

To the Mayor and Each Member of Limerick City & County Council

20th November 2017

**Chairpersons Report for the Economic Development, Enterprise and Planning
Strategic Policy Committee Meeting of 9th October 2017**

1. To consider adjourned Notice of Motion from Cllr. Cian Prendiville

'I will move at the next meeting of Limerick's Metropolitan District that the Council look to amend our development plan to ban the development of incineration, gasification, fracking, and other environmentally damaging and destructive industries in Limerick City and County'

It was stated that the purpose of the notice of motion was to start a debate regarding the location of environmentally damaging in Limerick. Concerns were expressed regarding the impact of such industry would have on public health, the environment and the reputation of Limerick. While members welcomed the thrust of the motion there were concerns regarding the wording used.

Legal advice was circulated to the meeting which stated that any amendment to the Development Plan must comply with the Waste Management Plan in force in Limerick.

It was agreed to defer the consideration of this item to a specially convened meeting of the full Council on the issue to be held on 16th October 2017.

2. Forward Planning Update

Members received a presentation on Forward Planning Work Programme Update 2017/2018.

A copy of the draft Ireland 2040 National Planning Framework was circulated to the meeting,

Currently the department are working on

- Variation to City Development Plan
- Variation to County Development Plan
- Review of the Castletroy Local Area Plan 2009-2015.
- City Centre Health Check
- Amendment to Hospital Local Area Plan 2012-2018.
- Supplementary Contribution Scheme
- Proposed Extension to Caherconlish Local Area Plan
- Climate Change National Adaptation Framework

Members raised such issues as the critical mass of the Metro area and the development of the satellite towns that support it. Critical infrastructure in housing needs to be fast tracked. The need to have one coherent Development Plan for Limerick is essential.

Members were briefed on the draft National Planning Framework. It was stated that the plan as published is disappointing from a regional perspective as it limits the development of regional centres such as Limerick in terms of its population growth and subsequently from capital investment.

Submissions on the draft must be submitted by 3rd Nov 2017. The Council will work with its partners to ensure that a comprehensive response will be submitted.

The members welcomed the presentation and were in agreement that this document is a very important document for Limerick. It is a framework that will pave the way for all future plans.

The presentation also included an update on the Heritage Plan 2017-2030

The purpose of the plan is to ensure the Council and the wider community focus on the need to ensure that Limerick's heritage continues to be unique and diverse, while being accessible to all. The plan outlines broad aims and objectives, so when funding opportunities arise, the policy is in place to support the various action.

3. Update on Limerick Heritage Plan 2017-2030

See No 2 above

4. Presentation of Limerick Digital Strategy

Members received a presentation on Limerick Digital Strategy from Mihai Bilauca, Head of Digital Strategy in Limerick

The presentation covered a number of key areas including

- Smart Cities (Resilience, Sustainability, Service Innovation, Quality of life)
- Limerick 2030 (Smarter Ways of Working)
- Roadmap 2016-2020
- Collaboration and Leadership
- Strategic Approach
- Physical Development
- Social Development
- Economic Development
- Customer Service and Service Operations
- Support Service
- Towards Smarter Limerick (immediate next steps)
- Smart Limerick 2025.

The purpose of the strategy is to take advantage of the technology to make Limerick a better place to live, work and visit. There must be citizen engagement on the harnessing of technology for public benefit.

The strategy is consistent with Limerick's reputation in attracting tech industries. Queries were raised regarding the Digital Georgian Quarter, the Horizon 2020 Project, Smart Energy, Limerick.ie, CCTV Project, and Broadband connectivity particularly in rural areas.

Councillor Vivienne Crowley

Chairperson

Economic Development, Enterprise and Planning Strategic Policy Committee