



Comhairle Cathrach  
& Contae **Luimnigh**

**Limerick City**  
& County Council

Seirbhísí Corparáideacha,  
Comhairle Cathrach agus Contae Luimnigh,  
Ceanncheathrú Chorparáideach,  
Cé na gCeannaithe,  
Luimneach

Corporate Services,  
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17<sup>th</sup> May, 2018.

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**TO : THE MAYOR AND EACH MEMBER OF LIMERICK CITY AND COUNTY COUNCIL**

**Attendance at Venice Biennale, Italy 23<sup>rd</sup> to 26<sup>th</sup> May, 2018**

A Chomhairleoir, a chara,

An invitation has been received to attend The Venice Biennale in Venice, Italy from 23<sup>rd</sup> to 26<sup>th</sup> May, 2018.

Ireland's National Representation in The Venice Biennale is an exhibition called 'Free Market' that focuses on spaces in market towns including Kilmallock, Co Limerick, that once held markets and livestock auctions. One in three people in Ireland live in a small town and the market towns chosen for this exhibition depict towns with populations of less than 5,000. The role of the market has declined but the spaces still exist and this exhibition looks at how these civic spaces can be intensified and how, with small changes, market towns can become more active again. This is an important opportunity for the historic town of Kilmallock, Co Limerick, to be showcased on a world stage at the 16<sup>th</sup> International Architecture Exhibition in Venice.

Strong and vibrant rural towns and villages are essential to effective regional development. Under the Government's Action Plan for Rural Development, the aim is to unlock the enormous potential of Ireland's rural communities to improve the lives of those living and working in rural areas. Towns like Kilmallock need to be places where people can live, work and raise their families in a high quality environment. The implementation of initiatives such as the Town and Village Renewal Scheme, together with targeted initiatives to empower local rural communities and enhance local services, will make rural Ireland a better place in which to live and work. Kilmallock is an important service provider in Limerick for the resident populations and also acts as a focal point for surrounding rural communities within this Government Action Plan.

It is proposed that Councillor Michael Donegan attend the Venice Biennale from 23<sup>rd</sup> to 26<sup>th</sup> May, 2018.

In accordance with Section 142(5) of the Local Government Act, 2001, as amended, the approval of the Council is hereby sought for this proposed attendance at Venice Biennale, Italy, with an estimated cost of €1,650.00.

Is mise le meas,

*James Clune*

James Clune,

(A/Senior Executive Officer,  
Corporate Services

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