



FIRE AND EMERGENCY SERVICES DEPARTMENT

Roles, Responsibilities and Functions

Overview

Limerick City and County Council as Fire Authority operates and manages the Fire and Emergency Services in Limerick.

Limerick Fire and Rescue Service has responsibility to protect the life and property of circa 200,000 people living in circa 70,000 houses and circa 18,000 commercial premises.

Limerick Fire and Emergency Services also manage the Munster Regional Communications Centre which is responsible for the efficient and effective mobilisation of fire appliances and other agencies within the Munster region.

Civil Defence is also part of the Fire and Emergency Services Department. This is a volunteer based organisation which supports the frontline emergency services as well as assisting at community events.

The Fire and Emergency Services Department has five broad areas of activity that are mutually supportive in the delivery of an integrated service to the public.

- a) Fire & Rescue Service
- b) Fire Prevention, Building Control and Dangerous Buildings
- c) Major Emergency Management
- d) Munster Regional Communications Centre.
- e) Civil Defence

Functions

a) Fire & Rescue Service

The function of the Fire and Rescue Service is to make provision for the prompt extinguishing of fires in buildings and other places of all kinds in its functional area and for the protection and rescue of persons and property from injury by fire and other emergency incidents.

In this regard it provides fire stations, vehicles and equipment. The fire and rescue service is an organised body of persons trained and equipped for extinguishing fire occurring in buildings and other places and for rescuing persons and property from such fires and other emergency incidents.

b) Fire Prevention, Building Control & Dangerous Buildings

The function of the Fire Prevention, Building Control & Dangerous Buildings section is to ensure the safety, health and welfare of people who occupy or use buildings, through ensuring the reduction of fire risk, proper means of escape, the access for people with disabilities and the conservation of fuel and energy.

c) Major Emergency Management

The functions of the Major Emergency Management section are to implement the provisions of the 2006 Framework for Major Emergency Management in Limerick City and County Council, to review and oversee Limerick City and County Council's Major Emergency Plan and to continually enhance Limerick City and County Council's capacity to respond to a major emergency.

c) Munster Regional Communications Centre

The Munster Regional Communications System (MRCC) is located on the same site as Mulgrave Street Fire Station. The MRCC Project was set up to improve the speed of response and efficiency of the call-out system for the fire authorities in Munster and became operational in December, 1992.

Limerick City & County Council is the contracting Authority for this system and provides the service on behalf of the seven member Fire Authorities in Munster (Clare County Council, Cork City Council, Cork County Council, Kerry County Council, Limerick City & County Council, Tipperary County Council, Waterford County and City Council).

The MRCC is a centralised service providing rapid response and mobilisation to 999/112 emergency fire calls. The MRCC also provides support to the Fire and Rescue Services during the lifespan of emergency incidents until they are closed out. The service operates 24 hours a day 365 days a year and deals approximately 20,000 emergency calls per annum.

d) Civil Defence

Civil Defence provides emergency relief and support, when called upon by Limerick City & County Council and other statutory civil and frontline authorities.

Legislation governing Department

- Fire Services Act 1981 and 2003
- Building Control Act 1990 and 2007
- Dangerous Substances Acts 1972 & 1979
- Explosives Acts 1875 and 2006
- Stores for Explosives Order 2007
- Dangerous Substances (Retail and Private Petroleum Stores) Regulations 1979 and 2008
- Dangerous Substances (Petroleum Bulk Stores) Regulations 1979
- Local Government (Sanitary Services) Act 1964 in regard to Dangerous buildings
- Notices and certificates under the Air Pollution Act 1987
- Civil Defence Acts 1939-2002

Records held by the Department

- Commencement Notices & 7 Day notices Register
- Fire Safety Certificate Register
- Disability Access Certificate Register
- Dangerous Buildings Register
- Public Access to Building Control Files
- Fire Works/Explosive Stores Licencing
- Petroleum Licencing

Locations and contact details

The Fire and Emergency Service headquarters is located in Lissanalta House, Dooradoyle, Limerick, 061 496859.

Office opening hours are 9 am to 5 pm Monday to Friday. In the event of an emergency dial 999 or 122 and ask for the Fire Service.

In addition, the fire and rescue service operates from seven fire stations around the county:

- Mulgrave Street Fire Station
- Abbeyfeale Fire Station
- Newcastle West Fire Station
- Rathkeale Fire Station
- Killmallock Fire Station
- Foynes Fire Station
- Cappamore Fire Station

Strategies/Plan

- Fire and Emergency Operations Plan
- Major Emergency Plan

Commercial Publications and relative charges

- **Fire Safety Certificate Applications**

The schedule of fees for Fire Safety Certificate applications is listed in the [Fifth Schedule of the Building Control Regulations 2009](#).

- **Licensing Applications heard in Court**

The schedule of fees for each notification forwarded to the Fire and Emergency Services Department related to a Court date must include the required fee. For more information, please refer to Court Licensing on the [Limerick.ie/Council/Emergency Services/Fire Services/Fire Service Charges](#).

- **Fire Brigade charge for Turnout to Incidents**

The Fire and Rescue Service charges for attendance at emergency incidents. For more information, please refer to [Limerick.ie/Council/Emergency Services/Fire Services/Fire Service Charges](#)

- **Petroleum Licence Applications**

The schedule of fees for Petroleum Licence applications for Retail and Private Petroleum Stores is set out in S.I. 301 of 1979. For more information please refer to <http://www.irishstatutebook.ie/eli/1979/si/301/made/en/print>