

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPORT

THIS MONTH:

Five Limerick City and County Council Housing projects shortlisted at the Irish Planning Institute National Planning Awards

Financial transactions handled by HAP staff exceeded €21 million in 2015

Team Limerick Clean Up 2 launched by J.P. McManus and Paul O'Connell

The Council launches extensive programme of events as part of Ireland 2016 Centenary Programme

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1. Financial Matters

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Empowering the Citizen

1. Home and Social Development Update

Waiting List

Housing Waiting List	4,248
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Allocations

	Metropolitan District	Newcastle West	Adare – Rathkeale	Cappamore – Kilmallock	Total
Year to end of last month	139	37	33	61	270
No of Units Allocated December 2015	15	3	1	4	23
Year to Date	154	40	34	65	293

Rental Accommodation Scheme (RAS)

- There are currently 1,136 RAS tenancies (869 private and 267 Approved Housing Bodies) being sustained by the RAS unit.
- During the period to the 31st December 2015 there were 63 contracts completed with RAS landlords to facilitate RAS contract renewals or alternative RAS accommodation provision.

Housing Assistance Payment

Home Improvement Schemes

Private Housing Grant Aid	Number of Grants paid at December 2015	Euro Amount
MAGS (Mobility Adaptation Grant Scheme)	168	€674,532.14
HAGS (Housing Adaptation Grant Scheme)	106	€968,581.48
HOPS (Housing Aid for Older Persons Grant Scheme)	249	€1,115,580.57

Total of 523 grants paid to date totalling €2,758,694.19.

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Name of Scheme	Stage	Number of Units	Euro Allocation
Rathbane (SHIP – Social Housing Investment Programme)	Design Stage awaiting Departmental approval	7	€486,770
Lisheen Park, Patrickswell	Departmental approval received. Mini- competition for Design Team completed	20	€3,700,000
Glenview, Hospital	Departmental approval received. Mini- competition for Design Team completed	20	€3,700,000
Deerpark, Adare	Departmental approval received. Mini- competition for Design Team completed	30	€5,250,000
Clonmacken	Departmental approval received. Mini-competition for Design Team completed	40	€7,120,000

Job Stimulus Programme

Name of Scheme	Stage	Number of Units	Euro Allocation
Hasset Villas	Design team appointed Land survey completed and work on initial design has commenced	3	€450,000
Kilmurry Court	Design team appointed Land survey completed and work on initial design has commenced	6	€900,000
Clare Street	Ready to procure for Integrated Design Team	6	€1,000,000

Traveller Accommodation Programme

Name of Scheme	Stage	Euro Allocation
Castletroy	Extension of three bays, project more than 95% complete	€123,500

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Approved Housing Bodies

The Capital team continue to work closely with the Approved Housing Body sector in order to meet the ambitious targets set out in the Social Housing Strategy 2020. The sector continues to advance projects approved under the Capital Assistance Scheme (CAS) 2015. Additional units are being progressed under the Capital Advanced Leasing Facility (C.A.L.F) with a significant number of units set for delivery throughout 2016.

House Purchase Programme

During 2015 Home & Community were given approval to purchase 22 units at a cost of €3.9m. Given current market conditions the team purchased 36 units within the allocated budget. It is envisaged that the homes purchased will be made available in early 2016.

Long-Term Leasing Programme

The Capital Team continue to promote the long-term leasing facility to the owners of private rented accommodation. Where there is a demand for the property the owner is paid 80% of the market rent for that property, with maintenance of the property transferring to the Local Authority for the duration of the lease (10 years). At the most recent Home & Community SPC, a presentation on the purchase and long-term leasing programme was given by Fiona McCormack. An outline of the schemes and progress to date was given and included a questions and answers session. Feedback from the members of the SPC was very positive.

Rent Collection

Rent Collection Limerick City & County Council

Opening Balance 01/01/2015 €	Accrued Income €	Total for collection €	Receipts €	Closing balance €	% Collection
1,890,818	12,267,795	14,158,613	12,122,792	2,035,821	85.6

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Regeneration Programme

1. Limerick City and County Council has advertised in local press for applications for the 2016 Social Intervention Fund under the Regeneration Programme. The closing date for the submission of completed applications is 4pm on Friday the 26th February 2016. Projects **must be clearly linked** to the objectives set out under the social/economic pillars of the Limerick Regeneration Framework Implementation Plan (<http://www.limerick.ie/council/limerick-regeneration-framework-implementation-plan>). All projects will be subject to a post payments evaluation procedure. Applications and evaluation criteria available from Helen Ryan, Limerick City & County Council, Watch House Cross, Moyross, Limerick, 061 458884 or email at helen.ryan@limerick.ie.
2. The Hinterland Report has been finalised and is available on the Council's Website - <http://www.limerick.ie/council-service-group/development-plans>

Physical Regeneration Status Q4 2015

The implementation of the Limerick Regeneration Framework Implementation Plan (LRFIP), approved by the Elected Members in February 2014, is well advanced under each programme heading – Physical, Social and Economic Regeneration – in each of the four areas: Moyross, Southill, Ballinacurra Weston and St Mary's Park.

Construction of 10 houses as part of Cliona Park Phase 2, Moyross commenced on site in December 2015. The construction of new drainage infrastructure to service Southill from Childers Road to O'Malley Park commenced on site on 16th November 2015. This work facilitates Phase 1 of the Churchfield Development (42 units), which was tendered to building contractors in November 2015 with Tenders to be returned in January 2016.

A building contractor has been selected for the Lord Edward Street project (83 units), due to commence in early 2016. Archaeological Excavation works were completed on the Sheep Street/Athlunkard Street site in December in advance of the commencement of the development of 8 homes in early 2016.

Bringing vacant houses back into use continues across all areas with 68 homes now occupied following extensive refurbishment in 2015.

The Thermal Upgrade Project, encompassing all four regeneration areas, is progressing with 328 no. units currently at Planning/Tender Stage, 154 no. units at Construction Stage and 134 no. houses completed in 2015.

Refurbishment and remedial/repair works are taking place on Nicholas Street with the objective of improving the environmental quality of this important city street, and returning vacant buildings to use. The buildings involved include 24, 25, 26, 27 and 35 Nicholas Street, and the 'Fireplace Site'.

The remediation of the Landfill Site at St Mary's Park is completed, generating an improved environment for the area and the wider city. A new water main network for St Mary's Park, delivered by Irish Water, commenced on site in December 2015.

Five Limerick City and County Council Office of Regeneration projects have been shortlisted at the Irish Planning Institute National Planning Awards. These are

- The Limerick Regeneration Framework Implementation Plan;
- The Tait Clothing Factory: An Online Multi-media Planning and Heritage Repository;
- The Development and Archaeological Strategy for King's Island (DASKIL);
- The Statement of Community Involvement for Limerick Regeneration Framework Implementation Plan, and
- The Design and Public Realm Code for the Limerick Regeneration Areas.

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.

OpenHouseLimerick 2015, which took place in October 2015, included a well-attended guided bus tour visiting some of the key Limerick Regeneration projects including award-winning housing projects: Cliona Park, Moyross and Colivet Court, Southill.

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Current Status	Number of Units
Schemes with Preliminary Departmental Approval	132
Schemes at Design Stage / Part 8 Planning	104
Schemes at Detailed Design Stage	224
Thermal Upgrade Project (Planning/Tender stage)	328
Schemes at Construction Stage (incl. Thermal Upgrades)	181
Schemes Completed in 2014 (incl. Thermal Upgrades)	140
Schemes Completed in 2015 (incl. Thermal Upgrades)	202

2. HAP Hub Update

- Under the Government's HAP statutory pilot the Council is providing a transactional shared service HUB for all local authorities operating HAP during the pilot phase.
- At 31st December 2015 6,165 HAP tenancies had been set-up to date which includes 312 closed tenancies. At the end of 2015 there were 5,853 active HAP tenancies.
- Meath, Kildare, Mayo, Sligo and Galway County Local Authorities have all joined HAP quarter 4 2015. Galway City Council is due to come on board in late January 2016.
- The HAP Hub now manages all HAP payments and receipts on behalf of eighteen Local Authorities including Limerick City and County Council. The remaining Local Authorities will come under HAP in 2016.
- Financial transactions being handled by HAP Hub staff exceeded €21 million in 2015.
- Recruitment is currently underway for new staff for the Hub.

3. Cemeteries**Mt. St. Lawrence Cemetery Extension**

- Works have been completed on the development of a one acre extension, car-parking, office and store at Mt St Lawrence Cemetery.

- The Cemetery extension will provide approx 670 grave spaces.

Ballingaddy Cemetery Extension

- The Council awarded a contract to Martin Cussen Construction Ltd to develop cemetery extension and car parking at Ballingaddy Cemetery.
- The cemetery when completed will provide approx 700 gravespaces.

Burial Ground Awards and Golden Mile Awards Ceremony 2015

- A Burial Ground Awards and Golden Mile Awards evening was held on 9th December in the Woodlands House Hotel, Adare.
- The Burial Ground Awards Ceremony is held to recognise the voluntary work of burial ground committees and present the awards for high standard of maintenance and care of the cemeteries.
- The awards are in two categories – Ancient and Modern. There is a first, second and third winner in each of the Council's operational areas for each category. There is also an overall prize for each category. The award winners are set out hereunder;

Burial Ground awards winners (Ancient section):

- 1st Cahernorry Graveyard, Ballyneety (overall category winner), 2nd Ballysimon Burial Ground, 3rd place

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- Castletown Church (Doon) (OPERATIONS NORTH);
- 1st Old Abbey Burial Ground, 2nd Darragh Burial Ground, 3rd Bruree (Ballynoe) Old Burial Ground (KILMALLOCK);
- 1st Kileedy Burial Ground, 2nd Abbeyfeale (The Square) Burial Ground, 3rd Templeglantine Burial Ground (NEWCASTLE WEST);
- 1st Robertstown Burial Ground, 2nd St. Nicholas Burial Ground, 3rd Lismakeery Burial Ground (Rathkeale).

Burial Ground awards winners (Modern section):

- 1st Doon Burial Ground (New) (overall category winner), 2nd place Abington Burial Ground, 3rd Caherconlish New Burial Ground (OPERATIONS NORTH);
- 1st Kildimo Burial Ground, 2nd Banogue Burial Ground 3rd Kilcornan Burial Ground, (RATHKEALE);
- 1st Castletown Conyers Burial Ground 2nd Caherelly Burial Ground, 3rd Kiltely Burial Ground (KILMALLOCK);
- 1st St. Mary's Abbeyfeale, 2nd Kinard Burial Ground, 3rd Tournafulla Glengort, (NEWCASTLE WEST).

The awards were presented by Cllr. Liam Galvin, Mayor of Limerick.

4. Environment

Green Schools Assessments -

- 3 Green Schools Assessments took place.

How Long Litter Lasts Poster

- Electronic copies of the 'How Long Litter Lasts' poster and all new environmental leaflets distributed to all primary and secondary schools in the city and county.

Team Limerick Clean Up 2 launched

- Team Limerick Clean Up 2 was launched by JP McManus and Paul O Connell.

Moyross Tidy Towns Group

- The Moyross Tidy Towns Group were presented with their Waste Prevention Award for their Food Waste Prevention Web project on 4th December at a regional Tidy Towns Awards ceremony in Listowel.

5. Irish Water

- Irish Water Mains Rehabilitation Works Package 2 commenced in St Mary's Park and there is a further 43 locations. The project will provide for the replacement of defective water main with new ductile iron water mains and the decommissioning of problematic lead backyard services.
- Southern Trunk Main provides for the commissioning of the existing Southern Ring Main. Works commenced in Feb 2015 and are on-going.
- Contract 4 - Patrickswell, Glin and Tournafulla provides for the replacement of defective communal water mains at these locations. Works are on-going and due to be completed in March 2016.

6. Waste Management

- During December the Southern Region Waste Management Office conducted a regional awareness campaign aimed at improving recycling rates and reducing contamination of recyclables at the kerbside. With contamination levels as high as 30% in some kerbside bins the campaign was very well received by the Irish Waste Management Association and local waste contractors. The campaign embraced print and social media as well as local radio to communicate the message to inform and assist householders before the festive season which inevitably leads to more waste creation.

7. Local Community Development Committee (LCDC)

The LCDC held its monthly meeting on 1st December.

8. Rural Development Programme (LEADER)

Confirmation received from the Department of the Environment, Community and Local Government (DECLG) on 22nd December, 2015 that Limerick's Local Development Strategy has been evaluated and approved by the Independent Selection Committee subject to a number of areas being addressed.

9. Social Inclusion and Community Activation Programme (SICAP)

Budgets and targets for the 2016 SICAP Programme received from DECLG, Programme Implementers to submit 2016 Plans by 15th January, 2016.

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10. PPN Public Participation Network

The PPN has appointed Dr. Matt Cannon as Community Engagement Worker on a short-term contract. Matt's role is to raise awareness of the PPN and support organisations to become actively involved. Matt is now the primary contact for the PPN in Limerick and can be contacted on Limerick@ppn.ie.

11. Limerick Sports Partnership

- 140 Men across 4 Community/Sports settings completed Physical Activity Assessments as part of the Men on the Move Research programme.
- This programme targets men 30-70 years in order to engage them in Physical Activity to enhance their quality of life.
- The promotion of the LSP Blanket Run resulted in over 90/100 items such as blankets and duvets being collected. Mc Garry House was the main beneficiary.
- The part-time Community Sports Hub Coordinator position was filled and will lead to great things in the coming months!!

12. Library

Limerick City & County Council launched an extensive programme of events as part of [Ireland 2016 Centenary Programme](#)

- An extensive programme of events across the seven programme strands of the Ireland 2016 Centenary Programme was launched on 7th December 2015 by Councillor Liam Galvin, Mayor, in the Granary Library.
- The **Limerick City & County Council** programme is the outcome of consultations with interested local groups, organisations and individuals, who were invited to participate in the planning and implementation of the local programme. Led by the Council, the programme contain events and initiatives ranging across all seven strands of the Ireland 2016 programme.

Some of the events planned for the Council include:

- Re-enactment of march by 300 Irish Volunteers to Glenquin Castle to receive shipment of arms from ship
- 'Roots of the Rising' – family history of Ned Daly and Con Colbert by Limerick Genealogy
- Memorial Gardens will be erected at Limerick City, Newcastle West, Kilmallock and Rathkeale
- 'As If She Had a Right to be There' – exhibition of drawings by Ashlinn O'Keefe relating to women's

involvement in Irish Struggle for Independence

- Rith 2016 – a nationwide relay run to celebrate the Irish language will be visiting Limerick on 8th March 2016
- '1916 Today – An Anthology of Reactions' – Limerick Writers Centre.

Library - General

- On Friday 4th December students from the Convent NS in Abbeyfeale visited the Abbeyfeale Library to decorate the Christmas tree with some wonderful decorations they had made themselves in their Arts and Crafts class at school. They also sang some Christmas Carols for their parents and a lovely time was had by all.
- Kilmallock Library hosted the launch of *Our Proud Heritage: a History of Kilmallock GAA* on Saturday 5th December. The President of the GAA, Aogán Ó Fearghail launched this comprehensive and beautifully produced publication which covers the history of the club from 1884 to the present day. A wonderful evening of celebration was attended by over 200 people and was brought to a conclusion with a stirring rendition by pupils of Kilmallock N.S. of "Up the Balbec".
- The Evening Lecture for December in the Granary Library was entitled "Adventures in DNA based Family History Research: How DNA found two more generations of my 18th century Limerick Ancestors", by Paddy Waldron. There were over 40 in attendance on the night.

13. Limerick Museum & Archives

- Bringing Home the Bacon: Limerick Museum and Archives in partnership with Mary Immaculate College launched a major heritage project exploring the history of Limerick Bacon Industry. Limerick had four major factories all in the heart of the city and the pig industry was part of the sights and sounds of the city and region.
- The design team for the new museum display area was appointed at the end of the month.
- The museum had just over 16,000 visitors during the year, its best ever excluding 2009 when it had extended opening hours.
- A generous donation was made to the museum of the medals and some related papers of Thomas Dargan who was active in the War of Independence.

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14. Arts

Limerick Arts Office hosted a visiting delegation from Notre Dame University along with Limerick cultural organisations to begin discussions around cooperative cultural initiatives. The meeting showed that Limerick has a very strong representative voice in the diversity of cultural initiatives in terms of education and young people.

Limerick Arts Office and Limerick 2020 hosted a half day of sharing research, funded by Irish Research Council's New Foundations Programme, looking into the network effects of Limerick National City of Culture on building a culture of corporate engagement in the arts. The research was undertaken by Dr. Annmaire Ryan at the Kemmy Business School, University of Limerick.

Limerick Arts Office continues the preparation for programme 2016 across disciplines along with advice and supporting documentation for applications to the Arts Council for individuals and organisations applying for grant support.

The Future is Self-Organised – Artist-Run Spaces Curated by Pallas Projects, an exhibition looking at artist-led practice and the role and contribution of artist-run spaces to contemporary art, culture and society. The exhibition is the first of a series of projects to take place throughout 2016 that will mark the 20th year of the artist-run space Pallas Projects/Studios (PP/S). Featuring 7 Artists run organisation in Ireland, 12 participating artists and 2 projects. November 13th 2015 – 15th January 2016.

Visions Of Now A formidable line up of 23 artists took part in this performance. Visions of Now demonstrated the array of styles, vivid imagination and technical prowess that is such strength with this group of artists. 13th November 2015 – 15th January 2016.

Continued Exhibit of the Permanent Collection in the salon style hanging in the East Gallery, the exhibition has been very popular with our visitors letting them view a selection of the best artworks from the Collection with 160 artworks on exhibit including works by Séan Keating, Jack B. Yeats, Robert Carver, Sir William Orpen, Grace Henry and many favourite works from the collections. The exhibition continues until end of March 2016.

Events:

- Limerick City Gallery of Art (LCGA) hosted a recital /concert by the participants of the Sing out with Strings and the Irish Chamber Orchestra on Wednesday 10th December.
- LCGA hosted a Christmas Concert by Seoda Chamber Choir on Thursday 17th December. The concert attracted a large attendance.
- The Director of the Gallery opened a group exhibition by local artists interested in life drawing in Central Buildings on December 3rd 2015.

Other

- The Chairperson of the Arts Council, Sheila Pratschke, will officially open the January exhibitions on 21st from 6-8pm Adventure Capital – by Sean Lynch who represented Ireland in Venice in 2015, and Just Left of Copernicus (A Prologue) by Niamh McCann. Both exhibitions will run until the 24th March 2016.
- Planning for EVA 2016 is well advanced for the opening in mid April 2016.
- Audience figures for December were up to 5000.

15. Fire Service

1. Limerick City & County Fire & Rescue Service Turnouts

Year	No of Fire Related Calls	No of Non Fire Related Calls	Total
2015	990	531	1521

2. Training

The passing out parade for the retained fire fighters took place in Foynes in December 2015. Six retained fire fighters were appointed in December 2015.

3. Full time Fire Fighter interviews

10 whole time trainee Fire Fighters were appointed in December 2015.

4. Major Emergency Management report

Our severe weather protocols were activated in response to Storm Desmond in early December. The Crisis Management Team has been in place since 7th December and continued to meet over the month. Local Co-ordination Group (LC&CC, An Garda Síochána, H.S.E) meetings were convened as required.

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The On-site Co-ordination Unit was deployed to Richmond Park, Corbally on Saturday 12th December to assist in the inter-agency response to the flooding incident. The Unit remained in place until the evening of Sunday 13th December.

5. Munster Regional Communications Centre

In December following a tender process, a commercial contract between Limerick City & County Council (as the nominated national contractor) and Arqiva (now owned by Telent) for the provision of the national fire alerting communication system was signed. This relates to a common national alerting infrastructure for all 218 fire stations in Ireland.

16. Service Operations

Property Services

- A design team has been appointed to prepare plans for the refurbishment and remodelling of the ground floor of Corporate Headquarters at Merchants Quay.
- Short term measures advanced at Toppins Field to address anti social behaviour issues including engagement with stakeholders, installation of CCTV and repair of fencing.

Maintenance Services

- The Schedule of Municipal District Works was completed for each District.
- A very substantial operational response was put in place to deal with flooding and storm events during December.

Change Management

- The Staff Survey has been completed and a high response rate was received. This will be analysed in January.
- The detailed design of departments for the new operating model has been completed and Councillors will be briefed further on the Change Programme early in 2016.

17. Freedom of Information

	2015	December
Total Freedom of Information Requests	136	9
FOI Internal Appeals	8	-
Information Commissioner Appeals	4	-
Total Ombudsman Requests	26	4
Further information sought on open cases		3
Total AIE Requests	10	-

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Economic Development and Planning

1. Planning

- One hundred and nine (109) new planning applications were received during December 2015. Breakdown as follows; Domestic (56), Housing Developments (8); Commercial Developments (4); Industrial (3); Retail (4); Education (3); Other (30); Part 8 (1).
- The current applications include proposals for residential developments in Adare, Castletroy and Caherdavin. A proposal to create 14 light industrial/business units in the Rathkeale Enterprise Centre is also under consideration.
- Eighty one (81) planning applications were granted during the month and seven refusals were made including a large scale housing development in Ballinacurra.
- For the first time since 2006 there was an annual increase in the number of planning applications received by the Council. In total the Council received 1,147 valid applications - a 12% increase on 2014. Over 95% of these applications were granted planning permission.
- 56 submissions were received from the public on the proposed amendment to the Southern Environs Local Area Plan to incorporate a masterplan for the Mungret Area.
- 25 Projects are to be considered for funding under the Built Heritage Investment Scheme operated by the Department of the Arts, Heritage and the Gaeltacht.
- Results in Limerick's Golden Mile 2016 Awards;
 - > First - Kilmallock Tidy Towns for the L1571 in Ballinacurra
 - > Second - Kiltelly Tidy Towns for the L1154 in Kiltelly
 - > Full results; <http://www.limerick.ie/council/limericks-goldenmile-competition>

2. Limerick Marketing

Christmas Promotional Campaign

Development and implementation of an extensive seasonal marketing campaign with the aim of increasing awareness for Limerick's Christmas offer, driving footfall into Limerick and generating increased revenue for retailers and local businesses. Campaign includes significant print promotion across local press outlets, radio advertising on both local and regional stations, the coordination of a far reaching public relations campaign

and collaboration with limerick.ie to deliver a digital and social media campaign.

3. Innovation

- Part 8 Planning permission was granted for the conversion of the former Dell Unit in the National Technology Park in Castletroy to a Film Studio.
- Lease with Film Studio Operator, Troy Studios was signed. Conversion work to commence in January 2016.

4. Local Enterprise Office (LEO)

- Financial Assistance to Projects approved 2015 - 40 (€808,362).
- Grant Payments to Projects 2015 - 73 (€717,758).
- Trading Online Vouchers approved 2015 - 52 (€111,085).
- Limerick Entrepreneur of the Year and national Finalist was Paul Sheehan, Unison Engineering Services Ltd.

Limerick's Best Young Innovator Awards 2015:

- Best Business Idea - Chris Kelly, Talamh (tech solutions to the Agricultural Industry).
- Best new Business - Kieran Normoyle, Deviate Aspire.
- Best Established Business - Mark Sheahan, Recycle Right.
- 80 Courses, Seminars, Workshops etc. held in 2015 with 1,114 participants.
- Student Enterprise Awards 2015 encompassed 20 schools with 1,100 students.

5. Travel and Transportation

Smarter Travel

- Contract for Route 2 link 2 phase 2, Cycle/ walking path Rhebogue to University of Limerick, was placed with John Craddock Ltd. Work will take approximately 6 months to complete, the path will be closed for the duration.
- Route 2 link 1 phase 2 Shannon Fields Cycle/ walking path, contractor on site work will be completed early January 2016.
- Route 3 Rhebogue Neighbourhood Greenway, work completed landscaping to commence early January 2016.
- Route 4 Castletroy/ Newtown Cycle/ Walking facilities, work completed. Work has commenced on Gael Scoil Castletroy Park and Stride facility and will be completed in early January 2016.
- 9 Schools participated in the Limerick Smarter Travel

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(LST) Schools Santa WOW day and 'A Be Seen Be Safe' campaign is taking place during December 2015. (WOW= Walk on Wednesdays)

- LST Community Programme partnered with St Mary's Aid and the Milk Market to roll out an initiative with the 12 newly trained LST bike mechanics which will see a market stall becoming a pop up shop for bicycles services and repairs.
- A second initiative will see Cycling Ireland and LST providing Sprocket Rocket cycling training offered to children in the Milk Market between 11am and 1pm on Sunday.
- Limerick and Clare Education and Training Board - LST Charter Signing took place whereby they committed to work with LST to become part of the Workplace Travel Campus programme.

Parnell Street, Davis Street and Wickham Street

- Part 8 for Parnell Street, Davis Street and Wickham Street was adopted by the Elected Members at the December Metropolitan Meeting.

6. Update from Road Design Office

- A public display of the preferred route corridor for the Foynes to Limerick Road project took place on 1st & 2nd December 2015 in the South Court Hotel and the Foynes Flying Boat museum respectively. Drawings and Maps of the preferred route corridor, in addition to a project brochure, are available on the project website www.foyneslimerick.ie.
- A letter accepting the tender of Lagan Civils Ltd to construct the N21 Ballinlyny and N21 Ballymurragh East Pavement Overlay schemes was issued in December 2015. The tender amounts for both these schemes is €2.1 million. Works are to commence on site early in 2016.

Organisational Development

1. Customer Services

Customer Services Department continues to support the Council in delivering services and supporting citizens, customers, councillors, communities and businesses who lodged 1,941 requests (cases) in December making December one of the busiest months of 2015.

Department	Number of Cases Recorded
Home Department	820
Travel and Transport Department	599
Environment Department	443
Customer Services Department	53
Water Services Department	10
Other Departments	16
Total	1,941

Table 1: Cases recorded by Department in December 2015

- Customer Services answered 1,658 calls for the Refuse Collection Waiver Scheme in the 8 days after the introduction of the scheme with a peak of 423 calls in one day. Customer Services also provided support for the Environment Department with the processing of 2,000 application forms.
- During Storm "Barney" and again for Storm "Frank", Customer Services provided support to citizens concerned about the risk of flooding or reporting other incidents. The emergency line was open until late when the high risk period had passed.

2. Civic Reception

A Civic Reception was accorded to the following on Wednesday, 16th December, 2015:

Mr. Myles Breen in recognition of his contribution to the Arts and Theatre in Limerick, for being a wonderful ambassador over many years and for receiving the honour of Best Actor at Origin's First Irish Theatre Festival in New York.

Bottom Dog Theatre Company in recognition of their contribution to the Arts in Limerick, serving as cultural ambassadors for Limerick both here and abroad and for their awards success at Origin's First Irish Theatre Festival in New York.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPORT**3. Schedule of Meetings**

Name of Meeting	Date	Location
Metropolitan District of Limerick Monthly Meeting	21.12.2015	Merchant's Quay
Municipal District of:		
(a) Newcastle West Monthly Meeting	2.12.2015	Newcastle West
(b) Adare Rathkeale Monthly Meeting	10.12.2015	Rathkeale
(c) Cappamore / Kilmallock Monthly Meeting	17.12.2015	Kilmallock
Operational Briefing's		
Limerick City East	1.12.2015	Merchant's Quay
Limerick City North	1.12.2015	Merchant's Quay
Limerick City West	1.12.2015	Merchant's Quay
Local Community Development Committee	1.12.2015	Merchant's Quay
Strategic Policy Committee Meetings		
Home & Social Development	14.12.2015	Dooradoyle
Community Leisure and Emergency Services	2.12.2015	Kilmallock
Audit Committee Meeting	11.12.2015	Merchant's Quay

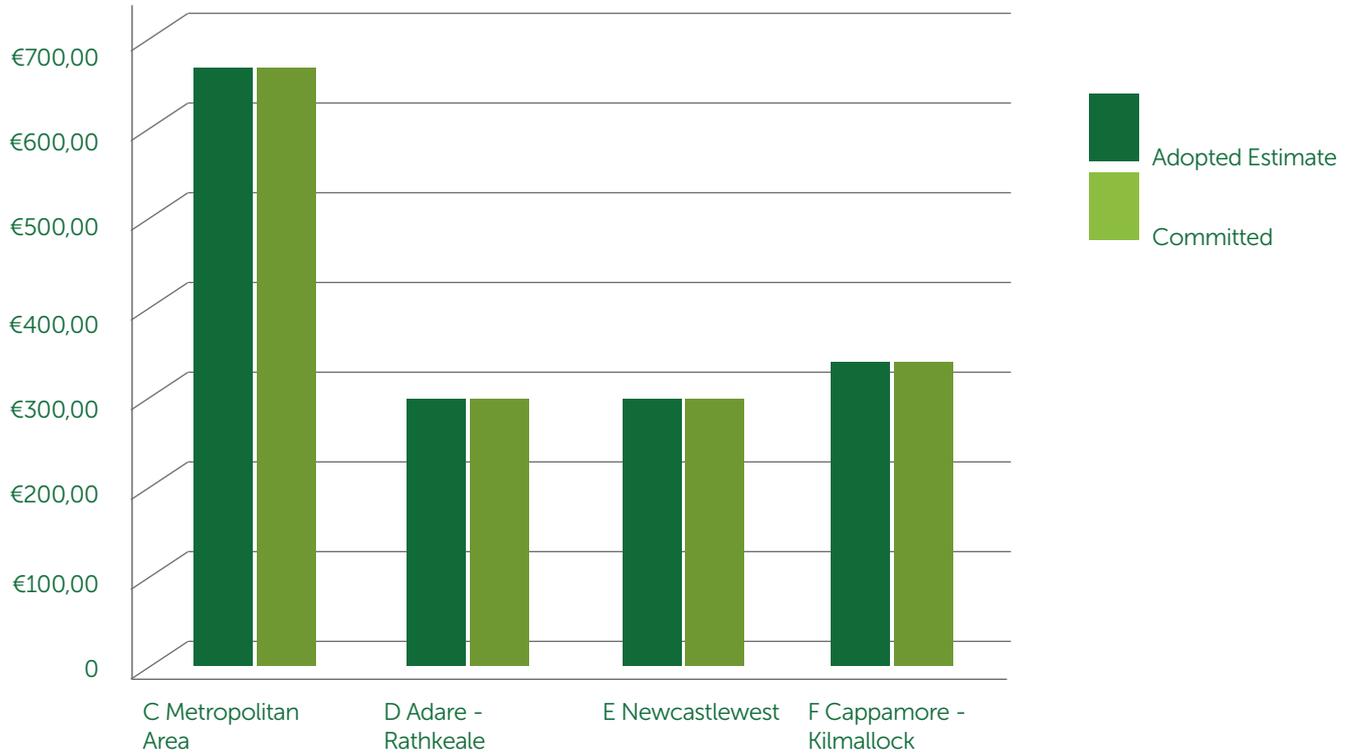
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1. Financial Matters

General Municipal Allocation 2015 Adopted Estimate €1.5 Million

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



Municip (Code) + (Text)	Value Adopted Estimate	Value Committed
C Metropolitan Area	640,000.00	640,000.00
D Adare - Rathkeale	275,000.00	275,000.00
E Newcastle West	275,000.00	275,000.00
F Cappamore - Kilmallock	310,000.00	310,000.00

Commercial Rates - Loans

Draft Collection Figures

Commercial Rates 2015	Opening Balance 1 Jan €	Accruals €	To Collect €	Receipts €	Arrears €	%
As at 31st December 2015	24,966,926	48,529,016	73,495,942	50,714,709	22,781,233 *	69%

*Final Commercial Rate Arrears and collection percentage for 2015 will not be completed until Rate Book prepared towards late January 2016

Debtor Loans	Opening Balance 1 Jan €	Accruals €	To Collect €	Receipts €	Arrears €	%
As at 31st December 2015	549,750	1,520,437	2,070,187	1,693,359	376,828	82%

Recourse To Overdraft Facility

No of days in overdraft 0