

**LIMERICK CITY AND COUNTY COUNCIL**  
**HOME AND SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT**  
**METROPOLITAN DISTRICT MEETING TO BE HELD ON MONDAY 20<sup>TH</sup> JULY, 2015**

Notice of Motion submitted by Councillor Joe Crowley

"I will move at the next meeting that the Council review proposals to build Social Housing in Clonmacken".

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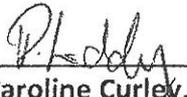
**REPLY:**

In March 2015, Limerick City & County Council received 'approval in principle' for four projects from the Department of Environment, Community and Local Government. The Clonmacken project is set to deliver 40 Housing Units at a cost of €7,120,000 by 2017.

The location was chosen having regard to the existing distribution of social housing throughout the Limerick City urban area. We are currently preparing tender documents for the appointment of an Integrated Design Team for the proposed housing project in Clonmacken.

Prior to an application for planning permission detailed ground investigation of the site will be carried out and will include a flood risk assessment.

It is anticipated that Planning Permission will be sought for this project via the Part 8 process in Quarter 1/ 2016. The design of the project will need approval from the Department of Environment, Community and Local Government and must have due regard to planning and development guidelines and principles contained the Development Plans for Limerick City & County Council.

  
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Caroline Curley,  
Director of Service,  
Home & Social Development.

15<sup>th</sup> July, 2015

**LIMERICK CITY AND COUNTY COUNCIL**  
**METROPOLITAN DISTRICT OF LIMERICK**

**MEETING TO BE HELD ON MONDAY, 20<sup>th</sup> JULY, 2015**

**Notice of Motion submitted by Councillor Joe Crowley**

I will move at the next meeting, in relation to the Westfield Wetlands and Lake Area, that Limerick City and County Council would consider the establishment of an appropriate body, with the ability to generate or attract external funding and work with the continued cooperation and input from the Council, to tackle the issue of overgrowth and decreasing lake area, overgrowth adjacent to the lake, and any other issues affecting the adjacent bank and general wetland area.

**Reply:**

The Westfield Wetlands are part of the Lower River Shannon Special Area Of Conservation (SAC). There is an active Westfields Wetlands Group with whom the Council works closely.

The Council commissioned a report to identify and assess the challenges associated with maintaining the wetlands, and the 2001 Natura Report for Westfields outlined the following main recommendations :

- Create open water bodies in the central and western sections.
- Excavate sediment from parts of the water body in the eastern section.
- Replace the existing water intake from the river with a sluice system.
- Open channels between the four sections of the wetland.
- Remove Japanese knotweed (*Fallopia japonica*).
- Employ a manager/guide.

Arising from this report, should the Council decide to carry out any significant works to the Wetlands, it would be necessary for the Council in the first instance to ensure it has the appropriate permissions to carry out any proposed works in a Special Area of Conservation. It would also be necessary for the Council to fully cost the implementation of all or part of these recommendations. No provision has been made in the 2015 budget for any works in Wetlands other than routine maintenance.

The full implementation of the works as outlined above will require a significant specific resource provision by the Council in its budget 2016.

The Council will also continue to monitor all potential sources of external funding with a view to securing such funding, if and when available.

Limerick City and County Council will continue to work with the Westfields Wetlands Group in relation to the conservation of Westfields Wetlands as part of the Lower River Shannon Special Area of Conservation.

**Ger Dillon**  
**Acting Director of Service**  
**Environment and Water Services**

**Date: 17<sup>th</sup> July, 2015**

**LIMERICK CITY AND COUNTY COUNCIL**

**METROPOLITAN DISTRICT OF LIMERICK**

**MEETING TO BE HELD ON MONDAY, 20<sup>TH</sup> JULY, 2015**

**Notice of Motion submitted by Councillor Frankie Daly:**

I will move at the next meeting that the Council reinstate the highly successful and worthwhile Street Ambassador (S.A.) programme in Limerick City and the Metropolitan Area to support and help grow tourism by supporting endeavours such as Riverfest, St Patrick's week and for approximately 10-12 weeks of the summer period.

**Reply:**

The Limerick Street Ambassadors programme was run by the Limerick Communications Office (formerly Coordination Office) over the last ten years or so, until the Limerick Communications office ceased to exist in 2013. The service was funded by a combination of funds from the (then) Limerick City Council, Limerick County Council and Shannon Development.

Limerick Marketing ran the programme on a one off basis in 2014 given the City of Culture year. For resource issues the programme wasn't run in 2015 but the restoration of the Limerick Street Ambassadors programme is under review for future years.

**PAT DALY  
DIRECTOR OF SERVICE  
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND PLANNING**

**LIMERICK CITY AND COUNTY COUNCIL**  
**METROPOLITAN DISTRICT OF LIMERICK**

**MEETING TO BE HELD ON MONDAY, 20<sup>th</sup> July 2015**

**Notice of Motion submitted by Councillor Joe Leddin**

I will move at the next meeting that the Council bring forward plans for Members consideration and approval for the upgrade of O'Connell Street and Patrick Street to include public realm works (wider footpaths, street furniture, high quality paving and lighting etc.) similar to those completed on Bedford Row, Thomas Street and Catherine Street.

Reply:

Limerick City and County Council is currently reviewing existing plans that are in place to upgrade the public realm at O'Connell St and Patrick St.

A Part VIII planning application is in place to facilitate the upgrade works to the public realm at O'Connell St. A review of this Part VIII is currently underway in order to ensure that it aligns with the objectives of Limerick 2030 and other strategic plans.

The advancement of these public realm works is subject to the provision of the necessary financial resources required for this significant capital investment.

*Pat Daly*

Director of Services  
Economic Development & Planning

Date: 14<sup>th</sup> July 2015

**LIMERICK CITY AND COUNTY COUNCIL  
METROPOLITAN DISTRICT OF LIMERICK**

**MEETING TO BE HELD ON MONDAY, 20<sup>th</sup> July 2015**

**Notice of Motion submitted by Councillor Joe Leddin**

I will move at the next meeting that the Council provide details of land in the Metropolitan District, suitable for development or housing purposes, currently in Council ownership and develop plans for such sites, for members consideration.

Reply:

The Council owns a number of strategic sites in the Metropolitan District; these are in the main identified in Limerick 2030. Development proposals are being advanced for these sites in accordance with this Economic and Spatial Plan.

The Home and Social Development Department are currently reviewing sites in the Council's ownership in order to identify sites suitable for housing purposes, the Elected Members will be briefed on these sites as part of the Home and Social Development Capital Programme.

*Pat Daly*

Director of Services  
Economic Development & Planning

Date: 14<sup>th</sup> July 2015

**LIMERICK CITY AND COUNTY COUNCIL  
METROPOLITAN DISTRICT OF LIMERICK**

**MEETING TO BE HELD ON MONDAY, 20<sup>th</sup> July 2015**

**Notice of Motion submitted by Councillor James Collins**

I will move at the next meeting that Limerick City and County Council provide a suitable site for a community centre for Raheen, Dooradoyle, Mungret and surrounding areas.

**Reply:**

A Masterplan is currently being prepared for Mungret and a review of a number of other sites is currently ongoing as to their suitability for various uses. The identification of a site for a community centre will form part of the aforementioned Masterplan and site review process.

*Pat Daly*

Director of Services  
Economic Development & Planning

Date: 14<sup>th</sup> July 2015

**LIMERICK CITY AND COUNTY COUNCIL  
METROPOLITAN DISTRICT OF LIMERICK**

**MEETING TO BE HELD ON MONDAY, 20<sup>th</sup> July 2015**

**Notice of Motion submitted by Councillor Elena Secas**

I will move at the next meeting that Limerick City and County Council urgently acquire some of the available landbank adjacent to the new Gaelscoil Chaladh an Treoigh in Castletroy in order to provide the necessary safe access to the school to alleviate the dangerous build up of traffic which parents and children have to endure.

Reply:

The landbank adjacent to the Gaelscoil Chaladh an Treoigh in Castletroy is not in public ownership and initial discussions have taken place in relation to this matter.

Limerick City & County Council is awaiting an outcome in relation to these discussions.

*Pat Daly*

Director of Services  
Economic Development & Planning

Date: 14<sup>th</sup> July 2015

**LIMERICK CITY AND COUNTY COUNCIL**  
**HOME AND SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT**  
**METROPOLITAN DISTRICT MEETING TO BE HELD ON MONDAY 20TH JULY, 2015**

Notice of Motion submitted by Councillor Maria Byrne

**"I will move at the next Meeting that this Council will inspect all rented properties under the RAS and HAP schemes prior to the tenant taking up their tenancy"**

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**REPLY:**

The Home & Social Development Department operate both the Rental Accommodation Scheme (RAS) and the Housing Assistance Payment Scheme (HAP).

All properties under the RAS scheme are inspected prior to the Council entering into a contract for same to ensure compliance with the housing standards prescribed under Section 18 of the Housing Act 1992. In the event of minor remedial works being required the landlord is afforded an opportunity to rectify same and the works are re-inspected upon completion to ensure compliance. Properties entered under the RAS scheme are also re-inspected at the completion of the four year contract and prior to a new contract being entered into with the relevant property owner.

Inspections of properties entered under the HAP scheme is governed by Section 41(2)(b) of the Housing (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 2014 which states that the Housing Authority shall, within a prescribed period after the date when housing assistance commences, inspect the dwelling to ensure it complies with Section 18 of the Housing Act 1992. The Housing Assistance Payment Regulations 2014 (S.I. No 407 of 2014) states under Section 7 that a local authority is required to inspect a property in receipt of housing assistance payment within 8 months of receipt of the payment.

In addition, it should be noted that the Inspections unit of the Home & Social Development Department also carry out inspections of private rented dwellings not under the aforementioned schemes upon receipt of a written complaint from the tenant and may after inspection issue improvement notices or prohibition notices further to Section 18 of the Housing Act 1992. The effect of a prohibition notice is to prevent the reletting of the property in question until such time as the identified works have been carried out.



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**Caroline Curley,**  
**Director of Service,**  
**Home & Social Development.**

**14th July, 2015.**