigeandálaí eile.

Ina theannta sin, áiríonn an tSeirbhís seo Rannóg Coisc Dóiteáin & Rialaithe Tógála a dhéileálann le sábháilteacht dóiteáin agus nithe rialaithe tógála.

Éachtaí in 2005

Dóiteán & Tarrtháil

- Freastalaíodh ar 1014 dóiteán:
- Freastalaíodh ar 314 teagmhas ar theastaigh seirbhísí speisialta uathu cosúil le timpistí bóthair, pumpáil uisce / tuilte & araile:
- Suiteáladh cainéal cumarsáide raidió breise ag Cnoc na gCreabhar le deontas i gcabhair ón Roinn Comhshaoil, Oidhreacht & Rialtais Áitiúil chun cumarsáid raidió leis na hinnill dóiteáin a fheabhsú:
- Ceannaíodh veain Ford Transit le díon ard air le deontas i gcabhair ón Roinn Comhshaoil, Oidhreacht & Rialtais Áitiúil:
- Ceannaíodh braiteoirí gáis agus gairis análaithe agus pacáistí cumarsáide breise le deontas i gcabhair ón Roinn Comhshaoil, Oidhreacht & Rialtais Áitiúil:
- Ceannaíodh ceamaraí íomhánna teirmeacha le deontas i gcabhair ón Roinn Comhshaoil, Oidhreacht & Rialtais Áitiúil, rud a chuir feabhas ar chumas freagartha na Briogáide Dóiteáin déileáil le dóiteáin/tarrthálacha:
- Ceannaíodh 3 uath-dhífhibrileoir le deontas i gcabhair ón Roinn Comhshaoil, Oidhreacht & Rialtais Áitiúil agus ar an mbealach sin cuireadh leis an tseirbhís atá á cur ar fáil don phobal mar aon le sláinte agus sábháilteacht na bpearsanra dóiteáin:

- Ceannaíodh mataí tarrthála aeir le deontas i gcabhair ón Roinn Comhshaoil, Oidhreacht & Rialtais Áitiúil, rud a fheabhsaíonn cumas na tarrthála in uisce mearchúrsach;
- Chuir ár dteagascóirí féin oiliúint tarrthála mearchúrsaí inti ar fáil do 16 pearsanra:
- Ar an meán thóg sé 1 nóiméad 43 soicind chun daoine a ullmhú agus a eagrú.

Cosc Dóiteáin & Rialú Tógála

Tarchuir Iarratais Phleanála

- Cuireadh 132 iarratas pleanála chuig an Rannóg Coisc Dóiteáin & Rialaithe Tógála agus ansin eisíodh tuairiscí chuig an Rannóg Pleanála faoi Alt 13 den Acht Seirbhísí Dóiteáin, 1981 agus Cuid M de Rialacháin Tógála 1997 iarratais ar Dheimhniú um Shábháilteacht ó Dhóiteán:
- Líon iarratas faighte: 128.
- Líon Fógraí Tosaithe Feidhme Faighte:
- Fógraí Tosaithe Feidhme: 154.
- Ceadúnú Áitreabh (Alt 24 den Acht Seirbhísí Dóiteáin, 1981):
- Líon iomlán iniúchtaí: 8.

Pleanáil Imeachtaí:

- Bhí baint ag an Rannóg Coisc Dóiteáin, i gcáil chomhairleach, le hocht mórimeacht.

Imeachtaí Spóirt a Bhainistiú:

Líon imeachtaí	Líon iniúchtaí
3	5

Foirgnimh Chontúirteacha (An tAcht Rialtais Áitiúil (Seirbhísí Sláintíochta), 1964):

Líon struchtúr	Líon iniúchtaí
20	31

Iniúchtaí ar Fhoirgnimh Reatha (Rialú Tógála agus Cosc Dóiteáin):

Líon áitreabh	Líon iniúchtaí
40	55

Ionad Cumarsáide Réigiúnaí na Mumhan Réamhrá

I 1992, chuir Comhairle Cathrach Luimnigh, mar phríomh-Údarás, tús le tionscadal chun córas ullmhúcháin agus cumarsáide réigiúnaí a fhorbairt thar ceann na nÚdarás Dóiteáin i gCúige Mumhan. Críochnaíodh an tionscadal seo i 1993 agus cuireadh feabhas air agus cuireadh leis freisin. Anois is cuid de líonra náisiúnta de thrí ionad ullmhúcháin agus cumarsáide dóiteáin é

Ionad Cumarsáide Réigiúnaí na Mumhan, agus tugann sé léargas ar an gcleachtas is fearr sna gnéithe uile dá ghníomhaíochtaí, lena n-áirítear a fhreagairt oibriúcháin, teicneolaíocht agus bainistíocht.

Faoi láthair soláthraíonn an tIonad seirbhísí éigeandála tógála glaonna agus ullmhúcháin do naoi Seirbhís Dóiteáin Údaráis Áitiúil thart ar Chúige Mumhan: eadhon Comhairle Chontae an Chláir, Comhairle Cathrach Chorcaí, Comhairle Chontae Chorcaigh, Comhairle Chontae Chiarraí, Comhairle Cathrach Luimnigh, Comhairle Chontae Luimnigh, Comhairle Chontae Thiobraid Árann Thuaidh, Comhairle Chontae Thiobraid Árann Theas agus Comhairle Chontae Phort Láirge. Beidh Seirbhís Dóiteáin Chomhairle Cathrach Phort Láirge páirteach sa chóras amach anseo.

Ó cuireadh tús leis sa bhliain 1992, tá os cionn 166,000 glao faighte ag an Ionad agus anois eagraíonn sé 65 Stáisiún Dóiteáin agus 3 Stáisiún Dóiteáin lánaimseartha i gCúige Mumhan. Tá an tIonad féin oscailte 24 uair sa lá, 7 lá na seachtaine, 365 lá sa bhliain, agus tá córas nósanna imeachta i bhfeidhm a chomhlíonann leis an gcaighdeán is airde agus is féidir. Freagraítear agus próiseáiltear thart ar 16,000 glao éigeandála 999/112 in aghaidh na bliana go tapúil agus ar bhealach éifeachtach, ionas go dtéann an Bhriogáid Dóiteáin chuig an teagmhas éigeandála ar bhealach atá chomh héifeachtach agus is féidir. Lena chois sin soláthraíonn an t-ionad seirbhís ullmhúcháin do Sheirbhís Cuardaigh agus Tarrthála ar Muir Luimnigh.

Clár Oiliúna Ionad Cumarsáide Réigiúnaí na Mumhan

Acmhainn ríthábhachtach iad Baill Foirne Ionad Cumarsáide Réigiúnaí na Mumhan. Ba cheart go mbeadh na scileanna riachtanacha ag na baill foirne uile chun caighdeán a gcuid oibre a chinntiú. Tá baill foirne freagrach as a leibhéal saíneolais féin a chothabháil trí ar a laghad uair an chloig amháin in aghaidh an lae a chaitheamh ag fáil oiliúna. Is é atá mar chuspóir leis an Ionad Cumarsáide riachtanais eagraíochtúla a bhaint amach, agus caighdeán a baineadh amach roimhe seo a chothabháil agus go deimhin na caighdeáin sin a sháru.

Chomh maith leis sin soláthraíonn Ionad Cumarsáide Réigiúnaí na Mumhan Oiliúint Sheachtrach agus Tionscadail d'Údaráis Dóiteáin rannpháirteacha. Tá Mórcheachtaí Éigeandála Inmheánacha beartaithe agus déantar measúnacht agus meastóireacht ar obair foirne, ar threalamh agus ar nósanna imeachta. Tá sé beartaithe na Mórcheachtaí Éigeandála a chomhtháthú le hOiliúint na nÚdarás Dóiteáin seachtrach amach anseo.

Córais Faisnéise Bainistíochta

Lena chois sin soláthraíonn an tIonad Cumarsáide acmhainní agus teicneolaíocht Faisnéise Bainistíochta do na ball-údaráis i dtaca lena gcuid táscairí seirbhíse agus le réimsí eile a bhféadfadh anailís a bheith ag teastáil uathu. Tá Córais Faisnéise Bainistíochta forbartha freisin chun anailís inmheánach a dhéanamh ar fheidhmíocht d'fhonn cabhrú leis an bpróiseas d'fheabhas leanúnach ar an gcaighdeán seirbhíse.

Cur i bhFeidhm Tionscadail

I mí Bealtaine 2005 comhtháthaíodh Cathair Chorcaí sa chóras agus faoi láthair tá Cathair Phort Láirge ag obair ar a bheith páirteach sa chóras.

Tacaíonn Ionad Cumarsáide Réigiúnaí na Mumhan (ICRM) le hardlíonra teileachumarsáide sa réigiún trí chéile. Tá léargas le fáil sa léaráid thíos ar éabhlóid stairiúil an líonra cumarsáide ag ICRM.

ISO9001:2000

In 2005, bhronn Údarás um Chaighdeán Náisiúnta na hÉireann deimhniú don ghradam cáilíochta mór le rá, gradam idirnáisiúnta ISO9001:2000 ar Ionad Cumarsáide Réigiúnaí na Mumhan. Bronnadh an deimhniú seo do na réimsí uile a bhain le hoibríocht an chórais, próiseáil teagmhas Oibriúcháin, Airgeadas, Oiliúint, Córais Faisnéise Bainistíochta, Bainistíocht Tionscadail agus arail.

Arts & Culture Ealaíona & Cultúr

Planning, support & participation
Tacaíocht agus Rannpháirtíocht a Phleanáil

Limerick City Council Arts Service Events for 2005

Cuise : Limerick's International Poetry Festival

Limerick City's ninth International Poetry Festival took place from Tuesday October 18th to Saturday 22nd Oct 2005. Even a cursory look at this year's finely produced brochure will tell you that it is the strongest festival to date, including poets of international standing such as Jane Hirshfield, Eva Salzman, Germain Droogenbroodt, and John – The Shedman – Davies, along with such national figures as Limerick's own Jo Slade and Ciaran O'Driscoll (a committee member), Gabriel Rosenstock, Nuala Ní Dhomhnaíll, Dennis O'Driscoll, Gabriel Fitzmaurice, Cathal O Searcaigh and musician/composer Micheal O Suilleabhain, to name but a few, twenty four poets in all. Alongside readings, workshops for schools, book launches, two artist collaborations were part of the programme- the first being between the visual artist Thomas Delahorey and the poet Mark Whelan, and the second, a collaboration between the poet Cathal O Searcaigh and the musician/composer Micheal O Suilleabhain. A weekly national email counting down the festival offered a poem by one of the festival poets, three weeks prior to the festival and a specific schools programme at 2pm on each day of the festival drew up to 200 secondary school students on three separate occasions to the Belltable for the purpose of hearing contemporary poets. Limerick City Library hosted 4 workshops, 2 for primary schools and 2 for secondary schools which coincided with National Book Week. The WhiteHousePoetry Revival, held 3 open mic sessions which allow for unpublished poets to read their work in a convivial atmosphere in The White House. A debate on 'What's Happening

to Poetry' was chaired by Jan O'Sullivan TD in the company of 6 poets 3 national and 3 international.

Launch of 30th Anniversary edition of The Stony Thursday Book

To mark its 30th anniversary, a special commemorative issue of The Stony Thursday Book, Limerick's literary review, was launched at The Belltable on Thursday, 20th October as part of the Cuise Poetry Festival. Gathered together within the covers of this bumper issue is a representative selection of the work that has been published in "Stony" down through the years, which includes poetry, prose, illustrations and essays. This special issue was compiled and edited by local literary brothers John and Liam Liddy. A Dublin launch also took place in the United Arts Club on Wednesday 23rd of November by Theo Dorgan.

Excursions – Performance Festival, Limerick 1st – 3rd December 2005

Excursions was designed in association with Limerick City Gallery of Art and Daghdha Dance Company as an interdisciplinary performance festival to act as a platform for contemporary performance artists. This year the international artists that participated were Lone Twin (UK), with their performance Walk With Me and Anthony Howell gave an inaugural talk as part of the opening and a full day workshop on performance at Limerick School of Art and Design. The Irish artists' performances included John Beattie - Extension, Aileen Lambert - Breath, Nicole Piesel – Seemingly, Seemingly, Katarina Mojziso - The Auction and Ciara Finnegan's - Lodz Singer Ensemble. The festival also provided an opportunity for 4 performances by art students from Limerick School of Art &



<TOP> Children from Scoil Eoin Naofa enjoy performance of Noah's Ark at Limerick City Library during the Cuisle Festival.

<ABOVE> EVA 'Singer' performance

<LEFT> John Davies, aka Shedman, visited Cuisle. Assisted by City Council personnel with his poetry shed.

Design. Three city centre venues were utilised during the Festival, Limerick City Gallery of Art, Limerick School of Art & Design and Daghdha Dance Company's Church.

A newly commissioned set dance - Squeal Amach

A set dance commissioned as part of Sionna, devised by Dr. Catherine Foley of the Irish World Music Centre and taught in schools, as *Gaeilge*, in Limerick's 5 *Gaelscoilenna*, by Orfhlaith Ní Bhrian. It was premiered as part of the Campus Trad Societies event in Sionna 2005 where it was taught to the participants of societies of traditional musicians from across Europe and this event allowed for this newly commissioned dance to be absorbed into the international set dancing community. A separate bi-lingual booklet will be published with the set dance directions that can be used by teachers in schools and the Irish dancing community.

Irish Chamber Orchestra Outreach Program in Three City Centre Schools

As part of a three year program in 3 city schools based in the disadvantaged area of the South part of Limerick City, the Irish Chamber Orchestra consolidated the work of the previous two years educational projects 'Compose Yourself' and 'Captured Moments' which were designed to emphasise the social in terms of musical outcomes. These projects concentrated on group work, experiential learning and the development of musical skills. In year three of the project, it was agreed that the outcome would be a handbook or a textbook based on the previous two years experience that would act as a record and evaluation of the building blocks achieved during the previous two years, but will also act as future reference for teachers in the classroom in relation to the discipline of music.

Sionna Festival, A World of Music and Dance

The Irish World Academy of Music and Dance at the University of Limerick in association with Limerick City Council organised the fourth annual Sionna Festival of World Music & Dance from November 10th – 20th 2005.

Sionna 2005 featured traditional singers from Asia & Europe, brought to the University of Limerick by ASEF (The Singapore-based Asia-Europe Foundation). Dance featured strongly in Sionna 2005 with Daghdha Dance Company presenting Mamuska Night on Friday November

11th. This event provides an opportunity for non-professional dancers to present improvised work, assisted by the professional resident dancers of this exciting Limerick-based contemporary dance company. On Sunday November 13th, the Irish World Academy's Artists-in-Residence, The Chieftains, performed at the University Concert Hall, sharing the stage with the brightest of Ireland's young traditional musicians and dancers. On Tuesday November 15th, the *Anáil Dé*,/Breath of God Concert of World Sacred Music took place in the glorious surroundings of St Mary's Cathedral Limerick. Taking part in this event was the Tran Quang Hai Ensemble from Vietnam and Northern Harmony – a group from the US, which specialises in Appalachian harmonies and wild unrestrained American shape-note singing. On November 16th & 17th, Sean Nós/Nua Nós was a two-day celebration of the space between tradition and innovation in sean-nós singing and Irish traditional dance. Over the two days, some of the most high-profile practitioners of these art forms came together to discuss, perform and improvise at a series of workshops open to the public. The event culminated in a Concert on Thursday 17th, with performances from dancers Jean Butler, Colin Dunne, Keiran Jordan, Honor Hurley, Seosamh Ó Neachtain and singers Iarla Ó Lionáird, Lillís Ó Laoire and Padraigín Ní Uallacháin. This event took place in the new Daghdha Dance Space which is a converted church in St John's Square in the heart of Limerick City. The Sionna Festival of World Music and Dance ended with a concert by Flook – one of only two Irish dates by the band during its European 10th anniversary tour.

Australian Poet Les Murray visits Limerick

On Saturday the 1st of October at the Belltable Arts Centre the celebrated Australian poet Les Murray performed to a packed audience. The event was organised by the White House Poetry Revival and the Limerick City Arts Office. The poetry reading also included some of Ireland's most notable poets such as Desmond O'Grady and Gabriel Fitzmaurice, Louis de Paor, Ciaran O'Driscoll was a new departure for the White House Poets to use the conventional setting of a theatre. Their already famous open mic sessions was temporarily transferred to the bigger stage of the Belltable where a number of the lesser-known local poets were given an opportunity to rub shoulders with one of the greats of international poetry.



<L-R> Opening of Hall of Fame exhibition at Limerick Civic Trust
Mayor Scully, Breda Lynch, Kathriona Gregos & Michael FitzPatrick



<L-R> The White House Poets Theatre, O'Connell Street

An edited recording of the reading was aired on Thursday 13th Oct on the Artzone programme on Lyric FM between 8 - 9pm. A repeat was also aired on Saturday 15th between 6 - 7 pm. The Enchanted Way, a poetry programme on RTE will feature an interview with Les Murray recorded while he was in Limerick and will be aired on the 22nd October.

The Kate O'Brien Weekend - Passion and Partisanship

An annual literary weekend in Limerick in honour of the city's most famous deceased author, Kate O'Brien, took place from the 25th - 27th February 2005, and is one of the few national events dedicated to Irish Women Writers. The theme this year was Passion and Partisanship and the weekend had an impressive list of passionate speakers. The work of Kate O'Brien is imbued with passion and she is a wry observer of the partisanship inherent in Irish Society. The Kate O'Brien Lecture was given by Kevin Whelan, widely recognised as one of Ireland's foremost historical geographers due to the immense popularity of "Atlas of The Irish Rural Landscape".

Capital Development

- St. John of the Cross Church, John's Square
Daghdha Dance Company was formed by Mary Nunan at the University of Limerick in 1988. Daghdha Dance Company quickly established itself as a dance company with a unique artistic identity and attracted funding from the Arts Council/an Chomhairle Ealaíon. In 2000 Yoshiko Chuma took over as artistic director. Michael Klien was appointed artistic director in July 2003. Under the stewardship of Klien, Daghdha Dance Company has moved to its inspiring new premises in Limerick's city centre, where it has continued to develop and strengthen its position as a pioneer of radical contemporary dance in Ireland.

Direct support to Artists

Gavin Hogg - support to produce a publication in relation to his work,
Sean Taylor - Tyrone Guthrie Bursary,
Karl Doran - Exhibition assistance,
Cecily Kenny - Exhibition assistance,
Melanie O'Rourke - Exhibition assistance,
Kate Hennessy - Exhibition assistance,
Contact Studios - support for exhibition programme by artists,
The Art Show Committee - support to purchase, equipment for exhibition programme by artists.

Music Concert Program for Limerick City

- Celtic Connections, Music Network Traditional Music Tour, 15th September 2005.
- National Chamber Choir, National Tour, Motets and the Bard, 12th October 2005.
- Ensemble Nordlys, Music Network Classical Music Tour, 4th November 2005.
- St. John's Brass & Reed Band - Concerts in the Park Program, May 2005.

LIBRARY SERVICES.

"Reading maketh a full man" said Francis Bacon in the 17th Century, and his words ring true in the 21st Century when the ability to read is an essential skill for survival. Libraries to day are under constant threat by the introduction of PC games, Nintendo and other electronic media. However in 1995, UNESCO General Council decided to declare one day in April each year as World Book Day. Books are an exceptional means for forming our powers of reasoning. They broaden our horizons, strengthen our critical faculties, develop our intelligence and stimulate reflection. The Public Library's strength is that it provides a range of books and other services under one roof. The value to the individual can be summed up quite succinctly in being able to borrow a range of materials and access to an extensive information environment.

The public library is the local gateway to knowledge, provides a basic condition for lifelong learning, independent decision-making and cultural development of the individual and social groups. Children who are learning to read and write must be given access to a wide range of factual and imaginative reading material, so that they may learn from an early age how to use books and other printed materials for information and for pleasure. As they continue through education, they should have access to the best library services the community can provide, so that reading becomes a lifelong habit and the pleasures of reading remain with them.

Public Libraries provide a wide range of services in addition to lending books. In 2005 Limerick City Library participated in a number of events and activities.

Jaws/Kurzweil Software

Jaws software was installed in the Granary and Roxboro for use by the Blind and people with Dyslexia/Literacy difficulties. Jaws is a screen reading software, which has speech and magnification. It will read aloud the print on the screen at a speed selected by the user.

Kurzweil can scan a book on to a PC and using Jaws an individual may have a book read to them.

Digitisation Project

Limerick City Library carried out a Digitisation Project on "The Mayors of Limerick" from 1841 to the present. This included a description of the Mayoral Chains, Robes, Civic Maces and other regalia. It incorporates (1) a potted biography, (2) an account of the main events that occurred during the Mayoralty and (3) where possible a portrait of the Mayor. This project is displayed on the Askaboutireland website i.e. www.askaboutireland.ie

Borrow Books Project

This project was funded by Government and is aimed at providing more efficient and speedier access to the public libraries' collections of books for members of the public. Limerick City Library was one of six libraries, which took part in this pilot project. A member of the public will be able to search every library catalogue in the country simultaneously for a particular book they require from the comfort of their home if they own a

PC. They can e-mail their request to their own Branch Library and from there the request will be e-mailed to the particular library, which has the book available for loan. The requested item is sent to library member's own library to be collected.

Gramophone Circle

A Gramophone Circle has been set up. It meets once a month and with the help of a staff member, gives members of the public access to a variety of items in the Music Department and a forum to discuss their preferences.

The Reading Group

A Reading Group set up in October meet in the library to read and discuss a medley of novels including "The Scapegoat", "The Heart is a lonely hunter", "The Woman who walked into Doors" and other books which might not be the most popular in the library collection. This provides a forum to discuss their likes and dislikes of certain books.

Children's Book Festival

During Children's Book Festival a number of events were organised which included Author Visits by Judi Curtin & Cathy Cassidy, craft sessions by library staff and a talk entitled "Irish History Live" which covered the Celts and the Vikings. Artist Neva Elliott was based in the Granary as part of an art project - "Archiving Limerick". The highlight of the festival was Dandelion Puppets who presented "Noah's Ark" to a delighted audience of children from 4 to 8 years of age. Poetry workshops were held with Eva Salzman and Jane Hirshfield. The "Shedman" and Time Cunningham provided workshops for Transition Year Students, for children aged 8-12. A talk and slide presentation by Conor Kelleher on "Batty about Bats" enthralled 10-12 year olds.

STATISTICS

Library Usage 2005

Issues	185,305
New Registrations	7,502
Visitors	132,661
PC & Internet Sessions	15,642
No. Of Items added to Stock	23,036
Items added to School's Stock	8,642

Jim Kemmy Municipal Museum

There were 330 additions to the museum collection during the year. Notable among them were: a Limerick silver dish ring by Joseph Johns, c.1770 and a Limerick silver box by Maurice Fitzgerald, c.1780; the original pen and ink drawing by Henry Pelham, dated 1786, of the View of Limerick from the North Strand from Ferrar's History of Limerick; a black Limerick lace shawl and a white lace stole designed and made by Eileen O'Donoghue, manager of the Limerick Lace School, c.1910; a Late Bronze Age spearhead found in the Abbey River; a collection of 25 political cartoons featuring Thomas Spring Rice, 1830s; a sixteenth century pewter pilgrim flask; a copper gallon measure of Thomas McCarthy, Kilmallock, 1836; a medal by Hartmann for Limerick Development Association, 1932 and a poster of the Theatre Royal, 1855.

1441 new records were added to the catalogue, bringing the total number of records in the catalogue to 53,553. 3597 digitised images were added to the catalogue, bringing the total to 21,425. A priority in the immediate future is to complete the digitisation of images of the entire collection.

There were 674,055 hits on the museum catalogue on the internet during the year, totalling over one million since the launch in June 2004, and email enquiries and comments were received from all over the world. Information exchange with these is two-way, particularly from the descendants of Limerick people living abroad. More than 2000 enquiries were dealt with in total, from personal callers, by phone, letter and email.

As a designated museum under the National Monuments Acts 1932-1994, a grant was received from the Department of Arts, Sport and Tourism towards the finder's award for a Late Bronze Age hoard from Castleconnell acquired last year, the first time such a grant has been issued by the Department to a local authority museum.

Visitor numbers, at 13,806, are similar to 2004.



Artist John Beattie, invited to perform at Limerick's newest cultural event 'Excursions'



Ensemble Nordlys (Denmark) performed at Limerick City Council's music programme at the Georgian House & Gardens

Seirbhís Ealaíon Chomhairle Cathrach Luimnigh Imeachtaí do 2005

Cuise : Féile Filíochta Idirnáisiúnta Chathair Luimnigh Bhí naoú Féile Filíochta Idirnáisiúnta Chathair Luimnigh ar siúl ó Dé Máirt an 18ú Deireadh Fómhair go dtí Dé Sathairn an 22ú Deireadh Fómhair 2005. Fiú mura ndéanfa ach sracfhéachaint a thabhairt ar an mbróisiúr iontach a cuireadh le chéile i mbliana, thuigfeá gurb í seo an fhéile is fearr a eagraíodh go dtí seo; bhí filí ann a bhfuil cáil idirnáisiúnta orthu cosúil le Jane Hirshfield, Eva Salzman, Germain Droogenbroodt, agus John – The Shedman – Davies, mar aon le filí náisiúnta ar nós Jo Slade agus Ciaran O'Driscoll ó Luimneach (ball den choiste), Gabriel Rosenstock, Nuala Ní Dhomhnaill, Dennis O'Driscoll, Gabriel Fitzmaurice, Cathal Ó Searcaigh agus an ceoltóir/cumadóir Mícheál Ó Súilleabháin, 24 file ar fad. Lena chois sin ar fad bhí léamha, ceardlanna do scoileanna, seoladh leabhar, comhoibriú idir beirt ealaíontóirí san áireamh sa chlár. Is é an t-amharc-ealaíontóir Thomas Delahorey agus an file Mark Whelan a bhí páirteach sa chomhoibriú thuasluaite agus is é an file Cathal Ó Searcaigh agus an ceoltóir/cumadóir Mícheál Ó Súilleabháin a bhí páirteach sa dara comhoibriú. Bhí dán le duine d'fhilí na féile le fáil ar ríomhphost náisiúnta seachtainiúil, trí seachtaine roimh an bhféile agus bhí clár ar leith ar siúl do scoileanna gach lá den fhéile ag a 2pm agus mheall an fhéile thart ar 200 mac léinn meánscoile trí huairé eagsúla chuig an Belltable chun filí comhaimseartha a chloisteáil. Reáchtáil Leabharlann Chathair Luimnigh ceithre cheardlann, dhá cheardlann do bhunscoileanna agus dhá cheardlann do mheánscoileanna a bhí ar siúl an t-am céanna le Seachtain Náisiúnta na Leabhar. D'eagraigh an WhiteHousePoetry Revival trí sheisiún oscailte a thugann deis d'fhilí nach bhfuil dada foilsithe acu go fóill a gcuid oibre a léamh in atmaisféar suaimhneach sa White House. Bhí Jan O'Sullivan TD ina cathaoirleach ar dhíospóireacht dar teideal 'What's Happening to Poetry' i gcomhlúadar seisear filí, triúr filí náisiúnta agus triúr filí idirnáisiúnta.

Seoladh eagrán Chomóraidh 30 bliain The Stony Thursday Book

D'fhonn aitheantas a thabhairt don chomóradh 30 bliain, seoladh eagrán cuimhneacháin

speisialta de The Stony Thursday Book, léirmheas liteartha Luimnigh, sa Belltable ar an Déardaoin an 20ú Deireadh Fómhair mar chuid d'Fhéile Filíochta Chuisse. Istigh sa mhóreagrán seo tá rogha ionadaíoch den obair atá foilsithe in "Stony" le blianta anuas, sampla d'fhillíocht, próis, léaráidí agus aistí. Na deartháireacha áitiúla John agus Liam Liddy a chuir an t-eagrán speisialta le chéile agus in eagar. Bhí seoladh ar siúl i mBaile Átha Cliath freisin sa United Arts Club ar Dé Céadaoin an 23ú Samhain, agus ba é Theo Dorgan a rinne an seoladh sin.

Turais – Féile Taibhithe, Luimneach 1ú – 3ú Nollaig 2005

Dearadh turais i gcomhpháirt le Gailearaí Ealaíne Chathair Luimnigh agus Compántas Damhsa Daghdha mar fhéile taibhithe idirdhisciplínigh a chruthaigh ardán d'ealaíontóirí taibhithe comhaimseartha. I mbliana ba iad na healaíontóirí idirnáisiúnta a ghlac páirte san fhéile Lone Twin (An Ríocht Aontaithe), a chuir Walk With Me i láthair agus thug Anthony Howell an chéad óráid ag an oscailt agus ceardlann lae ar thaibhiú ag Scoil Ealaíne agus Dearaidh Luimnigh. I measc na n-ealaíontóirí Éireannacha a bhí ar stáitse bhí John Beattie - Extension, Aileen Lambert - Breath, Nicole Piesel - Seemingly, Seemingly, Katarina Mojzisova - The Auction agus Lodz Singer Ensemble - Ciara Finnegan. Ina theannta sin thug an fhéile deis do mhic léinn ealaíne ó Scoil Ealaíne agus Dearaidh Luimnigh ceithre thaibhiú a dhéanamh. Úsáideadh trí ionad i lár na cathrach i rith na Féile – Gailearaí Ealaíne Chathair Luimnigh, Scoil Ealaíne agus Dearaidh Luimnigh agus Séipéal Chompántas Damhsa Daghdha.

Damhsa seite nua-choimisiúnaithe - Squeal Amach

Is éard a bhí i Squeal Amach damhsa seite a coimisiúnaíodh mar chuid de Shionna, damhsa a chum An Dr Catherine Foley ón Irish World Music Centre agus atá á theagasc trí Ghaeilge ag Orfhlaith Ní Bhriain i gcúig Ghaelscoil i gCathair Luimnigh. Léiríodh an damhsa den chéad uair mar chuid d'imeacht Chumainn Thraidisiúnta an Champais i Sionna 2005 áit ar teagascadh é do rannpháirtithe ó chumainn de cheoltóirí traidisiúnta as gach cearn den Eoraip agus thug an t-imeacht seo deis don damhsa nua-choimisiúnaithe seo dul i bhfeidhm ar phobal idirnáisiúnta an damhsa seite. Foilseofar

leabhrán dátheangach ar leith ina mbeidh na treoracha don damhsa seite, treoracha a mbeidh múinteoirí i scoileanna agus pobal damhsa na hÉireann in ann leas a bhaint astu.

Clár For-Rochtana Ceolfhoireann Aireagail na hÉireann i dTrí Scoil i Lár na Cathrach

Mar chuid den chlár trí bliana i dtrí scoil cathrach bunaithe sa cheantar faoi mhíbhuntáiste i nDeisceart Chathair Luimnigh, chomhdhlúthaigh Ceolfhoireann Aireagail na hÉireann an dá thionscadal oideachais a rinneadh an dá bhliain roimhe sin, 'Compose Yourself' agus 'Captured Moments', tionscadail a dearadh chun béim a chur ar an ngné shóisialta a bhaineann le tionscadail ceoil. Dhírigh na tionscadail seo ar obair ghrúpa, foghlaim eispéireasach agus scileanna ceoil a fhorbairt. Sa tríú bliain den tionscadal, aontaíodh gurb éard a bheadh mar thoradh ar an tionscadal lámhleabhar nó téacsleabhar bunaithe ar thaithí an dá bhliain roimhe sin, leabhar ina mbeadh cur síos agus meastóireacht déanta ar na bloic thógála a baineadh amach sa dá bhliain roimhe sin, ach ina theannta sin, foinse thagartha a bheadh ann amach anseo do mhúinteoirí sa seomra ranga, foinse maidir le disciplín an cheoil.

Sionna Festival, A World of Music and Dance

D'eagraigh an Irish World Academy of Music and Dance in Ollscoil Luimnigh i gcomhar le Comhairle Cathrach Luimnigh an ceathrú Féile bhliantúil de Shionna, Féile de Cheol & Damhsa na Cruinne ón 10ú – 20ú Samhain 2005.

Bhí amhránaithe traidisiúnta ón Áise & Eoraip páirteach i Sionna 2005, amhránaithe a thug ASEF (Fondúireacht na hÁise-na hEorpa atá bunaithe i Singeapór) chuig Ollscoil Luimnigh. Bhí neart damhsa i Sionna 2005 áit ar chuir Compántas Damhsa Daghdha Oíche Mamuska i láthair ar an Aoine an 11ú Samhain. Tugann an t-imeacht seo deis do dhamhsóirí neamhghairmiúla obair sheiftithe a chur i láthair, le cúnamh ó dhamhsóirí cónaitheacha gairmiúla na cuideachta damhsa comhaimseartha spleodraigh seo atá lonnaithe i Luimneach. Ar an Domhnach an 13ú Samhain, bhí Ealaíontóirí Cónaitheacha an Irish World Academy, The Chieftains, ar an stáitse i gCeoláras na hOllscoile, leis na ceoltóirí agus dhamhsóirí óga traidisiúnta is fearr in Éirinn. Ar an Máirt an 15ú Samhain, bhí Ceolchoirm Anáil Dé/Breath of God, Ceolchoirm de Cheol Diaga

na Cruinne, ar siúl in ionad iontach Ardeaglais Naomh Muire, Luimneach. Bhí an Tran Quang Hai Ensemble ó Vítneam agus Northern Harmony – grúpa ó na Stáit Aontaithe, a bhfuil spéis ar leith acu in armóiní Apaláiseacha agus cantaireacht nótaí Meiriceánacha ar bhealach garbh agus gan srian, páirteach san imeacht seo. Ar an 16ú & 17ú Samhain, ceiliúradh dhá lá ar an spás idir traidisiún agus nuáil in amhránaíocht ar an sean-nós agus damhsa traidisiúnta Éireannach a bhí i Sean Nós/Nua Nós. I rith an dá lá, tháinig cuid de na dhamhsóirí is mó cáil sa réimse seo le chéile chun plé agus damhsa a dhéanamh agus chun rudaí a chumadh ar ala na huaire ag sraith ceardlann a bhí oscailte don phobal. Ag deireadh an imeachta, reáchtáladh Ceolchoirm ar an Déardaoin an 17ú lá, ceolchoirm ar ghlac na dhamhsóirí Jean Butler, Colin Dunne, Keiran Jordan, Honor Hurley, Seosamh Ó Neachtain agus na hamhránaithe Iarla Ó Lionáird, Lillis Ó Laoire agus Padraigín Ní Uallacháin páirt inti. Reáchtáladh an t-imeacht seo i Spás nua Damhsa Daghdha, séipéal athchóirithe i gCearnóg Naomh Eoin i gcroílár Chathair Luimnigh. Is éard a chur clabhsúr le Féile Sionna de Cheol agus Damhsa na Cruinne ceolchoirm le Flook – ceolchoirm amháin den dá cheolchoirm a bhí ag an mbanna le linn dó a bheith ar thuras ceiliúrtha deich mbliana i mbun ceoil.

Cuairt an Fhile Astrálaigh Les Murray ar Luimneach

Ar an Satharn an 1ú Deireadh Fómhair in Ionad Ealaíona Belltable ba é an file Astrálach mór le rá Les Murray a bhí os comhair an tslua. Ba é an White House Poetry Revival agus Oifig Ealaíon Chathair Luimnigh a d'eagraigh an t-imeacht. Bhí cuid de mhórfhilí na hÉireann i mbun léitheoireachta ag an imeacht seo freisin, filí cosúil le Desmond O'Grady agus Gabriel Fitzmaurice, Louis de Paor, Ciaran O'Driscoll, rud úr nua do na White House Poets a bheith ag léamh san amharclann. Aistríodh na seisiúin cháiliúla atá oscailte don phobal chuig an ardán níos mó sa Belltable ar bhonn sealadach, áit ar tugadh deis do na filí áitiúla nach bhfuil mórán aithne orthu go fóill a bheith sa chomhluadar céanna le duine de na filí idirnáisiúnta is mó le rá.

Craoladh taifeadadh atheagraithe den léamh filíochta ar an Déardaoin an 13ú Deireadh Fómhair ar an gclár Artzone ar Lyric FM, clár a bhí ar siúl idir 8 - 9pm. Athchraoladh an clár ar an



Novelist Terri O'Mahony, City Council personnel with Mayor Scully



Open EVA Exhibition



Launch of Riverfest at City Hall



Silver Dish Ring by Joseph Johns, c.1770
Jim Kemmy Municipal Museum

Satharn an 15ú Deireadh Fómhair idir 6 - 7 pm. Beidh agallamh a taifeadadh le Les Murray nuair a bhí sé i Luimneach le cloisteáil ar an gclár The Enchanted Way, clár filíochta ar RTÉ ar an 22ú Deireadh Fómhair.

Deireadh Seachtaine Kate O'Brien – Paisean agus Páirtíocht

Seachtain litearthachta a bhíonn ar siúl i Luimneach gach bliain in onóir an údair is cáiliúla ón gcathair, Kate O'Brien, atá ar Shlí na Fírinne anois, idir an 25ú – 27ú Feabhra 2005, agus tá sé seo ar cheann den bheagán imeachtaí atá dírithe ar Bhanscúirbhneoirí Éireannacha. Ba é Paisean agus Páirtíocht a bhí mar théama i mbliana agus tháinig liosta den chéad scoth de chainteoirí paiseanta chun labhairt i rith an deiridh seachtaine. Tá obair Kate O'Brien lán le paisean agus breathnaíonn sí ar bhealach spráúil ar an bpáirtíocht atá le fáil go smíor i measc shocháí na hÉireann. Ba é Kevin Whelan a thug Léacht Kate O'Brien, fear a bhfuil aithne fhorleathan air mar cheann de na tíreolaithe stairiúla is mó le rá in Éirinn de thoradh an méid spéise a bhí in “The Atlas of The Irish Rural Landscape”.

Forbairt Chaipitiúil

– St. John of the Cross Church, Cearnóg Eoin
Ba í Mary Nunan ó Ollscoil Luimnigh a bhunaigh Compántas Damhsa Daghdha i 1988. Gan mórán achair ar an bhfód bhí Compántas Damhsa Daghdha bunaithe mar chuideachta damhsa le sainiúlacht ealaíonta dá chuid féin agus d'éirigh leis an gcuideachta maoiniú a fháil ón gComhairle Ealaíon. In 2000 chuaigh Yoshiko Chuma i mbun oibre mar stiúrthóir ealaíne. Ceapadh Michael Klien mar stiúrthóir ealaíne i mí Iúil 2003. Faoi mhaoirseacht Klien, tá an Compántas Damhsa Daghdha bogtha chuig áitreabh spreagúil nua i lár chathair Luimnigh, áit a bhfuil an chuideachta ag forbairt go leanúnach agus go bhfuil sí ag cur lena seasamh mar cheannródaí ar dhamhsa radacach comhaimseartha in Éirinn.

Tacaíocht dhíreach d'Ealaíontóirí

Gavin Hogg – ag fáil tacaíochta chun foilseachán faoina chuid oibre a chur le chéile,
Sean Taylor – Sparánacht Tyrone Guthrie,
Karl Doran – Cúnamh le taispeántas,
Cecily Kenny – Cúnamh le taispeántas,
Melanie O'Rourke – Cúnamh le taispeántas,
Kate Hennessy – Cúnamh le taispeántas,
Contact Studios – Cúnamh le clár taispeántais

déanta ag ealaíontóirí, The Art Show Committee – tacaíocht chun trealamh a cheannach do chlár taispeántais déanta ag ealaíontóirí.

Clár Ceolchoirme do Chathair Luimnigh

- Celtic Connections, Camchualairt Cheoil Thraidisiúnta an Líonra Ceoil, 15ú Deireadh Fómhair 2005.
- Cór Aireagail Náisiúnta, Camchualairt Náisiúnta, Motets and the Bard, 12ú Deireadh Fómhair 2005.
- Ensemble Nordlys, Camchualairt Ceoil Chlasaiceigh, 4ú Samhain 2005.
- St. John's Brass & Reed Band – Clár na gCeolchoirmeacha sa Pháirc, Bealtaine 2005.

SEIRBHÍSÍ LEABHARLAINNE

“Reading maketh a full man” a dúirt Francis Bacon sa 17ú Céad, agus is fíor na focail sin fós sa 21ú Céad nuair is scil riachtanach d'fhonn maireachtáil é bheith in ann léamh. Sa lá atá inniu ann tá an baol ann go gcuirfidh cluichí ríomhaireachta, Nintendo agus meáin leictreonacha eile deireadh le ré na leabharlann. Sa bhliain 1995 áfach, chinn Comhairle Ghinearálta UNESCO lá amháin a ainmniú i mí Aibreáin gach bliain mar Lá Idirnáisiúnta na Leabhar. Is modh iontach iad leabhair le cur lenár gcumhachtaí réasúnaíochta. Cuireann leabhair lenár bpeirspictíochtaí, neartaíonn siad ár n-acmhainní criticiúla, forbraíonn siad ár n-éirim agus tugann leabhair spreagadh dúinn a bheith ag machnamh. Is é an bua is mó a bhaineann leis an Leabharlann Phoiblí go gcuireann sí raon leabhar agus seirbhísí eile ar fáil san fhoirgneamh céanna. Is féidir an luach a bhaineann leis an leabharlann phoiblí don duine aonair a chur i mbeagán focal, is é sin go gcuireann sé ar chumas daoine raon ábhar a fháil ar iasacht agus rochtain a bheith acu ar neart faisnéise.

Ionad áitiúil le faisnéis a fháil ann atá sa leabharlann phoiblí, riocht bunúsach d'fhoghlaim ar feadh an tsaoil atá ann, mar aon le cinntí a dhéanamh go neamhspleách agus forbairt chultúrtha an duine aonair agus grúpaí sóisialta. Ní mór rochtain a thabhairt do leanaí atá ag foghlaim conas léamh agus scríobh ar raon leathan d'ábhar léitheoireachta atá fíorasach agus samhlaíoch, ionas go mbeidh deis acu foghlaim ó aois óg conas leabhair a úsáid agus ábhair phriontáilte eile chun faisnéis a fháil agus

do phléisiúr. De réir mar a leanann siad ag fáil oideachais, ba cheart go mbeadh rochtain acu ar na seirbhísí leabharlainne is fearr agus is féidir leis an bpobal a sholáthar, ionas gur nós a bheidh sa léitheoireacht a leanfaidh ar feadh an tsaoil agus go mbainfidh siad taitneamh as bheith ag léamh go deo.

Soláthraíonn Leabharlanna Poiblí raon leathan seirbhísí mar aon le leabhair a thabhairt ar iasacht. In 2005 ghlac Leabharlann Chathair Luimnigh páirt i roinnt imeachtaí agus gníomhaíochtaí.

Bogearra Jaws/Kurzweil

Suiteáladh bogearraí Jaws sa Granary agus Roxboro ionas go mbeadh na daill agus daoine le Discléisce/deacrachtaí Litearthachta in ann leas a bhaint astu. Bogearra léitheoireachta scáileáin é Jaws, a bhfuil acmhainn labhartha agus formhéadaithe aige. Is féidir leis an mbogearra seo a bhfuil scríofa ar an scáileán a léamh amach ag cibé luas a roghnaíonn an t-úsáideoir.

Trí úsáid a bhaint as Kurzweil is féidir leabhar a scanadh ar Ríomhaire Pearsanta agus trí Jaws a úsáid is féidir leis an duine leabhar a fháil le léamh.

Tionscadal Digitithe

Rinne Leabharlann Chathair Luimnigh Tionscadal Digitithe ar “The Mayors of Limerick” ó 1841 go dtí an am i láthair. San áireamh anseo bhí cur síos ar Shlabhraí na Méaraí, Fallaingeacha, Mása Cathartha agus libhré ríoga eile. Áiríonn sé seo (1) beathaisnéis ghearr intuigthe, (2) cuntas ar na príomhimeachtaí a tharla i rith na Méarachta agus (3) áit ab fhéidir portráid den Mhéara. Tá an tionscadal seo ar taispeáint ar an láithreán gréasáin Askaboutireland www.askaboutireland.ie

Tionscadal BorrowBooks

Ba é an Rialtas a mhaoinigh an tionscadal seo agus tá sé dírithe ar rochtain níos éifeachtaí agus níos gasta a sholáthar ar bhailiúcháin leabhar leabharlann poiblí don phobal. Bhí Leabharlann Chathair Luimnigh ar cheann de shé leabharlann a bhí páirteach sa tionscadal píolótach seo. Beidh duine ar bith in ann gach catalóg leabharlainne sa tír a chuardach go comhuaineach, leabhar áirithe a theastaíonn uathu a chuardach agus iad ina suí sa bhaile ach Ríomhaire Pearsanta a bheith

acu. Is féidir leo a iarratas a chur trí ríomhphost chuig a mBrainse Leabharlainne féin agus uaidh sin cuirfear an t-iarratas ar ríomhphost chuig an leabharlann atá i gceist, an leabharlann a bhfuil an leabhar ar fáil inti. Ansin seoltar an leabhar a iarradh chuig leabharlann an bhaill agus is féidir leis an mball an leabhar a bhailiú.

Ciorcal Gramafóin

Tá Ciorcal Gramafóin bunaithe. Tagann na baill le chéile uair sa mhí agus le cabhair ó bhall foirne, tugtar rochtain phoiblí do bhaill ar réimse ábhar sa Roinn Ceoil agus fóram chun na rudaí a theastaíonn uathu a phlé.

An Grúpa Léitheoireachta

Buaileann Grúpa Léitheoireachta a bunaíodh i mí Dheireadh Fómhair le chéile sa leabharlann chun meascra úrscéalta a léamh agus a phlé lena n-áirítear “The Scapegoat”, “The Heart is a lonely hunter”, “The Woman who walked into Doors” agus leabhair eile nach raibh tóir chomh mór sin orthu i mbailiúchán na leabharlainne. Soláthraíonn sé seo fóram chun na dea-phointí agus na drochphointí a bhaineann le leabhair áirithe a phlé.

Féile Leabhar na Leanaí

I rith Fhéile Leabhar na Leanaí eagraíodh roinnt imeachtaí ina measc Cuirteanna ó na hUdair Judi Curtin & Cathy Cassidy, seisiúin cheardaíochta eagraithe ag baill foirne leabharlainne agus caint dar teideal “Irish History Live” a d’áirigh na Ceiltigh agus na Lochlannaigh. Bhí an t-ealaíontóir Neva Elliott bunaithe sa Granary mar chuid de thionscadal ealaíne dar teideal – “Archiving Limerick”. Ba é buaic na féile Dandelion Puppets a léirigh “Noah’s Ark” do lucht féachana thar a bheith sásta de leanaí idir 4 agus 8 mbliana d’aois. Reáchtáladh ceardlanna filíochta le Eva Salzman agus Jane Hirshfield. Reáchtáil an “Shedman” agus Time Cunningham ceardlanna do Mhic Léinn Idirbhliana agus do leanaí idir 8-12. Bhí leanaí idir 10-12 mbliana d’aois faoi dhraíocht ag caint agus cur i láthair le sleamhnáin a rinne Conor Kelleher faoi “Batty about Bats”.

STAITISTICÍ

Úsáid na Leabharlainne	2005
Leabhair a tugadh ar iasacht	185,305
Daoine Nua a Chláraigh	7,502
Cuairteoirí	132,661
Seisiúin ar Ríomhaire Pearsanta & Seisiúin Idirlín	15,642
Líon Ábhar a cuireadh leis an Stoc	23,036
Líon Ábhar a cuireadh le Stoc Scoileanna	8,642

Músaem Cathartha Jim Kemmy

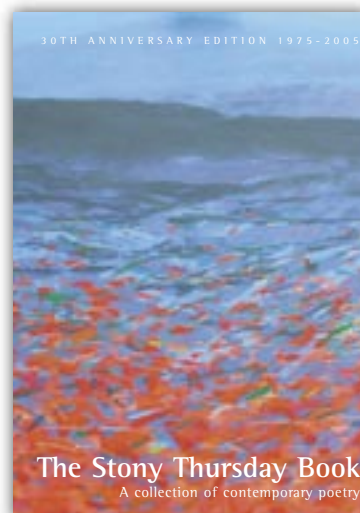
Cuireadh 330 mír le bailiúchán an mhúsaeim i rith na bliana. Ina measc seo bhí: miasfháinne airgid ó Luimneach déanta ag Joseph Johns, c.1770 agus bosca airgid ó Luimneach déanta ag Maurice Fitzgerald, c.1780; líníocht bhunaidh déanta ag Henry Pelham le peann agus dúch, arna dhátú 1786, líníocht den View of Limerick ón Trá ó Thuaidh ó Stair Luimnigh le Ferrar; fallaing lása dhuibh agus stoil lása bháin deartha agus déanta ag Eileen O'Donoghue, bainisteoir Scoil Lása Luimnigh, c.1910; ceann sleá ón gCré-umhaois Dhéanach a aimsíodh in Abhainn na Mainistreach; bailiúchán de 25 cartún polaitiúil a thagraíonn do Thomas Spring Rice, 1830idí; fleascán péatair oilithreach ón 16ú Céad; tomhas galúin copair déanta ag Thomas McCarthy, Cill Mocheallóg, 1836; bonn déanta ag Hartmann do Chumann Forbartha Luimnigh, 1932 agus póstaer den Theatre Royal, 1855.

Cuireadh 1441 taifead nua leis an gcatalóg, rud a chiallaigh go raibh 53,553 taifead sa chatalóg ar fad. Cuireadh 3597 íomhá dhigiteach leis an gcatalóg, rud a chiallaigh go raibh 21,425 íomhá digiteach ann ar fad. Beidh sé ina thosaíocht as seo go ceann tamaill digitíú na n-íomhanna sa bhailiúchán uile a chríochnú.

Bhí 674,055 amas ar chatalóg an mhúsaeim ar an idirlíon i rith na bliana, rud a chiallaigh go raibh os cionn 1 milliún amas ar an láithreán Gréasáin ó seoladh é i mí an Mheithimh 2004, agus fuarthas fiosrúcháin agus tuairimí tríd an ríomhphost ó thíortha ar fud an domhain. Tarlaíonn malartú faisnéise leo seo ar dhá bhealach, go háirithe ó shliochtaigh daoine as Luimneach atá ina gcónaí thar lear. Déileáladh le os cionn 200 fiosrúchán ar fad, ó dhaoine a thug cuairt orainn, a chur glaoch orainn, a sheol litir nó ríomhphost chugainn.

Mar mhúsaem ainmnithe faoi Achtanna na Séadchomharthaí Náisiúnta 1932-1994, fuarthas deontas ón Roinn Ealaíon, Spóirt agus Turasóireachta le cur leis an ngradam a bronnadh ar an té a d'aimsigh taisce de chuid na Cré-Umhaoise déanaí i gCaisleán Uí Chonaill anuraidh, an chéad uair riamh a d'eisigh an Roinn a leithéid de dheontas do mhúsaem de chuid údaráis áitiúil.

Thug 13,806 duine cuairt ar an músaem i rith na bliana, chóir a bheith an líon céanna cuairteoirí le 2004.



30th anniversary of The Stony Thursday Book, republished by Limerick City Council as part of Cuisle

Community & Enterprise Pobal & Fiontar

A co-originated & integrated approach to social, economic & cultural development

Cur chuige comhordaithe & comhtháite maidir le forbairt shóisialta, eacnamaíoch & chultúrtha

Limerick City Development Board

Limerick City Development Board and related programmes (RAPID, Childcare Committee, social inclusion unit, and Community Forum) seek to achieve a co-ordinated approach to the economic, social and cultural development of Limerick City, and supporting Limerick City Council which is charged with leading the process.

This year was very successful with the completion of a complete review of the Strategy for Economic Social and Cultural Development 2002-2012, the Board recently launched the updated strategy document which incorporates a number of priority projects earmarked for the next three years. This can be viewed online at www.limerickcitydb.ie.

A successful application for funding was made by the City Development Board; €75,000 was allocated to the Board under the volunteering strand of the Cohesion Fund. This funding will be used to strengthen Community and Voluntary activity in Limerick City through a programme of support, recognition and training delivered through city-wide agency collaboration in 2006.

As part of implementing the Government's integration policy for all refugees and persons granted leave to remain in Ireland, the City Development Board in conjunction with the Reception and Integration Agency (RIA) at the Department of Justice, Equality and Law Reform, launched the Survey of Refugees and Persons with Leave to Remain Report detailing the socio-economic circumstances of refugees living in Limerick city. This research project is the first of its kind in Ireland and focused on service provision in the four key areas of education,

employment, health and housing. The report also assessed the current level of public service provision available to refugees in the city.

During the year a number of important pieces of work were completed by the Board: the Inter-Agency Plan for Traveller Services is a two-year action plan designed to improve the range of traveller services delivered across the city, and a Local Anti-Poverty Strategy, this focuses primarily on working in partnership to develop and implement specifically designed programmes.

A very successful Limerick City Comhairle na nÓg was again held with over 45 young people attending, from these, four delegates were selected to represent Limerick City at Dáil na nÓg in Dublin on the 19th March 2005. Further recognition of young people was the launch by President McAleese of the Young Citizen Award Scheme, part of 2005 European Year of Citizenship through Education, it is aimed at all young people aged 12-25 who are involved in their local communities through active citizenship projects. In Limerick City the City Development Board was charged with the promotion, co-ordination and assessment of applications for the awards.

The concept of a Healthy City was developed further this year with a series of 4 seminars hosted jointly by the City Development Board and the Health Service Executive, each seminar was based on newly published research conducted for Limerick City Development Board.



Emily Sandford, Coco Bean Chocolates micro enterprise award runner-up, with <L-R> Tom Mackey, City Manager, Mayor Scully & Eamon Ryan, LCEB



Patrick Collinson, Limerick's Young Scientist bid for European title.

Social Inclusion Unit 2005

2005 was the fourth year of the pilot Social Inclusion Unit and saw the addition of 'supporting the provision of enhanced customer services, particularly for disadvantaged communities and people with disabilities' as an objective of the Unit. This led to the SIU working with Partnership to produce a Customer Charter and Customer Complaints procedure. The Unit also began work on producing an easy to use Directory of Limerick City Council Services to be published in 2006. The SIU worked with Corporate Services to ensure that marginalised residents were included in the surveys of customers of Limerick City Council. Two surveys were carried out one of City Hall users, the other of Limerick City residents. The results of these two surveys will inform future planning on the use of City Hall and the way services are delivered so that any barriers for customers are reduced or removed.

Social Inclusion Staff worked closely with Corporate Services to ensure that social inclusion was embedded across the corporate plan. 'Combating Social Exclusion and Reducing Marginalisation' is now one of the core objectives of Limerick City Council for the next five years.

The SIU continued to work with Limerick City Development Board through its membership of the Social Inclusion Measures (SIM) Group as well as assisting in producing the 'Interagency Action Plan for Traveller Services in Limerick City'. The SIU produced information papers on the two strands of the Limerick Local Anti-Poverty Strategy that LCC has a role in: 'Building Sustainable and Secure Communities' and the 'Employment Linkage Programme'. The Unit's

research in this area has led to proposals on the establishment of a Community Safety Partnership and further projects to help to build stronger communities while combating anti-social behaviour.

The SIU prepared LCC's submission for National Disability Funding and coordinated the spending of the grant of €660,000 that LCC was subsequently awarded. One of the things that the grant was used for was to carry out accessibility audits of the buildings, open spaces and roads under the control of LCC. These audits will now form the basis of LCC's implementation plan to ensure that all its buildings and services are universally accessible by 2015.

This year also saw the culmination of over a year's work with the presentation of 'Public Housing in Limerick City: A Profile of Tenants and Estates' to the Social Policy and Housing SPC. The document provides an analysis of the socio-economic situation of LCC tenants. The document will be published in early 2006.

The Social Inclusion Unit continued its role in awareness raising this year culminating in a poverty awareness week in October titled 'From Limerick to Lima, Poverty – An International Problem in a Local Context'. Topics for the presentations during the week included: International Poverty; Poverty as a National Issue; Homelessness in Limerick; and Child Poverty. Further work on awareness raising was carried out in conjunction with Doras Luimní by co-funding the 'Towards An Integrated Society Learning From Experience Developing Our Own' day long conference. Through its representation on the PAUL Partnership



<L-R> Bank of Scotland, Henry Street & 'Feet on the Street', Bedford Row.

Community Development sub-group the SIU assisted in organising the Limerick: Shifting the Focus exhibition held to highlight all the positive activities occurring in the communities of Limerick.

The SIU worked with the other SIUs nationally to produce a best practice document on the work of SIUs and also to make a submission to the NAP Incl consultation process.

Limerick City Childcare Committee

In 2005 Limerick City Childcare Committee worked collaboratively with a number of key agencies to raise awareness, build capacity and disseminate information among existing childcare providers and potential providers. The staff was to the forefront of developing new innovative publications aimed to assist in the development of the profession. On going support was provided by staff to aid clients in applying for OECP funding, and in the design and development of training programmes.

Funding for 2005

€175,500 operational funding allocated towards staffing costs (Coordinator, development worker and administrator, part-time) and the Annual Work Plan governing actions developed and implemented under the following headings:

- a) Training
- b) Information
- c) Social Inclusion
- d) Equality and Diversity

- e) Networking
- f) Capacity Building
- g) Quality Improvement

An additional €20,000 was allocated toward the Childminding Sector; this was for the promotion of childminding initiatives including childminding development grants, awareness raising, training and quality improvement measures.

The City Childcare Committee submitted two proposals for funding under EOCP 2000-2006 Collaborative Initiative both were approved. €102,000 was granted to the Committee under the "Partnerships for Quality Childcare" initiative, this funding is to research and develop School age Childcare Curriculum and €114,000 was granted under "Partnerships for Quality Childcare" to research and develop a training resource and DVD to demonstrate best practice in working with children with special needs within a pre school setting. Work is progressing on both projects.

Bord Forbartha Chathair Luimnigh

Déanann Bord Forbartha Chathair Luimnigh agus cláir ghaolmhara (RAPID, Coiste Cúraim Leanaí, aonad cuimsithe shóisialta agus Fóram Pobail) iarracht cur chuige comhordaithe a bheith acu maidir le forbairt eacnamaíoch, shóisialta agus chultúrtha Chathair Luimnigh, agus tacú le Comhairle Cathrach Luimnigh - a bhfuil sé de dhualgas uirthi an próiseas a bhrú chun cinn.

D'éirigh thar barr le cúrsaí i mbliana nuair a cuireadh críoch le hathbhreithniú iomlán ar Straitéis 2002-2012 d'Fhorbairt Eacnamaíoch, Shóisialta agus Chultúrtha, agus le déanaí sheol an Bord doiciméad straitéise nuashonraithe a áiríonn roinnt tionscadal tosaíochta a bhfuil sé mar aidhm iad a chur i gcrích sna trí bliana amach romhainn. Is féidir féachaint ar an straitéis ar líne ag www.limerickcitydyb.ie.

D'éirigh le hiarratas a rinne Bord Forbartha na Cathrach maoiniú a fháil: leithdháileadh €75,000 don Bhord faoin tsraith dheonach den Chiste Comhtháthaithe. Úsáidfear an maoiniú seo chun cur le gníomhaíocht Pobail agus Dheonach i gCathair Luimnigh trí chlár tacaíochta, aitheantais agus oiliúna a sheachadfar trí chomhoibriú idir gníomhaireachtaí ar fud na cathrach in 2006.

Mar chuid de bheartas comhtháthaithe an Rialtais do dhéanaithe agus daoine a bhfuil cead acu fanacht in Éirinn, sheol Bord Forbartha na Cathrach i gcomhar leis an nGníomhaireacht Fáiltithe agus Comhtháthaithe (GFC) sa Roinn Dlí agus Cirt, Comhionannais agus Athchóirithe Dlí Tuarascáil an tSuirbhé ar Dhéanaithe agus Daoine atá i dTeideal Fanacht sa Tír, tuarascáil a rinne cur síos ar chúinsí socheacnamaíocha déanaithe atá ina gcónaí i gCathair Luimnigh. Tá an tionscadal taighde seo ar an gcéad cheann dá leithéid in Éirinn agus dhírigh an tionscadal ar sholáthar seirbhísí sna ceithre phríomhréimsí d'oideachas, fostaíocht, sláinte agus tithíocht. Lena chois sin mheas an tuarascáil leibhéal reatha de sholáthar seirbhíse poiblí atá ar fáil do dhéanaithe sa chathair.

I rith na bliana d'éirigh leis an mBord roinnt píosaí tábhachtacha oibre a chríochnú: plean gníomhaíochta dhá bhliain atá sa Phlean Idirghníomhaireachta do Sheirbhísí don Lucht Siúil, plean a dearadh chun feabhas a chur ar

raon na seirbhísí a sheachadtar don lucht siúil ar fud na cathrach agus Straitéis Áitiúil in Aghaidh na Bochtaineachta, a dhíríonn den chuid is mó ar chomhoibriú chun cláir atá deartha go speisialta a fhorbairt agus a chur i bhfeidhm. Reáchtáladh Comhairle na nÓg Chathair Luimnigh arís agus d'éirigh go maith léi le os cionn 45 duine óg ag freastal ar an imeacht, agus astu seo roghnaíodh ceathrar toiscáir chun ionadaíocht a dhéanamh ar Chathair Luimnigh ag Dáil na nÓg i mBaile Átha Cliath ar an 19ú Márta 2005. Tuilleadh aitheantais fós do dhaoine óga ba ea an Scéim Dámhachtainí do Shaoránaigh Óga a sheol an tUachtarán Mhic Giolla Íosa, scéim a bhí mar chuid de Bhliain Eorpach na Saoránachta trí Oideachas 2005, agus a bhí dírithe ar gach duine óg idir 12-25 bliain d'aois a bhfuil baint acu lena bpobail áitiúla trí thionscadail saoránachta gníomhacha. I gCathair Luimnigh bhí dualgas ar an mBord Forbartha Contae cur chun cinn, comhordú agus meastóireacht na n-iarratas do na dámhachtainí a chur i gcrích.

Rinneadh tuilleadh forbartha ar an gcoincheap a bhain le Cathair Shláintiúil i mbliana nuair a réachtáil an Bord Forbartha Cathrach agus Feidhmeannacht na Seirbhíse Sláinte ceithre sheimineár. Bhí gach seimineár bunaithe ar thaighde nua-fhoilsithe a rinneadh do Bhord Forbartha Chathair Luimnigh.

Aonad Cuimsithe Shóisialta 2005

Ba é 2005 an ceathrú bliain don Aonad Cuimsithe Shóisialta phíolótaigh a bheith i mbun feidhme agus rinneadh cuspóir de chuid an Aontais as 'tacú le soláthar feabhsaithe seirbhísí do chustaiméirí, go háirithe do phobail faoi mhíbhuntáiste agus daoine faoi mhíchumas'. Mar thoradh air seo, chuaigh an tAonad Cuimsithe Shóisialta (ACS) i mbun oibre le Comhpháirtíocht chun Cairt Chustaiméirí agus nós imeachta Gearán do Chustaiméirí a chur le chéile.

Ina theannta sin thosaigh an tAonad ag obair ar Eolaire de Sheirbhísí atá le fáil ó Chomhairle Cathrach Luimnigh a chur le chéile, eolaire atá le foilsiú in 2006. D'oibrigh ACS le Seirbhísí Corparáideacha d'fhonn a chinntiú gur áiríodh cónaitheoirí imeallaithe sna suirbhéanna a rinneadh ar chustaiméirí Chomhairle Cathrach Luimnigh. Rinneadh dhá shuirbhé, ceann le húsáideoirí Halla na Cathrach agus an ceann eile le daoine a bhfuil cónaí orthu i gCathair

Luimnigh. Cuirfidh torthaí an dá shuirbhé seo eolas ar fáil don phleanáil a dhéanfar amach anseo maidir leis an úsáid a bhainfear as Halla na Cathrach agus leis an mbealach a seachadtar na seirbhísí ionas gur féidir aon bhacainní atá ann do chustaiméirí a laghdú nó fáil réidh leo.

D'oibrigh Baill Foirne an Aonaid Chuimsithe Shóisialta leis na Seirbhísí Corparáideacha d'fhonn a chinntiú gur neadaíodh cuimsiú sóisialta sa phlean corparáideach uile. Dá bharr seo, tá 'Eisiámh Sóisialta a Chosc agus Imeallú a Laghdú' ar cheann de phríomhchuspóirí Chomhairle Cathrach Luimnigh don chúig bliana amach romhainn.

Lean ACS ag obair le Bord Forbartha Chathair Luimnigh trí bhallraíocht sa Ghrúpa um Bearta Cuimsithe Sóisialta (BCS) mar aon le cabhrú leis an 'bPlean Gníomhaíochta Idirghníomhaireachta do Sheirbhísí don Lucht Siúil i gCathair Luimnigh' a chur le chéile. Chuir ACS páipéir faisnéise le chéile faoi dhá shraith de Straitéis Áitiúil in Aghaidh na Bochtaineachta Luimnigh, straitéis a bhfuil ról ag Comhairle Cathrach Luimnigh inti: 'Pobail Inmharthana agus Daingne a Chruthú' agus 'Clár Nascála Fostaíochta'. De thoradh thaighde an Aonaid sa réimse seo tá tograí curtha le chéile maidir le bunú Comhpháirtíocht Sábháilteachta Pobail agus tionscadail bhreise chun pobail níos láidre a chruthú agus ag an am céanna, iompraíocht fhrithshóisialta a chosc.

D'ullmhaigh ACS aighneacht Chomhairle Cathrach Luimnigh do Mhaoiniú Míchumais Náisiúnta agus chomhordaigh sé caitheamh an deontais €660,000 a bronnadh ar Chomhairle Cathrach Luimnigh ina dhiaidh sin. Ar cheann de na rudaí ar úsáideadh an deontas dó bhí iniúchtaí inrochtaineachta a dhéanamh ar na foirgnimh, spásanna oscailte agus bóithre atá faoi chúram Chomhairle Cathrach Luimnigh. Beidh na hiniúchtaí seo mar bhonn anois do phlean cuir i bhfeidhm Chomhairle Cathrach Luimnigh d'fhonn a chinntiú go mbeidh rochtain ag gach uile dhuine ar a fhoirgnimh agus seirbhísí uile faoin mbliain 2015.

I mbliana cuireadh críoch le níos mó ná bliain iomlán oibre nuair a tugadh 'Tithíocht Phoiblí i gCathair Luimnigh: Próifíl de Thionóntaí agus Eastáit' do Bheartas Sóisialta agus Tithíochta CBS. Is éard atá sa doiciméad seo anailís ar

dháil shocheacnamaíoch tionóntaí Chomhairle Cathrach Luimnigh. Foilseofar an doiciméad go luath in 2006.

Lean an tAonad Cuimsithe Shóisialta lena ról feasachta i mbliana agus ba é a bhí mar chríoch leis an mbliain seachtain feasachta faoi bhochtaineacht a bhí ar siúl i mí Dheireadh Fómhair dar teideal 'From Limerick to Lima, Poverty – An International Problem in a Local Context'. I measc ábhar na léiriúcháin i rith na seachtaine bhí: Bochtaineacht Idirnáisiúnta; Bochtaineacht mar Cheist Náisiúnta; Easpa Dídine i Luimneach; agus Bochtaineacht i Measc Leanaí. Rinneadh tuilleadh oibre fós ar chur le feasacht i gcomhar le Doras Luimní trí chomhdháil lae dar teideal 'Towards An Integrated Society Learning From Experience Developing Our Own' a chómhaoiniú. Trína áit ar fhoghrúpa um Fhorbairt Pobail Comhpháirtíochta PAUL chabhraigh ACS le heagrú taispeántais dar teideal Shifting the Focus a réachtáladh i Luimneach, taispeántas a eagraíodh chun aird a tharraingt ar na gníomhaíochtaí dearfacha uile a tharlaíonn i measc phobal Luimnigh.

D'oibrigh ACS le hAonaid Chuimsithe Sóisialta náisiúnta eile chun doiciméad dea-chleachtais a chur le chéile faoi obair ACS mar aon le haighneacht a dhéanamh chuig próiseas comhairliúcháin NAP Incl.

Coiste Cúraim Leanaí Chathair Luimnigh

In 2005 d'oibrigh Coiste Cúraim Leanaí Chathair Luimnigh i gcomhar le roinnt príomhghníomhaireachtaí chun cur le feasacht, acmhainn an phobail a fhorbairt agus faisnéis a scaipeadh i measc na soláthróirí cúraim leanaí atá ann cheana féin agus soláthróirí a d'fhéadfadh a bheith ann amach anseo. Bhí an fhoireann ar thús cadhnaíochta maidir le foilseacháin nuálaíochta a bhí dírithe ar fhorbairt na gairme.

Chuir an fhoireann tacaíocht leanúnach ar fáil do chliant le linn dóibh iarratas a dhéanamh ar mhaoiniú OECP, mar aon le dearadh agus forbairt clár oiliúna.

Maoiniú do 2005

Leithdháileadh €175,500 de mhaoiniú oibríochtúil do chostais foirne (Comhordaitheoir, oibrí forbartha agus riarthóir páirtaimseartha) agus Plean Oibre Bliantúla a rialaigh gníomhaíochtaí forbartha agus curtha i bhfeidhm faoi na ceannteidil seo a leanas:

- a) Oiliúint
- b) Faisnéis
- c) Cuimsiú Sóisialta
- d) Comhionannas agus Éagsúlacht
- e) Líonrú
- f) Acmhainn an Phobail a Fhorbairt
- g) Caighdeán a Fheabhsú

Leithdháileadh €20,000 breise don Earnáil Feighlíochta Leanaí; cuireadh an t-airgead seo ar fáil chun tionscnaimh feighlíochta leanaí a chur chun cinn lena n-áirítear deontais forbartha feighlíochta leanaí, cur le feasacht, oiliúint agus bearta feabhsaithe caighdeán.

Rinne Coiste Cúraim Leanaí na Cathrach dhá thogra do mhaoiniú faoi Chomhthionscnamh EOCP 2000-2006, agus ceadaiódh an dá thogra. Deonaiódh €102,000 don Choiste faoin tionscnamh “Comhpháirtíochtaí do Chúram Leanaí ar Ardchaighdeán”, agus is ann don mhaoiniú seo chun taighde agus forbairt a dhéanamh ar Churaclam Cúraim Leanaí do leanaí ar aois Scoile agus deonaiódh €114,000 faoi “Chomhpháirtíochtaí do Chúram Leanaí ar Ardchaighdeán” chun taighde agus forbairt a dhéanamh ar acmhainn oiliúna agus DVD chun léargas a thabhairt ar dhea-chleachtas in obair le leanaí le riachtanais speisialta laistigh de shuíomh réamhscoile. Tá obair ag leanúint ar aghaidh ar an dá thionscadal seo.

Recreation & Sport Áineas & Spórt

Improved awareness & access to facilities
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Parks Service

In 2005 the Parks Service located floral stands in Cruises Street, on the lower end of O' Connell Street and in other areas around the city. Hanging baskets were placed on Athlunkard Bridge and floral display boxes were affixed to the riverside railings along Spokane Walk. Along with the stands and baskets provided in previous years, the resultant floral displays during the months of May through to October were the subject of much favourable comment.

The Parks Service mowed in the region of 300 acres of grass during the year, raised a substantial quantity of plants in the Mill Road Nursery for subsequent planting out and carried out tree planting and pruning throughout the city.

To commemorate Rotary International's Centennial Year and National Tree Week, one hundred native Irish trees were planted by Limerick Shannon Rotary Club, in conjunction with Limerick City Council and Coillte, at the Shannon Fields, Corbally, in March, 2005.

O' Brien Park Playground

The Department of the Environment, Heritage & Local Government made funding available, under National Disability Funding, for the installation of an accessible play area in O' Brien Park in 2005. This new area and equipment are now part of the existing park playground and being enjoyed by younger visitors to the park.

Limerick Looking Good

Our environment competition, "Limerick Looking Good", entered its second year in 2005. The 4 main categories are Best Residential Area,

Best Urban Village, Best City Street and Best Kept Residential Front Garden. Garden World & Shamrock, Shannon Development, Limerick City Co-Ordination Office and the City Council supported the competition, which generated widespread interest across the city.

The winners were announced at a very enjoyable award ceremony held at the Limerick City Gallery of Art last December. Successful entries in the residential area and city street categories, and also under certain category nominations, will represent Limerick City in the National City Neighbourhoods Competition, 2006.

National "City Neighbourhoods" Competition, 2005

2005 was the third year of the City Neighbourhoods Competition. Similar to the Tidy Towns competition, City Neighbourhoods is limited to areas within the city boundaries of Cork, Dublin, Galway, Limerick and Waterford. The objective of City Neighbourhoods is to improve the physical appearance, environment and attractiveness of our cities.

The Bishop's Palace on Church Street won the Best Old Building Category in the National City Neighbourhoods 2005 competition. Mr Batt O Keeffe T.D., Minister of State, presented the awards at a ceremony in Dublin Castle, on Monday 7th November 2005.

Limerick City Sports and Recreation Policy Framework Plan

A study was commissioned by Limerick City Council in late 2001 to assess existing facilities and current demands for sports and recreation, consult with various bodies on requirements,



assess future needs and identify the mechanism for provision, through policies and actions, for future active and passive recreation provision and management, in the Limerick City and environs area. The consultants appointed to undertake the study were Cunnane Stratton Reynolds, Land Planning & Design, Dublin. The Draft Framework Plan went on public display in August, 2004. Submissions received were considered and amendments made to the plan in light of these. The draft plan was approved, with amendments, by Limerick City Council in May, 2005.

Rathbane Golf Course

This City Council owned parkland course is built on 125 acres and is located within the city suburbs. The course is managed by Mack Trading (International) Ltd on behalf of Limerick City Council.

Mr. John O'Donoghue, Minister for Arts, Sport and Tourism officially opened the newly refurbished clubhouse at Rathbane Golf Course on Friday, 13th May, 2005.

Grant assistance in the amount of €100,000 had been approved under the Department of Arts, Sports and Tourism Sports Capital Programme 2002, and this grant contributed to the redevelopment costs at the building.

The Tiger Woods U.S. First Tee Programme was formally launched at Rathbane Golf Course, on Thursday, 27th October, 2005, by Mr Joe Louis Barrow Jr., executive director of The First Tee. Rathbane Golf Course is the second First Tee Affiliate Venue in Ireland after Druids Glen Golf Resort. This programme helps keep young people out of trouble through golf and develops life skills. It builds on the junior golf programme held previously at Rathbane in the years 2003-2005.

Grove Island Leisure Centre

Limerick City Council and King's Island Developments Ltd equally own Grove Island Leisure Centre in Corbally, which opened in June, 2004. Available facilities include a 25m five lane pool, kiddies pool, learner's pool, sports hall, gym, steam room, sauna and jacuzzi.

Cemeteries

The three cemeteries: Mount St. Lawrence, Mount St. Lawrence extension and Mount St. Oliver, were maintained to their usual high standard in 2005. Preparatory work to improve the pathways at Mount St. Oliver was completed in 2005 as was development of 160 grave spaces in Block 25.

Number of Burials 2005: Mt. St. Lawrence – 203
Mt. St. Oliver – 243

Seirbhís na bPáirceanna

In 2005 chuir Seirbhís na bPáirceanna seastáin bhláthbhreaca i Sráid Cruise, ag íochtar Shráid Uí Chonaill agus i gceantair eile ar fud na cathrach. Cuireadh ciseáin chrochta ar Dhroichead Áth an Longphoirt agus boscaí bláthbhreaca ar na ráillí cois abhann feadh Bhóithrín an Spuacáin. Fearacht na seastán agus na gciseán a bhí ann sna blianta roimhe seo, thaitin na taispeántais bhláthbhreaca a bhí ann idir mhí na Bealtaine agus mhí Dheireadh Fómhair go mór le daoine.

Bhain Seirbhís na bPáirceanna os cionn 300 acra féir i rith na bliana, chuir siad go leor plandaí i bPlandlann Bhaile an Mhuilinn, plandaí a bhféadfaí iad a chur ina dhiaidh sin agus cuireadh agus bearradh crainn ar fud na cathrach.

Mar chomóradh ar Chéad Bliain Rotary International agus Seachtain Náisiúnta na gCrann, chuir Shannon Rotary Club Luimnigh 100 crann dúchasach Éireannach, i gcomhar le Comhairle Cathrach Luimnigh agus Coillte, ag Shannon Fields, sa Chorrbaile i mí Márta 2005.

Áit Shúgartha Pháirc Uí Bhriain

Chuir an Roinn Comhshaoil, Oidhreacht & Rialtais Áitiúil maoiniú ar fáil, faoi Mhaoiniú Míchumais Náisiúnta, do shuiteáil áit shúgartha inrochtana i bPáirc Uí Bhriain in 2005. Anois is cuid den áit shúgartha a bhí ann cheana féin an áit agus trealamh nua seo agus tá na cuairteoirí óga a thagann chuig an bpáirc ag baint an-taitneamh astu.

Limerick Looking Good

Bhí ár gcomórtas comhshaoil, “Limerick Looking Good”, ar siúl don dara bliain as a chéile in 2005. Is iad na ceithre phríomhchatagóir atá ann An Limistéar Cónaithe is Fearr, An Sráidbhaile Uirbeach is Fearr, An tSráid Cathrach is Fearr agus an Gairdín is Deise os comhair Tí. Thacaigh Garden World & Shamrock, Forbairt na Sionna, Oifig Comhordaithe Chathair Luimnigh agus an Chomhairle Cathrach leis an gcomórtas, a mheall spéis na ndaoine ar fud na cathrach.

Fógraíodh na buaiteoirí ag searmanas bronnata thar a bheith taitneamhach a réachtáladh i nGailearaí Ealaíne Chathair Luimnigh i mí na Nollag seo caite. Déanfaidh na hiontrálacha a n-éireoidh leo i gcatagóirí na limistéar cónaitheach agus sráideanna cathrach, mar aon

le hainmniúcháin i gcatagóirí ar leith, ionadaíocht ar Chathair Luimnigh i gComórtas Náisiúnta na gComharsanachtaí Cathrach 2006.

Comórtas Náisiúnta “na gComharsanachtaí Cathrach”, 2005

Reáchtáladh Comórtas na gComharsanachtaí Cathrach don tríú bliain as a chéile in 2005. Dála chomórtas na mBailte Slachtmhara, tá Comórtas na gComharsanachtaí Cathrach teoranta do cheantair ar leith laistigh de theorainneacha cathrach Chorcaí, Bhaile Átha Cliath, Luimnigh agus Phort Láirge. Is é atá mar aidhm le Comórtas na gComharsanachtaí Cathrach feabhas a chur ar chuma fhisiceach, timpeallacht agus áilleacht ár gcathracha.

Bhuaigh Pálás an Easpaig ar Shráid an Teampaill Catagóir an tSeanfhoirgnimh is Fearr i gcomórtas Náisiúnta na gComharsanachtaí Cathrach 2005. Ba é an tUasal Batt O’Keeffe, T.D., Aire Stáit, a bhronn na gradaim ag searmanas a bhí ar siúl i gCaisleán Bhaile Átha Cliath ar an Luan an 7ú Samhain 2005.

Plean Creatlaí do Bheartas Spóirt agus Áineasa Chathair Luimnigh

Choimisiúnaigh Comhairle Cathrach Luimnigh staidéar go deireanach in 2001 chun áiseanna agus éilimh reatha ar spórt agus áineas a mheas, dul i gcomhairle leis na comhlachtaí éagsúla maidir le ceanglais, riachtanais a bheidh ann amach anseo a aithint mar aon leis an meicníocht a bheidh ag teastáil, trí bheartais agus gníomhaíochtaí, do sholáthar agus bainistíocht áineasa ghníomhaigh agus éighníomhaigh amach anseo, i gCathair Luimnigh agus sna ceantair mórthimpeall. Ba iad Cunnane Stratton Reynolds, Pleanáil & Dearadh Talún, Baile Átha Cliath, na comhairleoirí a ceapadh le tabhairt faoin staidéar. Bhí an Dréachtphlean Creatlaí ar taispeáint don phobal i mí Lúnasa, 2004. Measadh na haighneachtaí a fuarthas agus rinneadh leasuithe ar an bplean bunaithe ar na haighneachtaí seo. Cheadaigh Comhairle Cathrach Luimnigh an dréachtphlean, arna leasú, i mí Bealtaine 2005.

Galfchúrsa an Rátha Bháin

Tá an cúrsa fearainn páirce faoi úinéireacht na Comhairle Cathrach tógtha ar 125 acra agus tá sé lonnaithe laistigh de bhruachbhailte na cathrach. Is é Mack Trading (International) Ltd atá i mbun an cúrsa a bhainistiú thar ceann Chomhairle Cathrach Luimnigh.

Ba é an tUasal John O'Donoghue, An tAire Ealaíon, Spóirt agus Turasóireachta a d'oscail an clubtheach nuachóirithe go hoifigiúil i nGalfchúrsa an Rátha Bháin ar an Aoine an 13ú Bealtaine, 2005. Tá cúnamh deontais luach €100,000 ceadaithe faoi Chlár Caipitil 2002 na Roinne Ealaíon, Spóirt agus Turasóireachta, agus chabhraigh an deontas seo go mór le costais athfhorbartha an fhoirgnimh.

Sheol an tUasal Joe Louis Óg Barrow., stiúrthóir feidhmiúcháin The First Tee, An Tiger Woods U.S. First Tee Programme go hoifigiúil i nGalfchúrsa an Rátha Bháin ar an Déardaoin an 27ú Deireadh Fómhair 2005. Is é Galfchúrsa an Rátha Bháin an dara hIonad Cleamhnaithe de chuid First Tee in Éirinn agus is é Ionad Gailf Ghleann na nDraoithe an chéad cheann. Cabhraíonn an clár seo le daoine óga a choinneáil ar an mbóthar ceart trí ghalp a imirt agus forbraíonn siad scileanna saoil. Cuireann sé leis an gclár sóisearach gailf a réachtáladh roimhe seo sa Ráth Bán idir 2003-2005.

Ionad Fóillíochta Oileán an Gharráin

Is le Comhairle Cathrach Luimnigh agus King's Island Developments Ltd. Ionad Fóillíochta Oileán an Gharráin sa Chorrbaile, ionad a osclaíodh i mí an Mheithimh, 2004. I measc na n-áiseanna atá le fáil san ionad tá linn snámha 25 méadar le 5 lána, linn snámha do leanaí, linn snámh d'fhoghlaimoirí, halla spóirt, giomnásiam, seomra gaile agus jacuzzi.

Reiligi

Cothaíodh na trí reilig: Mount St. Lawrence, síneadh le Mount St. Lawrence agus Mount St. Oliver, go hardchaighdeán mar is gnách in 2005. Críochnaíodh réamhobair chun na cosáin ag Mount St. Oliver a fheabhsú in 2005 agus forbraíodh 160 uaigh i mBloc 25.

Líon Adhlacthaí 2005: Mt. St. Lawrence – 203
Mt. St. Oliver – 243



Strategic Policy Committees

Coistí um Beartas Straitéiseach

Social Policy & Housing Strategic Policy Committee

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

- 2005 Assessment of Housing Need
- Update on Limerick City Councils Central Heating Scheme.
- Update on Disabled Persons Grant Scheme 2005.
- 2006 Differential Rent Scheme
- Update on housing schemes included in the 2004 –2008 Social & Affordable Action Plan.
- Update on Windows and Doors Replacement Programme
- Revised Social Housing Application Form

Presentations took place on the following:

- Profile of Tenants and Households in Rented Social Housing in Limerick City.
- Rental Accommodation Scheme
- Shared Ownership Scheme

Nominations were made to the following:

- Sub-Group to review Scheme of Letting Priorities for Affordable Housing Scheme under Part V, Planning and Development Acts 2000 – 2002, as amended.

The Strategic Policy Committee forwarded the following recommendations to the City Council:

- Adoption of Scheme of Priorities for Allocation of Houses for the Affordable Housing Scheme under Part V, Planning and Development Acts 2000-2002, as amended.
- Payment of Social & Community Grants, totalling €150,000, to 15 voluntary and community groups.
- Payment of €114,200 to seven estate management groups in respect of staffing and office administration costs.

Transportation & Infrastructure Strategic Policy Committee

The Committee met on five occasions in 2005.

Presentations were received and discussions were held on a wide range of issues including :

- Limerick Main Drainage
- Water Services Capital Works Programme
- City Centre Strategy
- Taxi Forum
- Road works Programme for 2005
- Green Routes
- Taking in Charge Policy
- Parking Management Investment Programmes in Limerick i.e. :
 - (i) Parking Guidance System
 - (ii) Handhelds for Traffic Wardens

The following recommendations were made to City Council for approval:

- Reports on various Notices of Motion
- Road Works Programme for 2005
- Proposed Taxi Forum
- Green Routes : To proceed to Part 8 Planning process for the Limerick City Green Route network in respect of the Western Green Route along the Ennis Road and the Eastern Green route from Dublin Road, Childers Road excluding Mulgrave Street.
- Taking in Charge policy.

Environment Strategic Policy Committee

The members met on 4 occasions in 2005.

Presentations were received and discussions were held on a wide range of issues including

- Role of the Strategic Policy Committees
- Presentation on the operation of the Environment Department
- The Draft Replacement Waste Management Plan for Limerick/Clare/Kerry
- The adoption of the Limerick City Council Collection & Presentation of Household Waste

- & Commercial Waste Bye Laws 2005
- Waste Management (Waste Electrical & Electronic Equipment) Regulations 2005
- Enforcement of litter and waste legislation
- EPA Report on the Nature & Extent of Unauthorised Waste Activity in Ireland
- Environmental Awareness Initiatives
- Activities of the Control of Horses Forum
- Environment Improvement Initiative Grants Scheme 2005
- Limerick Looking Good & City Neighbourhoods Competitions

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

- Adoption of the Collection & Presentation of Household Waste & Commercial Waste Bye Laws 2005
- Grants under the Environment Improvement Initiative Scheme
- Notices of Motion received from Councillors

The Economic Policy Development & Future Planning Strategic Policy Committee

The Committee met on two occasions in 2005. Presentations were received and discussions were held on a wide range of issues including:

Canal Restoration Project
Integrated Area Plan
Living Over the Shop Scheme
Planning Contribution Scheme
City Boundary Extension Proposal
Former Guinness Site, Carey's Road

Cultural and Sporting Strategic Policy Committee

The Committee met on six occasions during 2005. A seminar was also organised for the new SPC. Presentations were received and discussions were held on a wide range of issues including:

- a) Draft Report of Limerick City Sports and Recreation Policy Framework Plan
- b) Presentation of the New Arts Strategy
- c) Digitisation Project of the Mayors of Limerick
- d) Book entitled "The History of Limerick Corporation/City Council from the Middle Ages to the present day"
- e) Borrow Books Website – new system of Inter-Library Loans

- f) Report on National Disability Funding
- g) Limerick City Sports Partnership

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

- To commission a portrait of the late Richard Harris to be hung in City Hall.
The Draft Limerick City Sports and Recreation Policy Framework Plan be approved by Limerick City Council subject to amendments.
- The Cultural and Sporting SPC agreed that a feasibility study be carried out on the provision of a mixed sports complex comprising indoor swimming pool, sports hall and multi-gym at the Watchhouse Cross area of the city to service the local community.
- Limerick City Council instructs the City Manager to apply to the Department of Environment, Heritage & Local Government for funding to construct, maintain and manage a skateboard park in Limerick.
- That Limerick City Council erect a Sculpture to pay tribute to the Dockers in the Dockland area.
- That a Bronze Statue of Richard Harris be incorporated in the current street project in Bedford Row.
- That a memorial to the late Pope John Paul II be incorporated as part of an overall proposal for the regeneration of St. John's Square and Cathedral Place.
- That Limerick City Council appoint a Member of the Culture and Sporting SPC as a representative on the Limerick City Sports Partnership Board.
- That Limerick City Council reaffirms Thomond Park's role as the spiritual home of Irish rugby and urges the IRFU to proceed immediately with its re-development.
- That a commemoration event be held to mark the 50th anniversary of the Hungarian Revolution.
- To hold a "limericks" competition and then erect plaques displaying "limericks" relating to their location on various city streets.
- That an art competition for secondary schools be organised around the theme of "Taking Pride in Limerick".
- Approval of grants for 2005 under the Arts Act in the sum of €11,500.

Beartas Sóisialta & Tithíocht**Coiste um Beartas Straitéiseach (CBS)**

Sholáthair Stiúrthóir na Seirbhíse tuarascálacha agus pléadh na nithe seo a leanas:

- Measúnacht 2005 ar an Riachtanas Tithíochta
- An t-eolas is déanaí maidir le Scéim Téimh Láirnaigh Chomhairle Cathrach Luimnigh.
- An t-eolas is déanaí faoi Scéim Deontais 2005 do Dhaoine faoi Mhíchumas.
- Scéim Cíosa Dhifreálaigh 2006
- An t-eolas is déanaí faoi na scéimeanna tithíochta atá i bPlean Gníomhaíochta 2004-2008 do Thithíocht Shóisialta Inacmhainne.
- An t-eolas is déanaí faoin gClár Athsholáthair Fuinneog agus Doirse
- Foirm Iarratais Athbhreithnithe do Thithíocht Shóisialta

Rinneadh cuir i láthair faoi na hábhair seo a leanas:

- Próifíl na dTionóntaí agus Teaghlach i dTithíocht Shóisialta ar Cíos i gCathair Luimnigh.
- Scéim Cóiríochta Cíosa
- Scéim Comhúinéireachta

Rinneadh ainmniúcháin dóibh seo a leanas;

- Foghrúpa chun athbhreithniú a dhéanamh ar Scéim na dTosaíochtaí Ligin ar Cíos do Scéim Tithíochta Inacmhainne faoi Chuid V de na hAchtanna um Phleanáil agus Forbairt 2000 – 2002, arna leasú.

Thug an Coiste um Beartas Straitéiseach na moltaí seo a leanas don Chomhairle Cathrach:

- Glacadh le Scéim Tosaíochtaí do Leithdháileadh Tithe don Scéim Tithíochta Inacmhainne faoi Chuid V de na hAchtanna um Phleanáil agus Forbairt 2000-2002, arna leasú.
- Deontais Shóisialta & Pobail a íoc le 15 grúpa deonach agus pobail, deontais ar fiú €150,000 iad.
- €114,200 a íoc le seacht ngrúpa bainistíochta eastáit do chostais foirne agus riaracháin oifige.

Coiste um Beartas Straitéiseach Iompair & Infrastruchtúir

Bhuail an Coiste le chéile cúig huaire in 2005. Rinneadh cuir i láthair agus reáchtáladh díospóireachtaí faoin raon leathan saincheisteanna lena n-áirítear:

- Príomhchóras Draenála Luimnigh
- Clár Caipitiúil Oibreacha do Sheirbhísí Uisce
- Straitéis Lár na Cathrach
- Fóram Tacsáí
- Clár Oibreacha Bóthair do 2005
- Bealaí Glasa
- Beartas um Thógáil Cúraim
- Clár Infheistíochta Bainistíochta Páirceála i Luimneach .i.:
 - (i) Córas Treorach Páirceála
 - (ii) Ríomhairí láimhe do Mhaoir Trácht

Tugadh na moltaí seo a leanas don Chomhairle Cathrach d'fhonn iad a fhorghnó:

- Tuairiscí faoi na Fógraí Foriarratais éagsúla
- Clár Oibreacha Bóthair do 2005
- Fóram Tacsáí Molta
- Bealaí Glasa: D'fhonn leanúint go Cuid 8 den phróiseas Pleanála do Líonra Bealaigh Ghlais do Chathair Luimnigh maidir le Bealach Glas an Iarthair feadh Bhóthar na hInse agus Bealach Glas an Oirthir ó Bhóthar Bhaile Átha Cliath, Bóthar Childers seachas Sráid Mulgrave.
- Beartas um Thógáil Cúraim.

Coiste um Beartas Straitéiseach Comhshaoil

Bhuail na baill le chéile ceithre huaire in 2005. Rinneadh cuir i láthair agus reáchtáladh díospóireachtaí faoi raon leathan saincheisteanna lena n-áirítear

- Ról na gCoistí um Beartas Straitéiseach
- Cuir i láthair ar fheidhmiú na Rannóige Comhshaoil
- An Dréachtphlean Athchuir Bainistíochta Dramhaíola do Luimneach/An Clár/Ciarraí
- Glacadh le
- Rialacháin Bainistíochta Dramhaíola (Fuíollábhar Leictreach & Leictreonach), 2005
- Reachtáíocht bruscair agus dramhaíola a chur i bhfeidhm
- Tuarascáil na Gníomhaireachta um Chaomhnú Comhshaoil ar Nádúr & Méid na Gníomhaíochta Dramhaíola Neamhúdaraith in Éirinn
- Tionscnaimh Feasachta Comhshaoil
- Gníomhaíochtaí an Fhórait Gaibhnithe Capall
- Scéim Deontas do Thionscnamh Feabhsaithe Comhshaoil 2005
- Comórtas Limerick Looking Good & Comórtas na gComharsanachtaí Cathrach

Cuireadh na moltaí seo a leanas faoi bhráid na Comhairle Cathrach d'fhonn iad a fhorghnas

- Cuireadh Fodhlíthe Bailiúcháin & Cuir i Láthair Fuíollábhar Teaghlaigh & Fuíollábhar Tráchtála 2005 i bhfeidhm 2005
- Deontais faoi Scéim Tionscnaimh Feabhais an Chomhshaoil
- Fógraí Foriarratais faighte ó Chomhairleoirí

An Coiste um Beartas Straitéiseach d'Fhorbairt Beartais Eacnamaíoch & Pleanáil don Todhchaí

Bhuail an Coiste le chéile dhá uair in 2005. Rinneadh cuir i láthair agus reáchtáladh díospóireachtaí faoi raon leathan saincheisteanna lena n-áirítear:

Tionscadal Athchóirithe na Canála
Plean Cónasctha Limistéir
Scéim um Chónaí Os Cionn an tSiopa
Scéim Ranníoca Pleanála
Togra Leathnaithe Theorainn an Chontae
Iarshuíomh Guinness, Bóthar Uí Chiara

Coiste um Beartas Straitéiseach Cultúir agus Spóirt

Bhuail an Coiste lena chéile sé huaire i rith 2005. Ina theannta sin eagraíodh seimineár don CBS nua. Fuarthas cuir i láthair agus reáchtáladh díospóireachtaí faoin raon leathan saincheisteanna lena n-áirítear:

- a) Dréacht-Tuarascáil de Phlean Creatlaí do Bheartas Spóirt agus Áineasa Chathair Luimnigh
- b) An Straitéis Ealaíon Nua a Chur i Láthair
- c) Tionscadal Digitithe do Mhéaraí Luimnigh
- d) Leabhar dar teideal "The History of Limerick Corporation/City Council from the Middle Ages to the present day"
- e) Láithreán Gréasáin Borrow Books – córas nua d'lasachtaí Idirleabharlainne
- f) Tuarascáil faoi Mhaoiniú Míchumais Náisiúnta
- g) Comhpháirtíocht Spóirt Chathair Luimnigh

Tugadh na moltaí seo a leanas don Chomhairle Cathrach d'fhonn iad a fhorghnas:

- Portráid de Richard Harris, atá ar Shlí na Fírinne anois, a choimisiúnú agus a chrochadh i Halla na Cathrach. Tá Dréachtphlean Creatlaí do Bheartas Spóirt agus Áineasa Chathair Luimnigh le ceadú ag Comhairle Cathrach Luimnigh faoi réir leasuithe.
- D'aontaigh an CBS Cultúir agus Spóirt gur cheart staidéar féidearthachta a dhéanamh faoi sholáthar ionad spóirt mheasctha ina mbeadh linn snámha laistigh, halla spóirt agus ilghiomnásiam i gceantar Watchhouse Cross den chathair ag freastal ar an bpobal áitiúil.
- Treoraíonn Comhairle Cathrach Luimnigh don Bhainisteoir Cathrach iarratas a chur chuig an Roinn Comhshaoil, Oidhreacht & Rialtais Áitiúil chun maoiniú a fháil chun páirc do chlár scátála a thógáil, a chothabháil agus a bhainistiú i Luimneach.
- Go gcrochfadh Comhairle Cathrach Luimnigh Dealbhóireacht mar chomhartha ómóis do na Dugairí i gceantar na nDugáí.
- Go n-áireofaí Dealbhóireacht Chré-Umha de Richard Harris sa tionscadal sráide atá ar siúl faoi láthair i Rae Bedford.
- Go n-áireofaí leacht cuimhneacháin den Phápa John Paul II mar chuid de thogra iomlán athnuachana Chearnóg Naomh Eoin agus Phlás na hArdeaglaise.
- Go gceapfaidh Comhairle Cathrach Luimnigh Ball de CBS Cultúir agus Spóirt mar ionadaí ar Bhord Comhpháirtíochta Spóirt Chathair Luimnigh.
- Go n-athdhearbhaíonn Comhairle Cathrach Luimnigh ról Pháirc Thuamhan mar bhaile spioradálta rugbaí na hÉireann agus spreagann sé an IRFU leanúint le hathfhorbairt na páirce láithreach bonn.
- Go mbeidh imeacht cuimhneacháin ar siúl chun comóradaí a dhéanamh ar cheiliúradh 50 bliain ar an Réabhlóid na hUngáire.
- Comórtas "luimneach" a reáchtáil agus ansin plaiceanna a chrochadh de na "luimnigh" ar shráideanna éagsúla ar fud na cathrach.
- Go n-eagrófaí comórtas ealaíne do mheánscoileanna faoin téama "Taking Pride in Limerick".
- Deontais a cheadú do 2005 faoin Acht Ealaíon, deontais ar fiú €11,500 iad.

Service Indicators

Táscairí Seirbhíse

SERVICE INDICATORS

A & C: Arts and Cultural Services

A & C.1 Arts Grants

- number of arts grants paid

- total value of arts grants paid per 1,000 population

CP: Community Participation and Cooperation – Your Local Authority

CP.1 Percentage of local schools involved in the local Youth

Council/Comhairle na n-Og scheme

2005 2004 2003

32 30

2989 3562.40

67

C: Corporate Issues

C.1 Percentage of working days lost to sickness absence

C.2 Expenditure on Training and Development as a percentage of total payroll costs

4.506 5.48 6.39

3.7 3.66

E: Environmental Services

Water

E.2 Percentage of drinking water analysis results in compliance with statutory requirements with regard to Public Schemes

Waste Management

E.7 Household waste collected which is sent for recycling

- tonnage

- percentage of household waste collected

E.8 Household waste collected which is sent to landfill

- tonnage

- percentage of household waste collected

99.13 99.2 98.24

3592 18.8

14.00 18.8

11212 81.20

42.00 81.20

Regional facility in Limerick uses the Mechanical Biological Treatment which has a high rate of separation & segregation of waste which is diverted from landfill.

42.00 81.20

E.9 Recycling facilities

Glass

Number of Bring Sites

Number of Civic Amenity Sites

Total Number of Facilities

Number of locations per 5000 of population

Tonnage of waste collected for recycling per 5000 of population

16 15

1 1

17 16

1.57 1.45

68.66 54

CANS

Number of Bring Sites

Number of Civic Amenity Sites

Total Number of Facilities

19 18

1 1

20 19

Number of locations per 5000 of population	1.85	1.73
Tonnage of waste collected for recycling per 5000 of population	2.948	2

TEXTILES

Number of Bring Sites	7	0
Number of Civic Amenity Sites	1	1
Total Number of Facilities	8	1
Number of locations per 5000 of population	0.74	0.1
Tonnage of waste collected for recycling per 5000 of population	1.566	1

BATTERIES

Number of Bring Sites	2	2
Number of Civic Amenity Sites	1	1
Total Number of Facilities	3	3
Number of locations per 5000 of population	0.27	0
Tonnage of waste collected for recycling per 5000 of population	0.6264	0.185

OILS

	2005	2004	2003
Number of Bring Sites	0	0	
Number of Civic Amenity Sites	1	1	
Total Number of Facilities	1	1	
Number of locations per 5000 of population	0.1	0.1	
Tonnage of waste collected for recycling per 5000 of population	0.655	0.5	

OTHERS

Number of Bring Sites	1	2
Number of Civic Amenity Sites	1	1
Total Number of Facilities	2	3
Number of Locations per 5000 of population	0.185	0.3

Bring Facility closed due to improper use by public		
Tonnage of waste collected for recycling per 5000 of population	18.28	70

LITTER PREVENTION AND ENVIRONMENTAL ENFORCEMENT

E.10 Litter – Number of Litter Wardens

Total number of full-time litter wardens	3	3
Total number of part-time litter wardens	2	0
Number of litter wardens (both full and part-time) per 5000 population	0.5	0.3
Number of on-the spot fines	797	544
Number of prosecution cases taken because of non-payment of on-the-spot fines	263	226
Number of prosecutions secured	66	111
Percentage of areas within the local authority that are		
- unpolluted (i.e. litter-free)	1.30	1.30
- slightly polluted with litter	37.66	37.66
- moderately polluted with litter	49.35	49.35
- significantly polluted with litter	10.39	10.39
- grossly polluted with litter	1.30	1.30

E.11 Environmental Complaints and Enforcement

- total number of cases subject to complaints concerning environmental pollution (relating to waste, litter, water pollution, noise pollution, air pollution)	1271	952
- number of complaints investigated	1141	952
- number of enforcement procedures taken	155	307

E.12 Percentage of Schools participating in environmental campaigns

- primary schools	53	53
- secondary schools	50	40

FIRE SERVICE**2005 2004 2003****E.3 Average time, in minutes, to mobilise fire brigades in**

- full time stations	1.72	1.52	1.41
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E.4 Percentage of attendances at scenes where

- first attendance is at scene within 10 minutes	92.24	90.95
- first attendance is at scene after 10 minutes but within 20 minutes	7.17	8.30
- first attendance is at scene after 20 minutes	0.59	0.75

E.5 Fire prevention – Total number of fire safety certificate applications

- received	128	121
- processed	123	103

H: HOUSING**2005 2004 2003****H.1 Housing Vacancies**

Total number of dwellings in local authority stock	3279	3223	3216
Overall % of dwellings that are let	95	93	93
Overall % of dwellings that are empty	5	7	7
% of empty dwellings subject to major refurbishment schemes	74	88	90
% of empty dwellings unavailable for letting	62	80	
% of empty dwellings available for letting	38	20	

H.2 Average time taken to relet dwellings available for letting (in weeks)

1 1

H.3 Number of repairs completed as a percentage of the number of valid repair requests received

80 74 88

H.4 Average time taken to inform applicants of local authority's decision on applications for:

- the shared ownership housing scheme (in days)	35	16
- housing loans schemes (in days)	35	23
- local authority housing (in days)	56	56

H.5 Traveller Accommodation

Total number of traveller families accommodated as a percentage of the targets set in the local traveller accommodation programme
Nil no. of units to be provided in 2005 as set out in Traveller Accommodation Plan 2004-2008

100 0

L: Library Services

2005 2004 2003

L.1 Public opening hours

- average number of opening hours per week for full-time libraries

40

L.2 Number of registered library members as a percentage of the local population

13.93

L.3 Number of items issued per head of population(county/city wide) for

(a) Books

3.153

3.20

2.92

(b) Other items

0.352

.30

.37

L.4 Percentage of libraries that offer Internet access to the public

100

L.5 Number of Internet sessions provided per 1,000 population

288.75

M: Motor Taxation

2005 2004 2003

M.1

Number of motor tax transactions which

- are dealt with over the counter

35534

- are dealt with by post

11060

- are dealt with in other ways (e.g. online, by telephone)

Supplied by VRU, entered by LGCSB

8914

Percentage of motor tax transactions which

- are dealt with over the counter

76.26

74

- are dealt with by post

23.74

26

26

- are dealt with in other ways (e.g. online, by telephone)

0

0

0

M.2

Number of postal applications which are dealt with

(i.e. disc/driver licence issued) from receipt of the application

(a) On the same day

5461

7913

(b) On the third day or less

5393

3668

(c) On the fifth day or less

404

172

(d) Over 5 days

250

45

% of overall postal applications which are dealt with

(i.e. disc/driver licence issued) from receipt of the application

(a) On the same day

47.45

67

57

(b) On the third day or less

48.86

31

41

(c) On the fifth day or less

3.51

1.50

2

(d) Over 5 days

2.18

0.50

0

M.3 public opening hours

- average number of opening hours per week	30	30	30
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P: Planning and Building Control**2005****2004****2003****P1 Planning Applications – Decision Making****INDIVIDUAL HOUSES**

No. of applications decided	13	36	
No. of decisions which were decided within 8 weeks	10		
No. of decisions which required the submission of further information	3		
No. of decisions where an extension of time was agreed by the applicant, under section 34(9) of the Planning and Development Act 2000	0		
Average length of time taken (in days) to decide a case where further information was sought	75	73.42	
% of grants	46.15	91.67	
% of refusals	53.85	8.33	
% of cases where the decision was confirmed, with or without variations, by An Bord Pleanala	80.00	66.67	
% of cases where the decision was reversed by An Bord Pleanala	20.00	33.33	

NEW HOUSING DEVELOPMENT

No. of applications decided	11	24	
No. of decisions which were decided within 8 weeks	4		
No. of decisions which required the submission of further information	7		
No. of decisions where an extension of time was agreed to by the applicant, under section 34(9) of the Planning and Development Act 2000	0		
Average length of time taken (in days) to decide a case where further information was sought	73	78.58	
% of grants	54.55	83.33	
% of refusals	45.45	16.67	
% of cases where the decision was confirmed, with or without variations, by An Bord Pleanala	100	77.78	
% of cases where the decision was reversed by an Bord Pleanala	0	22.22	

Other: NOT REQUIRING EIA

No. of applications decided	356	269	
No. of decisions which were decided within 8 weeks	227		
No. of decisions which required the submission of further information	129		
No. of decisions where an extension of time was agreed to by the applicant, under section 34(9) of the Planning and Development Act 2000	0		
Average length of time taken (in days) to decide a case where further information was sought	69	74.14	
% of grants	90.45	88.10	
% of refusals	9.55	11.90	
% of cases where the decision was confirmed, with or without variations, by An Bord Pleanala	66.67	81.25	
% of cases where the decision was reversed by An Bord Pleanala	33.33	18.75	

Other: REQUIRING EIA

No. of applications decided	1	0	
No. of decisions which were decided within 8 weeks	0		
No. of decisions which required the submission of further information	1	0	
No. of decisions where an extension of time was agreed to by the			

applicant, under section 34(9) of the Planning and Development Act 2000	0		
Average length of time taken (in days) to decide a case where further information was sought	72	0	
% of grants	100		
% of refusals	0	0	
% of cases where the decision was confirmed, with or without variations, by An Bord Pleanala	0		
% of cases where the decision was reversed by An Bord Pleanala	0	0	
	2005	2004	2003
P.2 Planning Enforcement 2005			
- total number of cases subject to complaints that are investigated	53	49	
- total number of cases subject to complaints that are dismissed	0	0	
- total number of cases subject to complaints that were resolved through negotiations	16		
- number of enforcement procedures taken through warning letters	37	45	
- number of enforcement procedures taken through enforcement notices	9	11	
- number of prosecutions	1	11	
P.3 Public opening hours			
- average number of opening hours per week	35	35	
P.4 Consultations			
Number of pre-planning consultation meetings held	150		
Average length of time (in days) from request for consultation with local authority planner to actual formal meeting for pre-planning consultation	10	10	
P.5 Buildings inspected as a percentage of new buildings notified to the local authority	31.82	41.48	
REC: RECREATIONAL SERVICES			
Rec.1 Number of children's playgrounds per 1,000 population			
- directly provided by the local authority	0.093	0.055	
- facilitated by the local authority	0.018	0.018	
Rec.2 Number of visitors to local authority facilitated swimming facilities per 1,000 population	2471.00		
Rev: Revenue Collection			
Rev.1 House Rent			
(a) Amount collected at year end as a percentage of amount due	88.04		
(b) Percentage of arrears			
(i) 4-6 weeks old	12.73		
(ii) 6-12 weeks old	9.46		
(iii) more than 12 weeks old	77.81		
Rev.2 Housing Loans			
(a) Amount collected at year end as a percentage of amount due	96.71		
(b) Percentage of arrears			
(i) 1 month old	10.06		
(ii) 2-3 months old	7.44		
(iii) more than 3 months old	82.49		
Rev.3 Commercial Rates			
Amount collected at year-end as a percentage of amount due	85.22		
Rev.5 Non-Domestic Water Charges			
Amount collected at year end as a percentage of amount due	77.54		

Property Management Bainistíocht Maoine

Property Management Section

The property management section manages Limerick City Council's property portfolio. This involves acquisition of property for various uses by Limerick City Council including houses for the housing stock, compulsory purchase orders for capital schemes and the acquisition of properties required by other Council departments. The section is also responsible for the sale of land and dealing with the freehold interests held on leased property.

During 2005 €4.9 million was generated from the sale of council lands. Eighteen properties were purchased for the housing stock and several CPO claims settled.

Management and maintenance of the Councils Property Register is also a responsibility of this section. The register contains details of all properties owned/leased by the City Council. During 2005 there was on going work of perfecting existing titles and registering them in the land registry.

The property management section works closely with the Planning and Economic Development section in trying to promote the City as a place for inward investment. During 2005 the section played an important role in preliminary negotiations for the proposed Opera Centre at Patrick Street / Michael Street. Monitoring of properties for sale and identifying other opportunities for key acquisitions is on going work in the section.

Rannóg na Bainistíochta Maoine

Bainistíonn an rannóg bainistíochta maoine portfóilió maoine Chomhairle Cathrach Luimnigh. Áiríonn sé seo maoín a fháil a bheidh in úsáid ag Comhairle Cathrach Luimnigh i mbealaí éagsúla, lena n-áirítear tithe don stoc tithíochta, orduithe ceannaigh éigeantacha do scéimeanna caipitiúla agus maoín a fháil a theastaíonn ó ranna eile na Comhairle. Tá an rannóg seo freagrach freisin as talamh a dhíol agus déileáil le leasanna ruíse ar mhaoín léasaithe.

I rith 2005 cruthaíodh €4.9 milliún ó thalamh de chuid na comhairle a dhíol. Ceannaíodh 18 teach don stoc tithíochta agus socraíodh roinnt éileamh Orduithe Ceannaigh Éigeantacha.

Freagracht eile atá ar an rannóg seo is ea Clár Maoine na Comhairle a bhainistiú agus a chothabháil. Tá sonraí na maoine uile faoi úinéireacht/léasaithe ag an gComhairle Cathrach le fáil sa chlár. I rith 2005 bhí obair leanúnach ar siúl ar theidil reatha a chur ina gceart agus iad a chlárú i gclárlann na talún.

Oibríonn an rannóg bainistíochta maoine i gcomhar leis an rannóg um Fhorbairt Phleanála agus Eacnamaíoch mar iarracht an Chathair a chur chun cinn mar áit a mheallann infheistíocht ón taobh amuigh. I rith 2005 bhí ról tábhachtach ag an rannóg sna hidirbheartaíochtaí tosaigh don Ionad Ceoldrámaíochta atá beartaithe i Sráid Naomh Pádraig / Sráid Naomh Mícheál. Obair leanúnach don rannóg seo is ea monatóireacht a dhéanamh ar mhaoine atá le díol agus deiseanna a aithint maoine tábhachtacha a fháil.

Financial Statements

FOR YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2005

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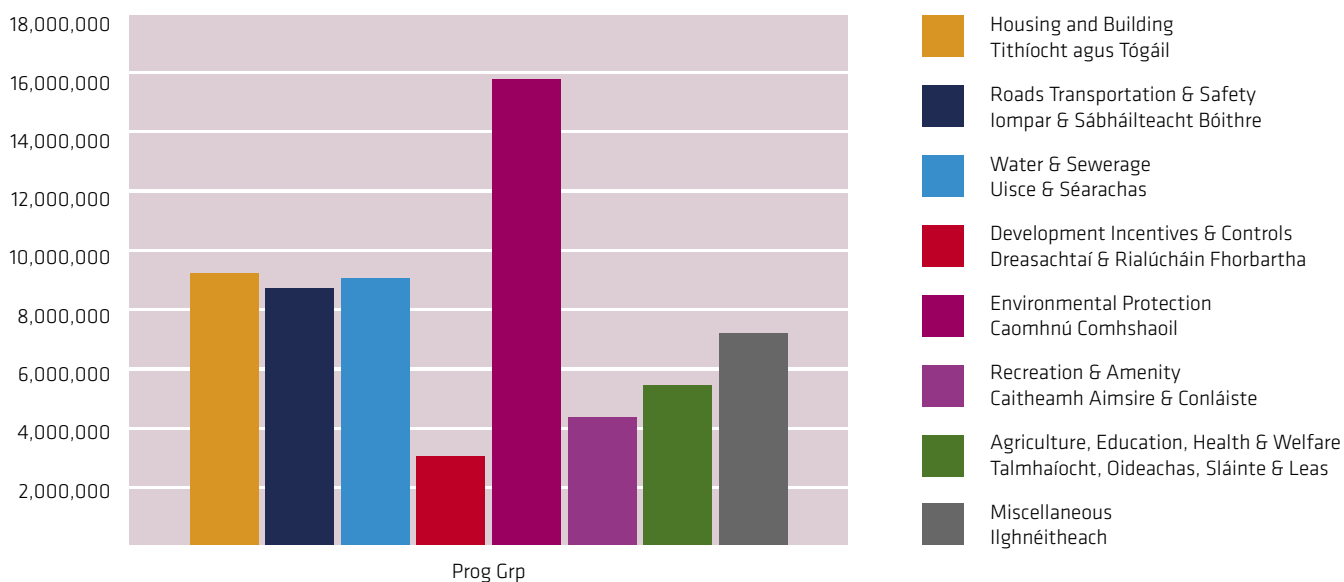
Ráitis Airgeadas

DON BHLIAN DAR CRÍOCH 31ú NOLLAIG 2005

Revenue Account Expenditure Statement for year ending 31st December 2005

	Gross Expenditure €	Gross Expenditure €
Expenditure by Programme Group	2005	2004
Housing & Building	8,904,909	8,517,163
Roads Transportation & Safety	8,571,146	7,876,217
Water & Sewerage	8,885,619	6,894,295
Development Incentives & Controls	2,925,592	3,091,701
Environmental Protection	15,463,556	15,007,688
Recreation & Amenity	4,229,442	3,997,563
Agriculture, Education, Health & Welfare	5,243,201	4,722,782
Miscellaneous	6,909,282	6,764,232
Total Expenditure	61,132,747	56,871,641

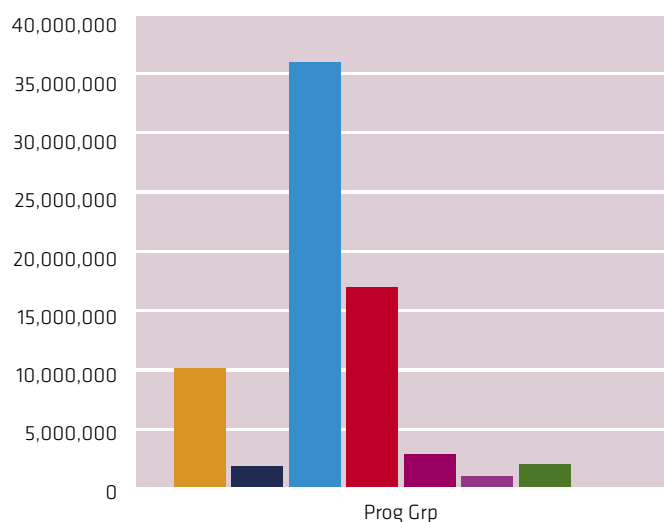
Revenue Account Expenditure Statement for year ending 31st December 2005



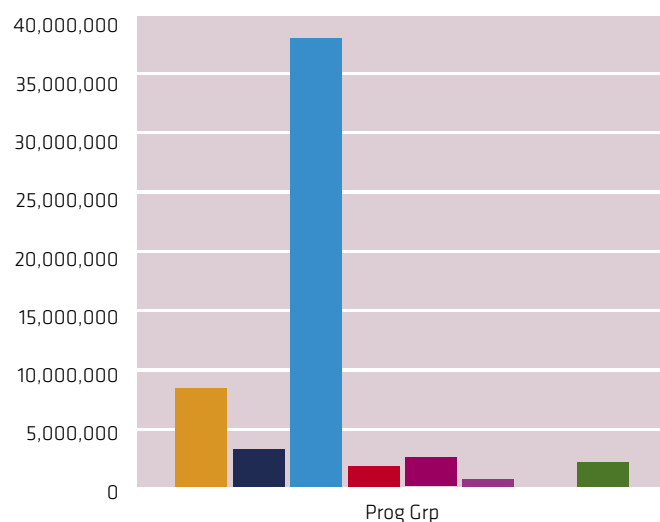
SUMMARY OF CAPITAL PAYMENTS AND RECEIPTS

	€	€
Payments (Net of Internal Transfers)*	2005	2004
Housing & Building	8,415,166	16,250,667
Roads Transportation & Safety	3,111,903	3,047,923
Water & Sewerage	38,075,399	34,854,643
Development Incentives & Controls	1,736,791	1,192,418
Environmental Protection	2,278,699	2,151,408
Recreation & Amenity	503,857	3,009,109
Agriculture, Education, Health & Welfare	0	0
Miscellaneous	1,802,645	1,890,790
Total Payments	55,924,460	62,369,958
Receipts (Net of Internal Transfers)*		
Housing & Building	11,232,061	14,133,148
Roads Transportation & Safety	1,874,396	1,912,577
Water & Sewerage	41,077,069	22,504,163
Development Incentives & Controls	18,874,234	14,855,280
Environmental Protection	2,740,358	2,201,141
Recreation & Amenity	403,840	1,679,500
Agriculture, Education, Health & Welfare	0	0
Miscellaneous	2,816,856	2,221,279
Total Receipts	79,018,814	59,507,088
Surplus\ (Deficit) for year	23,094,354	(2,889,870)
Balance (Debit)\Credit @ 1st January	(15,057,676)	(12,167,806)
Balance (Debit)\Credit @ 31 December	8,036,678	(15,057,676)

Capital Account Income



Capital Account Expenditure



Limerick City Council personnel retirements during 2005

Comhairle Chathair Luimnigh scor pearsanra i rith na bliana 2005

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Personnel Retirements during 2005

Robert Hickey, General Operative.
Michael Clohessy, General Operative.
Frank O'Halloran, General Operative.
John Brouder, General Operative.
Ger Markham, General Operative.
Leo McNamara, Carpenter.
Gerard Flynn, General Operative.
Noel Madigan, General Operative.
Anne Curley, Tutor.
Eddie Reynolds, Driver.
Clem Brosnahan, Fitter.
Michael Deegan, General Operative.
Gerard Cox, General Operative.
Terry Hickey, Firefighter.
Terry Reddan, Firefighter.
Michael Cantillon, Revenue Collector.
Rasa Rajendra, Resident Engineer.
John Slattery, Carpenter.
Geraldine McCarthy, School Warden.

Please remember the following staff who died in service:-

Kay Cregan, Administrative Officer.
Brendan O'Halloran, Firefighter.
Martin McGrath, General Operative.









Limerick City Council Comhairle Cathrach Luimnigh

City Hall, Limerick City, Ireland

Telephone / Uimhirtheil: +353 61 407 100

Fax / Facsimh: +353 61 415 266

Email: info@limerickcity.ie

www.limerickcity.ie