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COUNCIL MEETING TO BE HELD ON MONDAY 24TH JULY, 2017

Question submitted by Cmhlr. S Ó Ceallaigh

I will ask at the next meeting how many people have approached Limerick City and County Council in relation to the Council purchasing their houses, how many of these houses were vacant, and how many were purchased for years 2015, 2016, 2017 (to-date).

Reply:

Data on the submissions of expressions of interest for the potential acquisition of residential property from June 2015 shows; expressions of interest related to a total of 459 residential properties have been submitted to date.

From May 2016, Limerick City and County Council's approach has been to only target residential property for acquisition which is currently vacant or owner occupied where the purchase will not result in a housing need.

Of the 459 residential properties submitted 234 were vacant or owner occupied. 86 residential properties have been purchased from 2015 to date for general housing stock, 26 are currently at 'sale agreed' stage. These acquisitions exclude residential property purchased under the Regeneration Programme.

Limerick City and County Council are actively seeking vacant residential properties for acquisition and leasing under the 'Buy and Renew' and 'Repair and Lease' schemes launched as part of Rebuilding Ireland: Action Plan for Housing and Homelessness.

Seamus Hanrahan

Senior Architect



19th July 2017

COUNCIL MEETING TO BE HELD ON 24TH JULY 2017

Question submitted by Councillor C. Prendiville

I will ask at the next Meeting is the Council still employing AWL Consulting to assist with making a submission to the Environmental Protection Agency regarding Irish Cement's plans for their Dock Road plant.

Reply

In November 2016, the Council tendered for consultancy services in respect of planning application ref 16/345 by Irish Cement. AWN's tender was deemed the most economically advantageous and the company was duly awarded the contract. AWN submitted their report on 19th Dec 2016.

Based on this report Irish Cement was requested to submit further information in respect of their planning application. This information was received in February 2017. AWN's contract was extended to include the review of this information. This review was completed on 22nd Feb 2017.

Following this, AWN's Dr Edward Porter attended a meeting of the Metropolitan District on 20th March 2017 to give a presentation on Irish Cement's proposals and to answer the Councillors queries. This completed the work which AWN had been contracted to do for the Council.

There is currently no contract for further consultancy services with respect to the Irish Cement's planning or licence applications in place.



Kieran Lehane
Director of Service
Physical Development Directorate
Date: 20th July, 2017

COUNCIL MEETING TO BE HELD ON 24th JULY 2017

Question submitted by Councillor C. Prendiville

I will ask at the next Meeting how many social houses will be provided in Limerick this year under the Buy and Renew Scheme and Lease and Repair Scheme to bring vacant houses back into use.

REPLY:

Limerick City and County Council recognise the opportunity provided by both the Buy and Renew Scheme and the Repair and Lease Scheme to reduce the level of vacancy in Limerick. Information on both these schemes has been promoted by Limerick City and County Council in the media, most recently with advertisements placed in local newspapers in June, see attached. The level of response has been positive and Limerick City and County Council are engaging with property owners to explore suitability and other factors further.

It is not possible to confirm the number of units that will be purchased or leased by year end under these schemes. However, Limerick City and County Council are actively seeking to maximise the number of units delivered.

Seamus Hanrahan
Senior Architect

Do You Own a Vacant Property?



Comhairle Cathrach
& Contae Luimnigh
Limerick City
& County Council

**Rebuilding
Ireland**

SELL or **LEASE** to Limerick City and County Council

OPTION 1: REPAIR AND LEASING SCHEME

Do you own a vacant property that needs to be repaired before it can be rented out?

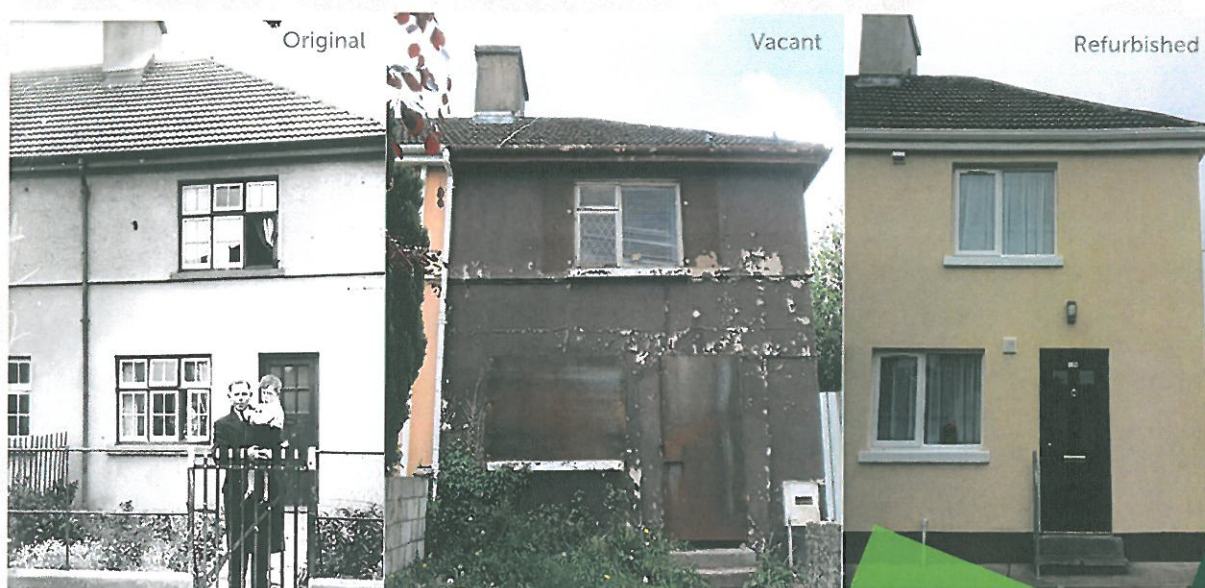
The Government's new **Repair and Leasing Scheme** provides upfront financing of up to €40,000 for repairs and improvements to your vacant property. The property can then be leased to your local authority to provide much needed accommodation while also providing you with a guaranteed rental income, maintenance free.

OPTION 2: BUY AND RENEW SCHEME

The **Buy and Renew Scheme** enables the Limerick City and County Council to buy and refurbish long term vacant property and make them available for social housing use.

The schemes are now being rolled out by Limerick City and County Council and we are waiting to hear from interested property owners who have suitable vacant properties.

Further information can be found at www.limerick.ie, or contact us at **061 557356** or at vacantproperty@limerick.ie



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