

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPORT



Comhairle Cathrach
& Contae **Luimnigh**

Limerick City
& County Council

May 2018

THIS MONTH:

Riverfest 2018 draw record attendances of over 100,000

Fleadh by the Feale took place in Abbeyfeale

The leasing of 24 and 25 Nicholas Street to Treaty City Brewing Company approved

A new national Community Enhancement scheme was launched

First tenant announced for Gardens International development

Migrant Integration Plan was formally adopted

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Empowering the Citizen

1. Community Support Services

Waiting List

Housing Waiting List	2,597
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Allocations

	Metropolitan District	Newcastle West	Adare – Rathkeale	Cappamore – Kilmallock	Total
No of Units May 2018	35	5	2	3	45
Year to Date	132	14	9	18	173

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

Individuals – 31st May 2018		
Location	Description	No.
McGarry House	Mixed Low threshold accommodation for singles	32
St Patrick's Hostel	Higher threshold accommodation for single males	45
Thomond House	Higher threshold accommodation for single females	21
B&B (no children)	Adults without children accommodated in B&B	17
Temporary Emergency Provision TEP 1 (Edenvilla)	Low threshold, night by night (9pm-9am) emergency accommodation. Mixed	20
TEP 2 (Phoenix Lodge)	Low threshold, night by night (9pm-9am) emergency accommodation. Mixed	12
Total		147

Families - 31st May 2018			
Location	Description	No. Adults	No. Children
Suaimhneas	Family Emergency accommodation	6	8
		Families - 6	
B&B/Hotel Accommodation	Families	43	67
		Families - 31	
Twin Oaks Family Hub	Family Hub	13	16
		Families - 8	
Totals		62	91
		Families - 45	

Cemeteries

Total No. of Burials in the City Graveyards

- Kilmurry: 4
- Castlemungret: 8
- Mount St. Oliver: 11
- Mount St. Lawrence: 15

Domestic Waste Refuse Waiver Scheme

- Total number of waivers issued for Limerick City and County Council for May 2018 was 42 waivers approved, seven were refused.

2. HAP Shared Services

The Housing Assistance Payment (HAP) Scheme is a form of social housing support provided by all local authorities. Under HAP, local authorities can provide housing assistance to households with a long-term housing need, including many long-term Rent Supplement recipients.

Limerick City and County Council, HAP Shared Services Centre (SSC) administers the financial transactional process on a shared services basis for all 31 local authorities

There were 36,662 active HAP tenancies at the end of May 2018. A weekly average of 352 HAP tenancies have been set-up during 2018. The weekly tenant debit is just under €1.7 million and the May landlord payment run was just under €27 million.

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A new national Community Enhancement scheme was launched on 31 May. The new programme will fund projects that seek to enhance facilities and communities in disadvantaged areas as identified in the Local Economic and Community Plan.

Applicants will be asked to link actions to the Local Economic and Community Plan (LECP), which is available on <https://www.limerick.ie/limerick-local-economic-and-community-plan-lecp-2016-2021>

The new programme builds on and replaces the RAPID and Communities Facilities Schemes. This Programme will offer not-for-profit groups access to capital funding in order to kick-start, advance or complete their projects. The programme seeks to address some of the difficulties these groups face in terms of accessing small scale levels of funding to match their own fundraising efforts.

Limerick Age Friendly

- Limerick Older People's Council (OPC) hosted a stand at the over 50's Expo at the South Court Hotel on 1 and 2 May. They provided visitors with information on the various projects being undertaken by the members of the OPC. Great interest was shown by visitors to the Expo with many asking how they could become involved in the Older People's Council.
- The first Biennial General Meeting of the Limerick Older People's Council was held on 10 May at the Council offices, Dooradoyle. Ms. Mary Cronin was returned as Chairperson of the OPC for the next two years.
- Limerick City and County Council had two housing projects confirmed for inclusion in a book of best practice in design of housing for older people that supports independent living, being published by the Housing Agency. Colivet Court Elderly Housing Development and Carebright residential facility for people living with dementia were chosen from a large number of applications received from across the country. The book is to be published before the end of 2018.

Integration Working Group

- The Mayor of the City and County of Limerick Councillor Stephen Keary officially launched Africa Day 2018 celebrations on 21 May at Merchant's Quay. This year saw events take place over the course of one week, which included a "Cup of African Nations" soccer tournament, organised by An Garda Síochána and a drumming experience hosted in Ormston House. The week of events drew to a close with a family fun day hosted in the Milk Market. Large attendances were recorded at all events.
- Limerick's third Migrant Integration Plan was presented to full council on 28 May and formally adopted. "Belonging to Limerick" is the third integration plan developed for the City and County. The concept of belonging was at the heart of Limerick's bid to be European City of Culture 2020. Belonging encapsulates a vision, a strategy and a future for Limerick and beyond. It is a desire and a hope for migrants to belong. People have come to Limerick from all over the world to live, to study, to work, to invest or simply to find refuge and protection. Unofficial figures estimate that there are now members of more than 100 different ethnic backgrounds living in Limerick City and County. The aim of "Belonging to Limerick 2017-2021" is to work towards creating a vibrant, inclusive and truly intercultural society in Limerick in which all residents belong and are valued equally, regardless of their colour, creed or culture.

Limerick Sports Partnership (LSP)

- The Move for Life Physical Activity Research project for the 50+ age group has completed Phase 1. 420 health screens at Caherdavin, Cloughaun, Croom and Newcastle West were completed. These are excellent response rates as the target was 300. The health screens included height, weight, waist circumference, strength, balance and a six minute walk. All participants were provided with an accelerometer to track physical activity over a seven day period. They will commence a 12 week physical activity intervention in Women on Wheels, Get Ireland Walking, Men on the Move and Go for Life Games. They will be screened again in three months and six months.
- The Transition Year – VIP programme attracted 220 applications which was whittled down to 36 successful candidates from 16 schools across Limerick. They will attend coaching, leadership and

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community engagement opportunities each week during school term.

- All LSP community health and fitness programmes are up and running across the county i.e. Move and Lose, Summer Fitness, Swim Lessons and Swim Teacher Training, Older Adult Fitness programmes at Seven Hubs, Men on the Move at 6 sites, Women on Wheels, Walking Activation Workshops and programmes, Community Walking, Desk to 5K and Nutrition Information Workshops.

4. Corporate Services

During the month of May, Corporate Services published the Supplement to the Register of Electors for the Referendum on the 8th Amendment of the Constitution of Ireland.

- 5,036 application forms were processed.
- 3,502 electors were added to the Supplement to the Register of Electors.
- 637 electors were deleted from the Register of Electors.
- 73,379 Presidential Electors were eligible to vote in the Constituency of Limerick City.
- 67,592 Presidential Electors were eligible to vote in the Constituency of Limerick County.

5. Customer Services

As part of works around the referendum in May, Customer Services supported the Corporate Services Department in filtering phone calls and verifying application forms for inclusion on the Register of Electors. This included checking the register system, iReg, to confirm if the customer was on the register, advising of the correct polling station and facilitating the supply and receipt of the relevant Register application forms.

Works continued with the Operations and Maintenance Department, Design and Delivery Department and Social Development Directorate towards a single process for handling Housing Maintenance requests in the Operations North Operational area. Customer Services will be going live handling these requests at the front line in the coming weeks.

Customer Services handled and processed 104 Residential Parking Permits throughout the month of May.

The call centre has continued its success, with our Customer Services Department receiving a total of 14,744 calls throughout the month of May.

This works out at approximately 670 calls per day, with the average response time being 10 seconds for calls to be answered.

Throughout the month of May, a total of 2,810 cases were logged, with the majority broken down as follows:

- Operations and Maintenance: 1,996 – over half of these cases were for housing maintenance.
- Community Support Services: 319.
- Planning and Environmental Services: 224.
- Customer Services: 142.
- Veterinary: 48.

The total number of callers to our counters at Merchant's Quay and Dooradoyle was 3,743.

6. Library Services

Library Service and Museum

- 2018 marks 100 years since Irish women were given the right to vote. On 25 May Newcastle West Library hosted a special, illustrated lecture on the life of Hanna Sheehy Skeffington. Hanna was prominent in the campaign to win that right and also campaigned for Irish freedom and equality for all. The talk was delivered by Dr. Micheline Sheehy Skeffington, the grand-daughter of Hanna and great grand-daughter of David Sheehy MP, the Broadford man who fought for land rights and for Irish self-determination and of Elizabeth McCoy from Ballyhahill. Micheline's great-granduncle was Fr. Eugene Sheehy, better known as the Land League Priest. The event brought Hanna's ideas and role to life vividly to a capacity audience in the library.
- On 9 May Dr Brian Murphy presented a lecture in Newcastle West Library based on his most recent title "The Life and Tragic Death of Winnie Barrington". The audience included The History Club from Scoil Mhuire and Ide and many local history enthusiasts

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- On 22 May Niall de Burca, renowned traditional storyteller visited Newcastle West Library. De Burca transfixed the students, as the magic in his voice transported the audiences to the past and places of legend, creating a memorable morning for the local schools. Niall also appeared at Dooradoyle Library entertaining classes from St. Paul's N.S. and Scoil Mháthair Dé.
- To celebrate Bealtaine on 18 May in Adare Library, artist Liam Browne, ran a workshop for adults with participants completing a painting under his expert eye. Also running throughout the month were digital skills classes and the weekly pre-school group.
- As part of Bealtaine, Watch House Cross Library ran a free five week Introduction to iPads for seniors and a "Digital Skills for Citizens" class which started on 22 May. Moyross Pre-School, adult learners from St Munchin's Community Development Project, Distillery View Pre-School and Senior Infants from Thomond Primary, as part of the Doodle Den Programme all made special visits to the library this month for information and recreational activities. "ABC Startright" reflexology for babies and parents continues each Wednesday.
- On 15 May in The Granary Library, the evening lecture series event was "A Guide to Tracing Your Limerick Ancestors" an illustrated lecture by John Grenham, author of "Tracing your Irish Ancestors" the standard reference guide for Irish genealogy and "Clans and Families of Ireland", among other works.
- On 29 May "The Centenary of Women in Irish Politics" an illustrated lecture by Sinead McCoolle was held in The Granary. Sinead is an author, historian, broadcaster, script writer, historical and picture researcher and exhibition curator. She is the author of a number of books including; "Easter Widows" on the widows of the men executed in the 1916 Rising, "Hazel: A Life of Lady Lavery" and "No Ordinary Women: Activists in the Revolutionary Years 1900-1923".
- The "Are You Dancing" Library Loan Box was officially launched by Tommy Drennan in the Granary Library on 11 May. Tony Browne gave an illustrated talk on the showband era and the evening ended with a live music and dancing performance. The loan box will be available for borrowing by community groups.
- The Granary Library hosted European Anti-Poverty Network Ireland (EAPN) during its visit to Limerick on 18 May. The title of the seminar was "Social Welfare for all? A Local and European Perspective on Adequacy and Accessibility". The seminar comprised of short presentations, representing the National and European view- points on social welfare supports and input from those who have had personal experience of the social welfare system. There was also a panel response as well as discussion and debate from the floor.
- The Branch facilitated an information briefing on Compass Fostering Services. The briefings took place on 21 and 22 May.
- Also in The Granary it was a busy month of Children's Story Time sessions including Scéalaíocht le Joanne on 25 May.
- Dooradoyle Library hosted "The Holocaust Exhibition", on loan from the Holocaust Education Trust in Ireland. Six secondary school classes visited.
- On 1 May, the Environment Department of Limerick City and County Council held an information workshop for members of Tidy Towns Committees.
- On 3 May, Áine Ní Fhlatharta facilitated three "Sustainable Energy Ireland" workshops to Classes from St. Nessian's N.S. Áine is one of the authors of The Year Round Organic School Garden, a gardening resource for schools. Aine is passionate about biodiversity and encouraging children to engage with nature.
- On 4 May, the Bat Group held their monthly meeting.
- Referendum day was 25 May and Dooradoyle Library was once again a polling station. Due to the unavailability of St. Paul's National School, the branch hosted six booths, which was double the normal number. The library remained open for normal business and a record 4,500 people passed through the library on the day.

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7. Limerick Culture and Arts Office

Open Calls for Bursaries and Opportunities

Bursaries

- Limerick International Mobility Award Scheme 2018
- Limerick Creative Ireland - Made in Limerick Grants 2018
- Limerick Festivals and Events Funding Scheme 2018

International Mobility Award – Open Call

Limerick City and County Council announced the continued support for creatives, with the 2018 Limerick International Mobility Awards in line with the Limerick Cultural Strategy aim and Objective 1: to encourage international mobility and touring opportunities and attract international cultural productions and artists to Limerick. An information clinic was held at Culture House on 31 May. This year the award has two strands:

- Strand 1 : International Mobility Award
- Strand 2 : International Mobility Award Strategic Fund for applications to Culture Ireland

Creative Ireland : Made in Limerick – Open Call

Limerick City and County Council's Culture Team announced an open call on 20 May for Limerick based creative practitioners, organisations and communities of place and interest to submit applications for Made in Limerick Grants 2018 offered as part of Limerick Creative Ireland Programme. Creative Ireland Programme 2017-2022 is an all-of-Government five year initiative, from 2017 to 2022, which places creativity at the centre of public policy. It is a culture based programme designed to promote individual, community and national wellbeing. The core proposition is that participation in a cultural activity drives personal and collective creativity, with significant implications for individual and societal wellbeing and achievement.

Festivals and Events – Open Call

In 2017/2018 the direct investment of €500,000 in the festivals and events sector has provided the necessary stimulus to elevate Limerick's festival and events offer. The newly formed Cultural Strategic Policy Committee (SPC) along with the Limerick City and County Council Culture and Arts Office and members of the sector, have recommended further strategic investment in Festivals/Events in 2018/2019.

This competitive, transparent open call, offers the opportunity for funding for festivals, events and cultural heritage events under two Strands taking place from the 01 October 2018 and 30 September 2019.

The two strands of funding are:

1. Delivery and Programming of Small and Community focused Festivals/Events
– €2,000 - €9,999
2. Delivery and Programming of Medium and Large Scale Festivals/Events
– Band A €10,000 – €50,000
– Band B €51,000 +

This open call is part of the actions to support the implementation of the Limerick Cultural Strategy – A Framework 2016 – 2030.

Sliabh Luchra - Call Out

In May applications were invited from professional Irish traditional musicians for the position of Sliabh Luachra Musician In Residence.

The Residency is part of the Sliabh Luachra Music Trail, a collaborative strategic development project funded by the Arts Council of Ireland's Invitation to Collaborate Award. The project brings together the Arts Offices of Limerick City and County Council, Cork County Council, Kerry County Council and the Irish Traditional Music Archive in association with the Arts Council. The residency will be located in the Sliabh Luachra region which includes parts of counties Limerick, Cork and Kerry.

Theatre and Film Bursaries

The selection panels for the Limerick Short Film Bursaries and the Limerick Theatre Bursaries met in May and their recommendations went forward to the Cultural SPC of 14 May and to full Council on 28 May for approval.

Events

Eva International

For the month of May, EVA International partnered with Ormston House to develop a collaborative public programme which highlights intertwining programmatic themes and research activities. Featured artists and projects include Kevin Gaffney, The Museum of Mythological Water Beasts, Stanzas, THEATREclub, and World Recipe Exchange.

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The Young Eva Schools Programme was also rolled out with schools workshop for Primary and Secondary schools being provided free of charge.

Riverfest

Riverfest 2018 saw audience attendance increase from 2017 by 18% to just over 100,000. The festival which is estimated to be worth over €5 million to the Mid West region has undergone a strategic review since 2016. This review has taken place as part of the Culture and Arts Office's Let's Talk Festivals research report and strategy framework development, which is currently being drafted to inform a framework strategy for festivals and events in Limerick. As part of this report, Riverfest is identified as one of five key civic festivals and currently ranks as the second largest festival in the city and county after EVA with average audience growth since 2016 at 19% per annum.

The development and delivery of Riverfest by Limerick City and County Council is in line with Objective 2 of the Limerick Cultural Strategy 2016 -2030:

"To grow the physical and human resources, infrastructure and support for staging large scale interventions, performances, festivals and productions."

The Riverfest Business Plan 2016-2020 outlines a number of key objectives and strategic actions undertaken in 2018 as part of this strategy include:

- Riverfest Vision and Programme Categories: Look, Taste, Adventure, Big Bang.
- Extension of festival site along the water edge running from the Hunt Museum through Arthur's Quay Park and along the Boardwalk.
- Consolidation of partnerships with key businesses, organisations, promoters and venues. e.g. contribution of €46,000 to Great Limerick Run annually.
- Expansion of the water programme this year sponsored by The Strand Hotel.
- Evaluation and reporting e.g. the first audience survey undertaken in 2017 and a second in 2018 allowing of comparative analysis of audience growth and feedback.

Fleadh by the Feale

Fleadh by the Feale funded by the Limerick City and County Council Festivals and Events Grant Scheme

2017/2018 took place on the May bank holiday in Abbeyfeale. An extensive four day programme saw traditional music enthusiasts and musicians congregate in Abbeyfeale for a weekend of workshops, album launches, live music and dance. A unique programme element of the festival is the bone playing competition, which attracts expert bone players from across the world including a regular attendee from Canada.

Limerick Culture and Arts Office have been supporting the festival committee in the area of strategic development as Fleadh by Feale continues to grow annually. As part of the grant award, the committee were awarded a place on the pilot Festivals and Events Training and Mentoring Programme run in collaboration with the Limerick Enterprise Office.

County Limerick Youth Theatre

The County Limerick Youth Theatre, Little Lyts, CoLyts and Dyna Lyts presented performances Jack in the Beanstalk, Acme Thunderer and It Only Ever Happens In The Movies at Friarsgate Theatre and Arts. The CoLYT was successful in securing LEADER funding for Projects Theatre in Education and Expressing Employability.

World Recipe Exchange

Ormston House secured a grant from The Heritage Council for a continuation of the World Recipe Exchange programme exploring intercultural food heritage of Limerick. The programme of events celebrating the European Year of Cultural Heritage, will run between May and November 2018. As part of the programme, on 11 May, a Cameroonian Coffee event was held in Ormston House in collaboration with African Irish Association. The event was held in the build up to Africa Day and included a presentation on coffee production in Cameroon, tasting of coffee and traditional Cameroonian doughnuts, pof pofs and a music performance.

Strategic Developments and Supports

Letters of Support

Three letters of support for organisations and individuals making applications to the Arts Council Funding Schemes were provided under the new Limerick City and County Council's Strategic Funding Award.

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Local Enterprise Office (LEO) Festivals and Events Development Programme

Limerick Culture and Arts Office are working on a strategic development and capacity building programme with Local Enterprise Office, Limerick to deliver bespoke professional development training for festival organisers. This began on 14 May. This programme is the result of a panel recommendation as part of the 2017 Limerick City and County Council Festivals and Events Grant Scheme.

Cultural Strategic Policy Committee (SPC) Workshop

On 8 May a workshop was held to report on the delivery of civic festivals in Limerick

A comprehensive report was presented including a review of the costs, impacts to date and recommendations on next steps. This information will inform policy on investment of Festivals and Events.

Discussion on the next open call of the Festivals and Events Grant Scheme 2018-2019 was tabled. The Strand 1 and Strand 2 Options were presented, reviewed and discussed and recommendations went forward to the Cultural SPC of 14 May. The formation of the evaluation panel for the Festivals and Events Grant Scheme 2018-2019 was discussed and also went forward to the Cultural SPC of 14 May for consideration.

8. Limerick Museum

- Limerick Museum received 2,086 visitors in May 2018.
- The Museum and the Friends of Limerick Lace Group participated in the Wikipedia "editathon" in the Hunt Museum on 19 May with the assistance of historian Sharon Slater which, among other things, resulted in the extensive rewriting of the Wikipedia page on 'Limerick Lace.'
- A major exhibition hosted by Limerick Museum and organised by the Polish community in Limerick opened on 24 May in the glazed street, Limerick City and County Council, Merchants Quay. Entitled "Righteous Among the Nations", it shows how many ordinary Poles rescued Jews from the Nazi terror during the Second World War. It continues until 8 June.

- Friends of Limerick Lace Group held two meetings in the Museum on 3 and 17 May.
- An exhibition of paintings by renowned Irish artist Samuel Walsh will continue in Limerick Museum until 1 June.

9. Limerick City Gallery of Art (LCGA)

- EVA International 2018 curated by Inti Guerrero continued through May with a number of events taking place, the inaugural 'Unwrap' Fashion Festival launched on 17 May. The final week of the Young EVA workshops with local primary schools finished on 4 May. Ongoing guided tours taking place at LCGA and the other city wide venues, the attendance for May was 7,530 visitors. EVA International will continue to host events and tours over the coming months at LCGA.
- LCGA and EVA hosted the official opening on 17 May of the Unwrap Fashion Festival 2018, the Limerick School of Art and Designs' (LSAD) Fashion Design's, Graduate collection with a pop up exhibition at the Limerick City Gallery of Art with an attendance of over 300 people.
- LCGA hosted an EVA International event on 31 May for sponsors and patrons, with an attendance of 25 people.
- The RTE ConTempo Quartet held their final concert in the current series on 3 May which was well attended by around 30 patrons. Negotiations are ongoing to continue the series in the Autumn of 2018.
- Ongoing exhibition at the Draóicht Arts Centre, Blanchardstown, Dublin of the exhibition MAKing Art: The DRAWing Exhibition which featured 23 artworks from LCGA's/National Collection of Contemporary Drawing for a temporary exhibition which runs until 16 June. Ongoing plans for collaborative projects between LCGA and Draóicht for a three year period.
- Ongoing plans for the loan of the painting by Maurice MacGonigal, A Dublin studio, from the Permanent Collection of LCGA for inclusion in the Crawford Art Gallery summer exhibition, Naked Truth: The Nude by Irish Artists.

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- Official Opening of the Elizabeth Magill, HEADLAND's exhibition at the Ulster Museum, Belfast, running until early September. The HEADLAND's exhibition will travel to the New Gallery in Walsall in September 2018 and will run until January 2019.
- LCGA in collaboration with Age and Opportunity, for the Bealtaine Festival 2018 hosted a panel discussion on 23 May titled 'Sustaining Your Artistic Practice' featuring Deirdre O'Mahony, Locky Morris, Austin McQuinn and Pauline Goggin, chaired by Marian Fitzgibbon, with an attendance of 35 people.
- LCGA hosted the Limerick Arts Society presentation workshop by Aideen Barry on 31 May with an attendance of 30 people.
- LCGA's ongoing plans for the awarded a touring grant from the Arts Council for our forthcoming exhibition with Anita Groener, tour to take place during 2019.
- Work placement by University of Limerick student in relation to LCGA Museum Standards Programme for Ireland (MSPI) application to the Heritage Council of Ireland. The intension is that LCGA will submit an application for full accreditation this year.
- Ongoing meetings with the Project Team to address the essential fire and safety work required in the building and subject of a Department of Arts grant that has been matched by Limerick City and County Council.
- Internal meetings continue to decide how to celebrate the forthcoming 70th anniversary for the extension to the Gallery, which opened in 1948 to house the Permanent Collection.

10. Planning and Environment**Litter/Waste Enforcement**

- 178 complaints were received in May.
- 369 inspections were undertaken throughout the month.
- 28 on the spot litter fines were issued in May.
- Legal proceedings were issued in four cases under the Litter Pollution Act.
- Legal proceedings were issued in six cases under the Waste Management Act.
- 18 warning letters were issued in relation to environmental issues.
- One statutory Notice was served under Section 55 of the Waste Management Act.
- Five Directions were served under the Waste Management Act.
- 97 cases were closed / resolved / completed in May.

Air Noise and Water Pollution

- 22 complaints were received in May.
- 55 inspections were undertaken throughout the month.
- Two Notices were served under Section 12 of the Water Pollution Act 1977-2007.
- One Notice was served under Section 16 of the Air Pollution Act 1987.
- Two Certificates of Compliance were issued under the European Union (Paints, Varnishes, Vehicle Refinishing Products and Activities) Regulations 2012 and 2014.



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11. Fire and Emergency Services

Statistics

	Fire Related Calls	Non Fire Related Calls	Total
No. of call outs 1/05/18 – 31/05/18	99	45	144
% of calls where on scene in < 10 mins from time of call	58%	61%	
% of calls where on scene between 11 and 20 mins from time of call	24%	24%	
% of calls where on scene in > 20 mins from time of call	18%	15%	

	Received / Assigned	Validated	Invalidated / Refused	Granted	Completed
Fire Certificate Applications May	15	15	2	24	
Disability Access Cert Applications May	13	13	1	15	
Licensing Applications May	7	7	0	7	
Commencement Notice May	45	37	6	43	
Completion Certificate May	11	11	0	11	
Planning Referrals May	17				10
Sugar CRM Cases May	8				6

Civil Defence attendance at Events for the month

- Riverfest BBQ
- Great Limerick Run
- Annual Camp – Lisdoonvarna

Munster Regional Control Centre (MRCC)

	No of Calls mobilised to an emergency incident by MRCC	Other Calls	Average call processing time (secs)	Total No. of calls in May
No. of call outs 01/05/18 – 31/05/18	859	1,822	72	2,681

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12. Access to Information

	May	2018 (Jan to May)
Total Freedom of Information Requests	19	93
FOI Internal Appeals	-	2
Information Commissioner Appeals	-	-
Total Ombudsman Requests	2	12
Total AIE Requests	1	3

13. Digital Strategy

- The contracts for the Limerick Information Transformation - LITe Programme were finalised in May with three contractors appointed to support the Council in the transition and adoption of a EDRMS-Electronic Records Management System based on Sharepoint Online.
- A Smart Limerick research project on IoT has kick-started in May in partnership with DELL and LERO - The Software Engineering Research Group based at UL. The project aims to examine the Internet of Things (IoT) in Smart Sustainable Cities with particular reference to Limerick.
- Works have started on the development of a National Service Catalogue for Local Government. The Digital Strategy Department is providing support and oversight as part of the National Project Board.

14. Veterinary Services

- 22 stray or wandering horses were impounded.
- The Dog Control Unit dealt with 29 dogs.
- One food sample was submitted during May 2018 for analysis under the National Residues and Microbiological Sampling Programme.
- The Dog Licence Awareness Campaign continued to be implemented by the Dog Wardens.

15. Civic Reception

A Civic Reception was accorded to Ms. Joy Neville on 22nd May, 2018, in recognition of her total commitment for decades to the game of rugby, as a past International Player and now International Referee, and for being a wonderful ambassador for Limerick.



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Economic Development and Planning

1. Planning Applications

A total of 114 new planning applications were received as follows:

Housing Developments	4
Domestic Developments	68
Agricultural Developments	9
Commercial Developments/Change of Use	10
Community/Educational Developments	5
Other Developments	18

The current applications include proposals for:

- Construction of 99 residential units at Bloodmill Road, Singland, Limerick.
- Construction of 52 residential units at Coolbane, Castleconnell, Co. Limerick.
- A solar farm at Cloonanna, Patrickswell, Co. Limerick.

2. Investment

- The first tenant in the €18m Gardens International office development is to be Danish firm Nordic Aviation Capital (NAC) with up to 300 new jobs to be created. The aircraft leasing company is to take the third, fourth and fifth floor of the Henry Street development.
- Uber is to expand its operations in Limerick with up to 150 jobs to be created. The firm currently has 400 people employed at its Limerick's centre of excellence.
- A new branch of Supermacs fast food restaurant is to open in Limerick. There are currently seven branches of the chain across the city with an eighth branch confirmed, which will create up to 60 new jobs.
- Financial services firm Mazars has announced the creation of a new business unit in Limerick that will create 25 jobs over a four-year period. The audit, tax and advisory company, which merged with local firm Maguire Caulfied Browne last year,

has announced that it is creating a new payroll outsourcing business unit providing both domestic and international payroll in Mazars, Limerick.

- 55 jobs are expected to be created at the University of Limerick by 2020 as the university launches a new €47million research centre at a previously vacant site on the Dublin Road.

3. Marketing and Communications

- National television coverage on RTÉ for Riverfest Limerick 2018 was secured. This year's Riverfest was the most successful yet with more than 100,000 people enjoying Limerick's largest four day summer festival worth an estimated €5m-€7m to the Mid-West.
- Concluded national digital, print, radio, marketing campaign for Riverfest Limerick 2018.
- Produced Riverfest Limerick 2018 media book.
- Commenced tender process for the creation of a brand identity for Limerick to communicate Limerick as a contemporary international location to live, work, invest, study and visit.
- Feature *What's On* advert in The Limerick Magazine May 2018.
- Feature advert in Aldi Community Games Festival Programme.
- Marketing materials supplied to Limerick Older People's Council for distribution at Over 50's Expo lifestyle event, Southcourt Hotel
- Produced seven Limerick.ie e-newsletters.
- Monthly Limerick.ie Business Bulletin e-newsletter issued by the Office of Marketing and Communications.

Social Media:

- Started managing the Limerick City and County Council LinkedIn account. Posted nine times with total followers now at 984.
- Posted 31 times on Limerick.ie's Facebook with total page likes now 19,299. Posts reached 25,834 users with 9,777 engagements.

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- Tweeted 25 times on Limerick.ie's Twitter, @limerick_ie, with total followers now 14,402. Our tweets earned 97,600 impressions (number of times users saw our tweet).
- Posted 16 times on Limerick.ie's Instagram with total followers now 4,125.
- Tweeted 22 times on Limerick Marketing's Twitter, @limkmarketing, with total followers now 2,195. Our tweets earned 34,800 impressions (number of times users saw our tweet).

Limerick.ie

A total of 122,657 people visited the Limerick.ie website in May 2018, 53% increase on the same period in 2017.

The most popular pages on Limerick.ie in May 2018 were:

1. www.limerick.ie/riverfest
2. www.limerick.ie
3. www.limerick.ie/tags/riverfest/events
4. www.limerick.ie/council
5. www.limerick.ie/council/services/planning-and-property/apply-or-search-planning-application/search-planning-council/your-council/jobs

4. Housing Capital and Regeneration

- Work has commenced on the refurbishment of Hassett Villas, which will see the welcome provision of three units in Thomondgate.
- Part 8 Planning Permission was granted for the following schemes:
 - New housing scheme at Mulgrave Street, Limerick City (14 units);
 - New housing scheme at Glenview Drive, Hospital, Co. Limerick (20 units).
- The provision of 10 demountable units at Clare Street has now completed.
- The Housing Practitioners' Conference 2018 was held at the Royal Marine Hotel, Dún Laoghaire, Co. Dublin from 17-18 May 2018 and was attended by Limerick City and County Council staff. The conference featured presentations given by the Housing Agency, the Department of Housing, Planning, Community and Local Government (DHPLG) and other local authorities, and included various workshops and showcases of exemplar case studies.
- The Irish Council for Social Housing (ICSH) Regional Meeting for the Mid-West was held in the Clayton Hotel, Limerick on 1 May and was attended by Limerick City and County Council staff. The ICSH regional meetings are a key event for members to facilitate discussion on current issues and offer an opportunity to raise any issue of relevance as well as receiving key updates in relation to areas of compliance, housing management and development.
- A site visit was undertaken by Limerick City and County Council staff on 2 May to a family hub developed by Dublin City Council (DCC) and constructed by Extraspace Solutions, an off-site building contractor who can provide an accelerated construction programme. This site visit was undertaken to investigate the possibility of Limerick City and County Council adopting this form of construction for specific situations.

Regeneration

- Cosgrave Park Phase 2 (Moyross, 30 units) receive DHPLG approval to proceed to Tender Issue.
- The Thermal Upgrade Programme continues apace with approval received from the DHPLG for the following contract:
 - Approval to proceed to Contract for TU-SH Contract 118 (Southill, 52 units).
- The leasing of 24 and 25 Nicholas Street to Treaty City Brewing Company was approved by the elected representatives at the full meeting of Limerick City and County Council. The company will develop a micro-brewery within these buildings. This project is one of several works undertaken as part of the revitalisation of Nicholas Street. The arrival of Treaty City Brewing is an important element of this work, not just for Nicholas Street, but for the whole of King's Island and Limerick city.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPORT**Organisational Development****1. Communications**

- Issued 16 news releases from the Office of Marketing and Communications.
- Produced and distributed the monthly Council Connect staff e-newsletter.
- Issued a staff e-newsletter for our fourth birthday celebrations.
- Tweeted 122 times on Limerick City and County Council's Twitter account, @limerickcouncil, with total fans now 10,569. Our tweets earned over 146,800 impressions (number of times users saw our tweet).

2. Schedule of Meetings

Name of Meeting	Date	Location
Full Council Special Meeting of Limerick City and County Council	28.05.2018	Dooradoyle
Operational Briefings Limerick City East Limerick City North Limerick City West	01.05.2018 01.05.2018 01.05.2018	Merchant's Quay Merchant's Quay Merchant's Quay
Metropolitan District of Limerick Monthly Meeting	21.05.2018	Merchant's Quay
Municipal District of: (a) Adare-Rathkeale: Monthly Meeting (b) Newcastle West: Monthly Meeting Special Meeting to discuss The Abbeyfeale Traffic Management Plan Part VIII (c) Cappamore-Killmallock: Monthly Meeting	08.05.2018 02.05.2018 09.05.2018 17.05.2018	Rathkeale Newcastle West Newcastle West Killmallock
Strategic Policy Committee Meetings Cultural	14.05.2018	Dooradoyle
Local Community Development Committee Local Community Development Committee	01.05.2018 22.05.2018	Merchant's Quay Merchant's Quay
Joint-Policing Sub Committee Meeting Adare-Rathkeale Municipal District Metropolitan	15.05.2018 21.05.2018	Rathkeale Merchant's Quay
Corporate Policy Group Meeting	21.05.2018	Merchant's Quay
Party Leaders' Meeting	28.05.2018	Dooradoyle
Protocol Committee Meeting	28.05.2018	Dooradoyle

3. Training Fire and Emergency Services**Fire and Emergency Training Events for month of May 2018**

- Six fire fighter recruits completed 15 weeks of intensive training to become wholetime fire fighters in Limerick City Fire Station. The training in May covered a wide range of expertise such as Hazardous Materials Awareness, Line Rescue and Swiftwater Rescue Technician Training.
- 23 fire fighters were trained in the skills required to deal with Heavy Goods Vehicles (HGV) road traffic collisions.
- One Fire Officer attended an Road Traffic Collision Instructors Course in Nenagh.
- One Executive Engineer attended a Fire safety Engineering Workshop.

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Financial Matters

1. Home Improvement Schemes

MAY 2018	MAGS (Mobility Adaptation Grant Scheme)	No.	HAG (Housing Adaptation Grant Scheme)	No.	HOPS (Housing Aid for Older Persons Grant Scheme)	No.
Kilmallock	€5,259.91	1	€0.00	0	€10,070.00	3
Metropolitan	€43,896.97	10	€101,890.54	10	€25,900.00	6
Newcastle West	€10,000.00	2	€0.00	0	€8,975.00	2
Rathkeale	€2,300.00	1	€0.00	0	€5,605.00	1
	€61,456.88	14	€101,890.54	10	€50,550.00	12

Total Monies issued in May 2018 = €213,897.42

Total Grants issued in May 2018 = 36

JANUARY TO MAY 2018	MAGS (Mobility Adaptation Grant Scheme)	No.	HAG (Housing Adaptation Grant Scheme)	No.	HOPS (Housing Aid for Older Persons Grant Scheme)	No.
Kilmallock	€15,759.91	3	€88,586.55	8	€51,537.35	11
Metropolitan	€100,472.76	23	€198,661.35	20	€82,475.79	19
Newcastle West	€54,077.25	12	€18,165.00	6	€86,899.26	17
Rathkeale	€16,473.13	4	€17,673.50	2	€21,091.23	6
	€186,783.05	42	€323,086.30	36	€242,003.63	53

Total Monies issued January to May 2018 = €751,873.08

Total Grants issued January to May 2018 = 131

2. Rent Collection

Opening Balance @ 01/01/2018	Accrued Income	Total for collection	Receipts	Closing balance 30/04/2018	% Collection
€2,589,197	€6,229,590	€8,818,787	€5,804,382	€3,014,405	66%

3. Commercial Rates and Loans

Draft Collection Figures

Commercial Rates 2018	Opening Balance 1 Jan €	Accruals €	Vacant Property Adjustment €	Writes offs/ Waivers €	Total for Collection €	Amount Collected €	Arrears €	Specific Doubtful Arrears €	% Collected	
As at 31st May 2018	14,501,047	55,056,291	*	249,286	621,213	68,686,839	22,961,146	45,725,693	3,245,286	35%

* The Date for Making the 2018 Rate was 2nd February 2018

Debtors Loans	Opening Balance 1 Jan €	Accruals €	To Collect €	Receipts €	Arrears €	% Collection
As at 31st May 2018*	461,159	507,882	969,041	633,730	335,311	65%

Recourse to Overdraft Facility

No of days in overdraft 0

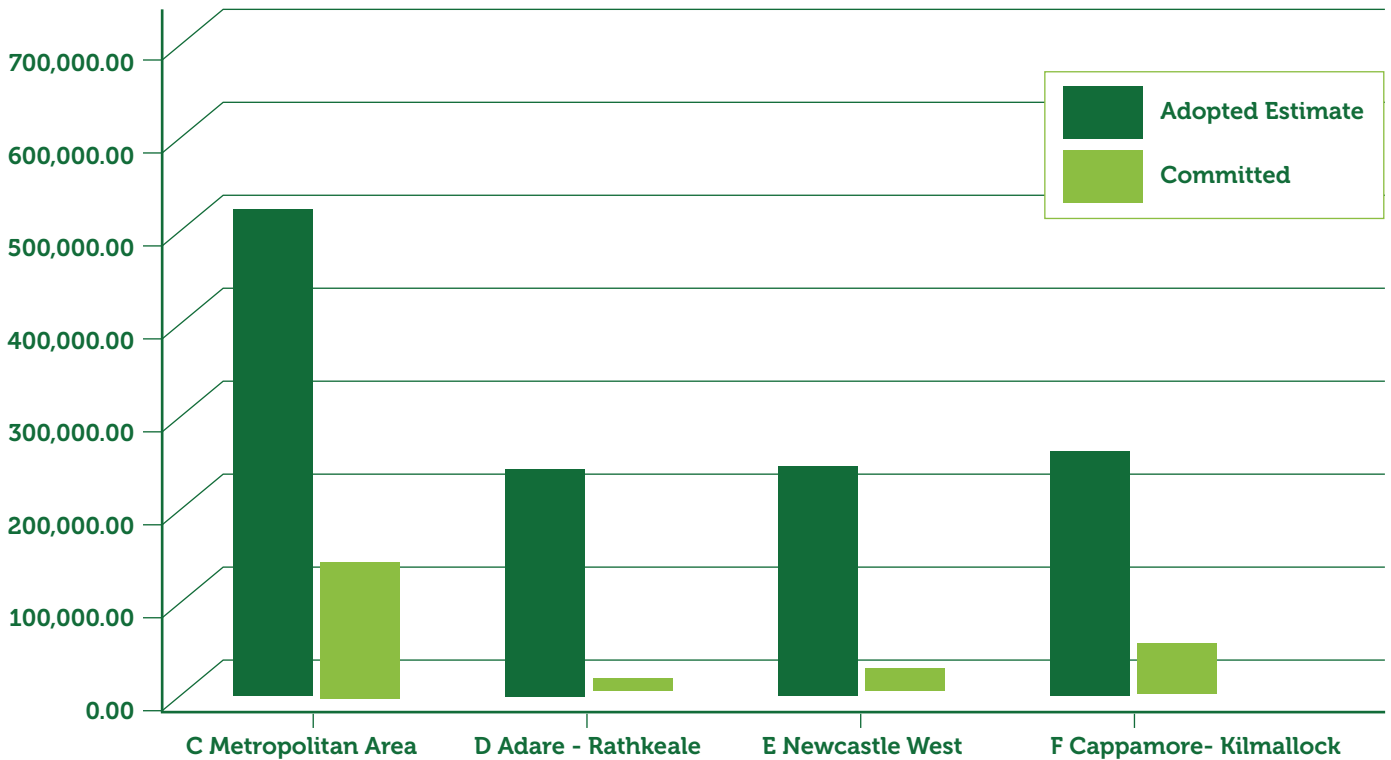
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4. General Municipal Allocation 2018

Adopted Estimate €1.203 Million

Graph outlining adopted budget and committed expenditure up to 31st May 2018



Municipal (Code) + (Text)	Value Adopted Estimate	Value Committed
C Metropolitan Area	503,000.00	121,534
D Adare - Rathkeale	225,000.00	12,626
E Newcastle West	225,000.00	29,525
F Cappamore - Kilmallock	250,000.00	49,659