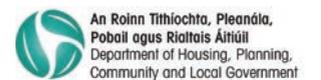




Review of the Limerick Regeneration Framework Implementation Plan

Delivering safe and sustainable communities



Review Presented by:	Limerick City and County Council in association with W2 Consulting
Status:	Final
Date:	November 2016
Key Authors:	
Review of Social Pillar:	Dr. Eileen Humphreys, Limerick City and County Council
Review of Economic Pillar:	Mark O'Connell, W2 Consulting
Review of Physical Pillar:	Sarah Newell, Limerick City and County Council
Reviewed By:	Carmel Kirby, A/Director of Service, Limerick City and County Council Seamus Hanrahan, Senior Project Manager, Limerick City and County Council
The Limerick Regeneration Framework Implementation Plan (LRFIP) Review was prepared under the direction of Carmel Kirby, A/Director of Service, Social Development Directorate, Limerick City and County Council.	

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Foreword

by **Kieran O' Hanlon,**
Mayor of Limerick City & County

It is my privilege to be Mayor of the great city and county of Limerick at this exciting point as we face the future with a growing confidence that this is our time.

There are still many challenges facing us – not least ensuring that the benefits of economic recovery are felt by all of our citizens following the fallout from the economic collapse. However, there is also an emerging positivity and a 'can do' attitude that means Limerick is set to take the opportunities that come our way but also to identify and pursue our own 'home-grown' opportunities.

We have seen that confident approach very vividly with the recent launch of our new strategic development company Limerick 2030 which is a bold statement of ambition and sets out how €500m will be invested in Limerick with more than 5,000 jobs to

be created as a result. We already see great grounds for confidence in some of the excellent investment projects that have been won for Limerick over the last three years.

For me, all of this economic activity is welcome – not as an end in itself or as growth for the sake of growth but because it generates the employment opportunities that our third level graduates and the wider Limerick population want and need. The economic upturn also supports investment in the type of social and physical infrastructure projects that make regeneration real in communities.

While one would always like to see more progress made more quickly, what has been achieved through the Limerick Regeneration Framework Implementation Plan to date and the clarity that now exists around the next steps in the journey is very



welcome and it is right that we pause at this stage in the Programme to reflect on that.

Better life experiences for people of all ages and backgrounds is the precious prize that's on offer when we talk about regeneration but there are also many positive spinoffs for Limerick in that we stand to be a more socially-inclusive place with even greater civic pride and an ever-growing sense that we are all fortunate to be part of the same Limerick team.

Foreword

by **Simon Coveney, Minister for Housing, Planning, Community and Local Government**

This review of the Limerick Regeneration Framework Implementation Plan provides a good opportunity to consider all that has been done and to map out the next steps so that the Programme delivers on its potential and meets the expectations of all stakeholders – most especially those who live and work in the regeneration areas.

In considering what has been achieved so far and looking ahead to the coming years, it is perhaps worth reflecting a little on how far Ireland has come in recent years in terms of economic recovery.

Unemployment is now at the lowest level we have seen since the economy collapsed in 2008. As recently as 2012, the number of our workforce on the Live Register was running at 15.1%. Last year, it fell below 9%. Similarly, the seasonally adjusted unemployment rate for August 2016 was 8.3%, down from 9.1% just 12 months earlier.

So, notwithstanding the volatile global economic climate and the uncertainty surrounding the UK's decision to leave the European Union, the Irish economy is growing and we are seeing that reflected in terms of business start-ups and in our continued strong performance in attracting foreign direct investment.

Limerick has already shown it is very well positioned to benefit from this and the progress tracked in this review suggests a real determination that all areas will enjoy the fruits of economic recovery.

The balanced approach whereby social, economic and physical regeneration are all advancing in tandem means that families and communities in Limerick's regeneration areas will have a chance to flourish and to be all that they can be. For me, regeneration is all about creating the type of positive environment where people can achieve their full potential –



whether that be measured in terms of educational attainment, economic activity and employment or having more positive social interactions.

Taken together with other initiatives and interventions, the objectives being delivered under this Plan will deliver an even stronger Limerick at the heart of the Midwest but also playing its full part in driving Ireland forward.

Foreword

by **Conn Murray, Chief Executive,
Limerick City & County Council**

As we enter the last quarter of 2016, it is timely that we review all that has been achieved to date under the Limerick Regeneration Framework Implementation Plan and benchmark progress against our ambitions when the Plan was adopted by Council in early 2014.

Two years into the adopted plan, it is encouraging to see what has been delivered but also to consider the work that's underway on the next wave of transformation.

There is still a considerable journey to travel. The physical regeneration programme has accelerated since the launch of the LRFIP. This momentum must be sustained to complete the rebuilding programme. Further work is required on delivering the ancillary services needed for sustainable communities and to attract private investment to these attractive strategic locations – all helping to rebuild these communities and integrate them into Limerick city.

Youth crime and young offending have reduced in the city. However, there is no room for complacency and 'lower level' nuisance crime and anti-social behaviour that negatively impacts on quality of life will require on-going action.

Where disadvantage persists, we must do all that is necessary to improve our communities. The rates of retention in education have improved with the help of social interventions and the efforts here need to continue. We will work with the local communities, the service providers and practitioners in the communities and the other public service organisations to take the learnings from this review and identify where we need to concentrate our resources in the next phase of regeneration.

Progress has been made and the time is now right to harness the social improvement and build on it to realise the economic opportunity that exists to grow sustainable communities.

While the investment in regeneration has provided employment and training opportunities, the challenge of unemployment still persists, impacting on the quality of life of residents in the regeneration areas. This next phase of regeneration will build on the successful social enterprise projects and

provide pathways to employment and create job opportunities - in particular for young unemployed people. As well as the direct opportunities from Limerick 2030, we will work with our colleagues across the public and private sector to prepare those currently out of work to take advantage of the indirect opportunities that will arise.

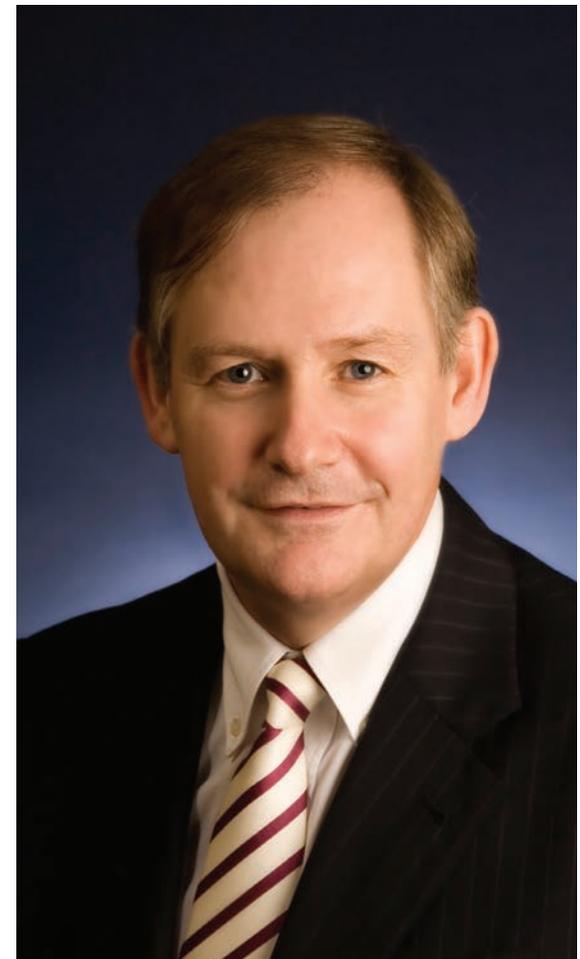
The regeneration programme is managed across three distinct work-streams covering social, economic and physical interventions. These three strands very much come together and progress made under any one of them will almost always support the other two. For example, as the physical environment improves in the regeneration areas, we see social dividends in terms of the quality of life that people enjoy and economic dividends in terms of increased investment and job creation.

This is very much a holistic approach and it is the joined-up, multi-agency thinking underpinning regeneration that has delivered the results achieved to date. While Limerick City and County Council as the local authority for Limerick is delighted to play a lead role in this regard, we are always aware that we could not achieve the impact needed without close collaboration with others on the wider Limerick team.

Considerable credit is due to the community representatives who continue to champion their areas and strive to see their potential unlocked. I also want to acknowledge all of those from across the public and private sectors who continuously go the extra mile to deliver for Limerick.

The momentum and success achieved to date has been based on incredible teamwork in Limerick. While challenges remain, maintaining and building on that progress relies on continued collaboration and commitment.

**Conn Murray,
Chief Executive,
Limerick City & County Council.**



Executive Summary

Launched at Thomond Park in September 2013 and concentrated on Moyross, Southill, Ballinacurra Weston and St Mary's Park, the multi-agency Limerick Regeneration Framework Implementation Plan set out a vision for:

"Safe and sustainable communities of opportunity where people of all ages enjoy a good quality of life, a decent home and a sense of pride about their place. Well serviced and attractive neighbourhoods will be physically connected and fully integrated with the social, economic and cultural life of Limerick."

Recognising that no single aspect will be effective in delivering the change agenda for the regeneration areas, the Limerick Regeneration Framework Implementation Plan (LRFIP) integrates measures relating to the Physical, Social and Economic environment. It is underpinned by a number of cross-cutting priorities, namely: Community Participation and Empowerment, Policing Justice and Community Safety and a Whole of Government Approach.

The National Regeneration Programme is a priority from a social policy perspective and also in terms of job creation and economic renewal. The value placed on the National Regeneration Programme is explicitly recognised in both the Programme for Government and the Rebuilding Ireland – an Action Plan for Housing and Homelessness. It is the stated objective of the Department of Housing, Planning, Community and Local Government (DHPCLG) to ensure that regeneration is supported. The Programme continues to be an important part of the social housing response of the Government in targeting some of the country's most disadvantaged communities by addressing not just the physical environment, but also by investing in the social and economic regeneration of the areas. It is a holistic, multi-faceted approach which requires rigorous analysis to identify appropriate solutions and strategic planning that involves all of the relevant State Agencies and stakeholders.

While Limerick City and County Council is responsible for the day-to-day management and implementation of the LRFIP, the Plan is delivered through partnership-based structures involving the key stakeholders. Local Regeneration Committees operate in each of the regeneration communities to provide a forum for exchange of information and views to and from the regeneration communities. The finance for

implementing the plan is largely funded from public funding sources accessed from the Department of Housing, Planning, Community and Local Government together with mainstream funding from other Government departments, statutory agencies and philanthropic funding.

It is a stated objective of the LRFIP to continually review the plan and to measure and monitor change over time. The purpose of this report is to review the implementation of the LRFIP since its adoption in February 2014 and to map out the next steps in the implementation of the Programme.

Social Regeneration

Background

Social Interventions in the Limerick Regeneration areas to date have had a positive effect on the communities and helped pave the way for the large scale physical development that is now ramping up. Its overall focus has been and will continue to be on improving the quality of life of residents, improving health and well-being of the population, closing gaps in health with the average population, improving the social environment and safety on the estates, stabilising community life and supporting civic engagement in the community. It also seeks to address needs of the population so that they can access opportunities. This covers improved access to economic and social opportunities linked to preventive interventions in early years, interventions to improve attainment in education from the earliest stages and access to further education, training and work.'

The Social Intervention Fund

The LRFIP committed that: "A Social Intervention Fund will allow the Limerick City and County Council to resource projects in the regeneration areas that have a clear strategic value in helping advance the overall plan".

Under the Social Intervention Fund (SIF), €3 million is provided each year to Limerick City & County Council to support social and community projects. An additional €1 million is provided for economic regeneration projects. This additional investment comes from the Department of Housing, Planning, Community and Local Government (DHPCLG). SIF grant funding is allocated by Limerick City and County Council to support local projects.

The SIF operates via open calls for proposals with an independent assessment panel reviewing proposals to select those with the greatest potential.

Consistent with the thematic focus of the Social Pillar and its emphasis on people working together to deliver for the communities, projects are supported under the following themes:

- Education & Learning;
- Health & Wellbeing;
- Ageing Well;
- Employability & Work;
- Families & Youth at Risk and;
- Community Participation & Empowerment.

Expected outcomes and impact of the social regeneration

The review of the outcomes of SIF interventions is based on selected result indicators included in the LRFIP. Reflecting the broad scope of the social regeneration programme, outcomes sought include: improved educational attainment; reduced absenteeism at school and in other more intensive programmes of support; re-integration of adults and young people at risk of early school leaving into education and learning; improved mental health and well-being; improved employability and access to employment; stronger community engagement; and improved image of regeneration areas.

The longer-term impact expected includes: improved connectivity of residents of regeneration areas into the mainstream social, cultural and economic life of the city; more stable, cohesive and safer communities; and reduced social inequality reflecting a narrowing of the gap between those living in regeneration areas and the average population of Limerick based on a number of key metrics (e.g., educational attainment, health status and unemployment rates).

Children's Programme Innovation and Development Fund

A further source of funding for interventions under the Social Pillar of the LRFIP was the Children's Programme Innovation and Development Fund (PIDF). Additional funding (€2.246 million) was provided by Atlantic Philanthropies, the government and University of Limerick for innovative actions targeting our most disadvantaged communities, especially the regeneration areas. The Children's PIDF was coordinated by the Limerick Children and Young People's Services Committee (CYPSC). Initiatives supported under this programme included a parenting strategy (Parenting Limerick) and a parent support programme; training and support for embedding Restorative Practices in schools and community settings; a programme of preventive and early intervention services for young children (from birth to six years) on the southside of the city delivered in the community (StartRight Community Wraparound); a programme of continued professional development for teachers in all DEIS primary schools in the city in literacy and oral language instruction; an intervention to support speech and language development in young children on the northside of the city (Little Voices) and support for the design of

services to create a full service extended school model in the new Le Chéile school campus on the southside of the city.

Social Intervention Fund: The Numbers

Seventy-eight (78) projects received a grant of €10k or more through the Fund in 2014. This is the sample of projects on which this review is based. It represents over 90% of the total funding allocated by the SIF in 2014. Of those 78 projects receiving €10k or more in 2014, 54 of them were also funded in 2013 and 39 in 2012. As such, the review includes a core group of projects funded on a multi-annual basis.

The total amount invested and spent under the Social Intervention Fund in the sample of projects covered by the review from 2012-2014 was over €9.37m which leveraged a further €29.92m of funding from other sources. The latter sources included special allocations in 2014 when Limerick held the title of National City of Culture and hosted the Special Olympics Ireland Games, taking the total investment covered by the review to over €39m.

The projects benefitting from the SIF involve significant numbers of staff and volunteers in the delivery of the interventions. In 2014, there were 332 paid staff and 460 people on temporary employment schemes engaged in implementation of the 78 supported projects.

The number of volunteers involved in the organisations supported by the SIF was 1,055 in 2013 and 6,330 in 2014 with the latter figure boosted by the huge voluntary efforts in support of National City of Culture and Special Olympics Ireland Games.

The reach of the projects supported by the SIF is reflected in projects such as Incredible Years, a parenting programme that has involved training of crèche staff, teachers, public health nurses and family support workers to deliver the programme as well as direct support to parents. Between 2012 and 2014, 371 participants working in services to children and families were trained to deliver Incredible Years. In the same period, over 2,000 parents participated in the programme. In surveys with parents and teachers, a significant number report positive impacts from the programme on emotional well-being and behaviour of children.

Recognising that the greatest long-term impact and return on investment is achieved by reaching people at a young age and before the onset of serious problems, much of the SIF's resources were deployed on interventions for children and young people. This group represented 56% of participants in 2014 with 39% of those who benefited aged 12 years or under. With additional support from the SIF, a range of broader support services are now provided from community centres and hubs in or adjacent to the regeneration areas. Types of services offered at the community centres or "hubs" include:

- out of school activities for children and young people including sport and childcare facilities;
- computer classes and other educational opportunities for adults;
- services for older people including meals, social care, recreation and health;
- legal advice and mediation services;
- urban gardens;
- Social enterprises;
- CCTV monitoring.

In 2014, 16,871 participants were supported with intensive actions – typically in a one-to-one or small group setting - across 47 projects.

Social Intervention Fund: Early Indicators Positive

It will be some time before the impact of the social pillar of regeneration can be fully established. When the full results of Census 2016 are available, it will be possible to get further insights into changes in the regeneration areas over the period 2011 to 2016. However, it is already possible to track initial progress and identify achievements.

For instance, 16 projects under Education & Learning reported improved educational attainment (children and young people at school or in alternative education provision) or qualification (adult learners); 14 projects reported improved school attendance and attendance at courses in further education and training. 11 projects presented quantitative evidence of improved attainment and improved attendance/reduced absenteeism.

Similarly, three initiatives report improved school-readiness among young children as they start primary school while five projects report positive results in supporting young people to re-engage with education having been at risk of early school-leaving or school exclusion.

Improved mental health and well-being was reported as a positive outcome of many projects (36), based mainly on qualitative information. A significant number of projects (24) reported reduced behavioural and emotional problems, mainly addressed to children and young people.

Employability and Work

Under Employability and Work, 254 participants in projects supported by the SIF were assisted into jobs, self-employment or starting their own business. 17 projects targeted improved employability with results here including increased confidence and skills and better alignment with the mainstream labour market. A further seven projects report positive results, supporting people to secure temporary employment as a key step towards longer-term work.

Across the five community enterprise centres in or adjacent to the regeneration areas, 415 jobs have been created including jobs on temporary employment schemes.

37 community projects report a positive impact on volunteering and improved community spirit has been reported by 25 projects. In addition, nine projects reported greater involvement with self-help and peer support groups with most of these supporting families and young people at risk.

Eight projects report an improved image for the regeneration areas with this reflected, for instance, in improved attitudes towards employing people from regeneration areas.

Evidence of changes in contextual conditions

Drawing on wider evidence of changes in contextual conditions, preliminary results from Census 2016 record an increase in the population of the city (the former boundary of the City Council area) between 2011 and 2016. However, the areas showing the strongest population decline in this period (and over the ten-year period from 2006 to 2016) are the regeneration areas of the city. While the population of Moyross have stabilised in the most recent period (2011 to 2016), population has continued to decline significantly in other regeneration areas particularly Southill and St. Mary's Park.

In terms of education indicators, in Limerick City, there has been a reduction in early school leaving and improved retention rates to Junior Cert (now almost 96% while the average for the state is 97%) and Leaving Cert (now 89% compared with 90% for the state as a whole). Improvements in Limerick City on these indicators reflect national trends but they also show a narrowing of the gap with the state averages in recent years. There has been an increase in the number of Leaving Certificate students from disadvantaged schools in the city – the DEIS schools (Delivering Equality of Opportunity in Schools) – progressing to third-level education. While the differences remain significant, there is evidence of narrowing the gap with the non-DEIS schools in the city between 2010 and 2014 ('though the gap increased again in the latest year, 2015).

Some of the greatest impacts from the wider Limerick Regeneration Programme were achieved from the interventions addressed to tackling crime and anti-social behaviour. In the Limerick Garda Division, the number of reported criminal offences and categories of offences typically associated with youth crime (disorderly conduct, theft of vehicles, criminal damage) decreased significantly over the period from 2007. The number of young offenders being prosecuted before the courts for Limerick and the wider sub-region has decreased significantly over the same period. It should be noted, however, that the decrease in young people before the courts is in keeping with wider national and international trends, reflecting a policy to avoid criminalising children (under 18s).

Conclusion

The Social Intervention Fund originated in a period of extremely constrained Exchequer funding. Given this background, it has been invaluable in supporting projects and activities that, in all likelihood, would not otherwise have been feasible.

Another key legacy of the Fund and the wider Limerick Regeneration process is improved cooperation and collaborative working across the array of agencies and bodies operating in the regeneration areas. There are examples where this has now extended to the private sector, in the Social Intervention Fund, in training and employment in the hospitality and catering industry. This is an excellent example of good practice, to support people out of welfare dependence into training and employment.

Key lessons from the Fund's implementation include the value of a preventive approach, especially in working with young people and families who can be diverted from poor outcomes, and the importance of tailoring interventions to particular circumstances rather than applying a 'one size fits all' approach. Changes need to be embedded so that there is not just a temporary improvement but sustained progress.

For 'hard to reach' groups such as young people and families at risk, outreach in local communities and activities centred on sport, recreation, music and cultural activities have proven to be strong attractors. The review report notes how "when they get involved in sport and music, other skills improve and so too does their self-esteem." Links between social interventions and community policing have also proved to be particularly effective.

There is scope for leveraging the draw of sport and music to embed other beneficial activities that might not otherwise attract the children and young people.

A further learning from the monitoring programme was the importance of systemic collection of data and documentation of actions and achievements so that results could be shared and best practice modelled elsewhere. This is challenging but also vital.

The delivery of an integrated approach to respond to the multi-dimensional nature of the social problems is a key focus of the Regeneration Programme.

Integration of activities within the pillars: Education & Learning; Health & Wellbeing; Ageing Well; Employability & Work; Families & Youth at Risk and Community Participation & Empowerment are crucial to effectiveness. It has been critically important to work to implement all activities across the social programme in a coordinated and integrated way in order to impact positively on the problems.

Economic Regeneration

A review of the economic pillar contained within the LRFIP was commissioned in July 2016.

An examination of the local economic environment provides a stark reminder of the challenge that exists, particularly in the regeneration areas. The ability to address unemployment and remains to the fore of all future economic development activity and central to the implementation of the economic strategy of the LRFIP. Encouragingly, unemployment levels across the city are falling. In July 2016, 10,271 persons were signing on the Live Register across Limerick city - a reduction of 10.1% on the same month in 2015.

Youth employment, however, remains a key issue to address. Youth unemployment rates in Limerick City are higher than the national average. In April 2016, persons under 25 years accounted for 1,215 (12.9%) of those signing on in the Limerick city office.

Limerick city has been identified as having the highest number of “unemployment blackspots” in the country. There were 81 such blackspots in the country in 2011 with 18 of these in Limerick and these having an average unemployment rate of 43% at that time.

Four out of the five worst unemployment blackspots in the country at that time (2011) were located in Limerick city. These are specifically within regeneration areas, namely; John’s A (St. Mary’s Park) - 57% unemployment rate; Galvone B (O’Malley Park and Keyes Park) - 55%; Ballynanty (Moyross/ Ballynanty) - 47% and Rathbane (Carew and Kincora Parks) - 47%.

A key contributing factor to supporting economic development is educational attainment. Early school leaving rates are particularly high in the regeneration areas with the proportion of the population who left school with just a primary education between two and three times higher than the national average.

At national level, the percentage of people with third level education is 31%. It is just 23% in Limerick city. Rates of participation in third level education are significantly lower in the regeneration communities. For example, 7% of the population in the Carew Park and Kincora Park areas of Southill have a third level education. The rate is lower still in the O’Malley Park and Keyes Park area of Southill (4%) while in St. Mary’s Park it is as low as 1%.

	2014			2015		
	Direct	Indirect	Total	Direct	Indirect	Total
Employment secured from Community Enterprise	505	40.4	545.4	484	38.72	522.72
Employment secured from Training & Skills	60	4.8	64.8	90	7.2	97.2
Employment secured from Enterprise Development	20	2.4	22.4	20	2.4	22.4
Employment secured through Strategic Projects	0	0	0	30	18	48
	585	47.6	632.6	624	66.32	690.32

Table I: Estimated Annual Employment Output (FTEs) – Roles aided by Limerick Regeneration Support

The contribution of funds from Limerick Regeneration to a range of community enterprise based projects has resulted in the sustainability of many programmes across all regeneration areas. The ability to attract investment from Limerick Regeneration has created additional training opportunities and the support to source materials and equipment that have been the catalyst for developing various labour activation programmes, particularly those provided in Community Enterprise Centres. It is this ability to work in partnership with other agencies and support local community enterprise centres that demonstrates the collective role required to support established programmes.

This level of complementarity with other agencies working in regeneration areas is a key enabler for supporting the employment pathway and labour activation programme participants' progression to full time employment. The employment figures detailed in Table I reflect the 2014 and 2015 employment figures across the various Community Enterprise and Area Centres within Limerick Regeneration. The presentation of this data illustrates the volume of participants within the structures that benefit from Limerick Regeneration's assistance and their ability to progress to employment. Over the course of the timeframe of the LRFIP it is estimated that 306 FTE roles have been created as a direct result of Limerick Regeneration funding. These roles are FTEs created as a result of the direct financial intervention of Limerick Regeneration across the areas of enterprise, training and jobs evolving from strategic projects. In addition to these roles the wider employment supported by Limerick Regeneration was 633 in 2014 rising to 690 in 2015.

The estimated employment figures in Table I also include individuals who progress to employment from training and skills based initiatives supported by Regeneration such as the Hospitality Education and Training Centre. The enterprise development figures reflect the number of people who have progressed to full time employment within the social enterprise structures from the various Community Enterprise Centres.

Direct employment income arising from these progressions is estimated based on the associated percentage of full-time job equivalents that have been generated through the support of Limerick Regeneration from the various labour activation programmes, enterprise supports and involvement with key strategic projects. The total employment income impact (indirect and direct) has grown from €9.5m to €12.2m between 2014 and 2015. The value of employment generated from participants who progressed from community enterprise was in excess of €6m per annum.

The total (direct and indirect) employment gains projected over the next three-year period (to 2019) is estimated to be 1,775, excluding labour activation programmes and community enterprise supported roles. It is estimated that 450 new direct roles per annum will be created in Limerick as a result of LRFIP supported initiatives.

The investment by Limerick Regeneration continues to create training and employment opportunities for residents of regeneration areas. The projected impact of the investment into the Biblical Centre: Production and Digital Skills Academy is designed to have a direct impact on residents of regeneration areas. Based on the guaranteed allocation of training places to residents of regeneration areas and the ability to convert long-term unemployed and create new employment pathways, it is estimated that over €7m in employment income can be generated. This estimate is based on a medium to longer term view on 200 full-time job equivalents being generated from the 250 trainee places allocated to residents of Limerick regeneration areas.

Looking ahead, the acquisition of a number of key sites across the city will be central to employment creation and the growth of additional sector-specific training and upskilling opportunities. Access to the Galvone Industrial Estate from Childers Road will be an important development to enhance the commercial appeal of the area. The successful marketing of additional development sites across the regeneration areas will be contingent on securing funds for the development of supporting road infrastructure such as the Southern Link Road from the M7 and the Northern Distributor Road.

There is evidence that the social enterprise sector is growing through the Community Enterprise Centres across the city. The development of a social enterprise hub in Southill at the former Fullflex building will provide a strong focal point for social enterprise activity while a comparable outlet is required for the Northside Regeneration area.

The development of a co-ordinated social enterprise focus should become the conduit for industry involvement across the economic development planning for the regeneration areas while there is also considerable scope to leverage corporate social responsibility (CSR) programmes, especially at some of Limerick's multinationals. The emergence of Limerick for IT and Limerick for Engineering combined with the new Food Strategy for Limerick 2016-2018 (Limerick City & County Council) and proposed Sport Industry Cluster now provide a number of focal points to allow for meaningful engagement and for the opening of channels of communications between the private sector and community and social enterprise. The development of a co-ordinated social enterprise focus should become the conduit for industry involvement across the economic development planning for Limerick Regeneration.

Enterprise development has been facilitated by the Local Enterprise Office, Paul Partnership through the SICAP programme and through the support of Community Enterprise Centres. The economic climate in the period since the launch of the LRFIP has restricted the scope for providing any significant level of finance for start-ups. The limited access to funding streams has seen an increased focus on business planning, mentoring and training supports. The momentum behind the social enterprise economy will present new opportunities for consideration.

The investment in the Innovation Hub in the LEDP Roxboro provides a focus for attracting large scale employment for the area. The success of the LEDP site as an enterprise base and employment generator provides an outlet for employment generation on the southside of the city contributing to the economic profile of the area.

Since the launch of the LRFIP there have been limited opportunities around the construction industry. More recently, demand for construction workers and trades has increased. The Limerick and Clare Education and Training Board (LCETB) have developed a range of programmes to address the need for upskilling and provide formal qualifications through initiatives such as the Recognition for Prior Learning programmes. Additional training opportunities are now available through the broadened Apprenticeship programme and the Career Traineeship programme providing a mix of training and work experience. Occupational Skills Profiling in conjunction with industry partners is also contributing to ensuring key skills gaps in the area of construction are addressed in future training provision.

Conclusion

The LRFIP was launched at a time of ongoing deep economic recession which mitigated against more rapid progress for certain elements of the plan. However, the recent launch of Limerick 2030, An Economic & Spatial Plan for Limerick, has added further impetus to the economic development focus for the city.

The focus needs to remain on job creation and ensuring pathways to employment meet the requirements of candidates and employers alike. The economic operating environment and levels of educational attainment provide evidence of the challenge that exists. There is clearly momentum behind economic development in the city combined with multi-agency successes that provide the learning for future projects and continued progress.

The key economic development challenge is to address inter-generational and youth unemployment across regeneration areas.

The development of key infrastructural projects such as the Northern Distributor Road, Southern Link Road from the M7 and access to Galvone Industrial Estate from Childer's Road will be instrumental in opening up new economic development areas that will have an immediate impact on the surrounding regeneration areas.

A dedicated resource for economic development in regeneration areas should be examined to provide a focal point for Community Enterprise, Agencies and the private sector.

The next phase of economic development to meet the objectives of the Limerick Regeneration Framework Implementation Plan should concentrate primarily on:

1. Young people - Priority focus on youth unemployment;
2. Economic development projects of scale - Focus on projects of scale that will become city wide catalysts for economic development aligned with the Limerick 2030 strategy. The proposed Social Enterprise Hub can provide a project of scale that can become a training, enterprise and job creation catalyst. The two district centres within the Regeneration areas require a new enterprise focus;

3. Sector-focused skills development - Skills training approach to support economic focus on sectors of strength and growth opportunities;
4. Private sector - Create platforms for increased levels of private sector engagement in enterprise, training, work experience and employment development. Establish a CSR working group with established channels such as Limerick for IT and Limerick for Engineering as potential pilot programmes that can provide a meaningful private sector engagement around training, job placement, mentoring and skills development;
5. Training centres – replicate the successful model employed for the Hospitality Education & Training Centre for economic sectors with growth potential through inter-agency collaboration and private sector involvement;
6. Social contracts clause – develop an increased focus on the monitoring and stewardship of the social contracts clause.

The continued investment into social interventions and the collective partnership approach to training and skills development combined with Limerick City and County Council's economic development activity has resulted in a new wave of economic momentum. The economic pillar realistically cannot operate separately to the social and educational strategy of Limerick Regeneration, highlighting the integrated approach that is required for success. The progress that has been made across the areas of social interventions suggest the time is now right to harness this social regeneration activity and build on it to realise the economic opportunity for sustainable Regeneration communities.

Physical Regeneration

This Executive Summary sets out a review of the key indicators relating to the 'Housing and the Physical Environment' theme contained within the monitoring framework of the adopted Limerick Regeneration Framework Implementation Plan (2014). A review from February 2015 to February 2016 is presented identifying indicators that are:

- Performing well;
- Under performing;
- Where there is no data available/monitoring to be developed.

A summary of the performance of key highlighted indicators is set out below:

Increased house prices

Performing Well - Objective being met/Objectives met

The key trends emerging in all of the regeneration areas show median house sale prices increasing from 2012 onwards. However, the regeneration areas remain a low value market with clear indications of significant price gaps when compared to the city median house sale price average. There is a notable increase in house sales transactions in the period from 2015 to 2016 and in the future the outward mobility of households from the regeneration areas requires tracking against inward mobility.

Increased new residential development within a sustainable catchment of services and facilities (800m - 10mins walk)

Performing Well - Objective being met/Objectives met

Significant progress has been made by February 2016 (16 new-build, 39 thermal upgrades/refurbishment projects) relating to the objective to promote increased residential development (new-build and refurbishment) within a suitable catchment of services and facilities. The following provides a breakdown of the key projects by type and stage up to February 2016:

New-Build

- 108 new housing units delivered under the regeneration programme (Colivet Court, Cliona Park, Waller's Well, Vizes Court)
- 12 units under construction
- 232 units are at detailed design stage/design stage
- 90 units with preliminary approval

Thermal Upgrade Programme

- 278 units thermally upgraded
- 388 units are currently on site or in preparation and due to be completed by the end of 2016.

Long Term Voids

- A total of 88 long term voids have been scheduled for refurbishment from February 2014 to February 2016 with 60 no. units completed and 28 units at construction stage during this period. This marks a significant and positive increase in Limerick City and County Council's commitment to returning vacant units to productive use.

For the purposes of this indicator, information before and after the monitoring period (i.e., February 2015-February 2016) is included below to provide a more complete picture of delivery under the housing, thermal upgrade programme and long term void programmes in the regeneration areas from 2014 up to September 2016. The overall figures under these programmes are as follows:

New-Build

- 110 new housing units delivered under the regeneration programme (e.g., Colivet Court, Cliona Park, Waller's Well, Vizes Court, Cliona Park gap site);
- 131 units under construction;
- 273 units are at detailed design stage/design stage;
- 50 units with preliminary approval.

Thermal Upgrade Programme

- 278 units thermally upgraded;
- 640 units are currently on site or in preparation (e.g., condition and other surveys are underway).

Long Term Voids

- An overall total of 127 long term voids have been scheduled from 2014 up to the end of September 2016 for full refurbishment with 92 units complete during this period with a further 35 units currently under construction.

Increased rate of completed retail, office and community related uses in regeneration areas

Performing Well - Objective being met/Objectives met

The permissions secured and currently seeking approvals in the regeneration areas show a general upward trend in activity from 2012 to February 2016.

Of particular note is Southill, where there have been a range of planning applications related to a mix of uses including recreational, education, light industrial, office and retail use. There has been an increase in planning applications in the Galvone Industrial Estate providing an increase in floorspace related to the Greentech sector in particular. The LEDP in Roxboro has implemented a change of use application from manufacturing to office use to facilitate the creation of an Innovation Hub. Elsewhere in Ballinacurra Weston, Lidl Ireland have lodged a planning application for the demolition of the existing Discount Foodstore unit and disused bulky goods retail unit (former Chadwicks Builders Providers) to create a new and expanded foodstore.

Decreased level of vacant floorspace units in regeneration areas

Underperforming - Objective not being met i.e. No sign of improvement compared to the baseline or objective has not commenced

The presence of vacant units over a period of time can identify potential weaknesses in a particular area, whether due to locational criteria, high rent levels or strong competition from other centres. Roxboro Shopping Centre and the Galvone Industrial Estate, Southill are still exhibiting significant upward trends in vacancy rates. In Southill, the presence of vacant industrial, commercial and retail units has increased significantly from 3320m² in February 2015 to 15656m² (by +371%) in February 2016. In Moyross, there is a significant increase in the commercial/retail vacancy rate from 700m² in 2015 to 2,985m² in February 2016 (+326%). Eurospar and the post-office unit in Watch House Cross, Moyross closed in April, 2015 citing "the very challenging trading environment" for its immediate cessation.

Increased level of functional active and passive public open space within 800m of regeneration areas

Performing Well - Objective being met/Objectives met

One of the LRFIP's key objectives is to improve the visual appearance of the regeneration areas to tackle large areas of functionless and neglected public open space and to tackle issues such as fly-tipping, joyriding and graffiti. 18 projects are currently underway in regeneration areas and through the continued delivery of replacement social housing schemes and key environmental improvement projects, the existing physical environment of all of the regeneration areas will significantly improve. Approval will be sought by

Q4 2016 for major public realm upgrade works to both St. Mary's Park and Ballinacurra Weston. Key projects completed to date include:

- St. Mary's Park Remediation Project: Elimination of the historical landfill and remediation of approximately 15,000m² of contaminated land.
- A programme of works to eradicate Japanese Knotweed: 10 sites have been identified from July 2015 to February 2016 with treatment underway. The prevalence of invasive species in key regeneration sites can place a moratorium on development for up to 3 years whilst undergoing remediation.
- New pedestrian connection to our Lady of Lourdes Church and landscaping works (weeding, grass seeding and painting of boundary walls) complete.
- Environmental Improvements at the Galvone Industrial Estate along the Childer's Road.
- Scrub and vegetation clearance at the Orchard site and also to sites at Bridge Street and Gaol lane.
- Site clearance of rubbish, vegetation, scrub and contaminated soil at Parade Park (site opposite King John's Castle) in preparation for a new public park.
- Vegetation clearance to the rear of Our Lady of Lourdes Community Centre.

Increased level of active play facilities for those under the age of 15 within 800m of regeneration area

Performing Well - Objective being met/Objectives met
Delivering new play spaces is a key priority for the Limerick City and County Council for all 4 regeneration areas over the next 2 years with local areas of play identified in the Cosgrave Park scheme in Moyross and the Churchfield scheme in Southill. Limerick City and County Council are consulting with local communities providing leveraging-in funding and project steering for delivering local areas of play in St. Mary's Park and Ballinacurra Weston. Capital appraisals are being submitted to the DoHPCLG for approval in Q4 2016.

Increased level of reused existing buildings

Performing Well - Objective being met/Objectives met
Significant progress (approximately 13 projects) has been made over the past year in returning buildings to productive use through the development of initial preliminary Capital Appraisals to appointing contractors for refurbishment. The buildings within the ownership of Limerick City

and County Council include 24, 25, 26, 27 and 35 Nicholas Street, and the 'Fireplace Site' (nos. 36-39). Over €800,000 euros has been invested by the Limerick City and County Council in the stabilisation works to the Opera Centre site which addressed key issues to ensure sustainable re-use of these buildings including weatherproofing and stabilisation work to parapet walls at roof level and building facades. Significant funding of €3 million for the redevelopment and refurbishment of the Moyross Community Enterprise Centre (MCEC) was announced in September 2015 and this project is currently at detailed design stage. The official opening of the Moyross AFC player facilities, adjacent to the MCEC, which underwent refurbishment, also took place in September 2015.

Increased number of connections from the regeneration areas to the wider community

Performing Well - Objective being met/Objectives met
Progress (approximately 30 projects) has been made over the past year in increasing connections to the wider community. The lack of connectivity has been, and continues to be, a major contributing factor to the underperformance of the regeneration areas. The following key connections being progressed are as follows:

- Moyross: Coonagh-Knockalisheen Road: Documentation is underway with tenders for the advanced groundworks will be sought in Q3 2016.
- 46A and 45 A Cloncannane Road at the interface of Moyross and Ballynanty: Progressing to Part 8 Planning Application Stage.
- St. Mary's Park: Acquisition of Thomond Weir by LCCC in 2015 to improve connectivity. Tenders received for structural consultants.
- Southill: Connection from Roxboro roundabout (through the 'Galvone Arms' site) to the heart of Southill at Southill Area Centre is being part-progressed as part of Part 8 Planning Application for the Churchfield site.

A number of key connections have been completed as follows:

- In Moyross, the delivery of strategic link and new school entrance from St.Nessans school to Cliona Park.
- In Ballinacurra Weston, the removal of the community wall to the side of the Church at Hyde Avenue was completed to allow for physical and visual access.

- A new pedestrian connection was constructed between the Church car-park and Crecora Avenue in Ballinacurra Weston.
- Removal of rock armoury in Ballinacurra Weston at Weston Gardens to provide for a visual connection and facilitate a safe turning area for cars.

Increased level of diverse and high quality architectural design

Performing Well - Objective being met/Objectives met
Resident involvement, through the local regeneration structures, are at the heart of the design and consultation process for all plans and projects relating to the regeneration programme. In relation to housing projects, we continue to undertake informal pre-planning consultation with the residents committees for each of the 4 regeneration areas prior to lodgement of a formal Part 8 Planning Application. The plans and projects relating to the Limerick Regeneration programme are delivering awards, commendations and shortlistings each year for their successful and innovative strategies and ingenuity.

The housing schemes to date have won a total of 3 architectural awards (ICSH Awards 2013 and 2015/RIAI Best Housing 2014). Furthermore, the plans related to the delivery of the regeneration programme have won 2 planning awards ('Special Commendations' at the IPI National Planning Awards 2016).

In addition, Limerick City and County Council are continuing their proactive approach in raising the awareness and profile of the regeneration areas with events such as the Open House Limerick, Culture Night and Heritage Week to assist in the process of promoting a better understanding and breaking down barriers. It is the intention that this trend increases as more schemes and projects are delivered into the future.

Increased use of public transport/walking and cycling

Performing Well - Objective being met/Objectives met
Progress continues to be made in terms of sustainable transport. Key investment in the delivery of projects (capital and educational investment) for walking and cycling, along with other public transport improvements, as part of the Limerick Smarter Travel Schools Project and investment in improved placemaking (improved public realm, public lighting upgrades and planting) as part of the Limerick Regeneration Programme, are helping to achieve a

modal shift. Key positive trends include:

- Le Cheile School saw an increase in 'carpooling to school' measured against the baseline figures (2014) from 28.6% in 2014 to 40% in November 2015. Measured from the 2014 baseline, preference for cycling increased from 41.7% to 44.8%. Similarly, an increase in the use of high-viz vests increased from 22.2% to 28.4%
- Our Lady Queen of Peace School saw an increase in 'walking to school' measured against the baseline figures (June 2014) from 26% in 2014 to over 49% in June 2015. Measured from the 2014 baseline, carpooling increased from 17% (June 2014) to 31.3% in June 2015. Similarly, an increase in owning a bicycle increased from 79% (June 2014) to 89.9% in June 2015.

Increased delivery of cycleways/cycle lanes

Performing Well - Objective being met/Objectives met
To date, a total length of approximately 1900m² of cycle lanes are being delivered/planned as part of 5 no. replacement housing. In addition, the Roxborough Road – City Centre Design Study anticipates the delivery of approximately 4km in length (2km either side of carriageway) of dedicated and segregated cycle lanes into the city-centre.

Decreased level of level of carbon dioxide emissions

Performing Well - Objective being met/Objectives met
An analysis was undertaken related to the thermal upgrade programme from 2013 to February 2016 to establish the actual and projected annual carbon savings secured. The total carbon dioxide savings sees a reduction of approximately 63% to the beginning of February 2016.

Increased mix of dwellings by tenure (owner-occupied, local authority tenanted, voluntary, etc.)

Performing Well - Objective being met/Objectives met
It is an objective of the LRFIP to create balanced and sustainable communities, with a wide range of incomes and household types representing a cross section of society in line with national, regional and local social and housing policy. A diversity in tenure mix is both an important objective and intended consequence of the regeneration programme. For this reason, Limerick City and County Council will continue to promote and attract new residents into the regeneration areas through a mix of social, intermediate (affordable) and private tenure types. Progress has been made from 2012 to date in

rebalancing the tenure mix of the regeneration areas. However, it should be noted that tenure patterns are in a state of flux as the regeneration programme is being implemented with voids coming back into occupied reuse and the demolition programme progressing. In addition, a number of properties in the regeneration areas are being made available for sale through the private market and are being purchased, as is evident from the property price register. Once the reconfiguration and stabilisation of the estates are complete, the areas will gradually become more attractive for private investors and development, repopulating the areas to provide the critical mass to sustain and provide for additional services. Over the next few years it is hoped that the tenure balance will continue to improve from the baseline recorded as tenants can opt to buy their dwellings from the Local Authority Tenure through the Tenant (Incremental) Purchase Scheme which was launched in January 2016.

Decreased level of dwellings that are vacant

Performing Well - Objective being met/Objectives met
Low demand in a regeneration area is manifested through void properties. From 2012 to 2016 there is a clear trend emerging with an overall reduction in void properties within the overall housing stock. A total of 88 long term voids have been identified for refurbishment from February 2014 to February 2016 with 60 no. units completed and 28 units at construction stage during this period. This marks a significant and positive increase in Limerick City and County Council's commitment to returning vacant units to productive use.

Limerick City and County Council will continue to tackle void housing by a series of integrated interventions to improve the overall desirability of the regeneration areas, as follows:

- Demolition in scheduled areas as outlined in the adopted LRFIP;
- Reshaping the range and type of void properties through refurbishment and knock-throughs where applicable;
- Devising 'image management' strategies for estates in an effort to reduce stigmatisation and improve area desirability;
- Enhance the inter-agency pro-active approach being taken in relation to the management of housing stock in the regeneration areas, including the provision of tenancy support and

enforcement. This service will complement the social and economic regeneration programme;

- Encouraging greater tenure and tenant mix to improve area desirability;
- Non-housing physical improvements such as improved amenities, community facilities, schools and environmental improvements as well as the obvious new-build replacement housing are seen as crucial to increasing housing demand and reducing the prevalence of void properties.

Decreased number of local authority and private dwellings in the regeneration areas that fall below the BER rating 'C'

Performing Well - Objective being met/Objectives met
In summary, the area-wide refurbishment project which seeks the upgrade of approximately 1413 units over a 4-year period is on-target with approximately 47% (666 units) of the overall units complete, on site or in preparation by February 2016. 278 units have been thermally upgraded up to February 2016 and are reaching a BER rating of C. A further 388 units are currently on site or in preparation and due to be completed by the end of 2016 with a target BER rating of C.

Increased number of specialist units (elderly housing, single person units) to meet existing and future demographics of the regeneration areas

Performing Well - Objective being met/Objectives met
Each scheme proposed in terms of its unit mix is assessed against a combination of local knowledge on existing and emerging need and existing housing need profiles as set out in the CSO small area population statistics data in the LRFIP. It is recommended that cognisance should be given to the fact that the current measurement of dwelling need represents a current picture in time. It would be prudent to plan for the 'housing career' or housing progression of local authority tenants over time with co-habiting couples progressing to couples with children requiring larger family type units and thus justifying the need for 3 or 4 bedroom housing types. Similarly, older couples living in larger family unit types who wish to downsize to smaller one or two bedroom housing types with their existing neighbourhoods should be planned for accordingly. In this regard, the Limerick City and County Council Housing Allocations Policy facilitates age-friendly downsizing transfers to meet the housing needs of older people within the regeneration areas.

Up to February 2016, the regeneration programme has funded and delivered a total of 85 elderly housing units at the following locations:

- City-Centre: Vizes Court, Phase 2: 29 units
- Southill: Colivet Court, Southill: 35 units
- Moyross: Cliona Park, Phase 1: 21 units

The Lord Edward Street scheme, currently under construction (as at September 2016) will deliver 81 housing units, 58 of which will be houses and apartments for the elderly in addition to a retail/commercial unit and a community facility with a function room, exhibition area, meeting rooms and other facilities. The scheme is due for completion in Q3 2017.

Increased level of enhancement to areas of high landscape value e.g. by the River Shannon and Abbey River

Performing Well - Objective being met/Objectives met
Considerable investment to areas of high landscape value by the River Shannon and Abbey River is in progress. There is a close inter-relationship between landscape quality and the value of habitats. Areas of high landscape value by the river Shannon and Abbey river can also support many habitats and species of biodiversity value and as such significant investment has been earmarked to protect this natural asset as follows.

- The completion of the St. Mary's Park Remediation Project has eliminated the historical landfill and remediated approx. 15,000m² of contaminated land.
- A programme of work to eradicate Japanese Knotweed - 10 sites have been identified from July 2015 to February 2016. The prevalence of invasive species in key regeneration sites can place a moratorium on development for up to 3 years whilst undergoing remediation.
- Major improvements to the existing flood defence along Verdant Place, St. Mary's Park successfully obtained Part 8 Planning permission on the 29th February 2016.
- The progression of a strategic flood defence scheme at St. Mary's Park and King's Island will aim to mitigate flood risk.

Decreased level of vacant and derelict protected structures within the regeneration areas

Performing Well - Objective being met/Objectives met
Sixteen projects and plans have progressed in relation to the development of management plans and projects ensuring protection of the City's heritage of special historic, archaeological, architectural or artistic interest. These include:

- Opera Centre: Stabilisation works
- 7-8 Ellen Street: Stabilisation works
- Lord Edward Street: Scheme incorporates former Factory Buildings
- Turner Vinery: Progressing approval for reinstatement of ironmongery and glassworks
- Fireplace site: Analysis/remedial works underway to prepare a design brief
- Orchard Site: Approaching Part 8 Planning Application (incorporating the city wall)
- Gaol Lane: Approaching Part 8 Planning Application (incorporating Gaol wall).



Sarah Shine celebrating Soprano Catherine Hayes with a performance at 7 Patrick Street (part of the Opera Centre complex), as part of Culture Night 2015

the feet of a deer
on the heights.
nds for war, „
a bow of bronze
Champion & Olympic Champion



In 2016, Limerick City and County Council, with the support of the Department of Housing, Planning, Community and Local Government (DHPCLG), purchased premises adjacent to St. Francis Boxing club - the club where former world champion Andy Lee honed his skills. The Regeneration Programme will now make the facility available to the club which caters for young boxers from across the city, from Moyross to Southill.

Conclusion

The implementation of the regeneration programme is subject to on-going monitoring, review and impact assessment for the whole period 2012-2015. As well as assessment of the individual pillars of the LRFIP – physical, economic and social – the impact of the integrated approach across the three pillars is also being reviewed. An important objective is to promote learning so that “what works” can be embedded in local programmes and mainstreamed. The work of the Local Strategic Advisory and Monitoring Group - involving representation of the community sector, the main statutory agencies, the local authority as well as the Department of Housing, Planning, Community and Local Government - has an important role in identifying priorities for future investments under the regeneration programme and promoting mainstreaming of best practice. This, in turn, will promote sustainability of the services needed to respond to the problems and opportunities, and the outcomes to be achieved for regeneration communities.



Queues awaiting entry to the Tait Open Day held in conjunction with Open House in Limerick July 2015



One of Tait Clothing Factory walks conducted as part of Tait Open Day

Part A

Part A - Review of the Social Pillar

- 1.0 Introduction and Overview
- 2.0 Implementation of the Social Intervention Fund: Analysis of inputs and outputs
- 3.0 Results Achieved
- 4.0 Conclusions and Recommendations

Selected References

Appendix I: List Of Projects Supported By
The Social Intervention Fund and Included In The Review

Glossary

AP	Atlantic Philanthropies
CAF	Common Assessment Framework
CAS	Common Application System (second level schools in Limerick)
CDP	Community Development Project
CE	Community Employment Scheme
CSO	Central Statistics Office
DCYA	Department of Children and Youth Affairs
DECLG	Department of Environment Community and Local Government
DHPCLG	Department of Housing Planning Community and Local Government
DES	Department of Education and Skills
DEIS	Delivering Equality of Opportunity in Schools
DSP	Department of Social Protection
FET	Further Education and Training
HSE	Health Services Executive
IY	Incredible Years
IYJS	Irish Youth Justice Service
JI	Job Initiative
LANS	Local Assessment of Needs System
LCCC	Limerick City and County Council
LCDC	Local Community Development Committee
LCEN	Limerick Community Education Network
LCETB	Limerick and Clare Education and Training Board
LEDP	Limerick Enterprise Development Partnership
LIT	Limerick Institute of Technology
LRFIP	Limerick Regeneration Framework Implementation Plan
PIDF	Programme Innovation Development Fund
PP	PAUL Partnership
SIF	Social Intervention Fund
SSIRL	Supporting Social Inclusion in Regeneration in Limerick
Tús	Community work placement initiative for long-term unemployed
Tusla	The Child and Family Agency
UL	University of Limerick

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This report was prepared by Dr. Eileen Humphreys, on behalf of Limerick City and County Council. The data collection from projects supported by the Social Intervention Fund, analysis and full report was prepared in 2015.

1. Introduction and Overview

This report presents the review of the the Social Intervention Fund (SIF) delivered under the Social Pillar of the Limerick Regeneration Framework Implementation Plan (LRFIP).

The vision of the LRFIP is to create *“Safe and sustainable communities of opportunity where people of all ages enjoy a good quality of life, a decent home and a sense of pride about their place. Well serviced and attractive neighbourhoods will be physically connected and fully integrated with the social, economic and cultural life of Limerick.”*

The objectives of the Social Pillar are shown below:

Objectives of the social pillar

1. To improve the quality of life of residents in the regeneration communities, focused on improving health and well-being of the population, closing gaps in health with the average population, improving the social environment and safety on the estates, stabilising community life and supporting civic engagement in the community.
2. To address needs of the population so that they can access opportunities, closing gaps with the average population. This covers improved access to economic and social opportunities linked to preventive interventions in early years, interventions to improve attainment in education from the earliest stages and access to further education, training and work.
3. To improve the coherence of service provision across the statutory and voluntary / community sector, with a view to improving effectiveness in responding to needs of the population and to achieve better value for money invested by the totality of the services.

This review is undertaken with reference to the overall aims and objectives of the Social Pillar of regeneration. More specifically, is addressed to review of Social Intervention Fund (SIF). The SIF involves grant funding mainly to local voluntary and community groups addressed to meeting objectives of the LRFIP under the Social Pillar of regeneration. The thematic structure of the Social Pillar is shown in Figure 1.1. The themes supported under the SIF are: (1) Education

and Learning; (2) Health and Well-being; (3) Ageing Well; (4) Employability and Work; (5) Families and Youth at Risk; and (6) Community Participation and Empowerment. Policing, Justice and Community Safety and a Whole of Government Approach are cross-cutting themes, underpinning the Social Pillar. In 2013 and 2014, a number of projects to support economic regeneration were also funded. These were supported mainly under the theme Employability and Work.

1.1 Implementation of the Social Intervention Fund

The SIF is implemented by Limerick City and County Council (LCCC), and funded by the Department of Housing, Planning, Community and Local Government (DHPCLG). Under the SIF, the Department provides €3 million per annum for social regeneration and an additional €1 million per annum for economic regeneration. The SIF is delivered based on a competitive procedure or via annual open calls for proposals. All applications are assessed by an independent assessment panel and scored based on a set of criteria. The independent assessment panel (6 persons) comprises senior staff from other local authority areas in the state, a senior manager in the local development sector (community and voluntary) from outside Limerick and staff from the third level education sector in Limerick. Following assessment and scoring of all applications, the assessment panel recommends the projects that have the greatest potential for delivering the objectives of the LRFIP. This list is then forwarded to the DHPCLG from the LCCC for approval.

Feedback on the assessment is provided to project promoters, on request to LCCC. There is an appeal process for unsuccessful applicants. The opinion of the assessment panel is sought again when projects submit an appeal. The experience is that a small number of projects are later approved on appeal.

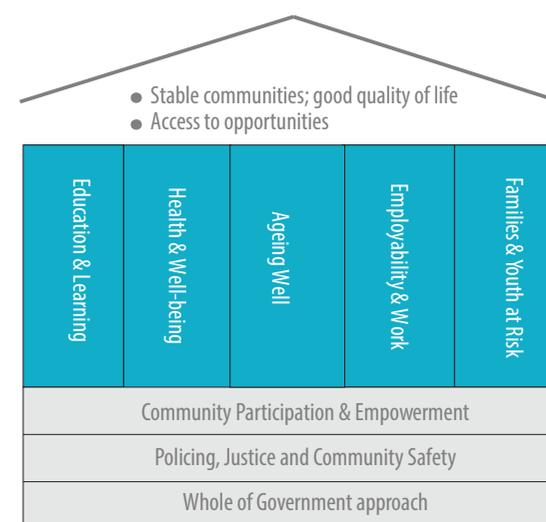


Figure 1.1: Priority Themes of the Social Pillar

1.2 Approach to review & data collection

The approach to monitoring and review of the SIF involved the following:

1.2.1 Sample of projects included

All projects funded in the SIF 2014 receiving a grant of €10k or over were included in the monitoring and review. The financial allocations to, and outputs and results of, these projects were tracked back to 2013 and 2012 if the projects were also funded by the SIF in any of those years. This approach is appropriate in order to build into the analysis that some projects received multi-annual funding and also a reasonable period of time is required for results to emerge from the activities funded. Outputs achieved in the latest year (2014), for instance, will not tend to produce results within the same year but these will emerge at a later stage.

In terms of the number of projects included in this review, 78 projects received funding of €10k or more in 2014; of those, 54 were funded in 2013; and 39 of the projects funded in 2014 were also funded in 2012. This is the sample of projects on which the analysis is based. The 78 projects receiving €10k or more in 2014 account for over half of all projects funded in that year (140 approximately). The remainder – just under 50% of the projects funded in 2014 – were for amounts less than €10k and mostly comprised grants of €5k or less. While the number of grants for €5k or less make up a significant number of the projects, they account for less than 10% of the funding allocated in 2014. This is the general picture over all the years of the SIF.

1.2.2 Data collection, checking and analysis

All projects included in the review (receiving €10k or over in 2014) were required to complete a pro-forma monitoring form. Additional information on projects was collected from application forms to the SIF and accompanying documentation (e.g., audited accounts, evaluation reports, activity reports, publicity materials). Relevant secondary data was collected and analysed to examine changes in contextual conditions in regeneration areas and in the city as a whole. Visits and telephone interviews were conducted with some organisations to assist the data collection on project monitoring. All data collected from projects was checked on return. Some information (e.g., on funding) was cross-checked for accuracy with documentation kept

in files in the LCCC and, in some cases, validated with projects. The data were analysed using Excel. Where the same information was reported by more than one project (e.g., numbers participating in one-off events with various organisations involved in delivery), it was ensured that data were only entered once onto the system for analysis.

1.3 Indicators: Input, output and result indicators

The definition of the input (financial and personnel), output and result indicators are shown in tables 1.1 and 1.2 below. The same input and output indicators apply across all themes of the social regeneration – see next section. Result or outcome indicators are presented by theme. In some cases, the same indicators apply across themes. The large number of result indicators reflects the broad scope of the social programme, covering several areas of social policy – education, health and social care, children and families, youth work, crime and offending and community development.

The result indicators reflect the overall aims of the LRFIP and objectives of the Social Pillar, as outlined above. The key results or outcomes expected are: improved quality of life, improved connectivity across the city not only in terms of physical access but also through improved social integration and economic development, reducing social inequality by increasing access to opportunities, and reducing gaps between residents of regeneration areas and the mainstream population.

Category of indicator	Description of indicator
Financial Inputs	Amount (€) funding committed; funding received; funding spent in 2012, 2013 and 2014 by sources of funding: LCCC, other public, private / philanthropic and own-generated funding
Physical inputs	Number of staff in the project; Number of temporary staff on CE / JI / Tús; Number of posts dependent on regeneration funding; number of regular volunteers in each year 2012, 2013, 2014
Outputs	Number of small-scale facilities upgrading completed; Number of business plans, feasibility studies, research studies, new curricula, networks and partnerships “Light interventions”: number of “one-off” events completed such as community days, festivals, promotional events; number of participants at such events Capacity building: Number of capacity building activities; number of participants in such activities Number of participants in intensive activities (training, educational support, advice, family support etc.)

Table 1.1: Input and output indicators

Main theme	Description of indicator	Relevant to other themes
Education & Learning Employability & Work	Improved educational attainment / qualification (e.g., from adult education, training)	Employability & Work
Education & Learning Employability & Work	Reduced absenteeism; improved attendance rates	Health & Well-being
Education & Learning	School readiness (early years) Re-engagement with education (including young people at risk of early school leaving and persons with low education)	Youth & Families at Risk
Health & Well-being	Improved mental health & well-being including improved confidence, self-esteem	Education & Learning Ageing well, Employability & Work Youth & Families at Risk Community
Health & Well-being Youth & Families at Risk	Reduced behavioural and emotional problems	Education & Learning Community
Employability & Work	Progression into further education & training Progression into temporary employment (CE, JI, Tús etc.) Progression into a job / enterprise /self-employment Improved employability (qualitative)	Community, Youth & Families at Risk Community Community Education & Learning
Youth & Families at Risk	Reduced exposure to risk of harm (qualitative) / Reduced anti-social behaviour & Reduced youth crime	Community
Community	Increased participation in community (reflected in outputs / number of participants) Improved community spirit (qualitative) Sense of empowerment, participation in decision-making, participation in self-help (mainly qualitative) Partnership and inter-agency collaboration (qualitative) Social inclusion & improved social integration (qualitative) Improved image of neighbourhoods & the city (qualitative) Level of use (number of regular users) / footfall into community centres / hubs	Families & Youth at Risk All themes All themes Economic, Employability & Work All themes
Economic / Employability & Work	Turnover (in centres with community enterprise) Economic impact	
All themes	Level of satisfaction with services Overall quality of life (qualitative) Social return on investment	

Table 1.2: Result Indicators by Theme

In addition to collection of monitoring information from projects supported, a robust assessment of outcomes requires additional information gathering and analysis. This could include:

- i. Survey work in communities to explore impact on community safety and quality of life on estates, community involvement and community spirit and the level of satisfaction with services provided to them. This has not been possible within the current timeframe but may be appropriate to undertake in 2017.
- ii. Follow-up or tracking of a sample of participants supported under the SIF to examine benefits (outcomes) with reference to changes expected from the support provided; and
- iii. Examination of whether the overall conditions in regeneration areas have changed (e.g., evidence of closing gaps with the mainstream) drawing on statistical and other data. This could include: changes in attainment in education in the population (school children, adults), absenteeism from DEIS urban schools and the employment and unemployment rates amongst the working age population on the estates. It has not been possible to undertake such assessment comprehensively but some relevant data are available from secondary sources. The forthcoming (2016) census will provide an important source of such localised data.

1.4 Challenges and limitations

There are challenges and limitations in relation to data collection and analysis of the information on inputs, outputs and results achieved. These are outlined in each section as the analysis is presented.

The main issue is that funding for the social regeneration programme is embedded in complex funding arrangements – including multi-funding across different programmes - for the types of social interventions funded by regeneration. Because of this, it is extremely difficult (and it has been beyond the scope of this study) to quantify the specific additional contribution of the social regeneration funding.

There is strong potential for double or multiple counting of the same outputs and results. For instance, it is likely that the data recorded here are also counted elsewhere in the public policy system (other agencies including education, employment, training services, youth justice) as regeneration co-funds interventions that are also supported by other agencies. However, data were checked to ensure no double counting (of funding or outputs) in the group of projects included in this review.

Some of the projects have been supported since the first phase of the regeneration programme under the Limerick Regeneration Agencies (2007-2010), so they have a longer history than the period covered in this review (2012-2014). Outcomes achieved by these projects linked to funding in 2012-2014 may have accumulated from the earlier period.

2. Implementation of the SIF: Analysis of inputs and outputs

This section provides an analysis of the inputs to, and outputs achieved by, the social regeneration programme based on information reported by project promoters in the monitoring returns, information in SIF applications including supplementary information (e.g., audited accounts) and information on payments (on the Agresso system) administered by the local authority.

2.1 Financial inputs

Analysis of the financial inputs is based on the sample of projects included in the monitoring and review 2012-2014. In addition, an overview of the funding by theme committed under the SIF 2015 is presented.

2.1.1 Overview of funding by year

The analysis of financial inputs for each year 2012, 2013 and 2014 are presented in Table 2.1A, 2.1B and 2.1C. This shows funding committed from the regeneration programme, and from other public and private funding sources including own resources. It shows total funding committed, received and spent for each year and over the period covered by the review, 2012 to 2014.

The analysis of sources of funding for projects shows that the SIF is successful in leveraging funding from other sources.

Over the three years 2012 to 2014, some €44 million in total has been committed to funding the projects covered in this review (78 projects in 2014, many of which are funded on a multi-annual basis back to 2012). Regeneration has contributed some 23% of the total cost of these projects over the whole period. For every €1 euro committed by regeneration, €3.30 is committed from other public and private sources. The higher multiplier from regeneration funding in 2014 is linked in particular to the significant other public €6 million from the Department of Arts Heritage and Gaeltacht Affairs) and private funding €1.25 million in sponsorship) for National City of Culture.

Focusing on funding actually received by projects supported by the SIF, some €40.2 million was received by September 2015 (when data collection for the review was completed). This shows a high rate of translating committed funding into actual funding (91% of funds committed were actually received). Some projects reported that receipt of funding was running behind schedule, linked to delays in

Year	No. Projects	Regeneration	Other public & private	Total	Regen funding as % Total from Regen	Multiplier for each €1 euro
2012	39	2,690,904	4,326,633	7,017,537	38.3	1.6
2013	54	2,663,051	7,499,219	10,162,270	26.2	2.8
2014	78	4,795,803	22,042,514	26,838,317	17.9	4.6
2012-14		10,149,758	33,868,366	44,018,124	23.1	3.3

Table 2.1A: Funding Committed by Regeneration and Other Public and Private Sources, 2012-2014

Year	No. Projects	Regeneration	Other public & private	Total	Regen funding as % Total from Regen	Multiplier for each €1 euro
2012	39	2,690,787	4,296,034	6,986,821	38.5	1.6
2013	54	2,633,951	7,416,572	10,050,523	26.2	2.8
2014	78	4,620,007	18,548,554	23,168,561	19.9	4.0
2012-14	9,944,745	30,261,160	40,205,905	24.7	3.0	

Table 2.1B: Funding Received: Regeneration and Other Public and Private Sources, 2012-2014

Year	No. Projects	Regeneration	Other public & private	Total	Regen funding as % Total from Regen	Multiplier for each €1 euro
2012	39	2,726,099	4,238,953	6,965,052	39.1	1.6
2013	54	2,657,622	7,405,726	10,161,037	26.2	2.8
2014	78	3,990,664	18,279,075	22,268,283	17.9	4.6
2012-14		9,374,384	29,923,755	39,394,372	23.8	3.2

Table 2.1C: Funding Spent: Regeneration and Other Public and Private Sources, 2012-2014

implementation. Overall, however, this shows a high rate of success in bringing in the match funding (sometimes promised on condition that regeneration funding is secured).

Focusing on funding actually spent by the projects covered by the review, by September 2015, €39.39 million has been spent in implementation of the projects supported by the SIF between 2012 and 2014. €9.37 million has been invested directly by the

SIF and €29.9 million from other public and private sources – Table 2.1C. The smaller contribution of regeneration (19%) to the total project spend in 2014 is connected to significant co-funding for larger-scale projects particularly National City of Culture, as highlighted above. Nonetheless, there is a strong multiplier effect from the regeneration spend.

Again, based on financial data provided by projects, there is a high rate of actual spend to funding commitments under regeneration (90% of funds committed for the period 2012 to 2014 was reported as actually spent by September 2015). In the latest year, 2014, as would be expected, the rate of spend to funding committed is lower, at 83%.

Overall, the high disbursement and spending rates of SIF and its co-funding reflects the type of expenditure in SIF projects – i.e., mainly expenditure to deliver services and / or events and to cover operating and staff costs. The next sub-sections comment on specific aspects of the SIF funding for each year.

2.1.2 SIF Funding 2012

In 2012, for the 39 projects included in the review (projects that were also funded in 2014), some €2.69 million was committed from the SIF, matched by a contribution of €4.33 million from other public and private / philanthropic sources or self-generated income. Of the total committed for the projects in 2012, €6.99 million was actually received and €6.97 million spent. Regeneration contributed 39% of the investment. For every €1 invested from the SIF, €1.60 has been invested from other sources. See Tables 2.1A to 2.1C above.

Figure 2.1 shows the breakdown of sources of committed funding by theme for 2012. Projects under Education and Learning (48% of funding from regeneration), Community (47% of funding from regeneration) and Families and Youth at Risk (42% of funding from regeneration) were most reliant on funding from regeneration. Most of their co-funding was from other public sources. Those under Health and Well-being (11% of funding from regeneration) and Employability and Work (13% of funding from regeneration) were least reliant on regeneration funding. In the case of Health and Well-being, most of the co-funding was from private sources / own resources (82%), reflecting that larger-scale projects funded here were matched by private sponsorship



Figure 2.1: Funding committed by regeneration and other sources by theme, 2012

and / or contributions from participations – e.g. the Great Limerick Run. In the case of Employability and Work, match funding is largely from other public sources, with the main funder here being the Department of Social Protection (DSP).

2.1.3 SIF Funding 2013

For the 54 projects funded in 2013 included in this review (and also supported in 2014), €2.66 million was committed from the SIF, with €7.42 million committed from other public sources and private / philanthropic / own resources. Of the total amount committed (€10.16 million), €10.05 million was received and €10.16 million spent. The latter figure reflects some carryover of funding between the years. Similar to the situation in 2012, this shows very high rates of actually receiving monies committed and spend of monies received. In 2013, regeneration contributed some 26% to the total costs of implementation of the projects. See Tables 2.1A to 2.1C.

Figure 2.2 shows the breakdown of sources of committed funding by theme for 2013. The contribution of the SIF to the total monies for

operations was some 26%, with 54% coming from other public sources and 20% from private / philanthropic and / or own resources. Again, projects under Education and Learning (43% of funding from regeneration), Families and Youth at Risk (34% of funding from regeneration) and Community (28% of funding from regeneration) were most reliant on funding from regeneration. Private funding under these themes is from philanthropic sources. However, in each case the proportion from regeneration in 2013 was less than that in 2012. Similar to the situation in 2012, projects funded under Health and Well-being (20% of funding from regeneration) and Employability and Work (9% of funding from regeneration) were least reliant on regeneration funding. In the case of Health and Well-being, most of the co-funding was from private sources / own resources (69%). In the case of Employability and Work, match funding is largely from other public sources (92%), with the main funding source again being DSP funding for temporary employment programmes (e.g., Community Employment, Job Initiative).

2.1.4 SIF Funding 2014

In 2014, for the 78 projects included in this review, €4.796 million was committed under the SIF. This was matched by commitments of €22.04 million in other public funding and private / philanthropic and / or own resources. By September 2015, €4.62 million from the SIF had been received and €3.991 million spent. Of the contributions committed from other public and non-public sources (€22.043 million), €18.549 million has been received and €18.279 million spent. Again, this shows an effective rate of translating commitments into actual receipt of funding (84% of funding committed from other sources has been received) and a high rate of actual spend to monies received (96% of total funding received has been spent).

The SIF show greater total costs in 2014 compared with the previous two years. As well as including a larger number of projects in the analysis, the SIF is funding a smaller proportion of total costs (18%) compared with previous years (26% in 2013 and 38% in 2012). This is indicative of strong buy-in by the mainstream. Evidence of support from the mainstream is amongst the criteria used by the independent assessment panel in scoring SIF proposals, particularly, in multi-annual projects. This is with a view to reducing reliance on regeneration funding in the interest of project sustainability.

In 2014, some large-scale projects were supported by regeneration. Examples here are:

- Projects under National City of Culture, with €6 million in other public (national) funding provided by the Department of Arts, Heritage and the Gaeltacht and a further €1.25 million in sponsorship / private income with the SIF providing €410k;
- Special Olympics with the Sports Council providing €200k, donations and fees providing €2.032 million and the SIF €150k;
- Hospitality Education and Skills Training Centre, mainly funded by the Limerick and Clare Education and Training Board (LCETB), with a total cost of €619k and €210k provided by the SIF for the refurbishment works at Limerick Enterprise Development Partnership (LEDP) Roxboro to reopen the former Fáilte Ireland Training Centre;
- Innovate Limerick, €270k was committed from the SIF to Innovate Limerick for the development of enterprise incubation units at LEDP with some €1.5 million committed from other public and

private sources.

- The Limerick Civic Trust and St. Mary’s AID are examples of projects with large total costs in 2014. These operations include large CE schemes¹ €846k from DSP / SOLAS in 2014 to the Civic Trust and €663k from DSP to St. Mary’s AID. SIF co-funding for these operations were relatively small compared with the total cost of operations, at €21k to Civic Trust and €87k in total to St. Mary’s AID from the SIF.

In terms of larger-scale projects where funds committed were not received by end of 2014, the SIF funded the Area-based Childhood Anti-Poverty programme (€87k) which is core funded by Department of Children and Youth Affairs (DCYA), €1.58 million, and the monies were received late in the year in 2015; Innovate Limerick (Employability and Work) has a commitment of €500k from LEDP (recently engaged) and €1 million from Limerick Institute of Technology (LIT).

Figure 2.3 shows the breakdown of sources of funding committed by theme for 2014. The contribution of the SIF to the total monies committed was some 18%, with 58% coming from other public sources and 25% from private / philanthropic and / or own resources. In 2014, Education and Learning projects sourced 38% of their funding from regeneration with approximately the same amount (39%) coming from other public sources, showing reduced reliance on regeneration funding compared with previous years. Projects under Families and Youth at Risk sourced 37% from regeneration (a slight increase compared with the previous year) and 53% from other public sources. In the case of Community, the large increase in the proportion of funds from sources other than regeneration (87%) in 2014 reflects the one-off activities under National City of Culture (with the main public funding coming from the Department of Arts, Heritage and the Gaeltacht and additional funding from private sponsors).



Figure 2.2: Funding committed by regeneration and other sources by theme, 2013

¹ These funds from DSP for CE are overwhelmingly the social welfare payments (unemployment benefits) for participants on schemes with a small amount of funding for scheme supervision.

2.1.5 SIF Funding 2015

Based on two rounds of assessment of proposals (January call for proposals and November) and assessment of appeals in June (after the January call), 160 projects and €3,750,654 in funding were approved by the DHPCLG for the SIF 2015. The breakdown of projects and funding by theme is shown in Table 2.2.

The largest number of projects are under the theme Community (45) followed by Education and Learning (43) and then Health and Well-being (36). Community accounted for the largest proportion of funding (35%), followed by Families and Youth at Risk (21%). Projects under Education and Learning and Employability and Work receive approximately the same proportion of total funds (17%). This shows a stronger focus on Employability and Work over time, with links into economic regeneration. As in previous years, only a small proportion is for projects under Ageing Well (1%).

The monitoring of the 2015 SIF projects is just commencing (September 2016). The monitoring will focus on those projects that received in excess of €5k in the 2015 rounds. In addition, projects from 2014 that had only recently commenced operations and were not as such in a position to provide information on outputs and outcomes will be followed up to provide such information in 2016. A full report will be prepared of the findings.

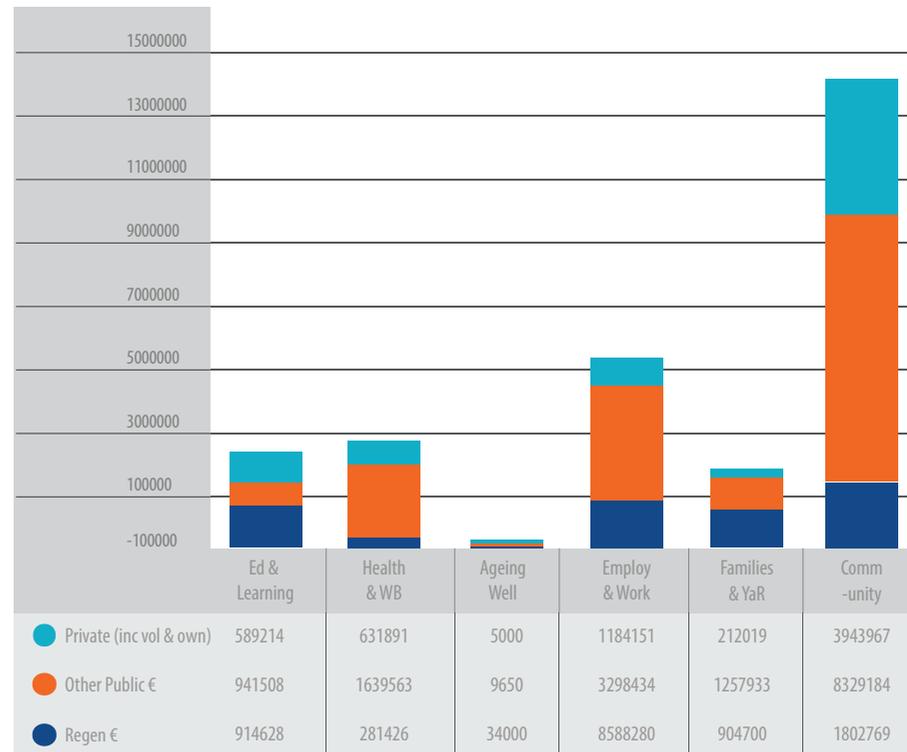


Figure 2.3: Funding committed by regeneration and other sources by theme, 2014

Theme	No. Projects	Funding	% Funding	Average Cost per project
Education & Learning	43	640,769	17.1	14,902
Health & Well-being	36	310,206	8.3	8,617
Ageing Well	8	42,003	1.1	5,250
Employability & work	17	662,280	17.7	38,958
Families & Youth at Risk	11	792,000	21.1	72,000
Community	45	1,303,396	34.8	28,964
Total	160	3,750,654	100	23,442

Table 2.2: Projects and funding by theme, SIF 2015

Theme	No. Projects	Funding	% Funding
Projects €5k or less	81	303,094	8.1
Projects > €5k & under €10k	5	38,039	1.0
Projects €10k and over	74	340,9521	90.9
Total	160	3,750,654	100

Table 2.3: Size of SIF grants, 2015

Year	No. Projects	No. Paid Staff	No. Dependent on Regen	No. CE/Tús/JI	No. Total Staff	No. Volunteers
2012	39	190	44.4	152	342	853
2013	54	260	42.7	342	602	1,055
2014	78	332	50.32	460	792	6,330

Table 2.4: Staff & regular volunteers in SIF projects, 2012-2014

Year	Smallscale facilities		Plans / Studies / Networks		Capacity Building		
	No. Projects	No. Paid Schemes	No. Projects	No. plans Studies	No. Projects	No. Events	No. People
2012	3	9	11	42	9	73	1,109
2013	12	21	13	22	19	86	1,211
2014	19	31	23	49	24	142	4,950
Total			30	110	52	301	7,270

Table 2.5: Intermediate Outputs: small-scale facilities upgrading, plans / studies and capacity building

2.2 Inputs: Staff and volunteers

Table 2.4 shows the staffing and volunteer inputs including paid staff, number on CE/Tús /Job Initiative (JI) schemes that are involved in the services part-funded by SIF. It also shows the number of staff dependent on regeneration funding.

The numbers of staff in supported projects is increasing year on year from 2012-2014 but so too are the number of projects included in the analysis. The average total number of staff in projects supported was 8.8 in 2012, 11.1 in 2013 and 10.2 in 2014. The increase from 2012 in this group of projects is linked to an increase in the numbers participating in CE/Tús /JI schemes and not in paid staff. The overall dependence on the SIF to fund posts remains high in the 78 projects included in the analysis in 2014 (50.3 posts dependent on regeneration) but it seems to be reducing somewhat over time.

Not all projects that use volunteer input record them systematically. As such, the table above understates the actual volunteer input. The large number of volunteers reported in 2014 reflects the significant numbers of volunteers involved in the Special Olympics (5,000 volunteers). A further project funded from 2012 involving a large number of volunteers is the Great Limerick Run, reporting 300, 400 and 600 volunteers for 2012, 2013 and 2014 respectively.

Outside of these, projects that mobilise large numbers of volunteers are: The Learning Hub under Education and Learning reporting 55, 68 and 69 regular volunteers in 2012, 2013 and 2014 respectively. Volunteers are mainly third level students studying at institutions in Limerick. Also under Education and Learning, the Limerick Community Education Network (LCEN), addressed to supporting participation in adult / community education, has some 50 volunteers; Corpus Christi Primary School Moyross, 25 volunteers; and the Community Safety Coordinators delivering education programmes in schools and activities in community, 28 volunteers (2014). Community Enterprise Centres also report large number of volunteers including: St. Munchin's Community Enterprise Centre (80); Our Lady of Lourdes Community Services Group (30); Moyross Community Enterprise Centre (25) and Moyross Residents' Forum (23); Garryowen Community Development Project (24) – all for the year 2014. Relatively few projects are totally dependent on volunteers.

It should be noted that some projects are run by staff in organisations using own resources (i.e., no staff-related funding from the SIF), with regeneration funding used only for project costs. Examples here are mainly sports clubs such as Southill Boxing Club, Pike Rovers, Star Rovers (all totally volunteer-based).

2.3 Project Outputs: 2012-2014

This section presents the outputs reported by the projects in 2012, 2013 and 2014, drawing on the indicators in the LRFIP.

2.3.1 Intermediate outputs: plans, studies, networks and capacity building

Table 2.5 below presents various intermediate outputs achieved. These relate to:

- i. small-scale facilities upgrades, for instance, to sports, recreation or social infrastructure, clean-up schemes etc.,
- ii. preparation of business plans, action plans, strategic plans, studies, development of new curricula for training programmes, setting up networks to coordinate activities which are then used to inform or are utilised directly in the implementation of actions; and
- iii. capacity building activities including workshops and training sessions for staff and volunteers to build skills to deliver projects, improve the operation of committees and decision-making structures of community-based organisations etc.

Over the period 2012-2014, nine of the 39 projects included in the analysis in 2012, 21 of the 54 projects in 2013 and 60 of the 78 projects supported in 2014 reported outputs related to small-scale facilities upgrading. These included sports-related (improvements to pitches, training facilities), social and community infrastructure (e.g., facade improvements at Our Lady of Lourdes to open up access to the Sit n'Sip café), training infrastructures including small-scale physical works and equipment to reopen the former Fáilte Ireland training centre at LEDP Roxboro to delivery hospitality education and training skills courses; and environmental clean-up schemes. The latter include, three schemes in regeneration areas (Kings Island and Ballinacurra Weston) implemented under a CE scheme by the Civic Trust. Over the whole period, 61 such works / schemes were supported under the SIF.

In relation to plans, studies and networks, over the whole period 2012-2014, 110 such outputs were reported by 30 projects. Outputs reported were the preparation of business plans to develop and test feasibility of new ideas for community enterprise, strategic plans for organisations and studies to assess needs. Examples of the latter include: (i) the development of the Common Assessment Framework

(CAF) and supporting documentation by the Limerick Local Assessment of Needs System (LANS), which was supported by Limerick Regeneration since 2009-2010, and is delivered by Tusla, the Child and Family Agency, formerly HSE Childcare; and (ii) support for the Limerick Community Education Network (LCEN) - a network of adult and community education providers working in the most disadvantaged areas of the city. Development workers in the LCEN support these voluntary / community bodies in course development and processes related to accreditation required by Quality Qualifications Ireland (QQI).

In relation to capacity building activities, between 2012 and 2014, 301 capacity building events involving 7,270 participants were supported in 52 projects. The figures for 2014 are inflated by the large number of volunteers trained for delivery of Special Olympics (3,000 volunteers trained including health and safety training). Types of projects involve information sessions, training and mentoring for staff and volunteers, working with / supporting volunteers and staff on strategic and action planning and project implementation. A further example here is the Incredible Years (IY) Parenting Programme. Training is provided to Group Leaders including parent leaders, teachers, crèche workers, family support workers and public health nurses in the implementation of the various IY programmes (Basic Parent Programme; Babies & Toddlers; Teacher Classroom Management; Dina Programme in the Pre-school etc.) for delivery across the city. This activity alone involved 371 participants trained to deliver IY over the period 2012-2014.

2.3.2 Project Outputs: “Light” / one-off interventions

Table 2.6 presents the number of “participations” in one-off or “light” activities. It presents the number of projects in each year and the number of events and participants. Such activities are important as they bring people together, get them involved in community, present information, and connect people from regeneration areas into the wider social and cultural life of the city. From involvement in events, residents of regeneration areas can become aware of services and encouraged to participate in their own communities and other activities in the city. It should be noted that the figures relate to “participations”, meaning that the same people could be (and are) participating in several events.

The returns from projects for the period 2012-2014 show very large numbers of participants (327,942) involved in one-off activities - several times the size of the population of regeneration areas. In 2014, the figures are particularly large, influenced by the large number participating in the National City of Culture event co-funded by regeneration (the Royal de Luxe Puppet), the Granny drew an estimated 235,000 participants). If this event is excluded, the numbers in 2014 are 43,610.

Examples of other activities include: the Great Limerick Run, family / community fairs, and summer camps for young people, young people attending events such as the Late Night Leagues at The Factory Southill (Limerick Youth Services) or dropping into other activities at the same venue, participants at concerts under Music Generation Limerick and Sing Out With Strings. In some projects, the same types of activities are hosted annually (e.g., the Great Limerick Run) and some involve the same people in different years.

Year	No. Projects	No. Events	No. People (participants)
2012	20	126	19,767
2013	27	145	29,565
2014	44	221	278,610
2012-2014	91	492	327,942

Table 2.6: Outputs: “Light”/one-off interventions

The largest number of participants is under the theme Community Participation and Empowerment (large numbers overall even taking into account the exceptionally large numbers involved in Limerick National City of Culture as explained above). Other activities under this theme include: Community Fairs, Community Fun Days, children’s activities, clean-up days / Tidy Towns and local cultural activities.

2.3.4 Project Outputs: Intensive activities supporting people

Table 2.7 presents the aggregated data by theme on the number of projects providing intensive support to people and the number of participants involved for each year 2012, 2013 and 2014 and on-going numbers in 2015. “Intensive activities” involve one-to-one support, family support (as a unit) and / or group-based work (e.g., programmes delivered in a classroom-based, training, youth work or community setting). The numbers by year are not summed in Table 2.6 to cover the whole period 2012-2014 as this would involve some double counting of the same participants supported year-on-year. In addition, some projects don’t run by calendar year but rather they are planned and delivered by academic year (September to June).

Across all themes, 16,871 participants were supported with some level of intensive action in 47 projects in 2014; 13,440 participants in 36 projects in 2013 and 9,174 in 26 projects in 2012. In 2015, 4,514 participants are receiving on-going support in 30 projects.

The largest numbers by theme are supported under Education and Learning (10,549 in 2014) followed by Families and Youth at Risk and then Community Participation and Empowerment.

Under Education and Learning, there is a strong focus on working with children and young people in school settings (classroom-based, after school services) or in cooperation with schools, targeting DEIS schools. Some projects support all children in the setting – such as the After-Schools Programme in Corpus Christi National School Moyross, Music Generation Limerick, providing programmes in music education from pre-school, through primary and into the early years of secondary school in the city, and the Learning Hub providing a range of education support programmes to children and young people in “out-of-school services” at their premises in Killeely.

The Learning Hub works in partnership with schools and community and voluntary organisations across the city.

Other projects target children and young people at risk of poor educational outcomes or school exclusion. Examples here are: the LCETB Youth Counselling Initiative with the SIF supporting the provision of the counselling services to young people attending the Youthreach education services in the city (alternative education setting for young people at risk of early school leaving) and Coisceim, a project mainly funded by the LCETB and the Department of Education and Skills (DES) which provides an intensive academic, behavioural support and social programme for young people at risk of school exclusion in the Junior cycle of second level school.

Projects to support adult education targeting those with lowest education are also supported. An example is the Limerick Community Education Network (LCEN), involving some 3,000 learners in 2014 and the Community Wellness Empowerment Leadership and Life Skills (CWELL) Programme addressed to adult learners in St. Mary’s Parish, supported by the SIF in 2012. CWELL has been in implementation over the period 2012-2016. Under Health and Well-being, the largest numbers are involved in regular sports activities with regeneration supporting upgrading and management of use of sports facilities. A number of projects also provide services to address substance misuse (e.g., Saoirse) or to support families affected by addiction (the North Star Family Support Project).

The main focus of projects under Employability and Work is skills training with additional “soft” supports built in (counselling, career planning, personal progression plans and developing transferable work-related skills such as team work, discipline, respect). Such services also support access to temporary employment, jobs and enterprise / self-employment. Examples here are the LCETB Hospitality Education and Skills Training, Limerick CDP Hairdressing Training and part-funding of an Enterprise Officer post at Tait House Community Enterprise. In Tait House, the Enterprise Officer supports access to self-employment and community enterprise and jobs in local enterprises, targeting long-term unemployed and regeneration area residents.

Main theme	2012		2013		2014		2015	
	Participants No.	Projects No.						
Education & Learning	7,100	10	9,530	14	10,549	15	2,934	11
Health & Well-being	118	3	420	4	1,577	6	1,398	4
Ageing Well	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Employability & Work*	19	2	17	2	168	6	101	2
Families & Youth at Risk	1,198	9	1,961	11	2,548	12	81	9
Community	739	2	1,512	5	2,029	8	0	4
Total	9,174	26	13,440	36	16,871	47	4,514	30

Table 2.7: Project Outputs: Intensive activities supporting people 2012-2014 & on-going in 2015

Activities under Families and Youth at Risk support preventive interventions such as the Incredible Years (IY) Parenting Programme and youth work /youth services in regeneration areas. However, the main focus here is on targeted services for groups with more complex needs including young offenders in the juvenile justice system, early school leavers / young people effectively out of school (because of poor attendance, behavioural issues etc.), young people at risk of entry to the care system and families in social housing at risk of losing their tenancies with the local authority. Examples of projects are additional activities in Garda Youth Diversion projects (such as the Motocross project and Horse Care and Equine Care projects in Moyross), the Le Chéile Restorative Justice Project which includes support and mentoring to young offenders, Extern offering a suite of programmes to young persons with complex needs and their families; and Sophia Housing providing support to families in local authority tenancies / social housing with high level needs based on an agreed care plan to respond to those needs.

Under Community Participation and Empowerment, projects providing more intensive support to people include: services to households (families) based on an outreach approach such as Community Companions Moyross and the Family Support Initiative in Southill and Ballinacurra Weston. A range of services are provided from the community centres or hubs located in or adjacent to regeneration areas. Examples here are: children' activities (summer camps), childcare facilities, computer classes for adults, meals, social and health-related services for elderly people and legal advice and mediation services offered in local centres including Moyross Community Enterprise Centre, St. Munchin's Community Centre, St. Mary's AID, Our Lady of Lourdes Action Centre and Garryowen Community Development Project.

2.3.5 Target groups supported

Information on the profile of participants was requested as part of the monitoring. This was mainly available for participants in intensive actions. Some projects also included breakdown of the broad profile of participants supported under “light” interventions. Mostly projects were not in a position to provide detailed information on “fine grained” categories of target group – such as early school leavers, long-term unemployed, lone parents etc. However, in targeted actions, they did provide descriptive information on the key characteristics of the groups assisted (e.g., young people at risk, families with complex needs). Based on the information on project outputs, it was possible to construct a breakdown by broad age group. Details are shown in Table 2.8.

In 2014, the largest proportion of participants by age group is children and young people (56%) with a large proportion of young children (39% from birth to 12 years). The proportion of children and young people is higher in 2014 compared with 2012 and 2013 (However, in the preceding years, the analysis covers a smaller number of projects).

A relatively small proportion of participants in each year are in the older age group – 2.5% in 2014. While there is not a pool of larger-scale projects under Ageing Well, there are projects which were awarded grants for smaller amounts of funds (€5k or less) under this theme. The Ageing Well agenda – including preparing for demographic ageing - is being pursued as a wider inter-agency strategy across city and county. This is also an important focus of activity in health, led by the HSE.

Group	2012		2013		2014	
	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%
Children 0-12	5621	20.0	11576	31.8	18698	39.0
Children 13-17	5003	17.8	5397	14.8	7984	16.6
Adults 18 years+ (including older people)	17415	62.1	19457	53.4	21308	44.4
Older people	1024	3.7	1014	2.8	1209	2.5
Total	28039	100	36430	100	47990	100

Table 2.8: Participants by age group in the population 2012-2014



Star Rovers Football Club, which has been funded under the Regeneration Programme, aims to encourage young people to engage in active sport

3. Results Achieved

This section presents the results achieved based on the outcome / result indicators for the social regeneration programme, as identified in the LRFIP. Outcomes of project activities were examined as part of the project monitoring, at the level of specific projects. In addition, wider statistical information was sought to examine the extent to which there is evidence of positive change in the contextual conditions, relevant to assessment of progress in meeting the aims and objectives of the LRFIP.

3.1 Framework for assessment of results and impact

The process of assessment of activities-outputs-results-impact is shown in Figure 3.1. This demonstrates the logic underpinning the monitoring and review of the SIF interventions.

SIF-supported projects were implemented under thematic areas of activity. These activities included one-off (“light”) interventions, intermediate activities including plans, capacity building and small-scale facilities and more intensive actions supporting people, as presented above.

SIF-supported projects are not stand-alone but are embedded in many other funding programmes and operations. This is shown, for instance, in the significant co-financing of SIF projects from other public programmes, private / philanthropic funds and own resources.

There has also been additional investment in social inclusion in Limerick due to the high level of need and government’s commitment to regeneration. As well as mainstream public programmes (e.g., Department of Education and Skills funding under its capital programme for the new school on the southside of the city, Le Chéile, and retention of teaching resources in DEIS schools that otherwise would have been lost), there has been a programme of investment from the Programme Innovation and Development Fund (PIDF), from Atlantic Philanthropies, Government (DHPCLG) and the University of Limerick of some €4 million in the period 2011-2015. Locally, the PIDF was managed by a professional team, Supporting Social Inclusion in Limerick (SSIRL). The main aim of this programme was to support innovative responses to social exclusion in Limerick (the Programme Innovation and Development Fund, PIDF). Three PIDF programmes were supported:

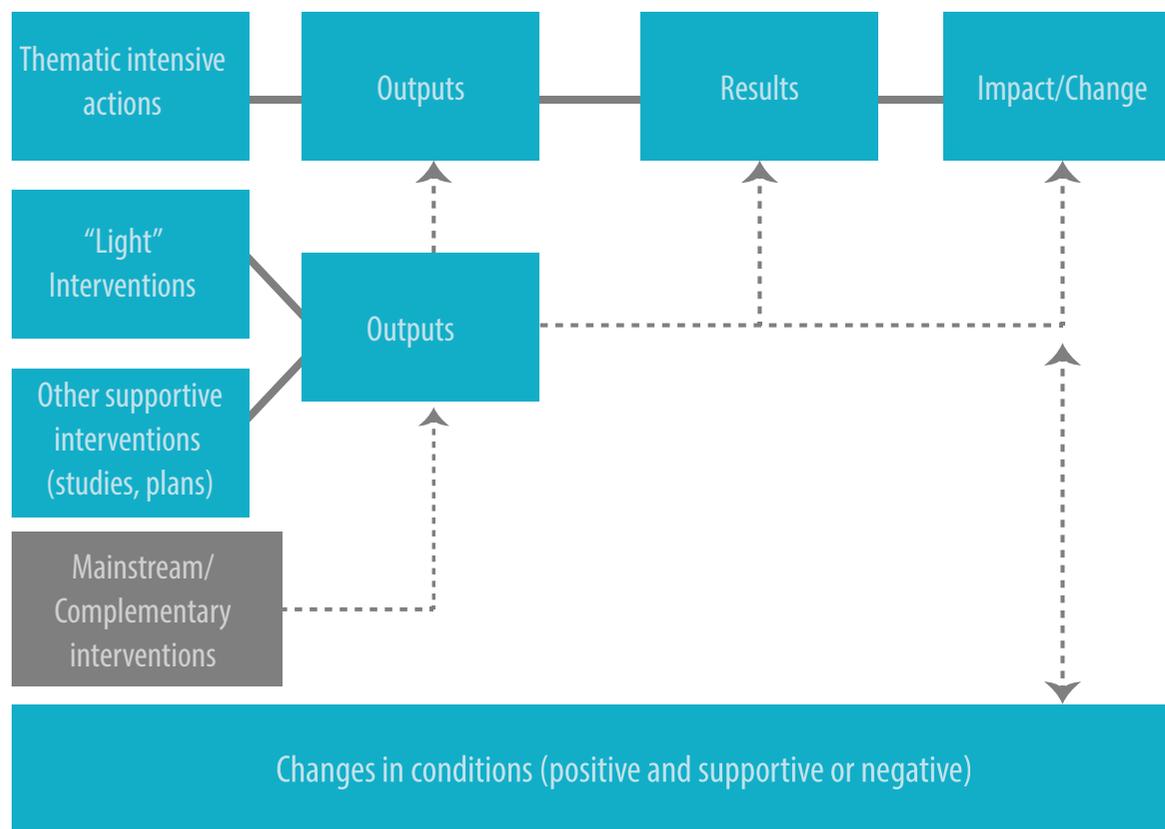


Figure 3.1: Actions, Outputs, Results and Impact: Process

- i. the largest in financial terms (€2.25 million directly supporting initiatives planned and delivered by multi-agency consortia) was addressed to services to children and families working with the Limerick Children’s and Young People’s Services Committee (CYPSC) and other partners. This programme supported initiatives in the following areas: (i) Parenting, namely Parenting Limerick, a network of family support and children’s services organisations working together to improve coordination, and Homemaker, a home-based practical family support project implemented by Barnardos; (ii) Restorative Practices, targeting young people and implemented in DEIS schools in the city and in community settings, hosted by Céim ar Chéim Moyross; (iii) StartRight Limerick, an early years preventive intervention addressed to young children 0-6 years. Under the Children’s

PIDF, a Community Wraparound component was supported which sought to make the services delivered in the community more accessible and responsive to needs of the child; (iv) Limerick DEIS Primary Schools Literacy Initiative, focused on a programme of continued professional development for teachers in DEIS Primary Schools to support implementation of best practice in oral language and literacy instruction, Implementation was led by the Limerick Education Centre; (v) Little Voices, focused on speech and language development in early years including support to parents to understand better the child’s language development and providing practical advice to parents to support early language development of their child. This was delivered in crèches / pre-schools and Primary Schools in Moyross and Ballynanty, led by a dedicated Speech and Language Therapist;

- ii. civic engagement working with communities, the local authority and the PAUL Partnership, which is now in implementation; and
- iii. ageing, working with a consortium of stakeholders on the ageing well / age-friendly county programme.

An evaluation of the Children's PIDF was conducted, commissioned by the Limerick Children and Young People's Services Committee (CYPSC). The focus of this evaluation was on the contribution of the Children's PIDF to: promoting innovation and mainstreaming of best practice; capacity building of statutory and voluntary agencies to deliver better outcomes for children and families particularly those experiencing

social inclusion; and enhance multi-agency working.²

Results and impact on the ground are also influenced by factors external to the SIF and other public programmes including changes in local conditions. This includes changes in the local economy of the city over the recession and now in the economic upturn and shifting populations / changing demographics linked to the roll-out of regeneration and other factors (housing supply, economic conditions). Changes in the hinterland areas of the city linked to regeneration and other factors were the subject of a separate study – The Limerick Hinterland Report³ – commissioned by Limerick City and County Council.

3.2 Results achieved

In this section, the results achieved using the outcome / result indicators for the social regeneration programme in the LRFIP are summarised. Where data are available, changes in contextual conditions are reported.

3.2.1 Summary of results achieved

A summary of the results achieved, as reported by projects included in this review are shown in Table 3.1.

Result indicator	No. of projects reporting positive outcomes	Change in context indicators?
Improved educational attainment / qualification achieved	16 projects, 11 quantifying results; one project, DEIS National School Corpus Christi Moyross shows improvements in pupil attainment based on standardised tests	Improved retention to Junior Cert & Leaving Cert Improved progression from Leaving Cert to 3rd level overall & from DEIS schools; small reduction in the gap in progression between DEIS & non-DEIS schools in Limerick (2010-2014)
Reduced absenteeism and improved attendance rates	14 projects, 11 provide quantitative evidence of improvements in school attendance & attendance at FET (adults). Further improvements needed	No context data available
Improved school readiness (early years) or re-engagement with education (including young people at risk of early school leaving and persons with low education)	3 projects report positive results with youngest children entering school for the first time; 5 projects report positive results in re-engagement with education for young people at risk of early school leaving	No context data available Reduction in early school leaving in Limerick City & County (DES 2016)
Improved mental health & well-being including improved confidence, self-esteem	36 projects based mainly (22 projects) on qualitative information. Applies to youth, families at risk and to people who were long-term unemployed that are now in FET. Quantitative evidence of improvements is generally weak.	Most recent data (2010 survey on children and families), Census data on self-rated health (2011) & register of Deliberate Self-harm (2007-2014) show strong health inequalities including poorer mental health in socially disadvantaged populations.
Reduced behavioural and emotional problems	24 projects, mainly applying to children & young people at risk, one related to adults (with addiction problems)	Register of Deliberate Self-harm (2014) indicates high needs in this area. Female rates in Limerick City (380 per 100,000 highest in the state). Reducing compared with 2013 and overall reduction in both male and female deliberate self-harm rates 2007-2014
Progression into further education & training (adults with low education and unemployed)	28 projects report supporting sign-up / entry to adult education or progression to higher levels of adult education and training. Quantitative data provided by 20 projects. Target groups are long-term unemployed, young early school leavers / youth at risk, lone parents and economically inactive.	Low education in the adult population in regeneration areas, structural problem & legacy issue (2011 Census). Update on changes in qualification level in the target population (regeneration areas-specific) will be available from SAPS (Census 2016).

Table 3.1: Summary of results achieved

² A separate report is available from the Limerick Children's and Young People's Services Committee on the Evaluation of the Children's PIDF (2015)

³ <https://www.limerick.ie/council/limerick-hinterland-report-2015>

Result indicator	No. of projects reporting positive outcomes	Change in context indicators?
Progression into temporary employment (CE, Tús, JI)	29 projects implement temporary employment programmes in cooperation with DSP (using social welfare payments). Temporary employment programmes are very important in running local services; 7 projects report positive results in bringing people into temporary employment	Very high unemployment and low employment rate in regeneration areas (2011 Census). Live Register figures for Limerick reducing but still high. No data on change in numbers on Live Register for unemployed with addresses in regeneration areas.
Progression into a job/enterprise / Self-Employment	16 projects report progression, 254 participants (jobs, self-employment, enterprise)	See above re Live Register data.
Improved employability (qualitative)	17 projects report improved employability (confidence, skills, orientation to the labour market)	See above
Reduced exposure to risk of harm (qualitative) / Reduced anti-social behaviour / Reduced youth crime	32 projects report reduced exposure to harm (children & young people) and reduced anti-social behaviour. Mostly not quantified – only 2 projects evidence these results based on independent evaluation. However, evidence from contextual data suggests such results are being achieved	Context data 2007-2015 show significant reduction in crime, especially serious crime (Limerick Garda Division). Reduction in offences associated with youth crime (especially theft of vehicles & criminal damage). Referrals into Garda Youth Diversion still relatively high (& repeat referrals are high). Number of youth offenders before the courts show significant decrease (Limerick, Clare, Tipperary & North Kerry)
Reduced social isolation & social inclusion (qualitative)	23 projects, building connections / social networks, bringing people into social & other activities that result in reduced social isolation, social inclusion & social integration (connecting into the social and community life of the city)	Most recent context data show good community spirit (2006-2010) but some aspects of weak social capital including restricted social networks (people have similar backgrounds) & deficits of trust in most disadvantaged communities
Increased participation in community (reflected in outputs / number of participants)	37 projects use volunteers in service delivery (6,260 volunteers in SIF projects in 2014) 14 projects report encouraged / supported clients into volunteering / self-help (456 clients). Large numbers participating in “light” / one-off activities	Survey data (2010) show lower levels of involvement in voluntary activity in disadvantaged compared with more affluent areas in Limerick. More recent data not available
Improved community spirit (qualitative)	25 projects report improved community spirit / sense of pride in the area	Survey data (2010) show strong sense of belonging to community (70% and over). More recent data not available
Increased involvement in self-help groups	9 projects report improvements here including participation in self-help groups and peer support, mostly projects supporting families and youth at risk	No contextual data
Sense of empowerment & participation in decision-making	13 projects report positive impact on empowerment, including giving communities a voice, taking control / responsibility / dealing with agencies	No contextual data
Partnership and inter-agency collaboration	11 projects report improvements including good working relationships with LCCC & improved service coordination	No contextual data

Table 3.1: Summary of results achieved, continued

Result indicator	No. of projects reporting positive outcomes	Change in context indicators?
Improved image of neighbourhoods & the city (qualitative)	8 projects report improved image of regeneration areas (improved attitudes towards employing people from regeneration areas) & improved image of the city (including City of Culture impact)	No contextual data
Jobs & Turnover (in centres with community enterprises)	In 5 community enterprise centres combined, 415 jobs (including temporary employment). Turnover (including grants, DSP programmes & self-generated income) increasing in 3 of the 5 centres; self-generated component of income increasing.	No contextual data
Wider economic impact	2 large-scale city-wide projects (Great Limerick Run & National City of Culture) report additional economic impact on city	Economic impact to be assessed as part of review of economic regeneration
Level of use / footfall into community centres / hubs	Mostly increasing – in 2 cases, slight decrease linked to reduction in the population of regeneration areas	
Level of satisfaction with services	26 projects report satisfaction levels of clients with services, 13 based on quantification (user surveys). Levels of satisfaction generally high (lowest 70%, highest 100%)	No comparable contextual data. Some survey data from 2010 for a range of services – e.g., satisfaction with schools & teachers in regeneration areas high
Overall quality of life (qualitative)	Not requested in reports. Would require independent feedback from communities – e.g., via targeted household / neighbourhood surveys	Baseline data (survey) from 2010 & earlier show poor quality of life compared with average areas in the city
Social return on investment	3 projects – Great Limerick Run & 2 social projects report positive social return on investment (quantified)	

Table 3.1: Summary of results achieved, continued

3.3 Examples of project outcomes

In this section, some examples of project outcomes reported above are presented for illustrative purposes. Following from this, data on changes in contextual conditions relevant to the social regeneration are presented (Section 3.4).

3.3.1 Improved educational attainment

Sixteen (16) projects reported positive outcomes in educational attainment including school-based and accredited qualification for unemployed people and adult learners with low education. Examples of results achieved by projects are shown below.

Adult learners in education and training:

- Of those learners participating in the FAI / Limerick and Clare Education and Training Board (LCETB) Skills Development (22-23 participants each year), 94% have achieved major QQI awards and 5% minor awards.
- Of those 2,706 learners in the Limerick Community Education Network (LCEN) in 2014, 293 submitted for QQI certification in Catering, Youth & Community, Childcare, Hairdressing, ICT, General Learning & Facilitation Skills - with others completing unaccredited training and still participating in programmes.
- 10 of the 13 participants starting on the CWELL programme progressed into year 2 of the programme.
- On the LCETB Hospitality Education and Skills Training Programme (2014-2015) 100% of the 119 participants achieved QQI qualification, 78% distinction; 19.1% merit; Pass 2.8%.
- In the CDP Hairdressing Training Limerick, 21 of the 51 trainees (formerly unemployed) achieved QQI at levels 3 and 5 while 28 completed unaccredited training (a 96% completion rate).

School-based programmes for children:

- In Corpus Christi National School, Moyross where the SIF funded Extra Curricula Activities, between 2008 and 2015, there has been a 39% increase in literacy and a 41% increase in numeracy based on standardised tests. These outcomes have been supported by mainstream interventions under the DEIS Schools Support Programme (DES). Corpus Christi National School has also benefited from capacity building interventions for teachers in literacy instruction in all DEIS Primary Schools in the city and speech and language interventions under the Children's Programme Innovation and Development Fund, managed by Supporting Social Inclusion in Regeneration in Limerick (SSIRL), with funding support from Atlantic Philanthropies, government and the University of Limerick.
- Under Junior Achievement Ireland's (JAI) programme delivered in DEIS primary schools and in the junior cycle of secondary schools, there was 100% completion rate of the JAI programme, 60-61% reported that the learning goals which students set for the programme were met; and there was also a reported impact on reduced risk of early school leaving.

Programmes specifically supporting students at risk / at risk of early school leaving:

- Coisceim, which is mainly supported by the DES and LCETB, supports young people in the junior cycle of secondary school at risk of school exclusion / expulsion because of behavioural and other difficulties such as chronic non-attendance. In the project, just under one-third of those attending (33 over the two year period covered by the review) are achieving educational outcomes within the average range.
- In the LCETB Youth Counselling Initiative offered in Youthreach, there has been an increase by 7% in young people completing the programme in 2014 compared with 2013. Overall, greater numbers are retained and progressing. This is linked to the additional counselling services funded by the SIF. Youthreach runs over a three-year period and so not all of the participants graduate in each year, 34% graduated in 2012 and 39% in 2014.
- In Extern – which offers programmes to support children and young people with high level needs and at risk of going into care - 63% of clients supported showed improvements in educational attainment in 2013 and 79% in 2014.

3.3.2 Reduced absenteeism / improved attendance

Fourteen (14) projects report positive outcomes either in terms of reduced absenteeism or improved attendance at a service, or both. Higher rates of non-attendance at medical appointment – such as speech and language therapy – where there are long waiting lists for services and chronic needs, has been identified as a specific problem. Some SIF-supported projects have sought to address this issue. Other interventions relate to school-based and other projects including training for adult learners. Examples of results achieved by SIF-supported projects are presented below.

Improved attendance at services including “turning up” at service appointments:

- The Southill Family Resource Centre (FRC) Early Years Coordinator reports improved attendance at medical appointments including child development clinics. The precise numbers and rate of change in attendance rates are not available, however. Quantification of improved attendance rates is an indicator that such projects wish to record in the future.
- Sophia Housing, offering support to families with high level needs at risk of losing their tenancies, reports improved attendance at medical appointments for the families supported in its tenancies (30 clients) but again, this is not quantified.
- Average attendance rates at the out-of-school activities at the Learning Hub are between 75% and 80% and up to 90% at activities which involve smaller numbers of participants.
- At Incredible Years parenting programmes, 75% attend for 50% of the sessions. It would seem that this could / should be improved bearing in mind that continuity and group work is an important part of delivery of the programme.

School attendance for children and young people at risk of poor educational outcomes:

- The Southill FRC Early Years Coordinator reports improvements in school attendance from engagement with the breakfast club. There are also benefits from coming in early to the school premises for breakfasts (nutrition) including being well-prepared to start school when classes begin.
- Project Reclaim, focused on participation in soccer, works through DEIS schools and with pupils from regeneration areas (Moyross and Southill). The project reports that the number of children missing 20 days or more has reduced and that participation in “Double Club” (sport combined with literacy and numeracy initiatives) has contributed to this. The numbers missing 20 days or more has reduced by 50% in one school.
- In Corpus Christi National School Moyross, between the years 2009 and 2014, the numbers of children missing from school has reduced by 20%. This assessment is based on analysis of the school register.
- In Extern, based on parent report post intervention, between 68% and 85% (in various years) report improved school attendance of the child / young person supported by Extern.
- In Sophia Housing, reduced absenteeism at school is reported for six children from three of the families in Sophia tenancies.
- In Coisceim – supported the average rates of absenteeism from school was just under 80% (18 students in 2012-2013, 79%) or over 80% (15 students in 2013-2014, 84%) prior to entry of young people to the project. Absence from tuition was reduced for all of these students whilst in the project. Improved attendance at school is supported post reintegration back into mainstream school.
- In the Youthreach centres (LCETB Youth Counselling Initiative), absenteeism is considered problematic. There have been improvements here from 39% in 2012 to 31% in 2014, linked to the additional support provided in counselling services. However, the project considered that this must be further improved.

Attendance of adult learners in education and training for unemployed people:

- The FAI / LCETB Skills Development programme states that attendance at training is incentivised as trainees do not get paid their social welfare benefits if they do not attend. Playing football every day also incentivises good attendance.
- In the LCETB Hospitality Education and Skills Training programme, attendance rates are generally high but not uniformly high across the different courses (higher for restaurant skills training compared with bar operations). Attendance rates also vary by term. The project promoters state that sanctions for absence should be strengthened.

3.3.3 Improved school readiness and re-engagement with education

Eight (8) projects supported under the SIF reported improved school readiness (3 projects) or re-engagement with education (5 projects). Examples of projects reporting successes in re-engagement with education are presented below.

Re-engagement with education:

- In Extern, of the 19 referrals from the Education and Welfare Board, 13 achieved positive outcomes, 12 successfully re-integrated back into school and one stayed on in school.
- In Le Chéile Restorative Justice, 20% of the young offenders supported under the project (including mentoring) re-engaged with education.
- In Coisceim, 32 of the 33 supported under the project returned to school to complete the Junior Cert cycle and only one never returned to school. This shows a very high success rate (97%) with reference to the core aim of the project – to work with young people suspended or expelled from school, mainly due to behavioural problems, to support their re-integration back into mainstream school.

3.3.4 Reduced emotional and behavioural problems

Improvements in emotional and behavioural problems mostly apply to children. Positive outcomes are emerging as a result of preventive action including positive parenting programmes. Improvements also apply to young people with complex needs, resulting from targeted interventions for those at high risk, to unemployed young people and to adults with specific problems such as addiction. Twenty-four (24) projects report improvements in emotional and behavioural problems or other difficulties. Examples of projects are presented below.

Reduced emotional and behaviour problems in young people at risk:

- In Coisceim – supporting young people in Junior Cycle with behavioural problems and at risk of expulsion from school - 10 of the 33 students in project between 2012 and 2014 showed marked improvement in behaviour and for most of the remainder, it showed some improvement. This was substantiated by parent and teacher feedback, for instance, the young person “improved behaviour”, “calmed down”, “has a better attitude towards education” (parent feedback). For a few, behaviour didn’t improve. School feedback, generally was extremely positive in showing better behaviour and awareness of the consequences of bad behaviour for most. Others “initially did well, but reverted back.. however some were very troubled students” (Teacher feedback).
- In the Le Chéile Project (young offenders), based on quantitative methods of assessment and qualitative data, independent evaluation showed behavioural improvements and improved family relationships (8 of 41 young offenders in the project at that time) and increased empathy of young offenders vis-à-vis victims (31 of 41 or 76% showed increased empathy). Empathy was very low on entry to the programme. Examples of qualitative feedback from young people: “you know more how the victim felt. If I was thinking about how the victims were feeling before, then I probably wouldn’t have done the crime”

Reduced emotional and behavioural problems in children in school:

- In Corpus Christi National School, analysis of change was conducted using the Strengths and Difficulties Questionnaire (SDQ). This measures Emotional difficulties, Conduct problems, Hyperactivity and Attention deficits, Peer problems and Pro-social behaviour in children. The analysis showed a reduction in the percentage of children in the abnormal range of difficulties by 8% (2012-2014). Positive impact is linked to the broad suite of extra-curricular activities at the school and in-school programmes (under the DEIS Schools Support Programme and other initiatives). As such, the results achieved are not solely resulting from the extra-curricula activities supported by the SIF. The SIF has contributed to the positive outcomes achieved.
- In Incredible Years, exit surveys are used to assess results from the Basic Parenting Programme (children 3 to 8 years). These use SDQ analysis. On the Conduct and Hyperactivity scales: there was an increase in the percentage of children in the normal range and a reduction in the percentage in abnormal and borderline ranges. There was some but less progress on the Emotional scale, especially in older children: of nine assessments undertaken, three showed improvements on the Emotional scale (% in normal range); there was evidence of improved child behaviour with 73% of parents reporting this in the exit survey. In older children, a high proportion remains in the high range of difficulties.
- In Southill FRC Early Years Coordinator, as well as positive impacts from Incredible Years, 10 families were referred for psychological assessment earlier than they would have been in the normal course of events (early access facilitated by the project and Start Right). Beneficial outcomes were reported as a result of the psychological support received post-assessment.
- In the ICO Sing Out With Strings project, 75% of survey respondents (teachers) agreed that participation of children in the project improved behaviour and communication; and 80% agreed that it improved concentration skills.

(young offender); “you think you are doing nothing wrong and it (the Victim Empathy Programme) gives you an insight into the lives of the person you’ve done it to, how much it hurts them and how much you have scarred them” “Yeah, that was a big thing I learned. It was about the effects of what I had done. It helped me change the way I acted” (young offender).

- In Extern, supporting young people with high level needs, survey data on exit from the project shows improvements in family relationships in the home: young people feel they get on better with their family (90% in 2013, 82% in 2014); parents believe the child gets on better in the family (89% in 2013, 84% in 2014); professionals believe children have improved relationships in the home (80% in

2013, 91% in 2014).

- In the LCETB Youth Counselling Initiative (available to young people on Youthreach), it was noted that the percentage of students coming into Youthreach with psychological assessments increased each year from 2011 (14%) to 2014 (24%). However, results show improved behaviour of young learners on-site (11% reduction in challenging incidents on site) and in the family context from the enhanced counselling service (identified in 53 students and 23 families). This is also considered to contribute to improved educational outcomes.

3.3.5 Improved mental health & well-being

Thirty-six (36) projects report positive outcomes in terms of improved mental health and well-being. Fourteen (14) of the projects provide quantification of results achieved, of which seven have undertaken some level of evaluation or user-based assessment. Twenty-two involve qualitative assessment and this is based mainly on feedback from projects as part of monitoring the SIF. Such outcomes are reported for children and young people, families in crisis and adults with specific problems and unemployed people. Examples of project outcomes are presented below.

Families in crisis:

- Social Work and Crisis Intervention in Families Affected by Imprisonment, the Bedford Row project, showed an Increased willingness of families / clients to share difficult experiences including accessing mainstream mental health services (55 individuals involving 35 families in 2014); and improved family functioning (75% of assisted families, 100 in 2014).
- Sophia Housing recorded in their review system improvements in mental health and well-being in three adults in Sophia tenancies;
- Novas Housing First reported reduced emergency interventions required in mental health services (four individuals).

Dealing with problems of addiction, promoting personal development / self-improvement and employability:

- Saoirse Treatment Centre (adults with addiction / substance misuse problems) found in their annual review that 319 clients reported “feeling better” and “more capable in their lives and those around them”.
- SHEP (Social and Health Education Programme) showed positive outcomes for mental health based on end of course feedback and independent evaluation: with 93% reporting reduction in stress and improved mental health, 75% reduction in negative emotions, 83% better coping and communication skills and 82% increased ability for self-care (2010-2013).
- The LCETB Hospitality Education and Training programme found that 80% of trainees improved confidence, self-esteem, developed better routines as well as new generic skills.
- The CDP Hairdressing Training project similarly reported increased self-esteem and confidence to take first steps in engagement in training, recognition of future opportunities and progression onto other programmes; increased confidence in seeking employment and improved mental health.

3.3.6 Progression into Further Education and Training

For those unemployed with low education, lacking work force skills and recent or any experience of employment, progression into further education and training is a very important line of action. Twenty-eight (28) projects report that they have supported progression of adults into Further Education and Training (FET). These projects are spread across different themes. They show that by bringing people into different types of activity or services, they can take first steps and this can be followed-through into self-development / self-improvement via education and up-skilling. Examples of projects reporting such outcomes are presented below.

Adult learners in community education and skills training:

The Limerick Community Education Network (LCEN) supports a network of adult and community education providers in the voluntary sector operating in disadvantaged areas of the city including the regeneration areas. In 2014, the LCEN had 3,000 adult learners registered (across all the member organisations of the network) and 2,750 adult learners participating in accredited and non-accredited FET courses in community venues across the city. Of those:

- 10% (275 learners) progressed onto higher education courses (e.g., at Mary Immaculate College and Limerick College of Further Education) and 30% (825) progressed within the FET sector – for instance, from unaccredited onto accredited training programmes, accessing adult literacy modules, progressing from part-time to full-time programmes, progressing through QQI levels of qualification.
- In 2014, 293 learners submitted for QQI certification and 80% of those (234) are now working towards major awards. A small number achieved major awards in 2014 (8 learners) and two of those have gone into further education while the remainder (4) have progressed into employment.

Projects working supporting unemployed adults targeting adults in regeneration areas and vulnerable adults:

- In the Limerick CDP Hairdressing Training, 35 participants (of 51 participants) progressed within FET, working towards higher level qualification in that sector (2014).
- In the Social and Health Education Programme (SHEP), 56 participants progressed within FET, to work towards higher level qualification.
- In the FAI Programme Development Officers, 50 unemployed adult males progressed into Fitness through Football (within FET).
- Projects encouraging adults (unemployed, inactive, low education and skills) to sign up for / engage in FET and achieving this are reported by the community enterprise centres in particular. For instance, Our Lady of Lourdes Community Services Group reports that they had 200 adults registering for FET courses linked to promotional activities / information and general encouragement; Moyross Community Enterprise Centre reports 57 persons signing up for adult education classes; St. Mary's AID, 10 persons; Tait House Enterprise Officer, 7 persons. The Family Support Initiatives through outreach and connections with families in Southill and Ballinacurra Weston report that 30 and 23 adults respectively have signed up for adult education courses. These "results" are likely to be captured under outputs reported for participation in FET programmes (e.g., under LCEN above). However, by reporting them here, the value of the community hubs and outreach services, also supported by the SIF is highlighted.
- Projects targeting adults in vulnerable families with complex needs include the Bedford Row project supporting families with experience of imprisonment (3% or 8 adults progressing into adult education) and Sophia Housing and Novas Housing First (1 in each case).

Projects working with young people at risk (of offending, early school leaving):

- In the FAI / LCETB Skills Development project, 19% (20 of 73 participants in the period 2012 to 2014) progressed to FET following programme completion.
- In the LCETB Youth Counselling Initiative, 23 young people on completion of Youthreach (approximately 25% of those leaving in that year) progressed to FET in 2014.
- In Project Reclaim, 11 participants on the Gap/Bridge programme (of 90 participants including children in 2013) progressed either into FET, temporary employment or local initiatives.

3.3.7 Community Hub: Significance in Local Communities, Users and Footfall

Community organisations, operating from community centres that provide a focal point for local service delivery have an economic as well as social impact. Capacity building of organisations running the community centres (governance, strategic and business planning) and contribution towards operational costs (e.g., part funding a key post) have been supported by the SIF.

The economic significance of the community enterprise centres is reflected in the numbers employed in the centres (including paid staff and workers on temporary employment programmes). A stronger focus on social enterprise in the community enterprise centres should increase progression from temporary employment programmes into jobs. This is already happening but there is scope for further development here.

The number of users of services (clients) or footfall gives a further indication of the importance of community hubs in the delivery of services into local communities (See Table 3.2 on number of users or the footfall in different years from 2012 to 2014). A difficulty with comparison is that measures of use are not the same and are not precisely defined. "Footfall" or even "number of users" can't be interpreted as number of individual users as the same people use services on a regular basis or use different services at the same centre. This is especially the case with measures of footfall (the number of people visiting a place in a specific period of time) while the user numbers refer to those actually using the services.

The centres or hubs presented above are all located in or adjacent to regeneration areas. Some of these projects highlight that they deliver services to mixed groups and encourage a social mix in the user population. Our Lady of Lourdes and St. Munchin's Community Centre which also have a user base in the middle class areas adjacent to them, especially amongst older people (both) and in the use of sporting facilities (Our Lady of Lourdes). The Limerick Learning Hub also works with a socially mixed population but targets the most disadvantaged communities and schools in the city. Community centres with community cafés (St. Mary's AID, Our Lady of Lourdes, St. Munchin's Community Centre) tend to have higher footfall / numbers of users.

Project Name	No. employed including CE / Tús / JI (2014)	No. Users /Footfall 2012	No. Users /Footfall 2013 No.	No. Users /Footfall 2014 No.	Number of users /Footfall: Description
The Learning Hub		11,385	Not available	Not available	Users of services & visitors
Tait House Community Enterprise		151		7,172	Users of services
St. Mary's AID	41		33,000	39,000 café	Meals served in community
Limerick Youth Services, Youth Cafés		14,000		11,542	Numbers using the café in a 12 month period
Limerick Youth Services, Southside Youth Space, The Factory		8,708	12,863	19,001	Numbers using the services in a 12 month period
Our Lady of Lourdes Community Services Group	52			68,600	Weekly footfall = 1,400 including café (420), classes (143), youth building (100), crèche (160)
St. Munchin's Community Enterprise Centre	148			41,600	Average of 800 persons per week attending activities at the centre
Moyross Community Enterprise Centre, Operational Funding & Environmental Grant	113	9,400	8,400	7,924	Number availing of services in community centre including recreation & meals

Table 3.2: Jobs and users or footfall into community centres and other service hubs

Managers of centres state that it is very important to have services (such as a café, crèche etc.) to bring people into the centres. When they have reasons to visit the centres, they become aware of other services on offer - such as education and training - and can be encouraged to take them up. In some cases where user numbers have declined between 2012 and 2014 - Limerick Youth Services Youth Cafés and Moyross Community Enterprise Centre - the decline is associated with shorter opening times due to cut-backs in income and in Moyross with the decrease in the population. The increase in the numbers using

the Factory Youthspace is linked to new activities including Late Night Leagues.

While this section illustrated the types of results being achieved by SIF-supported projects, the next section examines changes in contextual conditions in Limerick. Changes may be connected in part to the impact of the social regeneration.

3.3.8 Case Study: Children's Programme Innovation and Development Fund (PIDF)

This section presents a case study of the design, implementation and key learning from the Children's Programme Innovation and Development Fund (PIDF).

What it is?

A programme of activities to improve outcomes for children and families in regeneration areas was integrated into the Social Pillar of the LRFIP. The focus of this programme was to promote innovation in services, learning and mainstreaming of best practice. There was a focus on capacity building of the services in the mainstream public services and community and voluntary sector. The Children's Programme Innovation and Development Fund (PIDF) was funded by Atlantic Philanthropies, government (Department of Environment, Community and Local Government) and the University of Limerick. The total grant funding for the Programme was €2.246 million. The Children's PIDF was coordinated by the Limerick Children and Young People's Services Committee (CYPSC). The specific interventions were planned by multi-agency consortia. A common focus of the activities under the PIDF was to get the services to work together to experiment with new ways of doing things, and to mainstream approaches that demonstrate achievement of better outcomes for children and families.

What has changed?

The experience of the Children's PIDF has shown promising results with reference to its core objectives of:

- promoting innovation;
- replication of good practice; and
- interagency working on service delivery to families and children.

Where practical barriers were encountered, a pragmatic, problem-solving approach was taken with solutions found or compromises agreed.

Short-term outcomes achieved include: the introduction of new methods and practices (e.g., in literacy instruction, assessment, speech and language services); cross-service cooperation in the delivery of health services in primary care in the community (e.g., in the StartRight Community Wraparound model); and resource sharing across the services.

Specific initiatives supported under the Children's PIDF

Parenting Support Strategy. This strategy has two strands:

- Parenting Limerick, a network of the family support and children's services organisations in the city working together to improve service coordination and promote user-centred services. The website, www.loveparenting.ie provides information on parenting, services available to families and how to get in touch with them; and
- the Homemaker Family Support Service – a home-based practical family support service implemented in cooperation with Barnardos.

Restorative Practices: Training and mentoring in Restorative Practices was delivered to staff and volunteers working with young people mainly through the designated disadvantaged secondary schools in the city (DEIS schools) and in community centres and youthwork settings in the regeneration areas. Restorative practices draws from a variety of disciplines including: education, psychology, social work, criminology and organisational development. It aims to build healthy communities, increase social capital, decrease crime and anti-social behaviour, repair harm and restore relationships. It is centred on values including: respect for others, empathy, fairness, personal responsibility, accountability and honesty.

Start Right Limerick: This is an early years preventive intervention working to provide child-centred, friendly and accessible services in the disadvantaged communities on the southside of the city. The specific element of Start Right Limerick supported by the Children's PIDF is "Community Wraparound" which was delivered by an interdisciplinary team of professionals from a base at the Southill Health Centre. This is best described as a "joined up" approach to providing services to young children (0-6 years) and their families. It put a special emphasis on speech and language services delivered in schools, crèches and pre-schools in the area.

DEIS Primary Schools Literacy Initiative: This was a programme of continuous professional development (CPD) for teachers at 15 disadvantaged

(DEIS) primary schools in the city in oral language and literacy instruction, working with the most advanced practices in this area. In this case, delivery was led by the Limerick Education Centre who in turn partnered with education stakeholders including Mary Immaculate College; the Department of Education & Skills and school principals in DEIS Primary Schools.

Southside Education Campus: This involves the development of a Full Service Extended School model. This is where services including primary health care (ante natal and child development), parenting and family support are provided on the school campus. It is linked to the construction of a new school, now the Le Chéile primary school which amalgamated Southill Junior School and Galvone National School, and the refurbishment of the existing school building (Galvone National School) to house the Gaelscoil Sheorsie Clancy Southill. The school building works were funded by the Department of Education and Skills (DES) while construction of a Child and Family Centre on the same campus is the next phase of development. Funding from the Children's PIDF was used for advice, research and other actions to bring innovation to the service design and to support implementation of the extended service model.

Little Voices: This programme supports speech and language development in the early years. It is delivered in crèches, pre-schools and primary schools in Moyross and Ballynanty. Both StartRight Limerick and Little Voices aimed to improve participation in speech and language services and Public Health Nursing services (infant and child development clinics) by parents and children. Little Voices has become part of the ABC Start Right programme in operation in the northside of the city including Moyross, and the city centre. The ABC (Area-Based Childhood Anti-Poverty) programme is core funded by the Department of Children and Youth Affairs (DCYA) with additional funding provided by the SIF (in 2014) for the Limerick project.

Some of the initiatives in the Children's PIDF have also delivered improvement in parental awareness of issues such as oral language development in children and how they can support that in their everyday lives. There has also been an improvement in attendance at clinical therapy appointments as a result of small changes in the approach to service delivery, better assessment methods and understanding of needs, more emphasis on building relationships with the users and service integration.

While still at an early stage, there is emerging evidence of positive outcomes for the target population. These include an improved school environment with better relationships; improved school readiness among children starting primary school; and improved parenting capacity (e.g., the Homemaker Parenting Programme) and organisation of parenting services (Parenting Limerick).

Learning from the Children's PIDF

The Children's PIDF has achievements in the priority areas identified at the outset: innovation, mainstreaming/ replication of good practice, inter-agency working in planning and delivery of services to children and families and furthering the public sector reform agenda in the local context. Some elements of the Children's PIDF have been mainstreamed successfully: Parenting Limerick has become a core element of the work of Limerick CYPSC; the DEIS Literacy Initiative has been mainstreamed with the Department of Education and Skills allocating additional teachers to support it; the ABC Start Right Programme is working closely with government departments, and with both local and national agencies, to mainstream the Community Wrap-around Model.

Mainstreaming

Government policies have a big impact on the level of mainstreaming achieved: they can be highly supportive of enabling change by promoting certain strategies (e.g. focus on prevention, early intervention, prioritising literacy, etc) backed up with resources or they can have the effect of limiting change, for instance, shifting priorities, lack of flexibility and insufficient resources to improve conditions for better interventions. While the PIDF did experience challenges in terms of mainstreaming and sustainability, the overall effect of the programme was to enhance significantly the ability of the partners to work in an integrated, evidence-based and outcomes-focused way. It supported the development of a shared vision for what is needed to enhance outcomes for children and families across Limerick and has shaped the Limerick CYPSC's strategies and priorities.



Play facility, adjacent to Moyross Community and Enterprise Centre

Regeneration funding for engagement in sport,
recreation and cultural activities – under the
Health and Well-being theme



3.4 Changes in contextual conditions

There is limited new data available to show changes in contextual conditions that are relevant to the social regeneration programme. Issues for which some data are available relate to indicators of: (1) population change 2011-2016 (Census 2016, Preliminary Results); (2) early school leaving / school completion and attainment in education of young people on leaving second level schools; (3) mental health and (4) offending and crime. It should be stated that any positive changes in contextual conditions cannot be related directly to the impact of the expenditure under the SIF. However, it is expected that the underpinning policies and interventions funded under regeneration in Limerick – the SIF, mainstream public and private / philanthropic funding combined - are contributing to the changes that have occurred. Other external factors – e.g., changes in the local economy, societal attitudinal changes – also influence changes in conditions. See Figure 3.1.

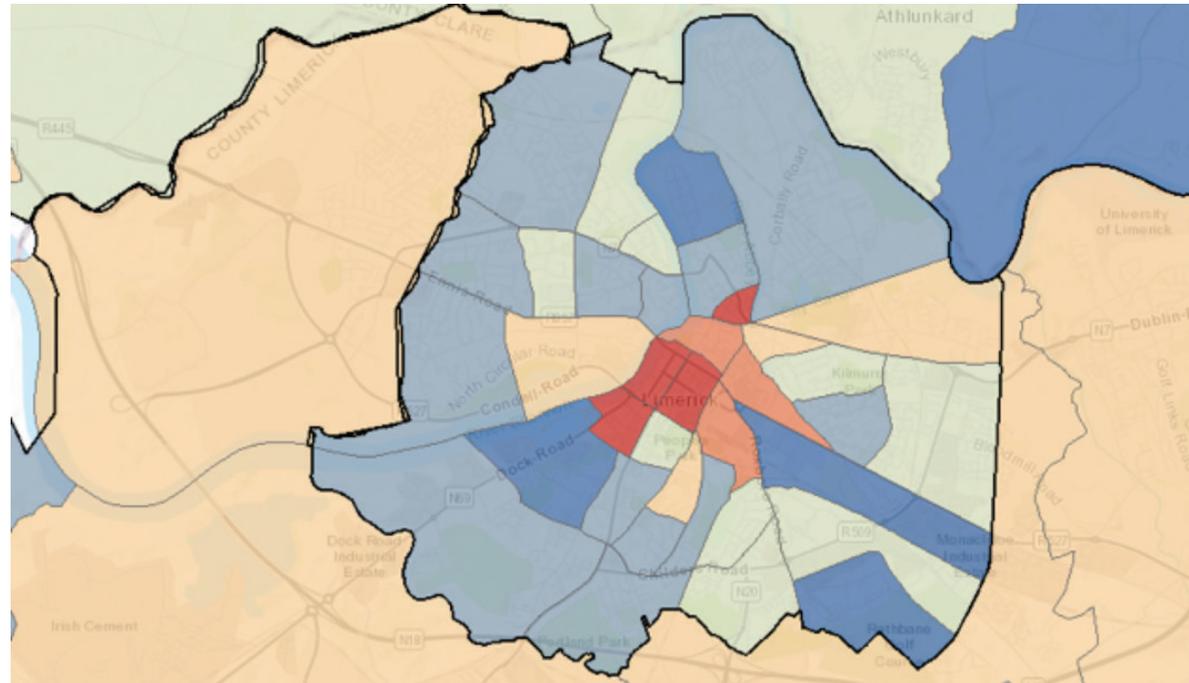


Figure 3.2: Limerick City: Mapping Population Change 2011-2016

Source: CSO Census of Population Preliminary Results 2016

Population Change and Housing Vacancy 2016 (EDs)

% Population Change, '11-'16 (EDs)

- < -10%
- -10% to 0%
- 0% to 5%
- 5% to 10%
- 10% to 20%
- > 20%

Spatial Unit	Pop. 2006 No.	Pop. 2011 No.	Pop. 2016 No.	Change 2011-2016 No.	% Change 2011-2016	Change 2006-2016 No.	% Change 2006-2016
Limerick	184,053	191,809	195,175	3,366	1.8	11,122	6.0
Limerick County	124,265	134,703	136,856	2,153	1.6	12,591	10.1
Limerick City	59,788	57,106	58,319	1,213	2.1	-1,469	-2.5
Ballynanty ED (part Moyross)	3,468	2,918	2,879	-39	-1.3	-589	-17.0
Limerick North Rural ED (Caherdavin & part Moyross)	7,251	6,485	6,865	380	5.9	-386	-5.3
John's A ED (St. Mary's Park)	1,211	863	764	-99	-11.5	-447	-36.9
Galvone B ED (Southill, O'Malley & Keyes)	1,574	878	660	-218	-24.8	-914	-58.1
Rathbane Ed (Southill, Carew & Kincora)	1,702	1,567	1,586	19	1.2	-116	-6.8
Prospect B ED (part Ballinacurra Weston)	1,026	751	713	-38	-5.1	-313	-30.5

Table 3.3: Change in population: Limerick & Regeneration Areas 2006-2016

Source: CSO Census of Population Preliminary Results 2016

3.4.1 Population: Limerick City

Preliminary results from Census 2016 show that the population of Limerick City and County increased between the years 2011 and 2016 by 1.8%, registering a slightly higher level of increase in the city (2.1%) compared with the county (1.6%). The population of the city, however, is still below the number recorded in 2006 (a decrease of -2.5% between 2006 and 2016) while the population of the county increased by over 10% in the same ten year period.

Considering the pattern of population change in the city, the areas recording highest levels of population increase are in the city centre, Shannon A ED (Electoral Division), around Henry Street showing an increase of 38.8%; Shannon B, corresponding with Thomas Street, Roches Street, Cecil Street (+40.6%), Dock A, around Mount Kenneth (+28.8%), John's C incorporating Mary Street on King's Island (+24.7%) and Custom House covering Ellen Street and surrounding area (+19.6%). These are mainly areas with concentrations of

private rental accommodation. While characteristics of the in-migrating population are not yet known, anecdotally, the view is that these are both new communities of non-Irish populations and socially disadvantaged populations including families with young children. Some of those are families relocated from regeneration areas. The sub-urban areas of Limerick also demonstrated population growth over the 2011-2016 period.

Areas of strongest population decline are concentrated in the regeneration areas of the city. Over the period 2006-2016, the largest absolute population change and percentage change has been from the O'Malley Park and Keyes Park area of Southill (-914 people and -58.1% change between 2006 and 2016). While smaller in terms of residential population at the start of the regeneration programme (2007), there has also been a large population decline in St. Mary's Park (-36.9%) and Ballinacurra Weston (-30.5%). The percentage population loss from Ballynanty

ED, covering part of Moyross, was also significant over the whole period (-17%). However, based on the analysis below, over the more recent period (2011-2016), the population of Moyross has stabilised and perhaps grown slightly. It will be possible to establish the latter when the more disaggregated Small Area Population Statistics become available from Census 2016.

3.4.2 Education: Early school leaving and progression in education

New data on changes in educational attainment of the adult population (i.e., for those whose education has ceased) in regeneration areas are not available as yet from Census 2016. Based on most recent data (2011), there are serious structural difficulties and a legacy of low education in the regeneration areas. It will take time for this to be addressed.

However, an important part of the strategy under the LRFIP and reflected in the Education and Learning

theme is to support preventive interventions addressed to children and young people. Such interventions aim to promote stronger attainment in education, prevent early school leaving and promote progression in education after second level schooling. These are all important national policy priorities.

Drawing on most recent data, there have been improvements here for the city as a whole. These reflect broader national trends across a number of indicators:

In the state as a whole, the rate of Early School Leaving, defined as the percentage of persons aged 18-24 years that have left school with lower second level education or below, is 9.8% (2012). This is lower than the average rate of Early School Leaving in the EU (12.8%).

Using Department of Education and Skills datasets (Post Primary Schools Database) to examine cohorts of school leavers one year after they leave school shows a reduction in the absolute numbers and rates of early leaving. This analysis is based on examining cohorts of students in DES-aided post primary schools (excluding those in the senior cycle sitting the Leaving Cert) that are enrolled in one academic year but are not enrolled in a DES-aided post primary school one year later. In the state as a whole, the number of early leavers has reduced from 11,498 enrolled in the 2001/2002 academic year but not enrolled one year later (2002/2003), corresponding an early leaving rate of 3.7% (of total enrollment), to 7,572 enrolled in 2010/2011 but not enrolled one year later (2011/2012), giving an early school leaving rate of 2.4%. In the state as a whole, the numbers and rate of early leaving using this indicator have been reducing year-on-year from 2006/2007.

Generally, the more urbanised areas in the state show higher rates of early leaving compared with rural counties. The former are the areas with concentrations of social disadvantage and DEIS schools (Urban Band 1). In the latter schools, rates of early school leaving are higher on average – in the cohort enrolled in 2010/2011 but not enrolled in 2011/2012, the percentage of early leavers was 3.9% in DEIS schools compared with 2% in non-DEIS schools.

The situation in Limerick mirrors national trends. In post-primary schools in Limerick City (formerly the

not in 2010/11	Enrolled in 2009/10 but	LA area of school attended not in 2011/12	Enrolled in 2010/11 but attended	LA area of school
Limerick City Council (former boundary)	3.2		2.3	
Limerick County Council (former boundary)	2.1		2.5	
State – All Post Primary	2.5		2.4	
State – DEIS	3.9		3.9	
State – Non-DEIS	2.1		2.0	
LA Area with Highest	4.6	Dun Laoghaire-Rathdown	4.0	Dun Laoghaire-Rathdown
LA Area with Lowest	1.7	Roscommon	1.6	Laois

Table 3.4: Early Leavers (%) in Schools in Limerick & the State 2009/10 and 2010/11

Source: *Early Leaving – What Next? Series. Department of Education and Skills.*

<http://www.education.ie/en/Publications/Statistics/Statistical-Reports/Other-Statistical-Reports.html>

City Council area), the rate of early leaving decreased between the two most recent cohort studies, from 3.2% for pupils enrolled in 2009/10 but not enrolled in 2010/11 to 2.3% for pupils enrolled in 2010/11 but not enrolled in 2011/12. While Limerick City was amongst the local authority areas with the highest rates of early leaving in the 2009/10 cohort, the rate of early leaving reduced significantly in the cohort 2010/11, to below the national average.

It is important to state that of those pupils who leave post primary school early, not all go to inactivity or social welfare activity. Analysis of destinations of early leavers for the latest period (enrolled in 2010/11 but not enrolled in 2011/12) shows that just over 50% go on to further education or training or continued second level education in Ireland (including Youthreach, 22% of leavers); a further 16% go into education or training outside of Ireland; 6.6% go to social welfare activity; 4.4% to employment and 21% other options (e.g., emigration, seasonal employment abroad). Data on destinations of early leavers are not available at local level, for local authority areas. It may be the case that Limerick approximates the national picture. However, taking into account the concentrations of DEIS schools in the city, the situation may be worse in Limerick City - e.g., a higher

proportion into social welfare activity - compared with the national average

Over the years, retention rates to Junior Certificate and Leaving Certificate have shown steady rates of improvement in the state as a whole. Since the 2006 entry cohort to DES-aided second level schools, the retention rate to Leaving Cert has been over 90%. Analysis of retention rates by local authority areas⁴ across the state shows that cities have lower retention rates – lowest in Dublin city and Limerick city. There is also a gap in retention rates between DEIS and non-DEIS schools. For instance, in the 2009 cohort, retention rates to Leaving Cert for non-DEIS schools in the state was 92.02% compared with 82.67% for DEIS schools. This gap is reducing over time – e.g., from a 14% gap between DEIS and non-DEIS schools in the 2005 entry cohort to a gap of some 9% in the 2009 entry cohort.

Focusing specifically on the situation in Limerick, the retention rate to Junior Cert was particularly low in Limerick City schools in the 2004 cohort - almost 4% lower than the average for the state and the second lowest of all local authority areas in the state – but it has improved steadily. Although still below the state average and the average rates in County Limerick, the

⁴ Data are based on addresses of schools and not addresses of the pupils attending



Figure 3.4: Retention rates to Junior Cert 2005-2009 entry cohorts for Limerick City, Limerick County and the State

Source: Department of Education and Skills (2016)



Figure 3.5: Retention rates to Leaving Cert 2002-2009 entry cohorts for Limerick City, Limerick County and the State

Source: Department of Education and Skills (2016)

gap between retention rates to Junior Cert in Limerick City schools is less than 1% in the 2009 entry cohort.

Retention rates to Leaving Cert have also improved, with rates in Limerick City improving in line with national trends. The performance of Limerick City schools in retention to Leaving Cert have been below the average rates for schools in Limerick County and the state as a whole. However, the rates in Limerick City have improved from losing some 23% (not retained to Leaving Cert) in the 2002 cohort, sitting the Leaving Cert in 2007/08, which was also the baseline year of regeneration in Limerick, to just over 10% in the 2009 cohort (sitting Leaving Cert in 2014 or 2015). The gap in retention rates to Leaving Cert between the average achieved in Limerick schools and the state average has also reduced over time. This gap was highest in the 2004 cohort (6.9% lower rate in Limerick schools) and is just under 1% in the 2009 cohort (sitting Leaving Cert in 2014/15).

Drawing this analysis together, rates of early leaving in Limerick are in decline, in line with national trends. For those who do not remain in mainstream school, there are options including alternative educational provision in Youthreach. While the situation is improving, there is a core of young people who are unable to stay in mainstream second level education. It is important to understand better the characteristics of early leavers, the reasons for early leaving and what can be done to support educational inclusion.

Progression from second level to third level education is an indicator of attainment from Leaving Cert. Progression rates to third level education from Leaving Cert for all post primary schools, broken down by DEIS⁵ and Non-DEIS schools which serve the Limerick city school population, are shown below. The data show offers of entry to third level from secondary school based on application to the Central Applications Office (CAO) for those schools in the Common Application System⁶ in Limerick from 2006 to 2015. The progression rate to third level across all schools increased by over 20 percentage points over the period 2006 to 2014. The rate of transfer from the DEIS sector showed a more substantial increase from 2010 to 2014, indicating that the situation has been improving. The gap between Non-DEIS and DEIS schools in the transfer rate to third level has ranged from approximately 35% in 2008, 2009 and 2011 to 25% in 2013 and just over 20% in 2014. Between 2010

⁵ DEIS (Delivery Equality of Opportunity in Schools) schools are those supported with a special support programmes and higher levels of capitation because of the profile of their pupils intake as socially disadvantaged / location in socially disadvantaged communities.
⁶ The Common Application System involved 18 schools up to 2013 including schools in the suburbs and two in the county which draw a significant intake from Limerick City. One of those county schools is Coláiste Chiarán, Croom is a DEIS school drawing significant pupils from the city.



Figure 3.6: Limerick Schools in the Common Application System: Progression rates (%) to third level from Leaving Cert in Post Primary Schools (All, Non-DEIS, DEIS) 2006-2015

Source: www.schooldays.ie

and 2014, the gap reduced. However, in 2015, the progression rate for DEIS schools fell to just over 60% compared with 94% for non-DEIS schools, widening the gap. See Figure 3.6.

It should be noted that the changes in progression between DEIS and non-DEIS schools in the most recent years have coincided with significant change in the infrastructure of the schools in the city including decline in numbers in the city schools, especially in those servicing regeneration areas. There have been school amalgamations and school closures, particularly affecting the school-going population of regeneration areas or formerly resident in regeneration areas (e.g., St. Enda's Southill closure, St. Nessan's Community College adjacent to Moyross and Salesians amalgamating, Scoil Carmel in the city centre now closing and serving a catchment area including Ballinacurra Weston). In the last year (2015), part of the explanation of the decline in progression rates from the DEIS schools may be associated with a large influx of non-national populations to city-based DEIS schools in the last two years. This needs to be further investigated.

3.4.3 Crime and offending: overview of change in Limerick Division

This section addresses change in reported offences in Limerick Division. Going back to the start of the regeneration programme in 2007, acting on the recommendations of the Fitzgerald Report (2007), 100 additional gardaí were provided to Limerick Division. The Emergency Response Unit was also deployed in Limerick. The Fitzgerald Report (2007) argued that it was necessary to resolve the issue of serious crime in the city in order to create the conditions for other pillars of regeneration – i.e., the social and economic regeneration - to work. In the LRFIP, Policing, Justice and Community Safety is one of the foundational themes of the strategy.

The additional gardaí brought to Limerick, as part of the commitment of the Department of Justice and Equality to regeneration at that time, were deployed at different levels of the policing structure. This included additional community gardaí. This part of the strategy was considered particularly successful. It is understood that the additional Garda resource has been depleted over time – e.g., through

retirements and lack of new recruitment – but the precise numbers (the extent of attrition of policing resources) are not known. As well as response from policing and the criminal justice system, there was a strong emphasis on engaging with communities to develop an effective response to crime, to find better ways of diverting young people away from offending behaviour, to build relationships of trust with the local regeneration communities and build community resilience.

Under the social regeneration programme, communities have been assisted in various ways to improve community safety and build community engagement. Initiatives have included putting in place CCTV and estate management workers in the regeneration areas as well as stakeholder engagement in local regeneration committees and consultation processes to get the views and feedback from communities. There have been many projects funded under the social programme, especially under Families and Youth at Risk, Health and Well-being and Education and Learning, to divert young people from anti-social and offending behaviour and to engage people generally in productive and developmental activities. Some of these involve participation of community gardaí.

Table 3.4 shows the numbers of recorded offences for 14 categories of crime for the period 2007 to 2015 for Limerick Division.

In terms of specifics, the number of homicide offences in Limerick Division reached a high point in 2010, with 10 homicides. While the number of homicides was in decline from 2011 to 2014, with only one recorded in 2014, there were 7 homicides recorded in Limerick in 2015. However, these incidents in 2015 were mostly not connected with the serious crime issues in the city which were part of the context of regeneration. Dangerous and negligent acts, weapons and explosives offences, damage to property and the environment and public order and social code offences show a relatively consistent decline in the number of reported offences over all of the years since the start of the regeneration programme.

Category of offence	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015
01 Homicide offences	9	7	8	10	4	2	2	1	7
02 Sexual offences	86	86	83	111	130	152	87	67	116
03 Attempts/threats to murder, assaults, harassments and related offences	966	1054	938	991	895	848	798	655	797
04 Dangerous or negligent acts	913	944	703	569	478	413	328	334	386
05 Kidnapping and related offences	7	6	6	7	8	9	7	5	6
06 Robbery, extortion and hijacking offences	115	159	134	160	135	97	109	82	81
07 Burglary and related offences	1226	1423	1516	1310	1481	1221	1095	1096	1106
08 Theft and related offences	4253	4192	4330	4243	4160	4052	3850	4124	3976
09 Fraud, deception and related offences	222	235	197	212	196	177	222	179	255
10 Controlled drug offences	846	887	963	1100	999	876	699	637	685
11 Weapons and Explosives Offences	308	248	248	261	239	215	179	182	137
12 Damage to property and to the environment	2995	2961	2723	2481	2332	2086	1844	1505	1660
13 Public order and other social code offences	2482	2897	2950	2870	2797	2402	2163	1908	1761
15 Offences against government, justice procedures and organisation of crime	310	495	495	449	441	441	996	966	1235

Table 3.5: Limerick Division - Number of reported offences by selected categories 2007-2015

Source: CSO StatBank (2016)

Change in the rates of reported crime for Limerick Garda Division, in the period 2007 to 2015 by main categories of crime (excluding road traffic offences) is presented in Figure 3.6. There has been a decline in almost all categories of crime over the period 2007-2015. With the exception of offences against government, justice and the organization of crime which has increased by +211% over the period⁷, sexual offences (increased in the last 12 month period) and fraud, deception and related offences, all other (11) categories have shown a decline. The largest percentage decline between 2007 and 2014 has

been in dangerous and negligent acts, covering inter alia driving over the limit of alcohol and under the influence of drugs (-58%), weapons and explosives offences (-56%), damage to property and the environment (-45%), robbery, extortion and hijacking (-30%), and public order and social code offences (-29%). Attempts to murder, assaults, harassment and related offences are down by -18% between 2007 and 2015.

Analysis of data on reported crime (offences) for Limerick Division shows that the policing strategy has been effective, especially in dealing with serious crime. Effective policing followed by arrests and convictions in the courts are considered to have brought the situation in Limerick within normal crime and policing levels for an urban area.

⁷ The explanation of the large increase in this category is that some offences here – breach of bail orders – weren't formally recorded on the system (PULSE)

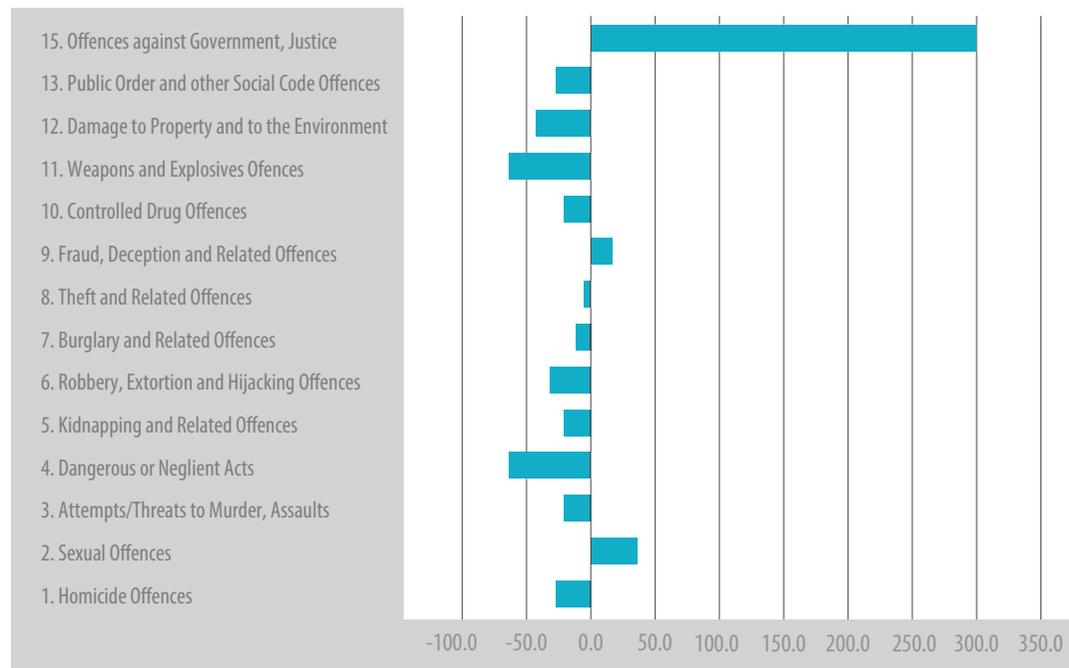


Figure 3.6: Limerick Division: % change in number of offences by type 2007-2014
 Source: Crime statistics, CSO StatBank (2016)



Figure 3.7: Limerick Division: Offences associated with youth crime 2007-2015
 Source: Crime statistics, CSO StatBank (2016)

3.4.4 Youth crime and offending

If the focus is on those sub-categories of offences normally associated with youth crime, the general picture is again one of decline in recorded offences, Figure 3.7.

There has been a significant drop in disorderly conduct (offences often associated with anti-social behaviour). Theft of vehicles (joyriding) also declined from 2009 to 2013 to a low of 435 reported offences in 2013. It increased in 2014 to 550 offences and declined again in 2015. The number of reported offences in this category, however, is well below that reported in the years 2007 and 2008 (just under 1,000 offences). Criminal damage decreased significantly over the years with the number of offences declining each year up to 2014. While there was an increase in such offences between 2014 and 2015, the level in 2015 is well below that in 2007. Theft from shops has increased over the period. Low incomes over the long recession could be amongst the explanatory factors here.

Focusing on the situation of young people at risk of offending, in the state as a whole, the total number of individual children referred to the Garda Youth Diversion Project (GYD) in 2014 was 9,991. The number of individual children referred in the state as a whole is down by -18.4% since 2012. The number of individual children referred for Limerick Garda Division, 595 referrals and 293 individual children in 2014, is down by -11% (number of referrals) over the same period. The total number of referrals also decreased between 2012 and 2014 at all levels of analysis – state, Southern Garda Region and Garda Divisions including Limerick (-12.8% between 2012 and 2014). The rate of referrals is higher on average in the Southern Garda Region (including Limerick) compared with the state as a whole. Within the Southern Region, rates are highest in the more urbanised areas of Cork City and Limerick – highest in Cork City Garda Division (61.1 total referrals per 1,000 children aged 10-17 years and 25.9 children referred per 1,000 children aged 10-17 years in 2014) and Limerick (59.9 total referrals and 28.9 children referred per 1,000 children aged 10-17 years). The average ratio of referrals is highest for Cork City (at 2.4, meaning a higher rate of repeat offenders) and Limerick Garda Division (at 2.1). See Table 3.6.

Rates for Cork City and Limerick are well below those in the Garda Divisions in the state with the highest rate of referrals into GYD. Highest rates of referral are found in Dublin Metropolitan Region with Dublin North Central Division having the highest rates in 2011. (Source: State of the Nation's Children, DCYA, 2012, 2014). The lower rates for Limerick Garda Division in this context (compared with Dublin Metropolitan Region) are affected by the spatial context of the analysis, with Limerick Garda Division including both the city and county. In view of the location of Garda Youth Diversion Projects in Limerick (all except one in the city up to 2014), rates of referrals into GDY are likely to be significantly higher if the analysis related to the city only. However, published data are not available for sub-areas within city and county.

Other sources of local data indicate that the number of **youth offenders** is decreasing. The numbers referred into Young Person's Probation (YPP) - i.e., young people before the courts - have decreased significantly over the last five years. In 2010, YPP had a caseload of some 240 young persons, covering the geographic area of Limerick (city and county), Tipperary, Clare and North Kerry. The current caseload for the same geographic area is 63 young persons. Linked to the geographic area concerned (beyond the city into the wider hinterland), this decline cannot be explained by depopulation / shifts of populations from regeneration areas into sub-urban areas and the rural hinterland. Various factors are suggested to explain the decline: there is a strong push to avoid criminalising young persons under 18 years and, as such, the numbers of young people before the courts have decreased nationally and internationally, there are changes in classification and recording systems, and the growth in youth diversion projects (which have gained momentum in the past few years) may be improving successes in diverting young people at risk away from crime. In the Limerick City context, there are more projects now including professional organisations working with young people at risk, keeping them active in positive activities including sport and supporting those most at risk. Based on findings of this review, there is a strong cohort of "good" quality projects in this area supported by the SIF.

3.4.5 Health and Well-being

Census data (2011) show that the population of Limerick City as a whole has poorer self-rated health compared with the national situation (53% rate their health as very good compared with 60% in the state). This is linked to the profile of social disadvantage of the population resident in the city. The more disadvantaged areas of the city including the regeneration areas show a poorer health profile compared with the average. In 22 of 38 Electoral Divisions in the city, 50% of the population or less rate their health as very good.

Survey data from 2010 show a profile of poorer physical health and particularly poorer mental health (emotional and behavioural problems) amongst children living in regeneration areas compared with average areas of the city. In the same survey, parents were found to have poorer mental health (self-rated) compared with the average population and particularly poorer mental health (Humphreys et al. 2012).

There is little recent data available, to allow analysis of change in health profile over the period of implementation of the social regeneration programme. However, based on data from the Registry of Deliberate Self-Harm, available at city and county level, the indications are that the situation in Limerick is still amongst the worst in the state but it has been improving in the most recent year. Deliberate self-harm is an indicator of poor mental health. Generally, rates are higher in the more urbanised local authorities compared with rural counties.

In 2012, 2013 and 2014, Limerick City had the highest rates of female self-harm in the state. In 2012 and 2013, it also had the highest rates of male self-harm. In 2014, the rate of male self-harm is second highest in the country, after Cork City. In 2012 and 2013, male and female self-harm rates in Limerick City were more than twice the state average and approximately four times higher than the county with the lowest rates. The male rate in Limerick City has been declining each year from 2012 to 2014. While the female rate increased between 2012 and 2013, it decreased significantly between 2013 and 2014. In that year, Limerick City was amongst the counties showing the largest decrease in female self-harm rates (-33% for Limerick City which was the third highest decline

across all city and county areas). Over the period 2007 to 2014, the male rate of deliberate self-harm has decreased by -23% and the female rate by -17%.

While the situation on this indicator of mental health is particularly bad in Limerick – and it is associated with its profile of social deprivation – these data indicate that there has been an improvement in the most recent period.

Garda Areas	Total number of referrals		Total referrals per 1,000 children 10-17 years (based on Census 2011 population)		Total number of children referred		Children referred per 1,000 children 10-17 years (based on Census 2011 population)		Average ratio referrals per child referred	% change in no. of referrals	% change in children referred
	2012	2014	2012	2014	2012	2014	2012	2014	2012 -2014	2012 -2014	
All areas	24069	19854	51.1	42.2	12246	9991	26.0	21.2	2.0	-17.5	-18.4
Southern Garda Region	4839	4025	54.5	45.3	2525	1958	28.4	22.1	2.1	-16.8	-22.5
Cork City	1517	1341	69.1	61.1	765	569	34.8	25.9	2.4	-11.6	-25.6
Cork North	661	472	41.3	29.5	408	270	25.5	16.9	1.7	-28.6	-33.8
Cork West	457	395	29.8	25.8	292	236	19.0	15.4	1.7	-13.6	-19.2
Kerry	802	595	53.9	40.0	397	293	26.7	19.7	2.0	-25.8	-26.2
Limerick	1402	1222	68.7	59.9	663	590	32.5	28.9	2.1	-12.8	-11.0

Table 3.6: Number and rate (per 1,000) children aged 10-17 years referred to Garda Youth Diversion Programme by Garda Region and Garda Division, 2012 and 2014

Source: Annual report of the Committee Appointed to Monitor the Effectiveness of the Diversion Programme, 2012 and 2014 data, Garda Youth Diversion Office

	2012		2013		2014	
	Male rate per 100,000	Female rate per 100,000	Male rate per 100,000	Female rate per 100,000	Male rate per 100,000	Female rate per 100,000
Limerick City	469	528	406	570	346	380
Highest city or county area	469	528	406	570	394	380
Lowest city or county area	107	141	93	130	127	133
State	195	228	182	217	185	216

Table 3.7: Rates of deliberate self harm for males and females 2012-2014

Source: National Suicide Research Foundation, Registry of Deliberate Self-Harm, 2012, 2013 and 2014

4. Conclusions and Recommendations

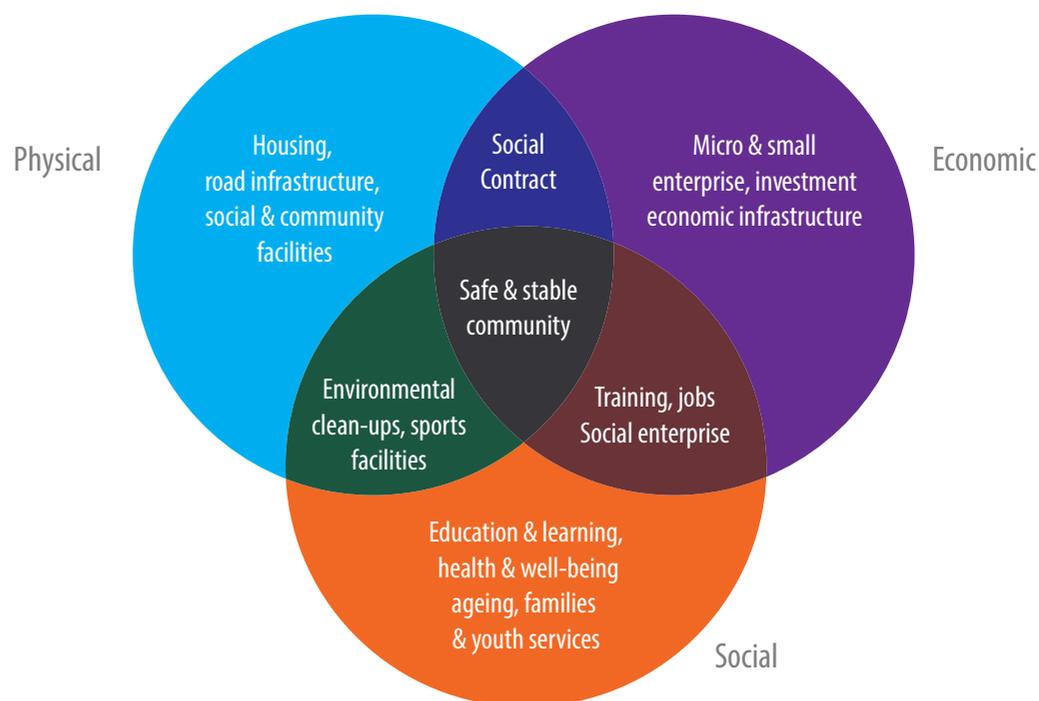
This section considers achievements of the social programme with reference to the overall aim of the LRFIP and the strategy as outlined in the Plan. It presents the main conclusions, learning, and proposes recommendations for action. As this review is concerned with the Social Intervention Fund (SIF), the conclusions focus on the Social Pillar. It also draws conclusions on integration of the social with the other pillars of the LRFIP (Physical and Economic). However, these pillars are the subject of separate reviews. The progress discussed here concerns the impact from connecting the social programme to actions under the other pillars. It also draws conclusions on the underpinning themes – all of which are extremely important to social regeneration.

4.1 Achievements with reference to aims of the LRFIP

The overall aims of the LRFIP centred on creating safe and sustainable communities, with good quality of life, physically connected and integrated into mainstream social, economic and cultural life of Limerick. The aims of the social pillar were to promote access to opportunities for residents of regeneration areas, reduce the gaps in the socio-economic profile of those communities and the average situation in the city and thus reduce social inequalities. These are long-term aims. The strategy was centred on an integrated approach of physical, economic and social development underpinned by three cross-cutting themes: Community Participation and Empowerment, Policing, Justice and Community Safety and Whole of Government Approach. Figure 4.1 illustrates the integrated strategy of the LRFIP.

The findings of this review indicate that the overall aims are being progressed. Generally the strategy of an integrated and more coordinated approach in the social programme is the correct approach.

There has been a strong positive impact under Policing, Justice and Community Safety. This results from effectiveness of the policing and justice strategy and some elements of the social programme that promote community safety (CCTV, estate management, positive engagement of Gardaí with young people at risk etc.). Community safety, however, is an on-going concern.



Community participation, engagement & local initiatives

Policing & community safety

Whole of Government approach & local co-ordination

Figure 4.1: The LRFIP Strategy – An Integrated Approach

Community Participation and Empowerment as an underpinning theme has been advanced in some ways. “Community”, as a theme, has been strongly supported under the SIF. This includes the allocation of many small grants for community celebrations and community building, and these are highly valued. The structures of the Local Regeneration Committees, the Community Consultative Forum, regular meetings with residents’ groups and support for estate management have been retained from the first phase of the regeneration under the Limerick Regeneration Agencies (2007-2012). Recently, there has been a restructuring of the estate management

structures on the southside. A capacity building programme for civic engagement, with funding from Atlantic Philanthropies and government, is in place. Building up civic engagement and civic communities in regeneration areas, however, is a work in progress. Feedback from resident groups and other organisations indicate that the structures and communication to and from residents to Limerick City and County Council can be improved.

Linking into the social dimension of the Economic Pillar, the Employability and Work theme (jobs and community enterprise) has been advanced in the last

two years in particular. Funding from the SIF has been used to enhance services, or to link into programmes, funded by mainstream government Departments and agencies including: Department of Social Protection (DSP), Department of Education and Skills (DES), and Limerick and Clare Education and Training Board (LCETB). Links with potential employers / employer organisations to inform skills training content and support access to employment have been developed in certain sectors. There is potential for stronger achievements here – for instance, making full use of the Social Clause in Public Procurement, particularly as housing and physical renewal projects are rolled out in regeneration areas and in the city and environs and by engaging with employers in need of skilled labour. These issues are addressed in the review of the Economic Pillar.

Positive outcomes are also being achieved by the SIF in social dimensions of the Physical Pillar. With support from the SIF, there have been improvements in the environment of regeneration areas by supporting small-scale facilities upgrading, sports' facilities development and environmental clean-ups. Some of these schemes are translating into training and job opportunities for long-term unemployed and residents of regeneration areas – showing integration across social, economic and physical objectives. Achievements under the Social Pillar – and thematic approach within the Social Pillar – are presented in more detail in Section 4.3. First, however, the lessons of regeneration, drawing mainly on the perspective of projects supported under the SIF, are highlighted.

4.2 Learning from the experiences

As part of the monitoring of the SIF grants, projects were asked to identify learning from the experience of regeneration. The learning presented below is drawn mainly from the bottom-up experiences of projects.

4.2.1 Funding: Challenges and sustainability

Funding from the SIF has coincided with a period of cuts in public funding. The SIF has been extremely important to support many aspects of the social regeneration in Limerick. Feedback from projects is that mostly these activities could not have been undertaken without it. Apart from this, the main issues raised in relation to funding were as follows:

1. **Contribution to operating costs:** The SIF has been important in funding running costs of projects. Such funding is difficult to source compared with capital one-off grants. Incomes amongst the user base of many facilities (e.g., sports and recreation) in regeneration areas are not at a level where these services can operate without some public subsidy.
2. **Public funding for key posts:** The SIF has partially funded key posts – e.g., contribution to the salary costs of a CEO of a community enterprise centre, or an Enterprise Officer. Even with increased self-generated income, voluntary and community organisations state it is not possible to fully fund these posts without support from regeneration. Many of the larger-scale centres are complex in terms of how they are run (with voluntary boards, sub-committee structures), in the services they deliver and funding arrangements. The degree of complexity is such that they require professional staff.
3. **Coordination of funding:** Projects / service delivery has required accessing grants from various sources including mainstream programmes, DSP active labour market schemes as well generating own income and attracting philanthropic funding. Working with such a funding mix requires good technical skills and significant senior staff time in drafting grant applications and reporting on financial and physical outputs.
4. **Flexibility of funding from regeneration:** Working to meet the requirements of “top down” mainstream programmes can affect the quality of projects delivered, as criteria of national programmes may not be sufficiently flexible to meet the needs of clients. An important strength

of regeneration is the flexibility of the funding from the SIF. It is providing funding where it is needed (e.g., for staff, equipment) and it can link with other sources of mainstream funds.

5. **Additionality:** Following on from the previous point, the flexibility of the SIF has allowed regeneration to fund different aspects of operations that couldn't have been funded or would have been difficult to fund from mainstream programmes (e.g., small scale facilities, equipment, business plans). Access to such funding allowed projects to happen. It is also funded additional services (such as a counselling service in a training / education programme) that are not provided by the mainstream. There are examples where such services have had a positive impact on improving outcomes such as improved retention of participants in programmes and better progression for target groups with complex needs.

4.2.2 Community participation and empowerment

Strengths and on-going challenges of community participation and empowerment were identified by projects as follows.

1. **Community Hubs - Connecting residents to services:** By clustering services into “hubs” or centres where people go every day, residents of regeneration areas become aware of the activities and services on offer. Face-to-face encounters encourage residents to participate in local activities and take-up services. Activities / services include: education, training and employment opportunities as well as citizen information, health and well-being, advice clinics (legal, housing), social and recreational activities.
2. **Local community engagement structures – positives and negatives:** The work of estate management projects was considered “vital to maintain and support residents groups .. to give them a voice..”. The Community Consultative Forum was considered important for sharing information across the regeneration areas, linking into Local Regeneration Committees. There has been a positive impact on building community by getting residents involved in social activities, which are easily accessed and non-threatening (e.g., regular walking group or other social / community activities). However, while there are many activities to engage with

residents and inform them, the extent to which the local committee structures represent the wider community is contested by some. Representation and empowerment are on-going challenges.

3. **Challenges of broadening community participation and building trust:** Residents' groups and community structures need to be widened (e.g., to bring more diversity, rotation of representation). This is considered difficult in practice. Feedback from projects is that it can be difficult to retain residents on committees and to bring in new and younger residents. For instance, one project reported that residents can feel they are targets of criminal / anti-social activity because of committee membership. It has been a challenge for voluntary and community organisations themselves to build trust - even the trust of their own communities.
4. **Challenges of connecting community structures to the wider community:** Connecting the community consultation structures to the wider community is essential to empower communities and involve them in decision-making. Information sharing across the structures in the regeneration areas (Local Regeneration Committees, Estate Management, and the Community Consultative Forum) is happening. However, connecting with the wider community – to keep them informed, to get feedback and their views - has proved challenging. For instance, reviews of the work of the Community Consultative Forum with its own membership indicate that members consider the Forum is effective in two-way communication with the Local Regeneration Committees and Residents' Forum but it is not particularly effective in communicating with the wider community.
5. **Governance and capacity building:** It is considered that the set up and governance of some of the structures in regeneration areas need to be revamped. Capacity building is needed to develop skills of committee members / Board representatives, to refresh the representation structures and promote wider community participation. Some structures were set up in different circumstances historically. In the meantime, conditions in regeneration communities have changed, people have moved away from the areas and this has changed the dynamic in the communities, and there are new structures in place for communities to engage with local government (e.g., the Public Participation Network).

4.2.3 Partnership and inter-agency cooperation

The implementation of many projects supported by the SIF has involved inter-agency cooperation. This is reflected in the mixed funding base of activities. This review identified both benefits and challenges of inter-agency cooperation.

1. **Inter-agency work at strategic level:** This is on-going. Senior officials from Limerick City and County Council for instance, participate on boards and various inter-agency committees across the city. Bringing stronger coordination in planning is an important priority. The Local Strategic Advisory and Monitoring Group on regeneration has a key role to play here. Membership of this Group comprises senior personnel from all the key agencies in the city including the local authority, HSE, Tusla, An Garda Síochána, the Probation Services, DSP, voluntary and community representatives including the PAUL Partnership and representatives of the regeneration communities, and a senior official from the Department of Housing, Planning, Community and Local Government (DHPCLG).
2. **Good informal structures and processes of cooperation at operational level:** There were many examples of good inter-agency working, especially in services supporting children and families and in education and learning. In practice, this has involved using existing service settings to access clients (e.g., schools and Garda Youth Diversion Projects); operating referral systems to source clients and to work to put follow-up supports in place; agreeing on outcomes expected between agencies, community / voluntary service providers and clients. In some projects, informal advisory / stakeholder group structures have been set up to guide, and support the project; to discuss and review cases and prioritise case allocation; to connect different support activities so that there is a continuum of services, which is especially important for those with highest needs. This approach is considered good practice.
3. **Cooperation embedded in projects from the outset:** New opportunities are being created by forming partnerships to deliver actions under the LRFIP. This applies especially in projects in employability and work centred on cooperation between agencies such as the LCETB (community education and skills training), DSP (providing clients and funding under temporary employment programmes), local community / voluntary bodies

such as the PAUL Partnership, Limerick CDP and the local authority. More recently, it has also involved developing working relationships with the private sector. A good example of the latter is the Hospitality Education and Skills Training programme.

4. **Challenges - organisation of public procurement and activating the social clause:** A key challenge identified by one of the larger-scale projects is securing tenders for service-specific work contracts from local government. Difficulties here are linked to the way in which public procurement is organised (large scale tenders where the type of work they could tender for is part of a comprehensive tender package for building companies). The impact of the Social Clause in procurement in regeneration has not been established (i.e., to what extent it has enabled training and employment of long-term unemployed people in projects procured as part of the regeneration). Use of the Social Clause in procurement contracts could be pursued more pro-actively. This issue is also addressed in the review of the Economic Pillar of regeneration.
5. **Lack of coordination and contradictions in some areas of policy:** Deficits in coordinated planning in training provision, competition on unequal terms between certain types of providers, in provision of adult and community education (e.g., insufficient foundational level training which, mostly, is unaccredited), and ineligibility of unemployed people under 25 years for Community Employment Schemes were identified. These deficits are considered to impact negatively on access to education and training for target groups in regeneration areas and on progression.
6. **Implementation of inter-agency responses:** Inter-agency work can present challenges in implementation. For instance, one of the strategic projects to implement a coordinated approach to assessment of needs of children targeting those with higher level needs - LANS (Local Assessment of Needs System) / the Common Assessment Framework (CAF) - showed early promise but this didn't go on to reach its potential. While involvement in the process led to positive outcomes for some children, there were practical difficulties and delays with the inter-agency working methods and in some cases getting consent from parents. Nonetheless the experience of the LANS/CAF was considered useful. The new

assessment of needs and care planning system for children developed and now applied by Tusla (known as Meithal) takes on the thinking underpinning the LANS/CAF.

4.2.4 What aspects work or have been positive?

This section presents key points identified by projects on the ground in terms of “what works”.

1. **Preventive approach:** Projects working with children, young people and families highlight the importance of preventive approaches. These are seen to be “more effective than going in to support families that only have the very serious problems” (i.e., the targeted services). The SIF has been important in supporting preventive approaches over the last couple of years. Examples here are: the Incredible Years parenting programme; Garda projects working with younger children through sport and other activities, to divert them from anti-social behaviour and build positive relationships with the Gardaí; a youth counselling service in Youthreach and additional support services in training and activation projects to deal with issues including mental health and well-being, improve behaviour, attendance, discipline, teamwork / working with others and respect. Such additional elements are considered crucial to improve retention and successful completion of programmes and progression into further training, education and employment.
2. **Customisation to need:** Many projects emphasised that services must be customised to identified needs; project promoters need to be creative, open to changing content and processes to improve the relevance of services to needs and introduce variety (varied timetables / structure of activities to allow for counselling, guidance, group work, mentoring; etc.). Often training needs to be followed-up with “refresher courses” and additional support, to embed the learning and support positive outcomes. Some projects stated that standardised / pre-set programmes are not always culturally suitable or are not at a level suitable to participants. More training for staff and support with supervision of young people are needed to ensure delivery of quality services.
3. **Incentives and sanctions and personal empowerment:** In relation to training and activation of unemployed people, a balance between incentives (encouragement) and sanctions are important to promote successful outcomes. It is important to promote personal empowerment and “taking responsibility”. As well as providing incentives such as a programme of enjoyable activities (sport), combined with encouragement and “soft” supports, sanctions for non-attendance (e.g., loss of social welfare payments) are proving important to maintain attendance. However, levels of non-attendance are often too high (for some elements of courses or at certain times in the academic years). In one project, it was suggested that sanctions for non-attendance could be strengthened.
4. **Improving progression and positive outcomes:** Some projects made suggestions in order to improve progression and positive outcomes. In education and training projects, suggestions include more work on development of modules at higher levels of accreditation to create pathways into third level education; more attention to building up the social skills of participants needed for successful engagement in education and training at post-leaving cert and third level (e.g., they may be academically able but they often lack the social skills and support to progress with their education); wider engagement of young people from regeneration communities to create positive role models and mentors to others; and more foundation level training / education with social support. Getting greater continuity of support – the continuum – requires good cooperation on the ground amongst local delivery bodies and the back-up of key agencies (linked to funding). This is a work in progress.
5. **Engaging with “hard to reach” groups including young people at risk:** A number of approaches that seem to work well were identified by projects:
 - Sport and music provided in safe and supervised environments can “pull” young people at risk into positive activities. When they get involved in sport and music, other skills improve and so too does their self-esteem. The competitive element in sport is an important factor with one project commenting that “teenagers like competition”.
 - Outreach (including driving around the areas to meet and talk to young people) and relationship-building after school hours and in the evenings have been very important in engaging young people most at risk, who are often “hanging around with nothing to do”. Connecting such approaches with community policing has been very effective.
6. **Building social connections, social integration and changed image:** Working with people from all social backgrounds towards a common goal, to promote social integration across communities in the city has been an important objective of some city-wide projects. This approach helps to break down social barriers, connect regeneration communities into the wider social and cultural life of the city, and improve the image of those areas and of the city. Social connectivity is central to the strategy for regeneration. City-wide events supported by the SIF have worked through schools and youth projects in particular. However, connections here need to be strengthened to ensure that city-wide events funded by regeneration do engage a significant proportion of residents of regeneration areas or otherwise

- Projects, working with and through schools, bolt other activities onto sport including literacy and numeracy, operating in a less formal education setting. One project in this field emphasised group work / teamwork and problem-solving.
- Opportunities for young people at risk to build relationships and trust with personnel working in the frontline services including the Gardaí are important. This can be done by regularly attending school events, matches, community days so that the kids and their parents “get to know them”. This was where the idea of the Late Night Leagues (soccer) began and why they are considered successful. It also applies with projects supporting music education in DEIS schools (Sing Out With Strings, Music Generation Limerick). Such activities build a sense of pride and improve confidence and self-esteem.
- Projects working in family support state that they must be proactive in connecting with the extensive network of agencies that are potentially available to support families. Projects supporting families with complex needs in housing initiatives, for instance, identified the need to strengthen links with the Primary Care Team as health-related issues particularly mental health problems are often amongst the unmet needs of their clients.
- A number of projects in family support and youth work identified the importance of having services available to respond to needs outside normal office working hours (i.e., in the evenings and weekends). The delivery of out-of-hours services shouldn't rely mainly on volunteers.

positively impact on regeneration communities (e.g., promotion in regeneration communities, events held in those communities).

7. **Impact of capacity building:** Capacity building within organisations was supported in several projects. For instance, the Limerick Community Education Network (LCEN) supports community and voluntary organisations including volunteer-only groups to navigate the complex systems and procedures now required in the delivery of community adult education. In other projects, support from regeneration has funded advice and training to voluntary and community groups to improve systems, governance structures, planning and review. A number of projects have identified that they need to improve on monitoring, evaluation and documenting their work practices and achievements. Voluntary and community organisations consider it difficult to resource such activities due to “tight budgets”, the demands of service delivery on the ground and the expertise required.
8. **Transferability of experience:** Being more systematic in collecting information and documenting practice and achievements is important in order to build on what has been done. It is also important in order to promote the transfer of successful aspects more widely. There were already some experiences of transfer of good practice across projects supported by regeneration. There is further scope for this, within the city and more widely into the county. This could be facilitated under the auspices of the Limerick Local Community Development Committee (LCDC) and in the preparation of the Local Economic and Community Plan, LECP (2016-2021) for Limerick City and County.

4.3 Main Conclusions: The Social Pillar

The analysis of achievements under the Social Pillar is based on monitoring and review of a sample of projects funded under the SIF - 78 projects receiving grants of €10k or more in 2014 and tracked back to 2012 - and analysis of changes in contextual conditions over time. The social regeneration programme combines the dedicated funding from the SIF and mainstream public and private funding that has been invested in the interventions supported. The findings indicate that the funding from the SIF is drawing from, and strongly embedded in, mainstream funding programmes – See Section 2.1 Financial Inputs. Linked to this, it has not been possible to provide a precise quantification of the outputs and results of the SIF funding alone – i.e., to quantify the specific contribution of the SIF to the outcomes achieved. However, the SIF is making an important contribution to those outcomes.

Analysis of changes in contextual conditions indicates that there have been improvements in a number of areas of the social programme (e.g., crime / offending rates, retention in education, educational attainment). Outcome-based data from projects supported by the SIF indicate that positive outcomes are being achieved – for instance, in improving school readiness of children starting school, in the emotional well-being and behaviour of young children, reduced absenteeism, improved attainment in education, adult participation in education and training, access to temporary employment, jobs and social enterprise and safer communities.

4.3.1 Added value of the social regeneration and the SIF

The added value of the social regeneration and the SIF is as follows.

1. An important contribution has been to create the framework for public agencies and private funders to invest in regeneration communities, to meet identified social needs. It has created the framework to work with an integrated approach across social, economic and physical development. The framework also supports improved coordination.
2. The SIF provides an important source of additional funding, to target specific needs in regeneration communities (e.g., a counselling service, outreach, family support service) that would not be addressed at all or not to the same extent in the

absence of regeneration.

3. Information from projects assisted indicate strong financial additionality of the regeneration funding from the Department of Environment, Community and Local Government (DHPCLG), now the Department of Housing, Planning, Community and Local Government (DHPCLG) – i.e., if the funding was not available from the SIF, alternative sources of funding were not available to implement actions either at all or at the same scale. In the assessment of projects for support under the SIF, co-funding from mainstream sources is amongst the criteria used in the interest of sustainability and mainstreaming of interventions. In some cases, funding from the SIF was a requirement to secure additional match funding (e.g., from JP McManus Foundation). Issues related to funding, from the perspective of the projects supported, are elaborated further in discussion on “learning” above.
4. Interventions supported under the SIF are complementary to mainstream programmes (e.g., in adult education and training, family support, children’s services, out-of-school services). They may add elements that cannot be funded currently by the mainstream and, in this way, they make the mainstream services work better for the target communities / groups.
5. The initiative and delivery of projects come from the bottom-up and predominantly from local community-based and voluntary groups. This approach to allocation of funds from the SIF will tend to produce projects that are more responsive to local needs. In this respect, the approach brings an element of policy additionality. Change of practices in the mainstream is an example of policy additionality. The findings from the separate evaluation of the Children’s Programme Innovation and Development Fund (PIDF) implemented under the auspices of the Limerick Children’s and Young People’s Services Committee indicates that some changes of practices in the mainstream services are being applied (e.g., in the delivery of speech and language therapy in community settings, in “community wraparound” services delivered by StartRight for children from birth to six years on the southside)⁸. Changes are being made because they are achieving better outcomes.
6. The bottom-up approach of the SIF can bring other benefits including capacity building of

local groups to deliver quality community-based services. There is evidence of improved community capacity as a result of SIF interventions including enhancement of the community hubs – i.e., the Community Enterprise Centres in or adjacent to regeneration communities.

7. The approach of using “open calls” for proposals in the allocation of funds from the SIF, together with independent assessment and right to appeal decisions of the assessment panel will tend to promote fairness and transparency in decision-making. This is considered good practice.

4.3.2 Achievements under the themes of the Social Pillar

Within the social programme, there has been progress across all themes, with the exception of Ageing Well. The lack of impact with the latter is connected with having few medium to large-scale social interventions funded by the SIF under this theme (lack of demand from regeneration communities). Ageing Well under the LRFIP has been absorbed into the wider programme of the local authority to prepare for demographic ageing. An Age-Friendly Strategy has been prepared for Limerick City and County Council area, drawing on an inter-agency approach and involving older people. There is a structure in place – the Age-Friendly Alliance – to drive the age-friendly agenda across the city and county. An Older People’s Strategy for Limerick Garda Division has also been prepared by An Garda Síochána (2015).

Based on this review, it is not the case that needs of elderly people are not addressed within the social regeneration programme. Overall, there aren’t large numbers of elderly people now resident in regeneration areas. Their needs are modest, and addressed mainly under the Community and Health and Well-being themes, and in the larger-scale projects in the social programme (e.g., enhanced services delivered by community centres including meals, education and health, social care and personal services for elderly people and social activities for older people to connect with each other and their community). Beyond social issues, the key concerns of elderly relate to anti-social behaviour / community safety and being in comfortable / warm and secure housing. Fear of crime is a specific issue affecting older people. Quality housing integrated with other services to support independent living is being addressed in the physical programme (i.e., specific

housing schemes for older people).

There is a strong cluster of community-based projects delivering positive outcomes under the themes Education and Learning and Families and Youth at Risk, adding value to programmes in the mainstream services, especially the DEIS School Support Programme (Department of Education and Skills), juvenile justice (Department of Justice and Equality) and services for those children and families at risk of poorer outcomes (Department of Children and Youth Affairs (DCYA), Tusla and HSE).

In the case of very vulnerable families, bringing stability to families is often connected with meeting basic needs in the first instance, such as housing (availability, quality and tenancy maintenance) and managing money. As trust develops with the workers, support can expand into referrals to appropriate support services to address other issues and promote longer-term personal development objectives. With support from the SIF, services have been put in place in communities to better reach groups and families with greatest needs, to provide services directly to them (e.g., programmes of support to families and children affected by imprisonment), to refer on to other services and, in the process, to build the trust in the services. This is a work in progress.

There is evidence of improvements and in reducing gaps in educational attainment (e.g., in retention in school to Junior Cert and Leaving Cert, in progression to third level education) and in reducing juvenile crime. It should be noted, however, that such changes reflect general trends across the state as a whole. Nonetheless, there are indications that the situation in Limerick has improved since the baseline years of regeneration. There are still high levels of need – in areas such as poor mental health, a core of families with complex needs (including problems of addiction, offending behaviour, experience of imprisonment, risk of loss of social housing tenancies, family conflict). Educational disadvantage is a specific challenge reflected in a legacy of low education in the adult population (including young adults, parents, and people of working age) in regeneration communities and under-performance in educational attainment. There is also deeply embedded structural unemployment. It is a long-term project to effect change in these areas.

Within the social programme – especially Education and Learning, Health and Well-being, Families and Youth at Risk – there is a good mix of preventive and targeted actions. This approach was planned under the social pillar of the LRFIP. This review shows that positive outcomes are being achieved in preventive interventions (e.g., reduced absenteeism / better attendance, improved school readiness on starting school, improved attainment linked to participation in out-of-school and other programmes etc.). Preventive and early intervention programmes (e.g., in early childhood education, positive parenting programmes) are now part of the mainstream strategy to improve outcomes for children and families (Better Outcomes, Brighter Futures, DCYA, 2014). They are considered cost effective in the longer-term. However, when public funding is restricted, preventive interventions tend to be more difficult to fund at local level as scarce public funds flow to areas where there are greater pressures and more serious problems (e.g., child protection). The SIF has made an important contribution to co-funding or substantially funding some preventive interventions that are showing good results.

Employability and Work, with links to the Economic Pillar, was slow to take off. However, in the most recent period (2013 and 2014 especially), a number of good quality projects, working in cooperation with LCETB, DSP, the PAUL Partnership and other partners (employers / industry partners) have been implemented. Positive outcomes include: participation in adult education, accredited qualification, progression in further education and training and access to employment including temporary employment and mainstream jobs. These projects are targeting groups distant from the labour market, with a significant proportion coming from regeneration areas. Groups include: young adults with low education, long-term unemployed and some with a history of offending. Successes here show what can be achieved with the right mix of support, by working with industry to inform the content of skills training and with potential employers to promote access to jobs.

Current activation policy – i.e., the strong focus on working with long-term unemployed and economically inactive, people with low education, targeting people living in most disadvantaged areas, promoting progression into further education and training, employment and enterprise - is likely to have

assisted in the improved progress under Employability and Work in the regeneration programme. However, this has also been supported in Limerick by the good working relationships between the key partners – the PAUL Partnership, the Local Employment Services, Limerick Community Development Project, the DSP, LCETB, the local authority and voluntary and community organisations. Funding from the SIF has supported delivery of new training and employment projects including innovative projects that are market-driven (skills need identified, training provided and progression into employment). In implementation of the Social Inclusion and Community Activation Programme (SICAP) in urban Limerick, the PAUL Partnership works with ten community partners, covering all the disadvantaged areas of the city. These include partner organisation in all of the regeneration areas (including the Community Enterprise Centres, Limerick Learning Hub, Limerick CDP etc.). This approach facilitates a good connection between regeneration and the mainstream in the implementation of activation programmes designed to reach most disadvantaged groups. There is a community-based infrastructure in place that is essential to achieving good results, based on achieving the Key Performance Indicators under SICAP in 2015 / to mid-year 2016. Regeneration funding is being utilised to fund elements that cannot be supported by the mainstream, adding value to both regeneration and the mainstream programmes such as SICAP.

The development of community / social enterprise, particularly promoted by the Community Enterprise Centres, is creating new opportunities and jobs in regeneration communities. Social and community enterprise has gathered momentum in the most recent period. The Community Enterprise Centres, to varying degrees, are now generating a higher proportion of their income from such activities. There is further scope for development here. This is also being considered as part of the review of the Economic Pillar of regeneration.

Under Health and Well-being and Community, sport, recreation and cultural activities have been important in bringing residents of regeneration areas, especially young people, into positive activities. In some cases, involvement in such activities have led to qualification and work, positive health outcomes especially mental health, improved confidence and

greater civic engagement. Another important result of some such projects, especially sport and cultural activities, is that they are contributing to building connectivity to the wider social and cultural life of the city, opening up regeneration areas, reducing social barriers and promoting social integration. Such outcomes reflect the overall aim of the LRFIP. The profile and income base in regeneration areas are such that involvement in such activities would not be possible for many (e.g., music lessons) in the absence of public funding support.

4.4 Outstanding challenges & issues to be addressed

Integration of actions within the social programme is happening across many of the activities supported under the SIF. There are good working relationships in inter-agency coordination structures, such as the Limerick Children's and Young People's Services Committee, and at an operational level in implementation of many projects particularly in family support and working with children and young people at risk (e.g., via formal and informal referral systems in services, local structures involving agencies and voluntary and community organisations).

However, while it is a feature of the best performing projects, a continuum of support from referrals and / or coordinated support to improve outcomes can be ad hoc (e.g., it may depend on personalities who have good contacts). This could be improved by inter-services planning for improved coordination, on-going support where needed and monitoring outcomes. This approach is now part of the mainstream procedures in many policy areas (e.g., personal progression plans in activation policy, child and family plans in services to children and families with high needs). It is being adopted by the more advanced voluntary and community services supported under the SIF.

This review has demonstrated that some projects have successfully linked social, physical (environment) and economic objectives. Examples are: upgrading facilities to set up community cafés in community centres in regeneration areas, creating training opportunities in some cases, temporary jobs, new jobs and community enterprise in activities such as energy retrofitting of housing, environmental clean-ups and CCTV monitoring. More can be achieved here as the physical programme is rolled out, the Social Clause of regeneration applied more systematically (commitment to work with DSP to take long-term unemployed into training and work in physical build contracts) and by reviewing public procurement policies to make it possible for community enterprises to tender for contracts.

In relation to the theme Policing, Justice and Community Safety, there is evidence from analysis of data on reported crime for Limerick Division of significant achievements here - i.e., reduction in crime in the city including youth crime and youth

offending. However, there are still problems and many concerns in regeneration communities. “Lower level” crime including anti-social behaviour, drug dealing, intimidation and fear negatively affects quality of life. These require on-going action by the key players including the Gardaí, the Probation Services, the local authority, community and voluntary organisations working in cooperation with other services included Tusla and HSE. There is also a core of families including young people at risk of offending with high level social needs. As well as needing support, this group can have this group can have a significant negative on quality of life and sense of safety in local communities.

Under Community Participation and Empowerment, a variety of projects has been supported by the SIF. Many are “light” interventions such as hosting a community day, a festival, a seasonal or cultural event. These are designed to get people involved in their communities, to encourage volunteering and in the process to build community spirit. In some cases, much has been achieved with small grants. These events are often highly visible in the local communities and are valued. This has been a positive aspect of the regeneration programme in Limerick from the start.

While there have been achievements in working with communities, there are still difficulties with getting and keeping residents engaged in community and voluntary activities. There is a need to broaden the base of community participation - to create a larger pool of people and more diversity - and develop new sources of leadership in local communities. See Section 4.2 on “learning” above. The large exodus of people from regeneration areas in recent years is considered to have affected this. Community activists have often stated that actual and potential community leaders have left the areas, as opportunities to do so arose at different times. Empowerment of residents in regeneration communities still appears to be relatively weak. This needs more attention and new thinking on how to build civic engagement and empowerment.

The Whole of Government Approach, to promote stronger coordination across social policy interventions from the mainstream is an important part of the LRFIP strategy. The funding from DHPCLG, now DHPCLG (mainly the SIF) was considered to

provide a relatively small but important contribution to social regeneration compared with the mainstream funding in social programmes in regeneration areas. The analysis of the level of co-funding into SIF-supported projects shows that the SIF is embedded in this larger package of public and philanthropic funding.

A Whole of Government Approach at national level – i.e., an inter-departmental committee across government departments and agencies - didn’t happen as anticipated in the LRFIP. This proposal was over-taken by other policy and institutional changes linked to reform of local government including the creation of Local Community Development Committees (LCDCs). A local advisory and monitoring structure involving the key local statutory and community and voluntary partners and a senior official of DHPCLG, as proposed in the LRFIP, has been established recently (January 2016) and is now operational. As such, a structure – the Local Strategic Advisory and Monitoring Group - is in place to review and inform the implementation of the social regeneration.

4.5 Recommendations

Recommendations following from the monitoring and review of the Social Intervention Fund are presented below.

The LRFIP and Thematic Framework for the Social Pillar

Recommendation 1: The review indicates that the thematic framework for the Social Pillar is working well - relevant interventions are being proposed and funded, there is strong demand for support and the results are promising. As such, the framework for the social programme should remain as it is.

Recommendation 2: While the review showed lack of demand for large-scale projects under the Ageing Well theme, Ageing Well should be retained as one of the social themes. In the on-going implementation of the social programme, Limerick City and County Council should prioritise the following:

- Ensure that the needs of older people are addressed in the community-based interventions supported under other themes of social regeneration and in the physical regeneration programme (housing, amenity, public realm).
- Work with agency partners and community and voluntary organisations to promote inter-generational activities.
- Ensure the needs and the voices of older people from regeneration communities are heard as part of engagement with residents in regeneration areas and integrated into the wider Age-Friendly programme led by the local authority.

The operation of the SIF

Recommendation 3: Specific recommendations regarding operation of the Social Intervention Fund (SIF) are as follows:

- The SIF should continue as the main mechanism for funding interventions under the social pillar.
- The assessment criteria of the SIF should continue to focus on demonstration of meeting the needs of regeneration communities / residents of those communities, meeting the objectives and expected outcomes of the social regeneration, working collaboratively with others and support (via co-funding) from the mainstream. The latter is important to ensure the sustainability of good quality projects.
- The SIF should continue to operate via Open Calls for proposals, independent assessment and right

to appeal decisions.

- The SIF should continue to offer small grants and provide support for one-off community events. Support here should prioritise activities generated from the grass-roots in local regeneration communities.

Publicity and branding of Limerick Regeneration

Recommendation 4: The branding of Limerick Regeneration should be strengthened, led and monitored by Limerick City and County Council. Regeneration activities and outcomes (positive or otherwise) should be communicated regularly to the local regeneration communities and more widely (e.g., within the local authority area). The financial contribution of regeneration should be acknowledged and displayed (logos, statement of support) on all publicity / documentation in SIF-supported projects. Logos and specification of requirements regarding publicity should be provided by LCCC.

Connecting the SIF to the mainstream

Recommendation 5: In projects that are meeting needs and achieving good results where there is still strong reliance on funding from the SIF, Limerick City and County Council should review issues that present difficulties with mainstream funding with relevant statutory partners (e.g., Tusla, HSE, LCETB, DES and Department of Justice & Equality / Probation Services). This situation applies particularly to projects funded under Families and Youth at Risk and Education and Learning. The Local Strategic Advisory and Monitoring Group is an appropriate structure to engage in such discussions.

Preventive interventions

Recommendation 6: Under the SIF, continue to support prevention and early intervention initiatives under Education and Learning, Health and Well-being and in services to children and families. Linked to this:

- Improve the evidence base for preventive action through the monitoring framework and by documenting good experiences and practices.
- Utilise this evidence base to promote wider application of successful approaches.

The Local Strategic Advisory and Monitoring Group has an important role to promote creating the evidence base and disseminating information to impact on the mainstream. This could be developed as an inter-agency activity.

Targeted interventions

Recommendation 7: Explore with local partners the requirements for targeted interventions, to address the deeper structural problems (e.g., families with complex needs, low education, poor employability combined with social problems) or issues that are specific to a community. This should involve discussion of whether and which local initiatives are most important to sustain post regeneration, how this could be done (who can lead, how best to deliver) and how they can be funded.

Adult education, employability and work

Recommendation 8: Under Employability and Work and Education and Learning for young people and adults:

- Continue to fund from the SIF add-on elements / services that are demonstrating success – e.g., a dedicated counselling service, mentoring service, activities to encourage participation and “taster” programmes, necessary equipment costs.
- Work with an inter-agency approach to address gaps in services that have a negative impact on access to education and training and employment for key target groups. This includes in particular young people 18-24 years that are not in employment education or training (NEETs) who are ineligible for participation in schemes such as Community Employment (CE). An enhanced training element in local CE schemes and / or local schemes offering a mix of further education, training and work experience for young people could be explored here. Gaps in services also apply to adults with very low education for whom mainstream training is at too advanced a level (e.g., accreditation at or above QQI Level 4) and improved responses similarly need to be found here. The key players are: DSP, LCET, the PAUL Partnership (contracted to deliver SICAP in urban Limerick) and community and voluntary bodies delivering training and employment programmes in regeneration areas.
- Continue to promote links into mainstream programmes in further education, training, employment services (Intreo, Local Employment Services, Jobsclubs), temporary employment programmes (CE) and SICAP (in relation to activation of unemployed people; working with children and young people; and community participation).
- Drawing on the experience of the Hospitality

Education and Skills Training Centre, promote the model of working with employers / representatives of industrial sectors / skills development fora to develop market-led skills training programmes and access to employment for residents of working age in regeneration communities. Application of the Social Clause in the construction sector is already in place to assist this. New opportunities are arising in the city and environs with the development of sectors such as the film industry (Troy Studios), tourism and light engineering. These recommendations also fit with the findings of the review of the Economic Pillar.

Community and Enterprise Centres as community hubs

Recommendation 9: Limerick City and County Council and its partners in statutory agencies and private funders should continue to support and strengthen community hubs – the Community Enterprise Centres in or adjacent to regeneration areas. Strengthening hubs can include: supporting expansion of services, improved governance, skills and capacity building and improving access to the centres for sections of the community that are not fully availing of the services there.

The Community Enterprise Centres are important hubs for the delivery of social, childcare, health, adult education and other services needed in local communities. They also provide employment including temporary jobs in the communities. The SIF has been an important source of funding for operating costs (as well as some new projects / services) and has facilitated the expansion of the activities of the centres in key areas (e.g., social enterprise). This approach should be continued. Buy-in from the mainstream - including the local authority, the HSE, LCETB, Tusla and DSP - should be further encouraged so that these operations can continue post-regeneration.

The development of social enterprise and stronger income generation by the community enterprise centre are positive developments. However, their important social and community development role should not be lost in the endeavours to increase income generation. The local services and opportunities for social contact offered at the community centres are very important in those communities, with low incomes and restricted opportunities.

Sport, recreation and cultural activities

Recommendation 10: Funding for engagement in sport, recreation and cultural activities – under Health and Well-being, Education and Learning and Community themes - should continue as part of the long-term strategy of regeneration. Such activities promote connectivity in the communities, build confidence, can improve image and open up access to other opportunities (education, work). Such activities can also support integration of regeneration communities into the social and community life of the city.

Community participation and civic engagement

Recommendation 11: Encourage community and voluntary organisations that deliver events such as community clean-ups, a festival, a community day to achieve more from getting people involved in one-off activities. These events perhaps could be used more as opportunities to engage residents in civic activities, to get them involved in local groups, to provide information and encourage them in their own personal development (social activities, education, cultural activities).

Recommendation 12: Roll-out the civic engagement development programme. This programme is being delivered as a cooperative initiative between the PAUL Partnership, the local authority and the local regeneration communities with financial support from Atlantic Philanthropies and regeneration (Department of Housing, Planning, Community and Local Government).

Recommendation 13: Continue to review the effectiveness of existing consultative processes and structures for community participation. Discuss scope for improvements with those directly involved, especially residents and community representatives. Test possibilities and make changes to improve communication and community / resident input to decision-making. The outcomes of the work of the civic engagement development programme should contribute to this.

Community safety

Recommendation 14: Continue to support actions that improve community safety and strengthen community engagement, working in cooperation with the community hubs. Identify initiatives that work best, from the community as well as agencies' perspective (e.g., CCTV and other initiatives). Work with local community structures to improve communication to and from LCCC, the local authority and other statutory services in relation to community safety.

Monitoring and review

Recommendation 15: Limerick City and County Council should provide for training in monitoring and review of projects / services and in planning and project management to community and voluntary organisations supported by the SIF. This can help improve the evidence base of their services and practices as well as provide accountability to funders. In the case of intensive programmes of support to individuals or families, monitor the results achieved some time after exit from a specific service. Follow-up with clients or a sample of clients say, 6 months and 12 months after they have left the service is desirable. This is in order to establish whether or not positive outcomes have been sustained.

Empower users

Recommendation 16: In the local projects supported under the SIF, encourage project promoters to show that they are engaging with users / their community to get their (users) views on the services – i.e., to establish the level of satisfaction with the services provided; to show they are taking on board views of users, and making changes where necessary to best meet the needs of the clients. This approach will improve (and add to the robustness) of the evidence base of the programme.

Whole of government approach – Local Strategic Advisory and Monitoring Group

Recommendation 17: Utilise and develop the role of the Local Strategic Advisory and Monitoring Group to improve coordination and promote a whole of government approach. It could be used to champion mainstreaming of good experiences from regeneration into local programmes and to influence policy, to identify priorities for funding under the SIF and to promote coordination in planning and service delivery into local communities. The new structures linked to reform of local government such as the LCDC and the PPN as well as existing coordination structures – the Limerick Children and Young People's Services Committee, the Age-Friendly City and County programme, Limerick Healthy City and County, Learning Limerick – could also play a role here.

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Progression from second level schools to third level education data www.schooldays.ie



Appendix I: List of Projects Supported by the SIF & Included in the Review

Project Title and Organisation Name	Area	Main Theme	2014 Regeneration Funding Committed	2013 Regeneration Funding Committed	2012 Regeneration Funding Committed
Our Lady of Lourdes Community Services Group, Estate Management and Community Cleaners	Ballinacurra Weston / Prospect	Community	√	√	√
Our Lady of Lourdes Community Services Group, Lifestyle Coordinator	Ballinacurra Weston / Prospect	Health & Well-being	√	X	X
Our Lady of Lourdes Community Services Group, Façade Upgrade	Ballinacurra Weston / Prospect	Community	√	X	X
Our Lady of Lourdes Community Services Group, CEO position	Ballinacurra Weston / Prospect	Community	√	√	√
Our Lady of Lourdes Community Services Group, CCTV and Security Training	Ballinacurra Weston / Prospect	Community	√	√	X
Moyross Residents Forum	Moyross	Community	√	√	√
Special Olympics Ireland	City	Community	√	X	X
AK Illen Boat Building School	Southill and Ballinacurra Weston / Prospect	Education & Learning	√	X	√
Great Limerick Run	City	Health & Well-being	√	√	√
Paul Partnership Incredible Years	Disadvantaged communities including Moyross, St Marys Park, Weston / Prospect, Southill	Families & Youth at Risk	√	√	√
Limerick CSC Early Years Intervention & Prevention Programme (ABC Start Right Limerick)	Northside including Moyross and City Centre	Health & Well-being	√	X	X
Paul Partnership Consultative Forum	Moyross, St Marys Park, Weston / Prospect, Southill	Community	√	√	√
FAI Programming Development Officers	Moyross, St Marys Park, Weston / Prospect, Southill	Community	√	X	X
FAI / Education & Training Board, Skills Development	Moyross, St Marys Park, Weston / Prospect, Southill	Education & Learning	√	√	√

Project Title and Organisation Name	Area	Main Theme	2014 Regeneration Funding Committed	2013 Regeneration Funding Committed	2012 Regeneration Funding Committed
Garryowen Community Development Project, Rent and Building project	Garryowen which includes significant number of families relocated from Southill	Community	√	√	√
Carew Kincora Estate Management	Southill	Community	√	√	√
Limerick Social Services Council, Family Support Initiative Southill	Southill	Community	√	√	√
Limerick Social Services Council, Family Support Initiative Ballinacurra Weston	Weston / Prospect	Community	√	√	√
Northside Community Law and Mediation Service	Moyross / St Marys Park / Ballinacurra Weston / Southill & City Centre (clinics)	Community	√	√	√
Southill Boxing Club	Southill	Health & Well-being	√	√	X
St. Munchin's Community Enterprise Centre	Killeely Thomondgate, Moyross, Ballynanty	Community	√	√	√
Corpus Christi Primary School, Extra Curricula Activities	Moyross	Education & Learning	√	√	√
Limerick Community Education Network LCEN	Disadvantaged communities in the city including Moyross, St Marys Park, Ballinacurra Weston / Prospect, Southill	Education & Learning	√	√	√
Limerick City CDP Third Level Bursaries	Moyross, St Marys Park, Weston / Prospect, Southill	Education & Learning	√	√	X
Limerick City CDP, CWELL, Community Wellness Empowerment & Leadership Programme	St Marys Park	Education & Learning	√	√	X
LEDP Southside Educational Change	Ballinacurra Weston / Prospect and Southill	Education & Learning	√	√	√
Limerick City Children's Services Committee, LANS	Children at risk including Moyross, St Marys Park, Ballinacurra Weston / Prospect, Southill Area	Families & Youth at Risk	√	√	√

Project Title and Organisation Name	Area	Main Theme	2014 Regeneration Funding Committed	2013 Regeneration Funding Committed	2012 Regeneration Funding Committed
Southill FRC Early Years Coordinator	Southill	Education & Learning	√	X	X
Social and Health Education Programme (SHEP) Limerick	Moyross, Ballinacurra Weston / Prospect, Southill	Health & Well-being	√	X	X
Tait House, Warmer Homes	Southill, Ballinacurra Weston / Prospect	Employability & Work	√	√	X
Tait House Estate Management	Southill	Community	√	X	X
Tait House Enterprise Development Officer including Urban Farm	Southill	Employability & Work	√	√	√
Sophia Housing	Focused on Southill & Moyross	Families & Youth at Risk	√	√	√
St. Mary's Aid Estate Management	St Marys Park	Community	√	√	√
St. Mary's Aid Operational Funding	St Marys Park	Employability & Work	√	√	√
Moyross Community Enterprise Centre, Community Companions	Moyross	Community	√	√	√
Moyross Community Enterprise Centre, Summer Work Programme	Moyross	Employability & Work	√	√	√
Moyross Community Enterprise Centre, Operational Funding & Environmental Grant	Moyross	Community	√	√	√
Community Safety Coordinators	DEIS schools and disadvantaged communities in the city	Education & Learning	√	√	√
Limerick Marketing Company, Rugby 7s	City	Community	√	X	X
Bedford Row Family Project, Social Work and Crisis Intervention in Families Affected by Imprisonment	City wide with strong links to Moyross, St Marys Park, Ballinacurra Weston / Prospect, Southill	Families & Youth at Risk	√	X	X

Project Title and Organisation Name	Area	Main Theme	2014 Regeneration Funding Committed	2013 Regeneration Funding Committed	2012 Regeneration Funding Committed
LCETB Youth Counselling Initiative	Youthreach service, working with young people in alternative education provision	Education & Learning	√	√	√
LCETB Hospitality Education and Training	City wide with a strong links to Southill	Employability & Work	√	X	X
Limerick City Community Radio	Southill	Employability & Work	√	X	X
Northstar Family Support Project	Based in Moyross but wider northside focus. Supports families affected by addiction	Families & Youth at Risk	√	√	√
Young Munster Club Development	Southside including Southill and Ballinacurra Weston	Health & Well-being	√	√	X
Le Cheile Restorative Justice	Young offenders. Includes clients from regeneration areas	Families & Youth at Risk	√	√	√
Richmond RFC Project Training Ground	Moyross /St Marys Park	Community	√	√	X
Junior Achievement Ireland, Our City	DEIS schools including pupils from Moyross, St Marys Park, Weston / Prospect, Southill	Education & Learning	√	√	√
Saoirse Treatment Centre, Addiction Counselling	City wide with strong links to Moyross, St Marys Park, Weston / Prospect, Southill	Health & Well-being	√	√	X
LEDP, Coisceim, Early School Leavers Project	Mainly southside: Southill , Ballinacurra Weston / Prospect	Education & Learning	√	√	√
Draw Out Urban Exhibitionist	City wide with strong links to Moyross, St Marys Park and Southill	Education & Learning	√	√	X
Irish Chamber Orchestra Sing Out with Strings	Focused on schools serving Southill and also St Marys Park	Education & Learning	√	√	√

Project Title and Organisation Name	Area	Main Theme	2014 Regeneration Funding Committed	2013 Regeneration Funding Committed	2012 Regeneration Funding Committed
Moyross Development Company Horse Care & Equine Programme	Moyross and St Mary's Park	Families & Youth at Risk	√	√	X
Moyross Development Company, Garda Youth Diversion Project Motor Cross Club	Moyross and St Mary's Park	Families & Youth at Risk	√	X	X
Limerick Civic Trust Operating Costs for additional elements to support CE Scheme	Moyross, St Mary's Park, Ballinacurra Weston / Prospect	Employability & Work	√	√	X
Star Rovers Pitch	St Mary's Park	Community	√	X	X
St. Mary's Community Adult Education Roof Replacement	St Mary's Park	Education & Learning	√	√	X
Music Generation Limerick City Pathways in Music 2013-2015	All DEIS Schools in the city and youth projects: Moyross, St Marys Park, Weston / Prospect, Southill	Education & Learning	√	√	X
Project Reclaim	Moyross, St Mary's Park, Weston / Prospect, Southill	Education & Learning	√	X	X
Limerick Youth Services, Youth Cafes	Moyross and Southill	Families & Youth at Risk	√	√	√
Limerick Youth Services, Southside Youth Space, The Factory	Southill	Families & Youth at Risk	√	√	√
Ceim ar Cheim Moyross Probation Project	Based in Moyross but draws clients (youth at risk of offending & offenders) from across the city	Families & Youth at Risk	√	√	√
Novas Housing First	Moyross, St Mary's Park, Weston / Prospect, Southill	Families & Youth at Risk	√	X	X
Extern	City wide with strong links to Moyross, St Mary's Park, Ballinacurra Weston / Prospect, Southill	Families & Youth at Risk	√	√	√

Project Title and Organisation Name	Area	Main Theme	2014 Regeneration Funding Committed	2013 Regeneration Funding Committed	2012 Regeneration Funding Committed
The Blue Box: Creative Arts Psychotherapy Project	Draws clients from Moyross, St Marys Park, Weston / Prospect, Southill	Families & Youth at Risk	√	√	X
Northside Learning Hub	Targets children from DEIS schools. Based in Killeely. Stronger links to northside especially Moyross	Education & Learning	√	√	√
RCCN Housing, Housing Restoration	Restoration / clean-out of social housing. Covers Moyross, St Marys Park, Weston / Prospect, Southill	Ageing Well	√	X	X
Limerick Festivals Committee: Riverfest	City	Community	√	√	X
Sport Tourism Ireland	City	Community	√	X	X
St. Mary's RFC Flood lights	St Marys Park	Community	√	√	√
Pike Rovers All Weather Pitch	Southill	Community	√	X	X
Roxboro Gardai: Youth Lifestyle Project	Southill and Ballinacurra Weston / Prospect	Health & Well-being	√	X	√
Limerick City CDP, Hairdressing Training	Southside (Southill and Ballinacurra Weston)	Employability & Work	√	X	X
Innovate Limerick	City	Employability & Work	√	X	X
Limerick City CDP Summer Camps	St Mary's Park	Families & Youth at Risk	√	√	X
Men's Sheds Limerick City CDP	St Mary's Park	Health & Well-being	√	√	X
Limerick National City of Culture 2014	City	Community	√	X	X
Total funding from the SIF			€4,795,803	€2,663,051	€2,690,904

Part B

Part B - Review of the Economic Pillar

Executive Summary

- 1.0 Economic Pillar
- 2.0 Economic Pillar Activities
- 3.0 Conclusions and Recommendations

Appendix I: List Of Consultations

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Executive Summary

The Limerick Regeneration Framework Implementation Plan (LRFIP) was adopted in February 2014 by Limerick City Council. A mid-term review of the economic pillar contained within the LRFIP was commissioned in July 2016. The review is to examine areas of progress arising from the implementation of the plan and determine the next steps to successfully fulfil the objectives detailed within the LRFIP. A broad range of stakeholder consultations were conducted as part of the evaluation process examining the impact of Limerick Regeneration's input into economic regeneration.

The evaluation report is structured around examining progress in each of the projects detailed in the LRFIP in addition to establishing future requirements to fulfil the stated objectives within the lifetime of the plan. Based on the primary research undertaken economic impact analysis was undertaken to measure the impact of the economic interventions of Limerick Regeneration in 2014 and 2015 in addition to projecting the job creation opportunities that exist within the context of the wider economic strategy that Limerick Regeneration contributes to.

An examination of the local economic environment provides a stark reminder of the challenge that exists particularly in the regeneration areas. The ability to address unemployment and creation job opportunities remains to the fore of all future economic development activity and central to the implementation of the economic strategy of the LRFIP. Encouragingly unemployment levels across the city are falling. In July 2016, 10,271 persons were signing on the Live Register across all Social Welfare / Intreo Offices in Limerick City. Significantly, this represents a reduction of 10.1% on the same month in 2015.

Youth employment, however, remains the key issue to address. Young people have been particularly badly affected by unemployment in addition to a range of social factors contributing to this issue i.e., intergenerational unemployment. Youth unemployment rates in Limerick City are higher than the national average. The unemployment rate among 15-24 years, according to the 2011 Census, is 39%. As an indicator of more recent youth unemployment levels persons under 25 years accounted for 1,215 of those (12.9%) signing on in the Limerick City Office in April 2016. Limerick City has the highest level of youth unemployment in the country, with 50%

of all 15-24 years in the labour force out of work. Additional information provided by the CSO on youth unemployment rates in the City show that of the 38 EDs in Limerick City, eleven have a youth unemployment rate of 60% or more.

Limerick City has been identified as having the highest number of "unemployment blackspots" in the country. There were 81 such blackspots in the country in 2011. Forty-two were located in the cities of Dublin, Cork, Limerick and Waterford. Limerick City, however, contains twice as many unemployment blackspots (18) as any other part of the country. The average unemployment rate for these 18 blackspots was 43%.

Within the 10 electoral divisions (EDs) in the country with the highest unemployment rates, seven are situated in Limerick City. Four out of the five worst unemployment blackspots in the country are located in Limerick City. These are specifically within Regeneration areas, namely; John's A (St. Mary's Park – 57% unemployment rate), Galvone B (O'Malley and Keyes Parks – 55% unemployment rate), Ballynanty (Moyross / Ballynanty – 47% unemployment rate), and Rathbane (Carew and Kincora Parks – 47% unemployment rate).

A key contributing factor to supporting economic development is educational attainment particularly in addressing the issue of youth unemployment. Early school leaving is high in Limerick City, with 20% of the population having left formal education with a primary education only. The rates are higher again in the Regeneration communities where the proportion of the population who left school with only primary

education is between two or three times higher than the national average.

At national level, the percentage of people with third level education is 31%. County Limerick mirrors this rate where 29% of the adult population has a third level education. Limerick City currently has a rate of 23% of its population who have third level education. The percentage of Regeneration communities with third level education is significantly lower ranging from 1% to 7% across the communities.

The contribution of funds from Limerick Regeneration to a range of community enterprise based projects has resulted in the sustainability of many programmes across all regeneration areas. The ability to attract investment from Limerick Regeneration has created additional training opportunities and the support to source materials and equipment that have been the catalyst for developing various labour activation programmes, particularly those provided in Community Enterprise Centres. It is this ability to work in partnership with other agencies and support local community enterprise centres that demonstrates the collective role required to support established programmes.

This level of complementarity with other agencies working in regeneration areas is a key enabler for supporting the employment pathway and labour activation programme participants' progression to full time employment. The employment figures detailed in Table I reflect the 2014 and 2015 employment figures across the various Community Enterprise and Area Centres within Limerick Regeneration. The

	Direct	2014 Indirect	Total	Direct	2015 Indirect	Total
Community Enterprise	505	40.4	545.4	484	38.72	522.72
Training & Skills	60	4.8	64.8	90	7.2	97.2
Enterprise Development	20	2.4	22.4	20	2.4	22.4
Contribution to Strategic Projects	0	0	0	30	18	48
	585	47.6	632.6	624	66.32	690.32

Table I: Estimated Annual Employment Output (FTEs) – Roles aided by Limerick Regeneration Support

presentation of this data illustrates the volume of participants within the structures that benefit from Limerick Regeneration's assistance and their ability to progress to employment. Over the course of the timeframe of the LRFIP it is estimated that 306 FTE roles have been created as a direct result of Limerick Regeneration funding. These roles are FTEs created as

a result of the direct financial intervention of Limerick Regeneration across the areas of enterprise, training and jobs evolving from strategic projects. In addition to these roles the wider employment supported by Limerick Regeneration was 633 in 2014 rising to 690 in 2015.

The estimated employment figures in Table I also include individuals who progress to employment from training and skills based initiatives supported by Regeneration such as the Hospitality Education and Training Centre. The enterprise development figures reflect the number of people who have progressed to full time employment within the social enterprise structures from the various Community Enterprise Centres.

Table II provides an illustration of the employment income benefits that accrue to regeneration areas based on the percentage of participants that secure full time employment from such programmes and economic interventions.

The direct employment income is estimated based on the associated percentage of FTEs created among Regeneration residents that have been generated through the support of Limerick Regeneration from the various labour activation programmes, enterprise supports and involvement with key strategic projects. This total employment income impact (indirect and direct) has grown from €9.5 million to €12.2 million between 2014 and 2015.

	Direct	2014 Indirect	Total	Direct	2015 Indirect	Total
Employment secured from Community Enterprise	€6,238,538	€499,083	€6,737,621	€5,987,081	€478,966.45	€6,466,047
Employment secured from Training & Skills	€2,054,304	€164,344.30	€2,218,648	€3,081,456	€246,516.45	€3,327,972
Employment secured from Enterprise Development	€589,048	€47,124	€636,171	€589,048	€47,124	€636,171
Employment secured through Strategic Projects				€1,104,464	€662,679	€1,767,143
	€8,881,889	€710,551	€9,592,441	€10,762,048	€1,435,285.36	€12,197,334

Table II: Estimated Employment Income Impact

	Direct	2017 Indirect	Total	Direct	2018 Indirect	Total	Direct	2019 Indirect	Total
Community Enterprise Programmes	500	40	540	505	40.4	545.4	510	40.8	550.8
Employment resulting from Training & Skills	180	14.4	194.4	230	18.4	248.4	120	9.6	129.6
Employment resulting from Enterprise Development	60	7.2	67.2	90	10.8	100.8	110	13.2	123.2
Employment resulting from Economic Development Property	40	24	64	100	60	160	150	90	240
Employment resulting from Contribution to Strategic Projects	45	27	72	95	57	152	140	84	224
	825	112.6	937.6	1020	186.6	1206.6	1030	237.6	1267.6

Table III: Estimated FTEs generated across areas of LRFIP focus

The figures illustrated in Table II are calculated based on the increased throughout of trainees securing employment in training centres and an increase among long-term unemployed securing employment through strategic projects supported by Limerick Regeneration. The value of employment generated from participants who progress from community enterprise was in excess of €6 million per annum. This reflects the annual conversion of a percentage of labour activation programme participants from schemes supported by Limerick Regeneration in partnership with other agencies.

The estimated employment impact under the thematic or sectoral development is based on Limerick Regeneration's direct contribution to development, leveraging capital expenditure, supports to industry and the management of related economic stimulus programmes by third parties. The estimated employment numbers are based on Full Time Equivalent (FTE) roles that are non-community employment related programmes, which are accounted for under Social Intervention funding analysis.

Table III outlines the annual employment growth that can accrue as a result of the LRFIP interventions growing to a total of 1,267 roles in 2019 (inclusive of total direct and indirect jobs created in addition to community enterprise related roles). This projected 2019 employment figure is comprised of 716 new FTEs with the balance of jobs arising from community enterprise. The total employment gains projected over this three-year period is 1,775. This is the total of direct and indirect FTEs generated as a result of enterprise development, strategic projects, property acquisition and employment resulting from new training and skills programmes supported through LRFIP. This employment figure of 1,775 excludes labour

Lower Average Income	€2,356,191
Medium Average Income	€2,945,238
Higher Average Income	€1,767,143
	€7,068,572

Table IV: Estimated Income Impact of Biblical Centre: Production and Digital Skills Academy, Regeneration Residents

activation programmes and community enterprise supported roles.

When the multiplier impact is discounted and direct employment is examined, the total number of direct jobs that will be created outside of Community Enterprise supported programmes is estimated to be 1,360 over three years. This will average in excess of 450 new roles per annum for Limerick as a result of LRFIP supported interventions. The projections account for a settling in period for new industries to become established and conversion of traineeships to FTEs, in addition to new employment opportunities resulting from the broader city wide economic development approach.

The investment by Limerick Regeneration continues to create training and employment opportunities for residents of Regeneration as detailed previously. The projected impact of the investment into the Biblical Centre: Production and Digital Skills Academy is designed to have a direct impact on residents of regeneration areas. Based on the guaranteed allocation of training places to residents of regeneration areas and the ability to convert long-term unemployed and create new employment pathways, it is estimated that €7.07 million in employment income can be generated. This estimate is based on a medium to longer term view on 200 FTEs being generated from the 250 trainee places allocated to residents of Limerick Regeneration.

The LRFIP purposed fourteen areas of project focus from sectoral development, enhancing training opportunities to the marketing of sites to attract industry. The development of a sectoral themed approach to economic development has resulted in the addition of a number of new sectoral opportunities for Limerick and the Regeneration areas. The stated themes of the green economy, social enterprise and horticulture were initial areas for development that are now gaining traction through the development of anchor projects that will become catalysts for sector development i.e., Urban Farm / Coop, Social Enterprise Hub development. The development of the green economy is less developed. However, many strong projects and social enterprises are making progress in this area i.e., retro-fitting, green space maintenance, domestic oil re-cycling. A focus on new sectors will now emerge aligned with the economic development progress in the city e.g.,

film, hospitality.

The acquisition of a number of key sites across the city will be central to employment creation and the growth of additional sector specific training. The Troy Studios project in addition to the Biblical Centre: Production and Digital Skills Academy represent sites of national significance that will learn from the precedent created by the Hospitality Education and Training Centre approach. Nicholas Street represents a link from an area of Regeneration to the city that currently attracts in excess of 100,000 visitors to King John's Castle. The future development of the street through the properties acquired by Limerick City and County Council (LCCC) will create a scale of community, social, commercial and civic activity that can be economically and socially transformational.

Access to the Galvone Industrial Estate from Childer's Road will be an important development to enhance the commercial appeal of the area. The successful marketing of additional sites across the regeneration areas will be contingent on securing funds for the development of supporting road infrastructure such as the Southern Link Road from the M7 and the Northern Distributer Road.

There is evidence to suggest that the social enterprise sector is growing through the Community Enterprise Centres across the city. Initiatives such as the CCTV programme in Moyross, Bike repair and recycling at St. Marys Aid, retro-refitting through Tait House, meals on wheels and the care of the elderly throughout the various centres provide a strong platform for further development. The SICAP programme has successfully resulted in the provision of mentoring and enterprise support for 223 individuals through the delivery partner, PAUL Partnership. The development of a social enterprise hub in Southill at the former Fullflex building will provide a strong focal point for social enterprise activity while a comparable outlet is required for the Moyross area.

The acquisition of strategic investment sites by Limerick City & County Council is now the catalyst that will facilitate new opportunities with long-term impact. As an example, the Troy film building will require a multi-sector approach to support its operation from trades and services providing a sustainable pathway for training and employment combined with enterprise development opportunities.

There has been informal development of the opportunity around Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR). However, no structured engagement platform exists. Examples such as Dell's involvement with Our Lady of Lourdes for IT skills training illustrates the willingness of the corporate sector to become involved in local activity. The barrier to developing meaningful CSR engagement platforms is the lack of co-ordinated networks that link in with the private sector. The emergence of Limerick for IT and Limerick for Engineering combined with the new Food Strategy for Limerick 2016-2018 (Limerick City & County Council) and proposed Sport Industry Cluster now provide a number of focal points to allow for meaningful engagement and for the opening of channels of communications between the private sector and community and social enterprise. The development of a co-ordinated social enterprise focus should become the conduit for industry involvement across the economic development planning for Limerick Regeneration.

Enterprise development has been facilitated by the Local Enterprise Office, Paul Partnership through the SICAP programme and through the support of Community Enterprise Centres. The economic climate in the period since the launch of the LRFIP has restricted the scope for providing any significant level of finance for start-ups. The limited access to funding streams has seen an increased focus on business planning, mentoring and training supports. The momentum behind the social enterprise economy will present new opportunities for consideration.

The investment in the Innovation Hub in the LEDP Roxboro provides a focus for attracting large scale employment for the area. The success of the LEDP site as an enterprise base and employment generator provides an outlet for employment generation on the southside of the city contributing to the economic profile of the area.

Since the launch of the LRFIP there have been limited opportunities around the construction industry. More recently, demand for construction workers and trades has increased. The Limerick and Clare Education and Training Board (LCETB) have developed a range of programmes to address the need for upskilling and provide formal qualifications through initiatives such as the Recognition for Prior Learning programmes. Additional training opportunities are now available

through the broadened Apprenticeship programme and the Career Traineeship programme providing a mix of training and work experience. Occupational Skills Profiling in conjunction with industry partners is also contributing to ensuring key skills gaps in the area of construction are addressed in future training provision.

Summary Conclusions

The LRFIP was launched at a time of economic recession which mitigated against the anticipated pace of progress of certain elements of the plan. However, the launch of the Limerick 2030 Economic and Spatial Plan added further impetus to the economic development focus for the city. This has resulted in a more concentrated focus on employment generation and a strategic approach to securing inward investment.

Projects such as the Troy Studios has resulted in Limerick Regeneration supporting the acquisition of the Biblical Centre to develop the Production and Digital Skills Academy plus an additional training focus on low to intermediate level skills required to support Troy Studios with employment targets of 750 people. Further investment in key strategic sites will deliver ongoing employment opportunities across the city. The creation of training pathways must align to these major investment projects.

The focus however needs to remain on job creation and ensuring these pathways meet the requirements of the private sector. The economic operating environment and levels of educational attainment provide evidence of the challenge that exists. There is clearly momentum behind economic development in the city combined with multi-agency successes that provide the learning for future projects and continued progress.

Among the key observations include:

- The key economic development challenge is to address inter-generational and youth unemployment across regeneration areas.
- The social economy and social enterprise should represent an area of focus for Limerick. The proposed Social Enterprise Hub can provide a project of scale that can become a training, enterprise and job creation catalyst.
- The development of key infrastructural projects such as the Northern Distributor Road, Southern

Link Road from the M7 and access to Galvone Industrial Estate from Childer's Road will be instrumental in opening up new economic development areas that will have an immediate impact on the surrounding regeneration areas.

- Renewed efforts around the social contract are required. This will require greater levels of stewardship, monitoring and facilitation between the private sector and the long-term unemployed.
- There is a community held perception around the lack of training and work experience opportunities that exist within regeneration areas that must be addressed within the communities.
- A dedicated resource for economic development in regeneration areas should be examined to provide a focal point for Community Enterprise, Agencies and the private sector.
- The food strategy launched in Limerick provides a platform for the development of a social enterprise approach to food, particularly with the proposed developments through the Urban Co-Op, the Urban Farm and community gardens.
- There is a need to establish a CSR working group with established channels such as Limerick for IT and Limerick for Engineering as potential pilot programmes that can provide a meaningful private sector engagement around training, job placement, mentoring and skills development.
- The two district centres within the Regeneration areas require a new enterprise focus.

The continued investment into social interventions and the collective partnership approach to training and skills development combined with Limerick City & County Council's economic development activity has resulted in a new wave of economic momentum. The economic pillar realistically cannot operate separately to the social and educational strategy of Limerick Regeneration, highlighting the integrated approach that is required for success. The progress that has been made across the areas of social interventions suggest the time is now right to harness this social regeneration activity and build on it to realise the economic opportunity for sustainable Regeneration communities.

In conclusion, based on consultation process, analysis of project successes and areas for improvement, the next phase of economic development to meet the objectives of the Limerick Regeneration Framework Implementation Plan should prioritise;

1. **Young People** - Priority focus on youth unemployment
2. **Economic Development Projects of Scale** - Focus on projects of scale that will become a city wide catalysts for economic development aligned with Limerick 2030 strategy.
3. **Sector Focused Skills Development** - Skills training approach to support economic focus on sectors of strength and growth opportunities.
4. **Private Sector** - Create platforms for increased levels of private sector engagement in enterprise, training, work experience and employment development.
5. **Training Centres** – replicate the successful model employed for the Hospitality Education and Training Centre for economic sectors with growth potential through inter-agency collaboration and private sector involvement.
6. **Social Contracts Clause** – develop an increased focus on the monitoring and stewardship of the social contracts clause.

Progress Summary Table

Positive Outcomes	Areas for Development	Challenges	Partnership for Success
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hospitality Education & Training Centre as a template for additional sector focus. • Acquisition of strategic sites that integrate Limerick City with Limerick Regeneration through economic development activity. • Inter-agency approach to training and capacity building. • Contribution of social intervention fund to developing the conditions for economic development across Limerick Regeneration. • The ability of Limerick Regeneration to leverage investment funds for projects of national and international significance. • Flexibility in approach and model for Limerick Regeneration that has resulted in investment across innovative social programmes resulting in employment • The development of an organic approach to social enterprise that will provide the basis for an enhanced framework across all areas of Regeneration. • The creation of intergenerational community role models resulting from successful training and employment. • The positioning of Limerick Regeneration within all city wide economic development discussions to enable communities benefit from all future economic activity. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Corporate / Private sector engagement platform. • Framework development for a more sustainable community enterprise focus. • Establishment of appropriate governance structures that enable community enterprises to avail of economic development opportunities. • Dedicated support structures to enable the social enterprise economy to develop in a more coherent manner. • Focused sectoral centres of excellence across areas of Regeneration rather than a concentration on geographic areas. • Replication of successful Hospitality Education and Training Centre model in other sectors using the Troy Studios as immediate opportunity. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Duplication of services and enterprises. • Lack of dedicated funding for social entrepreneurs. • Social contract clause implementation. • Financial necessity of Community Enterprise to focus on short term rather than long term outlook for enterprise and economic development. • Absence of dedicated economic development resource for Regeneration or social enterprise development. • Need to remove geographic focus on enterprises to adopt a longer term city / regional focus. • Development of District Centres as focal points for economic activity (i.e., Watch House Cross and Roxboro Shopping Centre). 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Continued enhancement of social intervention programmes contributing to economic development opportunities. • Increased focus on private sector engagement and joint programming around training, mentoring and employment creation. • Creation of expert working groups for sector development to replicate hospitality sector. • City wide partnership approach to developing projects of international scale reflecting the ambition of Limerick.

Economic Development Objectives Versus Impact Status

LRFIP Economic Objectives	Impact Status
Ensuring the growth of local capacity through the provision of focused sectoral training and employment opportunities.	Success of Hospitality Education and Training Centre in meeting industry requirements combined with the range of options provided by LCETB in response to industry demand.
Development of a stronger engagement platform to promote economic activity in the target areas between all stakeholder groups and local resources.	The success of LCCC site acquisitions particularly the model employed around the Biblical Centre and its potential to stimulate training leading to jobs within Troy Studios for all skill levels.
Foster a culture of social innovation and social enterprise in Regeneration areas.	Social innovation has organically developed through Social Intervention Fund across all Community Enterprise Centres while the proposal around the Social Enterprise Hub can become the focal point for more focused social enterprise.
Creation of a programme of civic and economic interventions to attract, support and grow micro and community enterprise.	The support of SICAP has resulted in some success however a dedicated fund is required to support the next phase of growth delivered through agencies such as LEO.
Development of niche economic activities that will leverage off existing third level and regional enterprise expertise.	Development of the Troy Studio opportunity and digital and media training in addition to emerging opportunities such as the Medical Village, Green Economy, Sport and Food.
Creation of a series of hubs for a thematic economic development approach across all communities.	Environmental services delivered through Tait House, Security and CCTV delivered in Moyross, the Biblical Centre, enterprise development in the former Cahill May Roberts, Healthcare training and services through St Munchin's and Our Lady of Lourdes, sport enterprise in St Marys Aid.
Contribute to the knowledge economy in key areas of community development through sustained evaluation and research e.g. community health and well-being.	Continued development of the Social Intervention Fund and social project research opportunities.
Attract inward investment into areas of Regeneration through infrastructural improvements and institutional supports.	LEDP Innovation Centre and development of Road Infrastructure to open up new economic development areas.
Creation of employment opportunities in Regeneration process for local residents and within new enterprise established in the area.	A more focused approach to the Social Contract opportunity is required and developed the social enterprise economy for sustainable employment.
Economic integration of Limerick Regeneration areas within the broader economic and spatial development plans for Limerick City.	The integration of economic development opportunities provided through Limerick 2030 job creation strategy.
Provision of communications infrastructure to support enterprise and socio economic development through all communities.	The roll out of the fibre network across areas of Regeneration will open up educational, vocational and enterprise opportunities.
Develop long term engagement with the private sector to develop a sustainable level of economic activity in areas of regeneration.	This has been progressed through the Limerick for IT and Limerick for Engineering platforms in addition to the informal development of private sector engagement with some areas of Regeneration.

1. Economic Pillar

1.1 Economic Pillar - Limerick Regeneration

The following represents an independent evaluation of the economic pillar of the Limerick Regeneration Framework Implementation Plan (LRFIP) that was adopted by the elected members of Limerick City Council in February 2014.

The Regeneration process is a key driver of socio-economic change in Limerick. Its contribution to the overall economic rejuvenation of the city is critical to sustained socio-economic vibrancy across Limerick. The commitment towards Regeneration has never been stronger and will play a very significant role in the economic, social and physical regeneration of the City in its entirety. Consistent with the transformational project approach prescribed for the City Centre, Limerick Regeneration is adopting a comparable strategy, leveraging off existing community assets, building capacity in the target areas and working towards a sustainable 'fit for purpose' programme of economic activity.

The LRFIP is built upon a framework vision that is to create: *"Safe and sustainable communities of opportunity where people of all ages enjoy a good quality of life, a decent home and a sense of pride about their place. Well serviced and attractive neighbourhoods will be physically connected and fully integrated with the social, economic and cultural life of Limerick."*

The development of the city as a whole is linked to the approach of SMART, SUSTAINABLE and INCLUSIVE growth. This strategy is based on addressing the problems / barriers to progress including poverty and social exclusion while addressing the need to improve the physical, social and economic infrastructures and services to support development, and mobilise the strengths and assets of the city.

Smart growth is based on targeting jobs in new high value added sectors while also harnessing the local opportunities intermediate sectors provide for employment. Addressing youth unemployment, very long-term and intergenerational unemployment remains a central focus. This approach to inclusive growth will ensure a priority focus on groups that are currently distant from the labour market. Sustainable growth focuses on an integrated approach to efficient use of resources, developing new economic opportunities around the green economy and how

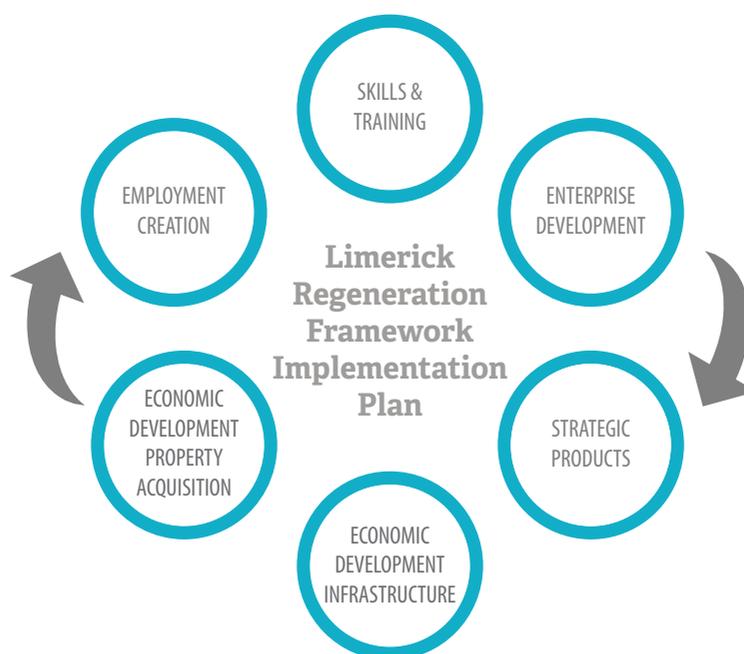


Figure 1: Economic Pillar: Limerick Regeneration Framework Implementation Plan

residents engage with sustainability in their daily lives.

The ability to deliver on these growth platforms is contingent on a multi-agency approach to project delivery across the physical, social and economic pillars. Within the economic pillar a number of flagship interventions are proposed and further detailed later in the document. They include;

1. Sectoral training, work experience / work placement and job creation.
2. Economic engagement platform focused in regeneration areas (multi-stakeholder).
3. Social innovation / social enterprise hubs (support services and new enterprises) including a National Social Innovation Centre.
4. Niche economic activities (working up to intermediate and smart and sustainable growth sectors such as green technologies).
5. Inward investment / long-term revolving loan financing for new public / social and educational infrastructure.
6. ICT development to support economic and social development objectives.

The economic development plan is based on building on existing local resources and capacity, while providing the appropriate support structures to

accelerate a sustained programme of economic activity within the regeneration areas. The medium to long-term success of the proposals will be contingent on engaging the private sector. In addition, the ability to attract alternative sources of funding outside of public finances needs prioritisation. The original project categories as outlined hereafter provides numerous opportunities for a partnership approach to deliver projects with strategic value in addition to initiatives that can be adopted entirely by the private sector.

Since the launch of the LRFIP the broader level of economic activity focused on the areas detailed in Figure 1 through a multi-agency partnership approach. These remain central to all future economic development activity and success measurement from employment creation, training and skills opportunities to supporting new enterprise and working to deliver strategic economic projects that will provide a range of economic opportunities for Limerick.

The LRFIP economic objectives adopted within the LRFIP are as follows:

- Ensuring the growth of local capacity through the provision of focused sectoral training and

employment opportunities.

- Development of a stronger engagement platform to promote economic activity in the target areas between all stakeholder groups and local resources.
- Foster a culture of social innovation and social enterprise in the Regeneration areas.
- Creation of a programme of civic and economic interventions to attract, support and grow micro and community enterprise.
- Development of niche economic activities that will leverage off existing third level and regional enterprise expertise.
- Creation of a series of hubs for a thematic economic development approach across all communities.
- Contribute to the knowledge economy in key areas of community development through sustained evaluation and research e.g., community health and well-being.
- Attract inward investment into regeneration areas through infrastructural improvements and institutional supports.
- Creation of employment opportunities in the Regeneration areas for local residents and within new enterprise established in the area.
- Economic integration of the Limerick Regeneration areas within the broader economic and spatial development plans for Limerick City.
- Provision of communications infrastructure to support enterprise and socio-economic development through all communities.
- Develop long-term engagement with the private sector to develop a sustainable level of economic activity in regeneration areas.

In order to fulfil the above economic development objectives the following represent the specific projects for delivery within the LRFIP. The following is extracted from the adopted LRFIP (2014).

Thematic Development (Sector Development)

The basis for the thematic focus for economic regeneration strategy is its prioritisation under EU policy. The concentration on a number of themes by the EU is comparable to the thematic approach adopted by the LCCC. These include low carbon economy, employment and labour mobility, education and investment in health and social infrastructure. Among the initial themes for development include: [Green Economy](#)

There are a number of very strong arguments in favour of pursuing a green economic focus. The physical regeneration process offers immediate scalability for local green industry providers through new-build and refurbishment. The level of academic and research interest within UL and LIT offers a further platform for development providing linkages between industry and research. The development of a dedicated industrial hub focused on attracting green sector businesses is proposed for the Southill area availing of existing industrial space capacity providing immediate training and employment opportunities.

[Unskilled and semi-skilled manufacturing](#)

The creation of a dedicated training and enterprise site is proposed that will focus on capacity building and training opportunities in the area of manufacturing materials. These will be used initially in the physical regeneration process expanding to the wider marketplace. The model proposed for adoption is based on the successful Glasgow regeneration manufacturing hub initiative that has now grown to employ circa 200 people from surrounding Regeneration areas. The creation of a focal point for training with the opportunity of progression to a local employer is proposed through an integrated training and enterprise hub located in Moyross.

[Horticulture - Community Garden Enterprise](#)

The creation of a community garden and horticulture training centre will be developed to capitalise on successful existing smaller pilot projects. This will have the capacity to offer training opportunities in the area of horticulture for future incorporation in landscaping / estate management across the regeneration areas. Additional opportunities exist around the area of sports ground maintenance for incorporation into plans for local sports facility development.

The immediate use of available sites such as the lands identified for a strategic linear park in Moyross, Barry's Field and the Ballinacurra Weston Community Centre green field site can host the development of large scale community gardens to facilitate this training. The proposed Urban Orchard in Southill would further contribute to the overall theme. Further outputs include food production training (e.g., micro enterprise in artisan local food production from the produce of the community garden using existing enterprise training supports in the local areas).

[Social Innovation and Enterprise Development](#)

The area of social enterprise will be developed as a key theme leveraging off existing enterprise supports provided through national agencies in addition to local enterprise groups who have successfully nurtured social entrepreneurs through their training and enterprise support structures e.g., Limerick City Build (Business Transformation Programme) and Southill Enterprise Development. The creation of enterprise supports for local groups and appropriate operating conditions can realise considerable potential across many sectors.

Marketing of Sites to the Private Sector

There are a number of key strategic sites that will be marketed for potential enterprise development attracting further inward investment. It is proposed that these sites will be available for low or no cost with a range of civic or tax incentives to attract new enterprise location with the purpose of de-risking an element of direct investment. In addition to the local employment and training opportunities such inward investment will realise, additional local employment will be supported through indirect jobs creation in the community in areas such as retail and support services.

National Social Innovation Hub

It is proposed to create a National Social Innovation Hub to facilitate the development of social entrepreneurship and stimulate local enterprise development, create employment opportunities and act as a focal point for capacity building and job creation. The creation of a National Social Innovation Hub will represent the inaugural centre in Ireland and will be designed to attract the support and patronage of Multi-National Companies (MNC) widely engaged in social innovation. Further scope will include a multi-party third level element focusing on social entrepreneurship as a subset of the proposed City Centre Campus.

The hub will become the basis for social innovation and supporting local enterprise in addition to providing a focal point for local enterprise initiatives such as Limerick City Build, Southill Enterprise Development etc. The development of the Social Innovation Hub will be designed to facilitate the implementation of socially focused projects in partnership with MNCs and third level institutes e.g., ICT & Community Health & Well-being, Social Research.

The Hub will require a micro finance funding structure as part of a regeneration civic and start up intervention programme to assist start-ups or employing personnel from the target areas. Further linkages with the Georgian creative hub can deliver additional cross city synergies using the Innovation Hub as an incubation centre for a range of enterprise directly or indirectly related to the arts and culture.

Micro Enterprise Incentive Programme

Notwithstanding the difficulties in providing tax incentives in the current economic environment, it is recommended that a series of supports are provided to stimulate new social enterprise in regeneration areas while contributing to the development of existing enterprises with growth potential.

The ability to attract new micro enterprise activity into the area will be supported through the creation of a dedicated enterprise fund to support existing practitioners in stimulating local enterprise. It is proposed that an incentive pilot programme is developed targeting specific industry sectors such as the Green Economy.

The development of the proposed National Social Innovation Hub can act as a conduit for a range of supports and start up initiatives to include;

1. Tax designation Zones for certain industries and start-ups e.g., Galvone and green sector). This tax designation model could be comparable to the recently announced 'Living City Initiative'.
2. Regeneration Innovative Start-up Enterprises (RISE Programme) with access to mentoring and seed capital through loans available through a central fund.
3. Examination of a national pilot programme for microfinance provision for social enterprise (loans and access to credit) using sourced funding from philanthropy and locally generated financial supports (crowd funding model).
4. Integration of scholarship and educational programmes with micro-financing programme to provide pathways from local schools and colleges into sector specific industries.
5. Creation of social innovation vouchers to provide access to mentoring supports and industry experts.

Green Industry Hub - Galvone Industrial Estate

The designation of a green industry hub is proposed based on an integrated approach of capacity building, 'green energy vocational training' contributing to the medium to longer term objectives of employment and establishment of Green Economy cluster. It is proposed that the Galvone Industrial Estate is developed as the anchor site for the creation of a Green Industry Hub complementing the CleanTech developments in LEDP.

A number of multi-stakeholder approaches will be employed. These include the development of third level partnerships with LIT and UL in the area of green / environmental research in conjunction with the Southill Enterprise Development and the National Social Innovation Hub.

This would form a focal point for a cooperative approach among industry practitioners / experts (glass, fuel, metal, paper, etc.) and facilitate the development of a new industry base around the Southill area and available surrounding lands. The organic cycle of capacity building, training and green business creation will result in an immediate involvement in the refurbishment and new-build elements of the physical regeneration programme.

The use of incentives to attract 'light' manufacturing businesses operating in the green sector is proposed based on their ability to train and employ local residents and work on refurbishment and new-build projects.

Moyross Training & Enterprise Hub

The creation of a training and enterprise hub in Moyross will capitalise on the ongoing capacity building, local resources and employment generation cluster that exists in the area. Access to locally owned sites with a commitment from landowners to develop them will provide a training centre to focus on skills development for light manufacturing and construction skills and jobs. This training centre will also develop training programmes to supply staff to other enterprise focused sites such as the Green Industry Hub. Broader social and capacity building programmes can also be accommodated on site though existing tenants. The proposed location for the Training Centre has a number of adjacent green field sites that will be marketed for development in order to create

an employment outlet for the training centre participants. The redevelopment of the 'Bays' site will add additional local capacity and contributes to the formation of a natural training cluster. The output from training services will require local employment opportunities, highlighting the need to adopt a comparable enterprise development model successfully delivered in Glasgow Regeneration areas. This model will facilitate an integrated approach to capacity building, training opportunities and realistic opportunities to secure local employment.

Southill Training & Enterprise Hub

Current levels of micro enterprise support structures in the Southill area will be considerably enhanced with the creation of a dedicated enterprise centre in the immediate community. Options under consideration include the development of additional space in the 'Fullflex' building in addition to available sites in the Galvone industrial estate.

Current local enterprise promotion through the Southill Enterprise Development would be greatly enhanced through access to a larger purpose specific site. This would become a further component of the proposed National Social Innovation Hub with an emphasis on training and capacity building.

Vocational Sports

The successful inclusion of sports as a social regeneration mechanism must be capitalised upon. The development of a 'community garden' themed approach to training offers a broad range of training and employment opportunities in the area of sports facility management and maintenance. The sites identified for a strategic linear park in Moyross and Barry's Field offer immediate opportunities for vocational sports development with additional training capacity provided at the Factory in Southill and the Moyross Training Centre. The use of St. Enda's also needs examination from a vocational sports perspective and creation of a focal point for education and sport for regeneration projects.

The role of sport as a means of integrating teenagers into broader educational and vocational opportunities requires development with a partnership approach between current social partners and engagement with sports agencies and professional bodies in the areas of turf management, golf course maintenance, playing field development and maintenance, training

and education developing on successful programmes initiated by Arsenal FC and Limerick City. The creation of a dedicated horse site has the capacity to develop innovative programmes. These include feedstuffs for the equine industry, horse care programmes, equipment supplies to meet specific equine industry requirements.

Service Industry Training Development

Based on the demographic profile of the regeneration areas, the hospitality service industry remains a key focus for employment. The provision of hospitality industry training for local jobs in hotels and restaurants needs re-examination. The previously successful CERT model needs adoption into a local training plan with direct links into local schools to highlight a pathway for jobs in the service sector. The expansion of a 'service industry training' centre can also facilitate programmes to build local capacity for a broad range of roles in re-emerging businesses e.g., call centres. The premises on the grounds of LEDP is long associated with hospitality training while LIT successfully operate hospitality management courses that can be adopted for local residents.

Philanthropic & Public Partnership Project – Maritime Resource Development

The economic development plan requires the creation of 'visionary projects' supported by a mix of funding options that include a Philanthropic and Public Partnership approach. A 'transformational project' approach is recommended to develop additional linkages between the City and regeneration areas. A flagship project with training, employment and tourism potential is the development of the waterway to include St. Marys Park, Moyross to Grove Island and City.

The development of a maritime themed approach will open access from the City to regeneration areas and link into tourism destinations such as Killaloe. The initial funding will be dedicated to create the appropriate waterways infrastructure to open up access at a number of key strategic points. Further opportunities will include the creation of training in a range of maritime service supports, river maintenance, guiding and provision of dedicated water sports areas such as a paddle sports centre.

National CSR Engagement Centre

Limerick City and County Council will create a

platform for engagement with the private sector at national and international level as a model to develop sustained activity under a Corporate Social Responsibility platform. The creation of a National CSR Engagement Centre will enable the private sector to become involved in specific projects detailed under socio – economic plans for Limerick City and County Council. This will enable local enterprise and projects gain access to industry experts, potential private sector investment and provide an immediate platform for engagement with local communities not available heretofore. The CSR proposal is to provide an outlet for engagement with businesses and companies who heretofore may not engage with a regeneration process. The longer term benefits of this approach will be the fostering of relationships that may attract inward investment in the locality and employment creation.

The National CSR Engagement Centre will identify a number of key economic development projects for partnership with the private sector, including activity through the National Social Innovation Hub. The CSR proposal will engage with enterprise at a local, national and international level.

The academic expertise currently situated in UL will be availed of to initiate the project and devise the engagement platform for businesses to become involved. Currently CSR strategy is adhoc and the development of a national platform will provide Irish industry with an opportunity to contribute to a national project of social and economic significance. The development of such a centre with national profile also provides a logical engagement platform with MNCs and large SMEs through the National Social Innovation Hub.

Strategic Use of Public Procurement

The programme of new-build, rebuild and refurbishment will be subject to the adoption of social clauses to enhance the prospects of local employment and training during the physical regeneration process. The level of construction job lost within the target areas highlights a high level of trades people available for immediate engagement while the opportunity to provide training and apprenticeships will be considered in the final procurement delivery model as employed throughout the EU.

Public procurement strategy for the regeneration process will consider socially responsible public procurement to include social clauses to employ local residents and consider provision of training and capacity building options. Further procurement considerations, which are commonly employed in the EU, include Green Public Procurement to link with the green industry hub and Public Procurement Promoting Innovation. The social clause policy was adopted by members of Limerick City Council in 2013 and is extracted below:

Policy Statement

The Authority will continue to use all of its powers, whenever it can, to promote social benefits in public procurement to include but not be limited to the following: -

- Creating skills and training opportunities.
- Creating employment opportunities for long-term unemployed.
- Encouraging equal opportunities for all regardless of gender, race and disability.
- Supporting SMEs and Social Enterprises.
- Comply with the principles of the EU, Irish Law, Procurement Directives and Government Guidelines.
- Consult with the public, the wider community and other stakeholders in the Procurement System.
- Contractors will be required to support the Authority's Policy and will be required to actively participate in the economic and social regeneration of the locality of the place of delivery for the Contract.
- Continue to use all of its powers wherever it can to promote social benefits in Public Procurement.

The Authority will seek to implement its aims as stated in this Policy of securing skills and equal opportunities in employment. This will be achieved by using in its Procurement and Development Contracts specifications which promote its Policy. The Authority may require particular conditions concerning performance of the Contract to include monitoring clauses provided that those conditions are compatible with European Community Law and provided they are stated in the Contract Notice or in the Contract Documents.

Supply Side Supports – Physical Regeneration

The success of the Glasgow regeneration model and the development of offsite manufacturing is a proven illustration of a capacity building resource generating local employment and meeting a demand for the supply of materials used in the physical regeneration of the city. The creation of a training and enterprise centre in Moyross would provide an immediate link to a comparable entity in Glasgow which is currently self-sustaining. The funding model used is Public Private Partnership while Philanthropic investment will be considered under the transformational project model.

Connectivity As A Facilitator – E-Inclusion

The opportunity to develop a social enterprise culture and access to capacity building structures can be only realised through the provision of the appropriate local infrastructure. Connectivity is a key requirement to lessen the social divide between the target regeneration areas and the wider city and commercial districts. Access to broadband and improving local residents' technology competency is a key strategic priority.

New access points and road developments, new house construction and refurbishments need to facilitate a cost effective means of broadband delivery into all areas of the community and projected enterprise development hubs. In addition to the socio-economic programme development through E-Inclusion, the development of enterprise in the medium to longer term requires international standard networks that can become a point of differentiation for areas such as Moyross and Southill to attract inward investment.

1.2 Economic Development Critical Success Factors

The following are the critical success factors that were outlined for the implementation of the economic development pillar of the LRFIP. Each of the Critical Success Factors is followed by a summary status update.

A successful economic development strategy is contingent on the delivery of a number of key projects and the creation of local conditions that support long-term economic planning for the Regeneration areas. The focus for the economic development approach will concentrate on the following key initiatives to meet the longer term objectives established through the LRFIP. These include;

CSF 1: Creation of a platform for thematic sector development across a number of key industries that will provide local capacity building, training and employment opportunities e.g., non-skilled and semi-skilled manufacturing, services industry, green economy.**Summary Status**

The development of a thematic approach to economic development has resulted in the addition of a number of new sectoral opportunities for Limerick and the Regeneration areas. The targeted themes of the green economy, social enterprise and horticulture were initial areas for development that are now gaining traction through the development of anchor projects that will become catalysts for sector development i.e., Urban Farm / Coop Southill, Social Enterprise Hub development. The success of the Hospitality Education and Training Centre located in the LEDP, Roxboro is a template for other sectors to replicate. The development of the green economy is less developed. However, many strong projects and social enterprises are making strides in this area of service delivery i.e., retro-fitting, green space maintenance, domestic oil re-cycling. The expanded opportunities available through Troy Studios and the new Film and Digital production facility in Biblical Centre, Dominic St have the scope to become very significant providers of employment and work based training programmes.

CSF 2: Successful marketing of sites in areas of strategic value across regeneration areas that will attract industry and contribute to local employment, training and capacity building objectives.**Summary Status**

The acquisition of a number of key sites will be central to employment creation and the growth of additional sector specific training. The Troy Studios project in addition to the Biblical Centre: Production and Digital Skills Academy represent sites of national significance that will learn from the successes of initiatives such as the Hospitality Education and Training Centre template. Nicholas Street represents an immediate link from an area of Regeneration (St. Mary's Park / King's Island) to the city that currently attracts in excess of 100,000 visitors to King John's Castle. The future development of the street through the properties acquired by Limerick City and County Council (LCCC) will create a scale of community, social, commercial and civic activity that will be economically and socially transformational.

Former commercial premises are now in advanced stages of consideration to create a Social Enterprise Hub that can become a central focus for the wider ambition of the city in the area of social enterprise. Access to the Galvone Industrial Estate from Childers Road will be an important development to further enhance the commercial appeal of this site. The successful marketing of additional sites across the regeneration areas will be contingent on securing funds for the development of supporting road infrastructure such as the Southern Link Road from the M7 and the Northern Distributer Road.

CSF 3: Creation of appropriate conditions and supports to stimulate social innovation and micro enterprise development.**Summary Status**

There is evidence to suggest that the social enterprise sector is growing through the Community Enterprise Centres across the city. Initiatives such as the CCTV programme in Moyross, bike repair and recycling at St. Marys Aid, retro-refitting through Tait House, meals on wheels and the care of the elderly throughout the various centres provide a strong platform for further development. The SICAP programme has successfully resulted in the provision of mentoring and enterprise support for 223 individuals through PAUL Partnership. The development of a social enterprise hub in Southill will provide a strong focal point for social enterprise

activity while a comparable site should be considered for another area of Regeneration.

CSF 4: Creation of a number of sector focused clusters to provide training and enterprise supports e.g., integrated training campus in Moyross focusing on construction up skilling, social enterprise and training cluster in Galvone, Southill industrial zone with emphasis on green economy.

Summary Status

The Hospitality Education and Training Centre located in the LEDP, Roxboro has provided a successful template to replicate across other sectors. The operational and partnership model combined with an ability to meet private sector requirements will be instrumental in the development of other sector led training approaches. The new Biblical Centre will benefit from this experience supported by partners who understand the success factors required for sustained impact. There have been numerous successful training and enterprise initiatives supported by Limerick Regeneration across a number of community enterprise centres that have organically grown to become projects with significant employment potential. Some examples include the CCTV programme, retro-fitting, the focus on food through the Food Coop previously located in Mulgrave Street, meals on wheels and Healthcare, care of the elderly.

The acquisition of strategic investment sites by Limerick City & County Council is now the catalyst that will enable this area of focus to develop with a long-term outlook. The operational emphasis among the most successful training and enterprise initiatives has progressed from a geographic focus to a broader sectoral focus.

CSF 5: Creation of a local platform to engage with the broader business community at regional and national level through structured approaches under the theme of Corporate Social Responsibility.

Summary Status

There has been informal development of Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) however, no structured engagement platform exists. Examples such as Dell's involvement with Our Lady of Lourdes for IT skills training illustrates the willingness of the corporate sector to become involved in local activity. The barrier to developing meaningful CSR engagement platforms is the lack of co-ordinated networks to link with the private sector. The emergence of Limerick for IT and Limerick for Engineering combined with the new Food Strategy and proposed Sport Industry Cluster will provide a number of focal points to facilitate meaningful engagement. The development of a co-ordinated social enterprise focus should also become the conduit for industry CSR involvement across the economic development planning for Limerick Regeneration.

CSF 6: Development of a funding model from the philanthropic sector to deliver two socially and economically significant projects for Regeneration areas.

Summary Status

The acquisition and development of the Markets Field site has had a transformational impact on the area. This has been delivered as a direct result of philanthropic funding. The input of Limerick Regeneration combined with the support of the JP McManus Foundation funding has resulted in the re-opening of a municipal sports facility that has attracted over 100,000 spectators from across Limerick and beyond.

CSF 7: Creation of enterprise development incentives and supports to include microfinance and civic incentives.

Summary Status

Enterprise development has been facilitated by the Local Enterprise Office, Paul Partnership through the SICAP programme, Innovate Limerick and through the social entrepreneurship of the Community Enterprise Centres. The economic climate in the period since the launch of the LRFIP has restricted the scope for providing any significant level of finance for start-ups. There is a clear requirement for a focus on more diversified sources of funding. The limited access to funding streams has seen an increased focus on business planning, mentoring and training supports. The momentum behind the social enterprise economy will present new opportunities for consideration.

CSF 8: Development of a mixed tenure housing model to introduce new residents to regeneration areas.

Summary Status

The initial housing focus is on the refurbishment and construction of new housing across regeneration areas. Phase two of development is designed to replenish housing stocks in the Regeneration Areas and mixed tenure housing policy is progressing on a gradual basis.

CSF 9: Access to appropriate levels of broadband across all communities to support socio-economic programme development.

Summary Status

The priority focus has been on securing the key strategic sites across the city that will support the economic development ambitions of Limerick Regeneration. The focus on broadband has ensured the appropriate levels of investment are made to ensure all economic sites are 'business ready' to attract enterprise to the various sites. The growth of private sector provision for broadband across the city has ensured the option of access across all communities. The Fibre Network (MANS) project will see the connection between the Southside Regeneration area and Northside Regeneration area CCTV monitoring centres and the Henry Street Garda Station supporting the Limerick Regeneration Framework Implementation Plan's objective of developing safer communities through the use of CCTV. This is resulting in improved internet connectivity across the communities.

CSF 10: Creation of a project of national significance that establishes benchmark activity in Limerick through the development of a National Hub in the area of Social Innovation.

Summary Status

The investment in the Innovation Hub in the LEDP Roxboro provides a focus for attracting large scale employment for the area. The success of the LEDP site as an enterprise base and employment generator provides an outlet for employment generation on the southside of the city contributing to the economic profile of the area. The corresponding social enterprise focus has been through Community Enterprise Centres. The examination of the former Fullflex buildings by Tait House Community Enterprise (THCE) has the capacity to fulfil the objectives and create a base for social enterprise incubation. The longer term ambition for the prospective site is to become a centre of excellence for Social Enterprise.

CSF 11: Development of targeted up-skilling programmes to generate local capacity to meet physical regeneration requirements.

Summary Status

Since the launch of the LRFIP there have been limited opportunities around the construction industry. More recently, demand for construction workers and trades has increased. The Limerick and Clare Education and Training Board (LCETB) has developed a range of programmes to address the need for upskill and provide formal qualifications through initiatives such as the Recognition for Prior Learning programmes. Additional training opportunities are now available through the broadened Apprenticeship programme and the Career Traineeship programme providing a mix of training and work experience. Occupational Skills Profiling in conjunction with industry partners contributes to ensuring key skills gaps in the area of construction are addressed in future training provision.

CSF 12: Opening up of communities through additional Waterways Infrastructure development to complement new connections into regeneration areas that will integrate Limerick City with Moyross / St. Marys Park. This will generate training and employment opportunities adopting a maritime and tourism theme incorporated into the extended Limerick 2030: An Economic & Spatial Plan for Limerick.

Summary Status

The Voice of the River project has resulted in the proposed development of a number of partnerships in the development of a proposed marina area accessed through Donnellan's Field. This maritime / river remains a project of scale that will be transformational with training, enterprise, tourism, sport and event opportunities combined with significant social outcomes. Currently, a number of parties are exploring the additional opportunities around the Weir and Fisheries Building (both recently purchased by Limerick City and County Council) for the provision of leisure / activity based facilities in the proposed marina project.

1.3 Policy Context

The operational context for Limerick Regeneration and its strategic ambition through the Framework Implementation Plan is aligned with a number of European, National and Regional policies. The following highlights the policy documents that informs all operational and strategic activity for Limerick Regeneration with particular emphasis on economic activity.

Europe 2020

Europe 2020 strategy sets out five high level goals to achieve smart, sustainable and inclusive growth for the European Union. For each goal, specific targets have been set, to be met at the level of the EU as a whole and for each member state by 2020. The targets for Ireland are set out in the National Reform Programme and in the Partnership Agreement for Ireland.

Targets to be achieved for Ireland include:

- i. Employment: increase employment rate for men and women 20-64 years to between 69-71%;
- ii. Public and private investment in R&D and Innovation: Increase to 2% of GDP;
- iii. Climate change / reduced carbon / energy efficiency: Reduction in greenhouse gas emissions by 20%; increased percentage of energy from renewable sources, to 16% and increase in energy efficiency by 20%;
- iv. Education: reduction in early school leaving amongst young people, to be reduced to 8%; and increased rates with third level education to 60% of 30-34 year olds with third level qualifications;
- v. Poverty / social exclusion: a reduction by 200,000 in the numbers in or at risk of poverty and social exclusion.

Europe 2020 sets a target for the contribution of social enterprise employment to grow to 9% of GDP by 2020. In Ireland, Forfás estimate that the social enterprise sector employs between 25,000-33,000 people in over 1,400 enterprises, with a total income of around €1.4 billion and with the potential to grow further to generate at least 65,000 jobs and represent 5% of GDP. However, this is still below the EU average which is approximately 6% of GDP and below the targets set by Europe 2020.

Construction 2020 – A Strategy for a Renewed Construction Sector (2014)

Construction 2020 is aimed at stimulating activity in the building industry across Ireland getting ex-construction workers off the live register and back to work. The strategy addresses housing issues across various sectors including Social Housing, Homelessness, unfinished Housing Developments, Commercial, Energy Efficiency and Sustainability and improving Education and Skills.

In a package of measures agreed by the Government, Construction 2020 consists of 75 action points to ensure that necessary and sensible development can take place. Whilst Construction 2020 is non-locational specific, a key focus of the strategy is getting the unemployed back to work and ensuring that those on the live register engage in education and training and that their skills are aligned to the sectors evolving needs.

In partnership with Intreo offices nationwide, 'Pathways to Work' sets out a new vision for welfare and employment services where unemployed people can avail of client profiling, early group engagements, one-on-one interviews, skills and experience assessments, and training and work placements. Funding is also provided through SOLAS, the new Further Education and Training Authority, and the Higher Education Authority for a number of targeted training and education interventions to support unemployed people. These are designed to build on their skills and experience with new qualifications in areas where employment opportunities are expanding such as construction.

MOMENTUM which was rolled out in 2013 supports the provision of free education and training projects to allow up to 6,500 long-term jobseekers to gain skills and to access work opportunities. Similarly, the Springboard initiative was introduced in recognition of the fact that many of the jobs which were being lost in sectors such as construction, would not return even as the economy recovered, and that people previously employed in these sectors would find that their qualifications and skill sets did not match the skill requirements of emerging growth sectors. To date some 15,500 people have enrolled on Springboard programmes.

Social Housing Strategy 2020 (2015)

Emanating from an Action set out in Construction 2020, The Department of Housing, Planning, Community & Local Government published the Social Housing Strategy 2020 in 2015. The national Strategy sets out a road map up to 2020 providing concrete actions, timelines and financial resources of €3.8bn for the delivery of 35,000 new social housing units. There are three pillars contained in the strategy;

- 1 Pillar 1 – Provision of new social housing supply i.e., acquiring, building or leasing 35,000 new units over the period to 2020.
- 2 Pillar 2 – Providing housing supports through the private rented sector i.e., the introduction of a new Housing Assistance Payment (HAP) which will have scope to provide accommodation for up to 75,000 households and the introduction of innovative measures in the rental sector to enhance capacity of the sector to contribute to social housing support e.g., cost rental.
- 3 Pillar 3 - Reform: creating more flexible and responsive social housing supports i.e., Introduction of a new framework for rents for local authority housing and new tenant purchase scheme for local authority tenants.

Delivering Green Potential (2012)

The Government Policy Statement on Growth and Employment in the Green Economy outlines how the Green Economy is one of the most dynamic and rapidly growing markets in the World.

Encompassing a range of activities as diverse as renewable energy, energy efficiency, sustainable food production, tourism, "Green" financial services, and energy-efficient products and services, the Policy Statement aligns to Europe 2020 which identifies the green economy as offering considerable potential for future job creation.

The Expert Group on Future Skills Needs (EGFSN) estimated that 18,750 were employed in six sub-sectors of the Green Economy in Ireland in 2010 with an estimated 10,000 extra jobs created by 2015 if substantive progress was made in addressing key policy challenges impacting on the development of these sectors. The Policy Document outlines how the Government is committed to developing the potential of the Green Economy in Ireland to support sustainable economic growth and create jobs through the introduction of a number of strategies,

programmes and initiatives to support individual sectors in the Green Economy.

Up to 2012, over 200,000 homes were upgraded with energy efficiency measures with the aim of supporting upgrades in one million homes, businesses and public buildings throughout the lifecycle of the programme. Approximately 5,500 jobs were also supported by the scheme, many of which diversified from the construction industry into this new service.

The growth of the Green Economy on a global scale over the last decade or so has seen the emergence of clusters involving enterprises and institutions with common objectives in relation to the Green Economy.

Action Plan for Jobs – Mid-West Region 2015-2017 (2015)

The Action Plan for Jobs for the Mid-West is aimed at delivering 10-15% employment growth in the region by 2020 equating to 23,000 additional jobs. The plan which is part of a €250million regional jobs strategy led by the Minister for Jobs, Enterprise and Innovation covers the counties of Clare, Limerick and Tipperary. It outlines a coherent, targeted approach to deliver future economic growth focusing on the resources and talents specific to the region.

Key targets of the Plan include;

- Increase number of start-ups in the region by at least 25%;
- Increase employment in the existing base of companies by strengthening their capacity to scale up their business and win new markets;
- Attract more investment to the region;
- 30% - 40% uplift in IDA projects, equating total 66 investments within the region;
- Delivery of new IDA Advance Technology Building in Limerick in 2017;
- Strengthen the important sectoral clusters in the region: Aviation, Lifesciences, Engineering and Internationally Traded Services;
- Increase the value of agri-food exports by 85% by 2025;
- Grow overseas tourist numbers in the Mid-West to 1.26 million by 2025;
- A comprehensive implementation structure with senior private sector partners driving the process, is being established to ensure delivery of the plan.

The challenge for Limerick is in targeting growth in key sectors of potential and capitalise on the levels of employment growth through proactive collaboration and support to ensure that the projected 12,000 jobs targeted for Limerick city and county over the next 5 years are achieved.

Among the key areas of focus that will present opportunities through the delivery of the LRFIP include;

- Limerick for IT;
- Code City;
- Film Production Industry and Media Cluster;
- Limerick Royal/Digital Quarter & City Centre Innovation Centre;
- Sports Cluster;
- Establish a National Smart Ageing Exchange (ISAX) in Limerick.

Opportunities for collaboration in areas of Food/Agri, Tourism and Construction are significant with initiatives proposed to support food start-ups to grow and scale and enhance the marketing of the region's food and beverage products. In addition, the Action Plan set targets to increase employment in the tourism sector by 25% and increase overseas tourism revenue in the Mid-West to €375million by 2025. The delivery of new IDA Advance Technology Building in Limerick in 2017 will also require a strong local labour force.

Limerick 2030 – An Economic and Spatial Plan for Limerick

Limerick 2030: An Spatial and Economic Plan for Limerick aims to promote the economic development of Limerick working in partnership with key stakeholders including public agencies, the private sector and third level educational institutions. It aims to position Limerick to take advantage of new economic opportunities, build a strong local economy with significant job creation and marketing of Limerick effectively for investment, business location, tourism, retail and as a place to live.

The Limerick 2030 plan is structured around three main elements: An Economic Strategy, a Spatial Strategy and a Marketing Plan.

The Economic Strategy is to position Limerick to capture a greater share of knowledge based investment, supporting innovation, enterprise and

start-ups while capitalising on its existing strengths - its three Higher Education institutions, the city's ICT and digital assets and its strong knowledge and technology based reputation.

The Economic Strategy sets out five interrelated objectives:

1. Position Limerick as a competitive knowledge economy, known for its skills base excellence in high tech sectors;
2. Develop an outstanding environment for starting and growing new businesses;
3. Create the conditions for long-term economic growth;
4. Create a vibrant City Centre economy with a new mix of economic uses and a strong educational presence;
5. Maximise the local employment impact from development/regeneration.

The Spatial Strategy will transform how the city centre looks while repositioning itself as the premier regional shopping destination and a desirable place to do business, attracting new investment and companies located in a high quality and flexible space. The Spatial Plan for the City addresses 8 key objectives:

1. To establish a 21st Century City Centre economy capable of competing with other European cities and leading the wider City, Metropolitan Area and City-Region economy;
2. To reposition the City Centre as the premier regional shopping destination;
3. To establish a unique tourism offer that takes full advantage of the City Centre's special heritage and environmental characteristics;
4. To make the City Centre once again a desirable place to live by improving the quality of the housing offer in the City Centre;
5. To create a high quality and safe urban environment attractive to investors, employers, residents and tourists which generates a sense of pride in the City;
6. To build upon the City Centre's rich historic character by fully capturing this rich heritage, protecting and enhancing it where appropriate and complementing it with world class design for any new development;
7. To create quality strategic gateways to the City Centre, thereby making it a welcoming experience for visitors;
8. To attract and retain young people by providing

learning opportunities through the cooperation of the University of Limerick, Limerick Institute of Technology and Mary Immaculate College, in providing teaching and residential accommodation in the heart of the City Centre.

The marketing plan will include co-ordinated efforts across all sectors to re-brand and sell Limerick. The ambition is to deliver 12,000 jobs for the city and region through the delivery of the integrated economic and spatial strategy and the attraction of increased levels of business investment is one of the key objectives within Limerick 2030. The plan aims to maximise local employment through strategic development of key sectors and leveraging off its inherent local economic asset base.

To achieve its full potential, the plan proposes a series of transformational projects complemented by a programme of employment enhancing interventions. These projects have been defined as:

1. A 'World Class' Waterfront – a renaissance of Limerick's entire Waterfront;
2. The 'Limerick Cultural Centre' – an iconic destination building on the Waterfront;
3. 'Great streets' – a transformation of the City's three main streets – O'Connell Street, Catherine Street and Henry Street;
4. A new City Square/Plaza – to define the focal point or 'heart' of the City Centre;
5. A City Centre higher education campus - the creation of a multi-varsity combining facilities from Limerick Institute of Technology, University of Limerick and Mary Immaculate College in the heart of the City Centre;
6. Renewal of the Georgian Quarter – a concentrated programme to restore the Georgian part of the City to its former glory; and
7. Colbert Station renewal – a new public transport interchange and enhanced station environment.

Limerick City & County Council Corporate Plan (2016)

Limerick City Council and Limerick County Council were formally merged into one local authority on 1st June, 2014. The Corporate Plan for Limerick City and County Council is structured on the three pillars of social, economic and physical development underpinned by a new model of local governance and service delivery based on excellence in council leadership. In addition to promoting Limerick as a location for investment, business, education and as

a place to live, the Corporate Plan places a strong emphasis on “inclusive participation of all citizens in the development of their community” and community empowerment. It states the commitment of the local authority to promote diversity, equality and partnership.

The Plan makes reference to the Regeneration programme on numerous occasions with specific objectives to pursue the implementation of the Limerick 2030 Economic and Spatial Plan and the Limerick Regeneration Framework Implementation Plan in conjunction with key stakeholders and policy documents. The plan also focuses on the role of employment and education ensuring that the regeneration of communities in the City and County continues to progress and the role of the Local Authority to ensure that any regeneration or development programme undertaken will create new local employment and training opportunities. The Council believes that its activities can be targeted on areas of persistently high unemployment which will maximise local employment impact from development and Regeneration.

Limerick City Development Plan 2010-2016

The Limerick City Development Plan highlights the focus that will be placed on regeneration areas as part of the overall Economic Development Strategy. The Plan has highlighted many advantages of developing these areas as part of the overall economic strategy. These include the optimisation of existing infrastructure and local resources and the proximity of residential or mixed use areas to key economic assets that will provide employment. Other key objectives include the development of Business Improvement Districts, attention to derelict sites and provision of supports to facilitate development.

Local Economic & Community Plan (2016)

The integrated economic and community plan is the result of a partnership approach between The Limerick Local Community Development Committee (LCDC) and the Economic Development, Enterprise & Planning Strategic Policy Committee (SPC) of Limerick City and County Council.

The LECP is a high-level framework plan with an overall goal to promote improved quality of life and well-being of people and communities in Limerick City and County delivering objectives to create safe

and sustainable communities, where there is access to quality services including housing, transport, health, education, recreation and promoting an agenda of diversity, equality and partnership. The plan set out nine high level goals with specific objectives, outcomes, actions and delivery partners are identified for each.

1. Create vibrant, safe and sustainable communities in urban and rural areas;
2. Increase the population and incomes, creating new sources of jobs and enterprise in the local economy;
3. Increase the employment rate and reduce unemployment;
4. Reduce the number of people living in deprivation, promote social and economic inclusion and reduction in social inequalities;
5. Create a strong urban core, thriving towns, attractive and sustainable villages and countryside;
6. Promote urban-rural linkages;
7. Build networks of cooperation within Limerick City and County Council area and with areas and partners outside;
8. Support the protection of the receiving environment;
9. Transition to a low carbon future by 2030.

Consistent with the approach in other local authority-led plans, the plan is structured around the three pillars of Physical / Environment, Economic and Social.

Social Clause Policy – Limerick City Council

The social clause policy was adopted by members of Limerick City Council in 2013. The social clause to be included in the works requirements detailed in future tender documents is as follows:

During the construction phase the contractor is required to ensure that no less than:

1. 10% of the aggregate number of person weeks (i.e., the amount of work done by an individual worker based on a 39 hour working week) is to be carried out at the site by contractor’s personnel who have been registered on a national unemployment register within the EU for a continuous period of at least 12 months immediately prior to their employment specifically for the purpose of the works (“Relevant Workers”). Personnel who commence

employment more than four weeks prior to the tender Letter of Acceptance shall not be considered a Relevant Worker; and

2. 2.5% of the person weeks represent work carried out at the site by contractor’s personnel who are employees under a registered scheme of apprenticeship or through some other similar national training or education work placement arrangement accredited within the EU (“Relevant Trainees”).
- Contractors will be required to use their best endeavours to ensure the social clause objectives are met.
 - The Employers Representative (ER) will monitor the contractor performance during the contract.
 - The contractor will furnish all necessary reports and substantiations as required by the ER.
 - Contractor’s performance under this clause will be monitored as will be detailed in the Framework Agreement and failure to comply may lead to the contractor being excluded from following call-off competitions.

The Contracting Authority undertakes to assist the Contractor and their sub-contractors to provide training and employment opportunities by providing lists of agencies that can assist in the recruitment of suitable trainees/employees, and the identification of potential sub-contractors and suppliers. Any action taken by the Authority or their agents does not imply, and must not be deemed to imply any promise to provide suitable labour/ firms/agencies, and does not imply and must not be deemed to imply that any individuals/ firms/agency referred to the contractors or sub-contractors are suitable for engagement.

The Contractor shall enter, and shall procure that its Sub-Contractors enter, into Limerick Regeneration Construction Initiative’s Employment Charter at the same time as entering into this Agreement.

The Contractor is required to complete weekly labour monitoring forms in a format to be provided by the Contracting Authority, and is responsible for obtaining accurate data from all sub-contractors on site for entry onto the forms. The weekly labour monitoring form must be completed and supplied to the Authority or their agent within 7 days of the end of the week to which it relates.

Limerick City & County Council Food Strategy for Limerick 2016-2018

The Limerick City & County Council Food Strategy for Limerick 2016-2018 sets out targets for growth of 6% for the local food tourism sector and 10% additional sales growth for producers. With a strong focus on the food sector and new commercial activity, it is projected that up to 86 new jobs will be created by the end of 2018.

The three-year strategic plan identifies new opportunities for growth in the sector including:

- Achieve Food Destination Status for Limerick;
- Create a food tourism link to the Wild Atlantic Way;
- Improve Business Skillsets and upskill the local food sector;
- Create a strong marketing plan for Limerick;
- Develop a united food community;
- Create a distinct competitive advantage for Limerick within the national food landscape.

The strategy sets out a roadmap for local stakeholders to take ownership of the Short Term Actions and Long-term Considerations with a recommendation for a Steering Group to guide the process.

1.4 Economic Context

The following provides an overview of the current economic environment for Limerick Regeneration and the context within which the economic pillar activity must operate to address unemployment. An examination of the local economic environment provides a stark reminder of the challenge that exists particularly in the regeneration areas.

1.4.1 Population

Limerick City is the fourth largest City in the State with a population of 58,319 persons (CSO, 2016). The city has experienced a 2.1% (1,213) growth in population since the 2011 census.

The defined Regeneration areas occupy almost 3% of the land area of Limerick City and accommodate 11%

of the total population of the city. The hinterland of Limerick has over 450,000 people within a 60-minute drive of the City. The dominant population within Limerick Regeneration Areas is of Irish origin.

Between 2002 and 2006, the population of the city significantly increased (+10.7%) before decreasing in 2011. Recent preliminary figures on population in Limerick City in 2016 has seen a rise in population of 2.7%. Overall, between 2006 and 2016, Limerick City was the only area nationally to show a decrease in population, with the population changing by -2.5% compared to a national increase of 12.2%.

Limerick has a young population cohort with approximately 50% of the urban population under 35 years of age. The Regeneration areas (Figure 2) have

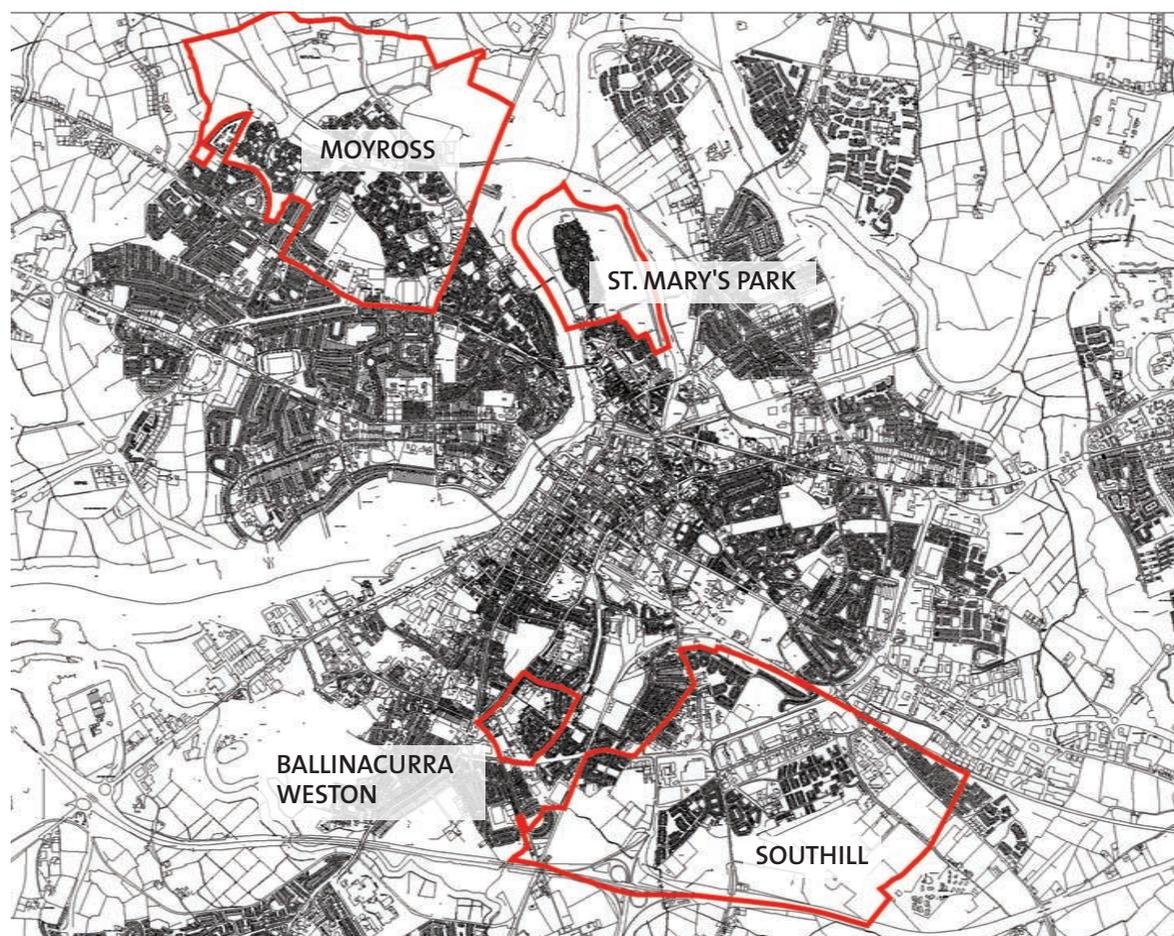


Figure 2: Location of Limerick Regeneration Areas

Year	Limerick City Population	Percentage Change
1996	52,039	-
2002	54,023	+3.8% (+1,984)
2006	59,790	+10.7% (+5,767)
2011	56,779	-5.0% (-3,011)
2016	58,319	+2.7% (+1,540)

Table 1: Limerick City Population 1996-2016

Source: CSO, 2016

Age Group	St Marys Park	Southill Weston	Ballina-curra	Moyross
Under 15	212	575	110	622
15-24 yrs	130	372	88	419
25-64 yrs	408	1213	293	1193
65+ yrs	113	283	70	137

Table 2: Age Structure in Regeneration Areas at Small Area Population Statistics (SAPS) level

Source: Limerick Regeneration Framework Implementation Plan, 2014

a higher than average (32%) Youth Dependency Rate. In contrast the Elderly Dependency rate is somewhat different and varied across the regeneration areas (i.e., Southill and Ballinacurra Weston (18%) Limerick City (19%) St. Mary's Park (21%), Moyross (8.4%).

1.4.2 Deprivation Index

Overall, the Mid-West Region is the fourth most deprived region of Ireland and Limerick City is the most disadvantaged local authority area within the region. Like any other part of the country, Limerick City has been massively affected by the economic downturn after 2007, which is reflected in the drop in the absolute deprivation score from -7.4 in 2006 to -13.7 in 2011. This represents a drop of 6.3, compared to a nationwide drop of 6.5. It also implies that the relative position of Limerick City as the most deprived local authority area in Ireland has remained unchanged between 2006 and 2011 (Pobal, 2013)

The HP (Haase Pratschke) Absolute and Relative Deprivation Index Score, 2006, 2011 (Haase and Pratschke 2012) is a key indicator of area-based affluence or deprivation. The Score is calculated by combining data, obtained from the Census, under the following three categories of variables – Demographic Decline, Social Class Disadvantage, Labour Market Deprivation – to form either an Absolute Index Score or a Relative Index Score².

The Relative Deprivation Score for Limerick City, based on 2011 Census data, is -6.7, making it the most disadvantaged of the five cities in the State. It is followed by Waterford (-4.51 Relative Index Score), Cork (-1.9 Relative Index Score) – which are all marginally below average - while Dublin (2.22 Relative HP Index Score) and Galway (5.09 Relative HP Index Score) are above average. County Clare, with a score of -0.2 is also considered to be marginally below average (but only just so), while County Limerick, at +0.9 is marginally above average.

Of the 38 Electoral Divisions in the city, 6 are considered to be 'Very Disadvantaged' (i.e., with a Relative Deprivation Score of -20 or lower). All 6 are in Regeneration Communities or immediate neighbouring areas. All 6 are among the top ten most disadvantaged EDs in the country, with one ED – John's A (St. Mary's Park) classified as the most disadvantaged area in the country. A further 12 EDs in Limerick City are considered to be 'Disadvantaged', i.e., with a HP Relative Deprivation Score of between -10 and -20. Meanwhile, 2 Electoral Divisions in County Limerick and 4 EDs in County Clare are classified as 'Disadvantaged' (none are classified as 'Very Disadvantaged').

	Deprivation 2011	Pobal HP Index 2011
Galvone A	Disadvantaged	-16.13
Galvone B	Very Disadvantaged	-26.62
Rathbane	Very Disadvantaged	-20.61
Ballinacurra B	Disadvantaged	-11.08
Johns A	Very Disadvantaged	-28.50
Johns B	Disadvantaged	-16.95
Johns C	Marginally Below Average	-5.22
Killeely A	Very Disadvantaged	-21.63
Killeely B	Disadvantaged	-16.03
Ballynanty	Very Disadvantaged	-21.21
Prospect A	Disadvantaged	-18.85
Prospect B	Disadvantaged	-18.08
Glenworth A	Disadvantaged	-12.97
Glenworth B	Disadvantaged	-14.70
Glenworth C	Very Disadvantaged	-20.84
St Laurance	Disadvantaged	-11.05

Table 3: Deprivation Index 2011 by Electoral Division

Source: Pobal HP Deprivation Indices 2013

² The Absolute Deprivation Score represents the actual level of affluence or deprivation in any one area. It ranges on a fixed scale from approximately -50 (extremely disadvantaged) to approximately +50 (extremely affluent), and is used to make comparisons in the level of affluence/deprivation for an individual area over different Census years. The Relative Deprivation Score represents the level of affluence or deprivation in an area relative to all other areas at a particular point in time. Depending on the score, specific areas can be placed into distinct categories ranging from extremely disadvantaged to extremely affluent.

National Employment Q1 2016		% Change Q1 2015
Employed	1,976,500	+46,900
Unemployed	179,500	-33,300
In Labour Force	2,156,000	+13,600
Not in Labour Force	1,470,200	-5,300

Table 4: Quarterly National Household Survey – Quarter 1 2016

Source: QNHS, 2016

1.4.3 Employment

The employment rate in Ireland increased by 1.3 percentage points to 63.9% over the year to Q4 2015. The employment rate in the EU-28 in Q4 2015 was 66.0%. The latest Quarterly National Household Survey (QNHS) shows the official unemployment rate in the country decreased by 33,300 (-15.7%) in the year to Q1 2016 bringing the total number of persons unemployed to 179,500. This is the fifteenth quarter in succession where unemployment has declined on an annual basis.

Long-term unemployment decreased from 6.0% to 4.7% over the year to Q1 2016. Long-term unemployment accounted for 56.1% of total unemployment in Q1 2016 compared with 59.7% a year earlier and 60.5% in the first quarter of 2014. In the year to Q1 2016, the number of persons classified as long-term unemployed decreased by 26,500 (-20.9%), bringing total long-term unemployment to 100,600. Short-term unemployment decreased by 11,300 (-13.7%) over the year to 71,200.

The number of unemployed have declined considerably since the launch of the LRFIP. In July 2016, 10,271 persons were signing on the Live Register across all Social Welfare / Intreo Offices in Limerick City, a reduction of 10.1% on the same month in 2015. Similarly, unemployment among Under 25's has dropped by 38% in that period between 2013 and 2016.

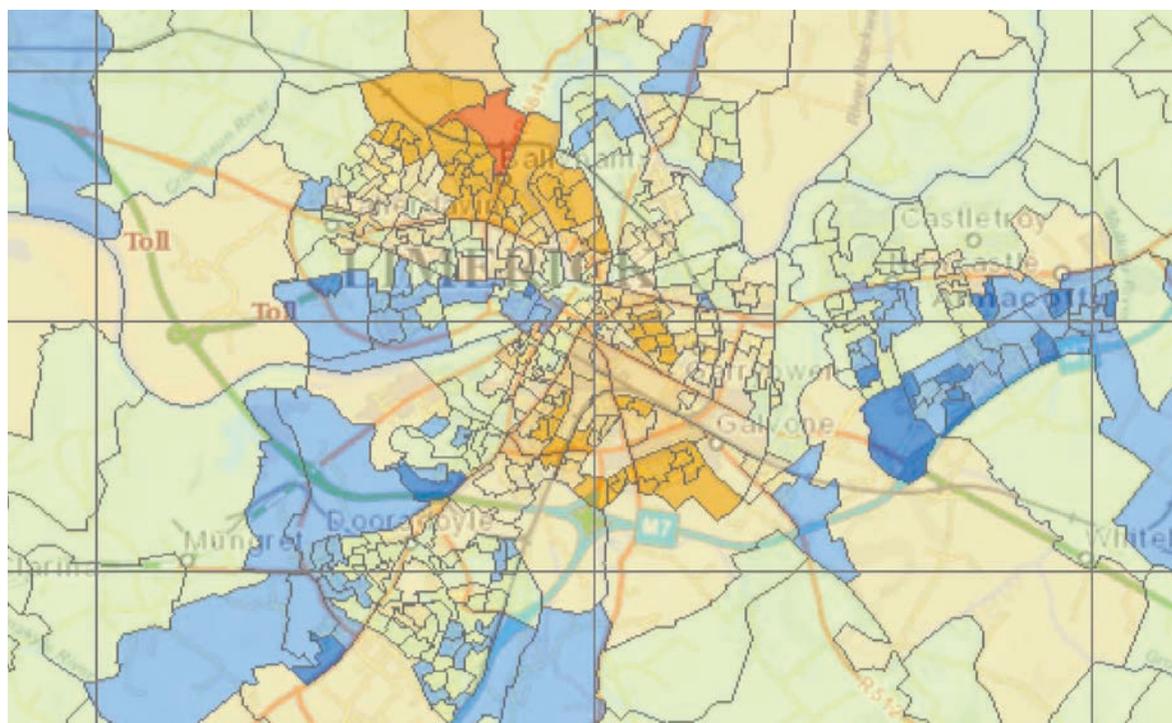


Figure 3: Pobal HP Relative Affluence / Deprivation Index Map – Limerick City ED



	July 2013	July 2014	July 2015	July 2016	% Change 2013-16
All Ages	13,872	12,965	11,537	10,271	-26% (-3,601)
Under 25 Years	2,283	2,135	1,677	1,416	-38% (-867)
25 Years & Over	11,589	10,830	9,860	8,855	23.6% (-2,734)

Table 5: Limerick City Persons on Live Register³ 2013 - 2016

Source: CSO, 2016

Nationally, the unemployment rate for 15-24 year olds (youth unemployment rate) decreased from 21.5% to 16.9% over the year to Q1 2016. Similarly, persons under 25 years signing on the live register in Limerick City decreased by 15.6% over the year to July 2016. Limerick City has been identified as having the highest number of “unemployment blackspots” in the country. An unemployment blackspot is defined as an Electoral Division with a labour force of at least 200 persons and where the unemployment rate (based on Census data) exceeds 35%. There were 81 such EDs in the Country in 2011, 42 of which were located in Dublin, Cork, Limerick and Waterford. However, with 18, Limerick City has twice as many unemployment blackspots as any other part of the Country. The average unemployment rate for these 18 blackspots was 43%.

Available data on unemployment rates in regeneration areas is based on the most recent figures available from the CSO (Census 2011). At this time unemployment rates in regeneration areas were extremely high with approximately 50% of residents unemployed. Equally, labour force participation rates in regeneration areas are correspondingly low ranging between 33%-50% despite its young population.

Within the 10 EDs in the Country with the highest unemployment rates, 7 are located in Limerick City. Four out of five worst unemployment blackspots in the Country are located in Limerick City and specifically within Regeneration Areas, namely John’s

A (St. Mary’s Park – 57% unemployment rate), Galvone B (O’Malley and Keyes Parks – 55%), Ballynanty (Moyross/Ballynanty – 47%), and Rathbane (Carew and Kincora Parks – 47%).

Youth employment remains the key issue to address. Youth unemployment rates in Limerick City are higher than the national average. In April 2016, Persons under 25 years accounted for 1,215 of those (12.9%) signing on in the Limerick City Office.

The unemployment rate among 15-24 years, according to the 2011 Census, is 39%. However, Limerick City has the highest level of youth unemployment in the country, with 50% of all 15-24 years in the labour force out of work. Additional information provided by the CSO on youth unemployment rates in the City show that of the 38 EDs in Limerick City, 11 have



Figure 4: Numbers on the Live Register 2007-2016 - Limerick City & County

Source: SLMRU Analysis of CSO Live Register Data, 2016

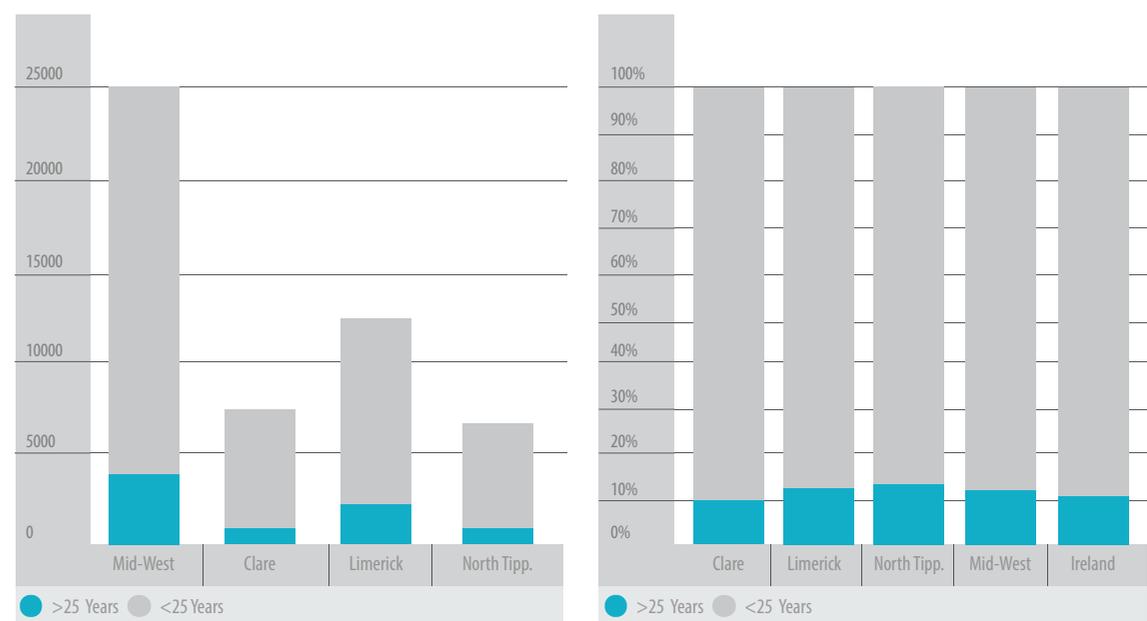


Figure 5: Live Register by County and Age – Mid West 2016

Source: SLMRU Analysis of CSO Live Register Data, 2016

3 Live Register is a monthly release, which comprises a count of all persons under 65 years of age who are claiming Jobseeker’s Benefit, Jobseeker’s Allowance and Other registrants (e.g., social welfare credits).

a youth unemployment rate of 60% or more. These are located in the Regeneration and neighbouring communities.

The labour force structure provides stark evidence of the gap between regeneration areas and national figures. The number of people at work, unemployment rates and those unable to present for work highlight the scale of gap that exists.

There are currently almost 6,000 job ready job seekers in Limerick. As illustrated above the diversity of job seekers highlights the opportunity around the intermediate sectors. The greatest concentration of job ready job seekers are within the elementary, operative, craft, sales and services areas.

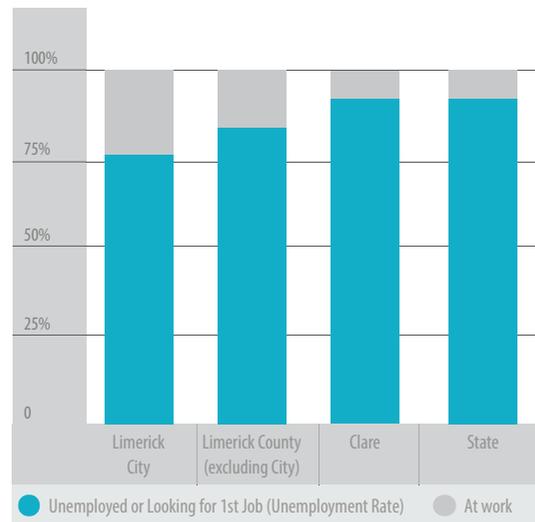


Figure 6: Unemployment Rate by Area

Regeneration Area	Unemployment Rate
Ballynanty / Moyross	47%
Carew & Kincora Park, Southill	47%
St. Mary's Park	57%
O'Malley and Keyes Park, Southill	55%

Table 6: Unemployment Rate in Limerick Regeneration Areas

Source: CSO, 2011

Sector	St Marys Park	Southill	Ballinacurra Weston	Moyross	City	State
At Work	24%	27%	32%	26%	39%	51%
Looking for 1st Regular Job	0.6%	1.4%	2%	2.3%	1.2%	0.9%
Unemployed	31%	24%	22%	32%	14%	11%
Student	8%	10%	11%	10%	14%	11%
Looking after Home/Family	9.8%	12%	8%	12%	9%	9.5%
Retired	16%	12%	12%	7%	14%	12%
Unable to work due to permanent sickness/disability	10%	13%	12%	11%	7%	4%
Other	0.7%	0.1%	0.2%	0.2%	0.8%	0.2%

Table 7: Labour Force Structure: Limerick Regeneration Areas (based on Small Area Population Statistics, SAPS), 2011

Source: Limerick Regeneration Framework Implementation Plan, 2014

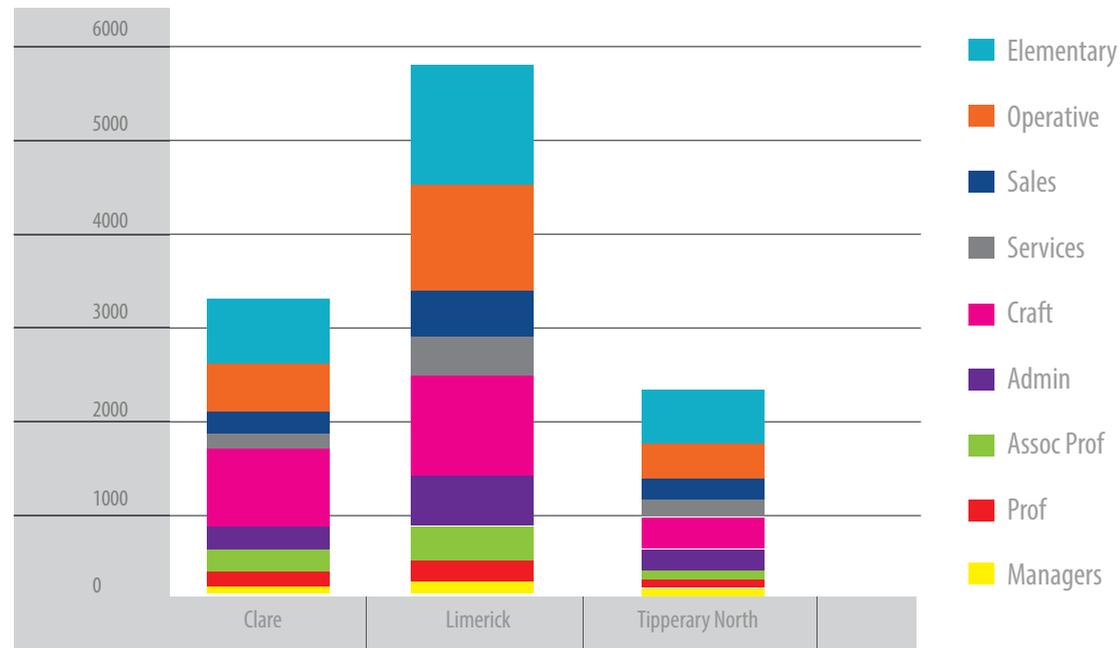


Figure 7: Job Ready Job Seekers, Mid-West, (by employment profile), April 2016
Source: Dept. Social Protection

1.4.4 Gross Value Added

The Gross Value Added (GVA) gap between Limerick (Mid-West) and other regions provides stark evidence of economic regional imbalance and the wider regional economic development challenges that exist. The GVA measures the contribution to the economy of each individual and is used in the estimation of gross domestic product (GDP). This level of variance between regions is illustrated by the current GVA figures highlighting the performance of Dublin and Cork versus Limerick and the wider Mid-West.

	State	Dublin	Mid-West	South-West
Gross Value Added (GVA) per person at Basic Prices	€37,186	€58,211	€30,695	€42,059
Indices of GVA per person at Basic Prices (State=100)	100.0	156.5	82.5	113.1
Indices of GVA per person at Basic Prices (EU=100)	130.0	203.5	107.3	147.0

Table 8: Regional GVA
CSO, 2014

1.4.5 Educational Attainment

The percentage of national population who have left school with only a primary education is 16%. Similar rates can be found in County Limerick (15%) and County Clare (15%). However, the rate of early school leaving is higher in Limerick City, with 20% of the population having left formal education with a primary education only.

The rates are higher in the Regeneration communities where the proportion of the adult population who left school with just a primary education is almost two or three times higher than the national average. As illustrated below it is 43% in Ballinacurra Weston (Prospect B ED), 48% in Southill (O'Malley Park / Keyes Park), and 54% in St. Mary's Park.

At national level, the percentage of people with third level education is 31%. County Limerick mirrors this rate where 29% of the adult population has a third level education. Limerick City currently has a rate of 23% of its population who have third level education.

The percentage of Regeneration communities with third level education is significantly lower ranging from 1% to 7% across the communities.

Limerick has three 3rd level institutes at University of Limerick, Mary Immaculate College and Limerick Institute of Technology with circa 70,000 students and 20,000 graduates per annum. Research conducted by the educational institutes indicate approximately 63% of graduates stay in the region.

While the progression of school leavers across Limerick City aligns to the National average, the low level of educational qualification of the adult population within the most disadvantaged estates of regeneration is a serious problem, affecting access to opportunities in many areas of social, civic and economic life including employment.

Education attainment by regeneration area is limited to CSO 2011 figures. However, it is evident that the adult population with primary level only education

within the regeneration areas of Limerick City was significantly above the city average of 20% with the exception of Moyross (Limerick North Rural). The economic profiling of the regeneration areas demonstrate the scale of economic and social activity required to impact on the target groups. The positive trends in unemployment numbers declining provide an encouraging backdrop. In contrast however, the reality of addressing the educational deficit is central to dealing with youth unemployment and dealing with the scale of deprivation previously reported. Youth unemployment is particularly high and this coupled with low levels of educational attainment presents a challenge for the entire community not just in the present but for future generations also. Further education and training at the required levels linked to the needs of employers will present an opportunity to improve the employability of the target groups. It clearly highlights the significant role of the social interventions in being a contributing factor to addressing the educational, capacity building and skills gaps that exist.

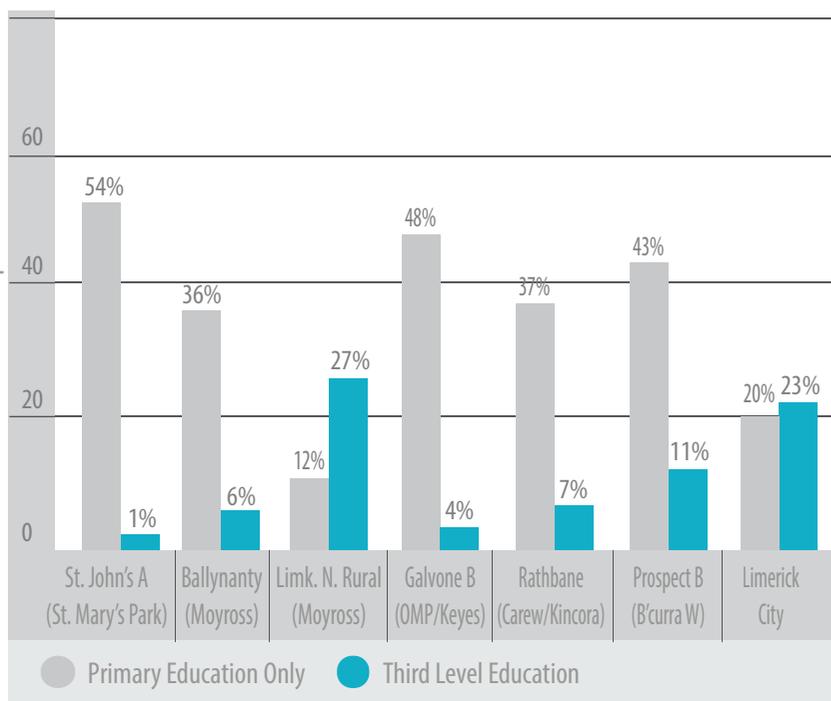


Figure 8: Adult Population with Primary Level Only Education and with Third Level Education: Regeneration Areas Limerick City, 2011

Source: Haas Pratschke Index, 2012 drawn from CSO 2011

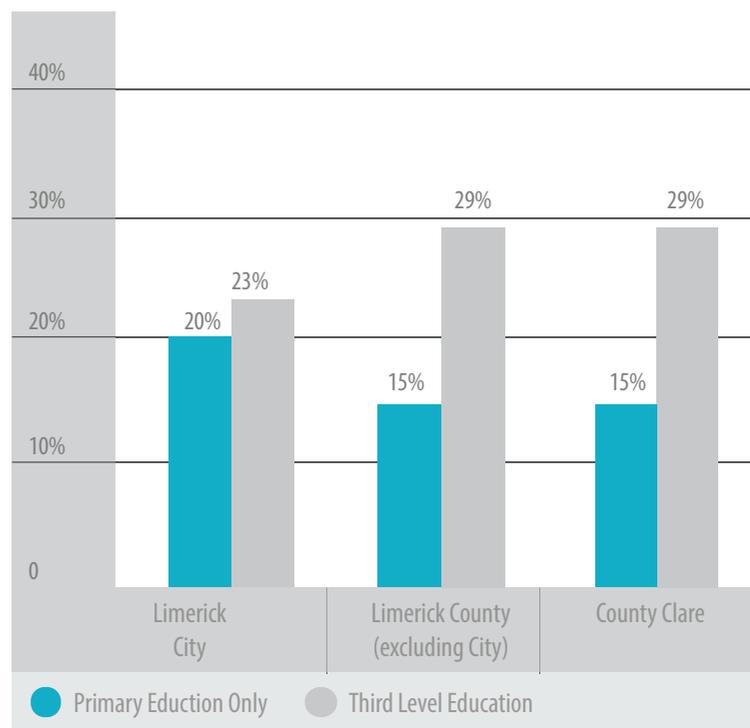


Figure 9: Educational Attainment by Area

	Limerick City	Limerick County	Mid-West	National
Total Cohort	1,065	1,295	4,730	54,825
Of which enrolled in				
Higher Education	47%	48%	48%	44%
Second Level/FET	25%	24%	25%	28%
Total Education/Training	72%	72%	74%	72%
Of Those Remaining				
Social Welfare Activity	8%	8%	8%	7%
Employment Activity	9%	9%	9%	10%
Labour Market Participation	17%	18%	17%	18%
Other (Emigration, Work Abroad)	-	-	-	10%

Table 9: Destination of School Leavers, Limerick 2016

Source: DES – School Completers – What Next? (2016)

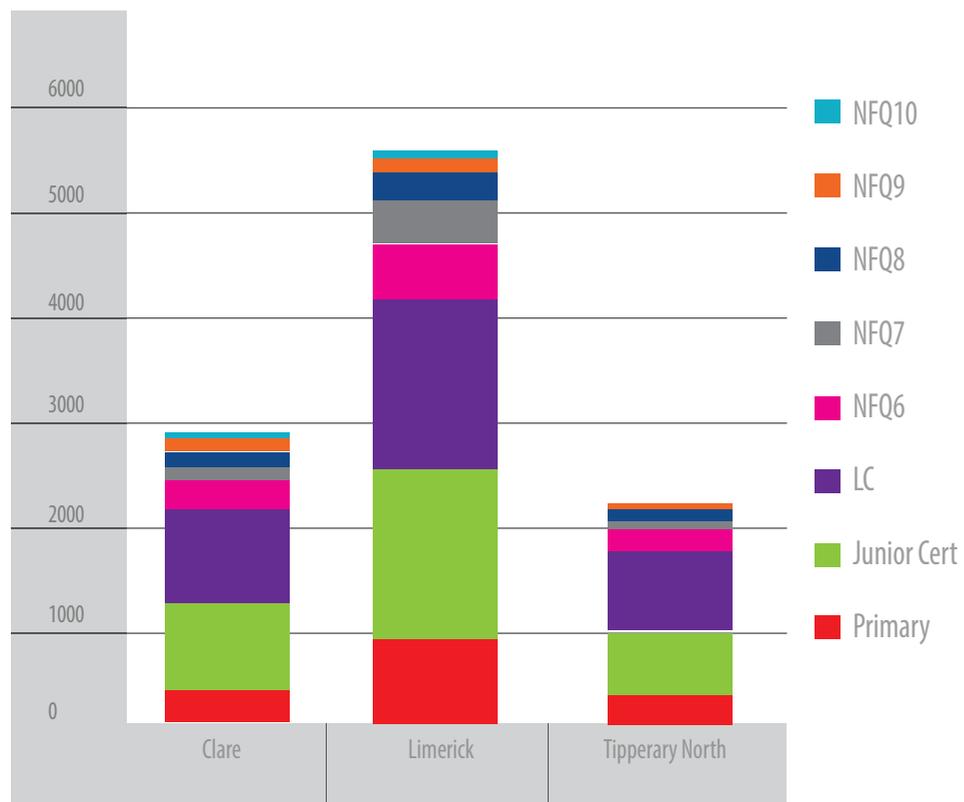


Figure 10: Job Ready Job Seekers, Mid-West, (by Qualification) April 2016

Source: Dept. Social Protection

2. Economic Pillar Activities

The following represents an overview of the specific economic development projects featured within the LRFIP. Each of the areas examined are based on the feedback obtained from key stakeholders delivering economically focused projects. In addition, these projects are funded or part funded Limerick Regeneration in addition other relevant stakeholders supporting economic activity.

Each area of following review contains;

1. Current status of each project area detailed in the economic pillar of the LRFIP.
2. Requirements to progress each project to fulfil the strategic objectives detailed in the LRFIP.

2.1 Thematic Development (Sector Development) Status

The LRFIP prescribed the adoption of a strategic focus around a thematic approach to employment generation. The subsequent launch of Limerick 2030 and the Mid West Action Plan for Jobs have provided a wider platform around the opportunities for jobs and training. The supporting actions to bring the ambition of the LRFIP and Limerick 2030 to fruition have seen a focus on ensuring the appropriate economic environmental conditions are in place to become the catalysts for job creation.

The strength of the Community Enterprise Centres in each of the areas of Regeneration have also resulted in a strong focus across a number of sectors. A combination of the community led approach with the wider city economic development strategy has resulted in an expanded range of sectors emerging as areas for expanding job and enterprise creation opportunities.

Development of Green Economy

The stated Green Economy sectoral focus has not developed to the same scale as other industry sectors that have benefited from investment in strategic sites and enterprise set up. Despite the absence of any large scale project in this sector there has been organic development of green economy related businesses through the Community Enterprise Centre's. The development of enterprises such as SDC Environmental located in Tait House Community Enterprise provides retro-fitting services on a national scale through contracts with the SEAI and employs 30 people.

The various estate management entities operated in Tait House, St Munchin's and Moyross provide the basis for managing local public estates with a contribution towards materials costs by Limerick Regeneration which enables these schemes to operate through the Community Employment programme. A pilot programme around domestic oil recycling is being developed through Limerick City Build. The recent application for the expansion of Limerick Waste Recycling at Galvone Industrial Estate will contribute to expanding the focus on green enterprise in Southill which was highlighted as a key strategic location for the creation of an enterprise cluster. The continued operation of SDC from Tait House combined with the expansion of recycling facilities provides the basis for a more concentrated effort around developing green enterprise development within the area.

One of the challenges, and in many respects, opportunities for the LRFIP is that the Green Economy is not a discrete sector. The term captures a range of activities spread across different sectors which have the common objective of providing goods and services in a sustainable way to reduce the impact on the environment. The Green Economy includes commercial activity in areas such as renewable energy, energy-efficient products, resource-efficient production techniques, the re-use, recovery and recycling of waste, water management and low carbon vehicles.

A renewed focus around this sector and the opportunities in areas as diverse as renewable energy, sustainable food production, tourism, environmental resource management and resource and energy-efficient products and services should be considered.

Development of Horticulture Opportunity

The proposed focus around horticulture and Community Garden Enterprises has seen a number of community garden projects of significance emerge. The community gardens and pilot allotment scheme through CWELL developed through St Munchin's and St Mary's combined with the Urban Co-op represent the first steps in a co-ordinated approach to the sector. The proposed Urban Garden operated through Tait House Community Enterprise is planned at a scale that will have city wide opportunities while also becoming a focal point for social enterprise based on food production. The successful template applied to

other sectors such as the Hospitality Education and Training Centre and the Digital and Media Training Centre demonstrates how projects of such scale can make a sustainable impact in the area of training, job creation and working with the private sector to react to new and emerging employment opportunities.

CASE STUDY - Urban Food Co-op

Established in 2013, the Urban Food Co-op is Limerick's first co-operative community grocery store. Starting as an online buying club, the group built relationships with suppliers and customers (local farmers, mainstream whole food suppliers, bakers, fruit wholesalers etc) until a suitable premises was sourced in January 2014 and became a walk in store, open one day a week. The co-op currently has a membership base of in excess of 400 and until recently, operated open 7 days a week. The co-op is now in a period of change as a new premises is sought with plans to reopen in a new location in September 2016 at Tait House, Southill.

The grocery co-op which operates on a membership ownership model acts as a main centre for activity around which mutually reinforcing cooperative social enterprises are structured. Existing complementary businesses include a café and meeting space with future proposals for community gardens, urban agriculture, basic food processing and a learning space. The primary goal of the Urban Co-op is to establish a sustainable cooperative grocery store in the city which will act as a catalyst for the establishment of additional viable urban and rural cooperative enterprises in the region.

The co-op engages TUS participants and other state supported employees in addition to 3rd level placement students from UCC, UL and LIT. As turnover increases during the next phase, it is anticipated the staffing levels will rise accordingly. The Urban Co-op received 1st Prize in the SEAI National Community Awards 2015.

Sector	% of Projects / Clients
Construction	32%
Beauty	24%
Digital Marketing/ Technology	16%
Cleaning	7%
Training & Education	5%
Food & Beverage	5%

Table 10: Sectoral Focus of SICAP Enterprise Supports Programming

Source: PAUL Partnership

Social Innovation & Enterprise Development

The area of social innovation and enterprise development is developing on an informal basis again through the community enterprise centre structures supported by the various job placement schemes. This is further enhanced by the Employment and Enterprise Programming delivered through PAUL Partnership which created 8 new jobs in 2015 and supported 13 social enterprises. A total of 223 potential enterprises were brought through the SICAP Enterprise Support Service with a view to helping long term unemployed develop business ideas. The breakdown of projected business ideas under the SICAP programme was concentrated on the following (Table 10) reflecting the sectoral interests of the long term unemployed. Significantly, a number of the sectors attracting the highest levels of interest among the long term unemployed largely reflect areas identified as growth areas within the context of delivering the objectives of LRFIP.

The enterprises supported by SICAP have resulted in developing the social enterprise economy in Limerick and represent the basis for growing the social entrepreneurship culture across Limerick. They include the following areas:

- Bicycle Maintenance
- Community Cafes
- Florist
- Hair & Beauty Salon

	Direct	2014 Indirect	Total	Direct	2015 Indirect	Total
Community Enterprise	505	40.4	545.4	484	38.72	522.72
Training & Skills	60	4.8	64.8	90	7.2	97.2
Enterprise Development	20	2.4	22.4	20	2.4	22.4
Contribution to Strategic	0	0	0	30	18	48
Projects						
	585	47.6	632.6	624	66.32	690.32

Table 11: Estimated Annual Employment Output (FTEs) – Roles aided by Limerick Regeneration Support

- Meals on Wheels
- School Meals
- Security & Electrical Services
- Storage Solutions
- Photography

The contribution of funds from Limerick Regeneration to a range of community enterprise based projects has resulted in the sustainability of key programmes across all areas of Regeneration. The ability to attract investment from Limerick Regeneration has created additional training opportunities and the support to source materials and equipment that have been the catalyst for developing various labour activation programmes, particularly those provided in Community Enterprise centres. The ability to work in partnership with other agencies and support local community enterprise centres demonstrates the collective role required to support established programmes.

This level of complementarity with other agencies working in regeneration areas is a key enabler for supporting the employment pathway and labour activation programme participants' progression to full time employment. The employment figures detailed in Table 11 reflect the 2014 and 2015 employment figures across the various Community Enterprise and Area Centres within Limerick Regeneration. The presentation of this data illustrates the volume of

participants within the structures that benefit from Limerick Regeneration's assistance and their ability to progress to employment. Over the course of the timeframe of the LRFIP it is estimated that 306 FTE roles have been created as a direct result of Limerick Regeneration funding. These roles are FTEs created as a result of the direct financial intervention of Limerick Regeneration across the areas of enterprise, training and jobs evolving from strategic projects. In addition to these roles, the wider level of employment supported by Limerick Regeneration was 633 in 2014 rising to 690 in 2015.

The estimated employment figures in Table 11 also include individuals who progress to employment from training and skills based initiatives supported by Regeneration such as the Hospitality Education and Training Centre. The enterprise development figures reflect the number of people who have progressed to full time employment within the social enterprise structures in the various Community Enterprise Centres. Limerick Regeneration's capacity to support a number of key strategic economic projects has also resulted in employment creation in the city and residents of regeneration areas. This is based on the number of long-term unemployed that have secured full time roles within companies such as GM Motors whose establishment in the city resulted directly from the support of Limerick City & County Council.

CASE STUDY - Hospitality Education & Training Centre (HETC), Roxboro

In response to high levels of unemployment, especially among younger people, and a skills shortage in the hospitality sector, the HETC was set up at Roxboro in 2014 under the direction of the Limerick Clare Education & Training Board (LCETB). The €250,000 funding from the Social Intervention Fund for the programme is match funded by €250,000 from SOLAS and €70,000 funding from Fáilte Ireland. Key partners in the delivery of the HETC are Lead Partner - LCETB (Limerick and Clare Education Board), Training Partner - LCFE (Limerick College of Further Education), Irish Hotels Federation, LEDP (Local Enterprise Development Partnership), DSP (Department of Social Welfare), DECLG (Dept. Environment, Community and Local Government), Irish Restaurants Association (RAI) and the Vintners Federation Ireland (VFI).

Strategic Objectives

1. To develop a Centre of Excellence in the provision of quality assured education, training and support initiatives to maximise the use of the facilities available for the economic and social benefit of the local community, city and the region.
2. Enhance employability through the provision of education, training and development opportunities to meet the needs of the local community with particular emphasis on young unemployed people from regeneration areas.
3. To address the skills shortage in the hospitality industry and to provide progression and up-skilling opportunities for individuals to move to higher level training and to support the development of a continuum of training which will meet the needs of all stakeholders.

Specifically, the project was developed to address the following identified needs:

- To reduce unemployment in the Limerick region with particular emphasis on young people in Regeneration areas.
- Improve the employability potential of participants through the provision of work experience, job placement, soft skills' development, career guidance and opportunities for progression into further education, training and employment.
- To meet identified skills' gaps within the hospitality industry, where there are job vacancies

because of lack of trained staff.

- To maximise the potential of a fully equipped training unit for the social and economic benefit of the community in a manner which is flexible, innovative and sustainable.
- To engage with the local community and deliver training programmes in line with identified needs, which are complementary to HETC's education and training provision.

One of the key success factors for HETC is that living within the Regeneration area is not a barrier for trainees gaining employment or progressing into further education. This has been achieved through continuous positive reinforcement of trainees' achievements to develop confidence and by building industry employer relationships. Since opening its doors in the autumn of 2014, 133 trainees from the Regeneration area have either successfully gained employment or continued onto further education. Overall, 225 trainees have achieved Quality & Qualifications Ireland (QQI) level 4 or 5 accreditation. It is particularly noteworthy that 66% of those who successfully completed training programmes at the HETC went on to full-time employment in the hospitality sector. The centre also has a very favourable completion rate of 81%. While not a core objective at the outset, HETC also has excellent relationships with the community in Roxboro and regularly hosts meetings and parties for residents and older people. Evening courses offered include cake decorating; front office reception skills and modern Irish cooking. Similarly, summer camps in the regeneration areas will be led by HETC in July-August 2016 so that local young people have a positive outlet during their school holidays.

HETC has identified the following strengths:

- The capacity to offer QQI accredited programmes in partnership with Limerick College of Further Education (LCFE).
- The capability to deliver City and Guilds programmes.
- Involvement, commitment and support from key partners including: training providers, employers, community and other relevant state and social partner organisations in the development and implementation of the project. Limerick and Clare Education and Training Board (LCETB) is the lead

partner of the project.

- The availability of a fully equipped training facility and its location in proximity to high levels of youth unemployment in the Southside of Limerick city.
- It has identified hospitality industry employers with a variety of employment opportunities in the sector that have shown and demonstrated a commitment to work experience and job placements.
- A large number of young unemployed people within Limerick city, particularly within the Regeneration areas of the city have progressed into jobs.
- Each of HETC's training staff is a subject matter expert in their respective fields with decades of practice in the industry. Thus, real experiences are relayed to learners as they progress through their chosen programme.

One of the key success factors for the HETC is that living within the Regeneration area is not a barrier for trainees gaining employment or progressing into further education. Fáilte Ireland withdrew from its national hospitality training centres in 2011, leaving a significant gap in the provision of hospitality training nationally. One of the key objectives in establishing the HETC was to address skills shortages in the industry and to re-commission the former Fáilte Ireland training centre in Limerick city. Since its establishment, the HETC has taken a lead role with SOLAS, industry representatives, LCETB and other state agencies, in advising, planning and shaping training provision for the national hospitality industry of the future. Monitoring, review and self-evaluation are core to HETC's ongoing commitment to quality management, development and improvement. The refinement of HETC's procedures and processes, towards maximising the experience of all stakeholders, who engage with the centre, is ongoing.

Bearing in mind that one of the key objectives in establishing HETC was to address the skills gap in the local hospitality industry, it is noteworthy that 66% of HETC's training completers progressed to full-time employment in the sector.

The centre's completion rate is 81% and of the 71% who completed their course at the HETC, 97% received QQI certification. Progression to FET and HET are not core objectives of the centre. It is noted, that 34% of

training completers did not opt for, or did not achieve employment in the hospitality sector. This figure flags an opportunity for the HETC to complete further studies and establish the reasons for this. Trainees may have decided that employment in the area was not for them, they may not have performed well at interview or their skill set may not have matched up with the demands of employers. It is imperative that the HETC investigates, with the aim of maximising the progression rate of its trainees to employment in the sector, a core objective for the centre.

Outlined below is one example of how HETC has been instrumental in initiating a response to an urgent national appeal from the hospitality industry. An outcry from the Irish Hotel Federation (IHF) and the Restaurant Association of Ireland (RAI) highlighted the shortage of chefs in the country and an impending crisis. Subsequently, urgent investment was called on, from the Minister of Education and Skills, for the establishment of chef training to address the fact that only 1,800 chefs qualify each year leaving a deficit of around 5,000 chef trainees in the industry.

In response the HETC Centre Manager invited all industry and employers to a workshop at the Centre. Dr. John O'Neill, Project Manager with responsibility for programme and policy development at SOLAS and Stephen McNally President of the IHF, attended this workshop.

The outcome of the workshop identified the need for a QQI Level 5 Programme in culinary skills and commitment from industry employers to employ trainees who successfully complete the course.

Commitment for the programme was secured and employment opportunities were identified with seventeen local industry partners: Templegate Hotel 4 Star, Old Ground Hotel 4 Star, Dromoland Hotel 5 Star, Inn At Dromoland 3 Star, Woodlands Adare 4 Star, Dundrum House Hotel 4 Star, Ballyskeen Hotel and Golf Resort 4 Star, Castletroy Hotel 4 Star, Strand Hotel 4 Star, Clarion Hotel 4 Star, Absolute Hotel 4 Star, No 1 Perry Square 4 Star, The George Hotel 4 Star, South Court Hotel 4 Star, Greenhills Hotel 3 Star, Bunratty Manor Hotel 3 Star, Radisson Blu.

To date, 10 offers of employment have been secured through this programme.

	Direct	2014 Indirect	Total	Direct	2015 Indirect	Total
Employment secured from Community Enterprise	€6,238,538	€499,083	€6,737,621	€5,987,081	€478,966.45	€6,466,047
Employment secured from Training & Skills	€2,054,304	€164,344.30	€2,218,648	€3,081,456	€246,516.45	€3,327,972
Employment secured from Enterprise Development	€589,048	€47,124	€636,171	€589,048	€47,124	€636,171
Employment secured through Strategic Projects				€1,104,464	€662,679	€1,767,143
	€8,881,889	€710,551	€9,592,441	€10,762,048	€1,435,285.36	€12,197,334

Table 12: Estimated Employment Income Impact

Table 12 provides an overview of the employment income benefits that accrue to regeneration areas based on the percentage of participants that secure full time employment as a result of Limerick Regeneration's economic interventions.

The direct employment income is estimated based on the associated percentage of FTEs created among Regeneration residents that have been generated through the support of Limerick Regeneration from the various labour activation programmes, enterprise supports and involvement with key strategic projects. The overall employment income impact has grown from €9.5 million to €12.2 million between 2014 and 2015.

The figures represented in Table 12 are calculated based on the increased throughput of trainees securing employment in training centres and an increase among long-term unemployed securing employment through strategic projects supported by Limerick Regeneration. The value of employment generated from participants who progress from community enterprise was in excess of €6 million per annum. This reflects the annual conversion of a percentage of labour activation programme participants from schemes supported by Limerick

Regeneration in partnership with other agencies. In estimating the income impact that specifically accrues to the Regeneration areas, a range of high to low income scenarios were created with the overall income impact calculated through the inclusion of cautious multipliers to estimate the indirect income value that is a further output. The direct income impact across the programmes and activities supported by Limerick Regeneration is €8.9 million in 2014 and €10.8 million. This is before the multiplier impact is applied which highlights the additional indirect income and employment generated.

Unskilled and Semi Skilled Manufacturing

The LRFIP economic development strategy highlighted the opportunity around existing entities potential to explore the creation of an outlet for training and enterprise space and replicate the model successfully adopted by Glasgow Regeneration. This was originally proposed for Moyross and the suggested development of a training and enterprise hub for development. The dedicated training and enterprise hub has not progressed in Moyross to date. However, plans still remain for development of a training site in the Moyross Enterprise Centre (known as 'the Bays') facilitated through private sector investment.





Hospitality Education Training Centre,
Roxboro Limerick - the Award winning
European Centre of Excellence in
Hospitality and Tourism Services

A collaboration with the University of Limerick Kemmy Business School has resulted in 21 start ups now established through Limerick City Build. It currently holds a number of maintenance contracts with organisations such as Focus Ireland and Simon. Limerick City Build has also become a portal for training, playing a very significant role in the PALLS project and receiving up to 150 referrals from the prison system.

New Sector Opportunities for Employment Growth

A number of sectors have emerged since the launch of the LRFIP which will stimulate considerable training and employment opportunities under the Limerick 2030 plan implementation. They include:

Tourism & Hospitality

The success of the Hospitality Education and Training Centre (HETC) located in the LEDP provides a template for other sectors to replicate. The HETC is developed through an inter-agency and private sector partnership and has reacted to industry demand for trained staff. It now provides full time and part time training courses in the areas of Bar Skills, Hospitality Skills, Commis Chef Programme, Career Traineeship Programme and Professional Cookery Course. There are currently three programme intakes per year with a capacity of 165 trainees largely drawn from long-term unemployed people.

ICT

The creation of Limerick for Engineering and Limerick for IT has created a natural linkage with the private sector that can realise job opportunities based on the successful model employed by GM Motors. The creation of training programmes under the Springboard programme has resulted in 25 long-term unemployed people securing fulltime employment after the completion of the initial programme and associated training. A close working relationship with the DSP creates the supply of candidates to GM Motors who join the Springboard programme and subsequently undertake specialist training. Successful graduates of the programme are now working on international projects and 'best in class' development projects. This model has significant potential for adoption by other companies in the area and the platform provided by Limerick for IT and Limerick for Engineering is central to progressing this approach. It is estimated that these private and public collaborations have been responsible for the

creation of 350 new jobs to date. The training and support structures are in place through the creation of this approach successfully adopted by GM Motors through the involvement of the LCETB to bridge any initial training gaps and create the pathway to relevant training.

Digital & Media

The opening of the new Troy Studios in Castletroy is expected to create up to 750 jobs across a range of trades and services. The training opportunities this will provide will be capitalised on through the recent acquisition of the Biblical Centre on Dominic Street and the creation of the Biblical Centre: Production and Digital Skills Academy. A minimum of twenty per cent of all training places through the Biblical Centre activities will be allocated to residents of Limerick Regeneration areas.

Construction

The demand for construction skills is growing. The launch of the LRFIP took place at a time of decline in the construction industry. However, the projected demand for housing will ensure a high level of demand for construction skills. This will provide immediate training and employment opportunities for residents of regeneration areas and the possibility of increased numbers of apprenticeships being provided to focus on youth unemployment. For many young people there must be a pre-apprenticeship training approach to develop their capacity to avail of full time training and employment.

Medical Village

The proposed Medical Village at Barrington's Hospital will provide a diverse range of new training and employment opportunities for residents across Limerick Regeneration. Projected employment opportunities will include the provision of onsite services and the creation of training to develop technicians for specialist equipment used on site.

Employment Impact

The estimated employment impact under the thematic or sectoral development is based on Limerick Regeneration's direct contribution to development, leveraging capital expenditure, supports to industry and the management of related economic stimulus programmes by third parties. The estimated employment numbers are based on Full Time Equivalent (FTE) roles that are non-community employment related programmes, which are accounted for under Social Intervention funding analysis.

Table 11 previously detailed the 2014 and 2015 employment created and supported by Limerick Regeneration through facilitation of strategic economic development initiatives and inter-agency programming. In estimating the future impact of the economic stimulus activity by Limerick Regeneration, it will be important to consider the evolving opportunities that are becoming evident as a result of the wider Limerick 2030 economic development opportunities. These include the employment potential of Troy Studios, the Biblical Centres impact on training / employment and the development of a wider social enterprise culture that will capitalise on evolving opportunities.

Table 13 outlines the annual employment growth that can accrue as a result of the LRFIP interventions growing to 1,267 roles in 2019. This includes 716 projected new FTE roles net of the labour activation programmes. The cumulative net employment gains in this three-year period are estimated to be 1,775 (total of direct and indirect FTEs created outside of the roles supported by the Community Enterprise Programmes). The total direct roles (new roles created that are non labour activation programmes) that will be created is estimated to be 1,360, averaging in excess of 450 new roles per annum for Limerick. This accounts for a settling in period for new industries to become established and conversion of traineeships to FTEs in addition to new employment opportunities resulting from the broader city wide economic development approach.

Requirements To Progress

1. The next phase of economic development for Limerick Regeneration must align itself with the key sectors that are prioritised under Limerick 2030 to ensure that Regeneration communities can benefit from the concentrated focus on sectors that should include:

- 1) Tourism & Hospitality
- 2) ICT
- 3) Financial Services
- 4) Engineering
- 5) Construction
- 6) Healthcare

2. Define the areas of opportunity in the green economy through the compilation of an expert green economy group and examine innovative components of the green sector that could be attracted to Limerick.
3. Examine training and skill gaps in the areas of green methods of construction for niche training focus.
4. Devise a business and operational plan for the Urban Farm concept that focuses on the social enterprise, employment and training opportunities.

5. Examine a framework to integrate community gardens into a social enterprise network that can centrally supply and produce community enterprises centres such as community cafes, meals on wheels and the private sector.
7. Examine the feasibility of an enterprise and training hub located on the northside of the city exploring opportunities around food, hospitality, Troy studios, media or emerging sectors replicating the success of the Hospitality Education and Training Centre.
8. Focus on investment in projects of scale that can be delivered collectively among all stakeholders while ensuring the investment from the Social Intervention Fund continues to contribute to the capacity building required to support economic development in regeneration areas.
9. Examine the future role, governance and structures required for existing social enterprises to support future economic development activities through its role in training and employment creation.

2.2 Marketing Of Sites To Private Sector**Status**

Since the launch of the LRFIP a number of the key areas sites have been secured with the objectives of employment generation and sites that will act as catalysts for physical and economic regeneration. The sites that have been secured under Limerick Regeneration and Limerick City & County Council include the following:

Nicholas St. – The buildings within the ownership of Limerick City and County Council include 24, 25, 26, 27 and 35 Nicholas Street, and the ‘Fireplace Site’ (36-39). Limerick City and County Council are working with local stakeholders to devise an economic development programme that will create a blended approach to developing the area through enhanced residential and commercial offerings. The success of King John’s Castle in attracting over 100,000 visitors per annum to the areas forms the basis for developing the area as a vibrant living and social space. A number of local stakeholders are collectively working to develop ideas for the next phase of the street while some private sector investors have expressed an interest in locating to the area delivering an artisan beverage tourism offering.

	Direct	2017 Indirect	Total	Direct	2018 Indirect	Total	Direct	2019 Indirect	Total
Community Enterprise Programmes	500	40	540	505	40.4	545.4	510	40.8	550.8
Employment resulting from Training & Skills	180	14.4	194.4	230	18.4	248.4	120	9.6	129.6
Employment resulting from Enterprise Development	60	7.2	67.2	90	10.8	100.8	110	13.2	123.2
Employment resulting from Economic Development Property	40	24	64	100	60	160	150	90	240
Employment resulting from Contribution to Strategic Projects	45	27	72	95	57	152	140	84	224
	825	112.6	937.6	1020	186.6	1206.6	1030	237.6	1267.6

Table 13: Estimated FTEs generated across areas of LRFIP focus

Galvone Industrial Estate Units – Limerick City and County Council have devised a programme of works to open up access to the Galvone Industrial Estate from Childers Road. An increased level of access would make the site more attractive for further investment. The former Fullflex building has been acquired by Limerick City & County Council and is currently being examined as the site for a Social Enterprise Centre with the support of a number of statutory agencies. The ambition is for the site to evolve to fulfil the objective of becoming the national centre for social enterprise and develop social enterprise training opportunities in specialist areas.

Biblical Centre - Limerick City and County Council, Innovate Limerick with financial assistance from Limerick Regeneration and the Department of Housing, Planning, Community and Local Government, purchased the former Biblical Centre to convert it into a modern training academy (Production and Digital Skills Academy). The purpose is to create a supply of skills to meet the needs of the international film sector operating from Troy Studios. Many of the skills required in this film investment in Limerick are in intermediate skills areas including: hair, make-up, digital animation, acting, camera, set design and building, rigging and laundry. These will be accessible and attractive to people of working age in the regeneration areas and socially disadvantaged groups and will be attractive to young people – e.g., those making the transition from second level school or as part of progression from further education and training programmes including Post Leaving Cert (PLC) courses. They will also be attractive to adults with low education that are progressing through education and training pathways from foundation levels / first stages of QQI level qualification (QQI 1-3). Specific training courses and the number of training places from 2016-2018 have been developed in co-operation with the LCETB. The design and layout of the Biblical Centre: Production and Digital Skills Academy will also provide accommodation for community space. When fully operational, it is estimated that the studio will require a staff of 750 full-time equivalents. The target is that at least 250 of these employees will come from regeneration areas of Limerick and / or former residents of regeneration areas.

The investment by Limerick Regeneration will create training and employment opportunities for residents of Regeneration as detailed previously. Based on the ability to convert long-term unemployed and create new employment pathways for residents of Regeneration, it is estimated that €7.07 million in employment income can accrue for residents of Regeneration who successfully train and secure employment. This estimate is based on a medium to longer term view on 200 FTEs being generated from the 250 trainee places allocated to residents of Limerick Regeneration. The employment income impact is based on sensitivity analysis around the average annual wage with 40% allocated to low average income, 40% receiving a medium average income and 20% earning a higher average income.

The wider impact of this additional flow of employment income into regeneration areas is an estimated saving of €2 million in welfare payments and an annual return to the exchequer of €1.63 million. Applying breakeven analysis on either the income impact of the Biblical Centre or the returns to the exchequer will reveal the short term payback period of the investment made by Limerick Regeneration into the Dominic St site.

City Sites – the acquisition of the Cleaves Site, Hanging Gardens and Opera Centre represent key strategic sites for the economic development of Limerick. Each site is undergoing assessment in terms of future use within the context of Limerick 2030 and being site ready for prospective investment. Each occupy key locations within the city and are accessible by public transport ensuring accessibility from all parts of the city. The city centre locations of the sites offer comparable opportunities to the Biblical Centre site that can be adopted for other sectors. The assessment of projected FTEs featured in Table 13 reflect a percentage of Limerick Regeneration area residents that will benefit from these new economic opportunities.

Lower Average Income	€2,356,191
Medium Average Income	€2,945,238
Higher Average Income	€1,767,143
	€7,068,572

Table 14: Estimated Income Impact of Biblical Centre: Production and Digital Skills Academy, Regeneration Residents

Estimated Labour Programme Costs	€1,977,400
Estimated Gross Annual Contribution	€5,091,172
Return to Exchequer	€1,629,175

Table 15: Welfare Cost Impact of Biblical Centre: Production and Digital Skills Academy, Regeneration Residents

Requirements To Progress

1. Development of strategy around the newly expanded apprenticeship programme that provides access to a broader range of training that will be applicable to the sectors being targeted for location in the city.
2. Development of southside site to become the anchor site for developing the theme of Social Enterprise.
3. Examination of enterprise options for the District Retail sites in Moyross and Roxboro in addition to vacant enterprise sites across regeneration areas.
4. Target inward investment for key enterprise sites for Moyross accounting for the development of the Northern Distributer road.
5. Target inward investment for key enterprise sites for Southill in tandem with progressing Southern Link Road from the M7 with access through the Galvone Industrial Estate.

2.3 National Social Innovation Hub Status

The development of the Innovation Hub at the LEDP has provided an opportunity to create a separate dedicated Social Enterprise Hub located in close proximity. Tait House Community Enterprise (THCE) is currently engaged in discussions with a number of statutory bodies with a view to locating a Social Enterprise Hub in the former Fullflex building in the Galvone Industrial Estate.

The ambition is to develop the site into a future Social Enterprise Hub that is known for Best Practice and to generate additional activity such as a national training site. The proposed Urban Farm activity to be located in Barry's Field and operated also by Tait House would enable a cluster of social enterprise activity to form in the Southill area. A business plan has been submitted to Enterprise Ireland for review with a view to contributing to initial operational costs while site surveys will be required for the site to determine site development costs.

The establishment of the Southill site should also prompt consideration of a corresponding site in Moyross that could serve as a satellite centre for social enterprise activity.

Requirements To Progress

1. Establish a multi-agency social enterprise advisory group to devise a framework around the development of social enterprise hub in partnership with existing stakeholders.
2. Examine new social enterprise opportunities around emerging economic activity across the city e.g., Troy Studios, Food, Green Economy.
3. Complete costings on Fullflex building with a view to creating the Social Enterprise Hub.
4. Establish a supportive financial infrastructure that will support start-ups within social enterprise.
5. Examine successes from previous LEO social enterprise programme to devise a social enterprise awareness programme that will create awareness of the opportunity.
6. Provide competency and capability training for existing social enterprises to facilitate scaling up and new opportunities
7. Examine the hosting of a national social enterprise event to establish and market Limerick as a key economic destination for social enterprise.
8. Explore increased linkages to Innovate Limerick

and diversified sources of funding to establish and operate the proposed hub.

2.4 Micro Enterprise Incentive Programme Status

There has not been any dedicated micro enterprise incentive programme outside of the supports that already exist for enterprise support. The restrictions at national level to implement additional enterprise tax benefits has been severely curtailed. Limerick has demonstrated some level of innovation around the Living City Initiative and the Business & Retail Incentive Scheme which provides financial incentives to encourage new businesses to open in designated areas of Limerick City. The launch of the LRFIP coincided with significant reductions in public expenditure and limited the opportunity to develop the vision for supporting start-ups in Limerick outside of the support available through LEO.

Requirements To Progress

1. Examine feasibility of targeted civic incentives for key industry sectors to locate in regeneration areas e.g., incentives such as rates rebates or reduced rates for initial defined set up period.
2. Review the remaining LEO Fund designated by Limerick Regeneration to be partially allocated to the creation of a RISE Programme fund focused on social enterprise with a reduced reimbursement clause of 20% as opposed to 50% within an agreed timeframe. This should be subsequently re-invested into the RISE fund which would be used for re-investment into ongoing projects and administered by an independent social enterprise monitoring group.
3. Develop the corporate network structures to attract CSR partners that would contribute to a social enterprise start up fund on an annual basis combined with mentoring supports.
4. Examine the scope and feasibility of the Apprentice scholarship programme that was created in Our Lady of Lourdes to apply itself to a social enterprise venture that would integrate education and scholarships as part of the enterprise pathway.

2.5 Green Industry Hub - Galvone Industrial Estate

Status

The green economy discussion has generated much interest. However, no formal or sustained efforts have been made to create a dedicated strategy around this sector. Informally, however, the sector is growing through the social enterprise economy with environmental service provision across a number of Community Enterprise centres. Tait House has also seen the formation of a successful social enterprise focused on retro fitting through SDC Environmental. SDC Environmental provide a full range of energy efficient services including Cavity Wall Insulation, External Wall Insulation, Attic Insulation, Draught Proofing, Ventilation and Building Energy Ratings. Limerick Waste Recycling operate from the Galvone Industrial Estate and are currently seeking to expand operations.

One of the challenges, and in many respects, opportunities for the LRFIP is that the Green Economy is a diverse sector. The Green Economy includes commercial activity in areas such as renewable energy, energy-efficient products, resource-efficient production techniques, the re-use, recovery and recycling of waste, water management and low carbon vehicles.

A renewed focus around this sector should be considered in the Galvone Industrial Estate which remains appropriate in terms of available space to accommodate appropriate enterprise. The opening of the social enterprise hub will see the relocation of SDC Environmental to the site to add to the initial level of green economy activity. Further review of the opportunities in areas as diverse as renewable energy, sustainable food production, tourism, environmental resource management, “Green” financial services, and resource and energy-efficient products and services should be considered.

Requirements To Progress

1. Creation of an expert working group drawn from industry and third level experts to examine the immediate opportunities.
2. Examine ways of ensuring social enterprises operating in the green economy space in Limerick can be ‘job ready’ to win environmental contracts.
3. Provide social enterprise industry training that accelerates an understanding of the opportunities that the green economy can present.
4. Examine ‘green’ construction opportunities for local enterprise through the social contract clause.
5. Target one large scale green economy project for the Galvone Industrial Estate.

2.6 Moyross Training & Enterprise Hub

Status

The specific Training & Enterprise Hub proposed for the Moyross Industrial Estate has not progressed to date. The absence of dedicated training and incubation space on the northern side of the city is an infrastructural gap that requires examination. The provision of additional enterprise space through the new Moyross Community Enterprise works will add to the areas capacity in the short term. However, more dedicated space is required. The use of the former Cahill May Roberts has provided an interim solution in the city centre. However, the Moyross area requires a training base that has a direct jobs output. The creation of such a hub will require an industry focus in the same manner as the Film / Media and Hospitality sectors.

The transformational impact of the Coonagh – Knocklisheen Road will be central to unlocking the potential of the area in terms of attracting industry. In the short to medium term the potential of the Watch House Cross site for additional sector specific training should be reviewed. The training / enterprise opportunity around Troy Studios should also be examined for the area. The volume of projected low to intermediate level service jobs and film specific trades / enterprises that will be required may require future enterprise bases.

Requirements To Progress

1. Create working group to examine enterprise opportunities for Watch House Cross with a view to job creation.
2. Undertake a feasibility study on the development of a training, incubation and enterprise space for Moyross that could be aligned with the proposed social innovation hub for Galvone Industrial Estate.
3. Examine the area of food production through social enterprise structures as the basis for a thematic area focus.

2.7 Southill Training & Enterprise Hub Status

A business plan has been submitted by THCE to Enterprise Ireland while discussions are taking place with Limerick City and County Council in relation to taking a lease on the former Fullflex building. This would enable a dedicated site for social enterprise (project working title of Social Enterprise Hub) with the ambition of developing into the a nationally recognised Social Enterprise Hub. Tait House combined with the Galvone site and Barry's Field will provide a cluster of social enterprise and training activity for Southill and the wider communities.

The transfer of all social enterprise activity to the Galvone site will enable a more dedicated focus on training and education to be delivered in Tait House. The Urban Farm project in the Tait House campus and Barry's Field would complete the enterprise and training hub for the area. The Urban Farm project will contain enterprise, training and tourism components that has the capacity to be a project of national scale in terms of social entrepreneurship and enterprise stimulation.

The Southill training and enterprise hub will provide a concentration of enterprise and training activity centred on the following operational model;

1. Tait House – Training & Education
2. Urban Garden, Barry's Field – Enterprise & Training in addition to the tourism potential that exists based on the concept proposal and the regeneration of the Vinery at Tait House, Southill.
3. Social Enterprise Hub – former Fullflex Building – Social Enterprise

Requirements To Progress

1. Completion of Fullflex site surveys and associated costings to operationalise the Social Enterprise Hub.
2. Creation of Social Enterprise structures and supports through LEO delivered within the Southill social enterprise cluster.
3. Complete business plan for Urban Farm based on an opportunity to stimulate enterprise and training beyond the Southill area and become a national centre of excellence.
4. Examine dedicated enterprise resource to deliver the operational requirements for each of the social enterprise components.

2.8 Vocational Sports Status

The economic opportunity for sport is recognised through the LRFIP and Limerick 2030. A scoping study on the development of a national sport business cluster for Limerick has been undertaken through an initial working group. The expansion of the working group will result in next phase priorities to operationalise the sport business cluster. Consultation has also been undertaken with Barcelona sports cluster stakeholders to establish the additional success factors in developing their approach to sport business.

The support for the FAI / ETB Skills Training Programme by Limerick Regeneration has resulted in significant social outputs while also catering for young people at risk. Two trainees also graduated with a Diploma in Youth Work and Community from UCC highlighting how community role models can emerge from such programmes. The adoption of sport in the capacity building for young people is a key example of the role of the social interventions providing the platform for preparing young people for additional vocational training or becoming 'job ready'. A similar programme is now in development with the GAA.

Social enterprise in the area of bike maintenance and recycling has resulted in one full-time and one-part time role through St Mary's Aid. The bike enterprise recycles old bikes and sells to audiences like third level students looking for low cost bikes for travelling to college. They are also contracted to deliver the maintenance of bikes for a locally based bike tour company and also offers private repairs. The social enterprise will also train up bike mechanics. This represents an area with significant training and social enterprise growth potential. St Mary's Aid are also contracted to manage the sports facilities (Astro turf pitch) for a local school. One of the employees who delivered this facility management service has subsequently secured work with Thomond Park Stadium. The equine industry has provided a number of successes through the equine programme and subsequent employment for local trainees with two Moyross jockeys now employed in the Jim Bolger stables highlighting the scope for developing the current programmes delivered in Moyross. The future development of the equine opportunity in partnership with stakeholders such as the Department of Agriculture can realise significant

social and economic dividends across the city. It will require due consideration on how to maximise the opportunity it offers to become a project of scale.

The support by Limerick regeneration for the purchase and operation of the Markets Field also represents a major success from a place economics perspective in addition to the social value it has delivered. The re-opening of the Markets Field managed by LEDP has resulted in over 100,000 people through the turnstiles. It has generated considerable media profile for the area. The enhanced CCTV system around the venue has also resulted in a notable reduction in anti-social behaviour on non-event days.

The stadium is maintained by four community employment scheme employees highlighting the opportunity around facilities management and should become the basis for creating full time and viable job opportunities in the area of sport facilities. The investment in the Stadium has resulted in a multitude of social benefits, profiling outputs and can be the basis for job creation, training and education around the theme of sport.

Requirements To Progress

1. Examine opportunities for regeneration areas for accommodating elements of the proposed sports business cluster economic development activities.
2. Establish a working group to examine niche social enterprises areas such sports and leisure tourism.
3. Review the scalability of existing social enterprises where additional support could result in additional employment and the development of a sustainable sports and leisure social enterprise i.e., bike recycling.
4. Examine methods to incorporate job related sports training into new developments such as the urban orchard and the Markets Field e.g., facilities maintenance that can apply to wide range of sports amenities such as golf, playing fields.
5. Examine the development requirements with the Department of Agriculture to develop a partnership approach to the equine opportunity and deliver a project of social and economic significance for Limerick.
6. Examine the potential for vocational sports on available sites such as the lands identified for a strategic linear park in Moyross.

2.9 Service Industry Training Development Status

The Hospitality Education and Training Centre (HETC) represents a major success in the delivery of capacity building, training and employment services. The multi-agency and private sector approach should become the basis for additional sectors progressing specialist training and employment based centres. Located within LEDP, HETC offers an overall model for implementation of the training and work integration programmes for the hospitality sector. HETC works with long-term unemployed residents of regeneration areas who are integrated back into employment and / or further education through the hospitality sector.

In partnership with the Limerick & Clare Education and Training Board (LCETB), a range of day and evening training courses are delivered specifically targeted at future employment in the hospitality industry. Full Time Courses offered include Bar Skills, Hospitality Skills, Commis Chef Programme, Career Traineeship Programme and Professional Cookery Course.

HETC operates under an inter-agency approach with DSP, LCETB, PAUL Partnership, LCCC, LEDP and representatives of the industry to support referrals, co-design of training content, provision of infrastructure for training delivery, facilitation of progression into work and engagement / embedding of the project in the local community e.g., links into community events such as Christmas celebrations.

HETC which opened in September 2014, estimates an 80% progression rate to employment and education on exit from training. With three intakes per year, the centre has a capacity of 165 places with a focus on the long-term and young unemployed with 60% of places being reserved for participants from Limerick Regeneration Areas.

A key success factor is the HETC's approach to working with industry partners in the hospitality sector to ensure a high level of service and industry skills needs are met e.g., design of bespoke training guided by industry. The centre also facilitates services such as career planning, counselling, mentoring and a focus on transferrable skills / competences developed as part of the training.

Requirements To Progress

1. Apply key learnings to other sectors particularly the Biblical Centre development as a training facility for the film and digital sector.
2. Examine scope for delivering specialist hospitality courses through an additional site as part of an outreach model.



Figure 11: Key Success Factors in developing a sector focused Training Centre

2.10 Philanthropic & Public Partnership Project – Maritime Resource Development

Status

The Voice of the River represents an ongoing project that is examining and advocating the use of the River Shannon as a stimulus for economic and social activity. A total of 21 projects has been identified under the banner of The Voice of the River. The objective is to create a cluster of activity that will generate tourism activity, sustained training and employment opportunities adopting the maritime theme, water based sport activities such as canoeing, kayaking fishing and boating. Central to the development of this maritime approach is the creation of a marina.

The project is being led by a social enterprise and is currently in discussions on project engagement / partnership with additional stakeholders for the development of the marina and water based activity area accessed via Donnellan's Field.

A number of additional strategic partners include Waterways Ireland, Barge Association of Ireland and Scouting Ireland.

The tourism potential of the project will be enhanced by the development of the Weir Project that will facilitate ease of movement of leisure boat craft.

The purchase of the Fisheries Building and Thomond Weir in 2015 by Limerick City and County Council has the potential to add to the capacity to develop the maritime theme subject to funding and the long-term engagement of strategic partners to deliver on the potential that exists.

Requirements To Progress

1. Development of a framework and business plan that illustrates the phasing of the Voice of the River project with short, medium and long-term projects identified.
2. Feasibility study to examine the tourism, employment and training opportunity around the river that can also contribute to the vocational sports objective.
3. Examine public / private and alternative funding options to finance key elements of project.

2.11 National CSR Engagement Centre

Status

There has been no formal development of a CSR engagement centre. There is CSR activity feeding into regeneration areas undertaken on an adhoc basis with a focus on the social dividend companies can generate through their 'social investment'. The absence of an 'owner' of the CSR space has resulted in no co-ordinated approach for CSR to make a greater impact in the area of economic development.

The rationale behind creating such a platform for companies is to ensure that the delivery of CSR programmes is bottom up in terms of responding to community needs and leverage off the inherent skill sets of the private sector. This would create a wider network for engagement between regeneration areas and the private sector. Without some centralised structures the channels for private sector engagement are restricted. A further opportunity missed without a co-ordinating body is the ability to attract and target CSR funding for community and social enterprise projects.

The Apprentice programme that was created and operated from Our Lady of Lourdes (OLOL) demonstrates the willingness of the corporate sector to support key initiatives and reflects the success of targeting the private sector with specific projects. The contribution of Regeneration to this programme realised a public private partnership approach which resulted in one full time and one-part time role from the initial pilot programme.

The development of Limerick for IT and Limerick for Engineering represents a conduit for the private sector to become involved on economic focused CSR activity. The apparent willingness of the private sector to engage with the local communities requires a dedicated focus and central communications channel. DELL currently provide training for the elderly in IT through OLOL. The positioning of more work focused programming in partnership with corporates such as DELL have the scope to represent the initial steps in developing sustained CSR engagement.

Requirements To Progress

1. Establish a working group through representatives of private sector networks such as Limerick for IT and Limerick for Engineering, Limerick Chamber to examine immediate CSR engagement opportunities.
2. Create a CSR programme based on delivering relevant work placement opportunities and pathways to job placement programmes that can lead to full time employment.
3. Examine the pathway required to integrate the private sector into the Social Enterprise Hub and other training centres to create a dedicated focus around CSR activity supporting social enterprises.
4. Review the opportunity to adopt the experience of OLOL's Apprentice programme as a focal point for the CSR engagement centre working together with the private sector and other regeneration areas.

2.12 Strategic Use Of Public Procurement

Status

The social clause policy was adopted by members of Limerick City Council in 2013. The social clause was developed to be included tender specifications. The requirements are as follows:

During the construction phase the contractor is required to ensure that no less than:

1. 10% of the aggregate number of person weeks (i.e., the amount of work done by an individual worker based on a 39 hour working week) is to be carried out at the site by contractor's personnel who have been registered on a national unemployment register within the EU for a continuous period of at least 12 months immediately prior to their employment specifically for the purpose of the works ("Relevant Workers"). Personnel who commence employment more than four weeks prior to the tender Letter of Acceptance shall not be considered a Relevant Worker; and
2. 2.5% of the person weeks represent work carried out at the site by contractor's personnel who are employees under a registered scheme of apprenticeship or through some other similar national training or education work placement arrangement accredited within the EU ("Relevant Trainees").

Contractors will be required to use their best endeavours to ensure the social clause objectives are met. The Employers Representative (ER) will monitor the contractor performance during the contract. The contractor will furnish all necessary reports and substantiations as required by the ER. Contractor's performance under this clause will be monitored as will be detailed in the Framework Agreement and failure to comply may lead to the contractor being excluded from following call-off competitions

The Contracting Authority undertakes to assist the Contractor and their sub-contractors to provide training and employment opportunities by providing lists of agencies that can assist in the recruitment of suitable trainees/employees, and the identification of potential sub-contractors and suppliers. Any action taken by the Authority or their agents does not imply, and must not be deemed to imply any promise to provide suitable labour/ firms/agencies, and does

not imply and must not be deemed to imply that any individuals/ firms/agency referred to the contractors or sub-contractors are suitable for engagement.

The Contractor shall enter, and shall procure that its Sub-Contractors enter, into Limerick Regeneration Construction Initiative's Employment Charter at the same time as entering into this Agreement. – This is something that needs to be considered by LCCC. The Contractor is required to complete weekly labour monitoring forms in a format to be provided by the Contracting Authority, and is responsible for obtaining accurate data from all sub-contractors on site for entry onto the forms. The weekly labour monitoring form must be completed and supplied to the Authority or their agent within 7 days of the end of the week to which it relates.

The Local Employment Services (LES) under the aegis of Paul Partnership represent the link agency between contractors and the labour market. The LES take responsibility to source, train and upskill local individuals to avail of the social clause opportunity.

The social clause has been slow to make an impact to date but is being utilised as part of the current Lord Edward St. housing and mixed-use scheme (currently under construction). This project effectively represents the first Regeneration project adopting the social clause and will provide the basis for examining success factors and barriers to implementing the social clause.

The launch of the LRFIP at a time of recession has limited construction opportunities but the increased momentum in construction will result in more physical projects becoming active. The ability to monitor future social clause engagement as a result of this projected increase in construction activity will provide a level of visibility in the number of jobs created and apprenticeships created with regeneration areas.

Requirements To Progress

1. Create more stringent monitoring and stewarding structures around the tender process for Regeneration related construction projects. This will require a dedicated resource to focus on Social Clause implementation.
2. Examine support structures for Regeneration based SME's, cooperative groups and micro-enterprises to compete for tender work or win sub supply opportunities through assistance with tender process.
3. Examine the development of a pilot programme for Troy Studios movie construction roles with training opportunities for an agreed percentage from the regeneration areas.
4. Examine the approach where social enterprises can compete for public contracts in specialist service areas such as maintenance and environmental services with a certain percentage of works allocated to social enterprise.

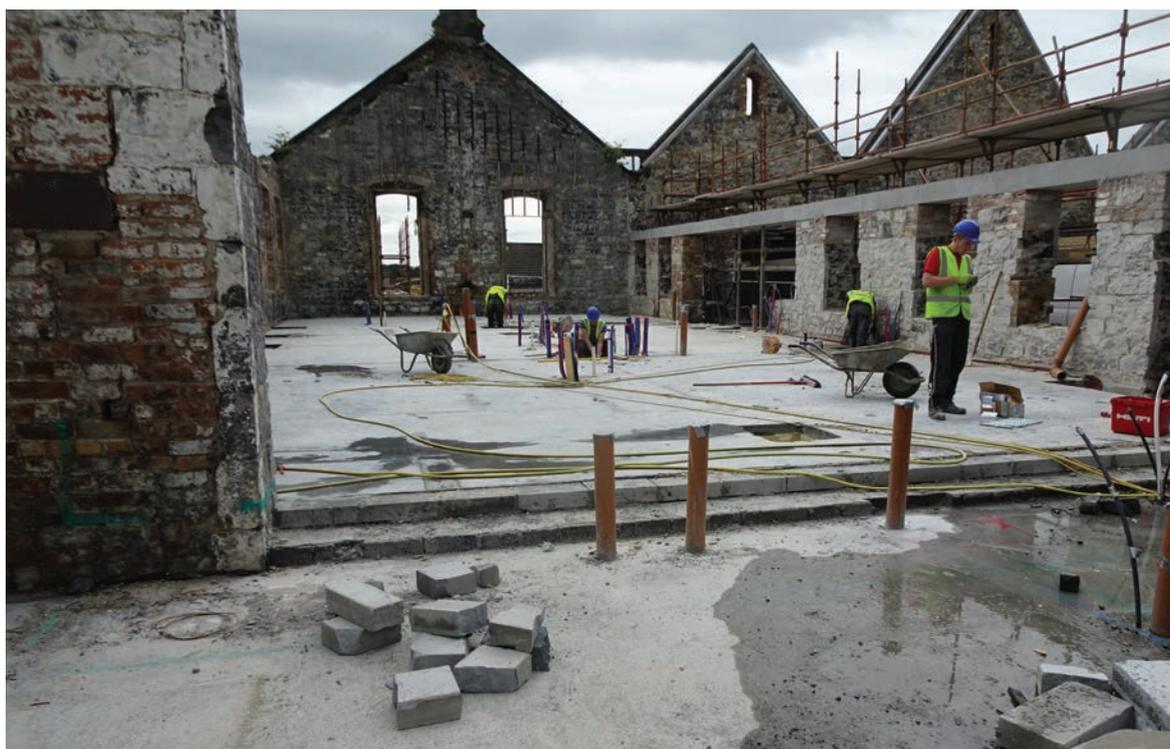
2.13 Supply Side Supports – Physical Regeneration

Status

The development of the supply side supports as outlined in the LRFIP has not proceeded under the model outlined.

Requirements To Progress

1. Examine the viability of establishing a supply side entity versus sourcing products for use within the physical regeneration process



The Lord Edward Street scheme, currently under construction, will deliver 81 housing units, 58 of which will be houses and apartments for the elderly in addition to a retail/ commercial unit and a community facility with a function room, exhibition area, meeting rooms and other facilities. The scheme is due for completion in Q3 2017.

2.14 Connectivity As A Facilitator – E-Inclusion Status

There is currently adequate private sector provision of broadband services for residents of Regeneration areas. In terms of IT learning in the community there are numerous IT literacy programmes available through community enterprise centres with some engagement with the private sector for delivery of programmes e.g., DELL working with Our Lady of Lourdes. A number of socially innovative programmes are also in place such as the development of smart phone usage training for the elderly undertaken by Transition Year students.

The development of new enterprise and training centres will require high levels of connectivity while the focus of the Media & Production Centre will now provide a sustained training pathway adopting IT and media skills for residents of Regeneration. This proposed enterprise focus will also be facilitated by the significant investment into the fibre connection network across regeneration areas.

The development of the Fibre Connection through the Metropolitan Area Network project (MANS) across the city will open up additional economic opportunities for residents of Regeneration. The future benefits will arise from the educational, vocational and enterprise opportunities that will be created from the roll out of the fibre connection network. Fibre connections will be enabled in the following 9 sites:

- a. Southside CCTV Centre in LEDP connected with Henry Street Garda Station
- b. Innovate Limerick in LEDP
- c. Southside Regeneration Office in Roxboro Shopping Centre
- d. Roxboro Public Library in Roxboro Shopping Centre
- e. Southside Regeneration Housing Depot (Rathbane depot)
- f. All CCTV cameras in Kings Island and Saint Mary's Park
- g. Watch House Cross Library
- h. Northside Regeneration Office in Watch House Cross
- i. Moyross Community Enterprise Centre

The objective is to deliver a fibre network connecting the Southside Regeneration area and Northside Regeneration area CCTV monitoring centres and the Henry Street Garda station in order to support the Limerick Regeneration Framework Implementation

Plan's objective of developing safer communities through the use of CCTV. This is being achieved by a phased roll-out of a 10Km extension of the existing CCTV Traffic Monitoring fibre network that will interconnect the CCTV systems from Southside and Northside regeneration areas with An Garda Síochána. Replacing the existing data connections will ensure faster and more reliable access to housing maintenance management systems and therefore improved response time for maintenance teams.

The project is delivered in two phases:

- Phase 1: Southside Regeneration area connection to Henry Street Garda Station
- Phase 2: Northside Regeneration area connection to Henry Street Garda Station

The scope of Phase 1 will connect five sites in the Southside Regeneration area namely;

1. Southside CCTV Recording Centre in LEDP which records all CCTV for both Southill and Ballinacurra Weston areas with Henry Street Garda Station
2. Innovate Limerick in LEDP.
3. Regeneration Office in Roxboro Shopping Centre
4. Roxboro Public Library in Roxboro Shopping Centre
5. Regeneration Housing Depot (Rathbane depot)

In Phase 2, the CCTV network from the North Side of Limerick City (Moyross and Saint Mary's park) will be connected with the Henry Street Garda station and also with the Southside Regeneration system creating an overall connected CCTV infrastructure. The following sites will be connected:

1. All CCTV cameras in King's Island and Saint Mary's Park
2. Watchhouse Cross Library
3. Northside Regeneration Office
4. Moyross Community Enterprise Centre

Requirements To Progress

1. Communication process around the opportunity the Biblical Centre will provide for residents of regeneration areas.
2. Examination of the pathway to address any pre Biblical Centre training required by young people.
3. Ensure future economic site and infrastructural investment will deliver the level of communications infrastructure required to fulfil future training and enterprise requirements.
4. Examination of potential barriers to accessing eLearning, educational, vocational and enterprise opportunities among residents.
5. Examine cross sector and social enterprise opportunities that improved connectively will provide e.g., Healthcare.

3. Conclusions & Recommendations

3.1 Conclusions & Recommendations

The key economic challenge remains around addressing inter-generational and youth unemployment across regeneration areas. The fundamental priorities remain around how the target group become 'ready for work' and have access to the type of training and job opportunities that are fit for purpose. The contribution of the social intervention fund and investment in education remain the cornerstone of making a sustained impact across the regeneration communities. This is the key precursor to securing employment and addressing the issues of social and economic deprivation. Regeneration funding streams have been central to leveraging additional funds and contributing to the sustainability of social programming that supports labour market programmes and subsequent full time employment opportunities.

Build On New Opportunities in Emerging Sectors

Similarly, there is increasing momentum within a number of employment sectors identified within the Limerick 2030 Economic and Spatial Plan. These offer opportunities for the long-term unemployed as evidenced through the development of training programmes with private sector companies such as GM Motors. These include ICT, Digital Media, Life Sciences, Advanced Manufacturing, Energy / Green Economy and Sport.

The food strategy launched in Limerick provides a platform for the development of a social enterprise approach to food, particularly with the proposed developments through the Urban Co-Op, the Urban Farm and community gardens with the possibility of developing a national model for social enterprise food co-operatives. Social innovation should be applied and examine opportunities such as the Urban Farm and Co-Op supplying produce to meals on wheels and Community Cafés while developing a more integrated supply chain for all community led food services.

Recommendation - Economic Development Approach

- Create a Limerick Regeneration Economic advisory group that can guide strategic development of key projects.

Multi-Agency Approach Remains Central To Future Success

The success achieved to date reflected in the economic impact achieved through job creation and the associated income impact can only be realised through a multi-agency approach. The economic gains that can be generated in the next phase of economic development will only transpire through continued joint efforts and the ability for all agencies and private sector to collaborate on projects designed to impact at each stage of the defined pathways for the unemployed. This connected approach has resulted in capacity building, training and upskilling to prepare residents of Regeneration areas to become 'job ready'.

The subsequent efforts of all economic development agencies and the private sector in partnership with Limerick City & County Council are now creating new economic opportunities such as the Troy Studio and associated training opportunities through the Biblical Centre. However, as demonstrated in the approach to the Hospitality Education and Training Centre, it is only through the collective efforts of all local stakeholders that sustainable success will ensue. The launch of the LRFIP during a time of deep recession mitigated against the pace of implementation of certain projects and elements of the economic strategy. Significantly, however, continued investment into social interventions and the collective partnership approach to training and skills development combined with Limerick City & County Council's economic development activity has resulted in a new wave of economic momentum. The economic pillar realistically cannot operate separately to the social and educational strategy. The progress that have been made across the areas of social interventions suggest the time is right to harness social regeneration and build on this activity to realise the economic opportunity for sustainable communities.

Recommendation – Multi Agency

- The creation of multi-agency teams for key sector training projects replicating the collective approach applied to Hospitality and projected approach for the Biblical Centre.

New Concentration On Social Enterprise

The social economy and social enterprise should represent an area of focus for Limerick. The opportunity around social enterprise is very significant and is attracting considerable national and international attention. The sector in Limerick has evolved organically with some success across each of the Community Enterprise Centres. A strategic approach to the creation of an expanded Social Enterprise economy is required. The opportunity to train within social enterprises and subsequently transfer to the private sector (e.g., chefs, security) needs to be developed under a social enterprise framework that all communities and enterprise groups should adopt.

There is a requirement for a framework to be developed around Community Enterprise Centres to define activity, gap analysis and avoid duplication. This will enable these centres build on their successes while realising social enterprise opportunities. Equally, the next phase of community and social enterprise should examine the creation of a number of specialisms for each area to focus on. The success of the CCTV programme that now extends from Moyross to Southill illustrates the opportunity for centres to focus on areas of strength and become Centres of Excellence by economic activity rather than a geographic focus. There is a requirement for increased focus on social and economic integration but not solely focussed on the geographical regeneration areas but blending all parts of Limerick together, socially and economically.

The proposed Social Enterprise Hub at Fullflex can provide a project of scale that can become a training, enterprise and job creation catalyst. In the longer term, a comparable site should be developed for Moyross in line with the objectives of establishing a training and enterprise centre for that area. Self-employment remains an area of focus for many residents and must harness the potential of the SICAP and social enterprise activity across each Regeneration area. There is also a key requirement to define what social enterprise opportunities exist for Limerick while developing a Social Enterprise task team that can capitalise on the immediate opportunity that exists.

Recommendation – Community Enterprise

- Create a framework that creates a structure around Community Enterprises adopting centres of excellence approach based on service areas of core strength rather than a geographic focus.
- Develop a model of community enterprise creating a Community Enterprise Hub as a focal point for city wide community enterprise development

Recommendation – Social Enterprise

- Develop a model of social enterprise using the Social Enterprise Hub as a focal point for city wide social enterprise development.
- Commit to a process of review of Social Enterprise opportunity through the appointment of an expert group.

Recommendation – Governance

- Develop a governance model that social enterprises must adhere to in order to avail of public procurement opportunities.

New Road Infrastructure Will Unlock Economic Opportunities

One of the key challenges in attracting industry is the provision of appropriate work space. The development of key infrastructural projects such as the Northern Distributor Road, Southern Link Road from the M7 through Southill and access to Galvone Industrial Estate from Childer's Road will be instrumental in opening up new economic development areas that will have an immediate impact on the surrounding regeneration areas. Major infrastructural projects will be the key to unlocking the economic potential of regeneration areas.

Recommendation – Infrastructure

- Prioritise key road infrastructural projects



Increasing the focus around horticulture and Community Garden Enterprises

The Need For Enterprise Space

There is a universally recognised need to address the enterprise space deficit in the city. While not exclusive to delivering the ambition for the economic development of Regeneration, access to space is a limiting factor particularly around the social economy. Equally, the private sector's ability to expand and consider further investment opportunities in the area would appear severely restricted. There is also need to examine small enterprise opportunities (micro enterprises) with the potential to locate in city centre incubation or workspace.

Recommendation – Micro Enterprise

- Examine opportunities for incubation space for self-employment across the city focusing on micro enterprise.

Recommendation – Nicholas St.

- Creation of mixed use buildings that can become outlets for social enterprises and training in a manner that becomes economically viable and appealing to the tourism and local residential base.

Impact of the Social Clause

The visibility of local construction activity and the ability to provide local members of the community with employment in the construction phases of Regeneration needs to be addressed in renewed efforts around the social contract. This will require greater levels of stewardship, monitoring and facilitation between the private sector and the long-term unemployed. The ability to capitalise on the projected social contract opportunity will also require a resource that can support smaller enterprises who require support and advice to achieve the required level of governance, compliance and quality standards that will enable them compete for tender work.

Recommendation - Social Contracts

- Devise a stringent implementation and monitoring system for the social contract clause.
- Examine means of social enterprises availing of economic development opportunities presented through Limerick Regeneration tenders.

Dedicated Economic Development Resources

A dedicated resource for economic development in regeneration areas should be examined to provide a focal point for Community Enterprise, Agencies and the private sector. There is a requirement for the economic pillar to have an economic development resource to link to the wider regeneration activity. While the social interventions and physical infrastructure have been the principal focus to date, a direct link to ongoing economic development in Regeneration is required. The ability to partner with the new structures through LCDC and bodies such as Innovate Limerick will also be key to delivering the economic pillar objectives.

Recommendation - Ownership Of Economic Pillar

- The creation of a dedicated structure / resource that is solely focused on the development of the economic pillar opportunities within regeneration areas to aid Community Enterprise centres and work to establish the Social Enterprise Hub.



Demonstration of Lime Render application during Tait Open Day, July 2015. The construction of 81 units at the Lord Edward Street site adopts the Social Clause to enhance the prospects of local employment and training during the construction process.

Create an Engagement Platform with The Private Sector

Since the launch of the LRFIP there has been informal engagement with the private sector to benefit from their ongoing CSR strategies. There is a need to establish a CSR working group with established channels such as Limerick for IT and Limerick for Engineering as potential pilot programmes that can provide meaningful engagement around training, job placement, mentoring and skills development. The subsequent creation of a CSR structure would require the involvement of third level colleges with a potential research interest in this area. The creation of such structures will also provide a focus for targeting private sector CSR investment in areas such as social enterprise.

Recommendation - Private Sector

- Establish a working group through representatives of Limerick for IT and Limerick for Engineering to work towards a representative body around the area of CSR to facilitate meaningful engagement through private sector CSR in the area of mentoring, job placement and social enterprise support.

Development of The District Centres

The two district centres of Watch House Cross and Roxboro require a new enterprise focus. The opportunity for training and enterprise development to meet the requirements of emerging sectors represent areas of potential as dedicated training centres. Additional areas for consideration are the location of mid-tier call centres or the development of the food theme or a specialist training centres operating as an extension to the Hospitality Education and Training Centre.

Recommendation – District Centres

- Devise a targeted enterprise focus on the district centres of Roxboro and Watch House Cross that leverages off city wide training opportunities such as dedicated sites for Troy Studios training, Food & Hospitality sector.

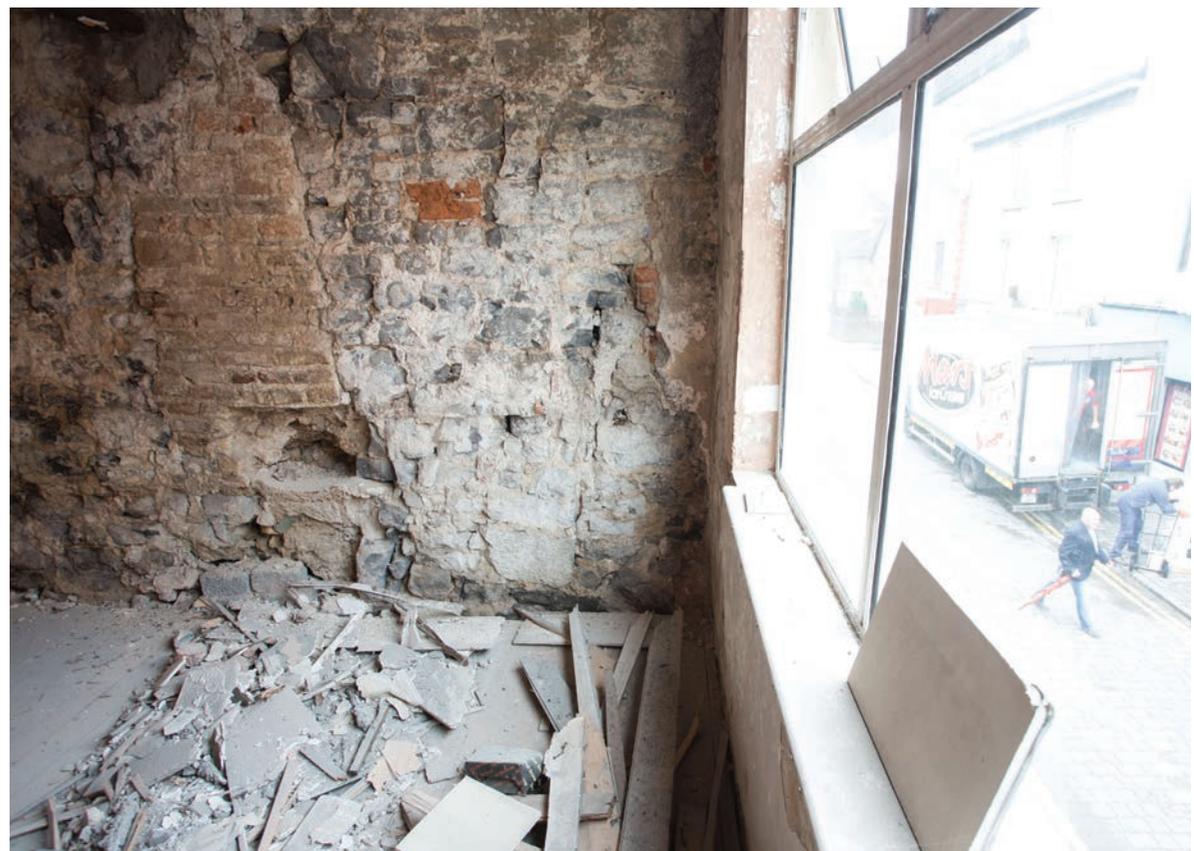
Future Monitoring and Success Measurement

The future monitoring and measurement of the economic pillar of the LRFIP should adopt a specific focus examining direct expenditure that will contribute to the following economic outputs.

- Employment creation
- Skills & Training
- Enterprise Development
- Economic Development Property Acquisition
- Economic Development Infrastructure
- Contribution to Strategic Projects

Recommendation - Measuring Success

- Benchmarking and data collection around Regeneration's economic activity needs a structure in terms of monitoring and measurement across the proposed six sub segments of LRFIP economic development.



Exposed medieval fireplace at 27 Nicholas Street Kings Island Limerick during archaeological excavation as part of internal refurbishment

Areas for Priority Focus

In conclusion, based on the consultative process, project analysis and identification of areas for improvement, the next phase of economic development should continue to prioritise;

1. Young People - Priority focus on youth unemployment.
2. Economic Development Projects of Scale - Focus on projects of scale that will become a city wide catalyst for economic development aligned with the Limerick 2030 strategy.
3. Sector Focused Skills Development - Skills training approach to support economic focus on sectors of strength and growth opportunities.
4. Private Sector - Create platforms for increased levels of private sector engagement to stimulate enterprise, training, work experience and employment opportunities.
5. Training Centres – replicate the model adopted for the Hospitality Education and Training Centre for economic sectors with growth potential through inter-agency collaboration and private sector involvement.
6. Social Contracts Clause – develop an increased focus on the monitoring and stewardship of the social contracts clause.

Recommendation - Sector Focus

- Retain an industry focus in alignment with Limerick 2030 strategy to avail of employment opportunities generated through the strategic sites and supporting economic development activity.
- Focus on job specific training opportunities and Occupational Skills Profiling in partnership with the private sector in emerging growth opportunities in areas such as Healthcare, Construction, Beauty and Hospitality.
- Work with the private sector to avail of new Apprenticeship opportunities under the new Apprenticeship Model applicable to a wider range of sectors.



Minister for Housing and Urban Renewal, Damien English visited Limerick city on the 31st August 2016 to partake in a seminar on ‘Rebuilding Ireland – Action Plan for Housing and Homelessness’, amongst other engagements across the city. The Minister also undertook a site visit to Lord Edward Street construction project.



Part C

Part C - Review of the Physical Pillar

Executive Summary

- 1.0 Introduction and Overview
- 2.0 Review of the Physical Pillar
- 3.0 Programme for the Delivery of Key Projects
- 4.0 Conclusions and Recommendations



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Note:

The content of this annual Monitoring Report primarily reviews indicators under the key theme, 'Housing and the Physical Environment', from February 2015 to February 2016.

Executive Summary

The Executive Summary sets out a review of the key indicators relating to the 'Housing and the Physical Environment' theme contained within the monitoring framework of the adopted Limerick Regeneration Framework Implementation Plan (2014). A review from February 2015 to February 2016 is presented identifying indicators that are:

- Performing well;
- Under performing;
- Where there is no data available/monitoring to be developed.

In addition, key recommendations are presented under each indicator to progress key work programmes for the coming year to be undertaken by Limerick City and County Council in conjunction with the local communities.

Performance	Details	Symbol
Performing Well	Objective being met/ Objectives met	✓
Underperforming	Objective not being met - No sign of improvement compared to the baseline or objective has not commenced	X
No data available Monitoring to be developed	Monitoring framework needs to be developed to assess objective	-

✓ Increased house prices

This indicator is primarily measured by sales price agreed and transaction numbers per year. Property prices can be viewed as an indicator of accommodation and neighborhood demand. Increasing house prices in the regeneration areas would imply that accommodation, the physical environment or other factors such as crime have improved. Similarly, stagnant or decreasing house prices would indicate a low demand.

The key trends emerging in all of the regeneration areas show median house sale prices increasing from 2012 onwards as follows:

- St. Mary's Park – Baseline Median Price in 2010 was 12,848. Median house sale price in 2015 is 21,500
- Moyross - Baseline Median Price in 2012 was 11,500. Median house sale price in 2015 is 30,000
- Ballinacurra Weston - Baseline Median Price in 2012 was 13,250. Median house sale price in 2015 is 17,250
- Southill - Baseline Median Price in 2012 was 12,500. Median house sale price in 2015 is 40,000

However, the regeneration areas remain a low value market with clear indications of significant price gaps when compared to the city median house sale price average. There is a notable increase in house sales transactions in the period from 2015 to 2016 and in the future the outward mobility of households from the regeneration areas requires tracking against inward mobility.

Recommendation 1:

The regeneration areas remain a low value market with clear indications of significant price gaps when compared to the city house sale price average. A key recommendation in the short-medium term is to progress targeted environmental improvements, demolition and new build where appropriate and continue the area-wide refurbishment programme in an effort to provide safe and sustainable communities thereby improving demand and ultimately increasing property values. The role of Limerick City and County Council is to help build a market where increases in property values would be sustainable without continued public sector intervention.

■ Improved satisfaction with services and facilities

This indicator is qualitative in nature and will be assessed as part of the Household Survey that will be commencing preparation when once full CSO Data for 2016 is made publicly available.

■ Improved environment and levels of satisfaction with environment

This indicator is qualitative in nature and will be assessed as part of the Household Survey that will be commencing preparation when once full CSO Data for 2016 is made publicly available.

✓ Increased new residential development within a sustainable catchment of services and facilities (800m -10 minutes walk)

This indicator measures the level of new-build and refurbishment schemes in the regeneration areas within a sustainable catchment of 800m from services and facilities. Significant progress has been made by February 2016 (16 new-build, 39 thermal upgrades/refurbishment projects) relating to the objective to promote increased residential development (new-build and refurbishment) within a suitable catchment of services and facilities. The following provides a breakdown of the key projects by type and stage up to February 2016:

New-Build

- 108 new housing units delivered under the regeneration programme (Colivet Court, Cliona Park, Waller's Well, Vizes Court);
- 12 units under construction;
- 232 units are at detailed design stage/design stage;
- 90 units with preliminary approval.

Thermal Upgrade Programme

- 278 units thermally upgraded;
- 388 units are currently on site or in preparation and due to be completed by the end of 2016;

Long Term Voids

- A total of 88 long term voids have been identified for refurbishment from February 2014 to February 2016 with 60 no. units completed and 28 units at construction stage during this period. This marks a significant and positive increase in Limerick City and County Council's commitment to returning vacant units to productive use.

For the purposes of this indicator, information before and after the monitoring period (i.e., February 2015-February 2016) is included below to provide a more complete picture of delivery under the housing, thermal upgrade programme and long term void programmes in the regeneration areas from 2014 up to September 2016. The overall figures under these programmes are as follows:

New-Build

- 110 new housing units delivered under the regeneration programme (e.g., Colivet Court, Cliona Park, Waller's Well, Vizes Court, Cliona Park gap site);
- 131 units under construction;

- 273 units are at detailed design stage/design stage;
 - 50 units with preliminary approval.
- #### Thermal Upgrade Programme
- 278 units thermally upgraded;
 - 640 units are currently on site or in preparation (e.g., condition and other surveys are underway).

Long Term Voids

- An overall total of 127 long term voids have been identified from 2014 up to the end of September 2016 for full refurbishment with 92 units complete during this period with a further 35 units currently under construction.

By increasing the density of the estates, more efficient use of land can be made as well as contributing to the activity and vitality of the area and increasing the viability of services and facilities.

Recommendation 2:

It is recommended to continue seeking approval for housing schemes in the regeneration areas to meet the replacement housing need within a sustainable catchment of 800m from services and facilities. In order to ensure this objective is met, the programme to demolish those homes in the regeneration areas disconnected from key services and facilities and in poor physical condition must progress.

✓ Increased rate of completed retail, office and community related uses in regeneration areas

The following section refers to non-residential developments and indicates the quantum of development and the type of development that received a grant of planning permission. The permissions secured and currently seeking approvals in the regeneration areas show a general upward trend in activity from 2012 to February 2016.

Of particular note is Southill, where there have been a range of planning applications related to a mix of uses including recreational, education, light industrial, office and retail use. There has been an increase in planning applications in the Galvone Industrial Estate providing an increase in floorspace related to the Greentech sector in particular.

The LEDP in Roxboro (Innovate Limerick) has implemented a change of use application from manufacturing to office use to facilitate the creation of an Innovation Hub. Innovate Limerick was established by Limerick City and County Council to help drive innovation and act as the delivery mechanism for the projects outlined in the LRFIP. It is currently playing a key role to develop Limerick's business ecosystem in the regeneration areas by delivering on economic and social innovation with an overall objective to position Limerick City and County as one of the most attractive locations to start and grow a business.

Elsewhere in Ballinacurra Weston, Lidl Ireland have lodged a new planning application for the demolition of the existing Discount Foodstore unit and disused bulky goods retail unit (former Chadwicks Builders Providers) to create a new and expanded foodstore. The proposal at the existing location adjacent to Ballinacurra Weston shows that Lidl Ireland is continuing its commitment to the neighbourhood and is attracting a viable catchment even with the continuing difficult economic climate.

Recommendation 3:

The ability to attract investment into the regeneration areas remains difficult given the current economic climate. It is recommended that Limerick City and County Council progress a Variation to legally embed the adopted LRFIP into the Limerick City Development Plan 2010-2016 which is key to de-risking sites by providing certainty on desired land uses. The Variation will ensure that the acquisition of key sites/projects can secure funding quicker and be delivered faster. In Southill for example, the currently vacant Southill Junior School requires a rezoning from 'Residential' use to 'Education, Community and Cultural' use to facilitate a new and expanded Southill community hub. There are also other sites within the regeneration areas that require a rezoning through the Variation process to facilitate the desired retail, office and community related uses.

The Development Contribution scheme, adopted by Limerick City Council in 2013, sets out reduced contribution rates for commercial developments in the regeneration areas (at a discounted rate of 75%) which is a first step to make site within the regeneration areas more attractive for private investment. The Development Contribution scheme of Limerick City and County Council, which is the first Joint Development Contribution Scheme, is currently undergoing review and it is recommended that increased incentives be promoted in the regeneration areas in particular. Underutilised and vacant properties in the regeneration areas continue to be a blight on the urban landscape. To stimulate investment in an area, consideration of a relaxation to the contribution levies may merit consideration in an effort to optimise/incentivise the potential of existing uses.

X Decreased level of vacant floorspace units in regeneration areas

This indicator relates to vacant retail, commercial and industrial floorspace in the regeneration areas. For the purposes of this indicator, vacant floorspace of commercial, retail and industrial commitments are taken as units/floorspace available to let. The presence of vacant units over a period of time can identify potential weaknesses in a particular area, whether due to locational criteria, high rent levels or strong competition from other centres. It is important to track the presence of vacant units in the regeneration areas over the coming years to identify if an area is improving or disimproving in terms of commercial vitality and viability. Roxboro Shopping Centre, Watch House Cross and the Galvone Industrial Estate, Southill are still exhibiting upward trends in vacancy rates. This is partly due to a lack of strategic connectivity to the M7 and the quantity of poor quality premises on offer. This may help create a perception that it is a slightly less desirable location to invest/locate in, contributing towards much higher vacancy rates than one would expect in a normally functioning market. In Southill, the presence of vacant industrial, commercial and retail units has increased significantly from 3320m² in February 2015 to 15656m² (by +371%) in February 2016. In Moyross, there is a significant increase in the commercial/retail vacancy rate from 700m² in 2015 to 2,985m² in February 2016 (+326%). Eurospar and the post-office unit in Watch House Cross, Moyross closed in April, 2015 citing "the very challenging trading environment" for its immediate cessation.

Recommendation 4:

To help address high vacant floor space in Roxboro Shopping Centre and the Galvone Industrial Estate in particular, Limerick City and County Council must continue to promote a strategic access off the M7, as identified in the Limerick City Development Plan 2010-2016 and the adopted LRFIP, through Southill as the identified 'gateway to the city'. Access from the M7 through the Galvone Industrial Estate would greatly increase accessibility to Southill and the eastern side of the city. In addition, a range of physical and environmental improvements must continue in the regeneration areas over the coming years to increase desirability and ultimately demand.

It is recommended that Limerick City and County Council, in partnership with the Strategic Directorates (Social, Economic and Physical) in Limerick City

and County Council continue to promote the designated centres, within the regeneration areas by undertaking infrastructure enhancements to provide attractive pedestrian and cycle links to the primary retail frontage within the centre. The proposed signalisation of Roxboro round-about and installation of direct and convenient pedestrian crossings at Roxboro is in progression with the undertaking of a feasibility report to determine the options available along the Roxboro Road.

✓ Increased rate of ground floor active frontage

Grade A (desired) and Grade B is the target active frontage grade required for the regeneration areas to ensure optimum overlooking and natural surveillance of the public realm. The characteristics of Grade A and B are defined in the Limerick Regeneration Design and Public Realm Code (2015). Active frontage is calculated by the number of units and the number of ground floor windows/doors per 100m of the main principal street. Cliona Park Phase 1, a scheme of 34 units completed in 2013 and Colivet Court (older person's accommodation) completed in 2014 achieve a Grade A frontage. All 16 no. replacement housing schemes currently at construction stage/approaching planning application stage are continuing to achieve a Grade A frontage.

Recommendation 5:

It is recommended to continue to ensure a Grade A active frontage to the remaining replacement housing schemes in the regeneration areas. It is hoped that by providing maximum active frontage grades that linkages to other themes in the overall evaluation study can be made, once this commences. For example, an increase in active frontage and the designing out of crime and anti-social behavior at particular locations can be tested further as part of the overall evaluation study (Work Strand 4) due to commence when the full 2016 CSO dataset is made publicly available.

✓ Increased number of retail uses within designated District and Local Centres

Two district centres are located in the regeneration areas, namely Watch House Cross, Moyross and Roxboro, Southill. A local centre exists in close proximity to Ballinacurra Weston, although it is not within the defined statutory boundary of the regeneration area it nonetheless has a significant influence on the regeneration area.

The planning register at Limerick City and County Council notes no new retail uses with approval or awaiting a decision from 2010-2013 in designated District of Local Centres. The planning register in 2014 notes a granted application for a small extension to an existing shop and a new fuel yard at Bennetts, Roxboro Road. A significant planning application submitted to Limerick City and County Council in January 2016 for the demolition and redevelopment of the Lidl Discount Foodstore shows a commitment of the operator to the area. Rather than locating elsewhere, the foodstore, in order to improve its operational requirements is seeking to remain in the area and reconfigure its physical presence on site and to enhance the quality of the retail offer to the locality. This will enhance the economic viability and vitality of the Local Centre at Punches Cross.

Recommendation 6:

Physical improvements can improve the attractiveness of those District/Local Centres and assist in reversing the trend in high vacancy rates currently being experienced. It is recommended to improve public realm, both within the District/Local Centres and in the immediate environs with more emphasis on accessibility for the pedestrian and cyclist can assist in improving attractiveness and performance. It is recommended that the Strategic Directorates (Economic, Social, and Physical) in Limerick City and County Council continue to promote the designated centres, within the regeneration areas by undertaking infrastructure enhancements to provide attractive pedestrian and cycle links to the primary retail frontage within the centre. The proposed signalisation of Roxboro round-about and installation of direct and convenient pedestrian crossings at Roxboro is in progression with the undertaking of a feasibility report to determine the options available along the Roxboro Road.

✓ Increased community and healthcare uses

The regeneration areas (of Southill and St. Mary's Park) are already well serviced by existing healthcare infrastructure in the form of Healthcare Centres. Expansion of the current uses are a positive indication of the expansion of programmes to tackle inequality of access to healthcare generally. Furthermore, expanding current healthcare uses will increase involvement in tackling health issues to those residents in the regeneration areas.

Healthcare related activities recorded in 2014/2015 relate to Ballinacurra Weston with the HSE proposing a change of use from offices to consulting rooms (approx. 668m²) and the provision of a new Primary Healthcare Centre at Lord Edward Street (approx. 1760 m²). The planning register notes no planning applications received and validated for healthcare related uses from February 2015 to February 2016.

Recommendation 7:

As is evident from the socio-economic baseline data of the LRFIP, there is a link between health and well-being (mental and physical) and other themes, in particular employment, crime and housing and the physical environment. The aim of this indicator is to provide healthcare services that are accessible and relevant to people's needs in the regeneration areas and which promote an incentive for good health in the longer term. Interventions aimed directly at improving physical and mental health, all have the potential to impact positively on the health of the community. It is recommended to continue to monitor community and healthcare uses in tandem with programmes being implemented under the Social Intervention Grant process. It is also recommended that, as part of the overall evaluation study to commence in 2016, that interventions from other themes - crime, education, housing and the physical environment, be carried out. It is considered that linking key themes will have a greater impact on the mental health and well-being of the wider communities within the regeneration areas.

✓ Increased level of functional active and passive public open space within 800m (10 minutes walk) of regeneration areas

For the purposes of this indicator, the functionality of passive open space is measured within the focussed study areas, i.e., the estates. Passive open space outside of this area but within the wider statutory delineated regeneration area is not measured. The regeneration areas consist generally of an over-provision of underutilised passive public open space. Furthermore, there are several under-used and vacant infill-housing sites, which currently detract from the overall appearance of the estate.

In line with the Limerick Regeneration Design and Public Realm Code (2015), schemes at planning application stage and that are approaching planning application stage are required to produce landscape plans for a reconfiguration of the existing public open spaces to provide for more active and passive functions. In tandem with the proposed upgrading of the existing landscape as part of replacement housing schemes, significant work has been carried out in the past year in relation to small-scale environmental improvements and remediation works. The remediation of the former historic landfill at St. Mary's Park was completed in 2015. This project has significantly ameliorated the physical environment to the east of St. Munchin's Street.

18 projects are currently underway in regeneration areas to date and through the continued delivery of replacement social housing schemes and key environmental improvement projects, the existing physical environment of all of the regeneration areas will significantly improve.

Approval will be sought by Q4 2016 for major public realm upgrade works to both St. Mary's Park and Ballinacurra Weston. Key projects completed to date include:

- St. Mary's Park Remediation Project: Elimination of the historical landfill and remediation of approximately 15,000m² of contaminated land.
- A programme of works to eradicate Japanese Knotweed: 10 sites have been identified from July 2015 to February 2016 with treatment underway. The prevalence of invasive species in key regeneration sites can place a moratorium on development for up to 3 years whilst undergoing remediation.

- New pedestrian connection to our Lady of Lourdes Church and landscaping works (weeding, grass seeding and painting of boundary walls) complete.
- Environmental Improvements at the Galvone Industrial Estate along the Childer's Road.
- Scrub and vegetation clearance at the Orchard site and also to sites at Bridge Street and Gaol lane.
- Site clearance of rubbish, vegetation, scrub and contaminated soil at Parade Park (site opposite King John's Castle) in preparation for a new public park.
- Vegetation clearance to the rear of Our Lady of Lourdes Community Centre.

Recommendation 8:

One of the LRFIP's key objectives is to improve the visual appearance of the regeneration areas to tackle large areas of functionless and neglected public open space and also to tackle issues such as fly-tipping, joyriding and graffiti. Significant projects are progressing with approval to be sought by Q4 2016 for major public realm upgrade works to both St. Mary's Park and Ballinacurra Weston and it is recommended that the key social housing schemes identified for the replacement housing need in all four regeneration areas continue to progress to improve the level of functional open space. In addition, it is recommended that small-scale environmental improvement projects be implemented within the existing physical environment to improve the overall attractiveness of the areas.

It is recommended to progress the delivery of a strategic linear park from the river Shannon, through the heart of Moyross to Caherdavin as identified in the adopted LRFIP. This project has not commenced yet as it requires a rezoning variation to the Limerick City Development Plan 2010-2016 as a first step. A further rezoning is required to public open space to the eastern side of St. Munchin's Street that currently has exposed rear gardens onto the SAC and wetlands. In an effort to improve overall natural surveillance and improve the visual access and amenity to the SAC and wetlands it is proposed to return the eastern side of St. Munchin's Street to parkland and an amenity space once demolition of the area has taken place.

While there have been significant improvements in the short-term, a further recommendation relates to ensuring longer term maintenance by Limerick City and County Council which is a key factor for a project's continued success and overall sustainability.

✓ Increased level of active play facilities for those under the age of 15 within 800m (10 minutes walk) of regeneration area

This indicator measures the quantum of children's play space being delivered in the regeneration areas to date. The Limerick Regeneration Design and Public Realm Code (2015) recommends a minimum activity zone for play areas, as determined by the Fields in Trust guidance document 'Planning and Design for outdoor Sport and Play'. For District level play facilities, 1000m² is recommended for play equipment, structures, and a hard surfaced area of at least 465m² (the minimum needed to play 5-a-side football). For local play areas, the recommended minimum activity zone for a local area of play is between 100-400m².

Moyross

The Design and Public Realm Code for the regeneration areas designates the locations for specific local and district level play facilities in Moyross. Local play facilities, serving a catchment of 240m are proposed as part of the Cosgrave Park scheme. A second local play area is proposed at Delmege Park. A district level play facility is proposed to serve a catchment of 600m located in the heart of Moyross (within the demolition zone at Craeval/Pineview Gardens), as part of a strategic linear park (approx. 1.5 hectares). To date, local play area (1900m²) at Cosgrave Park will be delivered as part of the 50-unit Cosgrave Park scheme, which granted Part 8 planning permission.

Southill

In Southill, 3 local play areas (total approx. 5000m²) are designated and a district level play facility at Southill Area Centre (approx. 1300m²) as part of the Design and Public Realm Code. To date, a local play area at Galtee view will be delivered as part of the Churchfield scheme (1500m²), which is currently approaching construction stage.

St. Mary's Park and King's Island

Limerick City and County Council in collaboration with CWELL (Community Wellness, Empowerment, Leadership and Lifeskills) and the local residents of St. Mary's Park began a consultation process in January 2016 to deliver a proposal for a new play area given the condition and poor play value of the existing playground located at Oliver Plunkett Street. It is the intention to seek approval from the DHPCLG in Q4 2016 for a new play area that will consist of 2

elements that emerged through the consultation process: the provision of a play area for toddlers and children and a range of outdoor fitness equipment catering for teens and adults.

Ballinacurra Weston

A key objective for Ballinacurra Weston is to environmentally improve the existing street network to provide a safe, attractive, accessible and well-designed network of streets in tandem with ensuring the optimum location of street lighting and CCTV. The provision of play facilities is a short-term objective to deliver (0-3 years) and this will be undertaken in conjunction with residents and key stakeholders in the area to determine its optimum location. It is the intention to submit a capital appraisal in Q4 2016 to the DHPCLG seeking approval for this project.

Recommendation 9

The need to improve play spaces for children of all ages is recognised as a priority for the regeneration areas. The statement of community involvement in the adopted LRFIP emphasises that poor quality open spaces and lack of play spaces is a prominent issue for residents. The adopted LRFIP (2014) and the Limerick Regeneration Design and Public Realm Code (2015) recognises the needs and demands for play spaces and proposes optimum locations within the regeneration areas taking into account a range of factors, including the needs of children of different ages and abilities, of parents/guardians and of the wider community.

A key recommendation is to continue to consult with the local communities on the design and specifications for proposed play areas, provide leveraging-in funding and project steering, where necessary. Furthermore, it is recommended that play spaces specified should be proposed to be low maintenance whilst being sustainable in the long term, beyond the life of the current Limerick Regeneration programme. The benefits of play spaces can have an impact on local communities across all themes - on housing and the physical environment, health, education and crime and is an immediate visible sign that positive change in the regeneration areas is possible.

✓ Increased number of the number of smaller scale sites progressed for replacement housing rather than large scale housing projects (i.e. schemes <35 units) to ensure balanced, incremental development

One criticism of the original regeneration estates was that too many homes as part of a large-scale housing project were delivered and allocated too quickly without the appropriate supporting infrastructure required for a balanced and sustainable community. Balanced incremental development is a strategy adopted in the LRFIP to deliver multiple smaller scale sites rather than single large-scale projects. Multiple smaller scale projects will also provide greater opportunity to smaller scale building contractors, subcontractors and construction workers.

Since the regeneration function transferred to Limerick City and County Council in June 2012, 34 units were completed in 2013 as part of Cliona Park Phase 1. A total of 64 units, funded by the DHPCLG, were completed in 2014. These included a city-centre scheme, for 29 units at Vizes Court (Phase 2) and 35 units at Colivet Court, a specialist scheme for older persons in Southill. A significant number of smaller scale schemes of less than 35 units are currently underway. In 2015, 12 units were completed which included Waller's Well (10 units) and Cliona Park Gap Site (2 units).

The regeneration programme represents a major opportunity to restructure and redevelop replacement housing at an appropriate size and scale to meet the household requirements of the area. Progress, relating to approved housing schemes are underway. To date, there is an upwards trend with 83 units started in 2015, 10 unit starts in 2016, 289 unit starts in 2017, 42 units scheduled to start in 2018 and a further 38 units to be delivered in 2019, all in phases that promote balanced incremental development.

Recommendation 10

Limerick City Council (now Limerick City and County Council) adopted in 2013 a social procurement clause in its public contracts to promote the inclusion of social benefits. In the regeneration programme, this clause is actively used whereby construction projects are required to employ a minimum number of apprentices and also a minimum number from the unemployment register in an effort to promote the social and economic regeneration of a locality. In an effort to promote the use of the Social Procurement Clause, it is recommended that Limerick City and County Council continue to allot contracts into smaller phases to provide a greater opportunity for smaller scale contractors, subcontractors and construction workers.

✓ **Increased level of reused existing buildings** For the purposes of this indicator, data in relation to non-residential vacant properties are assessed. In line with Government guidance, there is a strong argument for the re-use of existing building stock and refurbishing, where appropriate, as opposed to the demolition and rebuild in the regeneration areas.

Significant progress (approximately 12 projects) has been made over the past year in returning buildings to productive use through the approval of Stage 1 Capital Appraisals to appointing contractors for refurbishment. Refurbishment and remedial/repair works are taking place in several structures on Nicholas Street with the objective of improving the environmental quality of this important city street, and returning vacant buildings to commercial, residential and community use. The buildings within the ownership of Limerick City and County Council include 24, 25, 26, 27 and 35 Nicholas Street, and the 'Fireplace Site' (36-39). Over €800,000 has been invested by Limerick City and County Council in the stabilisation works to the Opera Centre site which addressed key issues to ensure sustainable re-use of these buildings including weatherproofing and stabilisation work to parapet walls at roof level and building facades.

The Minister for Environment, Community and Local Government, Alan Kelly T.D formally announced in September 2015, significant funding of €3 million for the redevelopment and refurbishment of the Moyross Community Enterprise Centre (MCEC). This project is scheduled to proceed to construction in 2017. The official opening of the Moyross AFC player facilities, adjacent to the MCEC, which underwent refurbishment, also took place in September 2015. A new expanded Community Centre for St. Mary's Park and King's Island is proposed at its existing location. However, the progression of this project will require a rezoning Variation to the Limerick City Development Plan 2010-2016 in the first instance to facilitate the projects delivery.

Recommendation 11

In line with the adopted LRFIP and the Limerick Economic and Spatial Plan (Limerick 2030), it is recommended to continue a pro-active approach to return vacant non-residential properties located within the regeneration areas to productive use to facilitate economic regeneration. Similarly, while the focus of the Regeneration Project is on the defined regeneration areas, the overall project needs to be seen in the context of the wider city and, in particular, it is clear that appropriate development in areas contiguous to, or within the environs of, the regeneration areas will contribute to achieving the regeneration objectives. The redevelopment of the Opera Centre site, adjacent to King's Island/St. Mary's Park, as well as other transformational projects such as the potential to acquire the Biblical Centre in Limerick city-centre, will play a key role in improving the fortunes of the city.

✓ **Increased number of connections from the regeneration areas to the wider community**

The lack of connectivity has been, and continues to be, a major contributing factor to the underperformance of the regeneration areas. The scale of interventions commenced and completed over the past 2 years varies from large-scale projects, i.e., St. Nessan's entrance to the removal of walls that segregate areas, i.e., link from Beechgrove Avenue, Ballinacurra Weston to Our Lady of Lourdes church. Significant progress (approximately 30 projects) has been made over the past year in increasing connections to the wider community.

The following key connections being progressed are as follows:

- Moyross: Coonagh-Knockalisheen Road: Documentation is underway with tenders for the advanced groundworks will be sought in Q3 2016.
- 46A and 45 A Cloncannane Road at the interface of Moyross and Ballynanty: Progressing to Part 8 Planning Application Stage.
- St. Mary's Park: Acquisition of Thomond Weir by LCCC in 2015 to improve connectivity. Tenders received for structural consultants. Public Realm Upgrade Capital Appraisal and Cost Plan to be prepared for the DHPCLG by Q3 2016.
- Southill: Connection from Roxboro roundabout (through the 'Galvone Arms' site) to the heart of Southill at Southill Area Centre is being part-progressed as part of Part 8 Planning Application for the Churchfield site.

A number of key connections have been completed as follows:

- In Moyross, the delivery of strategic link and new school entrance from St.Nessans school to Cliona Park.
- In Ballinacurra Weston, the removal of the community wall to the side of the Church at Hyde Avenue was completed to allow for physical and visual access.
- A new pedestrian connection was constructed between the Church car-park and Crecora Avenue in Ballinacurra Weston.
- Removal of rock armoury in Ballinacurra Weston at Weston Gardens to provide for a visual connection and facilitate a safe turning area for cars.

Recommendation 12

A number of new connections and realignments of existing routes as part of replacement housing schemes have received Part 8 planning permission in 2016 and will progress to tender and construction stage in due course. It is recommended to continue the implementation of the Coonagh-Knockalisheen Northern Distributor Road Phase 1 to open up connectivity to the western end of Moyross. In Southill, the strategic access off the M7, through the regeneration area as a 'gateway to the city' is crucial to revitalise the Galvone Industrial Estate and enhance the viability of the District Centre. In addition, continue strategic acquisitions of sites in the regeneration areas to facilitate connections – e.g., through the Galvone Industrial Estate to the Childer's Road.

√ Increased level of diverse and high quality architectural design

Resident involvement, through the local regeneration structures, are at the heart of the design and consultation process for all plans and projects relating to the regeneration programme. In relation to housing projects, we continue to undertake informal pre-planning consultation with the residents committees for each of the 4 regeneration areas prior to lodgement of a formal Part 8 Planning Application. The plans and projects relating to the Limerick Regeneration programme are delivering awards, commendations and shortlistings each year for their successful and innovative strategies and ingenuity. Informal pre-planning meetings are effective to build consensus, focussing on the needs of the local community, but not to the exclusion of other interested parties.

Cliona Park Phase 1, designed by the National Building Agency (now the Housing Agency) received an Irish Council for Social Housing award in 2013. Colivet Court won RIAI Best Housing in 2014 and was shortlisted in the Irish Council for Social Housing Awards 2015. In 2016, 5 projects were shortlisted for the IPI National Planning Awards 2016 with two of these being awarded a 'Special Commendation'.

Events to promote the built environment in the regeneration areas over the past year included Culture Night where Limerick Soprano Sarah Shine performed at no.4 Patrick – one of the Opera Centre buildings and former home of the Singer Catherine Hayes on 18th September 2015. Activating the building provided a glimpse to the Limerick public of the potential and importance of this site – one of the major assets of the city.

A one-off Open House Limerick Open day at the Tait Clothing Factory site at Lord Edward Street in June 2015 was attended by over 500 people. This event was followed by a seminar, 'The Tait Clothing Factory: A Testament to Time' funded by the Heritage Council took place in August 2015 during Heritage Week. Given the importance of the Clothing Factory to Limerick life a book on the Factory was commissioned in 2015 and is due to be published in Q2 2017. Raising the awareness and profile of the regeneration areas is an important part of the work of Limerick City and County Council. Events such as the Open House Limerick 2015 bus tour of the regeneration areas assist

in the process of promoting better understanding and breaking down barriers.

Recommendation 13

Continue to attain awards, commendations and shortlistings for the plans and projects relating to the Limerick Regeneration programme. In addition, continue a proactive approach in raising the awareness and profile of the regeneration areas with events such as the Open House Limerick, Culture Night and Heritage Week to assist in the process of promoting a better understanding and breaking down barriers. It is the intention that this trend increases as more schemes and projects are delivered into the future.

✓ **Increased number of higher density developments (>50 units per hectare) at local and district centres subject to good urban design principles**

For the purposes of this indicator, replacement housing schemes that are located within 500m of the District/Local Centre are analysed.

A significant number of projects have progressed adjacent to Local and District Centres in the period from February 2015 to February 2016 that meets a sustainable residential density of over 50 units per hectare.

- In Moyross to date, seven schemes are being planned adjacent to Watch House Cross that are achieving densities of 50 units per hectare.
- In St. Mary's Park/ King's Island and Southill, three schemes respectively are reaching a sustainable density of over 50 units per hectare.

Three schemes in the city-centre at Vizes Court Phase 2, Lord Edward Street and Waller's Well that are reaching a suitable density in the range of 50-80 units per hectare given their city centre locations.

Recommendation 14

Continue to promote higher density replacement housing schemes (>50 units per hectare) at local and district centres with high quality urban design principles. It is recommended that where schemes are over 35 units, provisions will be made for a phased handover from the contractor to ensure a managed and phased allocation process for prospective tenants/residents.

✓ **Increased number of medium density developments (35-50 units per hectare) within residential zones of the regeneration areas**

For the purposes of this indicator, replacement housing schemes that are located outside of 500m but within 800m of the District/Local Centre are analysed. Within the residential zones of the regeneration areas, five planned schemes (priority schemes for replacement housing) with DHPCLG approval at between 35-50 units per hectare are being achieved.

Recommendation 15

Continue to promote medium density replacement housing schemes in suitable locations. It is recommended that where schemes are over 35 units, provisions will be made for a phased handover from the contractor to ensure a managed and phased allocation process for prospective tenants/residents.

✓ **Increased use of public transport/walking and cycling**

Progress continues to be made in terms of sustainable transport. Key investment in the delivery of projects (capital and educational investment) for walking and cycling, along with other public transport improvements, as part of the Limerick Smarter Travel and An Taisce Green Schools Programme and investment in improved placemaking (improved public realm, public lighting upgrades and planting) as part of the Limerick Regeneration Programme, are helping to achieve a modal shift. Key positive trends include:

- Le Cheile School saw an increase in 'carpooling to school' measured against the baseline figures (2014) from 28.6% in 2014 to 40% in November 2015. Measured from the 2014 baseline, preference for cycling increased from 41.7% to 44.8%. Similarly, an increase in the use of high-viz vests increased from 22.2% to 28.4%
- Our Lady Queen of Peace School saw an increase in 'walking to school' measured against the baseline figures (June 2014) from 26% in 2014 to over 49% in June 2015. Measured from the 2014 baseline, carpooling increased from 17% (June 2014) to 31.3% in June 2015. Similarly, an increase in owning a bicycle increased from 79% (June 2014) to 89.9% in June 2015.

Recommendation 16

It is recommended to continue the progress made to date in the regeneration areas in terms of sustainable transport. It is recommended to ensure that the key investment in the delivery of projects (capital and educational investment) for walking and cycling, along with other public transport improvements, as part of the Limerick Smarter Travel and An Taisce Green Schools Programme and investment in improved placemaking as part of the Limerick Regeneration Programme, are delivered to help achieve a modal shift.

✓ Increased delivery of cycleways/cycle lanes

There has been a considerable change in policy relating to shifting the modal to decrease car usage and increase bicycle travel through the adopted LRFIP and the Limerick Regeneration Design and Public Realm Code for the Regeneration Areas (2015). The provision of safe, comfortable and convenient cycle lanes are being delivered as part of the replacement housing schemes within the regeneration areas, in accordance with the adopted LRFIP and Design and Public Realm Code. To date, a total length of approximately 1900m² of cycle lanes are being delivered/planned as part of replacement housing schemes and wider connections. In addition, the Roxborough Road – City Centre Design Study anticipates the delivery of approximately 4km in length (2km either side of carriageway) of dedicated and segregated cycle lanes into the city-centre.

Recommendation 17

Continue the progress made to date in the regeneration areas in terms of the delivery of cycleways and cycle lanes. It is recommended to continue the proactive and collaborative partnership with Limerick Smarter Travel and An Taisce Green Schools Programme to ensure investment in improved placemaking and smarter travel is efficiently delivered as part of the Limerick Regeneration Programme.

✓ Decreased level of level of carbon dioxide emissions

The architectural design and construction of the new homes and the refurbishment of existing stock can make a major contribution to the creation of a more sustainable environment by reducing the emissions of large amounts of CO₂. All refurbishment of existing private and local authority tenanted homes will be upgraded to a BER rating of C, thereby reducing annual CO₂ emissions. All new-build schemes will be designed to a B3 rating, to comply with Part L, J and F of the relevant Building Regulations

An analysis was undertaken related to the thermal upgrade programme from 2013 to February 2016 to establish the actual and projected annual carbon savings secured. The total carbon dioxide savings sees a reduction of approximately 63% to the beginning of February 2016.

Recommendation 18

A key recommendation for the future in the tracking of carbon savings is to acquire the relevant pre BER and post BER data. This data will be interrogated as part of the overall evaluation study, to be commenced in 2016, in relation to linkages to other themes. A proposal for future analysis of this indicator is to track the ratings of new-build replacement housing schemes (B rated dwellings or greater) in the regeneration areas within both public and private ownership.

✓ Increased level of use of SUDS

Irish Water have indicated that it is their intention to pursue a policy of 'nil discharge' of surface water into the combined or foul network for all new developments. An approach for replacement housing schemes within the regeneration areas is to work towards full removal of surface water from combined systems or a controlled discharge through the use of sustainable urban drainage systems such as attenuation tanks and soakaways. 11 no. replacement housing schemes to date have been granted Part 8 planning permission or are approaching this stage with SUDs integral to the drainage system.

Recommendation 19

It is recommended to continue the progress made to date on the objective to promote increased use of SUDs and attenuation techniques in relation to future new-build replacement housing schemes.

√ **Decreased level of domestic water consumption (litres/day/household)**

Generally, all replacement housing schemes proposed in the regeneration areas will be provided with low or variable capacity flushing toilets as well as low volume taps and shower heads. This will be considered further as projects approach detailed tender design stage.

Recommendation 20

It is recommended that more detailed monitoring information will be collected on water consumption from Irish Water and the Service Operations Directorate of LCCC when available.

√ **Decreased level of water leakage rates**

St. Mary's Park was serviced via a series of communal lead services from 3" cast iron water mains on the public road. These communal lead services traverse private properties through the rear gardens and connect individually into the houses from this communal lead looped service. The level of water leakage in the estate was high, well above the city-wide level of 46% and the desired level of less than 30%. The works to replace the lead system in St. Mary's Park was completed in Q2 2016. The solution involved removal of the entire complement of common lead looped supplies and provide new services from the existing water mains on the public road to each individual property.

Recommendation 21

A key recommendation for the future is to continue to monitor water leakage levels in the regeneration areas, in consultation with Irish Water and Limerick City and County Council. The objective of reducing leakage levels within St. Mary's Park, and to eliminate occurrences of loss of supply and poor pressures, whilst conserving the natural environment, will significantly improve the quality of life for residents in St. Mary's Park.

√ **Decreased level of household waste**

The amount of household waste collected per head is inextricably linked to recycling. Limerick City and County Council is actively promoting the provision of individual bin storage in new-build replacement housing schemes. All schemes at planning application stage and approaching planning application stage comply with the current Limerick City Development Plan standards that require all residential units to have adequate storage for a 3-bin system – organic, dry recyclables and residual waste in an effort to segregate and reduce the amount of waste destined for landfill. Each residential unit for replacement housing schemes will be provided with secure ventilated refuse storage for either within front, rear or side gardens and will be located within lockable steel and brick enclosures.

The individual control of household waste contributes effectively in helping to increase the amount of waste being recycled and reducing the amount of waste directed to landfill sites. The improvement in recycling can also be attributed to the proactive effort of Limerick City and County Council to raise awareness of recycling and waste segregation. Furthermore, the recently published Government Circular WP 01/15 regarding the introduction of new household waste legislation, will assist in waste reduction and segregation by requiring all collectors of household waste to have pay-by-weight systems in place and to record the weight of waste each time a bin is lifted. The requirement for collectors of household waste to charge on a by-weight basis has now been delayed to July 2017. During this adjustment period households will be provided with the weight of each bin for each collection in order to encourage waste prevention and segregation and to allow them calculate the likely pay by weight charges after such fees have been announced by their service provider for commencement of the system in July 2017.

Recommendation 22

A key recommendation for the future is to collect data on the level of waste weight and type of household waste being generated in the regeneration areas once the new pay by weight systems are in place by July 2017. It is recommended that this data be interrogated as part of the overall evaluation study in relation to linkages to other themes. A further recommendation is to continue the proactive effort of the Service Operations Directorate of Limerick City and County Council in raising awareness of recycling and waste segregation.

Increased level of household waste recycled

- This indicator is related to and will be analysed in conjunction with Indicator 1.23 above.

Improved housing quality / resident satisfaction with accommodation

- This indicator will require a qualitative assessment to be undertaken as part of the overall Household Survey, which will commence in 2016.

✓ Increased mix of dwellings by tenure (owner-occupied, local authority tenanted, voluntary, etc.)

The data correlated in the Census and Limerick City and County Council database relates to occupied homes only. A diversity in tenure mix is both an important objective and intended consequence of the regeneration programme. The importance of increasing tenure mix is related to the benefits of lifting the economic base of the area for the benefit of new and future residents. Whilst the attraction of homes in the regeneration areas for private development is an obvious way of diversifying mix, mechanisms for local authority tenanted homes such as pathways to owner-occupation under the provisions of the current Housing Act and the involvement of AHBs in delivery of specialist housing etc., can actively be promoted over the next few years to provide a diversification in tenure.

Progress has been made from 2012 to date in rebalancing the tenure mix of the regeneration areas. However, it should be noted that tenure patterns are in a state of flux as the regeneration programme is being implemented with voids coming back into occupied reuse and the demolition programme progressing.

Once the reconfiguration and stabilisation of the estates are complete, the areas will gradually become more attractive for private investors and development, repopulating the areas to provide the critical mass to sustain and provide for additional services. Over the next few years it is anticipated that the tenure balance will continue to improve from the baseline recorded as tenants can opt to buy their dwellings from the Local Authority Tenure through

the Tenant (Incremental) Purchase Scheme which was launched in January 2016.

In addition, the trend is increasing in the number of properties in the regeneration areas being made available for sale through the private market. A key physical objective is to provide attractive environments, well managed and overlooked public spaces and a good quality public realm, in tandem with social and economic interventions. Such physical measures create an attractive environment for all who live there, encouraging greater levels of community pride and home ownerships, with an objective to create a safe and sustainable community that will be an attractive environment for future private investment.

Recommendation 23

It is an objective of the LRFIP to create balanced and sustainable communities, with a wide range of incomes and household types representing a cross section of society in line with national, regional and local social and housing policy. A diversity in tenure mix is both an important objective and intended consequence of the regeneration programme. For this reason, Limerick City and County Council will continue to promote and attract new residents into the regeneration areas through a mix of tenure types.

It is recommended that any future development of the Clonlong site and Toppin's Field in Southill be in accordance with the Traveller Accommodation Programme 2014-2018 and any subsequent programme adopted by the Council. A strategic approach will be undertaken in consultation with the families and other agencies to ensure that the traveller residents within the regeneration areas benefit to the fullest from the regeneration programme.

It is envisaged that once the regeneration areas are stabilised and consolidated with the completion of the replacement housing schemes, new linkages, improved services and community uses that the areas will gradually become more attractive for private development. However, this process will take time, noting the programme's implementation phase from 2014 to 2024.

✓ Decreased level of dwellings that are vacant

Low demand in a regeneration area is manifested through void properties. From 2012 to 2016 there is a clear trend emerging with an overall reduction in void properties within the overall housing stock in the four regeneration areas. This is in part due to the demolition strategy gaining momentum but also a return to occupation of void properties. A total of 88 long term voids have been identified for refurbishment from February 2014 to February 2016 with 60 no. units completed and 28 units at construction stage during this period.

Recommendation 24

It is recommended to continue to tackle void housing by a series of integrated interventions to improve the overall desirability of the regeneration areas, as follows:

- Demolition in scheduled areas as outlined in the adopted LRFIP;
- Reshaping the range and type of void properties through refurbishment and knock-throughs where applicable;
- Devising 'image management' strategies for estates in an effort to reduce stigmatisation and improve area desirability;
- Enhance the inter-agency pro-active approach being taken in relation to the management of housing stock in the regeneration areas, including the provision of tenancy support and enforcement. This service will complement the social and economic regeneration programme;
- Encouraging greater tenure and tenant mix to improve area desirability;
- Non-housing physical improvements such as improved amenities, community facilities, schools and environmental improvements as well as the obvious new-build replacement housing are seen as crucial to increasing housing demand and reducing the prevalence of void properties.

Strategies for dealing with low demand are more advanced in the local authority owned stock than in those in private ownership. In this regard, Limerick City and County Council has more direct levers to change patterns of management, allocations and investment for local authority owned stock in a timely manner. In relation to privately owned void properties, there are difficulties in gaining access to private owners or landlords in some instances. However, Limerick City and County Council is making progress,

utilising in some instances, legislation in relation to Dangerous Structures (The Local Government (Sanitary Services) Act, 1964) and Derelict Sites (Derelict Sites Act, 1990), where appropriate.

Decreased level of dwellings that are difficult to let

This indicator is linked to Indicator 1.27 above.

✓ Decreased level of the number of local authority and private dwellings in the regeneration areas that fall below the BER rating 'C'

In the regeneration areas, investment in improvements to the energy efficiency of homes, have been and are likely to continue to be a highly effective way of improving the health and wellbeing of residents, preventing unnecessary ill health and reducing costs to the HSE and reducing the burden and anxiety of care for friends and relatives. The continued funding provides a reduction in heating bills and thus reduced carbon emissions. Furthermore, thermal upgrade works will improve the long-term viability of the regeneration area's housing stock. In summary, the area-wide refurbishment project which seeks the upgrade of approximately 1413 units over a 5-year period is on-target with approximately 47% (666 units) of the overall units complete, on site or in preparation by February 2016. 278 units have been thermally upgraded up to February 2016 and are reaching a BER rating of C. A further 388 units are currently on site or in preparation and due to be completed by the end of 2016 with a target BER rating of C.

Recommendation 25

Continue the investment in the thermal upgrade programme. It is recommended that this indicator be examined further as part of the evaluation study to commence in 2016, in relation to linkages to other themes. It is anticipated that continued investment in the thermal upgrade programme will prove to have very significant benefits for residents' sense of wellbeing. The impacts of the energy rating involve the collection of base-line data on social indicators as well as monitoring other significant changes, which may affect residents' wellbeing such as employment levels or crime levels.

✓ Increased level of energy efficiency rating of homes

This indicator is linked to 1.29 above. Year-on-year the thermal upgrade programme is increasing output and by February 2016 approximately 47% (666 units) of the overall units are complete, on site or in preparation. The four regeneration areas will be complete and thermally upgraded to a BER rating of C.

✓ Increased level of the number of specialist units (elderly housing, single person units) to meet existing and future demographics of the regeneration areas

The delivery of units to meet existing and future demographics relate to schemes that have advanced to planning application stage/approaching planning application stage. The overall number of units for replacement housing are defined in the adopted LRFIP (February 2014) and the subsequent Housing Strategy 2014 (October 2014). Within the figures required overall for each of the regeneration areas, existing need is considered as well as future need to future proof the area's sustainability. Future need is referred to as a net gain (buffer) to accommodate, in part, those who were transferred out of the regeneration areas and who wish to return as well as future household formations.

Each scheme proposed in terms of its unit mix is assessed against a combination of local knowledge on existing and emerging need and existing housing need profiles as set out in the CSO small area population statistics data in the LRFIP.

It is recommended that cognisance should be given to the fact that the current measurement of dwelling need represents a current picture in time. It would be prudent to plan for the 'housing career' or housing progression of local authority tenants over time with co-habiting couples progressing to couples with children requiring larger family type units and thus justifying the need for 3 or 4 bedroom housing types. Similarly, older couples living in larger family unit types who wish to downsize to smaller one or two bedroom housing types with their existing neighbourhoods should be planned for accordingly. In this regard, the Limerick City and County Council Housing Allocations Policy facilitates age-friendly downsizing transfers to meet the housing needs of

older people within the regeneration areas.

Up to February 2016, the regeneration programme has funded and delivered a total of 85 elderly housing units at the following locations:

- City-Centre: Vizes Court, Phase 2: 29 units
- Southill: Colivet Court, Southill: 35 units
- Moyross: Cliona Park, Phase 1: 21 units

The Lord Edward Street scheme, currently under construction (as at September 2016) will deliver 81 housing units, 58 of which will be houses and apartments for the elderly in addition to a retail/commercial unit and a community facility with a function room, exhibition area, meeting rooms and other facilities. The scheme is due for completion in Q3 2017.

Recommendation 26

It is recommended that cognisance should be given to the fact that the current measurement of unit need represents a current picture in time. It would be prudent to plan for the 'housing career' or housing progression of local authority tenants over time with co-habiting couples progressing to couples with children requiring larger family type units and thus justifying the need for 3 or 4 bedroom housing types. Similarly, older couples living in larger family unit types who wish to downsize to smaller one or two bedroom housing types with their existing neighbourhoods should be planned for accordingly.

✓ **Increased level of the number of unoccupied dwellings in the regeneration areas that are brought back to residential use**

This data relates to residential voids brought back into use. For the purposes of this indicator, data in relation to residential long term voids (vacant in excess of 6 months) are assessed. In line with Government guidance, there is a strong argument for the re-use of existing building stock and refurbishing, where appropriate, as opposed to the demolition and rebuild in the regeneration areas.

In line with the recent Rebuilding Ireland: Action Plan for Housing and Homelessness and DHPCLG Circular 02/2015, there is a pro-active approach to return vacant social housing units to productive use in 2016. There is a notable increase in the long-term voids completed and under construction in Ballinacurra Weston, Southill, St. Mary's Park and Moyross. A total of 88 long term voids have been identified for refurbishment from February 2014 to February 2016 with 60 no. units completed and 28 units at construction stage during this period. This marks a significant and positive increase in Limerick City and County Council's commitment to returning vacant units to productive use.

Recommendation 27

It is recommended that Limerick City and County Council continue to actively triage Long Term Voids within their control in the regeneration areas, organising refurbishment contracts and in parallel alerting the allocations teams of an estimated date of completion to ensure a timely handover of properties to prospective tenants.

✓ **Increased level of enhancement to areas of high landscape value e.g. by the River Shannon and Abbey River**

Considerable investment to areas of high landscape value by the River Shannon and Abbey River are in progress. There is a close inter-relationship between landscape quality and the value of habitats. Areas of high landscape value by the river Shannon and Abbey river can also support many habitats and species of biodiversity value and as such significant investment has been earmarked to protect this natural asset.

The completion of the St. Mary's Park remediation Project to the rear of the right hand side of St. Munchin's Street in 2015 has eliminated the historical landfill and remediated approximately 15,000m² of contaminated land. The remediation is the first stage in developing a landscape buffer area to the existing wet meadow incorporating a north-south pedestrian/cycle link, native grassland and tree groups as proposed in the Limerick Regeneration Design and Public Realm Code (2015), prepared by Limerick City and County Council. This project will be progressed once demolition to the eastern side of St. Munchin's Street has been completed.

A programme of work to eradicate Japanese Knotweed, a highly problematic invasive species, on key development sites under the control of Limerick City and County Council also forms part of the environmental programme. To date, 10 sites, many of which are located adjacent to the lower Shannon SAC, have been identified from July 2015 (the beginning of the programme) to February 2016 and are currently undergoing targeted treatment.

Major improvements to the existing flood defence along Verdant Place, St. Mary's Park successfully obtained Part 8 Planning permission on the 29th February 2016. The progression of a strategic flood defence scheme at St. Mary's Park and King's Island will aim to mitigate flood risk whilst also minimising risk to human beings, the existing community, social amenity, environment and the high value landscape character of the area. As at February 2016, a Project Brief is in preparation and Design Consultants procured with options currently in progress.

Recommendation 28

It is recommended to continue the considerable investment to areas of high landscape value by the River Shannon and Abbey River. There is a close inter-relationship between landscape quality and the value of habitats. Areas of high landscape value by the river Shannon and Abbey river can also support many habitats and species of biodiversity value and as such significant investment has been earmarked to protect this natural asset.

✓ **Increased level of the protection of individual natural features as part of development proposals**

Key objectives of this indicator include:

- Protecting and enhancing environmentally designated landscapes minimising impacts on biodiversity and providing net gains in biodiversity where possible. This objective is achieved by carrying out an appropriate assessment screening of Part 8 planning application projects.
- Remediating, mitigating and monitoring contaminated and unstable land, where appropriate. The remediation of the historic landfill to the east of St. Munchin's Street in St. Mary's Park is now complete. The works will involve the excavation, segregating and sorting of waste material and retaining of fill on site which is deemed the most environmentally friendly option.

A total of 13 no. Appropriate Assessment screening statements were produced for Part 8 planning application schemes thusfar ensuring no adverse effects on designated sites.

Recommendation 29

Continue preparing appropriate assessment screenings for all public projects and programmes in the regeneration areas to ensure no adverse effects on designated sites.

✓ **Increased level of areas using native or seed/fruit species**

An emphasis is placed on an increased level of native and seed/fruit species in an effort to increase the biodiversity and landscape value of the regeneration area. All schemes as part of the planning application process are required to submit a landscaping plan. Opportunities to incorporate biodiversity in and around developments are encouraged in the planning application schemes to provide a net gain to biodiversity. These generally comprise:

- Native species broadleaf and evergreen species to provide biodiversity, support for wildlife and screening as they mature;
- Ornamental perennial planting to comprise ornamental grasses & flowering perennials to soften the visual impact of the development and increase biodiversity.

The following schemes were also undertaken to improve the biodiversity of the landscape resource within the regeneration areas:

- Native and ornamental bulb planting proposed for planning application schemes granted;
- Trees planted as part of planning application schemes to create new hedgerows and improve diversity within existing woodlands;

Recommendation 30

It is recommended to continue the progress that has been made over the past year (February 2015 to February 2016) in increasing biodiversity levels as part of landscape plans for replacement housing schemes and also area specific environmental improvement schemes. The Limerick Regeneration Design and Public Realm Code Checklist 2015 will ensure that the public realm and built form does not compromise the environmental amenity of the regeneration areas.

✓ **Decreased level of vacant and derelict Protected Structures within the regeneration areas**

Sixteen projects and plans have progressed in relation to the development of management plans and projects ensuring protection of the City's heritage of special historic, archaeological, architectural or artistic interest.

These include:

- Opera Centre: Stabilisation works
- 7-8 Ellen Street: Stabilisation works
- Lord Edward Street: Scheme incorporates former Factory Buildings
- Turner Vinery: Progressing approval for reinstatement of ironmongery and glassworks of a vinery at Tait House designed by Richard Turner of Kew Gardens fame
- Fireplace site: Analysis/remedial works underway to prepare a design brief
- Orchard Site: Approaching Part 8 Planning Application (incorporating the city wall)
- Gaol Lane: Approaching Part 8 Planning Application (incorporating Gaol wall)

Recommendation 31

It is recommended that Limerick City and County Council continue to manage all its heritage assets whether statutorily protected or not. Limerick City and County Council recognises that sensitive re-use and adaption of buildings of architectural heritage, particularly within King's Island, will yield considerable aesthetic, environmental and economic benefits for the benefit of the wider city.



1. Introduction and Overview

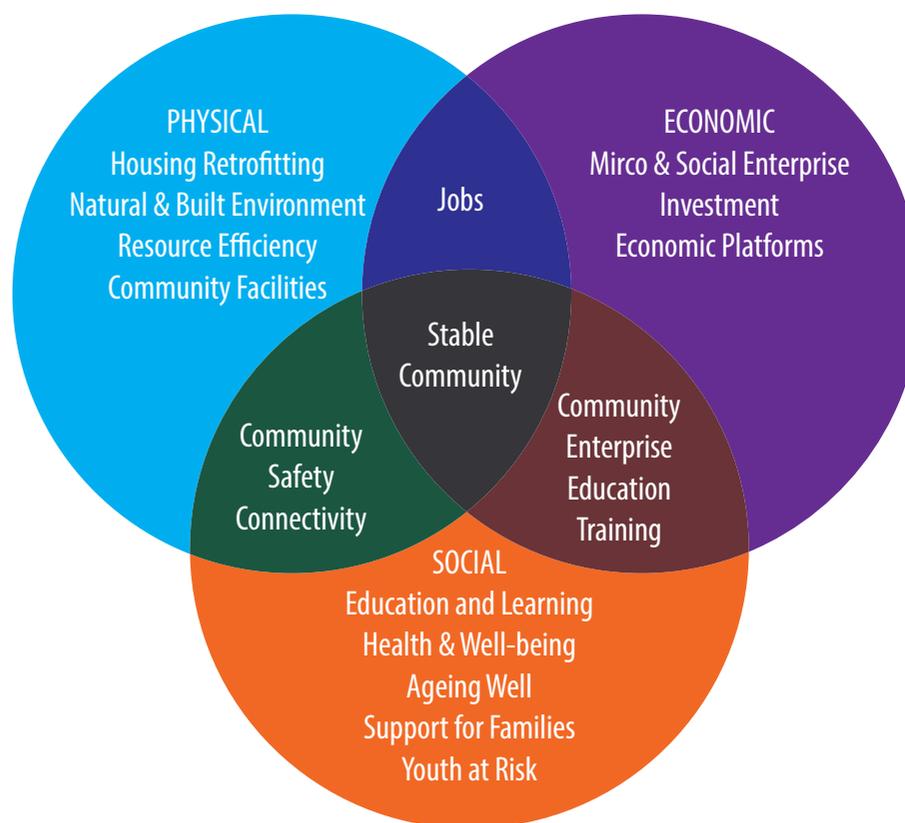
The Limerick Regeneration Framework Plan (LRFIP) was adopted by the elected members of Limerick City Council in February 2014. The overarching objective of the LRFIP is encapsulated in its vision statement: *“Safe and sustainable communities of opportunity where people of all ages enjoy a good quality of life, a decent home and a sense pride about their place. Well serviced and attractive neighbourhoods will be physically connected and fully integrated with the social, economic and cultural life of Limerick.”*

There is a commitment by Limerick City and County Council that monitoring of the programme is carried out on an annual basis. This report represents the second review of the physical pillar for the period February 2015 to February 2016. The main aim of the Limerick Regeneration Programme is to narrow the gap between the four designated regeneration areas and the rest of the city and country by improving the outcomes for people living in Moyross, St. Mary’s Park, Ballinacurra Weston and Southill.

The Monitoring Programme is designed to achieve the holistic improvement of the regeneration areas by improving outcomes across 7 key themes as follows:

- 3 ‘place-related’ themes: Housing and Physical Environment, Crime and Community Safety, Community;
- 4 ‘people-related’ themes: Employment and Enterprise, Health, Families and Youth at Risk and Education.

An overall evaluation study of the Limerick Regeneration Programme 2007-2010 was carried out by Dr. Eileen Humphreys in 2012. A new phase of evaluation will commence when full CSO data from 2016 is made available. This evaluation will provide an unprecedented opportunity to analyse and address key issues which have impacted on the regeneration areas in recent years. The evaluation of the LRFIP is structured around 4 key work strands, with indicative commencement dates as follows:



Section 1.3 of Volume 3 of the adopted LRFIP relates to the Monitoring of the Regeneration Programme with key performance indicators highlighted.

Work Strand	Detail	When
Work Strand 1:	Monitoring Data: Local Data from Social Intervention Grants/ other partnerships: 2015	Commenced 2015/ Update 2016
Work Strand 2:	Administrative Data: yearly/quarterly (depending on indicator): 2015/2016.	Commenced 2015/ Update 2016
Work Strand 3:	Household survey: 2016 in regeneration areas, in other areas where populations relocated from the regeneration areas and in average areas of the city (comparator areas)	Commence once full CSO Data for 2016 is made publicly available
Work Strand 4:	LRFIP Programme wide analysis - the full evaluation of outputs: 2016/2017 incorporating data from the published 2016 Census	Commence once full CSO Data for 2016 is made publicly available

The format of this Monitoring Report aims to evaluate one of the key themes listed above: **Housing and the Physical Environment**, providing an insight into the progress that has been made in achieving specific objectives as set out in the LRFIP, under key Work Strand 2.

This report provides an early 2016 snapshot of currently available 'change data' to understand and explain what changes have occurred in the regeneration areas over the past year. This report draws on two main data sources: internally held administrative data collated by Limerick City and County Council and secondary data such as reports and business plans of various agencies/government bodies.

It will be possible to provide any overarching assessment of the scale of area wide change when the evaluation study commences. This overarching assessment will commence as part of Work Strands 3 and 4 when full CSO data from 2016 becomes publicly available. Nevertheless, data will be inputted as part of this report, where available, to establish key trends emerging and progress made to date.

1.1 Introduction to the Monitoring Report on Housing and the Physical Environment

The Limerick Regeneration Monitoring Report assesses the performance of the Limerick Regeneration Framework Implementation Plan (LRFIP) policies. It also reports on key milestones achieved since the adoption of the LRFIP in February 2014. The Monitoring Report is a key feedback tool identifying how policies are performing and it also provides a robust basis to inform any future revisions to policies or their implementation.

1.2 Reporting Period

This Monitoring Report primarily covers the period from February 2015 – February 2016. Information prior to 2015 and beyond February 2016 is included where it helps to provide a more complete picture of indicator performance and project delivery. The next update will commence in Q1 2017.

1.3 Report Structure

The Monitoring Report is set out in 3 sections, as follows:

- **Introduction and Overview:**
Introduces the Review of the Physical Pillar under the 'the Housing and Physical Environment' theme.
- **Review of the Physical Pillar:**
Sets out performance outcomes of the Housing and Physical Environment theme and summarises the main key findings.
- **Programme for the Delivery of Key Projects:**
Summarises the status of key projects identified for delivery in the adopted LRFIP.
- **Recommendations and Conclusions:**
Highlights recommendations for future monitoring and work programmes.

1.4 Who should read this report?

The Review is a means of publicising the achievements and progress of the LRFIP. This report is of importance to anyone who has an interest in planning and regeneration in Limerick city. The local community can use the Monitoring Report to see how the LRFIP is performing and how it will improve its performance in the future. The report can help communities to understand the impact of their own engagement in the process, and can also be a useful tool to communities to engage in future policy making and helping them understand where plans sit in the whole context of a particular area. The wider City and County Council can also use this Monitoring Report to help inform their strategic plans and provide an overall view of the performance of the service. The report is also relevant to those involved in the National Regeneration Programme.

2. Review of the Physical Pillar

There are 37 indicators under the theme of 'Housing and the Physical Environment' for analysis. For each of the indicators, the report sets out the:

Policy Background: information is given on the indicator and how it relates to the relevant objectives of the LRFIP and other policy documentation prepared by Limerick City and County Council;

Baseline: Setting out relevant statistical data for period prior to 2015;

Activities to Date: Setting out relevant statistical data for period 2015 and up to February 2016 where applicable;

Comment on Progress: Setting out a statement on likely future data trends, relevance of the indicator and issues to be considered in relation to the review of the objective. As part of the Executive Summary to this document relating to Housing and Physical Environment an analysis is undertaken of the indicators that are performing well, underperforming or a revised monitoring structure to be developed.

Data Sources: A list of sources of information.

Promoting Healthy Communities

2.1 Increased house prices

This indicator is primarily measured by sales price agreed and transaction numbers per year.

Background (under lined emphasis our own):

LRFIP Vision Statement	
"Safe and sustainable communities of opportunity where people of all ages enjoy a good quality-of life, a decent home and a sense of pride about their place. <u>Well-serviced and attractive neighbourhoods will be physically connected and fully integrated</u> with the social, economic and cultural life of Limerick."	
LRFIP Strategic Objective	2.3.1 Build a Strong Competitive Economy
	2.3.2 Promoting Healthy Communities

Moyross: Baseline 2012-2014:

Moyross			
Year	Address	Sale Price (€)	Median Price by Year
2012 (March)	78 Cliona Park 3-bed house	6,500	11,500
2012 (November)	73 Cliona Park 3-bed house	16,500	
2013	No sales recorded		
2014 (January)	39 Sarsfield Gardens	30,000	22,500
2014 (February)	41 Dalgaish Park	15,000	

Number of Transactions (2012-2014): 4

Moyross - Activities to Date 2015-2016:

Moyross			
Year	Address	Sale Price (€)	Median Price by Year
2015 (March)	41 Dalgaish Park*	30,000	30,000

Number of Transactions (2015): 1

**Property purchased in February 2014 and sold in March 2015*

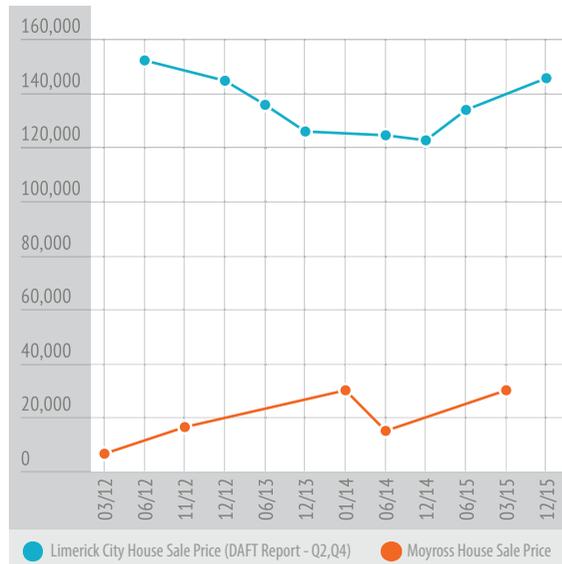


Figure 1: House Sale Prices in Moyross from 2012-2015 tracked against City House Sale Prices 2012-2015



Figure 2: House Sale Prices in St. Mary's Park from 2010-2015 tracked against City House Sale Prices 2010-2015

St. Mary's Park - Baseline 2010-2014:

St. Mary's Park			
Year	Address	Sale Price (€)	Median Price by Year
2010 (May)	129 St. Munchin's Street	12,697	12,848.5
2010 (June)	66 Oliver Plunkett Street	13,000	
2012 (November)	67 St. Munchin's Street	10,000	10,000
2013 (December)	143 St. Munchin's Street	110,000	110,000
2014 (August)	114 Oliver Plunkett Street	12,000	12,000

Number of Transactions (2014 - 2015): 5

St. Mary's Park - Activities to Date 2015-2016:

St. Mary's Park			
Year	Address	Sale Price (€)	Median Price by Year
2015 (March)	5 St Ita's Street	15,000	21,500
2015 (November)	82 St Ita's Street	28,000	

Number of Transactions (2014): 2

Ballinacurra Weston - Baseline 2010-2014:

Ballinacurra Weston			
Year	Address	Sale Price (€)	Median Price by Year
2010 (March)	7 Creora Avenue	20,000	33,000
2010(March)	36 Hyde Avenue	25,000	
2010 (October)	96 Hyde Avenue	55,000	
2010 (December)	14 Beechgrove	41,000	
2012 (July)	68 Lenihan Ave	6,500	13,250
2012 (August)	60 Lenihan Ave	20,000	
2013 (October)	16 Hyde Ave	7,000	7,000
2014 (April)	39 Hyde Avenue	10,000	14,000
2014 (July)	13 Lenihan Avenue	18,000	
2014 (April)	73 Byrne Ave	8,000	

Number of Transactions (2014-2015): 10

Ballinacurra Weston - Activities to Date 2015-2016:

Ballinacurra Weston			
Year	Address	Sale Price (€)	Median Price by Year
2015 (April)	12 Hyde Road	10,000	17,250
2015 (July)	69 Lenihan Ave	8,000	
2015 (August)	16 Hyde Road	24,500	
2015 (November)	22 Lenihan Avenue	26,500	

Number of Transactions (2015): 4

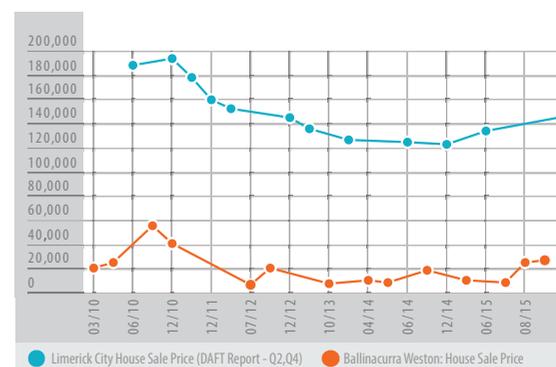


Figure 3: House Sale Prices in Ballinacurra Weston from 2010-2015 tracked against City House Sale Prices 2010-2015

Southill - Baseline 2010-2014:

Southill			
Year	Address	Sale Price (€)	Median Price by Year
2010 (June)	149 Lawnway Carew Park	48,000	30,000
2010 (September)	12 Lilac Court Keyes Park	30,000	
2010 (December)	59 Ash Avenue	30,000	
2011 (May)	17 Rose Court, Keyes Park	45,000	30,500
2011 (April)	337 Roseview Drive	16,000	
2012 (February)	314 Larkin Drive, O'Malley Park	10,000	12,500
2012 (February)	15 Markievicz Drive, Kincora Park	15,000	
2012 (April)	30 Rose Court	8,000	
2012 (December)	100 Star Court Carew Park	16,500	
2013 (January)	6 Markievicz Drive Kincora Park,	15,000	12,500
2013 (October)	80 Star Court John Carew Park*	10,000	
2014 (June)	27 Maigue Way	30,000	22,500
2014 (December)	153 Lawnway	15,000	

Number of Transactions (2014-2015): 13

Southill - Activities to Date 2015-2016:

Southill			
Year	Address	Sale Price (€)	Median Price by Year
2015 (January)	198 Rock Place	45,000	40,000
2015 (January)	21 Lilac Court	45,000	
2015 (July)	80 Star Court*	40,000	
2015 (August)	20 Maigue Way	20,721	
2015(December)	258 Deer Court	37,000	

Number of Transactions (2015): 5

*Property purchased October 2013 and sold in July 2015

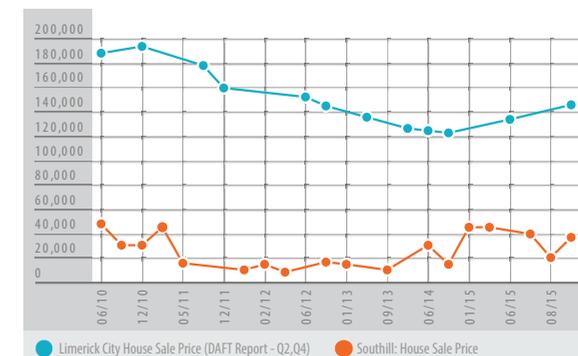


Figure 4: House Sale Prices in Southill from 2010-2015 tracked against City House Sale Prices 2010-2015

Comment on Progress:

Property prices can be viewed as an indicator of accommodation and neighborhood demand. Increasing house prices in the regeneration areas would imply that accommodation, the physical environment or other factors such as crime have improved. Similarly, stagnant or decreasing house prices would indicate a low demand.

The key trends emerging in all of the regeneration areas show median house sale prices increasing from 2012 onwards. However, the regeneration areas remain a low value market with clear indications of significant price gaps when compared to the city median house sale price average.

There is a notable increase in house sales transactions in the period from 2015 to 2016 and in the future the outward mobility of households from the regeneration areas requires tracking against inward mobility.

The key priorities for the regeneration areas in the short-medium term are targeted environmental improvements, demolition and new build where appropriate and continuing the area-wide refurbishment programme in an effort to provide safe and sustainable communities thereby improving demand and ultimately increasing median property values. The role of Limerick City and County Council is to help build a market where increases in property values would be sustainable without continued public sector intervention.

Recommendation for future Monitoring:

A key recommendation for the tracking of house prices is to acquire the relevant data on a quarterly basis. Furthermore, the recent restrictions of mortgage availability (February 2015) may see lower sales volumes in the next year and this will need to be analyzed as part of the overall final evaluation report to commence in 2017. Linkages to other themes will be investigated as part of this evaluation.

Analysis also needs to be collected of residents who wish to 'stay-put' and purchase properties on the private market in the regeneration areas thus helping to sustain demand within the regeneration areas and positively contributing to housing market and tenure change. This analysis may be undertaken as part of Work Strand 3: Household Survey, which will commence once full CSO Data for 2016, is made publicly available. It will be valuable to revisit trends in property prices as the programme unfolds over the coming years.

Data Sources:

The data contained within the monitor is based upon commitments derived from a variety of sources:

- Data from Property Services Regulatory Authority;
- Property websites: Daft.ie/MyHome.ie.

2.2 Improved satisfaction with services and facilities

This indicator is qualitative in nature and will be assessed as part of the Household Survey, which will be commencing preparation when once full CSO Data for 2016 is made publicly available.

2.3 Improved environment and levels of satisfaction with environment

This indicator is qualitative in nature and will be assessed as part of the Household Survey, which will be commencing preparation when once full CSO Data for 2016 is made publicly available.

2.4 Increased new residential development within a sustainable catchment of services and facilities (800m - 10 minutes walk)

This indicator measures the level of new-build and refurbishment schemes in the regeneration areas within a sustainable catchment of services and facilities.

Policy Background (under lined emphasis our own):

LRFIP Vision Statement	
<p>“Safe and sustainable communities of opportunity where people of all ages enjoy a good quality-of life, a decent home and a sense of pride about their place. <u>Well-serviced and attractive neighbourhoods</u> will be physically connected and fully integrated with the social, economic and cultural life of Limerick.”</p>	
LRFIP Strategic Objective	<p>Physical Framework Plan</p> <p>2.3.1 Build a Strong Competitive Economy</p>
	<p>2.3.2 Promoting Healthy Communities</p>
	<p>2.3.3 Requiring Good Design</p> <p>e) Compact Development and Density</p>
LRFIP Area-Specific	<p>Moyross: 1. Retain and refurbish existing housing units where possible within Moyross in tandem with creating new connections with natural surveillance, functional public open spaces and a more <u>consolidated urban structure refocussed around the existing community hub and District Centre at Watch House Cross;</u></p> <p>Southill: 2. Retain and refurbish existing housing units where possible within Kincora, Carew, Keyes and O’Malley Parks in tandem with creating new connections with natural surveillance, functional public open spaces and a more <u>consolidated urban structure refocussed around the existing community hub containing the Church, Southill Area Centre and the Health Centre;</u></p> <p>St. Mary’s Park: 1. Retain and refurbish existing housing units where possible within St. Mary’s Park in tandem with creating new connections with natural surveillance, functional public open spaces and a more consolidated urban structure refocussed around the existing St. Mary’s Community Centre;</p> <p>Ballinacurra Weston: Retain and refurbish existing housing units where possible within Ballinacurra Weston in tandem with creating new connections with natural surveillance, functional public open spaces and a more <u>consolidated urban structure refocussed around the existing Our Lady of Lourdes Community Centre;</u></p> <p>Applicable to all regeneration areas:</p> <p>2. Promote a <u>higher quality residential built environment, with a greater mix of units and increased densities, in greenfield/brownfield sites proposed for replacement housing, in line with Government legislation and guidelines.</u></p>
Housing Strategy for the Regeneration Areas (October 2014)	<p>2.2 Priority Sites for delivery of replacement housing</p> <p>3.0 Updated Housing Strategy 2014</p> <p>4.0 Future Development Sites</p>

Moyross**Baseline as at 2013 - 2015:**

In 2013, 34 units were completed at Cliona Park Phase 1. This scheme is located approximately 200m of the main District centre at Watchhouse Cross, Moyross. Progress has been made from February 2014-2015 with 5 new-build projects and 6 refurbishment projects progressing in Moyross.

Activities to Date 2015-2016:

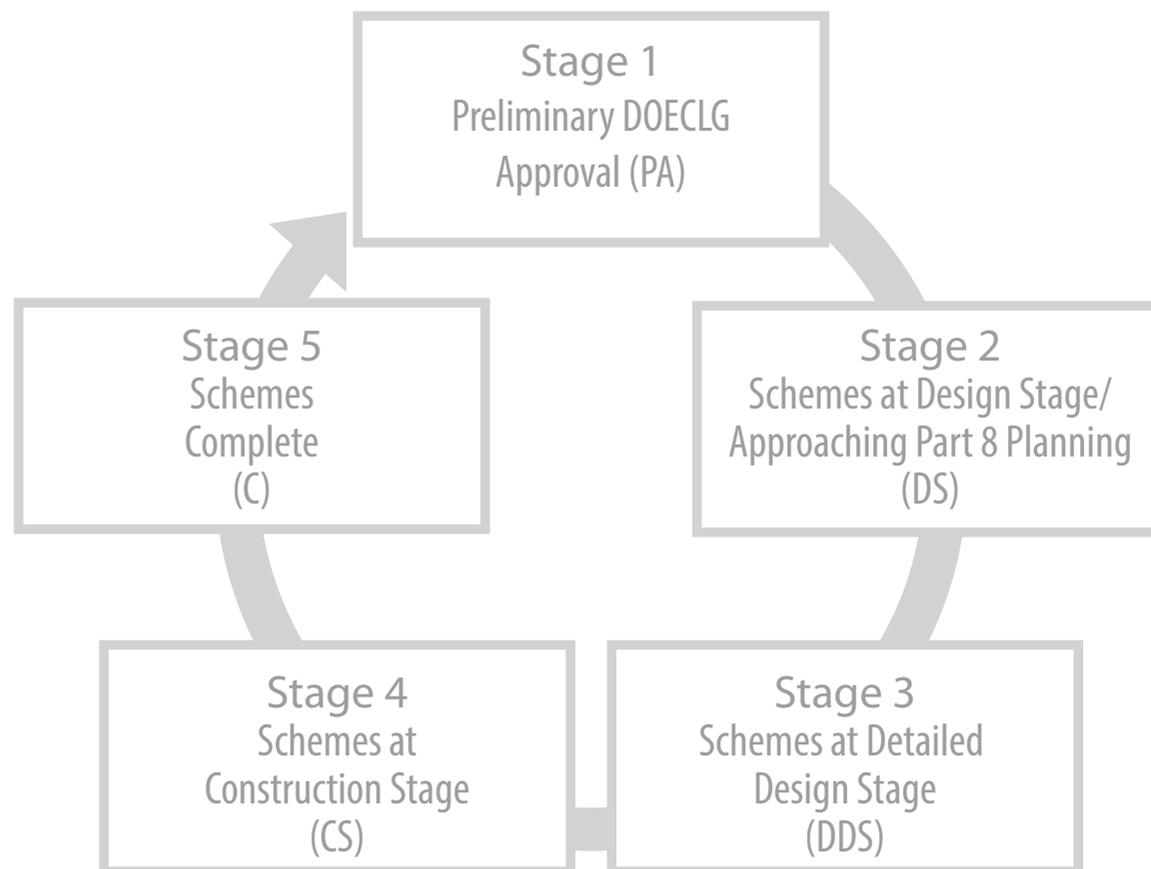
Progress to date sees the following approved new-build residential schemes located within 500m of the District Centre at Watch House Cross in Moyross at the following stages:

- 40 units at Preliminary Departmental Approval Stage
- 62 units at Design Stage
- 50 units at Detailed Design Stage
- 12 units at Construction Stage

The following approved refurbishment schemes are at the following stages:

- 97 units at Detailed Design Stage
- 64 units at Construction Stage
- 78 units at Completion Stage

The following diagram outlines the 5 key stages of bringing a housing scheme from initial feasibility to completion on site.



Moyross:					
Site Name and Location	No. of Units	Status as at February 2015	Stage	Status as at February 2016	Stage
New Build					
Dalgaish Park	40			Preliminary Departmental Approval received	PA
Cliona Park/College Ave	42			68 in the Master Approval. DHPCLG approval to proceed to Part 8 Planning received.	DS
Cliona Park phase 3	18	At Inception/ Procurement Stage		Scheme at Design Stage	DS
45a and 46a Cliona Park	2	At Inception/Procurement Stage		Design development ongoing. DHPCLG consent received to proceed to Part 8 Planning.	DS
50 units at Cosgrave Park	50	Part 8 Planning submitted February 2015	DS	Tender documentation for Main Contract Phase 1 in preparation.	DDS
Cliona Park gap site	2	At Construction Stage	CS	At Construction Stage	CS
Cliona Park Phase 2	10	Part 8 Planning submitted February 2015	DS	Main Contract works commenced on site on 7th December 2015, with anticipated 12 month programme.	CS
Refurbishment					
Thermal Upgrade Project (Contract 104)	50	Due on site October 2015. Complete December 2015	DS	At Detailed Design Stage (amount reduced to 49)	DDS
Thermal Upgrade Project (Contract 108)	47			At Detailed Design Stage	DDS
Long Term Voids (38, 42, 48 and 61 Sarsfield Gardens)	4			At Construction Stage	CS
Thermal Upgrade Project (Contract 10)	24	At Detailed Design Stage. Due on site May 2015	DDS	At Construction Stage (amount in contract reduced to 20)	CS
Thermal Upgrade Project (Contract 11)	36	At Detailed Design Stage. Due on site June 2015	DDS	At Construction Stage (amount in contract reduced to 29)	CS
Long Term Voids:	13			Completed	C
Thermal Upgrade Project (Contract 4)	22	At Construction Stage. Site start October 2014	CS	Completed	C
Thermal Upgrade Project (Contract 8)	33	At Detailed Design Stage. Due on site February 2015	DDS	Completed 42 no. units (amount in contract increased from 33)	C
Major Refurbishments	10	Completed in 2014	C		C

Moyross: Summary Statement

Progress has been made from February 2014-2015 with 5 new-build projects and 6 refurbishment projects in Moyross. This has increased to 7 new-build and 9 refurbishment projects currently being implemented/completed by February 2016. 1 refurbishment project was completed by February 2015. The number of completed refurbishment projects by February 2016 has now increased to 4.



Cliona Park Phase 2, Moyross - currently under construction as at November 2016



St. Mary's Park and King's Island

Baseline as at 2014 - 2015:

Progress has been made from February 2014-2015 with 4 new-build projects and 8 refurbishment projects progressing/completed in St. Mary's Park and King's Island.

Activities to Date 2015-2016:

Progress to date sees the following approved new-build residential schemes at the following stages:

- 48 units at Design Stage
- 8 units at Detailed Design Stage

The following approved refurbishment schemes are at the following stages:

- 65 units at Detailed Design Stage
- 4 units at Construction Stage
- 52 units at Completion Stage

St. Mary's Park And King's Island					
Site Name and Location	No. of Units	Status as at February 2015	Stage	Status as at February 2016	Stage
New Build					
Infill units at St. Mary's Park	20	At Preliminary DHPCLG Approval Stage	PA	Design development and Part 8 Planning Application preparation ongoing. Units increased to 21.	DS
Sheep Street	8	Part 8 Planning granted. At Detailed Design Stage	DS	Full Archaeological Excavation of the site completed. Main Contractor procurement ongoing.	DDS
Orchard site	26	At Design Stage/Approaching Part 8 Planning Stage	DS	Part 8 Planning Application preparation ongoing. Units increased to 29.	DS
Gaol Lane	2	At Design Stage/Approaching Part 8 Planning Stage	DS	Planning Application submitted February 2015. Discussions with DAHG ongoing.	DS
Refurbishment					
Gaol Lane	3	At Detailed Design Stage	DDS	Following DHPCLG approval to proceed to tender, Main Contractor procurement ongoing. Letter of Acceptance pending.	DDS
Thermal Upgrade Project (Contract 102)	32	Due on site August 2015. Complete October 2015	DS	At Detailed Design Stage. Scope reduced to 31 units.	DDS
Thermal Upgrade Project (Contract 106)	30	Due on site December 2015. Complete February 2016	DS	At Detailed Design Stage.	DDS
SMP Long Term Voids	4			At construction stage.	CS
SMP Long Term Voids	11	Completed in 2014	C		C
Long Term Voids	6	At Construction Stage	CS	Completed in 2015.	C
Thermal Upgrade Project (Contract 6)	20	Due on site February 2015. Complete May 2015	DDS	Completed in 2015. Units decreased to 19.	C
Thermal Upgrade Project (Contract 2A)	10	At Construction Stage. Commenced November 2014	CS	Completed in 2015.	C
Thermal Upgrade Project (Contract 2B)	15	At Construction Stage. Commenced November 2014	CS	Completed in 2015.	C
gb Athlunkard Street	1			Completed and occupied in 2015	C

St. Mary's Park: Summary Statement

Progress has been made from February 2014-2015 with 4 new-build projects and 8 refurbishment projects in St. Mary's Park progressing through the various stages of development. This has increased to 4 new-build and 10 refurbishment projects currently being implemented/completed by February 2016. 1 refurbishment project was completed by February 2015. The number of completed refurbishment projects by February 2016 has now increased to 6.



Interior shot of domestic refurbishment at 8-10 Gaol Lane, Kings Island, Limerick



Ballinacurra Weston

Baseline as at 2014-2015:

Progress has been made from February 2014-2015 with 10 refurbishment projects progressing and 3 refurbishment projects completed in Ballinacurra Weston.

Activities to Date 2015-2016:

The following approved refurbishment schemes are at the following stages:

- 69 units at Detailed Design Stage
- 7 units at Construction Stage
- 70 units at Completion Stage

The number of residential schemes progressing through the system from 2015-2016 has increased from figures presented from 2014-2015. There are 4 refurbishment projects currently being implemented in the period February 2015-2016 and a further 9 contracts have now been completed.

The following approved schemes (as at 2015) are located within Ballinacurra Weston and within 400m of the Neighbourhood Centre at Punches Cross:

Ballinacurra Weston:					
Site Name and Location	No. of Units	Status as at February 2015	Stage	Status as at February 2016	Stage

New Build

No new-build is proposed in the short-term until environmental improvements, voids are returned to use and the Thermal Upgrade Contracts are substantially complete. The housing need will be assessed at this time to determine the number of new build proposals required.

Refurbishment

BCW Long Term Voids	1	Completed in 2015 (11 Lenihan Avenue)	C		
Hyde Road (124 and 126 Hyde Road)	2	Completed in 2015	C		
Thermal Upgrade 1	25	Completed in 2015	C		
Thermal Upgrade Project (Part-upgrade Contract 1A/1B)	52	Commenced November 2014. Complete February 2015/Due on site July 2015. Complete September 2015.	DS	At Detailed Design Stage.	DDS
Thermal Upgrade Project (Contract 105)	17	Due to commence in November 2015. Complete January 2016	DS	At Detailed Design Stage. Units increased to 21	DDS
BCW Refurbs Lot 1	2	At Detailed Design Stage. Contractor awaiting to be appointed.	DDS	1 and 35 Lenihan Avenue.	CS
BCW Refurbs Lot 2	5	At Detailed Design Stage. Contractor awaiting to be appointed.	DDS	15 Beechgrove Ave; 22, 30, 55 Clarina Avenue.	CS
Refurbishment of 12 units (BCW Lot 1 and BCW Lot 2)	12	Approval to proceed to appointment of Contractor	DDS	Completed in 2015. Unit numbers decreased to 8 (7, 17 and 19 Lenihan Ave; 61 and 63 Byrne Ave. 4 Beechgrove Avenue; 40 Clarina Avenue)	C
Thermal Upgrade 5	20	Due to commence February 2015	DDS	Complete 2016. Number of units increased to 21	C
Weston Gardens	3	At Construction Stage. Nearing completion	CS	Complete 2016.	C
Thermal Upgrade 1	24	Commenced November 2014. Complete February 2015	CS	Completed in 2015. Number of units increased to 25.	C
Waller's Well	10	At Construction Stage.	CS	Substantial Completion certified on 12th March 2015.	C
BCW Refurbs Lot 2	1	At Detailed Design Stage. Contractor awaiting to be appointed.	DDS	Complete 2016. 59 Clarina Avenue.	C

Ballinacurra Weston: Summary Statement

Progress has been made from February 2014-2015 with 3 refurbishment projects in Ballinacurra Weston completed. This has increased to 9 refurbishment projects in total completed by February 2016.



Phase 1 Stabilisation of Medieval Wall at 'Fireplace Site', Nicholas Street, Kings Island, Limerick

Scroll Detail of Medieval Wall
at 'Fireplace Site', Nicholas
Street, Kings Island, Limerick



Southill**Baseline as at 2014-2015:**

In 2014, 35 units (specialist older persons accommodation) were completed at Colivet Court, Southill. Progress has been made from February 2014-2015 with 3 new-build projects and 4 refurbishment projects progressing in Southill.

Activities to Date 2015-2016:

The following approved new-build residential schemes are located within 500m of the District Centre at Roxboro Cross in Southill and are at the following stages:

- 50 units at Preliminary Departmental Approval Stage
- 26 units at Design Stage
- 80 units at Detailed Design Stage

The following approved refurbishment schemes are at the following stages:

- 69 units at Detailed Design Stage
- 7 units at Construction Stage
- 98 units at Completion Stage

The number of residential schemes progressing through the system from 2015-2016 has markedly increased from figures presented from 2014-2015. There are 4 refurbishment projects currently being implemented in the period February 2015-2016 and a further 3 contracts have now been completed. In relation to new-build residential schemes, there are 4 projects currently being implemented/completed by February 2016 with 1 scheme at Colivet Court now completed and tenanted.



Churchfield, Southill - under construction as at November 2016

Southill:					
Site Name and Location	No. of Units	Status as at February 2015	Stage	Status as at February 2016	Stage
New Build					
Colivet Court	35	Completed 2014	C	Completed and Tenanted	C
Palm Court	26	At Preliminary DHPCLG Approval Stage	PA	Units increased to 27 no. Cost Plan issued to DHPCLG for approval to proceed to Part 8 Planning	DS
Churchfield	80	Part 8 Planning Stage	DS	Churchfield Site, Southill – Phase 1 – 42 units - Enabling works contract commenced on site on 16th November 2015. Main Contractor procurement ongoing	DDS
Carew Park	37	DHPCLG approved	PA	DHPCLG Approval received. Design Team tender documentation ongoing	PA
Markiewicz Drive, Southill	13			DHPCLG Approval received. Design Team tender documentation ongoing	PA
Refurbishment					
Major Refurbishments	4	Completed 2014. 43-45 Maigne Way and 138 Vale Avenue.	C		C
Long Term Voids	4	At Construction Stage	CS	17 units completed in 2015	C
Thermal Upgrade Project (Contract 3)	25	At Construction Stage. Expected completion February 2015	CS	Completed in 2015. Scope reduced to 23 units.	C
Thermal Upgrade Project (Contract 7)	35	Tender documentation in preparation	DDS	Contract cancelled	
Thermal Upgrade Project (Contract 9)	30	Units in preparation		Project at Construction Stage	CS
Thermal Upgrade Project (Contract 103)	50	Units in preparation		Project at Detailed Design Stage	DDS
Thermal Upgrade Project (Contract 107)	47	Units in preparation		Project at Detailed Design Stage	DDS
Thermal Upgrade Project (Contract 13)	33	Units in preparation		Project at Construction Stage	CS

Southill: Summary Statement

Progress has been made from February 2014-2015 with 4 new-build projects and 4 refurbishment projects in Southill currently being implemented/completed. This has increased to 5 new-build and 7 refurbishment projects currently being implemented/completed by February 2016.

Comment on Progress:

Significant progress has been made by February 2016 (16 new-build, 39 thermal upgrades/refurbishment projects) relating to the objective to promote increased residential development (new-build and refurbishment) within a suitable catchment of services and facilities. The following provides a breakdown of the key projects by type and stage up to February 2016:

New-Build

- 108 new housing units delivered under the regeneration programme (Colivet Court, Cliona Park, Waller's Well, Vizes Court)
- 12 units under construction
- 232 units are at detailed design stage/design stage
- 90 units with preliminary approval

Thermal Upgrade Programme

- 278 units thermally upgraded
- 388 units are currently on site or in preparation and due to be completed by the end of 2016.

Long Term Voids

- A total of 88 long term voids have been identified for refurbishment from February 2014 to February 2016 with 60 no. units completed and 28 units at construction stage during this period. This marks a significant and positive increase in Limerick City and County Council's commitment to returning vacant units to productive use.

By increasing the density of the estates, more efficient use of land can be made as well as contributing to the activity and vitality of the area and increasing the viability of services and facilities. It should be noted that activities achieved in the past year relate to housing projects for replacement housing need. No new private residential developments have taken place in the regeneration areas at this point.

It is recommended to continue seeking approval for housing schemes in the regeneration areas to meet the replacement housing need within a sustainable catchment of 800m from services and facilities. In order to ensure this objective is met, the programme to demolish those homes in the regeneration areas disconnected from key services and facilities and in poor physical condition must progress.

Recommendation for future Monitoring:

A key recommendation for the future in the tracking of increased new residential development is to acquire the relevant data on a quarterly basis which will include private and social housing projects.

Data Sources:

The data contained within the monitor is derived from:

- Planning application schemes approaching Part 8;
- Internal LCCC databases;
- Limerick City and County Council's Chief Executive's Reports – available monthly.



2.5 Increased rate of completed retail, office, residential and community related uses in regeneration areas

The following section refers to non-residential developments and indicates the quantum of development and the type of development which received a grant of planning permission in 2015 - 2016. Residential developments are dealt with in indicator 3.4 above.

LRFIP Vision Statement	
<p>“Safe and sustainable communities of opportunity where people of all ages enjoy a good quality-of life, a decent home and a sense of pride about their place. <u>Well-serviced and attractive neighbourhoods</u> will be physically connected and fully integrated with the social, economic and cultural life of Limerick.”</p>	
LRFIP Strategic Objective	Physical Framework Plan
	2.3.1 Build a Strong Competitive Economy
	2.3.2 Promoting Healthy Communities
LRFIP Area-Specific Objectives	<p>Moyross:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 3. Enhance Watch House Cross as a District Centre in order to fulfil its role as the commercial and retail hub serving Moyross and the wider area; 4. Expand the footprint of the Moyross Community and Enterprise Centre to improve the quality and choice of community focused uses available. 6. Reinforce existing Employment & Enterprise Uses at Moyross Enterprise Centre; 9. Promote the redevelopment of the ‘Bays’ site to add additional local capacity and contributes to the formation of a natural training cluster. <p>Southill:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 5. Enhance the junction of Childers Road and Roxboro Road as a District Centre in order to fulfil its role as the commercial and retail hub serving Southill and the wider area; 6. Expand the footprint of the Southill Area Centre to improve the quality and choice of community focused uses available; 8. Upgrade the Galvone Industrial Estate as a mixed use, employment generating area as it currently displays a high level of vacancy, obsolescence and under-utilisation, and suffers from a very poor image that makes it difficult to attract new business and clients; 9. Promote an integrated educational campus with shared facilities in one location at Roxboro Cross; 15. Promote the Galvone Industrial Estate as a hub for green sector focused development; 16. Strengthen the opportunities for vocational sports development at ‘the Factory’ which currently occupies the existing Fulflex building; 17. Consider the reuse of St. Enda’s complex as a focal point for education and sports related projects; 18. Promote the expansion of a ‘service industry training’ centre at the LEDP complex which can facilitate programmes to build local capacity for a broad range of roles in re-emerging businesses, e.g. call centres / hospitality training.

LRFIP Area-Specific Objectives	<p>St. Mary's Park:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Promote employment growth in King's Island and St. Mary's Park through the re-use of underutilised sites, derelict buildings and the upgrading of sites already in employment uses; 2. Promote the development of key strategic sites within Nicholas Street and Bridge Street for potential enterprise development attracting further inward investment; 7. Support the redevelopment of the Opera Centre site, adjacent to King's Island/St. Mary's Park, which is seen as an economic catalyst for the area, city and region; 8. Promote the vitality and viability of the city centre by encouraging small scale shops, financial/ professional services and food and drink uses within King's Island; 10. Support the provision of an extended multi-use community centre at St. Mary's Park Community Centre to provide flexible and accessible spaces adaptable to the communities' needs.
	<p>Ballinacurra Weston:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Promote potential enterprise development in Ballinacurra Weston through the reuse of underutilised sites at the existing local centre, Our Lady of Lourdes Community Centre and lands associated with the ESB Depot and Adapt House; 2. Upgrade sites at the Local Centre and existing Our Lady of Lourdes Community Centre for employment uses; 4. Promote the vitality and viability of the Local Centre at Punches Cross by encouraging small scale shops, financial/ professional services and food and drink uses; 5. Support the provision of multifunctional spaces at Our Lady of Lourdes Community Centre to provide flexible and accessible spaces adaptable to communities' needs; 6. Support the creation of a community hub at Ballinacurra Weston by developing stronger relationships with the healthcare and complimentary supporting facilities. As such, consider the development of a Primary Healthcare Centre at a vacant site west of the Our Lady of Lourdes Community Centre to meet local need.

Moyross Baseline: 2013- February 2015

The following table refers to developments with planning permissions secured from 2013 to February 2015:

Moyross 2013-February 2015				
Type	Site Name and Location	Applicant	Quantum of Development (m ²)	Status as at February 2015
Community	Youth Club Centre Adjacent to Thomond Park, Ballynanty	Limerick Youth Service	1149	Planning Permission secured 21 January 2013
Community	Moyross Community Enterprise Centre, Moyross	Moyross Community Enterprise Centre	980	Planning Permission secured 24 October 2014
Community/ Recreational	Thomond Park Stadium And extension of existing plaza to include stretched canvas roof structure, bus drop off points, public sculpture and ticket booth	Thomond Park Stadium	n/a	Planning Permission secured 29 April 2014
Recreational	Thomond Rugby Football Club – new vehicular entrance from Craeval Park, Moyross	Thomond Rugby Football Club	n/a	Granted permission: 23rd January 2015
Moyross: 2013-2015 2013 (1 application granted permission) 2014 (2 applications granted permission) By February 2015 (1 application granted permission)				

Moyross Activity to date: February 2015- February 2016

The following tables indicate the quantum of development and the type of development which received a grant of planning permission from February 2015 to February 2016 or are awaiting a during this period.

Moyross 2015-2016				
Type	Site Name and Location	Applicant	Quantum of Development (m ²)	Status as at February 2015
Enterprise	Unit 3-7 Moyross Enterprise, Knockalisheen Road, Moyross	Moyross Development Company	71	Granted permission: 23/04/2015
Residential	Cosgrave Park, Moyross	Limerick City and County Council	27 Houses and 23 Apartments on 2.9 hect.	Part 8 planning permission granted: 15 June 2015
Residential	Cliona Park & Monabraher, Moyross	Limerick City and County Council	10 Houses on 0.49 hectares	Part 8 planning permission granted: 15 June 2015
Moyross: 2015-2016 2015 (3 applications granted permission)				

St. Marys' Park and King's Island Baseline: 2013- February 2015:

The following table refers to developments with planning permissions secured from 2013- February 2015

St. Mary's Park and King's Island 2013-2015				
Type	Site Name and Location	Applicant	Quantum of Development (m ²)	Status as at February 2015
Educational	Change of use from restaurant/bar to education school use at first floor of Block B, George's Quay	An Gaelcholaiste Luimnigh	461	Planning Permission secured 27 June 2013
Community	Garden of Sporting Greats, Nicholas Street – public park (temporary 'meanwhile' use)	Limerick Civic Trust	1900	Planning Permission secured April 2014
Residential	Athlunkard Street/Sheep S, Kings Island, Limerick	Limerick City and County Council	3 units on an area of 0.082 hectares	Planning Permission secured 12/06/2014
St. Mary's Park and King's Island: 2013-2015 2013 (1 application granted permission) 2014 (2 applications granted permission)				

St. Marys' Park and King's Activity to date: February 2015- February 2016:

The following tables indicate the quantum of development and the type of development which received a grant of planning permission from February 2015 to February 2016 or are awaiting a during this period.

St. Mary's Park and King's Island 2015-2016				
Type	Site Name and Location	Applicant	Quantum of Development (m ²)	Status as at February 2015
Residential	Gaol Lane, King's Island	Limerick County Council	2 units on an area of 0.0291 hectares	Planning Permission lodged 26/02/2015. Within the planning process.
Infrastructural	Verdant Place, King's Island	Limerick County Council	n/a	Planning Permission lodged 29/02/2016
St. Mary's Park: 2015-2016 2015 (1 application) 2016 (1 application)				

Ballinacurra Weston Baseline: 2013- February 2015:

The following table refers to developments with planning permissions secured from 2013- February 2015:

Ballinacurra Weston 2014-2015				
Type	Site Name and Location	Applicant	Quantum of Development (m ²)	Status as at February 2015
Health/Community	Change of use of ground floor from general office to meeting and consulting rooms	HSE at Rosbrien Road	668	Decision due 24th February 2015
Health/Community	Primary Healthcare Centre at Lord Edward Street	HSE	14760	Planning Permission secured 31 July 2014
Ballinacurra Weston: February 2013-2015 2014 (1 applications granted permission) 2015 (1 application granted permission/under consideration)				

Ballinacurra Weston Activity to date:

The following tables indicate the quantum of development and the type of development which received a grant of planning permission from February 2015 to February 2016 or are awaiting a during this period.

Ballinacurra Weston 2014-2015				
Type	Site Name and Location	Applicant	Quantum of Development (m ²)	Status as at February 2015
Retail	Unit 5, Greenpark Shopping, Ballinacurra	Tadfay Ltd.	3,308.5	Planning Permission secured 17/02/2016
Retail	Childers Road & Rosbrien demolition of 1 no. building and ancillary structures comprising the existing Childers Road Lidl Licenced Discount Foodstore unit and disused bulky goods retail unit (former Chadwicks Builders Providers) and the construction of a new mono-pitched licensed discount foodstore with ancillary infrastructure	Lidl Ireland GmbH	2,947	Planning Application Lodged: 22/01/2016.
Retail	Unit 2b. Corner of Childers Road & O'Donoghue Avenue, the change of use of the proposed retail premises (planning reference 15/266) to retail premises with full off-license and change of use of the existing proposed store area to off-license storage area	Tempside Ltd.	40	Planning Permission validated 15/04/2016 At Further Information stage
Ballinacurra Weston: February 2015-2016 2016 (1 applications granted permission) 2016 (2 applications under consideration)				

Southill Baseline: 2013- February 2015:

The following table refers to developments with planning permissions secured from 2013-2015:

Southill 2013-2014			
Type	Site Name and Location	Quantum of Development (m²)	Status as at February 2015
Community use/office use	Amalgamation and change of use of 2 existing commercial units (the former Steering Wheel)	52.55	Planning Permission secured 16 September 2013
Educational	Southill Junior School, Roxboro, Southill	3103.4	Planning Permission secured 14/08/13
Retail	Extension of existing discount foodstore by 275 m ²	275	Planning Permission secured 16/08/12
Recreational	New extension comprising new changing rooms and refurbishment works	125	Planning Permission secured 1/08/12
Commercial/ Office	New fuelyard and extension to shop at Bennetts, Roxboro Road	161	Planning Permission secured 5/06/14
Light Industrial	Unit 10b, Galvone Industrial Estate: Waste Transfer Facility for recyclable and non-hazardous waste	660	Planning Permission secured 28/08/14
Educational	St. Enda's Community College: demolition of swimming pool and sports hall	2126	Planning Permission secured 26/02/14
Recreational	Pike Rover Football Club: construction of all weather pitch	2080	Planning Permission secured 15/04/14
Educational	The Board of Management of Our Lady Queen of Peace School	112	Planning Permission secured 24/10/2014
Educational	Queen of Peace Board of Management	80	Planning Permission secured 28/05/14
Enterprise	Fitzgerald Skip Hire and Recycling Facility	657	Planning Permission secured 28/08/14
Residential	O Malley Park, Southill Part 8	72 Houses and 8 Apartments on a site of 2.63 hectares	Planning Permission secured 18/12/14
Southill: 2012 – February 2015 2012 (2 applications granted permission) 2013 (2 application granted permission) 2014 (8 applications granted permission)			

Southill Activity to date:

The following tables indicate the quantum of development and the type of development which received a grant of planning permission from February 2015 to February 2016 or are awaiting a during this period.

Southill 2015-2016			
Type	Site Name and Location	Quantum of Development (m²)	Status as at February 2015
Office	LEDP Southill – change of use from manufacturing to office use Upgrade and renovation work to existing vacant unit to form new reception area with associated external works to form new façade and entrance to serve new reception area with upgrade and modification to existing adjacent coffee shop. Roxboro Road, Limerick	4560	Commencement Notice lodged:23/12/2015
Enterprise	Rigid Containers Ltd. Galvone Business Park, Galvone the erection of signage, both free standing and on facades of building	n/a	Planning Application Lodged: 10/07/2015
Southill: February 2015- February 2016 2015 (1 application under consideration)			

Comment on Progress:

The permissions secured and currently seeking approvals in the regeneration areas show a general upward trend in activity from 2012 to February 2016. This will continue to be monitored in conjunction with indicator 3.6.

Of particular note is Southill, where there have been a range of planning applications related to a mix of uses including recreational, education, light industrial, office and retail use. There has been an increase in planning applications in the Galvone Industrial Estate providing an increase in floorspace related to the Greentech sector in particular.

The LEDP in Roxboro (Innovate Limerick¹) has implemented a change of use application from manufacturing to office use to facilitate the creation of an Innovation Hub. The Hub offers potential tenants the largest modern open plan office footprint available in Limerick and is targeted towards both indigenous and FDI projects. When full it is anticipated that this project should facilitate the creation of close to 150 direct jobs and an additional 75 jobs will be created in the ten associated Community Enterprise Centres located within the City and County.

Elsewhere in Ballinacurra Weston, Lidl Ireland have lodged a new planning application for the demolition of the existing Discount Foodstore unit and disused bulky goods retail unit (former Chadwicks Builders Providers) to create a new and expanded foodstore. The proposal at the existing location adjacent to Ballinacurra Weston shows that Lidl Ireland is continuing its commitment to the neighbourhood and is attracting a viable catchment even with the continuing difficult economic climate.

The ability to attract investment into the regeneration areas still remains difficult given the current economic climate. The preparation of a Variation to legally embed the LRFIP into the Limerick City Development Plan 2010-2016 is key to de-risking sites by providing certainty on desired land uses and places the acquisition of key sites/projects in a position to secure funding quicker and to be delivered faster. In Southill for example, the currently vacant Southill Junior School requires a rezoning from 'Residential' use to 'Education, Community and Cultural' use to facilitate a new and expanded Southill community hub. The variation will also facilitate progression of an expanded District level Community Centre at St. Mary's Park.

The Development Contribution scheme, adopted by Limerick City Council in 2013, sets out reduced contribution rates for commercial developments in the regeneration areas (at a discounted rate of 75%) which is a first step to makes site within the regeneration areas more attractive for private investment. The Development Contribution scheme of Limerick City and County Council, which is the first Joint Development Contribution Scheme, is currently undergoing review and it is recommended that increased incentives be promoted in the regeneration areas in particular. Underutilised and vacant properties in the regeneration areas continue to be a blight on the urban landscape. To stimulate investment in an area, consideration of a relaxation to the contribution levies may merit consideration in an effort to optimise/incentivise the potential of existing uses.

1. Innovate Limerick was established by Limerick City and County Council to help drive innovation and act as the delivery mechanism for the projects outlined in the LRFIP. It is currently playing a key role to develop Limerick's business ecosystem in the regeneration areas by delivering on economic and social innovation with an overall objective to position Limerick City and County as one of the most attractive locations to start and grow a business.

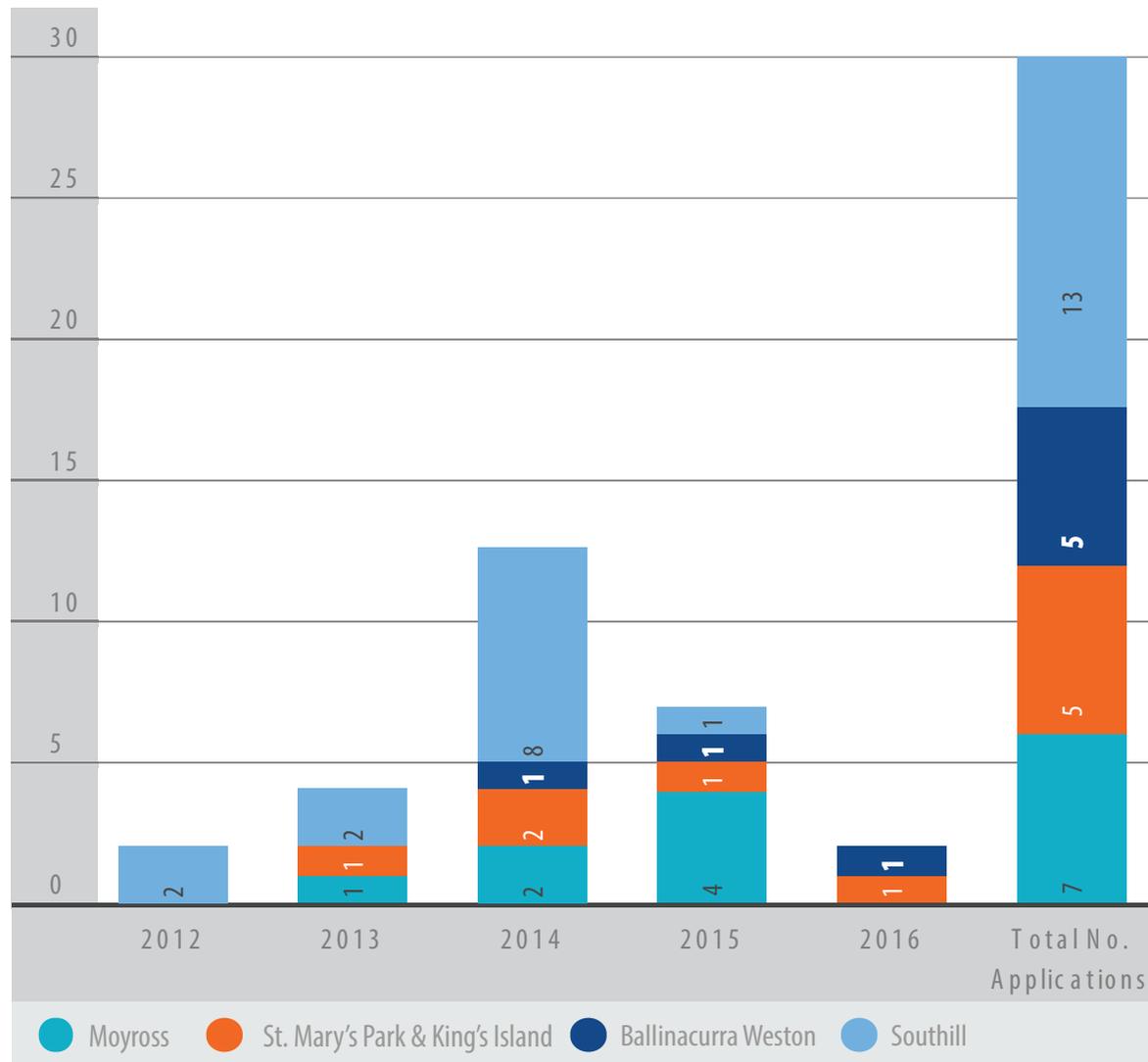


Figure 5: Number of planning permissions granted/under consideration by year and regeneration area

Recommendation for future Monitoring:

As with any quantitative data sources, it is wise to approach the indicators with a degree of caution as some information provided with applications is subject to change through amendments to the development and other alterations not subject to planning permission.

A key recommendation for the future in the tracking of increased new retail, office and community related uses is to acquire the relevant data on a yearly basis. Furthermore, this indicator can be measured more effectively in the future with the collation of commencement notices to determine actual site starts from the permissions secured.

Data Sources:

The data contained within the monitor is derived from:

- Limerick City and County Council Planning Register;
- Internal LCCC database;
- BCMS System for commencement notices;
- Innovate Limerick Summary Report 2015.

2.6 Decreased level of vacant floorspace/ residential units in regeneration areas

Policy Background:

This indicator relates to vacant retail, commercial and industrial floorspace in the regeneration areas. Vacancy in relation to residential uses is analysed as part of indicator 3.28 above.

LRFIP Vision Statement

“Safe and sustainable communities of opportunity where people of all ages enjoy a good quality-of life, a decent home and a sense of pride about their place. Well-serviced and attractive neighbourhoods will be physically connected and fully integrated with the social, economic and cultural life of Limerick.”

LRFIP Strategic Objective	Physical Framework Plan
	2.3.1 Build a Strong Competitive Economy
	2.3.2 Promoting Healthy Communities
LRFIP Area-Specific Objectives	<p>Moyross:</p> <p>3. Enhance Watch House Cross as a District Centre in order to fulfil its role as the commercial and retail hub serving Moyross and the wider area;</p> <p>4. Expand the footprint of the Moyross Community and Enterprise Centre to improve the quality and choice of community focused uses available.</p> <p>6. Reinforce existing Employment & Enterprise Uses at Moyross Enterprise Centre;</p> <p>9. Promote the redevelopment of the ‘Bays’ site to add additional local capacity and contributes to the formation of a natural training cluster.</p> <p>Southill:</p> <p>5. Enhance the junction of Childers Road and Roxboro Road as a District Centre in order to fulfil its role as the commercial and retail hub serving Southill and the wider area;</p> <p>6. Expand the footprint of the Southill Area Centre to improve the quality and choice of community focused uses available;</p> <p>8. Upgrade the Galvone Industrial Estate as a mixed use, employment generating area as it currently displays a high level of vacancy, obsolescence and under-utilisation, and suffers from a very poor image that makes it difficult to attract new business and clients;</p> <p>9. Promote an integrated educational campus with shared facilities in one location at Roxboro Cross;</p> <p>15. Promote the Galvone Industrial Estate as a hub for green sector focused development;</p> <p>16. Strengthen the opportunities for vocational sports development at ‘the Factory’ which currently occupies the existing Fulflex building;</p> <p>17. Consider the reuse of St. Enda’s complex as a focal point for education and sports related projects;</p> <p>18. Promote the expansion of a ‘service industry training’ centre at the LEDP complex which can facilitate programmes to build local capacity for a broad range of roles in re-emerging businesses, e.g. call centres / hospitality training.</p>

LRFIP Area-Specific Objectives	<p>St. Mary's Park:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Promote employment growth in King's Island and St. Mary's Park through the re-use of underutilised sites, derelict buildings and the upgrading of sites already in employment uses; 2. Promote the development of key strategic sites within Nicholas Street and Bridge Street for potential enterprise development attracting further inward investment; 7. Support the redevelopment of the Opera Centre site, adjacent to King's Island/St. Mary's Park, which is seen as an economic catalyst for the area, city and region; 8. Promote the vitality and viability of the city centre by encouraging small scale shops, financial/ professional services and food and drink uses within King's Island; 10. Support the provision of an extended multi-use community centre at St. Mary's Park Community Centre to provide flexible and accessible spaces adaptable to the communities' needs.
	<p>Ballinacurra Weston:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Promote potential enterprise development in Ballinacurra Weston through the reuse of underutilised sites at the existing local centre, Our Lady of Lourdes Community Centre and lands associated with the ESB Depot and Adapt House; 2. Upgrade sites at the Local Centre and existing Our Lady of Lourdes Community Centre for employment uses; 4. Promote the vitality and viability of the Local Centre at Punches Cross by encouraging small scale shops, financial/ professional services and food and drink uses; 5. Support the provision of multifunctional spaces at Our Lady of Lourdes Community Centre to provide flexible and accessible spaces adaptable to communities' needs; 6. Support the creation of a community hub at Ballinacurra Weston by developing stronger relationships with the healthcare and complimentary supporting facilities. As such, consider the development of a Primary Healthcare Centre at a vacant site west of the Our Lady of Lourdes Community Centre to meet local need.

For the purposes of this indicator, vacant floorspace of commercial, retail and industrial commitments are taken as units/floorspace available to let. To provide more information in this indicator, the numbers of businesses currently operating is included which is derived from the Geodirectory (as at Q4, 2014).

Moyross Baseline: February 2014-February 2015

Data for this indicator has been collated as at February 2015.

Moyross 2014-2015			
Type	Site Name and Location	Quantum of Development (m²) vacant as at 6th February 2015	Status
Industrial			
Madden's Milk Complex: 1 business registered on Geodirectory			
Industrial Unit	Maddens Milk Industrial Warehouse	3716	Available to let
Industrial Unit	Maddens Milk Industrial Warehouse	300	Available to let
Industrial Unit	Maddens Milk Industrial Warehouse	234	Available to let
Industrial Unit	Maddens Milk Industrial Warehouse	87	Available to let
Industrial Unit	Maddens Milk Industrial Warehouse	137	Available to let
Monabraher Centre, Kileely Road: 3 businesses registered on Geodirectory			
Industrial Unit	Monabraher Centre, Kileely Road	240	Available to let
Kileely Road: 8 businesses registered on Geodirectory			
Industrial Unit	Kileely Road	186	Available to let
Industrial Unit	Kileely Road	301	Available to let
Total Industrial Space Available in Moyross		5201	

Moyross 2014-2015			
Type	Site Name and Location	Quantum of Development (m²) vacant as at 6th February 2015	Status
Commercial/Retail			
Watch House Cross Shopping Centre: 15 businesses registered on Geodirectory			
Commercial/Retail	Watch House Cross Shopping Centre – Deli	70	Available to let
Commercial/Retail	Watch House Cross Shopping Centre – Unit 12A	175	Available to let
Commercial/Retail	Watch House Cross Shopping Centre	335	Available to let
Commercial/Retail	Watch House Cross Shopping Centre	27	Available to let
Commercial/Retail	Watch House Cross Shopping Centre	93	Available to let
Total Commercial/Retail Space Available in Moyross		700	

Moyross Activity to date: February 2015-February 2016

Data in relation to this indicator has been collated as at February 2016 – one year on from the baseline scenario recorded in February 2015. Information is provided on operating businesses and the number of units available for lease/sale (currently unoccupied). Additional information in relation to the area is provided where available to give an indication of the extent of retail/commercial or industrial space currently available.

Moyross 2015 - 2016			
Type	Site Name and Location	Quantum of Development (m²) vacant as at 6th February 2015	Status
Industrial			
Madden's Milk Complex: 1 Business Registered On Geodirectory			
Industrial Unit	Maddens Milk Industrial Warehouse	137	Available to let. 368 monthly
Industrial Unit	Maddens Milk Industrial Warehouse	87	Available to let. 234 euros monthly
Industrial Unit	Maddens Milk Industrial Warehouse	3716	Available to let. Rent Negotiable
Industrial Unit	Maddens Milk Industrial Warehouse	300	Available to let. 627

Moyross 2015-2016			
Type	Site Name and Location	Quantum of Development (m²) vacant as at 6th February 2015	Status
Monabraher Centre, Kileely Road : 3 businesses registered on Geodirectory			
Industrial Unit	1A Monabraher Centre, Kileely Road	302	Available to let. 1800 euros monthly
Kileely Road - 6 businesses registered on Geodirectory			
Industrial Unit	Kileely Road Unit A1 & A2	604 m ²	Available to let
Industrial Unit	Kileely Road Unit B:	204	Available to let/sale
Industrial Unit	Kileely Road Unit C:	92.94	Available to let/sale
Industrial Unit	Kileely Road Unit D:	148.7	Available to let/sale
Total Industrial Space Available in Moyross		5591.64	
Commercial/Retail			
Watch House Cross Shopping Centre: As at February 2016 - 12 businesses registered on Geodirectory			
Commercial/Retail	Watch House Cross Shopping Centre Modern Medical Centre & Surgery To Let	186	Available to let
Commercial/Retail	Watch House Cross Shopping Centre Supermarket Unit	1,977	Available to let
Commercial/Retail	Watch House Cross Shopping Centre Unit 12A	175	Available to let €1,890 monthly
Commercial/Retail	Watch House Cross Shopping Centre Deli	70	Available to let
Commercial/Retail	Watch House Cross Shopping Centre Off License	149	Available to let
Commercial/Retail	Watch House Cross Shopping Centre Beauty Salon	93	Available to let
Commercial/Retail	Watch House Cross Shopping Centre 12C	335	Available to let
Total Commercial/Retail Space Available in Moyross		2985m²	

Moyross: Summary Statement

The presence of vacant industrial, commercial and retail units in Moyross has increased from 13 units in February 2015 to 16 units in February 2016. Industrial unit vacancy increased from 5200m² to 5591m² (by +7.5%) in February 2016. Similarly, commercial and retail space vacancy increased from 700m² in 2015 to 2985m² in February 2016. This significant increase in the commercial/retail vacancy rate (+326%) can be attributed to the closure of the Eurospar and post-office units in Watch House Cross, Moyross in April, 2015 citing “the very challenging trading environment”² for its immediate cessation.

St. Mary’s Park and King’s Island Baseline: February 2014-February 2015

Data for this indicator has been collated as at February 2015.

St. Mary’s Park And King’s Island 2014-2015			
Type	Site Name and Location	Quantum Of Development (m ²) vacant as at 6th February 2015	Status
Nicholas Street: 16 businesses registered on Geodirectory			
Commercial	Katy Daly’s Bar, The Parade, Nicholas Street	167	For sale
Total Commercial/Retail available		167	

St. Mary’s Park and King’s Island: February 2015-February 2016

Data in relation to this indicator has been collated as at February 2016 – one year on from the baseline scenario recorded in February 2015. Information is provided on operating businesses and the number of units available for lease/sale (currently unoccupied). Additional information in relation to the area is provided where available to give an indication of the extent of retail/commercial or industrial space currently available.

St. Mary’s Park And King’s Island 2015-2016			
Type	Site Name and Location	Quantum Of Development (m ²) vacant as at 6th February 2015	Status
Nicholas Street: 16 businesses registered on Geodirectory			
Commercial	Katy Daly’s Bar, The Parade, Nicholas Street	167	For sale - €290,000
Commercial		139	For sale - €95,000
Total Commercial/Retail available		306	

St. Mary's Park and King's Island: Summary Statement

The presence of vacant industrial, commercial and retail units in St. Mary's Park and King's Island has increased from 1 unit in February 2015 to 2 units in February 2016.

Ballinacurra Weston Baseline: February 2014-February 2015

Data for this indicator has been collated as at February 2015.

Ballinacurra Weston 2014-2015			
Type	Site Name and Location	Quantum of Development (m ²) vacant as at 6th February 2015	Status

Greenpark Shopping Centre: 7 businesses registered on Geodirectory

Local Centre	Greenpark Shopping Centre – Unit 6	96	For sale
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Along Childer's Road (as part of Local Centre) adjacent to Greenpark Shopping Centre

Retail/ Commercial	Former Chadwicks, Punches Cross	1925	For sale
Total Commercial/Retail Space Available		2021	

Ballinacurra Weston Activity to Date: February 2015-February 2016

Data in relation to this indicator has been collated as at February 2016 – one year on from the baseline scenario recorded in February 2015. Information is provided on operating businesses and the number of units available for lease/sale (currently unoccupied). Additional information in relation to the area is provided where available to give an indication of the extent of retail/commercial or industrial space currently available.

Ballinacurra Weston 2015-2016			
Type	Site Name and Location	Quantum of Development (m ²) vacant as at 6th February 2015	Status
Local Centre	Greenpark Shopping Centre – Unit 6	93	To Let – Rent Negotiable
Retail/ Commercial	Former Chadwicks, Punches Cross	1925	To Let – €70,000 yearly
Total Commercial/Retail Space Available		2021	

Ballinacurra Weston: Summary Statement

The presence of vacant industrial, commercial and retail units in Ballinacurra Weston Island has remained the same as that recorded in February 2015.

Southill Baseline: February 2014-February 2015

Data for this indicator has been collated as at February 2015.

Southill 2014-2015			
Type	Site Name and Location	Quantum Of Development (m²) vacant as at 6th February 2015	Status
Commercial			
Roxboro Shopping Centre District Centre: 23 businesses registered on Geodirectory			
Roxboro Shopping Centre District Centre	Currently 13 units available for lease Roxboro Shopping Centre building	689	To let
Beside Roxboro Shopping Centre along Childers Road: 2 businesses registered on Geodirectory			
District Centre	Unit 6: Beside Roxboro Shopping Centre along Childers Road	510	To let
QRetail Park: 8 businesses registered on Geodirectory			
District Centre	QRetail Park : Currently 2 units available for lease/sale	319	To let
LEDP: 18 businesses registered on Geodirectory			
Office	LEDP Office Unit	26	To let
Southill			
Commercial	Galvone Arms	300	For sale
Commercial	Carew Park Stores (occupied at present)	39	For sale
Total Commercial/Retail available		1883	
Enterprise			
Roxboro Enterprise Centre: 2 businesses registered on Geodirectory			
Enterprise	Roxboro Enterprise Centre - 2 units	811	
Enterprise	Roxboro Enterprise Centre - 1 units	208	
Light Industrial			
Galvone Industrial Estate: 30 businesses registered on Geodirectory			
Light Industrial	2 sub-units currently available for lease within an occupied plot (Limerick Waste Enterprise)	418	To let
Total Industrial Space Available Available		1437	
Overall Total		3320	

Southill Activity to date: February 2015-February 2016

Data in relation to this indicator has been collated as at February 2016 – one year on from the baseline scenario recorded in February 2015. Information is provided on operating businesses and the number of units available for lease/sale (currently unoccupied). Additional information in relation to the area is provided where available to give an indication of the extent of retail/commercial or industrial space currently available.

Southill 2015-2016			
Type	Site Name and Location	Quantum of Development (m²) vacant as at 6th February 2015	Status
Commercial/Retail			
Retail	Roxboro Shopping Centre District Centre	Currently 13 units available for lease Roxboro Shopping Centre building 689m ²	To Let
Retail	Roxboro Stores, Roxboro Road, Limerick City, Co. Limerick	184 sq. metres	Retail Unit For Sale
Commercial/ Retail	Innovation Hub, Limerick Enterprise Development Park (LEDP), Roxborough, Co. Limerick	3,252 sq. metres	To Let
Enterprise			
Enterprise	Roxboro Enterprise Centre – Warehouse no.3	633 sq.m €25,000 per annum	To Let
Light Industrial			
Industrial	Modern Warehouse & 2.8 acre Site, Galvone Industrial Estate, Galvone, Limerick City, Co. Limerick	3,187 sq. metres	Investment Property For Sale
Light Industrial	2 sub-units currently available for lease within an occupied plot (Limerick Waste Enterprise)	455 sqm UNIT 8 – Rates approximately €4,830 per annum. UNIT 12 – Rates approximately €630 per annum. Rates approximately €50,000 per annum.	To Let
Light Industrial	4 units	No. 1 - area of approx. 1,393.5 sqm Unit No. 2 -incorporates a basement accommodation and mezzanine office space - overall area of approx. 3,425.3 sq.m Unit No. 3 - approx. 1,290.87 sq.m Unit No. 4 - area of approx. 1,148.14 sqm	Available To Let/For Sale
Overall Total		15656 m²	

Comment on Progress:

The presence of vacant units over a period of time can identify potential weaknesses in a particular area, whether due to locational criteria, high rent levels or strong competition from other centres. It is important to track the presence of vacant units in the regeneration areas over the coming years to identify if an area is improving or disimproving in terms of commercial vitality and viability. For the purposes of this indicator, commercial, retail and industrial commitments are taken as units/floorspace available to let. Linked to this indicator are the number of units currently registered and this data is derived from the Geodirectory which provides an update of every business on a quarterly basis. However, some caution must be exercised when interpreting trends in premises to let as it is not possible to capture information on every property to let in the regeneration areas.

Roxboro Shopping Centre and the Galvone Industrial Estate, Southill are still exhibiting significant upward trends in vacancy rates. In Southill, the presence of vacant industrial, commercial and retail units has increased significantly from 3320m² in February 2015 to 15656m² (by +371%) in February 2016. This is partly due to its location further away from the M7 and the quantity of poor quality premises on offer. This may help create a perception that it is a slightly less desirable location to invest/locate in, contributing towards much higher vacancy rates than one would expect in a normally functioning market. In Moyross, there is a significant increase in the commercial/retail vacancy rate from 700m² in 2015 to 2,985m² in February 2016 (+326%). Eurospar and the post-office unit in Watch House Cross, Moyross closed in April, 2015 citing “the very challenging trading environment” for its immediate cessation. However, it should be noted that the post-office has since re-opened at Watch House Cross at a different location.

To help address this, Limerick City and County Council must continue to promote an access off the M7, as identified in the Limerick City Development Plan 2010-2016 and the adopted LRFIP, through Southill as the identified gateway to the city and including the Galvone Industrial Estate which would greatly increase accessibility to the eastern side of the city. In addition, a range of physical and environmental improvements must continue in the regeneration areas over the coming years to increase desirability and ultimately demand.

Recommendation for future Monitoring:

This indicator is new and will be monitored and analysed in the next Monitoring Report when comparisons between data can be made with previous years. A key recommendation for the future in the tracking of vacant floor space is to collect data on a quarterly basis and carry out vacancy/employment land studies.

Data Sources:

The data contained within the monitor is based upon commitments derived from a variety of sources:

- Internet property searches – Daft/Myhome;
- Agents’ advertisements;
- Planning permissions database;
- Geodirectory (Q4, 2014).
- DKM GeoViewer

2.7 Increased rate of ground floor active frontage

Grade A (desired) and Grade B is the target active frontage grade required for the regeneration areas to ensure optimum overlooking and natural surveillance of the public realm. The characteristics of Grade A and B are defined in the Limerick Regeneration Design and Public Realm Code (2015). Active frontage is calculated by the number of units and the number of ground floor windows/doors per 100m of the main principal street.

Background (under lined emphasis our own):

LRFIP Vision Statement	
"Safe and sustainable communities of opportunity where people of all ages enjoy a good quality-of life, a decent home and a sense of pride about their place. <u>Well-serviced and attractive neighbourhoods</u> will be physically connected and fully integrated with the social, economic and cultural life of Limerick."	
LRFIP Strategic Objective	Physical Framework Plan
	2.3.3 Requiring Good Design f) Improved Quality Of The Public Realm
LRFIP Area-Specific Objectives	All Areas: 4. Develop sites for replacement homes with a coherent perimeter block layout and <u>maximise the number of homes with direct street entrances</u> . Streets will be arranged on the outside of the block to encourage permeability; 10. Ensure that replacement homes will have a <u>positive outlook onto surrounding public spaces and streets, to create an appropriate sense of enclosure and natural surveillance</u> , whilst protecting the privacy of ground floor habitable rooms;
Draft Design and Public Realm Code	5.6 Active Frontages 5.7.4 Special Buildings 5.7.6 Mixed Use Buildings

Baseline 2013 – February 2015:

In 2013, Cliona Park Phase 1, a scheme of 34 units was completed. Based on the number of units fronting the primary street (Moyross Avenue), a Grade A frontage was achieved. Similarly, Colivet Court was completed in 2014 and is achieving a Grade A frontage.

Activity to date February 2015-February 2016:

The Orchard site is at an early design stage in terms of elevational treatments. Although achieving Grade B at present in terms of the number of units, the target for windows and doors will be to achieve a Grade A status as the scheme approaches Part 8 Planning permission stage. Generally the majority of schemes at construction stage/approaching planning application stage are achieving Grade A frontage.

Regeneration Area	Site Name	Units		Doors and Windows	
		and Location	Grade A	Grade B	Grade A Grade B
		Target: 15+ units per 100m	Target: 10-15 units per 100m	Target: 25 doors/windows per 100m	Target: 15 doors/windows per 100m
Moyross	Cliona Park gap site		√	√	
	Cliona Park Phase 1	√		√	
	Cliona Park Phase 2	√			√
	50 units at Cosgrave Park		√	√	
	45a and 46a Cliona Park	√		√	
	Cliona Park Phase 3	√		-	-
	Dalgaish	√		-	-
St. Mary's Park and King's Island	Sheep Street	√		√	
	Gaol Lane	√		√	
	Orchard Site	√			√
	Infill Units in St. Mary's Park	√		√	
Southill	Colivet Court	√		√	
	Churchfield			√	
	Palm Court	√		√	
	Churchfield	√	√	√	
	Carew Park	√		-	-

Comment on Progress

Considerable progress has been made to ensure a Grade A status on all replacement housing schemes. All 16 no. replacement housing schemes currently at construction stage/approaching planning application stage are continuing to achieve a Grade A frontage.

It is hoped that by providing maximum active frontage grades that linkages to other themes in the overall evaluation report can be made – for example, an increase in active frontage and the designing out of crime and anti-social behavior at particular locations. This will be tested further as part of the overall evaluation study (Work Strand 4) due to commence when the full 2016 CSO dataset is made publicly available.

Recommendation for future Monitoring:

In accordance with the Section 10 - Checklist of the Limerick Regeneration Design and Public Realm Code (2015), it is recommended that schemes at design stage will be monitored closely as they progress to planning application stage to ensure Grade A active frontages are achieved.

Data Sources:

The data contained within the monitor is based upon the following sources:

- Planning Application drawings;
- Design Development drawings;
- Final Design and Public Realm Code 2016



Aerial Shot of Orchard Site Housing Development, Kings Island, Limerick



2.8 Increased number of retail uses within designated District and Local Centres

Background (under lined emphasis our own):

LRFIP Vision Statement	
“Safe and sustainable communities of opportunity where people of all ages enjoy a good quality-of life, a decent home and a sense of pride about their place. <u>Well-serviced and attractive neighbourhoods</u> will be physically connected and fully integrated with the social, economic and cultural life of Limerick.”	
LRFIP Strategic Objective	Physical Framework Plan
	2.3.1 Build a Strong Competitive Economy
	2.3.2 Promoting Healthy Communities
	2.3.3 Requiring Good Design c) Enhanced Connectivity through Urban Structure e) Compact Development and Density
LRFIP Area-Specific Objectives	<p>Moyross: 3. Enhance Watch House Cross as a District Centre in order to fulfil its role as the commercial and retail hub serving Moyross and the wider area.</p> <p>Southill: 5. Enhance the junction of Childers Road and Roxboro Road as a District Centre in order to fulfil its role as the commercial and retail hub serving Southill and the wider area.</p> <p>St. Mary’s Park: 8. Promote the vitality and viability of the city centre by encouraging small-scale shops, financial/ professional services and food and drink uses within King’s Island.</p> <p>Ballinacurra Weston: 4. Promote the vitality and viability of the Local Centre at Punches Cross by encouraging small scale shops, financial/ professional services and food and drink uses.</p>

This indicator is linked to indicator 3.6 above. Two district centres are located in the regeneration areas, namely Watch House Cross, Moyross and Roxboro, Southill. A local centre exists in close proximity to Ballinacurra Weston, although it is not within the defined statutory boundary of the regeneration area it nonetheless has a significant influence on the regeneration area.

Baseline 2010-February 2015:

The planning register at Limerick City and County Council notes no new retail uses with approval or awaiting a decision from 2010-2013 in designated District of Local Centres. The planning register at Limerick City and County Council notes a granted application for a small extension to an existing shop and a new fuel yard at Bennetts, Roxboro Road in June 2014.

Activity to date February 2015-February 2016:

The planning application submitted to Limerick City and County Council in January 2016 for demolition and redevelopment of the Lidl Discount Foodstore shows a commitment of the foodstore to the area. Rather than locating elsewhere, the foodstore, in order to improve its operational requirements it is seeking to remain in the area and reconfigure its physical presence on site and to enhance the quality of the retail offer to the locality. This will enhance the economic viability and vitality of the Local Centre at Punches Cross.

Comment on Progress:

Although the regeneration areas are well served by convenience/discount foodstores (Aldi, Tesco, Lidl), it is nonetheless important to track other retail and commercial uses and whether a designated centre is improving or disimproving in terms of commercial vitality and viability.

The redevelopment of the Lidl Discount Foodstore shows a commitment of the foodstore to the Local Centre at Punches Cross adjacent to Ballinacurra Weston. Rather than locating elsewhere, the foodstore, in order to improve its operational requirements it is seeking to remain in the area and reconfigure its physical presence on site and to enhance the quality of the retail offer to the locality. This will enhance the economic viability and vitality of the Local Centre at Punches Cross.

However, Watch House Cross and Roxboro Shopping Centre still have a high vacancy rate, as reported in indicator 3.6, and appears to be in need of revitalization. Physical improvements can improve the attractiveness of those District/Local Centres and assist in reversing the trend in high vacancy rates currently being experienced. Factors such as improving the public realm, both within the District/Local Centres and in the immediate environs with more emphasis on accessibility for the pedestrian and cyclist can assist in improving attractiveness and performance. The quality and range of the retail offer is currently limited and necessitates expansion to include provision of evening economy sectors such as restaurants and cafes. This diversity of uses and activities will ensure that they are busy and well-used at different times of day and night thus contributing not only to their vitality and viability, but also to making the District Centres more safer and secure. Limerick City and County Council, in partnership with other Strategic Directorates in Limerick City and County Council will endeavour to promote the designated centres, within the regeneration areas by undertaking infrastructure enhancements to provide attractive pedestrian and cycle links to the primary retail frontage within the centre. The proposed signalisation of Roxboro round-about and installation of direct and convenient pedestrian crossings at Roxboro is in progression with the undertaking of a feasibility report to determine the options available along the Roxboro Road.

Recommendation for future Monitoring:

A key recommendation for the future in the tracking of this indicator is to acquire the relevant data on a yearly basis.

Data Sources:

The data contained within the monitor is based upon the following sources:

- Limerick City and County Council Planning Register;
- Adopted Limerick Regeneration Framework Implementation Plan

2.9 Increased community and healthcare uses

For the purposes of this indicator, healthcare uses only are identified as community uses have been analysed as part of Indicator 3.5. The regeneration areas are already well serviced by existing healthcare infrastructure (Moyross, Southill and St. Mary's Park and King's Island). Expansion of the current uses are a positive indication of the expansion of programmes to tackle inequality of access to healthcare generally. Furthermore, expanding current healthcare uses will increase involvement in tackling health issues to those residents in the regeneration areas.

LRFIP Vision Statement	
<p>"Safe and sustainable communities of opportunity where people of all ages enjoy a good quality-of life, a decent home and a sense of pride about their place. <u>Well-serviced and attractive neighbourhoods</u> will be physically connected and fully integrated with the social, economic and cultural life of Limerick."</p>	
LRFIP Strategic Objective	Physical Framework Plan
	2.3.1 Build a Strong Competitive Economy a) Mixed Uses
	2.3.2 Promoting Healthy Communities c) Community and Healthcare Facilities
	2.3.3 Requiring Good Design c) Enhanced Connectivity through Urban Structure e) Compact Development and Density
LRFIP Area-Specific Objectives	<p>Moyross: 4. Expand the footprint of the Moyross Community and Enterprise Centre to improve the quality and choice of community focused uses available. A local café that is community-focused and family friendly with visibility to the street and access to good-quality outdoor space will provide a place for people of all ages to socialise within the community hub;</p> <p>Southill: 6. Expand the footprint of the Southill Area Centre to improve the quality and choice of community focused uses available;</p> <p>St. Mary's Park: 10. Support the provision of an extended multi-use community centre at St. Mary's Park Community Centre to provide flexible and accessible spaces adaptable to the communities' needs. The provision of an extended centre at this location, within easy access to the city core will ensure that the centre is used not only by residents of St. Mary's Park but the wider community also; 11. Ensure that the delivery of community facilities are brought forward in tandem with housing development (replacement, refurbishment and new-build housing development) in King's Island and St. Mary's Park;</p> <p>Ballinacurra Weston: 5. Support the provision of multifunctional spaces at Our Lady of Lourdes Community Centre to provide flexible and accessible spaces adaptable to communities' needs. The support for the Community Centre at this location, within easy access to the city core will ensure that the centre is used not only by residents of Ballinacurra Weston but the wider community also. 6. Support the creation of a community hub at Ballinacurra Weston by developing stronger relationships with the healthcare and complimentary supporting facilities. As such, consider the development of a Primary Healthcare Centre at a vacant site west of the Our Lady of Lourdes Community Centre to meet local need.</p>

Baseline 2010-February 2015:

The planning register at Limerick City and County Council notes that no healthcare related uses relating to the regeneration areas were granted planning permission between 2010-2015.

The only healthcare related activities recorded in 2014/2015 relate to Ballinacurra Weston.

Regeneration Area	Type	Site Name and Location	Applicant	Quantum of Development (m ²)	Planning Permission secured
Ballinacurra Weston	Health/Community	Change of use of ground floor from general office to meeting and consulting rooms at Rosbrien Road (Located adjacent to Ballinacurra Weston)	HSE	668	Decision due 24th February 2015
	Health/Community	Primary Healthcare Centre at Lord Edward Street (Located adjacent to Ballinacurra Weston)	HSE	1760	31 July 2014

Activities to Date February 2015-February 2016:

The planning register notes no planning applications received and validated for healthcare related uses from February 2015 to February 2016. However, the Primary Healthcare Centre at Lord Edward Street commenced construction in Q1 2016.

Comment on Progress:

As is evident from the socio-economic baseline data of the LRFIP, there is a link between health and well-being (mental and physical) and other themes, in particular employment, crime and housing and the physical environment. The aim of this indicator is to provide healthcare services that are accessible and relevant to people's needs in the regeneration areas and which promote an incentive for good health in the longer term. Interventions aimed directly at improving physical and mental health, all have the potential to impact positively on the health of the community. It is anticipated, as part of the overall evaluation study to commence in 2016 that interventions from other themes - crime, education, housing and the physical environment, if successful, could have a greater impact on the mental health and well-being of the wider communities within the regeneration areas.

Recommendation for future Monitoring:

A key recommendation for the future in the tracking of increased new healthcare related uses is to acquire the relevant data on a yearly basis. This data will be interrogated as part of the overall evaluation study in relation to linkages to other themes which will commence in 2016. Typical indicators to analyse will be a reduction in the difference in life expectancy between those living in the regeneration areas, compared to regional and national levels.

Data Sources:

The data contained within the monitor is based upon the following sources:

- Limerick City and County Council Planning Register;
- Planning permissions database.

2.10 Increased level of functional active and passive public open space within 800m (10 minutes walk) of regeneration areas

Generally, the regeneration areas are well served by active recreational sports pitches and in terms of active play facilities this is measured in more detail as part of indicator 3.11. For the purposes of this indicator, the functionality of passive open space is measured within the focussed study areas, i.e., the estates. Passive open space outside of this area but within the wider statutory delineated regeneration area is not measured.

Background (under lined emphasis our own):

LRFIP Vision Statement	
“Safe and sustainable communities of opportunity where people of all ages enjoy a good quality-of life, a decent home and a sense of pride about their place. <u>Well-serviced and attractive neighbourhoods</u> will be physically connected and fully integrated with the social, economic and cultural life of Limerick.”	
LRFIP Strategic Objective	Physical Framework Plan
	2.3.2 Promoting Healthy Communities e) Open Space
	2.3.3 Requiring Good Design f) Improved Quality Of The Public Realm
LRFIP Area-Specific Objectives	<p>Moyross:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Retain and refurbish existing housing units where possible within Moyross in tandem with creating new connections with natural surveillance, functional public open spaces and a more consolidated urban structure refocussed around the existing community hub and District Centre at Watch House Cross; 1. Protect and enhance the special landscape character and setting of Delmege Estate; 2. Explore the potential for an ecologically sensitive leisure uses as part of a strategic linear park from the river Shannon, through the heart of Moyross to Caherdavin; 9. Retain the existing active playing pitches associated with LIT, St. Nesson’s Community College and Thomond Park RFC as sporting facilities. <p>Southill:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 2. Retain and refurbish existing housing units where possible within Kincora, Carew, Keyes and O’Malley Parks in tandem with creating new connections with natural surveillance, functional public open spaces and a more consolidated urban structure refocussed around the existing community hub containing the Church, Southill Area Centre and the Health Centre; 1. Protect and enhance the special landscape character and setting of Southill House; 4. Create a new community park at the centre of the community hub to provide recreation and play facilities in a safe, overlooked location and provide a focus for local events and celebrations; 9. Enhance Kennedy Park with further active recreational facilities and landscaping and provide a direct and safe access to O’Malley and Keyes Park; 10. Maintain Hogan Park and Old Christians GAA as sporting facilities; 11. Maintain Pike Rovers Sport and Social Club as a sporting facility; 12. Maintain Carew Park AFC as a sporting facility; 13. Maintain Rathbane Golf Course as a sporting facility; 14. Retain and enhance the environmental characteristics of Barry’s Field; 16. Explore the potential to reuse a derelict cottage (Sutherland cottage) and adjacent lands south of the landfill site to provide a community farm/allotment plots;

LRFIP Area-Specific Objectives	<p>St. Mary's Park:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Protect and enhance the special landscape character and setting of the Special Area of Conservation (SAC) and in particular the extensive area of SAC to the north east of the island; 3. Return the eastern side of St. Munchin's Street to parkland once demolition of the area has taken place; 8. Retain and upgrade the following active recreation facilities: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Star Rovers Football Club to facilitate local sports clubs; • Athlunkhard Boat Club; • Handball Alley to the north of St. Mary's Park; 9. Explore the potential to upgrade Eel's Weir to provide a cycle, pedestrian and vehicular link to the New Road and beyond and ensure that any development proposed does not have a negative impact on habitats; 12. Protect and enhance the existing biodiversity value of St. Mary's Park by ensuring that proposed open space and built development proposed protects and enhances areas of biodiversity value with the view to achieve an overall net gain in biodiversity; <p>Ballinacurra Weston:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Protect and enhance the existing mature trees in Ballinacurra Weston located at the following locations: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. To the rear of Beechgrove Avenue; b. To the rear of Adapt House; c. Along Childers Road. 5. Retain and improve the active recreation facilities located at Our Lady of Lourdes Community Centre; 6. Provide appropriate public art (as part of the % for Art scheme) in the proposals for redevelopment to reinforce the creation of a distinct identity for Ballinacurra Weston.
Limerick Regeneration Design and Public Realm Code	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 3.0 Parameter Plans 6.0 Public Open Spaces 6.1 General Objectives 6.2 Detailed Design Guidance 6.3 Implementation

Baseline: February 2014 – February 2015:

The regeneration areas consist generally of an over-provision of underutilised passive public open space. Furthermore, there are several under-used and vacant infill housing sites, which currently detract from the overall appearance of the estate. However, for the general purposes of calculating a baseline of existing public open spaces within the regeneration areas, this parameter has been excluded.

The extent of public open space provision calculated in February 2014 (adoption date of the LRFIP) which is categorised as 'left over spaces', without a function or neglected in the regeneration areas are as follows:

Regeneration Area	Amount Of Public Open Space (m ²)
Southill:	44000
Moyross:	16000
St. Mary's Park:	64000
Ballinacurra Weston:	19000

In line with the Limerick Regeneration Design and Public Realm Code (2015), schemes at planning application stage and that are approaching planning application stage are required to produce landscape plans for a reconfiguration of the existing public open spaces to provide for more active and passive functions. In tandem with the proposed upgrading of the existing landscape as part of replacement housing schemes, significant work has been carried out in the past year in relation to small-scale environmental improvements and remediation works. The remediation of the former historic landfill at St. Mary's Park was completed in 2015. This project will significantly ameliorate the physical environment to the east of St. Munchins Park.

Activities to Date February 2015 – February 2016:

The following provides a list of significant projects from February 2015 – February 2016 relating to improving the existing public open spaces within the regeneration areas.

Type	Site Name and Location	Status as at February 2015	Quantum of Public Open Space proposed (m ²) in 2015	Status as at February 2016	Quantum of Public Open Space proposed (m ²) in 2016
Moyross					
Public Open Space	Cosgrave Park Scheme	At planning application stage	4500	Tender documentation for Main Contract Phase 1 in preparation.	
	Dalgaish Park			DHPCLG approval received	1650
	Cliona College Avenue*			DHPCLG approval to proceed to Part 8	-
	Cliona Park Phase 3*			Part 8 Planning in preparation	-
	45/46 Cliona Park*			DHPCLG approval to proceed to Part 8	-
*Schemes are infill in nature with public open space designated as part of the wider masterplan area for Moyross.					
Moyross: Total Reconfigured Public Open Space			4500		1650

Type	Site Name and Location	Status as at February 2015	Quantum of Public Open Space proposed (m ²) in 2015	Status as at February 2016	Quantum of Public Open Space proposed (m ²) in 2016
St Mary's Park and King's Island					
Public Open Space	The Orchard site	Scrub and vegetation clearance completed in 2015			
	Orchard scheme (incorporating the City Wall)	At design development	1200	Approaching Part 8 Planning stage	
	Garden of Sporting Greats	Planning permission secured. Site clearance of rubbish, vegetation, scrub and contaminated soil at Parade Park in preparation for a new public park completed.	1900		169
	St. Marys Park Remediation	Due on site March 2015. Completed in 2015.	15000		
	Verdant Place			Part 8 Planning application permission granted in February 2016 for a new flood defence, footpaths, realignment of existing road to a one way system along Verdant Place and a new landscaped amenity area.	- 600m ²
	Gaol Lane New Build*			Planning Application submitted in February 2015.	
	Sites at Bridge Street and Gaol lane.	Scrub and vegetation clearance completed in 2015			
	Infill Housing in St. Mary's Park			Part 8 Planning in preparation. Public realm improvement works on St. Columcille's Street, west of St. Ita's Street.	
St. Mary's Park And King's Island: Total Reconfigured Public Open Space			18100		769

*Schemes are infill in nature with public open space designated as part of the wider masterplan area for St. Mary's Park and King's Island.

Type	Site Name and Location	Status as at February 2015	Quantum of Public Open Space proposed (m ²) in 2015	Status as at February 2016	Quantum of Public Open Space proposed (m ²) in 2016
Ballinacurra Weston					
Public Open Space	New pedestrian connection to our Lady of Lourdes Church and landscaping works (weeding, grass seeding and painting of boundary walls)	Complete Q4 2014	20000		
	Vegetation clearance to the rear of Our Lady of Lourdes Community Centre	Complete 2015			
Ballinacurra Weston: Total Reconfigured Public Open Space			20000		

Type	Site Name and Location	Status as at February 2015	Quantum of Public Open Space proposed (m ²) in 2015	Status as at February 2016	Quantum of Public Open Space proposed (m ²) in 2016
Southill					
Public Open Space	Churchfield scheme	At planning application stage <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Galtee View (1500m²) New square fronting onto the realigned Donough O Malley Road (400m²). 	1900	Enabling works contract commenced on site on 16th November 2015. Phase 1 to be completed prior to Phase 2 commencing.	
	Carew Park			DHPCLG approval received for infill housing and reconfiguring of Carew Park and provision of new local play area at De Vere Court	4700
	Markievicz Drive	DHPCLG approval received		Infill housing and public realm upgrade to existing green space at Markievicz Drive	1100
	Palm Court*			Part 8 Planning in preparation	-
	Environmental Improvements works to the Galvone Industrial Estate	Tender documentation plans in preparation	30,000	Environmental Improvements complete	
	Tait House Masterplan Feasibility Study prepared for an Urban Farm in Southill immediately adjacent to Tait House	Masterplan being finalised This area has been planned for allotments future expansion for urban farm extending to an area of 9000m ²	3500	Business Plan in preparation	
	Roxborough Road, Limerick - Design study			Draft Design Study presented in July 2015 outlining proposed public realm improvements to southern fringe of Keyes Park	Approx 2ha
Southill: Total Reconfigured Public Open Space			35400		25800

*Scheme is infill in nature with public open space designated as part of the wider masterplan area for Southill.

Comment on Progress:

One of the LRFIP's key objectives is to improve the visual appearance of the regeneration areas to tackle large areas of functionless and neglected public open space and to tackle issues such as fly-tipping, joyriding and graffiti. 18 projects are currently underway in regeneration areas and through the continued delivery of replacement social housing schemes and key environmental improvement projects, the existing physical environment of all of the regeneration areas will significantly improve. Approval will be sought by Q4 2016 for major public realm upgrade works to both St. Mary's Park and Ballinacurra Weston. While there have been significant improvements in the short-term, the longer term maintenance by the City and County Council is a key factor for continued success.

Key projects completed to date include:

- St. Mary's Park Remediation Project: Elimination of the historical landfill and remediation of approximately 15,000m² of contaminated land.
- A programme of works to eradicate Japanese Knotweed: 10 sites have been identified from July 2015 to February 2016 with treatment underway. The prevalence of invasive species in key regeneration sites can place a moratorium on development for up to 3 years whilst undergoing remediation.
- New pedestrian connection to our Lady of Lourdes Church and landscaping works (weeding, grass seeding and painting of boundary walls) complete.
- Environmental Improvements including Scrub removal at the Galvone Industrial Estate.
- Scrub and vegetation clearance at the Orchard site and also to sites at Bridge Street and Gaol lane.
- Site clearance of rubbish, vegetation, scrub and contaminated soil at Parade Park (site opposite King John's Castle) in preparation for a new public park.
- Vegetation clearance to the rear of Our Lady of Lourdes Community Centre.

In 2017, it is recommended to progress the delivery of a strategic linear park from the river Shannon, through the heart of Moyross to Caherdavin as identified in the adopted LRFIP.

Recommendation for future Monitoring:

A key recommendation for the future in the tracking of increased level of functional active and passive public open space is to acquire the relevant data on a yearly basis. This data will be interrogated as part of the overall evaluation study in relation to linkages to other themes.

Data Sources:

The data contained within the monitor is based upon the following sources:

- Limerick City and County Council Planning Register;
- LCCC Internal Databases – schemes with grant of planning permission and approaching planning submission stage;
- Adopted Limerick Regeneration Framework Implementation Plan;
- Limerick Regeneration Design and Public Realm Code 2015.

2.11 Increased level of active play facilities for those under the age of 15 within 800m (10 minutes walk) of regeneration area

This indicator measures the quantum of children's play space being delivered in the regeneration areas to date. The Limerick Regeneration Design and Public Realm Code (2015) recommends a minimum activity zone for play areas, as determined by the Fields in Trust guidance document 'Planning and Design for outdoor Sport and Play'. For District level play facilities, 1000m² is recommended for play equipment and structures and a hard surfaced area of at least 465m² (the minimum needed to play 5-a-side football). For local play areas, the recommended minimum activity zone for a local area of play is between 100-400m².

Background (under lined emphasis our own):

LRFIP Vision Statement	
"Safe and sustainable communities of opportunity where people of all ages enjoy a good quality-of life, a decent home and a sense of pride about their place. <u>Well-serviced and attractive neighbourhoods</u> will be physically connected and fully integrated with the social, economic and cultural life of Limerick."	
LRFIP Strategic Objective	Physical Framework Plan
	2.3.2 Promoting Healthy Communities e) Open Space
	2.3.3 Requiring Good Design f) Improved Quality Of The Public Realm
LRFIP Area-Specific Objectives	<p>Moyross: 11. Provide for active playspace facilities, based on the existing and expected child population projections generated by the existing and future need. Moyross is under resourced in terms of active play facilities for children below the age of 15 years.</p> <p>Southill: 4. Create a new community park at the centre of the community hub to provide recreation and play facilities in a safe, overlooked location and provide a focus for local events and celebrations; 18. Provide for active playspace facilities, based on the existing and expected child population projections generated by the existing and future need. Southill is under resourced in terms of active play facilities for children below 15 years</p> <p>St. Mary's Park: 11. Provide for active playspace facilities, based on the existing and expected child population projections generated by the existing and future need. St. Mary's Park is under resourced in terms of active play facilities.</p> <p>Ballinacurra Weston: 5. Retain and improve the active recreation facilities located at Our Lady of Lourdes Community Centre;</p>
Limerick Regeneration Design and Public Realm Code	3.0 Parameter Plans 6.0 Public Open Spaces 6.1 General Objectives 6.2 Detailed Design Guidance 6.3 Implementation

Baseline:**Moyross**

The adopted LRFIP recorded existing and proposed need with a play space requirement in total of 6026m² (670 children x 9m²) of high quality active play space for a range of ages up to 15 years with good natural surveillance to maximise the safety of these areas.

Southill

The adopted LRFIP recorded existing and proposed need with a play space requirement in total of 5418m² (602 children x 9m²) of high quality active play space for a range of ages up to 15 years with good natural surveillance to maximise the safety of these areas.

St. Mary's Park and King's Island

The adopted LRFIP recorded existing and proposed need with a play space requirement in total of 2106m² (234 children x 9m²) of high quality active play space for a range of ages up to 15 years with good natural surveillance to maximise the safety of these areas.

Ballinacurra

The adopted LRFIP recorded existing and proposed need with a play space requirement in total of 1296m² (144 children x 9m²) of high quality active play space for a range of ages up to 15 years with good natural surveillance to maximise the safety of these areas.

Activities to Date:**Moyross**

The DPRC for the regeneration areas designates the locations for specific local and district level play facilities in Moyross. Local play facilities, serving a catchment of 240m are proposed as part of the Cosgrave Park scheme (approaching Part 8). A second local play area is proposed at Delmege Park. A district level play facility is proposed to serve a catchment of 600m located in the heart of Moyross (within the demolition zone at Craeval/Pineview Gardens), as part of a strategic linear park (approx. 1.5 hectares). To date, local play area (1900m²) at Cosgrave Park will be delivered as part of the 50 unit Cosgrave Park scheme, which was submitted as a Part 8 planning permission in February 2015.

Southill

In Southill, 3 local play areas (total approx. 5000m²) are designated and a district level play facility at Southill Area Centre (approx. 1300m²) as part of the Design and Public Realm Code. To date, a local play area at Galtee view will be delivered as part of the Churchfield scheme (1500m²), which is currently at Part 8 planning public display stage.

St. Mary's Park and King's Island

Limerick City and County Council in collaboration with CWELL (Community Wellness, Empowerment, Leadership and Lifeskills) and the local residents of St. Mary's Park began a consultation process in January 2016 to deliver a proposal for a new play area given the condition and poor play value of the existing playground located at Oliver Plunkett Street. It is the intention to seek approval from the DHPCLG in Q4 2016 for a new play area which will consist of 2 elements that emerged through the consultation process: the provision of a play area for toddlers and children and a range of outdoor fitness equipment catering for teens and adults.

Ballinacurra Weston

A key objective for Ballinacurra Weston is to environmentally improve the existing street network to provide a safe, attractive, accessible and well-designed network of streets in tandem with ensuring the optimum location of street lighting and CCTV. The provision of play facilities is a short term objective to deliver (0-3 years) and this will be undertaken in conjunction with residents and key stakeholders in the area to determine its optimum location. It is the intention to submit a capital appraisal in Q4 2016 to the DHPCLG seeking approval for this project.

Comment on Progress:

The need to improve play spaces for children of all ages is recognised as a priority for the regeneration areas. The statement of community involvement in the adopted LRFIP emphasises that poor quality open spaces and lack of play spaces is a prominent issue for residents. The adopted LRFIP (2014) and the Limerick Regeneration Design and Public Realm Code (2015) recognises the needs and demands for play spaces and proposes optimum locations within the regeneration areas taking into account a range of factors, including the needs of children of different ages and abilities, of parents/guardians and of the wider community.

Delivering new play spaces is a key priority for Limerick City and County Council for all 4 regeneration areas over the next 2 years, with local areas of play identified in the Cosgrave Park scheme in Moyross and the Churchfield scheme in Southill. Limerick City and County Council are consulting with local communities and the residents' committees, providing leveraging-in funding and project steering, where necessary. Capital appraisals are being submitted to the DHPCLG for approval in Q4 2016 for delivering local areas of play in St. Mary's Park and Ballinacurra Weston.

Furthermore, play spaces specified should be proposed to be low maintenance whilst being sustainable in the long term, beyond the life of the current Limerick Regeneration programme. The benefits of play spaces can have an impact on local communities across all themes - on housing and the physical environment, health, education and crime and is an immediate visible sign that positive change in the regeneration areas is possible.

Recommendation for future Monitoring:

A key recommendation for the future in the tracking of increased active play spaces is to acquire the relevant data on a yearly basis. This data will be interrogated as part of the overall evaluation study in relation to linkages to other themes which will commence in 2016.

Data Sources:

The data contained within the monitor is based upon the following sources:

- Limerick City and County Council Planning Register;
- LCCC – schemes with grant of planning permission and approaching planning submission stage;
- Adopted Limerick Regeneration Framework Implementation Plan;
- Design and Public Realm Code.



Proposed residential scheme and public open spaces at Cosgrave Park, Moyross

Indicator: Requiring Good Design**2.12 Increased number of the number of smaller scale sites progressed for replacement housing rather than large scale housing projects (i.e. schemes <35 units) to ensure balanced, incremental development.**

One criticism of the original regeneration estates was that too many homes as part of a large scale housing project were delivered and allocated too quickly without the appropriate supporting infrastructure required for a balanced and sustainable community. Balanced incremental development is a strategy adopted in the LRFIP to deliver multiple smaller scale sites rather than single large scale projects. Multiple smaller scale projects will also provide greater opportunity to smaller scale building contractors, subcontractors and construction workers.

Policy Background (underlined emphasis our own):

LRFIP Vision Statement

“Safe and sustainable communities of opportunity where people of all ages enjoy a good quality-of life, a decent home and a sense of pride about their place. Well-serviced and attractive neighbourhoods will be physically connected and fully integrated with the social, economic and cultural life of Limerick.”

LRFIP Strategic Objective	Physical Framework Plan
	2.3.3 Requiring Good Design a) Balanced Incremental Development

Baseline 2013-February 2015:

Since the regeneration function transferred to Limerick City and County Council in June 2012, 34 units were completed in 2013 as part of Cliona Park Phase 1. A total of 64 units, funded by the DHPCLG, were completed in 2014. These included a city-centre scheme, for 29 units at Vizes Court (Phase 2) and 35 units at Colivet Court, a specialist scheme for older

persons in Southill. In 2015, 12 units were completed which included Waller’s Well (10 units) and Cliona Park Gap Site (2 units).

Activities to Date February 2015 – February 2016:

A significant number of smaller scale schemes of less than 35 units are underway. Where schemes are over 35 units, provisions will be made for a phased handover from the contractor to ensure a managed and phased allocation process for prospective tenants/residents. The following provides a list of approved schemes to date:

Regeneration Area	Site Name and Location	No. of Units	<35 units	Comment
New-Build				
Moyross	Cliona Park gap site	2	√	Complete 2015
	45a and 46a Cliona Park	2	√	Site Start 2016
	50 units at Cosgrave Park	50	X	Site Start 2017 (Scheme will be developed over smaller phases)
	Cliona Park Phase 2	10	√	Site Start 2016
	Dalgaish Park	40	√	Site Start 2017
	Cliona Park phase 3	18	√	Site Start 2017
	Cliona Park/College Ave.	42	X	Site Start 2018
Total		117		

Regeneration Area	Site Name and Location	No. of Units	<35 units	Comment
New-Build				
St. Mary's Park and King's Island	Sheep Street	8	√	Site Start 2017
	Orchard site	29	√	Site Start 2017
	Gaol Lane	2	√	Site Start 2017
	Infill units at St. Mary's Park	20	√	Site Start 2017
Total		56		

Regeneration Area	Site Name and Location	No. of Units	<35 units	Comment
New-Build				
Southill	Colivet Court	35	√	Completed 2014
	Palm Court (back up site)	26	√	Site Start 2017 (if required to meet housing need)
	Markievicz Drive	13	√	Site Start 2017 (if required to meet housing need)
	Churchfield Phase 1	42	X	Site Start 2017 - Scheme will be developed over smaller phases (plus enabling works for realigned road layout)
	Churchfield Phase 2	38	X	Site Start 2019
	Carew Park	37	X	Site Start 2017 - Phasing scheme will be developed to ensure phased handover from contractor.
Total		178		

Regeneration Area	Site Name and Location	No. of Units	<35 units	Comment
New-Build				
City-Wide	Vizes Court Phase 2	29	√	Complete 2014
	Lord Edward Street	83	X	Site Start 2015 - Phasing scheme to ensure phased handover from contractor.
	Waller's Well	10	√	Complete Q2 2015
Total		122		

Comment on Progress:

The regeneration programme represents a major opportunity to restructure and redevelop replacement housing at an appropriate size and scale to meet the household requirements of the area. Progress, relating to approved housing schemes are underway. To date, there is an upwards trend with 83 units started in 2015, 10 unit starts in 2016, 289 unit starts in 2017, 42 units scheduled to start in 2018 and a further 38 units to be delivered in 2019, all in phases that promote balanced incremental development.

Allotting contracts into smaller phases is a key objective of Limerick City and County Council. Limerick City Council (now Limerick City and County Council) adopted in 2013 a social procurement clause in its public contracts to promote the inclusion of social benefits. In the regeneration programme, this clause is actively used whereby construction projects are required to employ a minimum number of apprentices and also a minimum number from the unemployment register in an effort to promote the social and economic regeneration of a locality.

Recommendation for future Monitoring:

A key recommendation for the future in the tracking of number of smaller scale sites progressed is to acquire the relevant data on a yearly basis. Approvals are yet to be received from the DHPCLG are new-build schemes proposed in College Park, Moyross, Markievicz Drive in Southill and various infill sites in Ballinacurra Weston. These proposals will be tracked against housing need in the regeneration areas to assess viability and will be delivered in smaller phases to promote balanced incremental development. Overall, the data, contained within this indicator, will be interrogated as part of the overall evaluation study in relation to linkages to other themes which will commence in early 2016.

Data Sources:

The data contained within the monitor is based upon the following sources:

- LCCC – schemes with grant of planning permission and approaching planning submission stage;
- LCCC internal stock control database;
- Adopted Limerick Regeneration Framework Implementation Plan.



Photomontage of the Orchard site, King's Island

2.13 Increased level of reused existing buildings

For the purposes of this indicator, data in relation to non-residential vacant properties are assessed. Data in relation to residential voids are assessed in indicator 3.28 which is discussed in more detail later. In line with Government guidance, there is a strong argument for the re-use of existing building stock and refurbishing, where appropriate, as opposed to the demolition and rebuild in the regeneration areas.

Policy Background (underlined emphasis our own):

LRFIP Vision Statement	
<p>“Safe and sustainable communities of opportunity where people of all ages enjoy a good quality-of life, a decent home and a sense of pride about their place. <u>Well-serviced and attractive neighbourhoods</u> will be physically connected and fully integrated with the social, economic and cultural life of Limerick.”</p>	
LRFIP Strategic Objective	Physical Framework Plan
	<p>2.3.1 Build a Strong Competitive Economy b) Maximising the Use of Existing Assets d) Flagship Projects</p>
LRFIP Area-Specific Objectives	<p>Southill 16. Strengthen the opportunities for vocational sports development at ‘the Factory’ which currently occupies the existing Fulflex building; 8. Upgrade the Galvone Industrial Estate as a mixed use, employment generating area as it currently displays a high level of vacancy, obsolescence and under-utilisation, and suffers from a very poor image that makes it difficult to attract new business and clients; 12. Consider alternative uses Southill Junior School. Uses to combat the extremely high rates of unemployment in Southill and the increased demand for further education and training could be accommodated within the existing complex; 17. Consider the reuse of St. Enda’s complex as a focal point for education and sports related projects;</p> <p>St. Mary’s Park and King’s Island 2. Promote the development of key strategic sites within Nicholas Street and Bridge Street for potential enterprise development attracting further inward investment; 4. Regenerate unutilised or underutilised land and buildings in St. Mary’s Park and King’s Island by considering alternative uses of a temporary nature, ‘meanwhile uses’, to ensure a productive use. Sports use, allotments, small scale urban farms, urban nurseries, use of buildings by arts, community and educational organisations are some of the potential functions for unutilised land and buildings. Temporary uses also offer potential to grow into new or sustainable permanent uses; 7. Support the redevelopment of the Opera Centre site, adjacent to King’s Island/St. Mary’s Park, which is seen as an economic catalyst for the area, city and region;</p> <p>Moyross 1. Protect and enhance the special landscape character and setting of Delmege Estate;</p>

Baseline 2013-February 2015: No data was recorded prior to 2013.

Area	Project	Nature Of Works	Status As At February 2015
City Centre	Cleeves	Preparation of a Brief	Underway Q1 2015
	Lord Edward Street	Scheme incorporates former Factory Buildings	Revised Part 8 granted. Enabling works underway Q1 2015. Main contract commence in May 2015.
Southill	Turner Vinery	Preparation of a Capital Appraisal	Underway Q1 2015
St. Mary's Park and King's Island	Fireplace site	Analysis/remedial works underway Preparation of a design brief once complete	Underway Q1 2015
St. Mary's Park and King's Island	24/25/26 Nicholas Street	Facelift project	Complete. In discussions with Property Management Section in relation to temporary 'meanwhile' uses
St. Mary's Park and King's Island	35 Nicholas Street	Facelift project	Complete. In discussions with Property Management Section in relation to temporary 'meanwhile' uses
St. Mary's Park and King's Island	Thomond Weir and Fisheries Building	Preparation of a brief for upgrade of existing weir	Details of proposed costs and surveys underway Q1 2015
St. Mary's Park and King's Island	27 Nicholas Street - Mens Shed		11 month lease between LCCC and LCDP agreed. Contractor awaiting appointment for refurbishment works

Activities to Date February 2015 - February 2016:

Area	Project	Nature Of Works	Status As At February 2015
City Centre	Cleeves	Preparation of a Brief	Tender documents in preparation for appointment of design team to prepare design frameworks.
	Lord Edward Street	Scheme incorporates former Factory Buildings	Main Contract commenced on February 15th 2016.
	Biblical Centre	Preparation of a Capital Appraisal for acquisition	Underway Q1 2016
	Opera Centre	Stabilisation Works	Works complete Q1 2016
Southill	Turner Vinery	Preparation of a Capital Appraisal	Funding mechanisms being examined by the DHPCLG.
St. Mary's Park and King's Island	Fireplace site	Analysis/remedial works underway Preparation of a design brief once complete	Stabilisation work complete to the wall between No 35 and the Fireplace site. Next stage of work is the stabilisation of the undercroft followed by stabilisation of the wall along the centre of the site. This work will require the consent of the DAHG.
St. Mary's Park and King's Island	24/25/26 Nicholas Street	Facelift project	Complete. In discussions with Property Management Section in relation to temporary 'meanwhile' uses.
St. Mary's Park and King's Island	35 Nicholas Street	Facelift project	Complete. In discussions with Property Management Section in relation to temporary 'meanwhile' uses.
St. Mary's Park and King's Island	Thomond Weir and Fisheries Building	Preparation of a brief for upgrade of existing weir	Tenders received for structural consultants. Consultant selected. Contract for purchase signed by LCCC.
St. Mary's Park and King's Island	27 Nicholas Street - Mens Shed		11 month lease between LCCC and LCDP agreed. Following a tender process refurbishment contract commenced on site in March 2015. Refurbishment works still in progress.
Moyross	Moyross Community and Enterprise Centre	Refurbishment of existing building and proposed new extension	Funding committed to this project by the DHPCLG and work on the tender documentation is proceeding. Pre-tender estimate to be submitted to the DHPCLG prior to tender issue.

Comment on Progress:

In line with the adopted LRFIP and the Limerick Economic and Spatial Plan (Limerick 2030), there is a pro-active approach to return vacant non-residential properties located within the regeneration areas to productive use in 2015 to facilitate economic regeneration. Similarly, while the focus of the Regeneration Project is on the defined regeneration areas, the overall project needs to be seen in the context of the wider city and, in particular, it is clear that appropriate development in areas contiguous to, or within the environs of, the regeneration areas will contribute to achieving the regeneration objectives. The redevelopment of the Opera Centre site, adjacent to King's Island/St. Mary's Park, as well as other transformational projects such as the potential to acquire the Biblical Centre in Limerick city-centre, will play a key role in improving the fortunes of the city.

Significant progress (approximately 13 projects) has been made over the past year in returning buildings to productive use through the development of initial preliminary Capital Appraisals to appointing contractors for refurbishment.

Refurbishment and remedial/repair works are taking place in several structures on Nicholas Street with the objective of improving the environmental quality of this important city street, and returning vacant buildings to commercial, residential and community use. The buildings within the ownership of Limerick City and County Council include 24, 25, 26, 27 and 35 Nicholas Street, and the 'Fireplace Site' (nos. 36-39).

Over €800,000 euros has been invested by Limerick City and County Council in the stabilisation works to the Opera Centre site which addressed key issues to ensure sustainable re-use of these buildings including weatherproofing and stabilisation work to parapet walls at roof level and building facades.

The Minister for Environment, Community and Local Government, Alan Kelly T.D formally announced in September 2015, significant funding of €3 million for the redevelopment of the Moyross Community Enterprise Centre (MCEC). This project is scheduled to proceed to construction in 2017. The official opening of the Moyross AFC player facilities, adjacent to the MCEC, which underwent refurbishment, also took place in September 2015.

Recommendation for future Monitoring:

A key recommendation for the future tracking of this indicator is to acquire the data on a yearly basis.

Data Sources:

The data contained within the monitor is based upon the following sources:

- LCCC internal databases;
- Adopted Limerick Regeneration Framework Implementation Plan.



Photomontage of proposed residential scheme, community centre and commercial/retail unit at Lord Edward Street

2.14 Increased number of connections from the regeneration areas to the wider community

Policy Background:

LRFIP Vision Statement	
“Safe and sustainable communities of opportunity where people of all ages enjoy a good quality-of life, a decent home and a sense of pride about their place. <u>Well-serviced and attractive neighbourhoods</u> will be physically connected and fully integrated with the social, economic and cultural life of Limerick.”	
LRFIP Strategic Objective	Physical Framework Plan
	2.3.3 Requiring Good Design c) Enhanced Connectivity through Urban Structure
	2.3.4 Promoting Sustainable Movement c) Reducing Poor Connectivity
LRFIP Area-Specific Objectives	All regeneration areas Movement and Connectivity Strategy

Baseline and Activities to Date:

Project	Status As At February 2015	Status As At February 2016
Moyross		
Coonagh-Knockalisheen Road	DTTS Budget announcement 5TH February 2015 for funding	It is understood that tenders for the advanced groundworks will be sought in Q3 2016 for the Coonagh-Knockalisheen Distributor Road. Tenders for the main contract of this project will be sought in Q4 2016.
Upgrade the existing Moyross Avenue	At planning application stage. Being part-progressed as part of Part 8 Planning Applications for the Cosgrave Park and Cliona Park Phase 2 schemes.	Part 8 Planning granted Monday, June 15, 2015
Improved access from the existing community hub of Moyross	Currently at design development stage. Being part-progressed by Cliona Park Phase 3 housing scheme and a street connection to Cloncannane Road.	Developed sketch scheme design development and review processes ongoing.
Provide new and improved connections to improve permeability throughout Moyross	Completed September 2014. Delivery of strategic link and new school entrance from St.Nessans school to Cliona Park.	
46A and 45 A Cloncannane Road	At tender preparation stage for Design Team.	Progressing to Part 8 Planning Application Stage. Target date of April 2016 for Part 8 Public Display.
Cliona Park phase 3		Developed sketch scheme design development and review processes ongoing.

Project	Status As At February 2015	Status As At February 2016
St. Mary's Park		
At Island Road: to improve connectivity from St Mary's Park to the Medieval Quarter	Orchard scheme at design development stage. Objective being part-progressed as part of Part 8 Planning Application for the Orchard scheme	Preparation of developed sketch scheme design ongoing. Overall revised and updated budget to be agreed. Pre-Planning Cost Check to be issued at end of February 2016.
To the northwest of St Mary's Park: to improve connectivity to the New Road, Thomond Park & beyond	At pre-feasibility stage – procurement of consultants in progress.	Tenders received for structural consultants. Consultant selected. Contract for purchase signed by LCCC.
A new street, at Island Gate, from Verdant Place to Dominick Street	Orchard scheme at design development stage. Being part-progressed as part of design development for the Orchard scheme	Preparation of developed sketch scheme design ongoing. Overall revised and updated budget to be agreed. Pre-Planning Cost Check to be issued at end of February 2016.
Environmentally improve the existing street network of St Mary's Park.	Expected commencement date Q4 2015 – once remedial works for replacement of lead piping is complete (September 2015)	Landscape Architecture Consultants procured to prepare a book of standard working details for the regeneration areas. Due for completion in April 2016. This body of work will inform the public realm upgrade works for St. Mary's Park. Capital Appraisal and Cost Plan to be prepared for the DHPCLG seeking approval for public realm upgrade works to St. Mary's Park by Q3 2016.
Maintain and augment the existing embankment walkway.	Tender for consultants to be issued Q1 2015. Improvement of the existing embankment is proposed as part of the King's Island Flood Relief Scheme.	Part 8 Planning application submitted in February 2016 for a new flood defence, footpaths, realignment of existing road to a one-way system along Verdant Place.
Sheep Street	Proposed Residential Development providing for the provision of new and improved public footpaths The development seeks to improve overall mobility within the vicinity of the site by increasing road widths on Meat Market Lane from 2.5m - 2.7m to 3.0m. In addition two new footpaths including one on Sheep Street and the other on Meat Market Lane have been provided thereby facilitating pedestrian movement and safety.	Main Contract Tenders returned 07.10.2015 (extended tender period). LCCC examining further savings. Archaeological Excavation works complete.
Gaol Lane	Proposed Residential Development providing for the provision of new and improved streetscape thereby facilitating pedestrian movement and safety.	Meeting held with the DAHG prior to Christmas 2015. Development of the full footprint within the existing upstanding walls is the most preferred option.
Infill units at St. Mary's Park	The development will consist of: (a) 20 no. two-storey infill housing units, comprising: 2 no. one-bedroom units; 9 no. two-bedroom units; 8 no. three-bedroom units; and 1 no. four-bedroom unit. (b) Public realm improvement works on St. Columcille's Street, west of St. Ita's Street.	Tender Documentation prepared by Rogerson Reddan to be reviewed by LCCC prior to issue.

Project	Status As At February 2015	Status As At February 2016
Ballinacurra Weston		
Remove the community wall to the side of the Church at Hyde Avenue to allow for physical and visual access.	Complete as at Q4 2014	
Construct a new pedestrian connection between the Church car-park and Crecora Avenue.	Complete as at Q4 2014	
Upgrade the existing laneway (Alley Lane) to allow greater access to Prospect Hill and Rosbrien Road to the north.	Due for completion Q1 2015. Being part-delivered by creation of living accommodation at first floor of 1 Weston Gardens for increased surveillance and overlooking.	Handover scheduled for March 2016.
Provide a new vehicular connection from Clarina Park to Lenihan Avenue.	Reassessed proposal submitted to the DHPCLG (Q1 2015) approved. Reassessed proposal to facilitate access to Clarina from Byrne Avenue from option adopted in LRFIP. Requirement for demolition of block 45-55 Lenihan Avenue.	Block requires demolition. Medium to long term objective (3-6 years).
Environmentally improve the existing street network of Ballinacurra Weston	Series of small-scale environmental improvements complete as at Q4 2014. Further information provided in Indicator 3.10	Landscape Architecture Consultants procured to prepare a book of standard working details for the regeneration areas. Due for completion in April 2016. This body of work will inform the public realm upgrade works for Ballinacurra Weston. Capital Appraisal and Cost Plan to be prepared for the DHPCLG seeking approval by Q3 2016.

Project	Status As At February 2015	Status As At February 2016
Southill		
Environmental Improvement Works to Childers Road	Tender documentation in preparation Q1 2015. Scrub thinning, species control and meadow flower planting to stretch of Childers Road along Galvone Industrial Estate.	Works carried out in Q1 2016 prior to the period March 1st to September 1st where works are prohibited to uncultivated vegetation as prescribed under the Wildlife Act.
Connection from Roxboro roundabout (through the 'Galvone Arms' site) to the heart of Southill – the community hub containing the Church, Health Centre and Southill Area Centre	Being part-progressed as part of Part 8 Planning Application for the Churchfield site. Currently on public display Q1 2015.	Part 8 Planning Application granted Monday, May 18, 2015. Enabling Works start date 16th November 2015. Main Contract (Phase 1) tenders received January 2016. Tender Report issued to DHPCLG in February 2016.
New north-south connection from Childers Road to O'Malley Park through the Fulflex site	Being part-progressed as part of Part 8 Planning Application for the Churchfield site. Currently on public display Q1 2015.	Part 8 Planning Application granted Monday, May 18, 2015. Enabling Works start date 16th November 2015. Main Contract (Phase 1) tenders received January 2016. Tender Report issued to DHPCLG in February 2016.
New east-west connection from Mague Way in Carew Park, south of Southill House, to the Roxborough Road	Masterplan currently in preparation Q1 2015. Being investigated in tandem with Tait House Masterplan	Masterplan and Business Plan currently in preparation Q1 2016.
New north-south connection from Kennedy Park, adjacent to proposed Integrated Educational Campus at St Kieran's, to Childers Road	Being progressed as part of Le Cheile Integrated school Roxboro. Le Cheile School currently at construction stage.	Masterplan for Child and Family Centre being progressed with consideration of a new north-south connection.
New east-west connection from John Carew Park to Yeats Avenue	As part of Carew Park Capital Appraisal for 37 units. Received preliminary DHPCLG approval	Tender Documentation being prepared to appoint a Design Team.
New north-south connection through the green at Carew Park to improve accessibility	Received preliminary DHPCLG approval As part of Carew Park Capital Appraisal for 37 units	Tender Documentation being prepared to appoint a Design Team.
Pedestrian link from Markievicz Drive across Collins Avenue to the community hub	Awaiting preliminary response from DHPCLG As part of Markievicz Drive Capital Appraisal	Tender Documentation being prepared to appoint a Design Team.
New street at eastern boundary of Churchfields site to the Church	Being part-progressed as part of Part 8 Planning Application for the Churchfield scheme. Currently on public display Q1 2015	Part 8 Planning Application granted Monday, May 18, 2015. Enabling Works start date 16th November 2015. Main Contract (Phase 1) tenders received January 2016. Tender Report issued to DHPCLG in February 2016.
New street through the centre of the Churchfields site to the Southill Area Centre	Being part-progressed as part of Part 8 Planning Application for the Churchfield scheme. Currently on public display Q1 2015	Part 8 Planning Application granted Monday, May 18, 2015. Enabling Works start date 16th November 2015. Main Contract (Phase 1) tenders received January 2016. Tender Report issued to DHPCLG in February 2016.

Project	Status As At February 2015	Status As At February 2016
Southill		
Removal of bollards/rock armoury at Lilac and Aster Court	As part of Markievicz Drive Capital Appraisal. Awaiting preliminary response from DHPCLG	Tender Documentation being prepared to appoint a Design Team
Realignment of road north of Churchfields site in a southwards direction to allow for a frontage development with sufficient depth to be realised on the land immediately south of the Galvone Industrial Estate	Being progressed as part of Part 8 Planning Application for the Churchfield scheme. Currently on public display Q1 2015	Part 8 Planning Application granted Monday, May 18, 2015. Enabling Works start date 16th November 2015. Main Contract (Phase 1) tenders received January 2016. Tender Report issued to DHPCLG in February 2016.

Comment on Progress:

Significant progress (approximately 30 projects) has been made over the past year in increasing connections to the wider community. The lack of connectivity has been, and continues to be, a major contributing factor to the underperformance of the regeneration areas. The scale of interventions commenced and completed varies over the past few years with projects such as St. Nessan's entrance to the removal of walls which segregate areas, i.e., link from Beechgrove Avenue, Ballinacurra Weston to Our Lady of Lourdes church. A significant number of new connections and realignments of existing routes as part of replacement housing schemes have received Part 8 approval in 2016 and will progress to tender and construction stage in due course.

The following key connections being progressed are as follows:

- Moyross: Coonagh-Knockalisheen Road: Documentation is underway with tenders for the advanced groundworks will be sought in Q3 2016.
- 46A and 45 A Cloncannane Road at the interface of Moyross and Ballynanty: Progressing to Part 8 Planning Application Stage.
- St. Mary's Park: Acquisition of Thomond Weir by LCCC in 2015 to improve connectivity. Tenders received for structural consultants. Public Realm Upgrade Capital Appraisal and Cost Plan to be prepared for the DHPCLG by Q3 2016.
- Southill: Connection from Roxboro roundabout (through the 'Galvone Arms' site) to the heart of Southill at Southill Area Centre is being part-progressed as part of Part 8 Planning Application for the Churchfield site.

A number of key connections have been completed as follows:

- In Moyross, the delivery of strategic link and new school entrance from St. Nessans school to Cliona Park.
- In Ballinacurra Weston, the removal of the community wall to the side of the Church at Hyde Avenue was completed to allow for physical and visual access.
- A new pedestrian connection was constructed between the Church car-park and Crecora Avenue in Ballinacurra Weston.
- Removal of rock armoury in Ballinacurra Weston at Weston Gardens to provide for a visual connection and facilitate a safe turning area for cars.

It is recommended to continue the implementation of the Coonagh-Knockalisheen Northern Distributor Road Phase 1 to open up connectivity to the western end of Moyross. In Southill, the strategic access off the M7, through the regeneration area as a 'gateway to the city' is crucial to revitalise the Galvone Industrial Estate and enhance the viability of the District Centre. In addition, continue strategic acquisitions of sites in the regeneration areas to facilitate connections – e.g., through the Galvone Industrial Estate to the Childer's Road.

Recommendation for future Monitoring:

A key recommendation for the future tracking of this indicator is to acquire the data on a yearly basis.

Data Sources:

The data contained within the monitor is based upon the following sources:

- LCCC internal databases;
- Adopted Limerick Regeneration Framework Implementation Plan.
- Construction Information Services 2016.
- Moyross: Proposed alignment of the Coonagh-Knockalisheen road

2.15 Increased level of diverse and high quality architectural design and appreciation of the built environment

Improvement to the design quality of housing and non-housing schemes is an important objective of the LRFIP. The schemes noted in this indicator include:

- a) The number of buildings/plans receiving one or more awards;
- b) The number of buildings/plans short-listed but not receiving an award;
- c) The number of buildings/plans positively reviewed in architectural/public-sector publications.
- d) Events to promote the Limerick Regeneration Programme

Policy Background:

LRFIP Vision Statement	
"Safe and sustainable communities of opportunity where people of all ages enjoy a good quality-of life, a decent home and a sense of pride about their place. <u>Well-serviced and attractive neighbourhoods</u> will be physically connected and fully integrated with the social, economic and cultural life of Limerick."	
LRFIP Strategic Objective	Physical Framework Plan
	2.3.3 Requiring Good Design a) Balanced Incremental Development b) Setting Context Scale and Character c) Enhanced Connectivity through Urban Structure d) Built Form e) Compact Development and Density f) Improved Quality Of The Public Realm
LRFIP Area-Specific Objectives	All Areas <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop sites for replacement homes with a coherent perimeter block layout and maximise the number of homes with direct street entrances. Streets will be arranged on the outside of the block to encourage permeability; • Ensure that replacement homes will have a positive outlook onto surrounding public spaces and streets, to create an appropriate sense of enclosure and natural surveillance; • Promote high-quality design and detailing in replacement and refurbished homes to create a sense of robustness and longevity as well as support tenure-blind principles.
Design and Public Realm Code	Section 10: Public Realm and Design Code Compliance Checklist

Baseline 2013 – February 2015:

Cliona Park Phase 1, designed by the National Building Agency (now the Housing Agency) received an Irish Council for Social Housing award in 2013.

Site	Award/Commendation/Short Listed/Publication	Status
Colivet Court	RIAI Best Housing 2014	Award
Architecture Ireland	Article on Southill older persons accommodation October 2014	Publication
Council review	Article on Cliona Park 'Cliona Park provides the spark' 2014	Publication

Activities to Date February 2015 to February 2016:

Site	Award/Commendation/Short Listed/Publication	Status
IPI National Planning Awards 2016	5 ShortlistedProjects	Award
IPI National Planning Awards 2016	2 Projects awarded 'Special Commendation'	Award
ICSH Awards 2015	Southill older persons accommodation Colivet Court Housing scheme shortlisted	Award
Open House Limerick	Increase the appreciation of our built environment, a one-off Open House Limerick Open day took place in June 2015 at the Tait Clothing Factory site at Lord Edward Street.	Event
Heritage Week 2015	Limerick City and County Council were successful in obtaining grant funding from the Heritage Council to undertake a seminar, 'The Tait Clothing Factory: A Testament to Time' which took place in August 2015.	Event
Culture Night	As part of Culture Night 2015, Limerick Soprano Sarah Shine performed at no.4 Patrick Street – one of the Opera Centre buildings and former home of the Singer Catherine Hayes on 18thSeptember 2015. Activating the building provided a glimpse to the Limerick public of the potential and importance of the Opera site – one of the major assets of the city.	Event

IPI National Planning Awards 2016 – Shortlisted Entries November 2015

Five Limerick City and County Council projects were shortlisted at the Irish Planning Institute National Planning Awards in November 2015. These included the:

- Limerick Regeneration Framework implementation Plan;
- Tait clothing Factory: An online multi-media Planning and heritage Repository;
- Development and Archaeological strategy for King's island (DASKIL);
- Statement of Community Involvement for Limerick Regeneration Framework implementation Plan, and
- Design and Public Realm code for the Limerick Regeneration Areas.

IPI National Planning Awards 2016 – Special Commendations - February 2016

Two of the projects listed above have been awarded commendations at the Irish Planning Institute National Planning Awards held in Dublin Castle on February 19th 2016. The projects are among 32 shortlisted by the Irish Planning Institute, the organisers of the all-island awards scheme. The National Planning Awards recognise successful and innovative planning strategies, schemes or developments, which make an outstanding contribution to the quality of life in urban and rural parts of Ireland.

The first commended project is the **Limerick Regeneration Framework Implementation Plan**, a comprehensive and evidence-based plan for the implementation of the social, economic and physical regeneration of Moyross, Southill, Ballinacurra Weston and St Mary's Park/King's Island as part of a wider rebirth of Limerick city. The project was nominated in the 'Opportunity and Empowerment' category which demonstrates how public participation in plans and projects has been effective in changing outcomes. The judging panel commended Limerick City and County Council for producing a comprehensive document and "the multidisciplinary team which developed a socially, economically and environmentally coherent plan". The judging panel particularly noted "the public consultation that led to the plan's preparation, its "whole of government approach" and most critically its emphasis on implementation and monitoring."

The second commended project was the **Design and Public Realm Code for the Limerick Regeneration Areas** which was nominated in the Responsive Urban and Rural Design category - a category that rewards the best in conservation, urban design or planning practices. The Code helps ensure the best standards of urban design and place-making are consistently achieved in Limerick. It is a concise, visual guide that clearly explains Limerick City and County Council's expectations on design parameters for the built environment and the public realm. The judging panel commended Limerick City and County Council for delivering a "Design and Public Realm Code that both defines a sense of place and coordinates planning and development."

Irish Council for Social Housing (ICSH) Awards (2015) Shortlist

Colivet Court Older Persons Accommodation located in Southill was shortlisted in the Irish Council for Social Housing Awards 2015. The development consists of 35 apartments and a Communal Facility arranged around a shared central courtyard garden which succeeds in fostering a sense of community for the residents as well as providing high quality, modern secure homes for older people in the Southill area.

Open House Limerick

In an effort to increase the appreciation of our built environment, a one-off Open House Limerick Open day took place in June 2015 at the Tait Clothing Factory site at Lord Edward Street. The event was attended by over 500 people. As part of the main Open House festival which took place in the city in October 2015, Seamus Hanrahan, architect and senior project manager gave a free guided bus tour visiting some of the key Limerick Regeneration projects including award-winning housing projects: Cliona Park, Moyross and Colivet court, Southill. Raising the awareness and profile of the regeneration areas is an important part of the work of Limerick City and County Council and events such as the Open House Limerick 2015 bus tour of the regeneration areas assist in the process of promoting better understanding and breaking down barriers.

Heritage Week 2015

National Heritage Week is coordinated by the Heritage Council and takes place every year with the key aim is to build awareness and education about heritage thereby encouraging its conservation and preservation. Limerick City and County Council were successful in obtaining grant funding from the Heritage Council to undertake a seminar, 'The Tait Clothing Factory: A Testament to Time' which took place in August 2015. Given the importance of the Clothing Factory to Limerick life a book on the Factory was commissioned in 2015 as part of the Per Cent for Art scheme for the development and is due to be published in 2016.

Culture Night

As part of Culture Night 2015, Limerick Soprano Sarah Shine performed at no.4 Patrick Street – one of the Opera Centre buildings and former home of the Singer Catherine Hayes on 18th September 2015. Activating the building provided a glimpse to the Limerick public of the potential and importance of the Opera site – one of the major assets of the city.



Sarah Shine performance at 7 Patrick Street celebrating Soprano Catherine Hayes as part of Culture Night 2015

Comment on Progress:

Resident involvement, through the local regeneration structures, are at the heart of the design and consultation process for all plans and projects relating to the regeneration programme. In relation to housing projects, we continue to undertake informal pre-planning consultation with the residents committees for each of the 4 regeneration areas prior to lodgement of a formal Part 8 Planning Application. The plans and projects relating to the Limerick Regeneration programme are delivering awards, commendations and shortlistings each year for their successful and innovative strategies and ingenuity. Informal pre-planning meetings are effective as they are able to build consensus, focussing on the needs of the local community, but not to the exclusion of other interested parties.

The housing schemes to date have won a total of 3 architectural awards (ICSH Awards 2013 and 2015/RIAI Best Housing 2014). Furthermore, the plans related to the delivery of the regeneration programme have won 2 planning awards ('Special Commendations' at the IPI National Planning Awards 2016).

In addition, Limerick City and County Council are continuing their proactive approach in raising the awareness and profile of the regeneration areas with events such as the Open House Limerick, Culture Night and Heritage Week to assist in the process of promoting a better understanding and breaking down barriers. It is the intention that this trend increases as more schemes and projects are delivered into the future.

Recommendation for future Monitoring:

A key recommendation for the future in the tracking schemes is to acquire the relevant data on a yearly basis. It is also proposed to expand this indicator to include open spaces and environmental enhancement schemes that may be eligible for design and public realm awards.

Data Sources:

- Paddi (Planning Architecture Design Database Ireland);
- Architecture Ireland;
- Heritage Council
- Open House Limerick
- Culture Night
- Council Review
- Irish Council for Social Housing
- Irish Planning Institute



A former Tait Clothing Factory employee sharing his memories at Tait Seminar August 2015

2.16 Increased number of higher density developments (>50 units per hectare) at local and district centres subject to good urban design principles**Policy Background:**

LRFIP Vision Statement	
“Safe and sustainable communities of opportunity where people of all ages enjoy a good quality-of life, a decent home and a sense of pride about their place. <u>Well-serviced and attractive neighbourhoods</u> will be physically connected and fully integrated with the social, economic and cultural life of Limerick.”	
LRFIP Strategic Objective	Physical Framework Plan
	2.3.2 Promoting Healthy Communities b) Retail
	2.3.3 Requiring Good Design e) Compact Development and Density
LRFIP Area-Specific Objectives	<p>Moyross Retain and refurbish existing housing units where possible within Moyross in tandem with creating new connections with natural surveillance, functional public open spaces and a more consolidated urban structure refocussed around the existing community hub and District Centre at Watch House Cross;</p> <p>Southill 2. Retain and refurbish existing housing units where possible within Kincora, Carew, Keyes and O’Malley Parks in tandem with creating new connections with natural surveillance, functional public open spaces and a more consolidated urban structure refocussed around the existing community hub containing the Church, Southill Area Centre and the Health Centre;</p> <p>St. Mary’s Park and King’s Island 1. Retain and refurbish existing housing units where possible within St. Mary’s Park in tandem with creating new connections with natural surveillance, functional public open spaces and a more consolidated urban structure refocussed around the existing St. Mary’s Community Centre; 3. Develop sites for replacement housing in the short-medium term within a suitable catchment area of the city core (500-800m) from which residents can easily access local services and convenience shopping;</p> <p>Ballinacurra Weston 1. Retain and refurbish existing housing units where possible within Ballinacurra Weston in tandem with creating new connections with natural surveillance, functional public open spaces and a more consolidated urban structure refocussed around the existing Our Lady of Lourdes Community Centre; 2. Develop a brownfield site for replacement housing at Crecora Avenue in the short term within a suitable catchment area of the city core (500- 800m) from which residents can easily access local services and convenience shopping;</p> <p>All Areas Promote a higher quality residential built environment, with a greater mix of units and increased densities, in greenfield/brownfield sites proposed for replacement housing, in line with Government legislation and guidelines;</p>
Design and Public Realm Code	Section 10: Public Realm And Design Code Compliance Checklist
Housing Strategy 2014 (October)	2.2 Priority Sites for delivery of replacement housing 3.0 Updated Housing Strategy 2014 4.0 Future Development Sites

For the purposes of this indicator, schemes that are located within 500m of the District/Local Centre are analysed using two density calculations are provided, depending on what stage a particular scheme is at. They are as follows:

- Site density: Calculated for sites at advanced design development stage/approaching Part 8 and includes only the residential component of the land area;
- Net residential density: A broader calculation for sites at outline feasibility stage and includes the residential component plus local roads.

Baseline 2013 to February 2015:

Regeneration Area	Site Name and Location	Density Calculation Method	Density	>50 units per hectare
Projects (2013)				
Moyross	Cliona Park Phase 1 (completed)	Site density	$0.59 \times 34 = 57\text{uph}$	√
Regeneration Area	Site Name and Location	Density Calculation Method	Density	>50 units per hectare
Projects (2014-2015)				
Moyross	Cosgrave Park (Approaching Part 8)	Site density	$0.94 \times 50 = 53\text{uph}$	√
	Dalgaish Park (DHPCLG Approval phase)	Net residential density	$0.6 \times 35 = 58\text{uph}$	√
St. Mary's Park & King's Island	Gaol Lane new-build	Site density	$0.029\text{ha} \times 2 \text{ units} = 69 \text{ units per hectare}$	√
	Sheep Street/Athlunkard Street	Site density	$0.09\text{ha} \times 8 \text{ units} = 88 \text{ units per hectare}$	√
City-Wide Schemes	Vizes Court Phase 2	Site density	$0.33 \times 29 = 87 \text{ units per hectare}$	√
	Lord Edward Street	Site density	$1.35 \times 83 = 61 \text{ units per hectare}$	√
	Waller's Well	Site density	$0.2 \times 10 = 50 \text{ units per hectare}$	√

Activities to Date February 2015 to February 2016:

Regeneration Area	Site Name and Location	Density Calculation Method	Density	>50 units per hectare
Moyross	Infill site at College Avenue (approval as part of 68 master approval)	Net residential density	1.0ha x 50 units = 50 units per hectare	√
	Cliona Park Phase 2 (approaching Part 8 Planning)	Site density	0.2ha x 10 = 50 units per hectare	√
	Cliona Park Gap Site (nearing completion)	Site density	.04ha x 2 units = 50 units per hectare	√
	Cliona Park/Cloncananne Road	Site density	.04ha x 2 units = 50 units per hectare	√
Southill	Colivet Court	Site density	0.6 x 35 = 58 units per hectare	√
	Cliona Park Phase 3 (approval as part of 68 master approval)	Net residential density	0.36ha x 18 units = 50 units per hectare	√
	Carew Park	Net residential density	0.66 x 37 = 56 units per hectare	√
St. Mary's Park/King's Island	20 Infill housing units	Site density	0.35x20 = 57 units per hectare	√

Comment on Progress:

A significant number of projects have progressed adjacent to Local and District Centres in the period from February 2015 to February 2016 that meet a sustainable residential density of over 50 units per hectare. In Moyross to date, seven schemes are being planned adjacent to Watch House Cross that are achieving densities of 50 units per hectare. Similarly, in St. Mary's Park/ King's Island and Southill, six schemes in total are reaching a sustainable density of over 50 units per hectare. Three schemes in the city-centre at Vizes Court Phase 2, Lord Edward Street and Waller's Well that are reaching a suitable density in the range of 50-80 units per hectare given their city centre locations.

Recommendation for future Monitoring:

A key recommendation for the future in the tracking schemes is to acquire the relevant data on a yearly basis.

Data Sources:

The data contained within the monitor is based upon the following sources:

- LCCC internal databases;
- Adopted Limerick Regeneration Framework Implementation Plan.



In April 2015, families moved into Limerick City and County Council's new housing development at Waller's Wall on Roxborough Road

2.17 Increased number of medium density developments (35-50 units per hectare) within residential zones of the regeneration areas

Policy Background:

LRFIP Vision Statement	
<p>“Safe and sustainable communities of opportunity where people of all ages enjoy a good quality-of life, a decent home and a sense of pride about their place. Well-serviced and attractive neighbourhoods will be physically connected and fully integrated with the social, economic and cultural life of Limerick.”</p>	
LRFIP Strategic Objective	Physical Framework Plan
	2.3.2 Promoting Healthy Communities b) Retail
	2.3.3 Requiring Good Design e) Compact Development and Density
LRFIP Area-Specific Objectives	<p>Moyross Retain and refurbish existing housing units where possible within Moyross in tandem with creating new connections with natural surveillance, functional public open spaces and a more consolidated urban structure refocussed around the existing community hub and District Centre at Watch House Cross;</p> <p>Southill 2. Retain and refurbish existing housing units where possible within Kincora, Carew, Keyes and O’Malley Parks in tandem with creating new connections with natural surveillance, functional public open spaces and a more consolidated urban structure refocussed around the existing community hub containing the Church, Southill Area Centre and the Health Centre;</p> <p>St. Mary’s Park and King’s Island 1.Retain and refurbish existing housing units where possible within St. Mary’s Park in tandem with creating new connections with natural surveillance, functional public open spaces and a more consolidated urban structure refocussed around the existing St. Mary’s Community Centre; 3. Develop sites for replacement housing in the short-medium term within a suitable catchment area of the city core (500-800m) from which residents can easily access local services and convenience shopping;</p> <p>Ballinacurra Weston 1. Retain and refurbish existing housing units where possible within Ballinacurra Weston in tandem with creating new connections with natural surveillance, functional public open spaces and a more consolidated urban structure refocussed around the existing Our Lady of Lourdes Community Centre; 2. Develop a brownfield site for replacement housing at Crecora Avenue in the short term within a suitable catchment area of the city core (500- 800m) from which residents can easily access local services and convenience shopping;</p> <p>All Areas Promote a higher quality residential built environment, with a greater mix of units and increased densities, in greenfield/brownfield sites proposed for replacement housing, in line with Government legislation and guidelines;</p>
Design and Public Realm Code	Section 10: Public Realm And Design Code Compliance Checklist
Housing Strategy 2014 (October)	2.2 Priority Sites for delivery of replacement housing 3.0 Updated Housing Strategy 2014 4.0 Future Development Sites

Baseline 2013 to February 2015:

For the purposes of this indicator, no developments with a density level between 35-50 units per hectare were completed.

Activities to Date February 2015-February 2016:

Within the residential zones of the regeneration areas, the following 5 planned schemes (priority schemes for replacement housing) with DHPCLG approval at between 35-50 units per hectare are highlighted.

Regeneration Area	Site Name and Location	Density Calculation Method	Density	35-50 units per hectare
Projects (2015-2016)				
Moyross	45/46 Cliona Clocannane	Site density	524m ² x 2 = 38 units per hectare	√
St. Mary's Park/King's Island	Orchard site:	Site density	700m ² x 26 units = 37 units per hectare	√
Southill	Churchfield (at Part 8 Planning)	Site density	2ha x 80 units = 45 units per hectare	√
	Markievicz Drive	Net residential density	410m ² x 13 = 31 units per hectare	√
	Palm Court	Net residential density	700m ² x 27 units = 38 units per hectare	√

Comment on Progress:

Continue to promote medium density replacement housing schemes in suitable locations. It is recommended that where schemes are over 35 units, provisions will be made for a phased handover from the contractor to ensure a managed and phased allocation process for prospective tenants/residents.

Data Sources:

The data contained within the monitor is based upon the following sources:

- Limerick City and County Council internal databases;
- Adopted Limerick Regeneration Framework Implementation Plan.



Churchfield scheme, Southill - currently under construction as at November 2016

Promoting Sustainable Movement

2.18 Increased use of public transport/walking and cycling

For analysis of this indicator, data from the CSO 2016, when available, will be used to compare data with CSO data from 2011. In the interim and for the purposes of this Monitoring Report 2015/2016, this indicator has been analysed together in the context of the Limerick Smarter Travel Programme which has the regeneration area of Southill as one of its four designated hubs for interventions. The Limerick Smarter Travel School Project is a project which is being delivered in partnership with An Taisce's Green-Schools Travel Programme. This project aims to work with schools to reduce car dependency and encourage more sustainable modes of transport such as walking, cycling, carpooling and public transport. Information collated to date provides a useful snapshot of key interventions being carried out.

Policy Background:

LRFIP Vision Statement	
<p>“Safe and sustainable communities of opportunity where people of all ages enjoy a good quality-of life, a decent home and a sense of pride about their place. <u>Well-serviced and attractive neighbourhoods</u> will be physically connected and fully integrated with the social, economic and cultural life of Limerick.”</p>	
LRFIP Strategic Objective	Physical Framework Plan
	<p>2.3.4 Promoting Sustainable Movement</p> <p>a) Public Transport</p> <p>b) Car Parking</p> <p>c) Reducing Poor Connectivity</p>
LRFIP Area-Specific Objectives	<p>Southill</p> <p>1c) Transform the Roxborough Road, the main access road dividing O'Malley Park, Keyes, Kincora and Carew Parks, from a route that is predominantly designed for the movement of vehicles to a traffic calmed street where the needs of pedestrians, cyclists and public transport users are prioritised. Measures to slow down traffic, for example the narrowing of carriageways, the redesign of the major junction at Roxboro roundabout and sideroad entry treatments to Keyes and Kincora Parks, will be incorporated to improve safety for all road users. The Roxborough Road is also a <u>designated Smarter Travel route</u> with an opportunity to establish a 'safe route to school' making the street safer for parents and children to use</p> <p>Moyross</p> <p>1. Upgrade the existing Moyross Avenue from a route that is predominantly designed for the movement of vehicles to a traffic calmed street where the needs of pedestrians, cyclists and public transport users are prioritised. Measures to slow down traffic, for example the narrowing of carriageways and side-road entry treatments to the various residential estates, will be incorporated to improve safety for all road users</p> <p>St. Mary's Park and King's Island</p> <p>3. Upgrade the existing Moyross Avenue from a route that is predominantly designed for the movement of vehicles to a traffic calmed street where the needs of pedestrians, cyclists and public transport users are prioritised. Measures to slow down traffic, for example the narrowing of carriageways and side-road entry treatments to the various residential estates, will be incorporated to improve safety for all road users;</p>

Baseline 2011-February 2015:**CSO 2011 Data**

The baseline data presented below is summarised from the 2011 census data and is detailed in Appendix 1 of the adopted LRFIP.

St. Mary's Park	63%
Southill	78%
Ballinacurra Weston	72%
Moyross	70%

Percentage Who Travel Less Than 30 Minutes To Work/School/College By Regeneration Area

	Regeneration Area	City-Wide	National Figure
St. Mary's Park	43%	33%	17%
Southill	30%		
Ballinacurra Weston	44%		
Moyross	42%		

Percentage Of The Population That Travels On Foot Or By Bicycle

	Regeneration Area	City-Wide	National Figure
St. Mary's Park	6%	7%	13%
Southill	14%		
Ballinacurra Weston	11%		
Moyross	9%		

Percentage Of The Population That Uses Public Transport

	Regeneration Area	City-Wide	National Figure
St. Mary's Park	57%	32%	16%
Southill	43%		
Ballinacurra Weston	58%		
Moyross	50%		

Percentage of Households with No Cars

Surveys and Educational workshops undertaken by Limerick Smarter Travel in 2014

Limerick Smarter Travel School Project carried out 2 key activities in 2014 to measure the outputs of this indicator which include surveys and educational workshops. These are described in more detail as follows:

Surveys

Galvone National School, Southill

Baseline data for Galvone National School in Southill was carried out in 2014 by the Limerick Smarter Travel School Project and is recorded below: Follow on surveys will commence in 2015 to measure and compare with baseline data collected for 2014 and will be updated in next year's Monitoring Report.

How do you travel to/from school?

Total Respondents: 72

Mode	% To School	% From School
Walk to School	48.6	48.6
Cycle to School	1.4	0.0
Car	37.5	44.4
Private Bus	1.4	1.4
Public Transport	0.0	0.0
Park & Stride	11.1	5.6
Other	0.0	0.0

How would you prefer to travel to school?

Mode	%
Walk to School	41.7
Cycle to School	41.7
Car	16.7
Private Bus	0.0
Public Transport	0.0
Park & Stride	0.0
Other	0.0

Do you carpool to/from school?

Total Respondents: 72

Mode	% To School	% From School
Yes	28.6	19.4
No	71.4	80.6

Cycling Behaviour

Query	%
Own or have use of a bicycle	93.1
Cycle their bike at home	79.2
Own a helmet	27.8
Wear a helmet	16.7
Have lights on their bike	51.4
Wear a high viz vest when cycling	22.2

Key Findings from Baseline Data:

- 48.6% walk to and from school
- 37.5% of students are driven to school
- Of the 37.5% of students, 28.6% carpool
- 0% opt for public transport.

Our Lady Queen Of Peace

Baseline data for Our Lady Queen of Peace, adjacent to Southill, was carried out in 2012 by the Limerick Smarter Travel School Project and is recorded below: Follow on surveys were carried out in 2013 and 2014 are also displayed to measure and compare with baseline data.

How do you travel to/from school?

Mode	Oct-12	Nov-13	Jun-14
Walk to School	47.22	33.33	26.04
Cycle to School	27.78	47.62	55.21
Car	16.67	8.57	4.17
Private Bus	1.85	0.00	0.00
Public Transport	0.93	5.71	1.04
Park & Stride	0.00	2.86	2.08

Do you carpool to/from school?

	Oct-12	Nov-13	Jun-14
Yes	12.72727	7.407407	17.24138
No	87.27273	92.59259	82.75862

Cycling Behaviour

Query	Oct-12	Nov-13	Jun-14
Own or have use of	84.26	77.14	79.17
Cycle their bike	66.67	67.62	70.83
Own a helmet	25.93	37.14	34.38
Wear a helmet	17.59	23.81	10.42
Have lights	33.33	43.81	41.67
Wear a hi-viz	28.70	46.67	26.04

Do you participate in Weekly Walking Events?

	Oct-12	Nov-13	Jun-14
Yes	0	59.047619	54.166667
No	100	40.952381	45.833333

Are you aware of Limerick Smarter Travel?

	Oct-12	Jun-14
Yes	0	48.95833
No	100	51.04167

Key Findings from Baseline Data from Our Lady Queen of Peace School:

- Compared to 2012 figures:
 - there is an increase of 27% of those who cycle in 2014;
 - there is a decrease of 13% of those who travel by car in 2014;
 - there is an increase of 4.5% of those who carpool in 2014.

Educational Workshops

The following information provides a summary of key actions from the following schools in the designated regeneration hub carried out to date:

	Actions Taken In 2013-2014	Aim	Commentary
All schools	Bike Bonanza June 2013, September 2013, June 2014, September 2014	Repair bicycles ahead of bike week with community members	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 100+ bicycles repaired. Collaboration with Southill Mens Shed Group and local bicycle repair shops
Galvone NS Southill & Gaelscoil Sheoirse Clancy (at Southill House)	Bus in the City Workshop Sep-14	Raise awareness about public transport routes in the vicinity of the school and the benefits of Public Transport	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 35 students in total
Our Lady Queen of Peace (adjacent to Southill)	Don't Park Here initiative May 2014 - ongoing	Improve safety at the school gate - reduce frequency of double parking. School won the RSA Leading Light Award in Dec 2014	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 30 individuals involved from the wider community and 4th class students This initiative has been extended as a pilot enterprise with the Mens Shed group in Janesboro.
Galvone NS & Our Lady Queen of Peace	Mapping Workshop May 2014, Dec 2014	Mapping routes to school, exploring travel networks in the local area	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1st - 6th Class in both schools
Gaelscoil Sheoirse Clancy	Walkability Audit Jan 2013, Jan 2014	Audit routes for safety issues	
Our Lady Queen of Peace	Walking Bus Aimed to create a walking bus system from local estates Apr-14		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1st class took part in a pilot (30 students)
Galvone, Our Lady Queen of Peace, Gaelscoil Sheoirse Clancy	Mapping Student Distribution.	Identify key routes and opportunities to promote sustainable travel	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 446 student addresses mapped
Galvone, Our Lady Queen of Peace, Gaelscoil Sheoirse Clancy	Site Assessment Survey	Identify the needs of the school, barriers faced and school policy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Useful exercise in identifying schools awareness of sustainable travel and safety concern

Activities to date February 2015 to February 2016:

Progress continues to be made in terms of sustainable transport. Key investment in the delivery of projects (capital and educational investment) for walking and cycling, along with other public transport improvements, as part of the Limerick Smarter Travel Schools Project and investment in improved placemaking as part of the Limerick Regeneration Programme, are helping to achieve a modal shift.

Surveys**Le Cheile, Southill**

Baseline data for Le Cheile National School, (an amalgamation of the Galvone National School and Southill Junior School in Southill) which opened in September 2015 was carried out in November 2015 by the Limerick Smarter Travel School Project and is recorded below. This follow on survey measures and compares with baseline data collected for 2014 and will be updated again in next year's Monitoring Report.

How do you travel to/from school?**Total Respondents: 72**

Mode	% To School	% Frm School
Walk to School	46.6	46.6
Cycle to School	1.7	1.7
Car	43.1	46.6
Private Bus	0.0	0.0
Public Transport	0.0	0.0
Park & Stride	8.6	5.2
Other	0.0	0.0

How would you prefer to travel to school?

Mode	%
Walk to School	26.7%
Cycle to School	44.8%
Car	16.4%
Private Bus	1.7%
Public Transport	4.3%
Park & Stride	5.2%
Other	0.9%

Cycling Behaviour

Query	%
Cycle their bike at home	81.8%
Own a helmet	23.9%
Wear a helmet	14.8%
Have lights on their bike	62.5%
Wear a high viz vest when cycling	28.4%

Do you carpool to/from school?**Total Respondents: 72**

Mode	% To School	% From School
Yes	40.0	28.3
No	60.0	71.7

Surveys**Our Lady Queen Of Peace**

Baseline data for Our Lady Queen of Peace, adjacent to Southill, was carried out in 2012, 2013 and 2014 and is recorded in the baseline data above by the Limerick Smarter Travel School Project. Follow on surveys were carried out in February 2015 and June 2015 and are displayed below to measure and compare with baseline data.

How do you travel to school?

Mode	Feb. 2015	June 2015
Walk to School	48.7	49.3
Cycle to School	1.3	0.0
Car	43.4	43.5
Private Bus	1.3	0.0
Public Transport	2.6	4.3
Park & Stride	0.0	2.9
Other	2.6	0.0

How do you travel from school?

Mode	Feb. 2015	June 2015
Walk to School	50.0	50.7
Cycle to School	1.3	0.0
Car	35.5	40.6
Private Bus	1.3	0.0
Public Transport	2.6	4.3
Park & Stride	6.6	4.3
Other	2.6	0.0

Do you carpool from school?

	Feb. 2015	June 2015
Yes	28.1	25.8
No	71.9	74.2

Do you carpool to school?

	Feb. 2015	June 2015
Yes	21.2	31.3
No	78.8	68.7

Cycling Behaviour

Query	Feb. 2015	June 2015
Own or have use of	84.2	89.9
Cycle their bike at home	65.8	69.6
Own a helmet	25.0	31.9
Wear a helmet	15.8	13.0
Have lights	55.3	65.2
Wear a hi-viz	30.3	65.2

Are you aware of Limerick Smarter Travel?

	Feb. 2015	June 2015
Yes	2.63	49.3
No	97.37	50.7

Key Findings from Baseline Data from Our Lady Queen of Peace School:

Compared to the baseline figures (from June 2014 figures):

- there is an increase of 23% of those who walk to school in June 2015;
- there is an increase of 8% of those who carpool from school in June 2015.

Educational Workshops

The following information provides a summary of key actions that took place in the regeneration areas from February 2015 to February 2016:

Actions Taken In 2013-2014	Commentary
Health and Safety Authority (HSA) - Keep Safe Event, Southill Area Centre	Le Cheile NS, Gaelscoil Sheirse and Our Lady Queen of Peace attended a HSA Keep Safe event in the Southill Area Centre in Limerick. Over 100 students from 5th and 6th class students attended the event. "Keep Safe" involves a number of state agencies and regional organisations coming together to deliver an interactive safety programme directed at fifth and sixth class pupils. It aims to promote safety and community awareness through involving the children in a series of interactive scenarios with a strong safety theme. Green-Schools Travel highlighted ways to keep safe on the journey to school. The transition from primary to secondary school was also spoken about and how some of these students will now be independently travelling to school.
National Bike Week - Event Funding	For the second year running individuals and groups from schools, communities, campuses and workplaces had the opportunity to avail of funding to help them run their own cycling inspired event. Limerick's 'Bike Week - Event Fund' saw 18 groups receive financial support to independently run their own BeSPOKE event. Event fund winners included Southill Area Centre, (Community) , Southside Youth Space, (Community) , Northside Youth Space, (Community), West End Youth Space, (Community)
Southill Men's Shed	The Southill Men's' Shed members planned to run n their highly successful Bike Repair and Family Day for the entire community.
Road Safety and Bike safety Information Morning	Event encouraging young people to cycle to the Youth Space West End
Northside Youth Space	The event involved the youth workers and teens from Northside Youthsace. The teens were taken on a guided cycle along the river to UL where they will have a swim followed by a picnic.
Southside Youth Space The Factory Youth space, Galvone	'Get on your Bike' Family Day. The BBQ and bike repair workshop marked the launch the youth space's new Bike Project an innovative youth employability project coordinated by Limerick Youth Service.
Sustainable Travel Promotion through Green-Schools Travel Programme	Le Cheile NS, Colaiste Nano Nagle, Limerick School Project and An Mhोध Scoil commenced work on the GST theme this year. Green-Schools coordinators from these schools attended a teacher training seminar in the Maldron Hotel in October. These schools have carried out various activities and initiatives to promote sustainable travel including; climate change workshops, scores on the doors, green tree monitoring and WOW days. Our Lady of Lourdes and Gaelcholaisté Luimnigh have implemented the seven steps of the Green-Schools programme and have been awarded their green flag for travel.
Gear-Up Workshops	A number of Limerick Smarter Travel Schools participated in Halfords Gear-up workshops. The workshops were organised through the Green-Schools Travel programme. The workshops were delivered by Halfords and allowed students to learn about bike maintenance and cycling safety. Topics covered included; The 'M' check, How to check and change tyre pressure, How to find and fix a puncture, How to adjust saddle and handlebars to the right height, How to put a chain back on, 10 hazards to avoid when cycling and How to fit a helmet. Le Cheile NS, Our Lady of Lourdes, St. Brigids, Monaleen NS and Gaelcholaiste Luimnigh took part in the workshops.
Don't Park Here Initiative - Gaelcholaiste Luimnigh	Gaelcholaiste Luimnigh Green-Schools committee have made 'Don't Park Here' models. These models were made to discourage parents from parking in unsafe places and make it safer for those students who choose to walk to school. The school got this idea from Our Lady Queen of Peace who won a RSA leading light award for this initiative. It is great to see ideas spreading from one school to the next. A number of other schools have expressed an interest in the idea. The students made the figures during their woodwork class and painted them during art class. They are a brilliant way to discourage bad driving practice and raise awareness of the work the school is doing to promote sustainable modes of transport.

Comment on Progress:

Progress continues to be made in terms of sustainable transport. Key investment in the delivery of projects (capital and educational investment) for walking and cycling, along with other public transport improvements, as part of the Limerick Smarter Travel Schools Project and investment in improved placemaking (improved public realm, public lighting upgrades and planting) as part of the Limerick Regeneration Programme, are helping to achieve a modal shift. Key positive trends include:

- Le Cheile School saw an increase in ‘carpooling to school’ measured against the baseline figures (2014) from 28.6% in 2014 to 40% in November 2015. Measured from the 2014 baseline, preference for cycling increased from 41.7% to 44.8%. Similarly, an increase in the use of high-viz vests increased from 22.2% to 28.4%
- Our Lady Queen of Peace School saw an increase in ‘walking to school’ measured against the baseline figures (June 2014) from 26% in 2014 to over 49% in June 2015. Measured from the 2014 baseline, carpooling increased from 17% (June 2014) to 31.3% in June 2015. Similarly, an increase in owning a bicycle increased from 79% (June 2014) to 89.9% in June 2015.

Recommendation for future Monitoring:

It is recommended to continue the progress made to date in the regeneration areas in terms of sustainable transport. It is recommended to ensure that the key investment in the delivery of projects (capital and educational investment) for walking and cycling, along with other public transport improvements, as part of the Limerick Smarter Travel and An Taisce Green Schools Programme and investment in improved placemaking as part of the Limerick Regeneration Programme, are delivered to help achieve a modal shift.

Data collated thusfar will be used to provide further analysis to the key trends emerging once the official Census data for 2016 is published.

Data Sources:

The data contained within the monitor is based upon the following sources:

- Limerick Smarter Travel Unit;
- An Taisce Green-Schools Travel Programme;
- CSO Census Data 2011.

Lord Edward Street: Construction within former Tait Factory Structure, Photographed August 2016



2.19 Increased delivery of cycleways/cycle lanes

Policy Background:

LRFIP Vision Statement	
“Safe and sustainable communities of opportunity where people of all ages enjoy a good quality-of life, a decent home and a sense of pride about their place. <u>Well-serviced and attractive neighbourhoods</u> will be physically connected and fully integrated with the social, economic and cultural life of Limerick.”	
LRFIP Strategic Objective	Physical Framework Plan
	4. Promote sustainable movement
LRFIP Area-Specific Objectives	<p>All Regeneration Areas Encourage, in new and refurbished homes, the incorporation of energy and water efficiency measures to at least meet Irish national standards and guidelines. Refurbishment of both privately owned and local authority tenanted homes will be carried out to achieve a BER rating of C;</p> <p>St. Mary’s Park and King’s Island Open Space and Public Realm Strategy 9. Explore the potential to upgrade Eel’s Weir to provide a cycle, pedestrian and vehicular link to the New Road and beyond and ensure that any development proposed does not have a negative impact on habitats;</p> <p>Southill 1c) Transform the Roxborough Road, the main access road dividing O’Malley Park, Keyes, Kincora and Carew Parks, from a route that is predominantly designed for the movement of vehicles to a traffic calmed street where the needs of pedestrians, cyclists and public transport users are prioritised. Measures to slow down traffic, for example the narrowing of carriageways, the redesign of the major junction at Roxboro roundabout and sideroad entry treatments to Keyes and Kincora Parks, will be incorporated to improve safety for all road users. The Roxborough Road is also a designated Smarter Travel route with an opportunity to establish a ‘safe route to school’ making the street safer for parents and children to use;</p> <p>Moyross 3. Upgrade the existing Moyross Avenue from a route that is predominantly designed for the movement of vehicles to a traffic calmed street where the needs of pedestrians, cyclists and public transport users are prioritised. Measures to slow down traffic, for example the narrowing of carriageways and side-road entry treatments to the various residential estates, will be incorporated to improve safety for all road users;</p>
Design and Public Realm Code	<p>1.0 Streets 6.0 Public Open Spaces 6.2 Detailed Design Guidelines Home Zones Hard Landscape Materials Public Realm and Design Code Checklist</p>

Baseline:

Within the four regeneration areas, there are no designated cycle lanes.

Activities 2014-2015:

A breakdown of the cycle lanes currently being planned/delivered are described as follows:

Churchfield Southill

The direct connection from Roxboro roundabout (through the 'Galvone Arms' site) to the heart of Southill is designated as a 'Link' route in the Design and Public Realm Code, prepared by Limerick City and County Council. This type of street works at the next level down in the hierarchy from the 'Arterial' route at Childer's Road and is not intended to accommodate through traffic. The replacement housing scheme at Churchfield (at Part 8 public display stage) proposes to part deliver a strategic cycle link through Southill (1.8m wide cycle lanes) at either side of the carriageway to a length of approximately 210 metres (105m either side of carriageway). It is proposed that the remainder of this strategic cycle link will be developed in accordance with the specifications of the Design and Public Realm Code and in alignment with the Churchfield scheme.

Cosgrave Park, Moyross and Cliona Park Phase 2

Similar to the Churchfield scheme, a link street is proposed along Moyross Avenue with cycle lanes either side of the carriageway. The Cosgrave Park scheme (at Part 8 public display stage) proposes to part deliver this cycle link through Moyross (1.8m wide cycle lanes) to a length of approximately 375 metres (375m either side of carriageway). The remainder of the cycle link will be developed as part of future replacement housing and non residential schemes in accordance with the Design and Public Realm Code specifications and in alignment with the Cosgrave Park Scheme.

Thomond Weir

A specific objective for St. Mary's Park is the delivery of a 'Link' street by upgrading the existing structure of Thomond Weir to accommodate 2 traffic lanes (6m wide), 2 Cycle paths (2 x 1.75m wide) and 2 footways (2 x 2.5m wide) from St. Mary's Park to New Road to a length of approximately 760m (380m either side of carriageway). This project is currently at pre-feasibility stage to determine if the existing structure is capable of accommodating the design parameters outlined above.

Activities to Date February 2015- February 2016:**Cliona Park phase 3**

Cliona Park Phase 3 is currently at design stage and approaching Part 8 planning application stage. As part of this scheme a strategic neighbourhood link between Moyross Avenue and LIT was masterplanned. The Part 8 planning application proposes to deliver approximately 60m of a cycle link both sides of the carriageway as part of this masterplanned route to LIT with future planning applications delivering the remainder.

Palm Court

The direct connection from Roxboro roundabout (through the 'Galvone Arms' site) to the heart of Southill is designated as a 'Link' route in the Design and Public Realm Code, prepared by Limerick City and County Council. The replacement housing scheme at Palm Court (approaching Part 8 public display stage) proposes to part deliver a strategic cycle link through Southill (1.8m wide cycle lane) at one side of the carriageway to a length of approximately 60 metres. It is proposed that the remainder of this strategic cycle link will be developed in accordance with the specifications of the Design and Public Realm Code.

Roxborough Road, Limerick - Design study:

Consultants were procured in July 2015 to prepare a design study for a route between the City Centre and Southill which is currently undergoing economic and social regeneration. The route extends from the Roxborough Road to the City Centre where cycle lanes will be retrofitted on the existing carriageway where width permits. The Route will enter the City Centre via Roxborough Road, Sexton Street and Parnell Street and terminate at Colbert Station where secure bike parking facilities will be provided.

Comment on Progress:

There has been a considerable change in policy relating to shifting the modal to decrease car usage and increase bicycle travel through the adopted LRFIP and the Design and Public Realm Code for the Regeneration Areas. The provision of safe, comfortable and convenient cycle lanes are being delivered as part of the replacement housing schemes within and adjacent to the regeneration areas. To date, a total length of approximately 1900m² of cycle lanes are being delivered/planned as part of 5 no. replacement housing schemes and wider connections. In addition, the Roxborough Road – City Centre Design Study anticipates the delivery of approximately 4km in length (2km either side of carriageway) of dedicated and segregated cycle lanes into the city-centre.

Recommendation for future Monitoring:

Continue the progress made to date in the regeneration areas in terms of the delivery of cycleways and cycle lanes. It is recommended to continue the proactive and collaborative partnership with Limerick Smarter Travel and An Taisce Green Schools Programme to ensure investment in improved placemaking and smarter travel is efficiently delivered as part of the Limerick Regeneration Programme. A key recommendation for the future in the tracking of the delivery of cycle lanes is to acquire the relevant data on a yearly basis as replacement housing schemes and non-residential schemes approach planning permission. This data will be interrogated as part of the overall evaluation study, to commence in 2016, in relation to linkages to other themes.

Data Sources:

The data contained within the monitor is based upon the following sources:

- Limerick City and County Council Internal Databases;
- Limerick Regeneration Framework Implementation Plan;
- Design and Public Realm Code.
- Preliminary Roxborough Road, Limerick Design Study November 2015- ABK, Roughan O Donovan Consulting Engineers and Ait Urbanism and Landscape

Meeting The Challenge Of Climate Change and Flooding

2.20 Decreased level of level of carbon dioxide emissions

The architectural design and construction of the new homes and the refurbishment of existing stock can make a major contribution to the creation of a more sustainable environment by reducing the emissions of large amounts of CO₂. All refurbishment of existing private and local authority tenanted homes will be upgraded to a BER rating of C, thereby reducing annual CO₂ emissions. All new-build schemes will be designed to a B₃ rating, to comply with Part L, J and F of the relevant Building Regulations.

Policy Background:

LRFIP Vision Statement

“Safe and sustainable communities of opportunity where people of all ages enjoy a good quality-of life, a decent home and a sense of pride about their place. Well-serviced and attractive neighbourhoods will be physically connected and fully integrated with the social, economic and cultural life of Limerick.”

LRFIP Strategic Objective	Physical Framework Plan
	2.3.8 Meeting the Challenge of Climate Change and Flooding a) Sustainable Construction and Environmental Responsibility b) Re-Use of Existing Building Stock
LRFIP Area-Specific Objectives	All Regeneration Areas Encourage, in new and refurbished homes, the incorporation of energy and water efficiency measures to at least meet Irish national standards and guidelines. Refurbishment of both privately owned and local authority tenanted homes will be carried out to achieve a BER rating of C;
	Refurbishment Strategy

Baseline:

Prior to commencement of the thermal upgrade programme, the average BER rating of existing homes (pre-works) in the regeneration areas was E₂.

Activities to Date 2014 to February 2016:

The following table provides information on units that have been completed, are on site and are in preparation as at February 2016. Average anticipated BER ratings are derived from contracts pre and post works currently completed/being undertaken in the regeneration areas to date for an average unit of 80m² based on typical occupancy.

February 2016 - Units Complete							
Pre-Works				Post-Works			
Number of Units	BER Rating (pre-works)	Annual CO ₂ emissions (in tonnes)	Total Co ₂ emission (in tonnes)	BER Rating (post-works)	Annual CO ₂ emissions (in tonnes)	Total Co ₂ emission (in tonnes)	Annual CO ₂ emission savings (in tonnes)
49 (Pilot)	E2	6.8	333	C	2.5	122	211
229	E2	6.8	1557	C	2.5	573	984
February 2016 - Units On Site							
110	E2	6.8	748	C	2.5	275	473
February 2016 - Units In Preparation							
278	E2	6.8	1890	C	2.5	695	1195
666			4528			1665	2863
% CO ₂ emission savings planned to date since beginning of thermal upgrade programme– 63% Reduction							

Comment on Progress:

An analysis was undertaken related to the thermal upgrade programme from 2013 to February 2016 to establish the actual and projected annual carbon savings secured. The total carbon dioxide savings sees a reduction of approximately 63% to the beginning of February 2016.

Recommendation for future Monitoring:

A key recommendation for the future in the tracking of carbon savings is to acquire the relevant pre BER and post BER data. This data will be interrogated as part of the overall evaluation study, to be commenced in 2016, in relation to linkages to other themes. A proposal for future analysis of this indicator is to track the ratings of new-build replacement housing schemes (B rated dwellings or greater) in the regeneration areas within both public and private ownership. A key recommendation for the future in the tracking of carbon savings is to acquire the relevant data on a yearly basis. This data will be interrogated as part of the overall evaluation study, to be commenced in 2016, in relation to linkages to other themes. A proposal for future analysis of this indicator is to track the number of B rated dwellings or greater in the regeneration areas (within public and private ownership).

Data Sources:

- SEAI;
- LCCC internal database on BER averages (pre and post works).

2.21 Increased level of use of SUDS

Irish Water have indicated that it is their intention to pursue a policy of 'nil discharge' of surface water into the combined or foul network for all new developments. An approach for replacement housing schemes within the regeneration areas is to work towards full removal of surface water from combined systems or a controlled discharge through the use of sustainable urban drainage systems such as attenuation tanks and soakaways. This indicator is based on significant schemes that have been granted Part 8 planning permission or are approaching this stage with SUDs integral to the drainage system.

Policy Background:

The core objective of this indicator is to mitigate against surface water flooding.

LRFIP Vision Statement	
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LRFIP Strategic Objective	Physical Framework Plan
	2.3.8 Meeting the Challenge of Climate Change and Flooding
LRFIP Area-Specific Objectives	All Regeneration Areas Open Space and Public Realm Strategy Minimise run-off to the existing drainage infrastructure through the integration of Sustainable Urban Drainage System (SUDS) technologies on a site-by-site basis as appropriate, i.e. swales, porous paving etc;
Design and Public Realm Code	1.0 Streets 6.1 General Objectives 6.2 Detailed Design Guidelines SUDS Measures 10.0 Public Realm And Design Code Compliance Checklist

Baseline 2012-February 2015:

In 2012, 1 scheme at Colivet Drive Southill was granted Part 8 planning permission with SUDS features integral to the drainage system. Two schemes at Churchfield Southill and Cosgrave Park Southill are at Part 8 Planning application stage. The scheme at Cosgrave Park has attenuation tanks proposed as part of its drainage system which has been designed to collect surface water from Cliona Park Phase 1, the gap site and Cliona Park Phase 2.

Regeneration Area	Site Name and Location	No. of Units	Status as at January 2015	SUDs
New-Build				
Moyross	Cliona Park gap site	2	At Construction Stage	√ Cosgrave Park attenuation tanks will collect surface water from this scheme
	Cliona Park Phase 2	10	Completion date of March 2015	√ Cosgrave Park attenuation tanks will collect surface water from this scheme
	50 units at Cosgrave Park	50	Approaching Part 8 Planning application stage	√ 2 attenuation tanks proposed (1 tank measuring for 450m ³ and another tanks to collect surface water run off from approx 0.48ha)
Southill	Colivet Court	35	Completed	1 surface attenuation tank (128m ³) and soakaways to front of units along Colivet Drive
	Churchfield	80	Part 8 Planning Stage	√ surface water from the development will fall by gravity to two attenuation tanks – (storage capacity 100m ³) and 470m ³)

Activities to Date February 2015-February 2016:

Regeneration Area	Site Name and Location	No. of Units	Status as at January 2016	SUDs
New-Build				
Moyross	Dalgaish Park	40	At Preliminary Departmental Approval	Given the topography of the site, it is anticipated that surface water from the development will fall by gravity and into a new surface water sewer to be provided as part of the Cosgrave Park development.
	Cliona Park Phase 3	18	At Design Stage	Surface water attenuation will be required to Cliona Park Phase 3. A budget allowance is included for a circa. 450m ³ attenuation tank, surface water pump sets and surface water connection into S12-0 located near Cosgrave Park. Cliona Park Phase 3 will be dependent on surface water infrastructure promised as part of the Cosgrave Park Development.
Southill	Palm Court	27	At Design Stage	Surface Water Attenuation is required for this scheme. A budget allowance for an attenuation tank of approx 150m ³ is proposed as part of this scheme.
St. Mary's Park/ King's Island	Orchard site	29	At Design Stage	Proposal at present seeks to deal with surface water strategy involves discharging directly to Shannon through existing outlet.
	St. Mary's Park Infill Scheme	21	At Design Stage	It is proposed to provide trees and planting within green areas of the infill houses that will receive surface water runoff. Part of the runoff volume will be removed through evaporation and plant transpiration. Attenuation will be provided within a stone drainage layer under trees/planting with a high level overflow to the existing drainage system. These combined measures will reduce surface water run-off from the site.
City Schemes	Lord Edward Street	83	Under construction	Attenuation of surface water runoff will be provided in the form of a 517m ³ stormwater attenuation tank

Comment on Progress:

Considerable progress has been made on the objective to promote increased use of SUDs and attenuation techniques in relation to new-build replacement housing schemes.

Recommendation for future Monitoring:

A key recommendation for the future is to acquire the relevant data on a yearly basis for all built form within public and private ownership.

Data Sources:

The data contained within the monitor is based upon the following sources:

- LCCC internal databases;
- Limerick City and County Council planning permission database;
- Adopted Limerick Regeneration Framework Implementation Plan;
- Design and Public Realm Code.

Colivet Court,
Southill Older Persons
Accommodation



2.22 Decreased level of domestic water consumption (litres/day/household)

Generally, all replacement housing schemes proposed in the regeneration areas will be provided with low or variable capacity flushing toilets as well as low volume taps and shower heads. This will be considered further as projects approach detailed tender design stage. More detailed monitoring information will be collected on water consumption from Irish Water and the Service Operations Directorate of LCCC when available.

2.23 Decreased level of water leakage rates**Policy Background:**

LRFIP Vision Statement	
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LRFIP Strategic Objective	Physical Framework Plan
	2.3.8 Meeting the Challenge of Climate Change and Flooding 2.3.9 Conserve and Enhance the Natural Environment
LRFIP Area-Specific Objectives	<p>All Regeneration Areas 3. Encourage, in new and refurbished homes, the incorporation of energy and water efficiency measures to at least meet Irish national standards and guidelines.</p> <p>St. Mary's Park 6. Environmentally improve the existing street network of St. Mary's Park to provide a safe, attractive, accessible and well-designed network of streets in tandem with the upgrade to the existing water network and refurbishment works to existing houses.</p> <p>Infrastructure 12. Upgrade the existing water network in St. Mary's Park in tandem with refurbishment works to existing houses. St. Mary's Park is currently serviced by a 3 inch cast iron water main network (which dates from the 1930s). The provision of adequate water is a key development objective in the short-term to sustainably develop the water and drainage infrastructure for St Mary's Park for existing and future residents.</p>

Baseline:

St. Mary's was serviced via a series of communal lead services from 3" cast iron water mains on the public road. These communal lead services traverse private properties through the rear gardens and connect individually into the houses from this communal lead looped service. The solution to the water supply difficulties in St. Mary's park was to remove the entire compliment of common lead looped supplies and provide new services from the existing water mains on the public road to each individual property. Limerick City and County Council was aware of the level of leakage on the communal lead services The level of water leakage in the estate was high, well above the city-wide level of 46% and the desired level of less than 30%.

Activities to Date February 2015-February 2016:

The solution to the water supply difficulties in St Mary's park was to remove the entire compliment of common lead looped supplies and provide new services from the existing water mains on the public road to each individual property. The works to replace the lead system in St. Mary's Park was completed in Q2 2016.

Recommendation for future Monitoring:

A key recommendation for the future is to continue to monitor water leakage levels in the regeneration areas, in consultation with Irish Water and Limerick City and County Council. The objective of reducing leakage levels within St. Mary's Park, and to eliminate occurrences of loss of supply and poor pressures, whilst conserving the natural environment, will significantly improve the quality of life for residents in St. Mary's Park.

Data Sources:

Irish Water;
Limerick City and County Council.

2.24 Decreased level of household waste

The amount of household waste collected per head is inextricably linked to recycling. Therefore, it is proposed that this indicator can be analysed in conjunction with indicator 3.25 when a fuller evidence base is collected throughout 2015.

Policy Background:

LRFIP Vision Statement	
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LRFIP Strategic Objective	Physical Framework Plan
	2.3.8 Meeting the Challenge of Climate Change and Flooding 2.3.9 Conserve and Enhance the Natural Environment
Design and Public Realm Code	5.7.1 Street Types: A1/B1/B2/B3/C1: Bins 5.7.4 Special Buildings 5.7.8 Residential Infill 5.7.9 Residential New Build

Baseline:

Activities to Date:

Limerick City and County Council is actively promoting the provision of individual bin storage in replacement housing schemes.

All schemes at planning application stage and approaching planning application stage comply with the current Limerick City Development Plan standards that require all residential units to have adequate storage for a 3-bin system – organic, dry recyclables and residual waste in an effort to segregate and reduce the amount of waste destined for landfill. Each residential unit for replacement housing schemes will be provided with secure ventilated refuse storage for either within front, rear or side gardens and will be located within lockable steel and brick enclosures.

The individual control of household waste contributes effectively in helping to increase the amount of waste being recycled and reducing the amount of waste directed to landfill sites. The improvement in recycling can also be attributed to the proactive effort of the Service Operations Directorate of Limerick City and County Council to raise awareness of recycling and waste segregation. Furthermore, the recently published Government Circular WP 01/15 regarding the introduction of new household waste legislation, will assist in waste reduction and

segregation by requiring all collectors of household waste to have pay-by-weight systems in place and to record the weight of waste each time a bin is lifted. The requirement for collectors of household waste to charge on a by-weight basis will not apply until July 2016. However, this has now been delayed to July 2017. During this adjustment period households will be provided with the weight of each bin for each collection in order to encourage waste prevention and segregation and to allow them calculate the likely pay by weight charges after such fees have been announced by their service provider for commencement of the system in July 2017.

Recommendation for future Monitoring:

A key recommendation for the future is to collect data on the level of waste weight and type of household waste being generated in the regeneration areas once the pay by weight systems are in place next year. This data will be interrogated as part of the overall evaluation study, to commence in 2016, in relation to linkages to other themes.

2.25 Increased level of household waste recycled

This indicator will be analysed in conjunction with Indicator 3.24.

Deliver A Wide Choice Of High Quality Homes**2.26 Improved Housing Quality / Resident Satisfaction With Accommodation**

This indicator will require a qualitative assessment to be undertaken as part of the overall Household Survey, which will commence once the CSO 2016 dataset is made publicly available.

2.27 Increased mix of dwellings by tenure (owner-occupied, local authority tenanted, voluntary, etc.)

It is an objective of the LRFIP to create balanced and sustainable communities, with a wide range of incomes and household types representing a cross section of society in line with national, regional and local social and housing policy. A diversity in tenure mix is both an important objective and intended consequence of the regeneration programme. For this reason, Limerick City and County Council will continue to promote and attract new residents into the regeneration areas through a mix of tenure types.

The importance of increasing tenure mix is related to the benefits of lifting the economic base of the area for the benefit of new and future residents. Whilst the attraction of homes in the regeneration areas for private development is an obvious way of diversifying mix, mechanisms for local authority tenanted homes such as pathways to owner-occupation under the provisions of the current Housing Act and the involvement of AHBs in delivery of specialist housing etc., can actively be promoted over the next few years to provide a diversification in tenure.

Policy Background:

LRFIP Vision Statement	
“Safe and sustainable communities of opportunity where people of all ages enjoy a good quality-of life, a decent home and a sense of pride about their place. <u>Well-serviced and attractive neighbourhoods</u> will be physically connected and fully integrated with the social, economic and cultural life of Limerick.”	
LRFIP Strategic Objective	Physical Framework Plan
	2.3.5 Deliver a Wide Choice of High Quality Homes a) Tenure and Income Mix b) Addressing Current and Future Need
	1.7 Delivering Tenure Diversification
	Appendix 3: Core Strategy Compliance
LRFIP Area-Specific Objectives	9. Promote high-quality design and detailing in replacement and refurbished homes to create a sense of robustness and longevity as well as support tenure-blind principles; 10. Include a diversity and fluidity of tenure options to ensure that each part of Ballinacurra Weston becomes more mixed. (Please refer to Tenure Diversity Strategy for more detailed information);
Housing Strategy 2014 (October)	2.0 Housing Strategy 3.0 Updated Housing Strategy 2014 4.0 Future Development Sites

Baseline (2012-2014):

2012

Regeneration Area	Private (%)	Local Authority (%)
Southill	47	53
Moyross	34	66
St. Mary's Park	65	35
Ballinacurra Weston	72	28

2013

Regeneration Area	Private (%)	Change relative to 2012 baseline	Local Authority (%)	Change relative to 2012 baseline
Southill	55	+8	45	-8
Moyross	35	+1	65	-1
St. Mary's Park	65	0	35	0
Ballinacurra Weston	71	-1	29	+1

2014

Regeneration Area	Private (%)	Change relative to 2012 baseline	Local Authority (%)	Change relative to 2012 baseline
Southill	52	+8	48	-5
Moyross	36	+2	64	-2
St. Mary's Park	63	-2	37	+2
Ballinacurra Weston	71	+1	29	+1

Activities to Date (2015):

2015

Regeneration Area	Private (%)	Change relative to 2012 baseline	Local Authority (%)	Change relative to 2012 baseline
Southill	52	+8	48	-5
Moyross	34	0	66	0
St. Mary's Park	60	-5	40	+5
Ballinacurra Weston	68	-4	32	+4

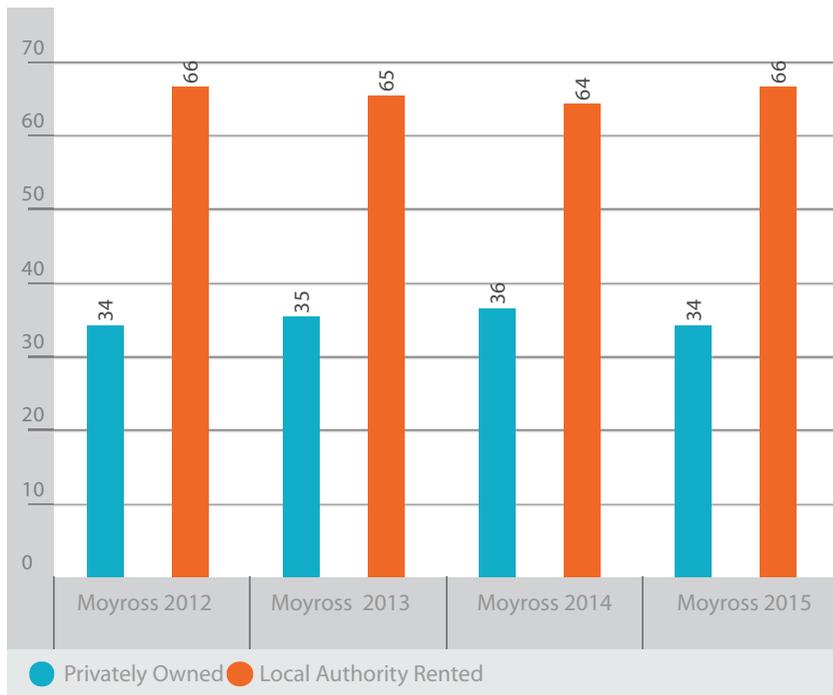


Figure 6: Percentage mix of dwellings by tenure and year in Moyross



Figure 7: Percentage mix of dwellings by tenure and year in St. Mary's Park

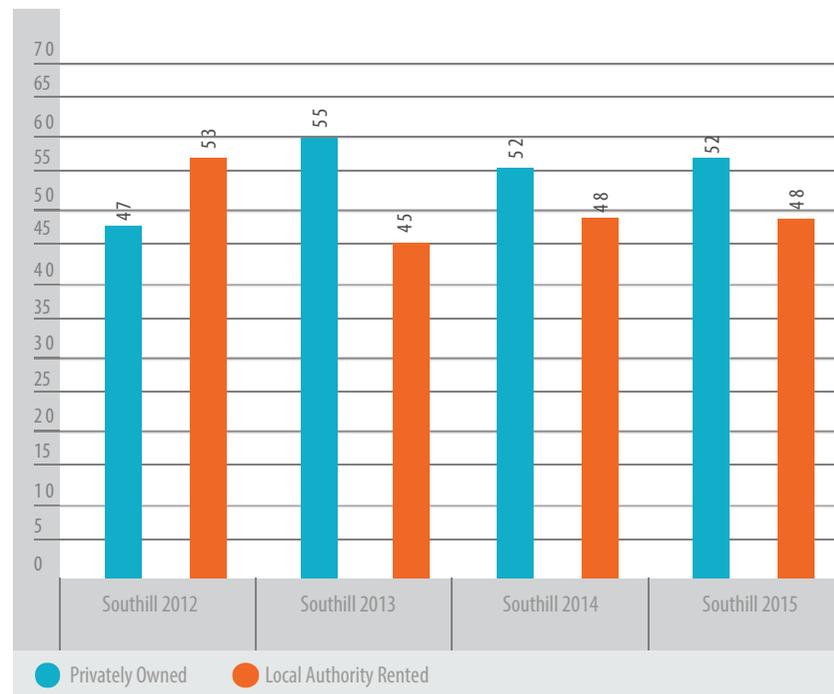


Figure 8: Percentage mix of dwellings by tenure and year in Southill

Comment on Progress:

The adopted LRFIP with specific reference to Appendix 3: Compliance with Core Strategy and Volume 3: Implementation and Delivery (page 452) and section 1.7 Delivering Tenure Diversification (page 299) highlights the importance of achieving improved tenure diversity to promote social, economic and physical regeneration.

A key physical objective is to provide attractive environments, well managed and overlooked public spaces and a good quality public realm, in tandem with social and economic interventions. Such physical measures create an attractive environment for all who live there in addition to new residents, encouraging greater levels of community pride and home ownerships.

Progress has been made from 2012 to date in rebalancing the tenure mix of the regeneration areas. However, it should be noted that tenure patterns are in a state of flux as the regeneration programme is being implemented with voids coming back into occupied reuse and the demolition programme progressing. In addition, a number of properties in the regeneration areas are being made available for sale

through the private market and are being purchased, as is evident from the property price register. Once the reconfiguration and stabilisation of the estates are complete, the areas will gradually become more attractive for private investors and development, repopulating the areas to provide the critical mass to sustain and provide for additional services. Over the next few years it is hoped that the tenure balance will continue to improve from the baseline recorded as tenants can opt to buy their dwellings from the Local Authority Tenure through the Tenant (Incremental) Purchase Scheme which was launched in January 2016. However, this process will take time, noting the programme's implementation phase from 2014 to 2024.

In addition, it is recommended that any future development of the Clonlong site and Toppin's Field in Southill be in accordance with the Traveller Accommodation Programme 2014-2018 and any subsequent programme adopted by the Council. A strategic approach will be undertaken in consultation with the families and other agencies to ensure that the traveller residents within the regeneration areas benefit to the fullest from the regeneration programme.

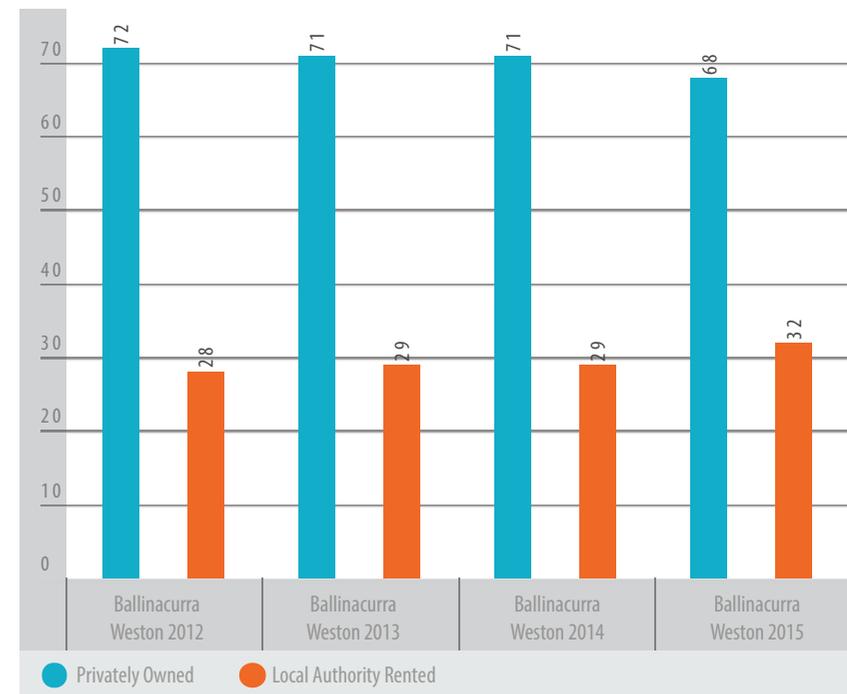


Figure 9: Percentage mix of dwellings by tenure and year in Ballinacurra Weston

Recommendation for future Monitoring:

A key recommendation for the future in the tracking of tenure mix is to acquire the relevant data **on a yearly basis**. A stock survey and Housing Strategy is carried out by Limerick City and County Council on a yearly basis to capture this data. This data will be interrogated as part of the overall evaluation study, to commence in 2016, in relation to linkages to other themes.

Data Sources:

The data contained within the monitor is based upon the following sources:

- CSO 2011;
- Adopted Limerick Regeneration Framework Implementation Plan;
- Housing Strategy for the regeneration areas (October 2014).

2.28 Decreased level of dwellings that are vacant**Policy Background:**

LRFIP Vision Statement	
"Safe and sustainable communities of opportunity where people of all ages enjoy a good quality-of life, a decent home and a sense of pride about their place. <u>Well-serviced and attractive neighbourhoods</u> will be physically connected and fully integrated with the social, economic and cultural life of Limerick."	
LRFIP Strategic Objective	Physical Framework Plan
	2.3.5 Deliver a Wide Choice of High Quality Homes a) Tenure and Income Mix b) Addressing Current and Future Need
	1.7 Delivering Tenure Diversification
	Appendix 3: Core Strategy Compliance
LRFIP Area-Specific Objectives	9. Promote high-quality design and detailing in replacement and refurbished homes to create a sense of robustness and longevity as well as support tenure-blind principles;
Housing Strategy 2014 (October)	3.0 Updated Housing Strategy 2014

2012

Regeneration Area	December 31 2012 Number of Units	Private	Local Authority
Southill	71	12	59
Moyross	81	4	77
St.Mary's Park	71	13	58
Ballinacurra Weston	32	12	20

2013

Regeneration Area	December 31 2013 Number of Units	Private	Local Authority	Change relative to 2012 baseline
Southill	54	13	41	-17
Moyross	84	1	83	+3
St.Mary's Park	53	14	39	-18
Ballinacurra Weston	34	12	22	+2
				-30

2014

Regeneration Area	December 31 2014 Number of Units	Private	Local Authority	Change relative to 2012 baseline
Southill	59	11	48	-12
Moyross	40	2	38	-41
St.Mary's Park	53	13	40	-18
Ballinacurra Weston	32	11	21	0

Activities to Date (2015):

2015

Regeneration Area	December 31 2015 Number of Units	Private	Local Authority	Change relative to 2012 baseline
Southill	59	18	41	-12
Moyross	37	1	36	-44
St. Mary's Park	44	14	30	-27
Ballinacurra Weston	20	7	13	-19

**Please note the above data for 2015 requires verification with other administrative databases.*

Comment on Progress:

Low demand in a regeneration area is manifested through void properties. From 2012 to 2016 there is a clear trend emerging with an overall reduction in void properties within the overall housing stock. This is in part due to the demolition strategy gaining momentum but also a return to occupation of void properties.

Limerick City and County Council will continue to tackle void housing by a series of integrated interventions to improve the overall desirability of the regeneration areas, as follows:

- Demolition in scheduled areas as outlined in the adopted LRFIP;
- Reshaping the range and type of void properties through refurbishment and knock-throughs where applicable;
- Devising ‘image management’ strategies for estates in an effort to reduce stigmatisation and improve area desirability;
- Enhance the inter-agency pro-active approach being taken in relation to the management of housing stock in the regeneration areas, including the provision of tenancy support and enforcement. This service will complement the social and economic regeneration programme;
- Encouraging greater tenure and tenant mix to improve area desirability;
- Non-housing physical improvements such as improved amenities, community facilities, schools and environmental improvements as well as the obvious new-build replacement housing are seen as crucial to increasing housing demand and reducing the prevalence of void properties.

Strategies for dealing with low demand are more advanced in the local authority owned stock than in those in private ownership. In this regard, Limerick City and County Council has more direct levers to change patterns of management, allocations and investment for local authority owned stock in a timely manner. In relation to privately owned void properties, there are difficulties in gaining access to private owners or landlords in some instances. However, Limerick City and County Council is making progress, utilising in some instances, legislation in relation to Dangerous Structures (The Local Government (Sanitary Services) Act, 1964) and Derelict Sites (Derelict Sites Act, 1990), where appropriate.

Recommendation for future Monitoring:

A key recommendation for the future in the tracking of the number of vacant properties is to acquire the relevant data **on a yearly basis**. A stock survey and Housing Strategy by Limerick City and County Council is carried out on a yearly basis to capture this data. This data will be interrogated as part of the overall evaluation study in relation to linkages to other themes, which will commence in 2016.

Data Sources:

The data contained within the monitor is based upon the following sources:

- Adopted Limerick Regeneration Framework Implementation Plan;
- Limerick City and County Council housing database – ihouse;
- Area Officers in the Regeneration Areas.



Subjects for Timenick's Life

Timenick's Life is a community project that aims to collect and publish stories of local interest, history and heritage. We are looking for people who can help us collect these stories. If you are interested in helping us, please contact us at: timenick@timenick.org or 01273 810000.

Subject Name: _____

Address: _____

Postcode: _____

Phone Number: _____

How did you hear of this project? _____

Other information: _____

He Finishes a New H.C.
Union's New H.C.
The new H.C. is a...
The new H.C. is a...
The new H.C. is a...

Subjects for Timenick's Life

2.29 Decreased level of dwellings that are difficult to let

This indicator is linked to indicator 3.28.

2.30 Decreased level of the number of local authority and private dwellings in the regeneration areas that fall below the BER rating 'C'

LRFIP Vision Statement	
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LRFIP Strategic Objective	Physical Framework Plan
	2.3.8 Meeting the Challenge of Climate Change and Flooding a) Sustainable Construction and Environmental Responsibility b) Re-Use of Existing Building Stock
LRFIP Area-Specific Objectives	All Regeneration Areas Encourage, in new and refurbished homes, the incorporation of energy and water efficiency measures to at least meet Irish national standards and guidelines. Refurbishment of both privately owned and local authority tenanted homes will be carried out to achieve a BER rating of C;
	All Regeneration Areas Refurbishment Strategy

Baseline 2013:

In the regeneration areas, investment in improvements to the energy efficiency of homes, have been and are likely to continue to be a highly effective way of improving the health and wellbeing of residents, preventing unnecessary ill health and reducing costs to the HSE and reducing the burden and anxiety of care for friends and relatives. The continued funding provides a reduction in heating bills and thus reduced carbon emissions. Furthermore, thermal upgrade works will improve the long term viability of the regeneration area's housing stock. Continued investment in the thermal upgrade programme has proven to have had very significant benefits for residents' sense of wellbeing. A projected number of 1,413 units are currently being planned for a thermal upgrade refurbishment.

49 Units (Contracts 1-7) commenced in 2013 have now been completed as part of the Pilot Thermal Upgrade.

Activities to Date 2014 to February 2016:

Contract No.	Area	No.	Status Update as at February 2016	Units Completed	Units on Site	Units In preparation
2014 Thermal Upgrade Rollout						
Contract 1	Ballinacurra Weston	24	Substantially complete.	24		
Contract 1A	Ballinacurra Weston	52	Substantially complete.	52		
Contract 2A	St Mary's Park	10	Substantially complete.	10		
Contract 2B	St Mary's Park	15	Substantially complete.	15		
Contract 3	Southill	23	Substantially complete.	23		
Contract 4	Moyross	22	Substantial completion pending inspection of scheduled completion items.	22		
Contract 5	Ballinacurra Weston	21	Substantial completion pending inspection of scheduled completion items.	22		
Contract 6	St Mary's Park	19	Substantially complete.	19		
Contract 7	Southill	-	Contract cancelled.	-	-	-
Contract 8	Moyross	42	Substantial completion pending resolution of residual issues and works.	42		
Contract 9	Southill	28	Contract started on site 10th July 2015.		28	
Contract 10	Moyross	20	Substantial completion pending resolution of residual issues and works.		20	
Contract 11	Moyross	29	Contractor appointed / works ongoing.		29	
Contract 12		-	Contract cancelled.	-	-	-
Contract 13	Southill	33	Contractor appointed / works commencing.		33	

Contract No.	Area	No.	Status Update as at February 2016	Units Completed	Units on Site	Units In preparation
Subsequent Thermal Upgrade Rollout Programme						
Contract 101A (as Cont 1B)	Ballinacurra Weston	26	Authorisation to award contract received.			26 (from 1B above)
Contract 101B (as Cont 1B)	Ballinacurra Weston	26	Authorisation to award contract received.			26 (from 1B above)
Contract 102	St Mary's Park	31	Scopes of Work review completing ahead of Cost Plan preparation.			31
Contract 103	Southill	51	Currently being tendered. Tenders due to return on the 24th February 2016.			51
Contract 104	Moyross	47	2 No. BER assessments & 5 condition surveys awaited. Scoping of Works complete with the exception of these units.			47
Contract 105	Ballinacurra Weston	22	BER & Condition surveying works ongoing (2no. BER assessments & 5 condition surveys awaited). Scoping of works ongoing (70% complete).			21
Contract 106	St Mary's Park	30	BER & Condition surveying works ongoing (8 BER assessments & 5 condition surveys awaited). Scoping of works ongoing (10% complete).			30
Contract 107	Southill	51	BER & Condition surveying works ongoing (11 BER assessments & 16 condition surveys awaited).			47
Contract 108	Moyross	55	BER & Condition surveying works ongoing (3 BER assessments & 13 Condition surveys awaited).			51
Contract 109	Southill	50				
Contract 110	Moyross	51				
Contract 111	Moyross	43				
Contract 112	Ballinacurra Weston	26				
Contract 113	St Marys Park	31				
Contract 114	Southill	55				

Contract No.	Area	No.	Status Update as at February 2016	Units Completed	Units on Site	Units In preparation
Subsequent Thermal Upgrade Rollout Programme						
Contract 115	Moyross	48				
Contract 116	Ballinacurra Weston	25				
Contract 117	St Marys Park	31				
Contract 118	Southill	52				
Contract 119	Moyross	44				
Contract 120	Southill	50				
Contract 121	Moyross	48				
Contract 122	St Mary's Park	30				
Contract 123	Southill	49				
Contract 124	St Mary's Park	30				
Contract 125	St Mary's Park	28				
Contract 126	Southill	48				
Total Number (excl BCW101)		1,413	Total Number	278	110	278
Overall total complete on site, or in preparation.				666		

Comment on Progress:

In summary, the area-wide refurbishment project which seeks the upgrade of approximately 1413 units over a 4-year period is on-target with approximately 47% (666 units) of the overall units complete, on site or in preparation by February 2016. 278 units have been thermally upgraded up to February 2016 and are reaching a BER rating of C. A further 388 units are currently on site or in preparation and due to be completed by the end of 2016 with a target BER rating of C.

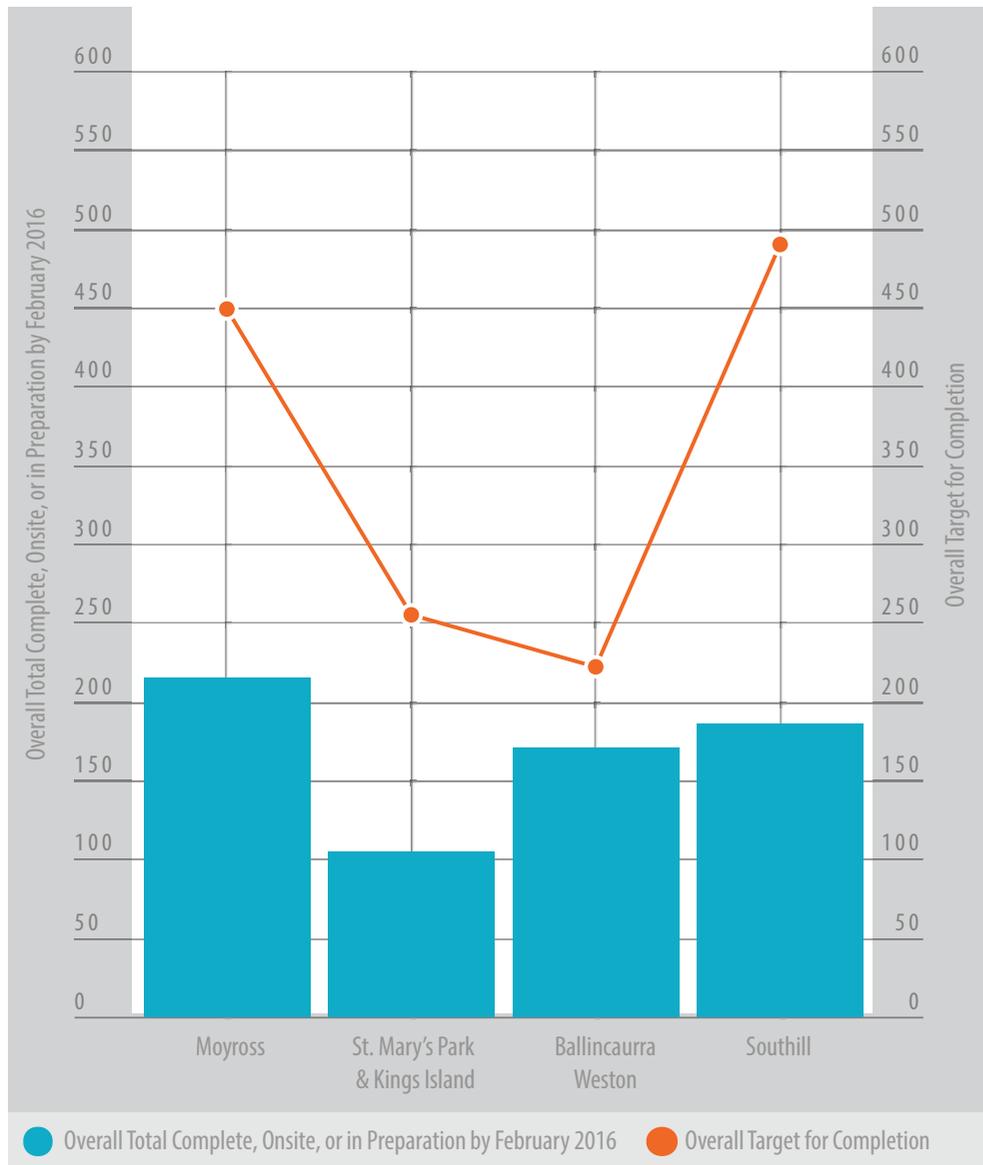


Figure 10: Thermal Upgrade Progress

Recommendations for Future Monitoring:

This indicator will be examined further as part of the evaluation study to commence in 2016, in relation to linkages to other themes. It is anticipated that continued investment in the thermal upgrade programme will prove to have very significant benefits for residents' sense of wellbeing. The impacts of the energy rating involve the collection of base-line data on social indicators as well as monitoring other significant changes, which may affect residents' wellbeing such as employment levels or crime levels.

3.31 Increased level of energy efficiency rating of homes

This indicator is linked to 3.30 above. Year-on-year the thermal upgrade programme is increasing output and by February 2016 approximately 47% (666 units) of the overall units are complete, on site or in preparation. The four regeneration areas will be complete and thermally upgraded to a BER rating of C.

2.32 Increased level of the number of specialist units (elderly housing, single person units) to meet existing and future demographics of the regeneration areas

Policy Background:

LRFIP Vision Statement	
“Safe and sustainable communities of opportunity where people of all ages enjoy a good quality-of life, a decent home and a sense of pride about their place. <u>Well-serviced and attractive neighbourhoods</u> will be physically connected and fully integrated with the social, economic and cultural life of Limerick.”	
LRFIP Strategic Objective	Physical Framework Plan
	2.3.5 Deliver a Wide Choice of High Quality Homes b) Addressing Current and Future Need
LRFIP Area-Specific Objectives	<p>All Regeneration Areas</p> <p>9. Provide replacement housing to respond to the existing housing need in terms of the type and size of replacement housing in order to sustain a mixed community;</p> <p>10. Consider the existing housing need (replacement housing need due to proposed demolitions, need arising due to those in overcrowded conditions and those approved for housing on the Housing Waiting List) in determining the type and size of replacement and additional housing provision in order to sustain a mixed and sustainable neighbourhood;</p> <p>11. Consider the future housing need required over the regeneration programme in relation to overcrowding, emerging household types and elderly housing. It is prudent to plan for a net gain in replacement homes which will act as a sufficient buffer over the lifetime of the regeneration project.</p>
	Appendix 1: Baseline Conditions and Analysis 1.7.4 Household Structure 1.7.5.2 Future Household Need
Housing Strategy 2014 (October)	2.0 Housing Strategy 3.0 Updated Housing Strategy 2014 4.0 Future Development Sites

The delivery of specialized units to meet existing and future demographics as outlined below relate to schemes that have advanced to planning application stage/approaching planning application stage. The overall number of units for replacement housing are defined in the adopted LRFIP (February 2014) and the subsequent Housing Strategy 2014 (October 2014). Within the figures required overall for each of the regeneration areas, existing need is considered as well as future need. Future need is referred to as a net gain (buffer) to accommodate, in part, those who were displaced out of the regeneration areas and who wish to return as well as future household formations.

There are schemes that are approved by the DHPCLG and currently at design development stage which have been included in the calibration below. It is noted that as design development progresses unit mix may change. The unit mix provided below, nonetheless, provides a picture of the current status and will be monitored in line with existing need and the unit type demand arising and recalibrated where necessary to match household types as they emerge. As there is no new-build replacement housing proposed in Ballinacurra Weston in the short-medium term, calculations have thus been omitted in the tables on the next page.

Baseline 2011 to February 2015:

Census Data from 2011

The following table is summarised from the adopted LRFIP and the unit mix ratio is based on detailed census data collected in 2011.

Regeneration Area		1 person	2/3 person	4/5 person	6 person
Moyross	Required mix based on existing family sizes (refer to page 333 of LRFIP)	26%	50%	18%	6%
St. Mary's Park and King's Island	Required mix based on existing family sizes (refer to page 333 of LRFIP)	26%	44%	20%	10%
Southill	Required mix based on existing family sizes (refer to page 333 of LRFIP)	21%	50%	22%	7%
Ballinacurra Weston	Required mix based on existing family sizes (refer to page 333 of LRFIP)	29%	46%	19%	6%

February 2014 to February 2015

Regeneration Area	Site Name and Location	1 bed	2 bed	3 bed	4 bed
		1 person	2/3 person	4/5 person	6 person
Moyross	Required mix based on existing family sizes (refer to page 333 of LRFIP)	26%	50%	18%	6%
	Position as at February 2015 (number of units)	24 (25%)	36 (36%)	37 (38%)	1 (1%)
	Comment	Objective on-target	Objective under-target	Objective over-target	Objective under-target
St. Mary's Park and King's Island	Required mix based on existing family sizes (refer to page 333 of LRFIP)	26%	44%	20%	10%
	Position as at February 2015 (number of units)	9 (14%)	38(61%)	14(22%)	1(2%)
	Comment	Meeting Objective	Objective over-target	Objective on-target	Objective under-target
Southill	Required mix based on existing family sizes (refer to page 333 of LRFIP)	29%	46%	19%	6%
	Position as at February 2015 (number of units)	30 (16%)	72 (37%)	81 (42%)	9 (5%)
	Comment	Objective under-target	Objective under-target	Objective over-target	Objective on-target

*Specialist units for older persons

Activities to date February 2015 to February 2016

February 2014 to February 2015

Regeneration Area	Site Name and Location	1 bed	2 bed	3 bed	4 bed
		1 person	2/3 person	4/5 person	6 person
Moyross	Required mix based on existing family sizes (refer to page 333 of LRFIP)	26%	50%	18%	6%
	Cliona Park Phase 1	9	12	13	
	Cliona Park gap site	1	1		
	Cliona Park Phase 2	1	5	4	
	50 units at Cosgrave Park	13	16	20	1
	45a and 46a Cliona Park		2		
	Dalgaish Park	14	5	9	7
	Cliona Park Phase 3	3	9	6	
	Current Position as at February 2016 (number of units)	41 (27%)	50 (33%)	52 (34%)	8 (5%)
	Comment	Objective on-target	Objective under-target	Objective over-target	Objective on-target

Regeneration Area	Site Name and Location	1 bed	2 bed	3 bed	4 bed
		1 person	2/3 person	4/5 person	6 person
St. Mary's Park and King's Island	Required mix based on existing family sizes (refer to page 333 of LRFIP)	26%	44%	20%	10%
	Sheep Street		3	5	
	Gaol Lane		1	1	
	Gaol Lane Refurb		3		
	Orchard Site*	7	22		
	20 unit infills	2	9	8	1
	Current Position as at February 2016 (number of units)	9 (14%)	38(61%)	14(22%)	1(2%)
	Comment	Objective under-target	Objective over-target	Objective on-target	Objective under-target

Regeneration Area	Site Name and Location	1 bed	2 bed	3 bed	4 bed
		1 person	2/3 person	4/5 person	6 person
Southill	Required mix based on existing family sizes (refer to page 333 of LRFIP)	29%	46%	19%	6%
	Colivet*	13	22	0	0
	Churchfield	8	17	51	4
	Palm Court	4	14	9	
	Carew Park	5	12	18	2
	Markievicz Drive		7	3	3
	Current Position as at February 2016 (number of units)	30 (16%)	72 (37%)	81 (42%)	9 (5%)
	Comment	Objective under-target	Objective on-target	Objective over-target	Objective on-target

*Specialist units for older persons

Comment on Progress:

Each scheme proposed in terms of its unit mix is assessed against a combination of local knowledge on existing and emerging need and existing housing need profiles as set out in the CSO small area population statistics data in the LRFIP. Table 1.22 of the LRFIP highlights that the vast majority of existing need arising from the population and household formation estimates would be for smaller dwelling types (one-bed/two-person houses/apartments). Cognisance should also be given to the fact that the current measurement represents a current picture in time. It would be prudent to plan for the 'housing career' or housing progression of local authority tenants over time with co-habiting couples progressing to couples with children requiring larger family type units and thus justifying the need for 3 bed housing units.

Similarly, older couples living in larger family unit types who wish to downsize to smaller one or two bedroom housing types with their existing neighbourhoods should be planned for accordingly. In this regard, the Limerick City and County Council Housing Allocations Policy facilitates age-friendly downsizing transfers to meet the housing needs of older people within the regeneration areas.

Up to February 2016, the regeneration programme has funded and delivered a total of 85 elderly housing units at the following locations:

- City-Centre: Vizes Court, Phase 2: 29 units
- Southill: Colivet Court, Southill: 35 units
- Moyross: Cliona Park, Phase 1: 21 units

The Lord Edward Street scheme, currently under construction (as at September 2016) will deliver 81 housing units, 58 of which will be houses and apartments for the elderly in addition to a retail/commercial unit and a community facility with a function room, exhibition area, meeting rooms and other facilities. The scheme is due for completion in Q3 2017.

Recommendations for Future Monitoring:

A key recommendation for the future in the tracking of this indicator is to acquire the relevant data on a **quarterly basis** as part of emerging replacement housing schemes as they approach planning permission application stage. Unit mix ratios in the regeneration areas will be revisited as part of the forthcoming Census in 2016. This data will be used to recalibrate unit mix provision, if required, and also interrogated as part of the overall evaluation study in relation to linkages to other themes.

2.33 Increased level of the number of unoccupied dwellings in the regeneration areas that are brought back to residential use

This data relates to residential voids brought back into use. For the purposes of this indicator, data in relation to residential long term voids (vacant in excess of 6 months) are assessed and is closely linked to Indicator 3.28. In line with Government guidance, there is a strong argument for the re-use of existing building stock and refurbishing, where appropriate, as opposed to the demolition and rebuild in the regeneration areas.

LRFIP Vision Statement	
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LRFIP Strategic Objective	Physical Framework Plan
	2.3.1 Build a Strong Competitive Economy b) Maximising the Use of Existing Assets
	2.3.5 Deliver a Wide Choice of High Quality Homes c) Bring Houses Out of Dereliction
LRFIP Area-Specific Objectives	All Regeneration Areas 2.4.5.2 Refurbishment Strategy 2.5.5 Refurbishment Strategy 2.6.5 Refurbishment Strategy 2.7.5 Refurbishment Strategy

Baseline February 2014 to February 2015:

Residential Projects 2014-2015			Completed By February 2015
Moyross	Moyross Long term voids	10	Completed 2014
St. Mary's Park And King's Island	8-10 Gaol Lane	3	Commence 2015
	St. Mary's Park long term voids	11	Completed 2014
	St. Mary's Park long term voids	6	At Construction Stage Q1 2015
Ballinacurra Weston	Hyde Road long term voids	2	Completed 2014
	1-3 Weston Gardens	3	Due for Completion Q1 2015
	BCW Lots 1 and 2	12	Site Start Q1 2015
Southill	Southill long term voids (Maigue Way, Vale Avenue)	4	Completed 2014
	Southill long term voids (Lilac Court, Galtee Drive, Rose Court)	4	At Construction Stage Q1 2015
City-Wide Projects	Waller's Well	10	Due for Completion Q1 2015
Total		65	

Activities to Date February 2015 to February 2016

Residential Projects 2015-2016			Completed And In Construction By February 2016
Moyross	Moyross Long term voids	17	13 Completed in 2015 4 at Construction Stage
St. Mary's Park and King's Island	8-10 Gaol Lane	3	Main contractor procurement ongoing
	St. Mary's Park and King's Island long term voids	21	17 completed in 2015 4 at Construction Stage
Ballinacurra Weston	BCW long term voids	1	Completed 2015
	1-3 Weston Gardens	3	Completed and Occupied.
	BCW Lot 2	9	3 completed in 2015 1 completed in 2016 5 at construction stage
	BCW Lot 1	7	5 completed in 2015 2 at construction stage
Southill	Southill long term voids	17	Completed 2015
City-Wide Projects	Waller's Well	10	Substantial Completion certified on 12th March 2015.
Total		88	

Comment on Progress:

In line with the recent Rebuilding Ireland: Action Plan for Housing and Homelessness and DHPCLG Circular 02/2015, there is a pro-active approach to return vacant social housing units to productive use in 2016. There is a notable increase in the long term voids completed and under construction in Ballinacurra Weston, Southill, St. Mary's Park and Moyross. There are a number of factors that lead to a property becoming a long term void in the regeneration areas (emigration, abandonment, eviction, etc). A further complication of long term voids relates to those that are in private ownership and cannot be re-allocated in a timely manner by LCCC. Despite these complications, LCCC are actively triaging Long Term Voids within their control in the regeneration areas, organising refurbishment contracts and in parallel alerting the allocations teams of an estimated date of completion to ensure a timely handover of properties to prospective tenants.

A total of 88 long term voids have been identified for refurbishment from February 2014 to February 2016 with 60 no. units completed and 28 units at construction stage during this period. This marks a significant and positive increase in Limerick City and County Council's commitment to returning vacant units to productive use.

Recommendation for future Monitoring:

A key recommendation for the future tracking of this indicator is to acquire the data on a half-yearly basis.

Data Sources:

The data contained within the monitor is based upon the following sources:

- LCCC internal databases;
- LCCC I-House housing database;
- Adopted Limerick Regeneration Framework Implementation Plan.

Conserve And Enhance The Natural Environment

2.34 Increased Level Of Enhancement To Areas Of High Landscape Value E.g. By The River Shannon And Abbey River

Policy Background (underlined emphasis our own):

LRFIP Vision Statement	
“Safe and sustainable communities of opportunity where people of all ages enjoy a good quality-of life, a decent home and a sense of pride about their place. <u>Well-serviced and attractive neighbourhoods</u> will be physically connected and fully integrated with the social, economic and cultural life of Limerick.”	
LRFIP Strategic Objective	Physical Framework Plan
	2.3.9 Conserve and Enhance the Natural Environment
LRFIP Area-Specific Objectives	All Areas Open Space and Public Realm Strategy
Design and Public Realm Code	6.0 Public Open Spaces

Baseline February 2014-February 2015:

Project	Description	Status
St. Marys Park Remediation	Excavation, segregating and sorting of waste material and retaining of fill on site to an area of approximately 15000m ²	Contract signing stage Start on site March 2015
Kings Island Flood Relief Scheme	Major improvements to the existing flood defences which includes St. Mary’s Park	Project Brief in preparation

Activities to Date February 2015-February 2016:

Project	Description	Status
St. Marys Park Remediation	Excavation, segregating and sorting of waste material and retaining of fill on site to an area of approximately 15000m ²	Completed in 2015
Kings Island Flood Relief Scheme	Major improvements to the existing flood defences which includes St. Mary's Park	Project Brief in preparation. Design Consultants procured. Design options in progress.
Verdant Place	Major improvements to the existing flood defence along Verdant Place	Part 8 planning permission granted 29/02/2016
Japanese Knotweed Eradication	Limerick City and County Council have been proactive in 2015/2016 identifying key sites within the regeneration areas for the targeted treatment of Alien Invasive Species such as Japanese Knotweed.	A total of 10 sites, many of which are located adjacent to the lower Shannon SAC, have been identified from July 2015 (the beginning of the programme) to February 2016 and are currently undergoing targeted treatment

Comment on Progress:

Considerable investment to areas of high landscape value by the River Shannon and Abbey River are in progress. There is a close inter-relationship between landscape quality and the value of habitats. Areas of high landscape value by the river Shannon and Abbey river can also support many habitats and species of biodiversity value and as such significant investment has been earmarked to protect this natural asset.

The completion of the St. Mary's Park remediation Project to the rear of the right hand side of St. Munchin's Street in 2015 has eliminated the historical landfill and remediated approximately 15,000m² of contaminated land. The remediation is the first stage in developing a landscape buffer area to the existing wet meadow incorporating a north-south pedestrian/cycle link, native grassland and tree groups as proposed in the Design and Public Realm Code, prepared by Limerick City and County Council. This project will be progressed once demolition to the eastern side of St. Munchin's Street has been completed.

A programme of work to eradicate Japanese Knotweed, a highly problematic invasive species, on key development sites under the control of Limerick City and County Council also forms part of the environmental programme. To date, 10 sites, many of which are located adjacent to the lower Shannon SAC, have been identified from July 2015 (the beginning of the programme) to February 2016 and are currently undergoing targeted treatment. Major improvements to the existing flood defence along Verdant Place, St. Mary's Park successfully obtained Part 8 Planning permission on the 29th February 2016.

The progression of a strategic flood defence scheme at St. Mary's Park and King's Island will aim to mitigate flood risk whilst also minimising risk to human beings, the existing community, social amenity, environment and the high value landscape character of the area. As at February 2016, a Project Brief is in preparation and Design Consultants procured with options currently in progress.

Recommendation for future Monitoring:

A key recommendation for the future tracking of this indicator is to acquire the data on a half-yearly basis.

Data Sources:

The data contained within the monitor is based upon the following sources:

- LCCC internal databases;
- Adopted Limerick Regeneration Framework Implementation Plan;
- LRFIP: SEA Statement;
- LRFIP: Final Natura Impact Report;
- LCCC Japanese Knotweed Site Register

2.35 Increased level of the protection of individual natural features as part of development proposals

Key objectives of this indicator include:

- Protecting and enhancing environmentally designated landscapes minimising impacts on biodiversity and providing net gains in biodiversity where possible. This objective is achieved by carrying out an appropriate assessment screening of Part 8 planning application projects, a full list of which is detailed below.
- Remediating, mitigating and monitoring contaminated and unstable land, where appropriate. The remediation of the historic landfill to the east of St. Munchin's Street in St. Mary's Park is due to commence in March 2015. The works will involve the excavation, segregating and sorting of waste material and retaining of fill on site which is deemed the most environmentally.

Policy Background (underlined emphasis our own):

LRFIP Vision Statement

"Safe and sustainable communities of opportunity where people of all ages enjoy a good quality-of life, a decent home and a sense of pride about their place. Well-serviced and attractive neighbourhoods will be physically connected and fully integrated with the social, economic and cultural life of Limerick."

LRFIP Strategic Objective	Physical Framework Plan
	2.3.9 Conserve and Enhance the Natural Environment
LRFIP Area-Specific Objectives	All Areas Open Space and Public Realm Strategy
Design and Public Realm Code	6.0 Public Open Spaces

Baseline 2013 – February 2014

Regeneration Area	Site Name and Location	No. of Units	AA Screening carried out	Result
New Build				
Moyross	Cliona Park Phase 1	34	√	No significant effects are likely to arise

Activities to Date February 2014 to February 2016

Regeneration Area	Site Name and Location	No. of Units	AA Screening carried out	Result
New Build				
Moyross	Cliona Park gap site	2	√	No significant effects are likely to arise
	Cliona Park Phase 2	10	√	No significant effects are likely to arise
	50 units at Cosgrave Park	50	√	No significant effects are likely to arise
	45a/45b Cloncannane Road	2	√	No significant effects are likely to arise
New Build				
St. Mary's Park and King's Island	Sheep Street	8	√	No significant effects are likely to arise
	Orchard site	26	√	No significant effects are likely to arise
	Gaol Lane New Build	2	√	No significant effects are likely to arise
	Verdant Place Flood Defence		√	No significant effects are likely to arise
New Build				
Southill	Colivet Court	35	√	No significant effects are likely to arise
	Churchfield	80	√	No significant effects are likely to arise
City-Wide	Vizes Court Phase 2	29	√	No significant effects are likely to arise
	Lord Edward Street	83	√	No significant effects are likely to arise

Comment on Progress:

Appropriate Assessment screening statements are produced for all Part 8 planning application schemes. No schemes proposed to date have resulted in adverse effects on designated sites.

Recommendation for future Monitoring:

A key recommendation for the future tracking of this indicator is to acquire the data on a half-yearly basis.

Data Sources:

The data contained within the monitor is based upon the following sources:

- LCCC internal databases;
- Adopted Limerick Regeneration Framework Implementation Plan;
- LRFIP: SEA Statement;
- LRFIP: Final Natura Impact Report
- Appropriate Assessment Screening Statements

2.36 Increased level of areas using native or seed/fruit species

An emphasis is placed on an increased level of native and seed/fruit species in an effort to increase the biodiversity and landscape value of the regeneration area. Those species that are native and fruit/seed are highlighted in bold italic in the table as part of Indicator 3.37.

2.37 Net gain in biodiversity

LRFIP Vision Statement	
"Safe and sustainable communities of opportunity where people of all ages enjoy a good quality-of life, a decent home and a sense of pride about their place. <u>Well-serviced and attractive neighbourhoods</u> will be physically connected and fully integrated with the social, economic and cultural life of Limerick."	
LRFIP Strategic Objective	Physical Framework Plan
	2.3.9 Conserve and Enhance the Natural Environment
LRFIP Area-Specific Objectives	All Areas Open Space and Public Realm Strategy
Design and Public Realm Code	6.0 Public Open Spaces 6.1 General Objectives SUDS Measures Biodiversity Measures Planting

This indicator should be read in conjunction with indicator 3.36 above. All schemes as part of the planning application process are required to submit a landscaping plan. Opportunities to incorporate biodiversity in and around developments are encouraged in the planning application schemes to provide a net gain to biodiversity. These generally comprise:

- Native species broadleaf and evergreen species to provide biodiversity, support for wildlife and screening as they mature;
- Ornamental perennial planting to comprise ornamental grasses & flowering perennials to soften the visual impact of the development and increase biodiversity.

The following schemes were also undertaken to improve the biodiversity of the landscape resource within the regeneration areas:

- Native and ornamental bulb planting proposed for planning application schemes granted;
- Trees planted as part of planning application schemes to create new hedgerows and improve diversity within existing woodlands;
- Invasive species control at various underutilised sites (Orchard site, Bridge Street etc.)
- Scrub thinning (Ballinacurra Weston, Galvone Industrial Estate).

Activities to Date February 2014 to February 2016

Regeneration Area	Site Name And Location	Key Landscape And Planting Features To Increase Biodiversity	Status
Moyross	Cosgrave Park Scheme	Groundcover, proposed trees and shrub planting identified on planning drawings. Species to be determined post planning approval	Planning Application granted
	Cliona Park Phase 2	Proposed Trees - Carpinus Betulus (Hornbeam) Proposed Low Hedging - Photina Red Robin	Planning Application granted
	Cliona Park gap Site	Grass lawn, pea gravel and selected shrubs and trees to the internal curtilage	Planning Application granted
St Mary's Park and King's Island	Garden of Sporting Greats	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Crocus • Perennials • Ornamental grasses • Fortunes spindle • Purple barberry • Cherry laurel • Catmint 	Planning Application granted
	St. Marys Park Remediation	Excavation, segregating and sorting of waste material and retaining of fill on site	Completed 2015
	Sheep Street		
	Gaol Lane new-build		
City-Wide	Lord Edward Street	<p>Semi Mature trees</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Small leaved lime Tilia cordata • Weeping hornbeam Carpinus betulus • Maple Acer campestre • Hazel corylus columna <p>Extra Heavy Standard Trees</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Norway maple Acer platanoides <p>Standard Trees</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Smowy mespilus Amelanchier lamarckii • Malus domestica Red Delicious <p>Hedging</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Beech Fagus sylvatica • laurel Prunus lusitanica 	Planning Application granted

Regeneration Area	Site Name And Location	Key Landscape And Planting Features To Increase Biodiversity	Status
City-Wide	All regeneration areas and sites purchased by Limerick City and County Council	Japanese Knotweed Eradication Limerick City and County Council have been proactive in 2015/2016 identifying key sites within the regeneration areas for the targeted treatment of Alien Invasive Species such as Japanese Knotweed to improve the biodiversity of the regeneration areas. A total of 10 sites, many of which are located adjacent to the lower Shannon SAC, have been identified from July 2015 (the beginning of the programme) to February 2016 and are currently undergoing targeted treatment.	Programme commenced in July 2015 and is on-going
Ballinacurra Weston	New pedestrian connection to our Lady of Lourdes Church and landscaping works (weeding, grass seeding and painting of boundary walls)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Meadowgrass planted in brownfield sites where houses once stood, where ground was particularly poor 	Complete Q4 2014
Southill	Churchfield scheme	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> (Crab Apple) <i>Tilia cordata</i> 'Greenspire' (Lime) <i>Malus tschonoskii</i> (Crab Apple) <i>Acer rubrum</i> 'Armstrong' (Red Maple) <i>Betula pubescens</i> (Downy Birch) Chanticleer' (Ornamental Pear) <i>Liquidambar styraciflua</i> 'Worplesdon' (Sweet-gum) <i>Alnus glutinosa</i> (Common Alder) <i>Corylus colurna</i> (Turkish Hazel) (<i>Acer campestre</i> 'Elsrijk' (Field Maple) <i>Acer platanoides</i> 'Columnare' (Norway Maple) 	Planning Application granted
	Colivet Court	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>Betula utilis</i> 'Jaquemontii' or Himalayan birch <i>Fagus sylvatica</i> or Beech tree <i>Robinia pseudoacacia</i> Frisia or Golden Acacia tree <i>Prunus Shirotae</i> or White Cherry Blossom Lavender and rosemary mix Hellebore and fern mix Green beech hedge, <i>Fagus sylvatica</i> 	

Other Projects underway:

Regeneration Area	Site Name And Location	Key Landscape And Planting Features To Increase Biodiversity	Status
Southill	Environmental Improvements works to the Galvone Industrial Estate	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 30,000m² of scrub thinning, species control and meadowflower planting to improve biodiversity in Galvone Industrial Estate 	Tender documentation plans in preparation Works carried out in 2015 outside of March to September – (Wildlife Act restrictions)
	Tait House Masterplan Feasibility Study prepared for an Urban Farm in Southill immediately adjacent to Tait House	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 3500m² of area has been planned for allotments-enhancing existing habitats and creating new habitats to improve biodiversity future expansion for urban farm extending to an area of 9000m² 	Masterplan and Business Plan in preparation

Comment on Progress:

Progress has been made over the past year (February 2015 to February 2016) in increasing biodiversity levels as part of landscape plans for replacement housing schemes and also area specific environmental improvement schemes (Tait House Urban Farm Masterplan, Works to Galvone Industrial Estate, Japanese Knotweed Eradication programme). The Limerick Regeneration Design and Public Realm Code Checklist will ensure that the public realm and built form does not compromise the environmental amenity of the regeneration areas.

Recommendation for future Monitoring:

A key recommendation for the future tracking of this indicator is to acquire the data on a half-yearly basis.

Data Sources:

The data contained within the monitor is based upon the following sources:

- LCCC internal databases;
- Adopted Limerick Regeneration Framework Implementation Plan;
- LRFIP: SEA Statement;
- LRFIP: Final Natura Impact Report;
- Limerick Regeneration Design and Public Realm Code 2015;
- LCCC Japanese Knotweed Site Register.

Conserve And Enhance The Historic Environment

2.38 Decreased level of vacant and derelict Protected Structures within the regeneration areas.

Policy Background:

LRFIP Vision Statement

“Safe and sustainable communities of opportunity where people of all ages enjoy a good quality-of life, a decent home and a sense of pride about their place. Well-serviced and attractive neighbourhoods will be physically connected and fully integrated with the social, economic and cultural life of Limerick.”

LRFIP Strategic Objective	Physical Framework Plan
	2.3.1 Build a Strong Competitive Economy b) Maximising the Use of Existing Assets
	2.3.5 Deliver a Wide Choice of High Quality Homes c) Bring Houses Out of Dereliction
LRFIP Area-Specific Objectives	All Regeneration Areas 2.4.5.2 Refurbishment Strategy 2.5.5 Refurbishment Strategy 2.6.5 Refurbishment Strategy 2.7.5 Refurbishment Strategy

Baseline 2014 to February 2015:

Within the regeneration areas, the following protected structures, as catalogued in the Limerick City Development Plan 2010-2016, are as follows:

Regeneration Area	Scheme	Status
Moyross	Castle Park	Unoccupied
St. Mary's Park and King's Island	None located within St. Mary's Park estate.	However, the wider King's Island area contains approximately 30 protected structures concentrated at Island Road and Nicholas Street.
Ballinacurra Weston	No protected structures located in the area	
Southill	Tait House (formally known as Southill House)	Occupied. Turner Vinery located on site requires refurbishment
City-Wide	Lord Edward St, Opera Centre, Cleeves Golden Vale	Unoccupied/Partially unoccupied

Activities to Date February 2014 to February 2016:

Regeneration Area	Project	Nature of works	Status 2014-2015	Status as at February 2016
Plans				
St. Mary's Park and King's Island	DASKIL	Management Guidelines	Final Draft Completed 2014	Complete. Awaiting formal publication
	RSKIL	Management Guidelines	Study Underway	Study Underway with an emphasis on Nicholas Street
Projects				
City Centre	Opera Centre	Stabilisation works	Complete 2013	This project is now being co-ordinated by the Economic Development Directorate. The Project opera Design team assessments are underway. Appointment in March 2016. Negotiations with Revenue/office of Public Works and University of Limerick in train.
	7-8 Ellen Street	Stabilisation works	Proposal for funding to the DHPCLG Q1 2015	Emergency Works undertaken on Ellen Street. These Emergency Works and the Stabilisation Works are intertwined given the structural load paths. Underpinning of first floor beams underway.
	Cleeves	Preparation of a Brief	Underway Q1 2015	Cleeves urban design brief prepared.
	Lord Edward Street	Scheme incorporates former Factory Buildings	Revised Part 8 granted. Enabling works underway Q1 2015. Main contract due to commence in May 2015.	Letter of Acceptance issued to JJR on 27th January 2016. Potential start week beginning 15th February (to be confirmed). Substantial Completion issued on 8th September 2015 for enabling works contract. Final Account agreed. Removal of contaminated soil (not included in the Enabling Works contract) completed.
Southill	Turner Vinery	Preparation of a Capital Appraisal	Underway Q1 2015	Business Plan in preparation.
St. Mary's Park and King's Island	Fireplace site	Analysis/remedial works underway to prepare a design brief	Underway Q1 2015	Stabilisation work complete to the wall between No 35 and the Fireplace site. Next stage of work is the stabilisation of the undercroft followed by stabilisation of the wall along the centre of the site. This work will require the consent of the DAHG.

Regeneration Area	Project	Nature of works	Status 2014-2015	Status as at February 2016
Projects				
St. Mary's Park and King's Island	Orchard Site	Approaching Part 8 Planning Application (incorporating the city wall)	Site Start 2016	Preparation of developed sketch scheme design ongoing. Overall revised and updated budget to be agreed. Pre-Planning Cost Check to be issued at end of February.
	Gaol Lane	Approaching Part 8 Planning Application (incorporating Gaol wall)	Site Start anticipated in 2016	Meeting held with the DAHG prior to Christmas. Potential resolution of the issues discussed. Development of the full footprint within the existing upstanding walls is the most preferred option.
	Thomond Weir and the Fisheries Building			Purchased in 2016. Consultants procured to assess structure.

Comment on Progress:

It should be noted that Limerick City and County Council is managing all its heritage assets whether statutorily protected or not. Limerick City and County Council recognises that sensitive re-use and adaption of buildings of architectural heritage, particularly within King's Island, will yield considerable aesthetic, environmental and economic benefits for the benefit of the wider city.

Sixteen projects and plans have progressed in relation to the development of management plans and projects ensuring protection of the City's heritage of special historic, archaeological, architectural or artistic interest. These include:

- Opera Centre: Stabilisation works
- 7-8 Ellen Street: Stabilisation works
- Lord Edward Street: Scheme incorporates former Factory Buildings
- Turner Vinery: Progressing approval for reinstatement of ironmongery and glassworks
- Fireplace site: Analysis/remedial works underway to prepare a design brief
- Orchard Site: Approaching Part 8 Planning Application (incorporating the city wall)
- Gaol Lane: Approaching Part 8 Planning Application (incorporating Gaol wall)

Data Sources:

The data contained within the monitor is based upon the following sources:

- Adopted Limerick Regeneration Framework Implementation Plan;
- Limerick City Development Plan 2010-2016.

3. Programme for Delivery of Key Projects

3.0 Programme for Delivery of Key Projects

The Physical Framework Implementation and Delivery Strategy contained within Volume 3 of the adopted LRFIP sets out the key physical and infrastructural projects for the four regeneration areas and indicative timescales proposed. The Physical Regeneration Framework will be delivered in short (<3 years), medium (3-6 years) and long term phases (6 years +). Much work is already underway, and much has already been achieved, in particular:

- The success of the completed residential scheme at Cliona Park in Moyross, the elderly housing scheme in Southill and Vizes Court; Commitment to funding from the Department of Housing, Planning, Community and Local Government has been achieved for sites for replacement homes in Southill, St Mary's Park/ King's Island and Moyross.

The physical implementation programme contains the following key objectives:

- Allow for replacement housing in the short to medium term within the regeneration areas for those tenants and residents directly affected by the regeneration programme;
- Provide sites for replacement housing in close proximity to existing community and retail hubs;
- Identify key enabling works and infrastructural projects;

The current economic conditions are having an effect on the private property market. However, it is important to remember that the regeneration programme is ongoing and the current down-turn provides the opportunity to plan for the up-turn.

Limerick City and County Council has a key role in de-risking projects and ensuring that proposals are more attractive to developers, key funders and investors. Adding value by undertaking preparatory works such as planning, financial and feasibility analysis will provide certainty and place projects in a position to secure funding quicker and be delivered faster. The proposed Variation to embed the adopted LRFIP into the statutory Limerick City Development Plan 2010-2016 is a key project to undertake BY Q4 2016 to ensure optimal de-risking of projects. The down-turn also presents an opportunity to take advantage of lower land values and assemble sites in order to further expedite development. It is likely that each phase of the physical implementation plan will be

broken down into a number of smaller development parcels to promote the principle of balanced incremental development i.e, less than 35 residential units) and ensure effective delivery. It should be noted that the phasing plan is flexible and is subject to market and funding conditions.

It is vital to build and maintain momentum in the regeneration areas to ensure confidence in the process. In addition to sites that have been given commitment to funding and those sites that are under construction, there are a number of projects that can be progressed rapidly to provide ongoing regeneration benefits:

- Socio-economic programmes and initiatives as set in the Social and Economic Framework Plan;
- Public realm improvements;
- Upgrading of infrastructure networks;
- Creative re-use of underutilised land/buildings for a mix of 'meanwhile uses' (alternative uses of a temporary nature);
- Introduction of local food growing initiatives and community allotments, in light of recent successes underway in Moyross and Southill.

The following schedule provides an update to the individual projects for the four regeneration areas proposed in the adopted LRFIP.

Ballinacurra Weston

Movement Strategy

Ballinacurra Weston	Key Projects	Timeframe				Activities to Date	Objective Status
		Immediate	Short	Medium	Long		
			0-3 years	3-6 years	6+ years		
		2013-2014	2013-2016	2016-2019	2019 -		
1	Improve permeability and connections from Ballinacurra Weston to its wider context at the following locations in the short-medium term:						
	a) New street from Beechgrove Avenue to Crecora Avenue		•			Complete as at Q4 2014	Objective met
	b) Remove the community wall to the side of the Church at Hyde Avenue to allow for physical and visual access		•			Complete as at Q4 2014	Objective met
	c) Construct a new pedestrian connection between the Church car-park and Crecora Avenue		•			Complete as at Q4 2014	Objective met
2	Improve permeability and connections from Ballinacurra Weston to its wider context at the following locations in the long term:						
	a) Provide a new vehicular connection from Clarina Avenue to Byrne Avenue. The lack of permeability at this location has resulted in high incidences of anti-social behaviour and crime.				•	This is a long-term project and is dependant on acquiring and demolishing certain properties.	Objective not being met
	b) Upgrade the existing laneway (Alley Lane) to allow greater access to Prospect Hill and Rosbrien Road to the north.				•	Was part-delivered by refurbishment of 1-3 Weston Gardens CCTV installation for lane - currently underway.	Objective being met
	c) Provide a new vehicular connection from Clarina Park to Lenihan Avenue.				•	This is a long-term project and is dependant on acquiring and demolishing certain properties.	Objective not being met

Ballinacurra Weston

Movement Strategy

Ballinacurra Weston	Key Projects	Timeframe				Activities to Date	Objective Status
		Immediate	Short	Medium	Long		
3	Provide on street parking along existing and new streets where feasible.		•	•		Consultation currently being carried out with resident's committee (as at September 2016). Capital Appraisal for public realm upgrade to submit to DHPCLG by Q4 2016	Objective being met
4	Encourage shared use of the car parking adjacent to Our Lady of Lourdes Church with the Community Centre.		•	•		Consultation currently being carried out with resident's committee (as at September 2016). Capital Appraisal for public realm upgrade to submit to DHPCLG by Q4 2016	Objective being met
5	Provide new and improved crossings for pedestrians and cyclists which will provide direct and convenient access between local amenities at the following locations:						
	a) At Rosbrien Road, to the west of Our Lady of Lourdes Community Centre.		•	•		Consultation currently being carried out with resident's committee (as at September 2016). Capital Appraisal for public realm upgrade to submit to DHPCLG by Q4 2016. A landscape specification document for typical public realm details has been finalised by LCCC that will inform the material selection.	Objective not being met
	b) At Childers Road, north of Our Lady of Lourdes Primary School.		•	•		Consultation currently being carried out with resident's committee (as at September 2016). Capital Appraisal for public realm upgrade to submit to DHPCLG by Q4 2016. A landscape specification document for typical public realm details has been finalised by LCCC that will inform the material selection.	Objective not being met

Ballinacurra Weston

Movement Strategy

Ballinacurra Weston	Key Projects	Timeframe				Activities to Date	Objective Status
		Immediate	Short	Medium	Long		
	c) At Hyde Road from Lenihan Avenue to Hyde Villas.		•	•		Consultation currently being carried out with resident's committee (as at September 2016). Capital Appraisal for public realm upgrade to submit to DHPCLG by Q4 2016. A landscape specification document for typical public realm details has been finalised by LCCC that will inform the material selection.	Objective being met
	d) At Hyde Road from Crecora Avenue.		•	•		Consultation currently being carried out with resident's committee (as at September 2016). Capital Appraisal for public realm upgrade to submit to DHPCLG by Q4 2016. A landscape specification document for typical public realm details has been finalised by LCCC that will inform the material selection.	Objective being met
	e) At Byrne Avenue from Clarina Park.				•	Consultation currently being carried out with resident's committee (as at September 2016). Capital Appraisal for public realm upgrade to submit to DHPCLG by Q4 2016. A landscape specification document for typical public realm details has been finalised by LCCC that will inform the material selection.	Objective being met
6	Environmentally improve the existing street network of Ballinacurra Weston to provide a safe, attractive, accessible and well-designed network of streets in tandem with ensuring the optimum location of street lighting and CCTV.		•	•		Consultation currently being carried out with resident's committee (as at September 2016). Capital Appraisal for public realm upgrade to submit to DHPCLG by Q4 2016. A landscape specification document for typical public realm details has been finalised by LCCC that will inform the material selection.	Objective being met

Ballinacurra Weston

Land Use Strategy

Ballinacurra Weston	Key Projects	Timeframe				Activities to Date	Objective Status
		Immediate	Short	Medium	Long		
1	Promote employment growth in Ballinacurra Weston through the re-use of underutilised sites at the existing local centre, Our Lady of Lourdes Community Centre and lands associated with the ESB Depot and Adapt House.		•			Social Intervention grant assistance endorsed in 2015/2016 to various social enterprise projects at Our Lady of Lourdes which promotes the objective of employment growth: Capacity Building Programme for Parents of Creche, Estate Management, Environmental Workers, CRM System, Seniors Support, Staff Support and Supervision, Community Employment and Education Room	Objective being met
2	Consider the creation of a community garden and horticulture training centre within the existing Our Lady of Lourdes Community Centre to offer training opportunities in the area of horticulture for future incorporation in landscaping / estate management		•	•		Consultation currently being carried out with resident's committee (as at September 2016) to prepare a brief for an allotment scheme. Capital Appraisal for public realm upgrade to submit to DHPCLG by Q4 2016. A landscape specification document for typical public realm details has been finalised by LCCC that will inform the allotment layout.	Objective being met
3	Consider the provision of hospitality industry training within the existing Our Lady of Lourdes Community Centre for local jobs in hotels and restaurants.		•	•		Hospitality Skills Training funded under economic strand to a value of approx €242,491 in 2014. Economic focused infrastructure - Hairdressing Training & Employment funded under economic strand to a value of approx €35,000 in 2014.	Objective being met
4	Promote the vitality and viability of the Local Centre at Punches Cross by encouraging small scale shops, financial/ professional services and food and drink uses		•	•		The key priorities for Ballinacurra Weston in the short-medium term are targeted environmental improvements, demolition and new build where appropriate and continuing the area-wide refurbishment programme	Objective being met

Ballinacurra Weston

Land Use Strategy

Ballinacurra Weston	Key Projects	Timeframe				Activities to Date	Objective Status
		Immediate	Short	Medium	Long		
						in an effort to improve the viability and enhance the Local Centre and wider Ballinacurra Weston area. Lidl Ireland have lodged a new planning application for the demolition of the existing Discount Foodstore unit and disused bulky goods retail unit (former Chadwicks Builders Providers) to create a new and expanded foodstore. The proposal at the existing location adjacent to Ballinacurra Weston shows that Lidl Ireland is continuing its commitment to the neighbourhood and is attracting a viable catchment even with the continuing difficult economic climate.	
5	Support the provision of multifunctional spaces at Our Lady of Lourdes Community Centre to provide flexible and accessible spaces adaptable to communities' needs.		•			Social Intervention grant assistance given in Q2014/2015 for facade upgrade and external environmental improvement works at Our Lady of Lourdes	Objective being met
6	Consider the development of a Primary Healthcare Centre at a vacant site west of the Our Lady of Lourdes Community Centre to meet local need.			•		Given the grant of a planning permission for a Primary Healthcare Facility by the HSE in close proximity to Ballinacurra Weston at Lord Edward Street, it would not be viable and sustainable to promote the same use at this site. The Lord Edward Street site is currently under construction and is located in close proximity to Ballinacurra Weston.	Objective has been reassessed

Ballinacurra Weston

Open Space Strategy

Ballinacurra Weston	Key Projects	Timeframe				Activities to Date	Objective Status
		Immediate	Short	Medium	Long		
1	Protect and enhance the existing mature trees in Ballinacurra Weston located at the following locations:						
	• To the rear of Beechgrove Avenue		•	•		Objective being met	Objective being met
	• To the rear of Adapt House		•	•		Objective being met	Objective being met
	• Along Childers Road		•	•		Objective being met	Objective being met
2	Provide opportunities for increased community interaction and employment by encouraging local management of open space		•			Social Intervention grant assistance endorsed in 2015 to various social enterprise projects at Our Lady of Lourdes promoting horticultural training opportunities: Estate Management, Environmental Workers. Consultation currently being carried out with resident's committee (as at September 2016) to prepare a brief for an allotment scheme. The scheme will be managed by the local community to ensure optimum delivery.	Objective being met
3	Implement a programme of street tree-planting within the private curtilage of new and refurbished homes to ensure better management of the tree stock.		•			Consultation currently being carried out with resident's committee (as at September 2016). Capital Appraisal for public realm upgrade to submit to DHPCLG by Q4 2016. As part of this appraisal trees are proposed as part of infill housing schemes will be located within private curtilage for optimum maintenance by residents. A landscape specification document for typical public realm details has been finalised by LCCC that will inform the species selection.	Objective being met

Ballinacurra Weston

Open Space Strategy

Ballinacurra Weston	Key Projects	Timeframe				Activities to Date	Objective Status
		Immediate	Short	Medium	Long		
4	Retain the active recreation facilities located at Our Lady of Lourdes Community Centre.		•			Consultation currently being carried out with Our Lady of Lourdes Community Centre to reorganise the active recreation facilities to ensure optimum passive surveillance. There is evidence of anti-social behaviour due to the lack of overlooking to the facilities.	Objective being met
5	Provide appropriate public art (as part of the % for Art scheme) in the proposals for redevelopment to reinforce the creation of a distinct identity for Ballinacurra Weston.		•			Proposal to allocate % for Art funding to a physical intervention as part of the public realm upgrade. Consultation currently being carried out with resident's committee (as at September 2016). Capital Appraisal for public realm upgrade to submit to DHPCLG by Q4 2016.	Objective not being met

Ballinacurra Weston

Housing Strategy

Ballinacurra Weston	Key Projects	Timeframe				Activities to Date	Objective Status
		Immediate	Short	Medium	Long		
1	Develop sites for replacement homes at the following locations						
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Clarina Avenue 	•	•			This is a medium-long term objective. No Capital Appraisals have been submitted to the DHPCLG for new-build units in Ballinacurra Weston to date as the refurbishment of boarded properties is of a greater priority to stabilise the area. New build replacement homes have been identified for gap sites that are highly visible within Ballinacurra Weston.	Objective not being met
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Beechgrove Avenue 	•	•			This is a medium-long term objective. No Capital Appraisals have been submitted to the DHPCLG for new-build units in Ballinacurra Weston to date as the refurbishment of boarded properties is of a greater priority to stabilise the area. New build replacement homes have been identified for gap sites that are highly visible within Ballinacurra Weston.	Objective not being met
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Creora Avenue 	•				This is a medium-long term objective. No Capital Appraisals have been submitted to the DHPCLG for new-build units in Ballinacurra Weston to date as the refurbishment of boarded properties is of a greater priority to stabilise the area. New build replacement homes have been identified for gap sites that are highly visible within Ballinacurra Weston.	Objective not being met

Ballinacurra Weston

Housing Strategy

Ballinacurra Weston	Key Projects	Timeframe				Activities to Date	Objective Status
		Immediate	Short	Medium	Long		
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Hyde Avenue 		•	•		This is a medium-long term objective. No Capital Appraisals have been submitted to the DHPCLG for new-build units in Ballinacurra Weston to date as the refurbishment of boarded properties is of a greater priority to stabilise the area. New build replacement homes have been identified for gap sites that are highly visible within Ballinacurra Weston.	Objective being met
2	Refurbishment of both privately owned and local authority tenanted homes within Ballinacurra Weston will be carried out to achieve a BER rating of C	•	•	•		Being progressed as part of Thermal Upgrade Programme	Objective being met
3	Develop sites for housing other than replacement housing (i.e. Private, Voluntary) once replacement housing need has been satisfied				•	Sites identified as per LRFIP Appendix Compliance with Core Strategy for non-replacement housing. This is a long term objective and is dependant first on the proposed new connections from Clarina Park to Byrne Avenue and Lenihan Avenue.	Objective being met

St. Mary's Park

Movement Strategy

St. Mary's Park	Key Projects	Timeframe				Activities to Date	Objective Status
		Immediate	Short	Medium	Long		
			0-3 years	3-6 years	6+ years		
		2013-2014	2013-2016	2016-2019	2019 -		
1	Improve permeability and connections from St Mary's Park to its wider context at the following locations:						
	a) At Island Road: to improve connectivity from St Mary's Park to the Medieval Quarter		•			Being delivered by the Orchard Scheme. Approaching Part 8 Planning Application Stage	Objective being met
	b) To the northwest of St Mary's Park: to improve connectivity to the New Road, Thomond Park and beyond.			•	•	Thomond Weir and Fisheries Building purchased by LCCC. Being delivered by the upgrade to Thomond Weir. Preliminary geotechnical and structural analysis of bridge in progress with consultants procured.	Objective being met
2	c) To the southeast of St Mary's Park to improve connectivity to Grove Island and beyond.			•	•	This objective has been reassessed as there is an area of priority Annex I habitat of the Habitats Directive in existence in the area	Objective has been reassessed
	Improve local connections converging on the existing St Mary's Park Community Centre at the following locations:						
	a) a one-way link road from the Toll House to Verdant Place. This proposal recognises the restricted dimensions between the Toll House and the Bridge and the lack of pedestrian footpaths in the area.		•			Part 8 planning permission secured in Q1 2016 to facilitate a one-way link	Objective being met
	b) a new street, at Island Gate, from Verdant Place to Dominick Street.		•			Requires further design feasibility.	Objective not being met

St. Mary's Park

Movement Strategy

St. Mary's Park	Key Projects	Timeframe				Activities to Date	Objective Status
		Immediate	Short	Medium	Long		
3	Provide on street parking along existing and new streets where feasible.		•			Being developed as part of housing schemes with DHPCLG approval. Infill housing scheme (20 units), Sheep Street (8 units), Gaol Lane (5 units), Orchard site (26 units). Also being delivered as part of public realm upgrade - capital appraisal submitted to DHPCLG in Q4 2016 for approval.	Objective being met
4	Provide crossings for pedestrians and cyclists which will provide direct and convenient access between local amenities at the following locations:						
	a) At Star Rovers Football Club;		•			Capital Appraisal for public realm upgrade to the eastern side of St. Munchin's Street once the overall King's Island Flood Defence scheme is designed. Likely submission date Q4 2017.	Objective not being met
	b) At the proposed connection to the northwest of St Mary's Park;			•	•	Being delivered by the upgrade to Thomond Weir. Geotechnical and structural analysis of bridge in progress.	Objective being met
	c) At the proposed connection to the southeast of St Mary's Park;			•	•	Given the presence of protected alluvial woodland in the area - it is considered that providing a connection at this time is not feasible.	Objective has been reassessed
	d) At the Primary Health Care facility at Island Road;		•			Requires further design feasibility.	Objective not being met
	e) At St Mary's Community Centre, Verdant Place.		•			Capital Appraisal submitted to DHPCLG in Q4 2015. Governance discussions/arrangements for the operation and managing of the facility in progress.	Objective being met

St. Mary's Park

Movement Strategy

St. Mary's Park	Key Projects	Timeframe				Activities to Date	Objective Status
		Immediate	Short	Medium	Long		
5	Environmentally improve the existing street network of St Mary's Park to provide a safe, attractive, accessible and well-designed network of streets		•			Capital Appraisal for public realm upgrade submitted to DHPCLG in Q3 2016 for approval.	Objective being met
6	Upgrade the existing water network within St Mary's Park		•			Completed Q2 2016	Objective met
7	Maintain and augment the existing embankment walkway		•	•		Improvement of the existing embankment is proposed as part of the King's Island Flood Relief Scheme. Consultants procured and is currently at design stage.	Objective being met

St. Mary's Park

Land Use Strategy

St. Mary's Park	Key Projects	Timeframe				Activities to Date	Objective Status
		Immediate	Short	Medium	Long		
1	Promote employment growth in King's Island and St. Mary's Park through the re-use of underutilised sites, derelict buildings and the upgrading of sites that already have employment use	•	•	•		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Development and Archaeological Study of King's Island (DASKIL) Management Guidelines Completed 2015 Revitalisation Study for King's Island (RSKIL) Management Guidelines Study Underway - particular focus on Nicholas Street 24/25/26 Nicholas Street Facelift project Complete - in discussions with Property Management Section in relation to temporary 'meanwhile' uses 35 Nicholas Street Facelift project Complete. In discussions with Property Management Section in relation to temporary 'meanwhile' uses Thomond Weir and Fisheries Building - Preparation of a brief for upgrade of existing weir. Surveys underway Q1 2016 18 Nicholas Street - Men's Shed 11 month lease between LCCC and LCDP agreed. Refurbishment works - underway 	Objective being met
2	Support the creation of an identity for Nicholas Street, the main commercial street within King's Island and St. Mary's Park	•	•	•		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Revitalisation Study for King's Island (RSKIL) Management Guidelines Study Underway - particular focus on Nicholas Street 	Objective being met

St. Mary's Park

Land Use Strategy

St. Mary's Park	Key Projects	Timeframe				Activities to Date	Objective Status
		Immediate	Short	Medium	Long		
3	Regenerate unutilised or underutilised land and buildings in St Mary's Park and King's Island by considering alternative uses of a temporary nature, 'meanwhile uses', to ensure a productive use	•	•	•		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Revitalisation Study for King's Island (RSKIL) Management Guidelines Study Underway - particular focus on Nicholas Street 24/25/26 Nicholas Street Facelift project Complete. In discussions with Property Management Section in relation to temporary 'meanwhile' uses 35 Nicholas Street Facelift project Complete. In discussions with Property Management Section in relation to temporary 'meanwhile' uses 18 Nicholas Street - Men's Shed 11 month lease between LCCC and LCDP agreed. Refurbishment works - underway 	Objective being met
4	Promote the vitality and viability of the city centre by encouraging small scale shops, financial/ professional services and food and drink uses within King's Island	•	•	•		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Revitalisation Study for King's Island (RSKIL) Management Guidelines Study Underway - particular focus on Nicholas Street 	Objective being met
5	Support the provision of an extended multi-use community centre at St. Mary's Park Community Centre to provide flexible and accessible spaces adaptable to the communities' needs	•	•	•		Capital Appraisal submitted to DHPCLG in Q4 2015. Governance discussions/arrangements for the operation and managing of the facility in progress.	Objective being met

St. Mary's Park

Open Space Strategy

St. Mary's Park	Key Projects	Timeframe				Activities to Date	Objective Status
		Immediate	Short	Medium	Long		
1	Restrict development on the strip of land east of St. Munchin's Street which was used as a landfill site and filled with domestic refuse		•	•		The remediation of the former historic landfill at St. Mary's Park is complete.	Objective met
2	Return the eastern side of St Munchin's Street to parkland once demolition of the area has taken place		•			Progressing with Demolition and Retention Strategy for eastern side of St. Munchin's Street	Objective being met
3	Provide opportunities for increased community interaction and employment by encouraging local management of open space		•			Social Intervention grant assistance in 2015/2016 to social enterprise projects relating to management of open space	Objective being met
4	Implement a programme of street tree-planting within the private curtilage of new and refurbished homes to ensure better management of the tree stock	•	•			Trees proposed as part of housing schemes located within private curtilage for optimum maintenance. Infill Housing at Infill housing scheme (20 units), Sheep Street (8 units), Gaol Lane (5 units), Orchard site (26 units). Capital Appraisal for public realm upgrade submitted to DHPCLG in Q3 2016. As part of this appraisal trees are proposed as part of infill housing schemes will be located within private curtilage for optimum maintenance by residents. A landscape specification document for typical public realm details has been finalised by LCCC that will inform the species selection.	Objective being met
5	Explore the potential to upgrade Eel's Weir to provide a cycle and pedestrian link to the New Road and beyond		•			LCCC purchased Thomond Weir and Fisheries Building. Upgrade to Thomond Weir currently underway. Geotechnical and structural analysis of bridge in progress.	Objective being met

St. Mary's Park

Open Space Strategy

St. Mary's Park	Key Projects	Timeframe				Activities to Date	Objective Status
		Immediate	Short	Medium	Long		
6	Provide opportunities to maximise the educational value of the passive open space surrounding St Mary's Park		•	•		Social Intervention grant assistance in 2015/2016 to social enterprise projects relating to management of open space	Objective being met
7	Provide for active playspace facilities, based on the existing and expected child population projections generated by the existing and future need		•	•		The Design and Public Realm Code for the regeneration areas designates the locations for specific local and district level play facilities in St. Mary's Park. A district level play facility is proposed to serve a catchment of 600m located in the heart of St. Mary's Park/ King's Island in close proximity to the Creche, Community Centre and the upgraded access across Thomond Weir. Capital Appraisal for a playground to submit to DHPCLG in Q3 2016.	Objective being met
8	Protect and enhance the existing biodiversity value of St Mary's Park Manage the existing and future flood risk to St Mary's Park by:	•	•	•	•		Objective being met
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Protecting the integrity of the existing flood defences and embankments 	•	•			Improvement of the existing embankment is proposed as part of the King's Island Flood Relief Scheme. Consultants appointed and design is progressing.	Objective being met
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Incorporate flood resistant and flood resilient measures appropriately 	•	•			Minor residential infill is permissible within 'Flood Zone A' in line with planning policy guidelines/circulars. No significant development is proposed within Flood Zone A.	Objective being met

St. Mary's Park

Open Space Strategy

St. Mary's Park	Key Projects	Timeframe				Activities to Date	Objective Status
		Immediate	Short	Medium	Long		
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Utilise sustainable urban drainage systems (SUDS) 	•	•			SUDs interventions being delivered as part of new-build replacement housing: Infill housing scheme (20 units), Sheep Street (8 units), Gaol Lane (5 units), Orchard site (26 units). Soakaways, tree canopies and other attenuation methods proposed.	Objective being met
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Establish flood warning and emergency procedures 	•	•			Being progressed as part of Thermal Upgrade Programme	Objective met

St. Mary's Park

Housing Strategy

St. Mary's Park	Key Projects	Timeframe				Activities to Date	Objective Status
		Immediate	Short	Medium	Long		
1	Develop sites for replacement homes at the following locations						
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Googoo's Hill (Orchard site) 	•	•			With DHPCLG approval. Approaching Part 8 Planning stage.	Objective being met
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sheep Street/Athlunkhard Street 	•	•			With DHPCLG approval. Part 8 planning secured. At detailed tender design stage	Objective being met
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Gaol Lane 	•	•			With DHPCLG approval. Within the Part 8 Planning process.	Objective being met
2	Refurbishment of both privately owned and local authority tenanted homes within St. Mary's Park and King's Island will be carried out to achieve a BER rating of C		•			Being progressed as part of Thermal Upgrade Programme	Objective being met
3	Develop sites for housing other than replacement housing (i.e. Private, Voluntary) once replacement housing need has been satisfied			•	•	Sites identified as per LRFIP Appendix Compliance with Core Strategy for non-replacement housing within the wider King's Island area.	Objective not being met

Moyross

Movement Strategy

Moyross	Key Projects	Timeframe				Activities to Date	Objective Status
		Immediate	Short	Medium	Long		
			0-3 years	3-6 years	6+ years		
		2013-2014	2013-2016	2016-2019	2019 -		
1	Support the construction of the Coonagh-Knockalisheen bypass, providing a new western entrance to Moyross to eliminate existing cul-de-sac layout			•	•	DTTS Budget announcement 5th February 2015 for funding to Phase 1 of Coonagh-Knockalisheen bypass. Enabling works due to commence in 2016.	Objective being met
2	Extend the existing Moyross Avenue to link with the new western entrance of the Coonagh-Knockalisheen bypass			•	•	Being delivered as part of Phase 1 Coonagh-Knockalisheen bypass.	Objective being met
3	Upgrade the existing Moyross Avenue where the needs of pedestrians, cyclists and public transport users are prioritised and opportunities to front buildings onto the avenue are maximised		•	•		Being part-progressed as part of Part 8 Planning Applications for the Cosgrave Park, Dalgaish Park and Cliona Park Phase 2/3 schemes. A landscape specification document for typical public realm details has been finalised by LCCC which will inform the material/ planting selection and layout.	Objective being met
4	Provide new and improved connections to improve permeability throughout Moyross at the following locations:						
	a) A safe pedestrian/cycle link from Sarsfield Gardens through existing bridge underpass to Moyross Avenue			•		To be delivered as part of a strategic linear park from the river Shannon, through the heart of Moyross to Caherdavin. Requires a masterplan.	Objective not being met

Moyross

Movement Strategy

Moyross	Key Projects	Timeframe				Activities to Date	Objective Status
		Immediate	Short	Medium	Long		
	c) Improved access from the existing community hub of Moyross to Thomond Park/Cratloe Road			•		Being part delivered by Cliona Park Phase 3. Design Team in progress with Part 8 Planning application to be submitted shortly (status as at September 2016). Being part-delivered by LIT Masterplan.	Objective being met
	d) Provide a new connection between Moyross Avenue and Cratloe Road			•		Being part delivered by Cliona Park Phase 3. Design Team in progress with Part 8 Planning application to be submitted shortly (status as at September 2016). Being part-delivered by LIT Masterplan.	Objective being met
	e) Create a new connection between LIT and the District Centre at Watch House Cross		•			Being part delivered by Dalgaish Park replacement housing scheme. Tender documentation to appoint a design team in preparation. Being part-delivered by LIT Masterplan.	Objective being met
	f) Improved access to Watchhouse Cross from Ballynanty		•			Being part delivered by Dalgaish Park replacement housing scheme. Tender documentation to appoint a design team in preparation.	Objective being met
	g) Create a new street between Cosgrave Park and Maintenance Depot to eliminate existing cul-de-sac layout		•			Being delivered by Cosgrave Park replacement housing scheme. Part 8 Planning permission approved.	Objective being met
	h) Provide a new connection from LIT to the proposed linear park		•			Requires a masterplan.	Objective not being met
5	Provide new and improved crossings for pedestrians and cyclists which will provide direct and convenient access between local amenities at the following locations:						

Moyross

Movement Strategy

Moyross	Key Projects	Timeframe				Activities to Date	Objective Status
		Immediate	Short	Medium	Long		
	a) At Moyross Avenue from College/ Cliona Park to the community hub		•			Being part delivered by Cliona Park Phase 3. Approaching Part 8 Planning Application stage.	Objective being met
	b) At Moyross Avenue linking the linear park		•			To be delivered as part of a strategic linear park from the river Shannon, through the heart of Moyross to Caherdavin. Requires a masterplan.	Objective not being met
	c) At Moyross Avenue linking Cosgrave Park to Watchouse Cross		•			Being delivered by Cosgrave Park replacement housing scheme. Part 8 Planning permission approved.	Objective being met
	d) At Cratloe Road		•			Being part-delivered by LIT Masterplan (finalised) Requires a masterplan.	Objective not being met
	e) At Killeely Road		•			Being delivered as part of Phase 1 Coonagh-Knockalisheen bypass	Objective being met
6	Provide on-street parking along existing and new streets where feasible		•	•		Being developed as part of housing schemes with DHPCLG approval. Cosgrave Park (50 units), Cliona Park Phase 2 (10 units), Dalgaish Park (40 units), Cliona Park Phase 3 (18 units), Infill sites at Cliona/Cloncannane (2 units), Cliona Park gap site (2 units). Capital Appraisal for public realm upgrades not part of replacement housing schemes to submit to DHPCLG in Q4 2016 for approval.	Objective being met

Moyross

Land Use Strategy

Moyross	Key Projects	Timeframe				Activities to Date	Objective Status
		Immediate	Short	Medium	Long		
1	Retain and refurbish existing housing units and develop new replacement housing units within Moyross		•			Being progressed as part of thermal upgrade project - various contracts on site	Objective being met
2	Promote a higher quality residential built environment, with a greater mix of units and increased densities, in greenfield/brownfield sites proposed for replacement housing fronting onto Moyross Avenue at Delmege Park, College Avenue, Cliona Park, Cosgrave Park and Dalgaish Park		•			Being developed as part of housing schemes with DHPCLG approval. Cosgrave Park, Cliona/ Cloncananne Road and Cliona Park Phase 2 have approved Part 8 planning permission	Objective being met
3	Enhance Watchouse Cross as a District Centre in order to fulfil its role as the commercial and retail hub serving Moyross and the wider area.		•	•		The key priorities for the regeneration areas in the short-medium term are targeted environmental improvements, demolition and new build where appropriate and continuing the area-wide refurbishment programme in an effort to improve District Centre's viability and ultimately enhance the centre. Tackling the high vacancy rate in the District Centre requires a targeted response in collaboration with the Strategic Directorates of LCCC and other key stakeholders.	Objective not being met
4	Expand the footprint of the Moyross Community and Enterprise Centre to improve the quality and choice of community focused uses available.		•	•		Planning permission secured and tender documentation with the DHPCLG for approval.	Objective being met

Moyross

Land Use Strategy

Moyross	Key Projects	Timeframe				Activities to Date	Objective Status
		Immediate	Short	Medium	Long		
5	Reinforce existing Employment & Enterprise Uses at Moyross Enterprise Centre		•	•		Social Intervention grant assistance in 2015 to various social enterprise projects at Moyross Enterprise Centre including Moyross Development Company –Garda Youth Diversion Project, Céim ar Chéim, Northside Horse Care & Equine Programme, Training and Apprentice Programme for Limerick City Build Ltd	Objective being met
6	Promote the relocation of the Limerick City Council Maintenance Depot at Cosgrave Park	•	•			Being progressed as part of housing scheme with DHPCLG approval at Cosgrave Park.Part 8 planning permission granted. Progressing to tender and construction stage.	Objective being met
7	Promote the redevelopment of the 'Bays' site to add additional local capacity and contributes to the formation of a natural training cluster.	•	•			Social Intervention grant assistance in 2015 to various social enterprise projects at Moyross Enterprise Centre including Moyross Development Company –Garda Youth Diversion Project, Céim ar Chéim, Northside Horse Care & Equine Programme, Training and Apprentice Programme for Limerick City Build Ltd	Objective being met

Moyross

Open Space Strategy

Moyross	Key Projects	Timeframe				Activities to Date	Objective Status
		Immediate	Short	Medium	Long		
1	Explore the potential for ecologically sensitive leisure uses as part of a strategic linear park from the river Shannon, through the heart of Moyross to Caherdavin.		•	•		To be delivered as part of a strategic linear park from the river Shannon, through the heart of Moyross to Caherdavin. Requires a masterplan.	Objective not being met
2	Provide opportunities for increased community interaction by encouraging local management of open space.	•	•			Social Intervention grant assistance in 2015 to various social enterprise projects relating to management of open space including Moyross Community Centre - Environmental Project, Moyross Residents Alliance- Memorial Garden, Northside Horse Care & Equine Programme, Care and Repair Programme Northside FRC	Objective being met
3	Promote the retention of existing trees on proposed sites for development.	•	•			Trees worthy of retention considered as part of housing schemes with DHPCLG approval. Infill Housing at Cosgrave Park (50 units), Cliona Park Phase 2 (10 units), Dalgaish Park (40 units), Cliona Park Phase 3 (18 units), Infill sites at Cliona/Cloncannane (2 units), Cliona Park gap site (2 units).	Objective being met
4	Implement a programme of street tree-planting within the private curtilage of homes to ensure better management of the tree stock.		•	•		Trees proposed as part of housing schemes located within private curtilage for optimum maintenance. Infill Housing at Cosgrave Park (50 units), Cliona Park Phase 2 (10 units), Dalgaish Park (40 units), Cliona Park Phase 3 (18 units), Infill sites at Cliona/Cloncannane (2 units), Cliona Park gap site (2 units). A landscape specification document for typical public realm details has been finalised by LCCC which will inform the species selection.	Objective being met

Moyross

Open Space Strategy

Moyross	Key Projects	Timeframe				Activities to Date	Objective Status
		Immediate	Short	Medium	Long		
5	Enhancing biodiversity through habitat improvements, compensatory habitat and native planting strategies within Moyross		•			Progress has been made over the past year in increasing biodiversity levels as part of landscape plans for replacement housing schemes and also area specific environmental improvement schemes. The Design and Public Realm Code Checklist will ensure that the public realm and built form does not compromise the environmental amenity of the regeneration areas. Furthermore Appropriate Assessment screening statements, which are required for all Part 8 applications will ensure that statutory environmental designations (Special Protection Areas and Special Areas of Conservation) are not negatively impacted upon.	Objective being met
6	Retain and enhance the existing active playing pitches associated with LIT, St. Nessian's Community College and Thomond Park RFC as sporting facilities.		•	•		Playing pitches associated with LIT are being part-delivered by LIT Masterplan (masterplan is finalised) Requires a masterplan.	Objective not being met
7	Restrict development of the landfill sites at Long Pavement Road.		•	•		No development is proposed for the landfill sites at the Long Pavement Road	Objective being met

Moyross

Open Space Strategy

Moyross	Key Projects	Timeframe				Activities to Date	Objective Status
		Immediate	Short	Medium	Long		
8	Provide for active playspace facilities, based on the existing and expected child population projections generated by the existing and future need.		•	•		The Design and Public Realm Code for the regeneration areas designates the locations for specific local and district level play facilities in Moyross. Local play facilities, serving a catchment of 240m are proposed as part of the Cosgrave Park scheme (Part 8 permission approved in June 2015). A second local play area is proposed at Delmege Park. A district level play facility is proposed to serve a catchment of 600m located in the heart of Moyross (within the demolition zone at Craeval/Pineview Gardens), as part of a strategic linear park (capital appraisal to submit to DHPCLG by Q4 2016). To date, a local play area (1900m ²) at Cosgrave Park will be delivered as part of the 50 unit Cosgrave Park scheme, which was submitted as a Part 8 planning application and approved in June 2015.	Objective being met

Moyross

Housing Strategy

Moyross	Key Projects	Timeframe				Activities to Date	Objective Status
		Immediate	Short	Medium	Long		
	Develop sites for replacement homes at various locations including:	•	•				
	Cosgrave Park	•	•			With DHPCLG approval. Part 8 planning permission approved in 2015 .	Objective being met
	Hartigans Villas,	•	•			Not required for replacement housing, as determined by Housing Need Strategy for the Regeneration Areas (October 2014). To be considered once extension of the existing Moyross Avenue to link with the new western entrance of the Coonagh-Knockalisheen bypass.	Objective has been reassessed
	College Avenue,	•	•			Within DHPCLG master approval for 68 units (18 units at Cliona Park Phase 3 with DHPCLG approval).	Objective being met
	Cliona Park	•	•			With DHPCLG approval. Part 8 planning permission approved in June 2015. Gap site (2 infill sites) at Cliona Park complete. 2 units at Cliona Park/Cloncannane Road - Part 8 planning permission granted.	Objective being met
	Dalgaish Park	•	•			With DHPCLG approval for 40 units. Tender documentation in preparation for appointment of a design team.	Objective being met

Moyross

Housing Strategy

Moyross	Key Projects	Timeframe				Activities to Date	Objective Status
		Immediate	Short	Medium	Long		
	Delmege Park	•	•			Not required for replacement housing, as determined by Housing Need Strategy for the Regeneration Areas (October 2014). To be considered once extension of the existing Moyross Avenue to link with the new western entrance of the Coonagh-Knockalisheen bypass is completed	Objective has been reassessed
	Refurbishment of both privately owned and local authority tenanted homes will be carried out to achieve a BER rating of C	•	•			Being progressed as part of Thermal Upgrade Programme	Objective being met
	Develop sites for housing other than replacement housing (i.e. Private, Voluntary) once replacement housing need has been satisfied			•	•	Sites identified as per LRFIP Appendix - Compliance with Core Strategy for non-replacement housing	Objective not being met

Southill

Movement Strategy

Southill	Key Projects	Timeframe				Activities to Date	Objective Status
		Immediate	Short	Medium	Long		
			0-3 years	3-6 years	6+ years		
		2013-2014	2013-2016	2016-2019	2019 -		
1	M7 Access link route						
	Route identification and selection	•				Preferred route has been identified and selected (as adopted in the LRFIP)	Objective met
	Cost Benefit Analysis		•			No progress on this objective to date	Objective not being met
	Route Construction			•	•	No progress on this objective to date	Objective not being met
2	Environmental improvement works to existing roads at:						
a	Roxborough Road Roundabout (radius tightening, signalised junction etc)	•		•		Received preliminary DHPCLG approval. Being developed as part of Palm Court/Roxborough Road Contract. Currently at design development stage	Objective being met
b	Childer's Road		•			Received preliminary DHPCLG approval for a strategic link from Roxboro Road to Southill. Being part masterplanned as part of Palm Court/Roxborough Road Contract. Currently at design development stage.	Objective being met
3	Improve permeability and connections throughout Southill at the following locations:						
a	a) A better connection from Roxboro roundabout (through the 'Galvone Arms' site) to the heart of Southill – the community hub containing the Church, Health Centre and Southill Area Centre	•	•			Received preliminary DHPCLG approval. Being developed as part of Palm Court/Roxborough Road Contract. Currently at design development stage. The Churchfield scheme of 80 units is part delivering this scheme - currently at construction stage.	Objective being met

Southill

Movement Strategy

Southill	Key Projects	Timeframe				Activities to Date	Objective Status
		Immediate	Short	Medium	Long		
b	b) New north-south connection from Childers Road to O'Malley Park through the Fulflex site		•			Being part-progressed as part of Part 8 Planning Application for the Churchfield site. Planning application granted May 2015.	Objective being met
c	c) New north-south connection from Childers Road through the LEDP site and the Aldi Discount Store to connect with Kincora and Carew Park			•		Capital Appraisal to be submitted to DHPCLG.	Objective not being met
d	d) New east-west connection from Maigne Way in Carew Park, south of Southill House, to the Roxborough Road			•		Masterplan currently in preparation for an upgraded link from Roxborough Road to the city-centre which involves consideration of this connection. Being investigated in tandem with Tait House Masterplan.	Objective being met
e	e) New east-west connection from Elm Place, Rathbane through Toppin's Field to John Carew Park Links Road			•		Capital Appraisal to be submitted to DHPCLG.	Objective not being met
f	f) New north-south connection from O'Malley Park through site adjacent to Greyhound Waste facility to the Childers Road			•		Land acquisition progressed with a portion of land bought by LCCC. Remaining plot fronting onto Childers Road requires acquisition.	Objective being met
g	g) New east-west connection from Bawnmore Road to Kilmallock Road			•		Capital Appraisal to be submitted to DHPCLG.	Objective not being met
h	h) New east-west connection from Pike Rovers Football Club to Kilmallock Road			•		Capital Appraisal to be submitted to DHPCLG.	Objective not being met
i	i) New north-south connection from Kennedy Park, adjacent to proposed Integrated Educational Campus at St Kieran's, to Childers Road			•		Being masterplanned as part of the development of Le Cheile School and the Child and Family Care Centre	Objective being met

Southill

Movement Strategy

Southill	Key Projects	Timeframe				Activities to Date	Objective Status
		Immediate	Short	Medium	Long		
j	j) New east-west connection, south of Rose Court, Keyes Park from the Roxborough Road to the community hub		•			Masterplan currently in preparation for an upgraded link from Roxborough Road to the city-centre which involves consideration of this connection.	Objective being met
k	k) New east-west connection from John Carew Park to Yeats Avenue		•			As part of Carew Park Capital Appraisal for 37 units. Received preliminary DHPCLG approval	Objective being met
l	l) New north-south connection through the green at Carew Park to improve accessibility	•	•			As part of Carew Park Capital Appraisal for 37 units. Received preliminary DHPCLG approval	Objective being met
4	Improve local connections converging on the community hub at the following locations:						
	a) Pedestrian link from Markievicz Drive across Collins Avenue to the community hub			•	•	Masterplan currently in preparation for an upgraded link from Roxborough Road to the city-centre which involves consideration of this connection. Also being progressed as part of the Markievicz Drive replacement housing contract. Received approval from the DHPCLG but is dependant on a number of demolitions to take place in the area. Medium to long term project.	Objective being met
	b) New street at eastern boundary of Churchfields site to the Church		•			Being progressed as part of Part 8 Planning Application for the Churchfield scheme. Part 8 permission obtained May 2015. At construction stage.	Objective being met

Southill

Movement Strategy

Southill	Key Projects	Timeframe				Activities to Date	Objective Status
		Immediate	Short	Medium	Long		
	c) New street through the centre of the Churchfields site to the Southill Area Centre		•			Being progressed as part of Part 8 Planning Application for the Churchfield scheme. Part 8 permission obtained May 2015. At construction stage.	Objective being met
	d) Removal of bollards/rock armoury at Lilac and Aster Court		•			Being part-developed as part of Palm Court replacement housing scheme. Currently approaching Part 8 planning application stage.	Objective being met
5	Retain the general arrangement of streets and services infrastructure as existing with the following exception:						
	a) Realignment of road north of Churchfields site in a southwards direction to allow for a frontage development with sufficient depth to be realised on the land immediately south of the Galvone Industrial Estate		•			Being progressed as part of Part 8 Planning Application for the Churchfield scheme. Part 8 permission obtained May 2015. At construction stage.	Objective being met
6	Provide crossings for pedestrians and cyclists which will provide direct and convenient access between local amenities at the following locations:						
	a) At Childers Road: from O'Malley Park to Kennedy Park and the new Integrated Educational Campus at St. Kieran's		•			Requires further design feasibility as part of the overall east-west street upgrade scheme for Childer's Road.	Objective not being met
	b) At Roxboro Cross: From Roxborough Road to the District Centre (Roxborough Shopping Centre)		•			Masterplan currently in preparation for an upgraded link from Roxborough Road to the city-centre which involves consideration of this connection. Being part-developed as part of Palm Court/Roxborough Road replacement housing schemes.	Objective being met

Southill

Movement Strategy

Southill	Key Projects	Timeframe				Activities to Date	Objective Status
		Immediate	Short	Medium	Long		
	c) At Keyes Park to the community hub		•			Being part-developed as part of Palm Court/Churchfield replacement housing scheme. Currently at construction stage/ approaching Part 8 planning application stage.	Objective being met
	d) At Collins Ave from Keyes Park to Southill House		•			Masterplan currently in preparation for an upgraded link from Roxborough Road to the city-centre which involves consideration of this connection. Being investigated in tandem with Tait House Masterplan	Objective being met
	e) At Collins Ave from Lilac Court in Keyes Park to Markiewicz Drive in Kincora Park		•			Masterplan currently in preparation for an upgraded link from Roxborough Road to the city-centre which involves consideration of this connection. Being investigated in tandem with Tait House Masterplan	Objective being met
7	Provide new traffic-calming measures to O'Higgins Drive in Carew Park to improve safety for pedestrians and cyclists and slow traffic speeds	•	•			Capital Appraisal for public realm upgrade for areas outside of the replacement housing schemes. Likely submission date Q4 2017.	Objective not being met
8	Provide on street parking along existing and new streets where feasible.		•			Being developed as part of approved replacement housing schemes. Infill Housing schemes with approval include Carew Park (37 units), Markiewicz Drive (13 units), Churchfield (80 units), Palm Court (26 units). Capital Appraisal for public realm upgrade for areas outside of the replacement housing schemes. Likely submission date Q4 2017.	Objective being met

Southill**Movement Strategy**

Southill	Key Projects	Timeframe				Activities to Date	Objective Status
		Immediate	Short	Medium	Long		
9	Explore the potential to re-establish and environmentally improve the west-east link through the Galvone Industrial Estate from the Roxborough Road to the Kilmallock Road			•	•	Requires further design feasibility and consideration of the Clonlong Halting site. This is a medium-long term objective.	Objective not being met
10	Explore the potential for a link road (medium-long term objective) from Bawnmore Road to Kilmallock Road providing a direct link eastwards to Plassey Park Road (University of Limerick and National Technology Park)			•	•	Requires further design feasibility and consideration of the access route off the M7. This is a medium-long term objective.	Objective not being met

Southill

Land Use Strategy

Southill	Key Projects	Timeframe				Activities to Date	Objective Status
		Immediate	Short	Medium	Long		
1	Thermally upgrade existing housing units where possible within Kincora, Carew, Keyes and O'Malley Park	•	•			Being progressed as part of thermal upgrade project	Objective being met
2	Promote a higher quality residential built environment, with a greater mix of units and increased densities, in greenfield/brownfield sites proposed for replacement at Churchfields and Palm Court	•	•			Being developed as part of housing schemes with DHPCLG approval. Churchfield obtained Part 8 planning permission in May 2015. Palm Court is approaching Part 8 planning stage.	Objective being met
3	Promote mixed and employment generating uses along key strategic routes at Childers Road, Roxborough Road and John Carew Park Road, allowing for a higher efficiency of existing land resources.			•	•	Strategic acquisition and demolition of St. Monica's Roxboro complete to facilitate a gateway building at Childer's Road/Roxboro Road. Strategic sites within the Galvone Industrial Estate fronting onto the Childer's Road being environmentally improved. A gateway site to the entrance of Southill requires a Variation to the City Development Plan to facilitate its reuse as a mixed/employment generating use.	Objective not being met
4	Enhance the junction of Childers Road and Roxboro Road as a District Centre in order to fulfil its role as the commercial and retail hub serving Southill and the wider area.			•	•	Masterplan currently in preparation for an upgraded link from Roxborough Road to the city-centre which involves consideration of this connection.	Objective being met
5	Expand the footprint of the Southill Area Centre to improve the quality and choice of community focused uses available		•			Southill Junior School adjacent to Southill Area Centre is currently vacant but requires a Variation to the City Development Plan to facilitate its reuse as an expanded community/enterprise focussed centre.	Objective not being met

Southill

Land Use Strategy

Southill	Key Projects	Timeframe				Activities to Date	Objective Status
		Immediate	Short	Medium	Long		
6	Upgrade the Galvone Industrial Estate as a mixed use, employment generating area		•	•		Environmental Improvements works to the Galvone Industrial Estate. 30,000 m2 of scrub thinning, species control and meadowflower planting to improve biodiversity in Galvone Industrial Estate. Tender documentation prepared. Due to start in September 2015 after nesting season in accordance with the Wildlife Act. New north-south connection from Childers Road to O'Malley Park through the Fulflex site at Galvone, being part-progressed as part of Part 8 Planning Application for the Churchfield site.	Objective being met
7	Promote an integrated educational campus with shared facilities in one location at Roxboro Cross		•	•		Le Cheile School completed and in operation.	Objective being met
8	Provide an alternative location for Traveller halting sites at Clonlong and Toppin's Field to allow the areas to be acquired for mixed and employment generating uses.		•	•		No progress on this objective to date	Objective not being met
9	Promote mixed and employment generating uses at Kilmallock Road Enterprise Centre			•		No progress on this objective to date	Objective not being met
10	Consider alternative uses for St. Enda's School and Southill Junior School.	•	•	•	•	ETB have located some of its educational outreach to St. Enda's School. Southill Junior School adjacent to Southill Area Centre is currently vacant but requires a Variation to the City Development Plan to facilitate its reuse as an expanded community/enterprise focussed centre.	Objective not being met

Southill

Open Space Strategy

Southill	Key Projects	Timeframe				Activities to Date	Objective Status
		Immediate	Short	Medium	Long		
1	Subject to the further consultation, maintain the southernmost boundary of O'Malley Park (land once occupied by Castle Oaks View and Country View) as fallow ground in the short-term.		•			Demolitions taking place as per revised Demolition and retention Strategy for the area. Site clearances are being protected with rock armoury, as required to prevent joyriding activity.	Objective being met
2	Retain O'Malley Park (Oisín Drive, Rose View Drive, Larkin Drive, Mountainview) as fallow ground in the medium term with a view to redevelopment in the longer-term for private housing.			•	•	Demolitions taking place as per revised Demolition and retention Strategy for the area. Site clearances are being protected with rock armoury, as required to prevent joyriding activity.	Objective being met
3	Create a new community park at the centre of the community hub to provide recreation and play facilities in a safe, overlooked location and provide a focus for local events and celebrations.		•			District level play facility at Southill Area Centre (approx. 1300m ²) proposed as part of the Design and Public Realm Code. Delivering new play spaces is a key priority for Limerick City and County Council over the next 2 years, consulting with local communities and the residents' committees, providing leveraging-in funding and project steering, where necessary.	Objective not being met
4	Provide opportunities for increased community interaction by encouraging local management of open space.	•	•	•	•	Social Intervention grant assistance in 2015/2016 to various social enterprise projects relating to management of open space	Objective being met
5	Promote the retention of existing trees on proposed sites for development.	•	•	•	•	Trees worthy of retention considered as part of housing schemes with DHPCLG approval. Infill Housing schemes located at Carew Park (37 units), Markiewicz Drive (13 units), Churchfield (80 units) and Palm Court (26 units)	Objective being met

Southill

Land Use Strategy

Southill	Key Projects	Timeframe				Activities to Date	Objective Status
		Immediate	Short	Medium	Long		
6	Implement a programme of street tree-planting within the private curtilage of homes to ensure better management of the tree stock.		•	•	•	Trees proposed as part of housing schemes located within private curtilage for optimum maintenance. Infill Housing at Carew Park (37 units), Markievicz Drive (13 units), Churchfield (80 units), Palm Court (26 units). A landscape specification document for typical public realm details has been finalised by LCCC which will inform the species selection.	Objective being met
7	Minimise run-off to the existing drainage infrastructure through the integration of Sustainable Urban Drainage System (SUDS) technologies on a site-by-site basis as appropriate, i.e. swales, porous paving etc.		•	•		One surface attenuation tank (128m ³) and soakaways to front of units along Colivet Drive (Southill Older Persons Accommodation). Churchfield (80 unit scheme) received Part 8 Planning permission in May 2015 and has surface water from the development falling by gravity to two attenuation tanks – (storage capacity 100m ³ and 470m ³). Other sites identified for replacement housing as they progress to planning application stage will consider integration of SUDS techniques.	Objective being met
8	Enhance Kennedy Park with further active recreational facilities and landscaping and provide a direct and safe access to O'Malley and Keyes Park.		•	•		Requires further design feasibility/masterplan as part of the overall east-west street upgrade scheme for Childer's Road.	Objective not being met
9	Maintain the following clubs as sporting facilities:						
	• Hogan Park		•	•	•	Objective being met	Objective being met
	• Old Christians GAA		•	•	•	Objective being met	Objective being met
	• Pike Rovers		•	•	•	Objective being met	Objective being met

Southill

Land Use Strategy

Southill	Key Projects	Timeframe				Activities to Date	Objective Status
		Immediate	Short	Medium	Long		
	• Carew Park AFC		•	•	•	Objective being met	Objective being met
	• Rathbane Golf Course		•	•	•	Objective being met	Objective being met
10	Retain and enhance the environmental characteristics of Barry's Field.		•	•		Masterplan currently in preparation by Tait House for an urban farm enterprise.	Objective being met
11	Restrict development of an old limestone rock quarry, directly east of the Roxborough Road and immediately south of Salvia Court which was used as a landfill site and filled with domestic refuse.	•	•	•		Masterplan currently in preparation for an upgraded link from Roxborough Road to the city-centre which involves consideration of this area for a fallow amenity space.	Objective being met
12	Explore the potential to reuse a derelict cottage (Sutherland Cottage) and adjacent lands south of the landfill site to provide a community farm/allotment plots		•	•		Cottage was demolished in 2016 due to anti-social behaviour.	Objective not being met

Southill

Land Use Strategy

Southill	Key Projects	Timeframe				Activities to Date	Objective Status
		Immediate	Short	Medium	Long		
13	Provide for a variety of functional, appropriately scaled and well overlooked public open spaces (both active and passive) within a suitable walking distance for residents of Southill		•	•	•	<p>In line with the Design and Public Realm Code, schemes at planning application stage and that are approaching planning application stage are required to produce landscape plans for a reconfiguration of the existing public open spaces to provide for more active and passive functions. In tandem with the proposed upgrading of the existing landscape as part of replacement housing schemes, significant work has been carried out in the past year in relation to small-scale environmental improvements and remediation works.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Public Open Space: Galtee View (1500m²) - Granted Part 8 permission May 2015 • New square fronting onto the realigned Donough O Malley Road (400m²) - Granted Part 8 permission May 2015 • Environmental Improvements works to the Galvone Industrial Estate 30,000 m² - Tender documentation plans in preparation • Tait House Masterplan Feasibility Study prepared for an Urban Farm in Southill immediately adjacent to Tait House 3500m² of area has been planned for allotments future expansion for urban farm extending to an area of 9000m² - Masterplan being finalised 	Objective being met

Southill

Land Use Strategy

Southill	Key Projects	Timeframe				Activities to Date	Objective Status
		Immediate	Short	Medium	Long		
14	Provide for active playspace facilities for children below 15 years throughout Southill		•			In Southill, 3 local play areas (total approx. 5000m ²) are designated and a district level play facility at Southill Area Centre (approx. 1300m ²) as part of the Design and Public Realm Code. To date, a local play area at Galtee view will be delivered as part of the Churchfield scheme (1500m ²), which received Part 8 Planning permission in May 2015 and is now at detailed tender design stage. The other 2 local area play facilities will be delivered as part of the Carew Park replacement housing scheme (tender documentation for procurement of design consultants in progress) and a District wide play facility at Southill Area Centre.	Objective being met

Southill

Housing Strategy

Southill	Key Projects	Timeframe				Activities to Date	Objective Status
		Immediate	Short	Medium	Long		
1	Develop sites for replacement homes at the following locations						
	• Palm Court	•	•			With DHPCLG approval. Approaching Part 8 Planning Application stage.	Objective being met
	• Churchfields		•	•		With DHPCLG approval. Part 8 planning permission obtained May 2015. At construction stage.	Objective being met
	• Infill corner site at Lilac Court					Not required for replacement housing, as determined by Housing Need Strategy for the Regeneration Areas (October 2014)	Objective has been reassessed
	• Infill sites to south of Rose and Aster Court					Not required for replacement housing, as determined by Housing Need Strategy for the Regeneration Areas (October 2014)	Objective has been reassessed
	• Infill site to rear court at Markiewicz and Yeats Avenue		•	•		With DHPCLG approval. As part of Markiewicz scheme for 13 units. Tender documentation in preparation for appointment of a design team	Objective being met
	• Infill corner site at Maigne Way		•	•		With DHPCLG approval. As part of Carew Park scheme for 37 units. Tender documentation in preparation for appointment of a design team	Objective being met
	• Infill site at De Vere Court		•	•		With DHPCLG approval. As part of Carew Park scheme for 37 units. Tender documentation in preparation for appointment of a design team	Objective being met
2	Develop sites for housing other than replacement housing (i.e. Private, Voluntary, Social rented, Local Authority)		•	•		Sites identified as per LRFIP Appendix Compliance with Core Strategy for non-replacement housing. Await stabilisation of estates and improvement in private housing market.	Objective being met

Colivet Court, Southill



4. Conclusions and Recommendations

4.1 Conclusions and Recommendations

This report provides an update of the regeneration programme from February 2015 to February 2016 and focuses on indicators relating to the theme of 'Housing and the Physical Environment'. Key recommendations are provided to further progress the implementation of the physical pillar of the adopted LRFIP over the coming years. In tandem, key projects have been identified for each of the regeneration areas and a status update is provided.

However, it should be noted that the success of this theme cannot be fully understood until an overall evaluation of the social, economic and physical objectives are measured, which is due to commence once CSO 2016 data is made fully available.

It is at times of change and challenge that the importance of robust, evidence-based and effectively monitored objectives is required. This is vital if the progress shown across many of the indicators in this report is to be sustained, and even more so if the areas where further work is needed are to be addressed.

The success of the Limerick Regeneration programme is dependent on continued support and commitment and the need to ensure that the public investment made to date is protected and supplemented and in time enhanced by private investment. The vision to create safe and sustainable communities is evidently now achievable but needs ongoing support.

4.2 Summary of Physical Recommendations

Key recommendations of the Physical pillar to progress the objectives of the Limerick Regeneration Framework Implementation Plan should concentrate on the following:

Recommendation 1: Continue seeking approval for housing schemes in the regeneration areas to meet the replacement housing need within a sustainable catchment of 800m from services and facilities. In order to ensure this objective is met, the programme to demolish those homes in the regeneration areas disconnected from key services and facilities and in poor physical condition must progress.

Recommendation 2: The ability to attract investment into the regeneration areas remains difficult given the current economic climate. It is recommended that Limerick City and County Council progress a Variation to legally embed the adopted LRFIP into the Limerick City Development Plan 2010-2016 which is key to de-risking sites by providing certainty on desired land uses. In Southill for example, the currently vacant Southill Junior School requires a rezoning from 'Residential' use to 'Education, Community and Cultural' use to facilitate a new and expanded Southill community hub. The variation will also facilitate progression of an expanded District level Community Centre at St. Mary's Park.

Recommendation 3: To help address high levels of vacant floor space in Roxboro Shopping Centre, the Galvone Industrial Estate in particular, Limerick City and County Council must continue to promote a strategic access route off the M7, as identified in the LCDP and adopted LRFIP, through Southill as the 'gateway to the city'.

Recommendation 4: The Development Contribution scheme of Limerick City and County Council, which is the first Joint Development Contribution Scheme, is currently undergoing review and it is recommended that increased incentives be promoted in the regeneration areas in particular.

Recommendation 5: One of the LRFIP's key objectives is to improve the visual appearance of the regeneration areas by tackling large areas of functionless and neglected open space. It is recommended that major public realm and smallscale environmental improvement projects continue to be implemented. Public realm upgrade works proposed for St. Mary's Park and Ballinacurra Weston will improve the overall attractiveness of the areas.

Recommendation 6: It is recommended to progress the delivery of a strategic linear park from the river Shannon, through the heart of Moyross to Caherdavin as identified in the adopted LRFIP.

Recommendation 7: It is recommended to continue the implementation of the Coonagh-Knockalisheen Northern Distributor Road Phase 1 to open up connectivity to the western end of Moyross and lands for private investment.

Recommendation 8: It is recommended to continue to promote a mix of tenure in the regeneration areas. It is envisaged that, once the regeneration areas are stabilised and consolidated with the completion of the replacement housing schemes, new linkages, improved services and community uses, the areas will gradually become more attractive for private development. However, this process will take time, noting the programme's implementation phase from 2014 to 2024.

Recommendation 9: It is recommended that cognisance should be given to the fact that the current measurement of dwelling need represents a current picture in time. It would be prudent to plan for the 'housing career' or housing progression of local authority tenants over time with co-habiting couples progressing to couples with children requiring larger family type units and thus justifying the need for 3 or 4 bedroom housing types.

Recommendation 10: Continue strategic acquisitions in the regeneration areas to facilitate connections – e.g., through the Galvone Industrial Estate to the Childer's Road and also to facilitate 'transformational' projects – e.g., progress the acquisition of the Biblical Centre for training and employment opportunities for a cohort from the regeneration areas.

Recommendation 11: It is an objective of the LRFIP to create balanced and sustainable communities, with a wide range of incomes and household types representing a cross section of society in line with national, regional and local social and housing policy. A diversity in tenure mix is both an important objective and intended consequence of the regeneration programme. For this reason, Limerick City and County Council will continue to promote and attract new residents into the regeneration areas through a mix of tenure types.

Recommendation 12: It is recommended that any future development of the Clonlong site and Toppin's Field in Southill be in accordance with the Traveller Accommodation Programme 2014-2018 and any subsequent programme adopted by the Council. A strategic approach will be undertaken in consultation with the families and other agencies to ensure that the traveller residents within the regeneration areas benefit to the fullest from the regeneration programme.

Recommendation 13: Enhance the inter-agency pro-active approach being taken in relation to the management of housing stock in the regeneration areas, including the provision of tenancy support and enforcement. This service will complement the social and economic regeneration programme.

Recommendation 14: Continue to invest in nonhousing physical improvements such as improved amenities, play areas and community facilities as these are crucial to building sustainable communities.



In 2016, Limerick City and County Council, with the support of the Department of Housing, Planning, Community and Local Government (DHPCLG), purchased premises adjacent to St. Francis Boxing club - the club where former world champion Andy Lee honed his skills. The Regeneration Programme will now make the facility available to the club which caters for young boxers from across the city, from Moyross to Southill.

Recommendations & Conclusions

1.0 Summary of Social Recommendations:

All the more so given the underlying economic conditions in recent years, the Social Intervention Fund (SIF) has been invaluable in supporting projects and activities in social regeneration that in all likelihood would not have been feasible in the absence of the Fund. There is evidence of significant progress under the social pillar based on data reported by projects supported by the SIF and evidence of changes in the city, drawing on secondary sources of data.

While there is evidence of significant improvements, there are still high levels of need in regeneration communities including a core group of families with complex social problems. A legacy of low education in the adult population of the regeneration areas, poor health and deeply embedded structural unemployment are key problems. It is a long-term project to effect lasting change in these areas.

A key legacy of the SIF and the wider Limerick regeneration process is improved cooperation and collaborative working across public agencies, philanthropic organisations and voluntary and community organisations engaged in delivering interventions in the regeneration areas. The delivery of an integrated approach to respond to the multi-dimensional nature of the problems is a key focus of the Programme.

Key lessons from the implementation of the Social Pillar include the value of a preventive approach - especially in working with children, young people and families - to address at the earliest possible stage the issues that are likely to lead to poor outcomes.

The recently established Local Strategic Advisory and Monitoring Group - involving representation of the key statutory agencies including the local authority and the Department of Housing, Planning, Community and Local Government (DHPCLG) - has an important role to play in identifying priorities for support under the SIF in the forthcoming period and in championing the mainstreaming of successful projects and best practice. This, in turn, will promote sustainability of the services that are demonstrating success in meeting the objectives and achieving the expected outcomes of the social regeneration.

Social Recommendations

Recommendations following from the monitoring and review of the Social Intervention Fund are presented below.

The LRFIP and thematic framework for the social pillar

Recommendation 1: The review indicates that the thematic framework for the Social Pillar is working well - relevant interventions are being proposed and funded, there is strong demand for support and the results are promising. As such, the framework for the social programme should remain as it is.

Recommendation 2: While the review showed lack of demand for large-scale projects under the Ageing Well theme, Ageing Well should be retained as one of the social themes. In the on-going implementation of the social programme, Limerick City and County Council should prioritise the following:

- Ensure that the needs of older people are addressed in the community-based interventions supported under other themes of social regeneration and in the physical regeneration programme (housing, amenity, public realm).
- Work with agency partners and community and voluntary organisations to promote inter-generational activities.
- Ensure the needs and the voices of older people from regeneration communities are heard as part of engagement with residents in regeneration areas and integrated into the wider Age-Friendly programme led by the local authority.

The operation of the SIF

Recommendation 3: Specific recommendations regarding operation of the Social Intervention Fund (SIF) are as follows:

- The SIF should continue as the main mechanism for funding interventions under the social pillar.
- The assessment criteria of the SIF should continue to focus on demonstration of meeting the needs of regeneration communities / residents of those communities, meeting the objectives and expected outcomes of the social regeneration, working collaboratively with others and support (via co-funding) from the mainstream. The latter is important to ensure the sustainability of good quality projects.
- The SIF should continue to operate via Open Calls for proposals, independent assessment and right to appeal decisions.
- The SIF should continue to offer small grants and provide support for one-off community events. Support here should prioritise activities generated from the grass-roots in local regeneration communities.

Publicity and branding of Limerick Regeneration

Recommendation 4: The branding of Limerick Regeneration should be strengthened, led and monitored by Limerick City and County Council. Regeneration activities and outcomes (positive or otherwise) should be communicated regularly to the local regeneration communities and more widely (e.g., within the local authority area). The financial contribution of regeneration should be acknowledged and displayed (logos, statement of support) on all publicity / documentation in SIF-supported projects. Logos and specification of requirements regarding publicity should be provided by Limerick City and County Council.

Connecting the SIF to the mainstream

Recommendation 5: In projects that are meeting needs and achieving good results where there is still strong reliance on funding from the SIF, Limerick City and County Council should review issues that present difficulties with mainstream funding with relevant statutory partners (e.g., Tusla, HSE, LCETB, DES and Department of Justice & Equality / Probation Services). This situation applies in particular with projects funded under Families and Youth at Risk and Education and Learning. The Local Strategic Advisory and Monitoring Group is an appropriate structure to engage in such discussions.

Preventive interventions

Recommendation 6: Under the SIF, continue to support prevention and early intervention initiatives under Education and Learning, Health and Well-being and in services to children and families. Linked to this:

- Improve the evidence base for preventive action through the monitoring framework and by documenting good experiences and practices.
- Utilise this evidence base to promote wider application of successful approaches.

The Local Strategic Advisory and Monitoring Group has an important role to promote the evidence base and disseminating information here, to impact on the mainstream. This could be developed as an inter-agency activity.

Targeted interventions

Recommendation 7: Explore with local partners the requirements for targeted interventions, to address the deeper structural problems (e.g., families with complex needs, low education, poor employability combined with social problems) or issues that are specific to a community. This should involve discussion of whether and which local initiatives are most important to sustain post regeneration, how this could be done (who can lead, how best to deliver) and how they can be funded.

Adult education, employability and work

Recommendation 8: Under Employability and Work and Education and Learning for young people and adults:

- Continue to fund from the SIF add-on elements / services that are demonstrating success - e.g., a dedicated counselling service, mentoring service, activities to encourage participation and “taster” programmes, necessary equipment costs.
- Work with an inter-agency approach to address gaps in services that have a negative impact on access to education and training and employment for key target groups. This includes in particular young people 18-24 years that are not in employment education or training (NEETs) who are ineligible for participation in schemes such as Community Employment (CE). An enhanced training element in local CE schemes and / or local schemes offering a mix of further education, training and work experience for young people could be explored here. Gaps in services also apply to adults with very low education for whom mainstream training is at too advanced a level (e.g., accreditation at or above QQI Level 4) and improved responses similarly need to be found here. The key players are: DSP, LCET, the PAUL Partnership (contracted to deliver SICAP in urban Limerick) and community and voluntary bodies delivering training and employment programmes in regeneration areas.
- Continue to promote links into mainstream programmes in further education, training, employment services (Intreo, Local Employment Services, Jobsclubs), temporary employment programmes (CE) and SICAP (in relation to activation of unemployed people; working with children and young people; and community participation).
- Drawing on the experience of the Hospitality Education and Skills Training Centre, promote the model of working with employers / representatives of industrial sectors / skills development fora to develop market-led skills training programmes and access to employment for residents of working age in regeneration communities. Application of the Social Clause in the construction sector is already in place to assist this. New opportunities are arising in the city and environs with the development of sectors such as the film industry (Troy Studios), tourism and light engineering. These recommendations also fit with the findings of the review of the Economic Pillar.

Community and Enterprise Centres as community hubs

Recommendation 9: Limerick City and County Council and its partners in statutory agencies and private funders should continue to support and strengthen community hubs - the Community Enterprise Centres in or adjacent to regeneration areas. Strengthening hubs can include: supporting expansion of services, improved governance, skills and capacity building and improving access to the centres for sections of the community that are not fully availing of the services there.

The Community Enterprise Centres are important hubs for the delivery of social, childcare, health, adult education and other services needed in local communities. They also provide employment including temporary jobs in the communities. The SIF has been an important source of funding for operating costs (as well as some new projects / services) and has facilitated the expansion of the activities of the centres in key areas (e.g., social enterprise). This approach should be continued. Buy-in from the mainstream - including the local authority, the HSE, LCETB, Tusla and DSP - should be further encouraged so that these operations can continue post-regeneration.

The development of social enterprise and stronger income generation by the community enterprise centre are positive developments. However, their important social and community development role should not be lost in the endeavours to increase income generation. The local services and opportunities for social contact offered at the community centres are very important in those communities, with low incomes and restricted opportunities.

Sport, recreation and cultural activities

Recommendation 10: Funding for engagement in sport, recreation and cultural activities – under Health and Well-being, Education and Learning and Community themes - should continue as part of the long-term strategy of regeneration. Such activities promote connectivity in the communities, build confidence, can improve image and open up access to other opportunities (education, work). Such activities can also support integration of regeneration communities into the social and community life of the city.

Community participation and civic engagement

Recommendation 11: Encourage community and voluntary organisations that deliver events such as community clean-ups, a festival, a community day to achieve more from getting people involved in one-off activities. These events perhaps could be used more as opportunities to engage residents in civic activities, to get them involved in local groups, to provide information and encourage them in their own personal development (social activities, education, cultural activities).

Recommendation 12: Roll-out the civic engagement development programme. This programme is being delivered as a cooperative initiative between the PAUL Partnership, the local authority and the local regeneration communities with financial support from Atlantic Philanthropies and regeneration (Department of Housing, Planning, Community and Local Government).

Recommendation 13: Continue to review the effectiveness of existing consultative processes and structures for community participation. Discuss scope for improvements with those directly involved, especially residents and community representatives. Test possibilities and make changes to improve communication and community / resident input to decision-making. The outcomes of the work of the civic engagement development programme should contribute to this.

Community safety

Recommendation 14: Continue to support actions that improve community safety and strengthen community engagement, working in cooperation with the community hubs. Identify initiatives that work best, from the community as well as agencies' perspective (e.g., CCTV and other initiatives). Work with local community structures to improve communication to and from Limerick City and County Council, the local authority and other statutory services in relation to community safety.

Monitoring and review

Recommendation 15: Limerick City and County Council should provide for training in monitoring and review of projects / services and in planning and project management to community and voluntary organisations supported by the SIF. This can help improve the evidence base of their services and practices as well as provide accountability to funders. In the case of intensive programmes of support to individuals or families, monitor the results achieved some time after exit from a specific service. Follow-up with clients or a sample of clients say, 6 months and 12 months after they have left the service is desirable to establish whether or not positive outcomes have been sustained.

Empower users

Recommendation 16: In the local projects supported under the SIF, encourage project promoters to show that they are engaging with users / their community to get their (users) views on the services – i.e., to establish the level of satisfaction with the services provided; to show they are taking on board views of users, and making changes where necessary to best meet the needs of the clients. This approach will improve (and add to the robustness) of the evidence base of the programme.

Whole of government approach – Local Strategic Advisory and Monitoring Group

Recommendation 17: Utilise and develop the role of the Local Strategic Advisory and Monitoring Group to improve coordination and promote a whole of government approach. It could be used to champion mainstreaming of good experiences from regeneration into local programmes and to influence policy, to identify priorities for funding under the SIF and to promote coordination in planning and service delivery into local communities. The new structures linked to reform of local government such as the LCDC and the PPN as well as existing coordination structures – the Limerick Children and Young People's Services Committee, the Age-Friendly City and County programme, Limerick Healthy City and County, Learning Limerick – could also play a role here.

2.0 Summary of Economic Recommendations

The key economic challenge remains around addressing inter-generational and youth unemployment across regeneration areas. The fundamental priorities remain around how the target group become 'ready for work' and have access to the type of training and job opportunities that are fit for purpose. The contribution of the Social Intervention Fund and investment in education remain the cornerstone of making a sustained impact across the regeneration communities. This is the key pre-cursor to securing employment and addressing the issues of social and economic deprivation. Regeneration funding streams have been central to leveraging additional funds and contributing to the sustainability of social programming that supports labour market programmes and subsequent full time employment opportunities.

Build On New Opportunities in Emerging Sectors

New sectoral opportunities are emerging for residents of the Regeneration areas with particular focus on the area of healthcare and the resurgence in retail resulting in a constant demand for retail staff. The care of the elderly as a new sectoral opportunity will require more examination in developing a coherent approach to fulfilling the demand for staff in this area. Increased demand for construction workers highlights the re-emergence of the building industry while hospitality and tourism, customer service, food and beauty remain important and attractive sectors within the context of Limerick Regeneration areas.

Similarly, there is increasing momentum within a number of employment sectors identified within the Limerick 2030 Economic and Spatial Plan. These offer opportunities for the long-term unemployed as evidenced through the development of training programmes with private sector companies such as GM Motors. These include ICT, Digital Media, Life Sciences, Advanced Manufacturing, Energy / Green Economy and Sport.

The food strategy launched in Limerick provides a platform for the development of a social enterprise approach to food, particularly with the proposed developments through the Urban Co-Op, the Urban Farm and community gardens with the possibility of developing a national model for social enterprise food co-operatives. Social innovation should be applied and examine opportunities such as the Urban Farm and Co-Op supplying produce to meals on wheels and Community Café's while developing a more integrated supply chain for all community led food services.

Recommendation 1 - Economic Development Approach

- Create a Limerick Regeneration Economic advisory group that can guide strategic development of key projects.

Multi-Agency Approach Remains Central To Future Success

The success achieved to date reflected in the economic impact achieved through job creation and the associated income impact can only be realised through a multi-agency approach. The economic gains that can be generated in the next phase of economic development will only transpire through continued joint efforts and the ability for all agencies and private sector to collaborate on projects designed to impact at each stage of the defined pathways for the unemployed. This connected approach has resulted in capacity building, training and upskilling to prepare residents of Regeneration areas to become 'job ready'.

The subsequent efforts of all economic development agencies and the private sector in partnership with Limerick City and County Council are now creating new economic opportunities such as the Troy Studio and associated training opportunities through the Biblical Centre. However, as demonstrated in the approach to the Hospitality Education and Training Centre, it is only through the collective efforts of all local stakeholders that sustainable success will ensue. The launch of the LRFIP during a time of deep recession mitigated against the pace of implementation of certain projects and elements of the economic strategy. Significantly, however, continued investment into social interventions and the collective partnership approach to training and skills development combined with Limerick City and County Council's economic development activity has resulted in a new wave of economic momentum. The economic pillar realistically cannot operate separately to the social and educational strategy. The progress that have been made across the areas of social interventions suggest the time is right to harness social regeneration and build on this activity to realise the economic opportunity for sustainable communities.

Recommendation 2 – Multi Agency

- The creation of multi-agency teams for key sector training projects replicating the collective approach applied to Hospitality and projected approach for the Biblical Centre.

New Concentration On Social Enterprise

The social economy and social enterprise should represent an area of focus for Limerick. The opportunity around social enterprise is very significant and is attracting considerable national and international attention. The sector in Limerick has evolved organically with some success across each of the Community Enterprise Centres. A strategic approach to the creation of an expanded Social Enterprise economy is required. The opportunity to train within social enterprises and subsequently transfer to the private sector (e.g., chefs, security) needs to be developed under a social enterprise framework that all communities and enterprise groups should adopt.

There is a requirement for a framework to be developed around Community Enterprise Centres to define activity, gap analysis and avoid duplication. This will enable these centres build on their successes while realising social enterprise opportunities. Equally, the next phase of community and social enterprise should examine the creation of a number of specialisms for each area to focus on. The success of the CCTV programme that now extends from Moyross to Southill illustrates the opportunity for centres to focus on areas of strength and become Centres of Excellence by economic activity rather than a geographic focus. There is a requirement for increased focus on social and economic integration but not solely focussed on the geographical regeneration areas but blending all parts of Limerick together, socially and economically.

The proposed Social Enterprise Hub at Fullflex can provide a project of scale that can become a training, enterprise and job creation catalyst. In the longer term, a comparable site should be developed for Moyross in line with the objectives of establishing a training and enterprise centre for that area. Self-employment remains an area of focus for many residents and must harness the potential of the SICAP and social enterprise activity across each Regeneration area. There is also a key requirement to define what social enterprise opportunities exist for Limerick while developing a Social Enterprise task team that can capitalise on the immediate opportunity that exists.

Recommendation 3 - Community Enterprise

- Create a framework that creates a structure around Community Enterprises adopting centres of excellence approach based on service areas of core strength rather than a geographic focus.
- Develop a model of community enterprise creating a Community Enterprise Hub as a focal point for city wide community enterprise development

Recommendation 4 - Social Enterprise

- Develop a model of social enterprise using the Social Enterprise Hub as a focal point for city wide social enterprise development.
- Commit to a process of review of Social Enterprise opportunity through the appointment of an expert group.

Recommendation 5 - Governance

- Develop a governance model that social enterprises must adhere to in order to avail of public procurement opportunities.

New Road Infrastructure Will Unlock Economic Opportunities

One of the key challenges in attracting industry is the provision of appropriate work space. The development of key infrastructural projects such as the Northern Distributor Road, Southern Link Road from the M7 through Southill and access to Galvone Industrial Estate from Childer's Road will be instrumental in opening up new economic development areas that will have an immediate impact on the surrounding regeneration areas. Major infrastructural projects will be the key to unlocking the economic potential of regeneration areas.

Recommendation 6 - Infrastructure

- Prioritise key road infrastructural projects

The Need For Enterprise Space

There is a universally recognised need to address the enterprise space deficit in the city. While not exclusive to delivering the ambition for the economic development of Regeneration, access to space is a limiting factor particularly around the social economy. Equally, the private sector's ability to expand and consider further investment opportunities in the area would appear severely restricted. There is also need to examine small enterprise opportunities (micro enterprises) with the potential to locate in city centre incubation or workspace.

Recommendation 7 – Micro Enterprise

- Examine opportunities for incubation space for self-employment across the city focusing on micro enterprise.

Recommendation 8 - Nicholas St.

- Creation of mixed use buildings that can become outlets for social enterprises and training in a manner that becomes economically viable and appealing to the tourism and local residential base.

Impact of The Social Clause

The visibility of local construction activity and the ability to provide local members of the community with employment in the construction phases of Regeneration needs to be addressed in renewed efforts around the social contract. This will require greater levels of stewardship, monitoring and facilitation between the private sector and the long-term unemployed. The ability to capitalise on the projected social contract opportunity will also require a resource that can support smaller enterprises who require support and advice to achieve the required level of governance, compliance and quality standards that will enable them compete for tender work.

Recommendation 9 - Social Contracts

- Devise a stringent implementation and monitoring system for the social contract clause.
- Examine means of social enterprises availing of economic development opportunities presented through Limerick Regeneration tenders.

Dedicated Economic Development Resources

A dedicated resource for economic development in regeneration areas should be examined to provide a focal point for Community Enterprise, Agencies and the private sector. There is a requirement for the economic pillar to have an economic development resource to link to the wider regeneration activity. While the social interventions and physical infrastructure have been the principal focus to date, a direct link to ongoing economic development in Regeneration is required. The ability to partner with the new structures through LCDC and bodies such as Innovate Limerick will also be key to delivering the economic pillar objectives.

Recommendation 10 - Ownership Of Economic Pillar

- The creation of a dedicated structure / resource that is solely focused on the development of the economic pillar opportunities within regeneration areas to aid Community Enterprise centres and work to establish the Social Enterprise Hub.

Create an Engagement Platform with The Private Sector

Since the launch of the LRFIP there has been informal engagement with the private sector to benefit from their ongoing CSR strategies. There is a need to establish a CSR working group with established channels such as Limerick for IT and Limerick for Engineering as potential pilot programmes that can provide meaningful engagement around training, job placement, mentoring and skills development. The subsequent creation of a CSR structure would require the involvement of third level colleges with a potential research interest in this area. The creation of such structures will also provide a focus for targeting private sector CSR investment in areas such as social enterprise.

Recommendation 11 - Private Sector

- Establish a working group through representatives of Limerick for IT and Limerick for Engineering to work towards a representative body around the area of CSR to facilitate meaningful engagement through private sector CSR in the area of mentoring, job placement and social enterprise support.

Development of The District Centres

The two district centres of Watch House Cross and Roxboro require a new enterprise focus. The opportunity for training and enterprise development to meet the requirements of emerging sectors represent areas of potential as dedicated training centres. Additional areas for consideration are the location of mid-tier call centres or the development of the food theme or a specialist training centres operating as an extension to the Hospitality Education and Training Centre.

Recommendation 12 - District Centres

- Devise a targeted enterprise focus on the district centres of Roxboro and Watch House Cross that leverages off city wide training opportunities such as dedicated sites for Troy Studios training, Food & Hospitality sector.

Future Monitoring and Success Measurement

The future monitoring and measurement of the economic pillar of the LRFIP should adopt a specific focus examining direct expenditure that will contribute to the following economic outputs.

- Employment creation
- Skills & Training
- Enterprise Development
- Economic Development Property Acquisition
- Economic Development Infrastructure
- Contribution to Strategic Projects

Recommendation 13 - Measuring Success

- Benchmarking and data collection around Regeneration's economic activity needs a structure in terms of monitoring and measurement across the proposed six sub segments of LRFIP economic development.

Areas for priority Focus

In conclusion, based on the consultative process, project analysis and identification of areas for improvement, the next phase of economic development should continue to prioritise:

1. Young People - Priority focus on youth unemployment.
2. Economic Development Projects of Scale - Focus on projects of scale that will become a city wide catalyst for economic development aligned with the Limerick 2030 strategy.
3. Sector Focused Skills Development - Skills training approach to support economic focus on sectors of strength and growth opportunities.
4. Private Sector - Create platforms for increased levels of private sector engagement to stimulate enterprise, training, work experience and employment opportunities.
5. Training Centres – replicate the model adopted for the Hospitality Education and Training Centre for economic sectors with growth potential through inter-agency collaboration and private sector involvement.
6. Social Contracts Clause - develop an increased focus on the monitoring and stewardship of the social contracts clause.

Recommendation 14 - Sector Focus

- Retain an industry focus in alignment with Limerick 2030 strategy to avail of employment opportunities generated through the strategic sites and supporting economic development activity.
- Focus on job specific training opportunities and Occupational Skills Profiling in partnership with the private sector in emerging growth opportunities in areas such as Healthcare, Construction, Beauty and Hospitality.
- Work with the private sector to avail of new Apprenticeship opportunities under the new Apprenticeship Model applicable to a wider range of sectors.



Lord Edward Street: Construction works taking place within the former Tait Factory structure. The contract utilises the 'Social Clause' - Photographed August 2016

3.0 Summary of Physical recommendations

Key recommendations of the Physical pillar to progress the objectives of the Limerick Regeneration Framework Implementation Plan should concentrate on the following:

Housing

Recommendation 1: Continue seeking approval for housing schemes in the regeneration areas to meet the replacement housing need within a sustainable catchment of 800m from services and facilities. In order to ensure this objective is met, the programme to demolish those homes in the regeneration areas disconnected from key services and facilities and in poor physical condition must progress.

Variation of the Limerick City Development Plan 2010-2016

Recommendation 2: The ability to attract investment into the regeneration areas remains difficult given the current economic climate. It is recommended that Limerick City and County Council progress a Variation to legally embed the adopted LRFIP into the Limerick City Development Plan 2010-2016 which is key to de-risking sites by providing certainty on desired land uses. In Southill for example, the currently vacant Southill Junior School requires a rezoning from 'Residential' use to 'Education, Community and Cultural' use to facilitate a new and expanded Southill community hub. The variation will also facilitate progression of an expanded District level Community Centre at St. Mary's Park.

Strategic Access

Recommendation 3: To help address high levels of vacant floor space in Roxboro Shopping Centre, the Galvone Industrial Estate in particular, Limerick City and County Council must continue to promote a strategic access route off the M7, as identified in the LCDP and adopted LRFIP, through Southill as the 'gateway to the city'.

Joint Development Contribution Scheme

Recommendation 4: The Development Contribution scheme of Limerick City and County Council, which is the first Joint Development Contribution Scheme, is currently undergoing review and it is recommended that increased incentives be promoted in the regeneration areas in particular.

Environmental Improvements and Public Realm

Recommendation 5: One of the LRFIP's key objectives is to improve the visual appearance of the regeneration areas by tackling large areas of functionless and neglected open space. It is recommended that major public realm and small-scale environmental improvement projects continue to be implemented. Public realm upgrade works proposed for St. Mary's Park and Ballinacurra Weston will improve the overall attractiveness of the areas.

Northside Regional Park

Recommendation 6: It is recommended to progress the delivery of a strategic linear park from the river Shannon, through the heart of Moyross to Caherdavin as identified in the adopted LRFIP.

Coonagh-Knockalisheen Road

Recommendation 7: It is recommended to continue the implementation of the Coonagh-Knockalisheen Northern Distributor Road Phase 1 to open up connectivity to the western end of Moyross and lands for private investment.

Mixed Tenure

Recommendation 8: It is recommended to continue to promote a mix of tenure in the regeneration areas. It is envisaged that, once the regeneration areas are stabilised and consolidated with the completion of the replacement housing schemes, new linkages, improved services and community uses, the areas will gradually become more attractive for private development. However, this process will take time, noting the programme's implementation phase from 2014 to 2024. Greater linkages between existing adjoining but separated housing areas to be promoted by the removal of physical barriers e.g., fences, walls etc.

Future-proofing Housing Provision

Recommendation 9: It is recommended that cognisance should be given to the fact that the current measurement of dwelling need represents a current picture in time. It would be prudent to plan for the 'housing career' or housing progression of local authority tenants over time with co-habiting couples progressing to couples with children requiring larger family type units and thus justifying the need for 3 or 4 bedroom housing types.

Strategic Acquisitions

Recommendation 10: Continue strategic acquisitions in the regeneration areas to facilitate connections – e.g., through the Galvone Industrial Estate to the Childer's Road and also to facilitate 'transformational' projects – e.g., progress the acquisition of the Biblical Centre for training and employment opportunities for a cohort from the regeneration areas.

Balanced Sustainable Communities

Recommendation 11: It is an objective of the LRFIP to create balanced and sustainable communities, with a wide range of incomes and household types representing a cross section of society in line with national, regional and local social and housing policy. A diversity in tenure mix is both an important objective and intended consequence of the regeneration programme. For this reason, Limerick City and County Council will continue to promote and attract new residents into the regeneration areas through a mix of tenure types.

Traveller Accommodation

Recommendation 12: It is recommended that any future development of the Clonlong site and Toppin's Field in Southill be in accordance with the Traveller Accommodation Programme 2014-2018 and any subsequent programme adopted by the Council. A strategic approach will be undertaken in consultation with the families and other agencies to ensure that the traveller residents within the regeneration areas benefit to the fullest from the regeneration programme.

Tenancy Support

Recommendation 13: Enhance the inter-agency pro-active approach being taken in relation to the management of housing stock in the regeneration areas, including the provision of tenancy support and enforcement. This service will complement the social and economic regeneration programme.

Non-Housing Projects

Recommendation 14: Continue to invest in non-housing physical improvements such as improved amenities, play areas and community facilities as these are crucial to building sustainable communities.



