

CORRESPONDENCE

MEETING OF METROPOLITAN DISTRICT OF LIMERICK

JULY 2015

- Letter received on 19th June, 2015 from Irish Water in reply to resolution adopted by the Metropolitan District of Limerick that Limerick City and County Council, in consultation with the Water Authority, extends the sewerage network out towards Ballyclough. This area is only a few kilometres from Limerick's Main Drainage and this extension will provide it with a realistic and sustainable alternative to septic tanks.
- Letter received on 3rd July, 2015 from the Office of the Minister for Justice and Equality in reply to resolution adopted by the Metropolitan District of Limerick that the Ministers for Environment and Justice be written to explaining how attempts by our predecessor, the Limerick City Council, to bring water charge boycotters to court failed to break non-payment, and calling on them to scrap draconian plans to bring water bill non-payers to court in order to get attachment orders. In that letter we should encourage them to follow the example of the old Limerick City Council and abandon the water charges, and instead fund the service through progressive taxation.

Corporate services & change Management,
Limerick City and County Council,
Merchants Quay,
Limerick



Ref number : 3475340812

18/06/15

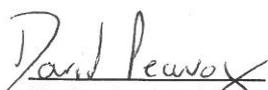
Dear Mr O'Connor,

Thank you for your recent letter contents of which have been duly noted.

In relation to your query;

The Capital Investment Programme is a targeted set of projects which deliver improvements in wastewater compliance, business efficiencies and customer service. The connection of existing houses (which are currently served privately, including private septic tanks) could be progressed through the New Connections process and potentially in conjunction with a Department of Environment Group Wastewater scheme. The New Connections process ensures that the cost associated with serving new customers is recovered from these new customers and this cost does not fall on the existing customer base.

Yours sincerely,

PP


Katherine Walsh,
Regional Operations Manager,
Southern Region Irish Water,



AN ROINN DLÍ AGUS CIRT AGUS COMHIONANNAIS
DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE AND EQUALITY

Mr. Eugene Griffin
Limerick City & County Council
Corporate Services and Change Management
Merchants Quay
Limerick

Minister Reference: 0522162355

30 June, 2015



Dear Mr. Griffin,

I am directed by the Minister for Justice and Equality, Ms Frances Fitzgerald T.D., to refer to your letter dated 18 May, 2015 regarding water charges. The Department of Environment is responsible for implementing water services reform and the Minister for Justice and Equality has no direct role in the administration of the system.

In relation to any court proceedings, the position is that the courts are, subject only to the Constitution and the law independent in the exercise of their judicial functions and it is not open to the Minister, to comment or intervene on a particular court case which is a matter entirely for the presiding Judge.

The Minister has no role in the investigation, prosecution or trial of alleged offences. This is a long standing principle of our system of justice. The role of the Gardaí is to investigate alleged offences, to gather whatever evidence may be available and to submit a report to the Director of Public Prosecutions (DPP). The question of whether or not a particular person should be prosecuted and for what criminal offence is the responsibility of the DPP. The Director, who is independent in the performance of her functions, makes her decision on the basis of the Garda findings viewed against the background of common and/or statute law. The Minister regrets that she cannot be of assistance to you in this matter.

Yours sincerely,

PP. Aidan Fitzpatrick

Chris Quattrociocchi
Private Secretary
to the Minister for Justice & Equality