

LIMERICK CITY AND COUNTY COUNCIL
MUNICIPAL DISTRICT OF NEWCASTLE WEST
MEETING TO BE HELD ON WEDNESDAY, 7th MARCH 2018

26th February 2018

To: The Chairman and Each Member of the Municipal District of Newcastlewest
Re: Draft Schedule of Municipal District Works - (SMDW)

Dear Councillor,

I wish to refer to previous discussions regarding the requirement to prepare a Schedule of Municipal District Works.

Section 58 of the Local Government Reform Act 2014 inserts a new section 103A in the Local Government Act 2001 providing that, following the adoption of the annual budget, a schedule of proposed works of maintenance and repair to be carried out during the financial year in each municipal district shall be prepared, for adoption by the municipal district members.

The SMDW is, in effect, a plan of works that prioritises and apportions the use, within each municipal district, of funding provided in the overall local authority revenue budget for particular purposes

The SMDW in respect of the Municipal District should be formulated on the basis of the amount of funding provided for maintenance and repair in the annual budget in respect of each relevant service division (e.g. housing, roads, amenities, street cleaning, drainage work, burial ground maintenance, etc.

Classification of items in the budget should largely determine what works and related expenditure are included in the SMDW but insofar as it may be necessary to make judgments in particular instances, it is considered that the term "maintenance" can include not only maintenance of the physical condition or fabric of items, but also more operational type matters such as grass cutting or tree pruning.

Within the level of funding available, details of the SMDW should be prepared on the basis of identified needs (taking account of relevant factors, for example, in the case of housing, age profile of stock) and priorities throughout the local authority area and taking due account of requirements in relation to standards and frequency of

maintenance work. This should be informed by details of relevant requirements which were considered in the formulation of the overall local authority budget. It will also be relevant to have regard to the pattern of works and expenditure in previous years.

It is emphasised that adoption of the SMDW per se cannot involve revision of the adopted budget.

It is essential to maximise return on investment by avoiding dilution of expenditure which could result from spreading allocations too thinly across the Municipal District each year. This could be minimised by taking a multi-annual approach where possible in the preparation of the SMDW.

Maximising value for money, overall effectiveness, and return from investment should also be a key objective in prioritising works and allocating available funding within each municipal district, along with the need to ensure appropriate balance in the allocation of resources as between urban and rural areas in the district.

Apportionment of funding on a thematic basis within the district over the life of the council could help to this end. For example, specific housing estate(s) in one location could be prioritised for refurbishment in year one, with a commitment to undertake works in another area in subsequent years. Similarly, where an overall local authority maintenance programme is drawn up for a particular purpose (say windows and doors in local authority dwellings) which might need to extend over a number of years, the required works would be reflected in relevant annual SMDWs.

Any maintenance type functions, for example, grass cutting, planting or other maintenance of open spaces, that are carried out by means of specific purpose grants for such purposes to community groups such as tidy towns committees can be provided for, as appropriate, through the SMDW.

The GMA, which is a budgetary element providing funding for discretionary expenditure at municipal district level to be decided by the elected members in respect of each municipal district, is separate from the “strategic” budgetary funding for maintenance and repair, the utilisation of which is to be determined in the SMDW.

The Draft Schedule of Municipal District Works for the Municipal District of Newcastlewest is set out at appendix 1 attached.

The approval of the Members is sought for the Draft Schedule as presented.

**Gordon Daly,
Director of Services.**

Appendix 1

NEWCASTLE WEST MUNICIPAL DISTRICT Road Works Scheme 2018	
Work Category	€
Restoration Improvement (RI) -Road Reconstruction	1,869,000
Restoration Maintenance (RM) –Surface Dressing	323,000
Supplementary Restoration Maintenance (SRM – Surface Dressing	147,000
Drainage Grant	108,000
General Maintenance (GM)	814,158
Tar Patching (TP)	350,957
Bridge Rehabilitation (STR)	90,654
Low Cost Safety Improvement Works (LCSI)	20,000
General Municipal Allocation (GMA)	225,000
General Maintenance of National Roads-N21& N69	72,000
N21 Newcastle West Relief Road	25,000
N21 Abbeyfeale Relief Road	25,000
N21 Abbeyfeale to Mountmahon Pavement Strengthening	100,000
N21 Templeglantine Pavement Strengthening	345,000
Total Defined MD Spending	4,514,769

- Winter Maintenance (WM) €578,198 Total City & County.
- Community Involvement Schemes (CIS) – Limerick City & County Council are currently identifying schemes that will be included in an application for funding to be submitted to the Department by 23rd March 2018.
- Local Improvement Schemes (LIS) – Awaiting Department Funding Allocation/instructions.
- Public Lighting €2,460,000.00 Total City & County.
- National Road HD 28 Sites – €720,000 – Locations requiring Skid Resistance Improvement to be identifies.

Note: In 2017, €109k approx. of the RI grant was transferred to the RM grant category for undertaking Surface Dressing works on the R52 Bruff Line.

NEWCASTLE WEST MUNICIPAL DISTRICT
Road Works Scheme 2018

Regional Roads
Surface Dressing (RM)
Allocation: €79,000

Road No.	Description	Length (m)	Total Cost (€)
R524	Ballygiltenane towards Glin	2,000	€54,000
R515	Farrihy cross to Broadford	1,000	€25,000
	Total:	3,000	79,000

Regional Roads
Road Reconstruction (RI)
Allocation: €187,000

Road No.	Description	Length (m)	Total Cost (€)
R515	Dromcollogher Village (overlay)	200	€87,000
R523	Broadford Village Advance Works	-	70,000
R515	Athea Advance Works	200	30,000
	Total:	200	187,000

Local Roads
Surface Dressing (RM)
Allocation: €391,000

Road No.	Description	Length (m)	Total Cost (€)
L8592	Graig, Castletown, Kilmallock	1,000	€25,000
L52103 / L52106	Killard , Ardagh	2,000	€35,000
L7011	Cloncrippa, Feenagh	1,500	€25,000
L7033	Arranagh towards Ballykenny, Strand	1,500	€27,000
L1317	Rathcahill towards Strand, Strand	1,000	€20,000
L1212	Gortnacreha upper, Kilmeedy	1,500	€28,000
L7017	Knockacraig, Dromcollogher	1,000	€22,000
L70442	Knockawarraiga, Mountcollins	1,200	€25,000
L1214	Walls cross towards Ballingarry	1,500	€37,000
L1322	Tournafulla to Rockchapel road	2100	€27,000
L1323	Naughtons cross to Tournafulla	1500	€25,000
L1326	Feale View to Mountcollins	2000	€24,000

L70941	Ring Road , Knockawarraiga, Mountcollins	1500	€16,000
L7060	Ballaghbehy, Abbeyfeale	2500	€28,000
L51504	Gardenfield south , Dromcollogher	2200	€27,000
Total:		12,200	391,000
Local Roads Road Reconstruction (RI) Allocation: €1,682,000			
Road No.	Description	Length (m)	Total Cost (€)
L1224	Glenbaun, CarrigKerry	2,000	€130,000
L7064	Horans Cross - Healys Forge , Abbeyfeale	1,000	€105,000
L21009	Shanagarry, Newcastl West	1,000	€70,000
L7029	Cloncon, Raheenagh	1,000	€90,000
L1212	Ambrose Forge to Ballynoe Cross, Kilmeedy	1,200	€98,000
L70442	Knockawarraiga, Mountcollins	1,000	€85,000
L60391	Ballynoe, Ballingarry	800	€60,000
L7002	Evegallahoo, Knockaderry	1,000	€80,000
L8595	Derraulin, Castletown, Kilmallock	1,500	€136,000
L6078	Carrigkerry NS to Ballyloughnane	1,000	€78,000
L7011	Cloncrippa , Feenagh	1,000	€77,000
L7050	Grogeen cross to Dromtransa , Abbeyfeale	1,000	€90,000
L1238	Blaine cross to Derreen, Athea	400	€38,000
L7033	Ballykenny, Strand	1,000	€80,000
L1317	Crean, Newcastle West	1,000	€80,000
L1230	Kileany, Glin	200	€25,000
L70171	Barnagarrane, Dromcollogher	1,000	€70,000
L7058	Meeyline South, Templeglantine	1,000	€75,000
L7025	Lisnafulla, Broadford	1,000	€75,000
L51501	Church Road, Templeglantine	1,000	€70,000
L70061	Ballydoorty, Castlemahon,	1,000	€70,000
Total:		19,100	€1,682,000
Bridge Rehabilitation Work Structures (STR) Allocation: €90,654			
Road No.	Description	Length (m)	Total Cost (€)
L-1303	Ardrine Bridge	-	42,584

R-523	Athea Upper Bridge	-	48,070
	Total:	-	90,654
Low Cost Safety Improvement Schemes (LCSI) Allocation: €20,000			
Road No.	Description	Length (m)	Total Cost (€)
L-1306/L-1307	Belville Cross	-	20,000
	Total:	-	20,000
Drainage Works Allocation: €108,000			
Road No.	Description	Length (m)	Total Cost (€)
R-523	Broadford Village	-	85,000
R-524	Blaine Cross – Athea Road	-	23,000
	Total:	-	108,000

**Brief summary of the above Work Categories and Allocations for the Newcastlewest
Municipal District:**

Restoration Improvement (RI) €1,869,000

This is a specific allocation under the Restoration Improvement Grant (RI). Many roads have deteriorated to such an extent that they require resurfacing, reshaping and strengthening to enable them to cater for the heavy vehicles and to prevent water lodging.

Restoration Maintenance (RM) €323,000

This is a specific allocation under the Restoration Maintenance Grant (RM) for Surface Dressing Works only. A large proportion of the condition of non-national roads is due to lack of proper and regular maintenance such as overlays and surface dressing. This allocation will extend the life of the pavement and delay the development of potholes, thus protecting the investment in roads. At the current level of funding the overlay and surface dressing life cycles for non national roads is up to 1:40 years.

Supplementary Restoration Maintenance (SRM) €147,000

This is new specific allocation in 2018 under the Supplementary Restoration Maintenance Grant (SRM) for surface dressing works only. A large proportion of the condition of non-national roads is due to lack of proper and regular maintenance such as overlays and surface dressing. This allocation will extend the life of the pavement and delay the development of potholes, thus protecting the investment in roads. At the current level of funding the overlay and surface dressing life cycles for non national roads is up to 1:40 years.

Drainage Grant €108,000

This is a new grant introduced in 2018 that may be used for the alleviation of road drainage problems either through new works or remedial measures. There are 2 schemes in the Newcastlewest District in 2018.

General Maintenance €814,158

General maintenance covers a wide range of works such as verges and drainage, cleaning water channels, street cleaning, opening inlets, signage, elimination of localised flooding, junction maintenance, dealing with accidents, oil spillages, storms, emergencies and general repairs to roads and footpaths.

Tar Patching (TP) €350,957

Regular tar patching is necessary to prevent the deterioration of the road surface and substructure and in the interest of road safety.

Bridge Rehabilitation - Structures (STR) €90,654

There are 2 schemes under this heading in Newcastlewest Municipal District this year.

Low Cost Safety Improvement Works (LCSI) €20,000

The 2018 allocation provides funding to enable low cost safety improvement works on non-national roads to be carried out. The criteria for approval and grant allocation are based on accident data along with inspection of sites and discussions between the local authority and the Regional Road Safety Engineer. There is currently one schemes in the Newcastlewest District.

General Municipal Allocation (GMA) €225,000

This allocation has been agreed at Municipal District level.

General Maintenance of National Roads – N21 & N69 €72,000

General maintenance of National Roads covers a wide range of works for which this allocation will be used on the N21 and N69 National Routes within the Newcastlewest Municipal District.

N21 Newcastle West Relief Road €25,000

This allocation will be used for the undertaking of a scheme appraisal for an N21 Newcastle West Relief Road.

N21 Abbeyfeale Relief Road €25,000

This allocation will be used for the undertaking of a scheme appraisal for an N21 Abbeyfeale Relief Road.

N21 Abbeyfeale to Mountmahon pavement Strengthening **€100,000**

This allocation will be used for the pavement strengthening works on the N21 between Abbeyfeale and Mountmahon.

N21 Templeglantine Pavement Strengthening **€345,000**

This allocation will be used for the pavement strengthening works on the N21 at Templeglantine.

Parking Management (PM) **€37,020**

This includes for disc parking operation, wages, traffic fines management system, communication equipment.

Items for which expenditure is provided on a City and County at large basis

Public Lighting (PL) €2,460,000

This covers the operation, repair and maintenance of Public Lighting. The supply of energy is purchased through the National Procurement Service (NPS). The repair, replacement and maintenance of public lights are tendered separately. The above figure pertains to the whole City and County area.

Road Safety: Engineering, Promotion, Education (RS) €628,518

This includes for school wardens, road safety plan, road safety education and training. The above figure pertains to the whole City and County area.

Winter Maintenance (WM) €578,198

This provision is for the treatment of roads in severe weather in accordance with the Winter Service Plan and pertains to the whole City and County area.

Community Involvement schemes (CIS) €TBC

Ring-fenced funding of €10 million is being made available for the Community Involvement Scheme in 2018 throughout Ireland. Local authorities will be given the opportunity to 'bid' for funds under this revised scheme. A separate circular dealing with the application process, eligibility criteria and local contributions has been received on the 19th February 2018. Limerick City & County Council are now in the process of identifying suitable locations for inclusion in the grant application form to be submitted to the department by the 23rd March 2018.

Local Improvement Schemes (LIS) €TBC

The Department for Rural and Community Development (DRCD) introduced ring-fenced funding for LIS in 2018 and proposes to continue to operate this scheme in 2018. The 2018 allocation for Limerick City & County Council has not yet been received.

Overheads (OH) €1,247,009

This includes for insurances (EL/PL), Health and Safety training and equipment, sick pay, holiday pay, legal costs, office expenses, etc. The above figure pertains to the whole City and County area.

Operations & Maintenance Services

Housing Maintenance

Limerick City & County Council manages an expanding Social Housing portfolio which is expected to exceed 5200 properties in 2018. The range of properties is extensive which is highlighted by the fact that over half the Councils Housing stock was built before 1985. In terms of managing the Housing Maintenance function across 4 Municipal District Areas, we must highlight that 65% of the entire housing stock is located within the Metropolitan District. The remaining 35% of housing stock is located between the Newcastle West, Adare-Rathkeale and Cappamore-Kilmallock Districts. Total Requests for Maintenance in Newcastle West in 2017 was 1220.

In terms of Housing Maintenance Service Delivery we have a broad range of solutions. In each area we have small but effective direct labour teams who respond directly to the needs of our Tenants who report Service Requests with a range of sources from the Area Offices, Customer Services and Operations Services. The result is uniform in each Service Request point of contact, the Request is added to the Customer Relationship System and assigned to the correct Maintenance Team.

Housing repairs are carried out based on need and budgetary constraints. Repairs are categorised into emergency, urgent and routine. Examples of each are listed below.

Emergency Repairs (within 24 Hours)

Fire	Water Leaks	No Electricity	No Mains Water
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Urgent Repairs (within 1-3 Days)

Blocked Flue in Open Fire	Blocked Foul Drains	No Hot Water	No Heating
Faulty Sockets	Faulty Switches	Faulty Storage Heater	Faulty Door Entry System
Banister or Hand Rail Loose or Detached	Storm Damage	Partial Loss of Water Supply	Unsafe Floor Boards or Stair Treads
Damaged Path/Steps			

Routine Repairs (within 1-3 Weeks)

Other Electrical Works	Other Joinery Works	Plaster Works	Other Plumbing Works
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BUDGET Allocation 2017

Newcastle West Municipal District 600 Properties

	2017	2018	Difference
Maintenance	€317,329	€326,694	€9,365
Re-lettings	€86,000	€86,000	€0
Totals	€403,329	€412,694	€9,365

Planned Works

Heating Servicing

Also in 2018 the Budget of **€100,000** has been allocated to ensure that Heating Systems County Wide are working effectively and safely. This is an important area and ensures that the Council maintain heating system guarantees, some that currently run for 10 years which represents a long term savings to the Council.

Heating Systems Replacement

Many of our Tenants have Heating Systems that are outdated and highly inefficient by current standards. **€200,000** has been allocated for the replacement of heating systems County Wide. The scheme will operate on a priority needs basis initially and is expected to be developed further following the Conditional Survey of all Council Housing.

Housing Conditional Surveys

In 2017 the Operations & Maintenance Section tendered for suitable organisations to complete, track and report the condition of the Council's housing stock after completing a comprehensive Housing Conditional Survey. It is anticipated that it will be completed in 2018. Once completed this will allow the organisation to effectively plan for all future needs in terms of Planned Maintenance requirements and budget effectively for this.

Private Housing Grants

Private Housing Grants consist of the following:-

Housing Adaptation Grant Scheme – HAGS

Mobility Aids Grants Scheme – MAGS

Housing Aid Older People – HOPS

These grants have not yet been released for 2018, however, it is expected that the amounts will be similar to those in 2017. The 2017 Revenue spend for the Newcastle West Municipal District was €139,478 with an overall spend of €697,389, i.e. 80% funded by grants.

Parks and Landscaping

The Parks & landscaping Team carries out a wide range of functions in relation to parks and open spaces. These works include tree pruning, grass cutting, hedge trimming and small maintenance and landscaping works. Grass cutting takes place between March and October with 1 No grass collection planned for the 1st cut in March 2018. During the Autumn and Winter period works are concentrated on tree pruning and planned and responsive works.

The 2018 allocation is €52,000, an increase of €9,000 on the 2017 allocation.

Cemeteries

There are approximately 255 cemeteries in Limerick, of which approximately 46 are active. There are approx. 30 cemeteries in the Newcastle West Municipal District. The 2018 allocation is €53,000, an increase of €27,000 since last year. It is intended that this extra funding will be utilised for essential footpath repairs and replacement and for maintenance and upkeep of historic walls.