

## **CORRESPONDENCE**

### **MEETING OF METROPOLITAN DISTRICT OF LIMERICK**

**APRIL 2015**

- Letter received on 20<sup>th</sup> March, 2015 from the Office of the Minister for the Environment, Community and Local Government in reply to letter sent to the Office in relation to rent supplement caps.
- Letter received on 23<sup>rd</sup> March, 2015 from the Office of the Minister for Social Protection in reply to resolution adopted by the Metropolitan District of Limerick calling on the Minister to ensure no family is disadvantaged or has their income cut by the changes to the One Parent Family Payment due in July.
- Letter received on 30<sup>th</sup> March, 2015 from the Office of the Minister for the Environment, Community and Local Government in reply to resolution adopted by the Metropolitan District of Limerick enquiring how much motor tax money collected in our District was handed over to Irish Water, and requesting the return of that money to the Council to be spent on the local roads rather than on imposing another austerity charge.
- Letter received on 1<sup>st</sup> April, 2015 from the Office of the Minister for Arts, Heritage and the Gaeltacht in reply to resolution adopted by the Metropolitan District of Limerick calling on the Minister to recognise and act on her responsibility as Heritage Minister to protect and preserve the historic Moore Street area of Dublin City.



**Comhshaol, Pobal agus Rialtas Áitiúil**  
Environment, Community and Local Government



**Oifig an Aire**  
Office of the Minister



**Our Ref: REP290/AK/15**

19 March, 2015.

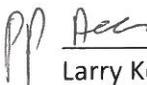
Mr. Eugene Griffin,  
Meetings Administrator,  
Limerick City and County Council,  
Corporate Headquarters,  
Merchants Quay,  
Limerick.

Dear Mr. Griffin,

I have been asked by Mr. Alan Kelly, T.D. Minister for the Environment, Community and Local Government, to acknowledge receipt of your recent letter in connection with Limerick City & County Council's motion re. rent supplement caps.

As this matter is more appropriate to the Department of Social Protection I have forwarded your letter to Ms. Joan Burton, T.D., Tánaiste & Minister for Social Protection for her attention and direct reply to you.

Yours sincerely,

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Larry Kelly  
Private Secretary





Oifig an Aire Coimirce Sóisialaí  
Office of the Minister for Social Protection

Case Number : REPS-2015-3244

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



20/03/2015

Dear Mr Griffin

Ms Joan Burton TD, Tánaiste and Minister for Social Protection has asked me to acknowledge receipt of your correspondence of the 19th March 2015, regarding changes to the One Parent Family payment.

Enquiries are being made and a further letter will issue to you as soon as possible.

Yours Sincerely

Jacinta Crawford  
Private Secretary





**Comhshaol, Pobal agus Rialtas Áitiúil**  
Environment, Community and Local Government



**Oifig an Aire**  
Office of the Minister

**Please Quote Ref: REP912/AK/15**

26 March, 2015.

Mr. Eugene Griffin,  
Meetings Administrator,  
Limerick City & County Council,  
Corporate Services,  
Limerick City & County Council,  
Merchants Quay,  
Limerick.



Dear Mr. Griffin,

I have been asked by Mr. Alan Kelly, T.D. Minister for the Environment, Community and Local Government, to acknowledge receipt of your letter dated 19th March 2015 in connection with Limerick City & Council's motion.

The contents of your letter have been noted with thanks.

Yours sincerely,

PP   
\_\_\_\_\_  
Larry Kelly  
Private Secretary





**An Roinn  
Ealaíon, Oidhreachta agus Gaeltachta**

**Department of  
Arts, Heritage and the Gaeltacht**

**Oifig an Aire**

Office of the Minister  
Mr Eugene Griffin  
Meetings Administrator  
Corporate Services and Change Management  
Limerick City and County Council  
Merchants Quay  
Limerick



Our Ref: 150126/AHG

30 March 2015

Dear Mr. Griffin,

I have been asked by Heather Humphreys TD, Minister for Arts, Heritage and the Gaeltacht, to refer to your letter of 21<sup>st</sup> January concerning the Motion adopted by the members of your Council in relation to the national monument in Moore Street, Dublin.

At the outset I would like to clarify that the Minister's function in this case relates to the buildings at Nos. 14 - 17 Moore Street which are the subject of a Preservation Order under the National Monuments Acts because of their association with the events of Easter Week 1916. The objective of the Preservation Order was to protect No. 16 as the site of the final council of war of the leaders of the Rising and the location where they made the decision to surrender. Nos. 14, 15 and 17 were included in the Preservation Order to enhance and protect the amenity and setting on No.16.

The buildings at Nos. 14 - 17 form a unique and coherent streetscape of substantially intact mid-18<sup>th</sup> century structures on Moore Street. Collectively, they represent the most significant, original, complete, discrete and continuous section of substantially intact pre-1916 buildings on the street, most of the remainder being post-1916.

The four houses are believed to date from the period 1756 to 1773, with Nos. 15 to 17 having been refaced about 1880. Nos. 15, 16 and 17 were built as a group under the same lease. No. 14 did not form part of the original lease with Nos. 15 to 17. It is, however, contemporary with this trio and also retains its original character. Today, in stark contrast to neighbouring properties, all of these houses retain significant 18th-century elements, including staircases, partitions, plasterwork, doors, floors, fittings and fixtures. The 18th-century building form and profiles also survive, along with the physical evidence of the presence of the insurgents in the form of the openings broken through party walls.

As a consequence of the Preservation Order, any works affecting Nos. 14 - 17 require the formal consent of the Minister for Arts, Heritage and the Gaeltacht under the National Monuments Acts. After extensive deliberations, a final Ministerial consent was given to the owners in April 2014 for the creation of a 1916 commemorative centre in the monument buildings, involving the full repair and restoration of the structures, both internally and externally.

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23 Sráid Chill Dara, Baile Átha Cliath 2

Guthán: (01) 631 3800  
Facs: (01) 678 5906  
Íosghlao: 1890 273000 - lasmuigh de  
limistéar 01  
Gréasán: [www.ahg.gov.ie](http://www.ahg.gov.ie)  
R-phost: [ministers.office@ahg.gov.ie](mailto:ministers.office@ahg.gov.ie)

23 Kildare Street, Dublin 2

Tel: (01) 631 3800  
Fax: (01) 678 5906  
Lo-call: 1890 273000 - outside 01 area  
Web: [www.ahg.gov.ie](http://www.ahg.gov.ie)  
E-mail: [ministers.office@ahg.gov.ie](mailto:ministers.office@ahg.gov.ie)

Proposals that subsequently went before Dublin City Council late last year would have allowed the exchange of two modern 1990s buildings at Nos. 24 and 25 Moore Street, currently used as a cleansing depot, in return for full ownership of Nos. 14 - 17 being transferred to the City Council. The transfer would have been accompanied by NAMA funding to cover the full cost of the restoration project and the proposed commemorative centre.

The Minister was disappointed that Dublin City Council rejected these plans which would have provided a real opportunity to have the restoration work completed and the commemorative centre open in time for the centenary of the Rising in 2016. Following the decision to reject the proposal, it is now a matter for the City Council and the monument owners to consider what the implications are for the national monument buildings, for the NAMA funding for the restoration project and for the centenary commemorations in 2016.

To reiterate, the scope of the Minister's remit in this case under the National Monuments Acts is defined by the Preservation Order on Nos. 14 - 17 Moore Street. Plans or proposals for the wider area outside the confines of the national monument site are the responsibility of the Dublin City Council, as planning authority. The developer's plans have been considered in detail and approved in the decisions made by the City Council and An Bord Pleanála under the Planning and Development Acts between 2008 and 2010. The role of the Minister is to assess what is best for the national monument itself in accordance with the terms of the National Monuments Acts. That function has essentially been completed with the granting of Ministerial consent in April 2014 for the full restoration of the national monument buildings at Nos. 14 - 17 Moore Street and the creation of a 1916 commemorative centre on the site.

It is worth pointing out, however, that Moore Street itself and the laneways surrounding the monument - Henry Place, Moore Lane and O'Rahilly Parade - are to be retained as part of the An Bord Pleanála planning permission. The developer is also obliged to enter discussions with Dublin City Council in relation to the terms of that permission which requires a detailed project proposal to be submitted to the City Council for approval in which the historic significance of the critical locations along the evacuation route from the GPO are featured and interpreted.

The Minister hopes that this clarifies the position in relation to the national monument and her related functions under the National Monuments Acts.

Yours sincerely,



Nessa Foley  
Private Secretary