

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPORT



Comhairle Cathrach
& Contae **Luimnigh**

Limerick City
& County Council

THIS MONTH:

400 new jobs announced as Regeneron expands and STATS arrives

Limerick.ie participates in Europe's largest gathering of travel bloggers (TBEX)

Reconstruction work commences at Mungret College

Rural outdoor recreation projects underway

€8m expansion for the Savoy Hotel

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Empowering the Citizen

1. Community Support Services

Waiting List

Housing Waiting List	3,218
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Allocations

	Metropolitan District	Newcastle West	Adare – Rathkeale	Cappamore – Kilmallock	Total
No of Units October 2017	12	3	4	1	20
Year to Date	168	20	16	28	232

Cemeteries

Total No. of Burials in the City Graveyards

- Kilmurry: 3
- Castlemungret: 8
- Mount St. Oliver: 19
- Mount St. Lawrence: 16

Domestic Waste Refuse Waiver Scheme

Total number of waivers issued for Limerick City and County Council for October is 24 waivers, 14 were refused.

Limerick Homeless Action Team – Pathway Accommodation and Support System (PASS) Data.

PASS Data Mid West Region October 2017 Limerick Only.

Gender	Total
Male	179
Female	133
Total	312

Age Group	
18-24	50
25-44	175
45-64	78
65+	9
Total	312

Table 3: Accommodation Type

Accommodation Type	
Private Emergency Accommodation (PEA)	71
Supported Temporary Accommodation (STA)	198
Temporary Emergency Accommodation (low support) (TEA)	43
Other	0
Total	312

Table 4: County

Limerick City and County Council	312
Total	312

Table 4: Families with dependent children breakdown

	No. of families with dependent children	No. of Individual Adults	No. of Dependents
Individuals with dependent children	42	42	71
Couples with dependent children	23	46	52
Total	65	88	123

2. HAP Shared Services

The Housing Assistance Payment (HAP) provides housing assistance for households who qualify for social housing support, including many long-term rent supplement recipients.

The HAP Shared Services Centre currently administers the following transactional processes on a shared services basis for all 31 local authorities and the Dublin Regional Homeless Executive:

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- Set-up and commencement of HAP tenancy
- Payment of monthly landlord rent
- Weekly differential rent debit
- Collection of tenant rent
- Monitoring review and maintenance of HAP tenancies
- Recoupment management
- Reporting on various aspects of the transactions and data handled by the HAP SSC

At the end of October, there were 28,787 active HAP tenancies.

The weekly tenant debit was in excess of €1.2 million and the monthly landlord payment run was just under €20 million.

A Data Analyst has been appointed and will commence employment with the HAP Shared Services Centre in November 2017.

3. Social Development

Local Community Development Committee (LCDC)

The Local Community Development Committee met in October and considered the implementation of Social Inclusion and Community Activation Programme (SICAP) and LEADER, and in particular the criteria for the evaluation of LEADER projects. A representative of the LCDC attended a national seminar on NEETS – young people who are not in education, training or work and a regional consultation on the work of Pobal.

Drawdown commenced for the eight projects (€161,730) approved for Clár community safety measures in 2017.

The 15 Rural Outdoor Recreation projects (€135,270) are underway and expected to be completed for the end of 2017.

Healthy Limerick

Healthy Cities and Counties Network: Healthy Limerick represented at the meeting of this network in the Department of Health offices, Dublin.

Healthy and Positive Ageing Initiative (HaPAI): Named collaborator in the University of Limerick, led application to conduct research around a Community

Intervention to Increase Physical Activity Levels in Adults Over 50 Years of Age in Ireland.

Comhairle na nÓg: Co-facilitated a workshop with the Limerick Comhairle na nÓg group in advance of this year's AGM. The Comhairle had previously agreed to explore how they might support Healthy Ireland at this year's AGM and for the coming year.

Public Participation Network: Hosted a Healthy Limerick information stand at the Public Participation Network Linkage Groups' meeting

Limerick Sports Partnership (LSP)

169,742km has now been covered by Beat the Street participants. Legacy programmes will be delivered across all communities where activity levels were low over the next seven months.

The LSP hosted the Company Marathon challenge where 13 companies took on the challenge to complete the marathon by running legs of 200m by 15 team members. Stryker retained the title with a great time of 1 hour 59 minutes.

The schools' Marathon Challenge also saw a repeat winner with Castletroy College retaining their title in 2 hours 1 minute.

All LSP community health and fitness programmes are up and running across the county i.e. Move & Lose, New Year New Start, Older Adult Fitness programmes at 7 Hubs, Men on the Move @ 4 sites, Women on Wheels, Sportshall Athletics, Activation Workshops, Community Walking, Desk to 5K, Nutrition Information Workshops. For more info email info@limericksports.ie

4. Customer Services

On 16 October, we were hit by the Storm Ophelia.

Throughout the storm, Customer Services aided the citizen by extending the main telephone number until 8.00 p.m. with the aim of supporting customers' requests during and after the storm.

We also ensured information flow by working with the Communications/Twitter team of any trees reported down on roads so that the website could be updated to keep the citizen informed and, most importantly, safe.

On the days and in these that followed, 335 cases alone were logged directly as a result of Storm Ophelia.

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The call centre has continued its success, with our Customer Services Department receiving a total of 14,536 calls throughout the month of October.

This works out at approximately 730 calls per day, with the average response time being 11 seconds for calls to be answered.

With reception calls now being brought into the back office, through the call centre, this allows more focus on the citizen at the front desk, of which we had 2,288 between our Merchant's Quay and Dooradoyle offices. A total of 2,914 cases were logged throughout the month of October, the majority of which were for:

- Operations and Maintenance: 2,248
- Community Support Services: 276
- Customer Services: 110

Representatives of the Customer Services Department attended the Social Directorate Workshop to raise awareness of Sugar CRM (Customer Relationship Management). There were also many staff changes within the organisation throughout the month of October, which were facilitated by the Customer Services Department, through training on Sugar CRM usage.

5. Library Services

- This year's Children's Book Festival Programme was jam-packed with book-themed entertainments and activities for the month of October. The festival this year was bigger than ever with events taking place in library branches throughout the city and county. All main branches had busy programmes with national and local performers.
- Marita Conlon-McKenna, an award winning Irish writer of adult and children's fiction, best known for her Children of the Famine series read to hundreds of children in The Granary and Watch House Cross libraries.
- Arran Towers of the "Tallest Smallest Theatre", performed 'Meeting Robert' an interactive puppet show with an anti-bullying theme in Dooradoyle, the Granary and Watch House Cross branches.
- Michael Moylan of Irish History Live, entertained invited school groups in the Granary, Dooradoyle and Watch House Cross libraries with his uniquely entertaining insight into medieval times and the second world war with artefacts, fun facts and lots of audience participation.
- Also well known writer Gabriel Fitzmaurice read from his work to a very appreciative audience in Kilmallock, Newcastle West and Adare libraries.
- A "Viking Talk" in association with the Hunt Museum was enjoyed by school groups in the Granary.
- Master storyteller Niall de Búrca visited Watch House Cross and Granary libraries while PigNut Productions show "The Trouble With Fairies" was a big hit in Newcastle West.
- Halloween events in Watch House Cross included story time with art and crafts, a Halloween Parent and Toddler Party and "Spooky Storytime".
- Also in the Watch House Cross branch, Limerick Women's Network held a health information day in the library on 19 October, topics discussed included cancer prevention, diet and nutrition, blood pressure and BMI. People were invited to try acupuncture and offered a blood pressure check. Classes running in the library this year in partnership with local community centres and the Limerick and Clare Education and Training Board include digital photography, word processing, ICT skills, maths, communication skills, and art. The ABC Startright programme is now running weekly in the library, this is an early intervention initiative focusing on the ante-natal to six years age group. Sessions include infant first aid, baby yoga, early experiences with nursery rhymes and songs.
- On 3 October, Newcastle West Library in association with West Limerick Resources launched the Rhyme/Story time Autumn Initiative. The event was attended by over 80 children from local crèches and Montessori schools. Storyteller, Ruth Marshall entertained the audience with her life like stories, this was followed by a sing along and art/craft session. An art exhibition "Scenes of Celtic Nature" by local artist Ian Clark was officially opened in the library by Councillor Francis Foley on 12 October. The artist uses acrylics and draws inspiration from the variety of Irish landscapes, castles, coastal scenes and exciting skies. On 31 October, the library held a mid-term break workshop "Messy Hands", the idea behind this workshop is to enhance child development through messy and creative play.

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- The Granary Library's Evening Lecture Series continued on 3 October with "Jim Kemmy: 20 years in hindsight" by Dr. Brian Callanan. October marked the 20th anniversary of the death of Jim Kemmy. Brian Callanan's talk described the life and significance of Kemmy, reflecting also on the implications for our contemporary world. Brian Callanan is the author of the biography "Jim Kemmy, Stonemason, Trade Unionist, Politician & Historian". Kemmy combined all these with research into local history and other interventions in topics such as Northern Ireland, family planning, church or state relations and heritage.
- The Granary branch also presented an evening with Carol Drinkwater on 5 October, presenting her new novel "The Lost Girl". Local author, Roisin Meaney, spoke to Carol about the book, her life as a writer, actress and filmmaker. Carol is well known for her portrayal of Helen Herriott in the BBC TV series "All Creatures Great & Small".
- Dooradoyle Library was delighted to host the annual Autumn Exhibition of the Limerick Art Society, one of the oldest art societies in the country. Paintings by twenty four members were on view throughout the month. Works in oil, acrylic, pastel, watercolour and ink were all on display.
- The preschool story-time continued on Wednesday mornings during October with the numbers continuing to increase.
- A Saturday morning story-time by library staff for four to six year olds was launched in October and it is hoped to continue this throughout the year. Meditation continued on 19 October. Vodafone classes resumed and continue on Wednesday mornings in the Exhibition area.
- Kilmallock Library was delighted to host the Bank of Ireland Enterprising Town Competition judging panel during the month of October. The judging panel visited Kilmallock with the Local Enterprise Office to hear a presentation on the town from the Local Community. The judges, visitors and representative from the local community were hosted at the Library for refreshments, viewed the historic and craftwork exhibition at the Library, and met with local businesses before taking a Walking Tour of the Town. Kilmallock's Children's Book Festival featured writer Roisin Meaney, Gabriel Fitzmaurice, Trevor McCarthy (Kilmallock's own living Medieval Historian) and a very special guest for one day only the Big Friendly Giant from Roald Dahl's hugely popular tale the BFG.

6. Limerick Arts Office

Creative Ireland

Limerick Museum in association with Creative Ireland, created a pop up museum inviting the public to bring along historic objects relating to their community, including but not limited to old postcards, photographs or from local sporting events or businesses. The purpose of the pop up museum is to engage people of all ages and walks of life in a reflection and conversation about the meaning of objects in our lives and histories. The project will take place over six weeks in the months of October and November. In October the pop up museum took place in the following areas:

- 14 October Adare Community Hall
- 21 October - Murroe Community Hall
- 28 October - Askeaton Community Centre

Festivals in October

A number of festivals supported by Limerick City and County Council took place in October 2017.

- Make A Move - 4 until 8 October
- Open House – Architecture is Story - 6 until 8 October
- I.N.Y – 5 until 15 October
- Garry McMahon Traditional Singing Weekend – 20 until 22 October
- Castleconnell Fright Festival – 28 until 29 October
- Richard Harris International Film Festival – 26 until 30 October

Open Calls

A number of open calls were issued to support individual artists and festival and events:

- Call Out for Limerick Festival Dates 2018 issued in October to ensure that Limerick.ie is the key point of information for festivals and events in Limerick.
- Open call for practitioners to attend a week long training school - European Outdoor Arts Academy: Limerick School of Spectacle 2017 sharing and learning new skills.
- Open call for bursaries for four artists to attend 'Introduction to Arts and Heath Workshop' taking place at University Hall Limerick in partnership with Waterford Healing Arts Trust.

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- Open Call for Artists' Studios in James' Street, Limerick City and Cappamore Arts Studios.
- Open call for International Mobility Award Call to allow artists to travel internationally.

Arts Office Programme

- The third in the Castleconnell Autumn Concert Series took place on 17 October. Tine Thing Helseth, Norway's internationally renowned trumpet star and pianist Gunnar Flagstad performance was infectious. Students from Cork as well as students from Limerick School of Music travelled to attend. The concert was programmed in partnership with Music Network Ireland.
- Catriona Quirke has been announced as Limerick's literature mentee for the Word's Ireland National Mentoring Programme open call and writer Niall Williams is the mentor. The mentoring consists of four meetings with between the mentor and the mentee over a period of up to eight months. The mentor will read the mentees work in advance of each meeting, and feedback and advise at each meeting. They may also provide information and advice on professional and publishing matters.
- Culture Night 2017 post-event report for Limerick submitted to Department of Culture, Heritage and the Gaeltacht including the event in numbers:

Total Audience Count: 21,600 audience members

Total Events: 94 programmed events

Total Venues: 78 venues/locations

This represents an increase of 12% in audience numbers from last year.

- Letters of Support were issued to individual artists and arts organisations for submission to the national open calls - Arts Council's 'Visual Artists Workspace Scheme' (Deadline 12 October) and Arts Council's 'Festivals Investment Scheme' (Deadline 26 October).

7. Limerick Museum

- Limerick Museum received 1,563 visitors in October.
- The Museum continues to benefit from the generosity of private donors and was in receipt of a large collection of historic Limerick newspapers dating from the 1770s to the 1830s. The Museum

also received a collection of mid-nineteenth century letterheads.

- An exciting partnership with the Richard Harris International Film Festival was initiated and the museum hosted an exhibition of memorabilia relating to Richard Harris's life and career.

8. Limerick City Gallery of Art

- Elizabeth Magill's exhibition, HEADLAND, initiated by LCGA, alongside Landmarks and Lifeforms with work by Frieda Meany and Danny Osborne ended on 22 October having had over 12,000 visitors during the run. LCGA was the recipient of an Arts Council Touring and Dissemination Award to tour HEADLAND by Elizabeth Magill to the RHA, Dublin.
- Preparations are in progress for the next three exhibitions, the exhibitions include: 'Screendance' a collaboration with Light Moves Festival; 'Master of my Universe' by Theresa Nanigian, a touring exhibition from the Highlanes Gallery, Drogheda and the exhibition 'Known Unknowns' curated by Simon Fennessy Corcoran, LCGA's Shinnors Scholar will be officially launched on 2 November by Dr. Des Fitzgerald, President of University of Limerick.
- LCGA continued its Autumn programme of events with five events taking place during October with the programme running until Christmas. The programme contains work by local artists, writers and musicians with most events FREE. For the event Ode to Tress on the 19 October a newly commissioned performance was presented at LCGA by artist Mary Nunan and collaborators, the event was well received and it is planned to tour this performance in 2018.
- The RTE Contempo Quartet held their second concert of the Complete Beethoven Cycle on 5 October.
- Our successful Children's weekend workshops continue until mid October, there has been full attendance for the weekend workshops.
- LCGA loaned the artwork by Nano Reid to the Arts Council of Ireland for a temporary exhibit in Solstice Arts Centre.
- LCGA continued to facilitate the meetings and workshop by the Limerick Art Society in the HUB.

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- Ongoing plans continue for the essential work on the building and will commence shortly.
- LCGA's attendance for October was over 7,200.

9. Planning and Environment

Litter/Waste Enforcement

- A total of 95 complaints were received in October.
- 41 on the spot litter fines were issued during the month.
- Legal proceedings were issued in one case under the Litter Pollution Act.
- Legal proceedings were issued in three cases under the Waste Management Act.
- 10 warning letters were issued in relation to environmental issues.
- One Statutory Notice was served under Section 71 of the Waste Management Act.
- One Statutory Notice was served under Section 55 of the Waste Management Act.
- Four Directions were served under the Waste Management Act.
- 47 cases were closed resolved/completed in October.

Air Noise and Water Pollution

- 31 complaints were received in October.
- 13 cases were closed/resolved during the month.
- One Certificate of Compliance was issued under Article 17 of the European Union (Paints, Varnishes, Vehicle Refinishing Products and Activities) Regulations, 2012.

10. Environmental Awareness

Limerick Going for Gold Grand Final

The Limerick Going for Gold Grand Final was held on the 10th October, 2017 with a total prize fund of €76,000. The top prize of €10,000 in the Challenge Category was awarded to Adare Tidy Towns, with

Abbeyfeale Tidy Towns taking 2nd place and a prize of €7,000 and Oola Tidy Towns being awarded 3rd place and a prize of €5,000. The competition encompassed groups from across Limerick City and County with the Limerick in Bloom Awards being incorporated under the Limerick Going for Gold banner.

Kilteely Tidy Towns won the overall Limerick in Bloom award and a prize of €5,000. Other winners on the night included Kilcornan Tidy Towns who were awarded €2,000 in the Tidy Towns Incentive Category, Caherdavin who won the Overall Residential Area/ Estates Category and received a prize of €2,000 and to celebrate National Reuse Month UL Environment Committee and Our Lady of Lourdes Community won an award for their reuse projects.

Annual Green School's Seminar

More than 70 Teachers from across Limerick schools participated in the Limerick City and County Council Annual Green School Seminar today in the Maldron Hotel. The teachers were treated to a range of workshops across 6 Environmental Themes, Litter and Waste, Energy, Water, Biodiversity, Global Citizenship, and Marine Litter.

National Tidy Towns

54 Groups participated in the National Tidy Towns Competition in 2017. Adare was awarded a Silver Medal along with the Limerick County award in the National Tidy Towns Competition 2016. Limerick City, Galbally, Ardpatrick, Kilmallock and Newcastle West have all been awarded Bronze Medals in this year's competition, with Adare receiving a County Award and Ardpatrick a highly commended and Galbally a commended award. Kilcornan Tidy Towns have received a Special Endeavour Award.

The Council's Annual Tidy Towns Seminar took place in February. Promoting community involvement in the improvement and enhancement of the local environment is a primary objective of the Council. Enhanced community involvement in the maintenance of their areas is delivered through the public spirit and initiative of community groups, tidy towns committees, residents' associations and local businesses. This community spirit comes to the fore in areas such as the TLC Campaign, National Spring Clean and the Limerick Going for Gold Environmental Improvement Grant & Competition.



11. Fire and Emergency Services

Statistics

	Fire Related Calls	Non Fire Related Calls	Total
No. of call outs 1/10/17 – 30/10/17	111	54	165
% of calls where on scene in < 10 mins from time of call	73	44	
% of calls where on scene between 11 and 20 mins from time of call	21	54	
% of calls where on scene in > 20 mins from time of call	6	2	

	Received / Assigned	Validated	Invalidated / Refused	Granted	Completed
Fire Certificate Applications	17	14	2	19	
Disability Access Cert Applications	11	9	1	11	
Licensing Applications	7	0		7	
Commencement Notice	37	34	3	3	37
Completion Certificate	23	22	0	1	22
Sugar CRM Cases	24				1
Planning Referrals	12				9

Civil Defence attendance at Events for month of October 2017

- Callout for Storm Brian
- James Keating Memorial Rugby Tournament, Bruff RFC
- Schools' Marathon Challenge, UL
- World BBQ Championships, People's Park

Major Emergency Management

- A meeting was held with personnel from Limerick City and County Council to discuss the development of a Local Authority Business Continuity Plan.
- A Local Co-ordination Centre workshop was held in Merchant's Quay in preparation for the winter period. Sub-Plans are currently being reviewed by the various sections.
- The Severe Weather Assessment Team was activated in response to Storm Ophelia and Storm Brian.

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Munster Regional Control Centre (MRCC)

	No of Calls mobilised to an emergency incident by MRCC	Other Calls	Average call processing time	Total No. of calls in October
No. of call outs 1/10/17 – 30/10/17	1,168	1,370		2,538
Average call processing time			1 min 9 secs	

12. Access to Information

	October	2017 (Jan to October)
Total Freedom of Information Requests	16	161
FOI Internal Appeals	0	4
Information Commissioner Appeals	-	1
Total Ombudsman Requests	3	25
Total AIE Requests	1	7

- An eight week Childcare Management Development Programme commenced on the 18 October with a number of childcare providers registering for different modules of the programme.
- A 'How to Shoot Marketing Videos on a Budget' was held on the 18 October and was again booked out with 12 participants registering for the workshop.
- IBYE Bootcamp took place on the 24 and 25 October 2017 in the Strand Hotel Limerick where the Limerick finalists participated in an intensive two day business pitch training, mentoring and communications training in preparation for the IBYE Limerick Finals.

13. Veterinary Services

- 11 stray or wandering horses were impounded
- The Dog Control Unit dealt with 35 dogs
- The Dog Licence Awareness Campaign continued to be implemented by the Dog Wardens

14. Local Enterprise Office

- A six week Start Your Own Business course commenced on 5 October with 17 participants.
- Ireland's Best Young Entrepreneur (IBYE) Limerick Enterprise Day took place on the 11 October with 35 of the IBYE entrants participating on the day.
- National Women's Enterprise Day, organised in conjunction with Tipperary and Clare LEOs took place on 12 October with over 130 women in business in attendance on the day.
- Two very interactive tendering workshops took place in October, Electronic Tendering Workshop took place on the 12 October and Introduction to Tendering Workshop took place on the 26 October.

15. Exhibition Opening

"Red Ribbons and Other Stories" by Artist Clare Hartigan.

The opening of the Exhibition "Red Ribbons and Other Stories" by Castleconnell Artist Clare Hartigan took place at Istabraq Hall during the month. Up until recently, the Limerick Museum was housed in this room but since the Museum relocated to its permanent home in the Old Franciscan Friary on Henry Street, Istabraq Hall has been returned to its initial use, that of Limerick City and County Council's principal reception room. The exhibition is a trip down memory lane for Clare as she explores her relationship with Limerick. The exhibition will run for the month of November.

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Economic Development and Planning

1. Planning Applications

A total of 90 new planning applications were received as follows:

Part 8	5
Housing developments	3
Domestic developments	54
Agricultural developments	9
Commercial developments/change of use	4
Community/educational developments	4
Other developments	11

The applications include proposals for:

- Part 8 for the provision of a distributor road in Croom
- Part 8 for the construction of 16 residential units in Patrickswell
- Construction of 33 residential units in Kilmallock
- Construction of 20 residential units in Brurea
- Construction of 12 residential units in Kildimo

2. Investment

- STATS, the worldwide leaders in sports data and intelligence, announced plans to open a new office in Limerick, which will serve as its regional headquarters overseeing European, Middle Eastern and African (EMEA) operations. More than 100 new jobs are to be created by 2020 as part of this investment.
- Kirkland Investments has secured conditional planning permission to expand the Savoy Hotel, the city centre's only five-star hotel, into the neighbouring Mill Building at the Henry Street-Shannon Street junction. The €8m development will see 50 new construction jobs, and 25 long-term roles created.
- Regeneron Pharmaceuticals, one of the fastest-growing companies in the global biotechnology industry, has announced plans to further expand its Limerick Industrial Operations and Product Supply (IOPS) bioprocessing campus with an additional 300 jobs and investment of \$100 million, bringing

the total expected employment at the site to 800 people and total investment to \$750 million.

3. Derelict Sites

- Nine complaints were received
- Nine inspections were carried out
- 13 statutory notices were issued
- One case was closed through compliance

4. Innovate Limerick

Innovate Limerick worked closely on two successful Town and Village Renewal Scheme applications as follows, the development of an E-Hub for Rathkeale which received €200,000 and Kantoher Development Group which received €100,000.

5. Marketing and Communications

- Limerick.ie sponsored and participated in Europe's largest gathering of travel bloggers (TBEX) in Killarney from 3 - 5 October 2017. Organised by Fáilte Ireland, the event attracted more than 600 delegates from around the world who have a combined social media reach to an audience of over 300 million world-wide. Limerick.ie sponsored the coffee and confectionery breaks during the three day event and attended speed networking sessions with a huge number of bloggers to promote the city and county as a visitor attraction.
- Limerick.ie also engaged with Ireland's top influencers at the recent BEO health and wellness event showcasing the delights of Limerick to thousands of prospective visitors online.
- Commenced PR and Marketing campaign for Christmas in Limerick 2017.
- Design and distribution of Limerick October Bank Holiday Weekend Guide 2017 throughout Limerick City and County. Dedicated section promoting the offering created on Limerick.ie.
- Continued collaboration with The Limerick Magazine through placement of monthly What's On adverts.
- Design and print of Limerick Student City Map and Guide.

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- Design of digital interactive Limerick Student City Map and Guide.
- A total of six Limerick.ie e-newsletters issued throughout October.
- Monthly Limerick.ie Business Bulletin e-newsletter issued by the Office of Marketing and Communications.

Social Media

- Posted 37 times on Limerick.ie's Facebook with total fans now 17,516.
- Tweeted 24 times on Limerick.ie's Twitter with total followers now 13,233.
- Posted 7 times on Limerick.ie's Instagram with total followers now 3,152.
- Tweeted 13 times on Limerick Marketing's Twitter with total followers now 1,894.

Limerick.ie

A total of 97,336 people visited the Limerick.ie website in October.

The most popular pages on Limerick.ie in October were:

1. Limerick.ie
2. www.limerick.ie/council
3. www.limerick.ie/discover/whats-on/browse
4. www.limerick.ie/council/services/planning-and-property/apply-or-search-planning-application/search-planning
5. www.limerick.ie/discover/whats-on/festivals/world-bbq-championships-2017

6. Digital Strategy

IRDG (Industry Research and Development Group) Smart Connected Devices Series Conference

- Limerick City and County Council presented the IoT aspect of its digital strategy.
- Dr Patricia Florissi, Vice-President, Distinguished

Engineer and Chief Technology Officer at Dell EMC commented that "It is amazing that Limerick has nurtured the digital ecosystem...that it takes Limerick to bring Ireland to the next level".

Smart Summit London

- Limerick City and County Council presented Smart Limerick to an international audience of government leaders and technologists from the private and public sectors.

Smart City Forum

- The Forum is made up of local government officials representing Limerick, Cork, Dublin, Galway, Waterford, Belfast and Derry.
- Over 160 people attended with a number of exhibitors and presenters including Limerick who presented Limerick's Digital Transformation to date.

Techtown

- TechTown is a network of 11 cities including Limerick which aims to explore how small and medium sized cities can maximise job creation using the potential of the digital economy.
- Limerick City and County Council attended a transnational meeting in Dubrovnik, Croatia which focused on The Smart City Agenda. Our delegation learned how other cities are approaching and delivering their Smart City agenda from smart parking solutions to innovative citizen collaboration portals.

7. Housing Capital and Regeneration

General Housing Programme

House Construction

- Part 8 Planning Applications were submitted for the following sites:

1-12 Burke Avenue	12 units
Lisheen Park, Patrickswell	16 units
Clare Street	7 units
Sycamore Avenue	5 units

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- Approval was received from the Department of Housing, Planning and Local Government (DHPLG) to submit the Part 8 Planning Application for the proposed housing scheme at Glenview, Hospital, Co. Limerick (20 units).

Capital Assistance Scheme (CAS)

- Construction works are progressing well at Cuan Mhuire Teoranta, Bruree, which will see the delivery of 6 no. units.
- Funding has been approved by the Department of Housing, Planning and Local Government (DHPLG) for 6 no. units at the Carebright Community, Bruff. This innovative development, which includes a Community Hub and support facilities, was included in the Open House Limerick festival and had an attendance figure of 40 visits.

Regeneration

- The completion of the steel superstructure at the Moyross Community Enterprise Centre is well advanced.

Thermal Upgrade Programme

- The Thermal Upgrade Programme continues across the four regeneration areas with the following contracts having commenced on site:
 - TU108 in Moyross (51 houses)
 - TU110 in Moyross (51 houses)
 - TU111 in Moyross (43 houses)
 - TU115 in Moyross (48 houses)
- Approval to proceed to construction was received for the following sites, with mobilisation underway:
 - TU114 in Southill (55 houses)
 - TU119 in Moyross (44 houses)
 - TU120 in Southill (50 houses)
 - TU117 in St Mary's Park (31 houses)

8. Water Services

Minor Capital Works

- Watermain rehabilitation completed on the Kilmallock Road
- Watermain Leak Detection and Repair contracts progressing in Limerick City

9. Mungret College

Work has commenced on the re-roofing of Mungret College. The contract has been awarded to Caplan Construction Limited, Bansha West, Bansha, Co. Tipperary at a cost of €299,953 excluding VAT.

The project involves the re-roofing of Blocks A, B, C and D of the College with the view to re-using as many of the existing Blue Bangor slates as possible. Other works include insulation of ceiling, replastering works, replacement of timbers, gutters and downpipes.



CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPORT



Comhairle Cathrach & Contae **Luimnigh**

Limerick City & County Council

Organisational Development

1. Communications

- Issued 33 news releases from the Office of Marketing and Communications.
- Produced and distributed the monthly Council Connect staff e-newsletter.
- Tweeted 211 times on Limerick City and County Council's Twitter account with total fans now 9,399.
- During Storm Ophelia, from 15-17 October, the @LimerickCouncil Twitter account had 994,600 impressions (number of times users saw our tweets on Twitter).
- 866,000+ of those were on Monday 16 October.
- @LimerickCouncil tweeted 96 times that day, not including the posts we retweeted from other accounts such as Met Eireann, ESB, etc.

2. Schedule of Meetings

Name of Meeting	Date	Location
Corporate Policy Group Meeting	24.10.2017	Merchant's Quay
Metropolitan District of Limerick Meeting to consider Draft Budgetary Plan 2018/GMA	27.10.2017 27.10.2017	Merchant's Quay Merchant's Quay
Party Leaders' Meeting	25.09.2017	Dooradoyle
Operational Briefings		
Limerick City East	03.10.2017	Merchant's Quay
Limerick City North	03.10.2017	Merchant's Quay
Limerick City West	03.10.2017	Merchant's Quay
Municipal District of:		
(a) Adare-Rathkeale: Monthly Meeting	10.10.2017	Rathkeale
Special Meeting to discuss proposed inspections of overground slurry stores	23.10.2017	Rathkeale
Meeting to consider Draft Budgetary Plan 2018/GMA	26.10.2017	Rathkeale
(b) Newcastle West: Monthly Meeting	04.10.2017	Kileedy
Meeting to consider Draft Budgetary Plan 2018/GMA	18.10.2017	Newcastle West
(c) Cappamore-Killmallock: Monthly Meeting	19.10.2017	Killmallock
Meeting to consider Draft Budgetary Plan 2018/GMA	19.10.2017	Killmallock
Strategic Policy Committee Meetings		
Travel and Transportation	09.10.2017	Merchant's Quay
Economic Development, Enterprise and Planning	09.10.2017	Merchant's Quay
Environment	23.10.2017	Dooradoyle
Home and Social Development	23.10.2017	Dooradoyle

3. Training Fire and Emergency Services

Emergency Services Driving Standard (ESDS) Training

Emergency Service Driving Standards were developed with the RSA and all emergency service agencies to develop a common driving standard for emergency service personnel. Limerick Fire and Rescue are delivering ESDS training for drivers of fire appliances through a combination of in-house instructors and external training providers.

During October five firefighters were trained to this standard for Emergency Service Driving. This level refers only to services who by law can drive using blue lights and sirens in emergency response situations. This training will progress over the coming months.

Breathing Apparatus Instructor Course

Three members of Limerick Fire and Rescue Service travelled to Newcastle in the UK to be trained as Breathing Apparatus Instructors. This two week course, which was delivered by Tyne & Wear Fire

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPORT



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Limerick City
& County Council

Service, combines both the theory and practical elements of instructing Firefighters in the safe and effective use of Breathing Apparatus equipment.

Sub Station Officer Course

In early October Limerick Fire and Rescue Service delivered an accredited Sub-Station Officer Course in accordance with the National Directorate for Fire and Emergency Management guidelines. This course was held in Shannon Fire Station. In total 15 fire fighters from Limerick Fire and Rescue and three fire fighters from Clare Fire and Rescue were trained. The aim of this two-week course is to enhance the ability of fire authorities to deliver efficient and effective fire and rescue services by providing fire service officers with the skills and knowledge necessary to allow them to fulfil the leadership, command, training and officer-ship roles assigned to them.

Inter Agency Information Management Officer Course

Personnel from Limerick City and County Council attended an Inter-Agency Information Management Officer course. Emergency Helpline Operator training was held in Dooradoyle. A new Emergency Helpline System has been set up following the installation of the new Jabber phone system.

4. Digital Strategy

CRM Integration with iHouse

- The Council's housing stock is now available for reference in the CRM and the CRM mobile app.
- Staff can easily identify a council property and list cases against that property.
- This is especially useful for our ground staff.

New GIS Data Set

- Users of Quantum Geographic Information System (QGIS) now have access to Prime2 data sets from the Ordnance Survey of Ireland (OSI).
- Prime2 is a standardised spatial referencing platform for Ireland.
- Each item in the data set (road, building, street light etc.) has a unique identity that can be referenced across systems.

Online Digitiser Replacement

- With the exception of planning applications and fire certificates, all GIS digitising activities that were done using the legacy MapGuide technology can now be done through modern GIS applications such as QGIS or MapBender.



CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPORT



Financial Matters

1. Home Improvement Schemes

OCTOBER 2017	MAGS (Mobility Adaptation Grant Scheme)	No.	HAG (Housing Adaptation Grant Scheme)	No.	HOPS (Housing Aid for Older Persons Grant Scheme)	No.
Kilmallock	€700.00	1	€0.00	0	€6,856.15	2
Metropolitan	€27,264.00	7	€35,893.68	6	€22,273.22	8
Newcastle West	€12,835.72	3	€0.00	0	€7,688.07	3
Rathkeale	€7,045.00	2	€0.00	0	€16,486.47	4
	€47,844.72	13	€35,893.68	6	€53,303.91	17

Total Monies issued in October 2017 = €137,042.31

Total Grants issued in October 2017 = 36

JANUARY TO OCTOBER 2017	MAGS (Mobility Adaptation Grant Scheme)	No.	HAG (Housing Adaptation Grant Scheme)	No.	HOPS (Housing Aid for Older Persons Grant Scheme)	No.
Kilmallock	€39,424.46	12	€115,580.94	8	€71,577.25	18
Metropolitan	€270,608.29	67	€353,552.99	41	€159,581.33	57
Newcastle West	€175,265.03	41	€74,175.50	14	€271,917.04	62
Rathkeale	€71,026.38	17	€32,131.76	6	€73,306.30	17
	€556,324.16	137	€575,441.19	69	€576,381.92	154

Total Monies issued January to October 2017 = €1,708,147.27

Total Grants issued January to October 2017 = 360

2. Rent Collection

Opening Balance @ 01/01/2017	Accrued Income	Total for collection	Receipts	Closing balance 31/10/2017	% Collection
€1,957,582	€11,394,046	€13,351,628	€10,804,956	€2,546,672	81%

3. Commercial Rates and Loans

Draft Collection Figures

Commercial Rates 2017	Opening Balance 1 Jan €	Accruals €	Vacant Property Adjustment €	Writes offs/ Waivers €	Total for Collection €	Amount Collected €	Arrears €	Specific Doubtful Arrears €	% Collected
As at 31st Oct. 2017	18,789,867	53,751,727	987,373	2,603,898	68,950,323	47,144,144	21,806,179	3,282,867	72%

The Date for Making the 2017 Rate was 2nd February 2017

Debtors Loans	Opening Balance 1 Jan €	Accruals €	Writes offs/ Waivers €	To Collect €	Receipts €	Arrears €	% Collection
As at 31st Oct. 2017	537,803	1,035,222	532	1,573,557	1,350,500	223,057	86%

Recourse to Overdraft Facility

No of days in overdraft 0



4. Capital Funding for Fire and Emergency Services

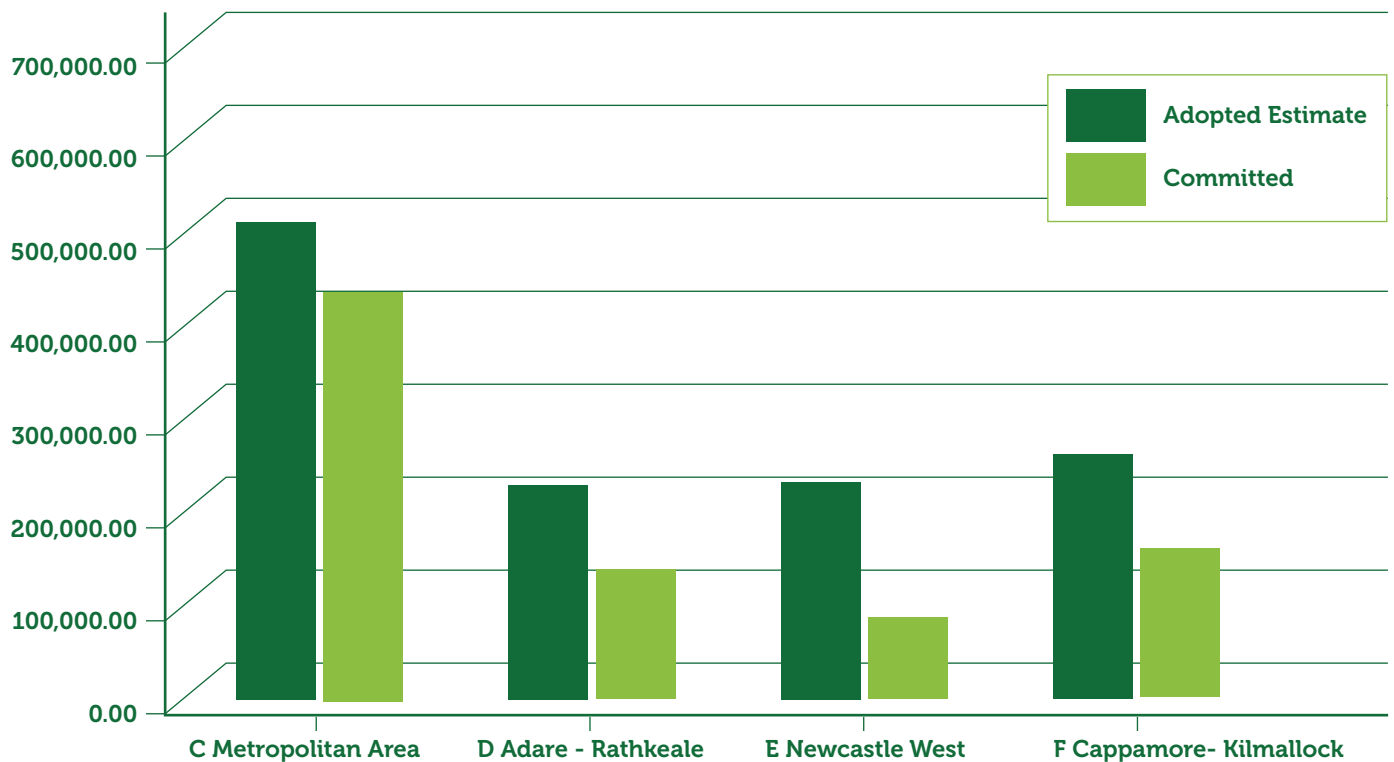
Capital funding was approved by National Directorate for Fire and Emergency Management in October as follows:

- €18,253 in funding received from National Directorate for Fire and Emergency Management for replacement of 70 Firefighter Pagers.
- €80,000 in funding for a new Special Incident Unit (Hazmat Truck).
- €33,210 for Thermal Imaging Cameras.

5. General Municipal Allocation 2017

Adopted Estimate €1.203 Million

Graph outlining adopted budget and committed expenditure up to 31st October 2017



Municipal (Code) + (Text)	Value Adopted Estimate	Value Committed
C Metropolitan Area	503,000.00	430,140
D Adare - Rathkeale	225,000.00	121,007
E Newcastle West	225,000.00	81,459
F Cappamore - Kilmallock	250,000.00	144,69