

Meeting of Limerick City and County Council

30th April 2018

Notice of Motion by Councillors K. Sheahan, S. Keary, C. McMahon, E. O'Brien, R. O'Donoghue, A.Teskey

"We will move at the next meeting that the Local Authority of Limerick City and County immediately commence the harmonisation of housing rent payable by tenants between City and County".

Reply:

The rent of local authority tenants in Ireland is calculated in accordance with the provisions of what's known as a Differential Rents Scheme. Each local authority adopts, by executive order, its own such Scheme, but they all share similar characteristics. The rent is calculated as a proportion of the assessable income of the principal earner, together with a contribution from any subsidiary earners in the household. The significant advantage that this confers on local authority tenants over their counterparts in the private sector is that the rent is based solely on the income of the household and is not linked to prevailing market forces. The amount payable will vary up or down in line with income changes of the occupants. At the moment, the average rent payable by tenants across the entire administrative area of Limerick City & County Council is just over €50 per week.

While all Differential Rent Schemes are broadly similar in terms of the general principles outlined above, each local authority would have customised its Scheme to best suit its circumstances and needs. When the new local authority was created for Limerick in June 2014, the Schemes for both Limerick City Council and Limerick County Council were carried forward and continued to apply. It would clearly have been desirable to design and adopt one uniform Scheme for the entire administrative area. However, it was decided not to proceed with this on the basis that the Department was clearly indicating that the Minister intended to roll out a Scheme which would apply nationally and would replace any existing local Schemes. Despite such indications continuing, there are still no concrete proposals emerging for such a step. Having regard to this and the need to remove any anomalies in the existing Scheme in this Authority, the Social Directorate has established a Single Differential Rents Scheme Working Group to review same. Members will, of course, be consulted accordingly as part of the next budgetary process.

Signed: _____

**Dave Hennessy
A/Senior Executive Officer
Community Support Services**

5th April 2018

LIMERICK CITY AND COUNTY COUNCIL

COUNCIL MEETING TO BE HELD ON MONDAY, 28TH MAY, 2018.

Notice of Motion submitted by Councillors J. Scanlan and L. Galvin

We will move at the next Meeting that responsibility for management of Housing for the County Town be driven from the Municipal Office locally.

REPLY:

At present, some of the housing services are managed at Municipal Office level. These include housing maintenance works and the management of private grants including, Housing Aid for Older People, Mobility Aid Grants, Housing Adaptation Grants and input into Disabled Person Grants for Council-owned property.

The Newcastle West District Office is also used for pre-tenancy training for new tenants, collection of keys and meetings with tenants on estate management issues. Housing application forms are also available from the Newcastle West Office. However, the current management arrangements which provide that housing assessments and allocations take place centrally is considered the most efficient and effective way of managing this part of the service.

Gordon Daly
Director of Services
Service Operations/Business Improvement Directorate

28th May, 2018.

Limerick City and County Council

COUNCIL MEETING TO BE HELD ON MONDAY 28TH MAY, 2018.

Notice of Motion submitted by Cmhlr. S. Ó Ceallaigh

I will move at the next Meeting that Comhairle Cathrach agus Contae Luimnigh hire a full-time Irish Language Officer in order to promote and develop an Ghaeilge in Limerick and to implement policies relating to an Ghaeilge.

Reply to Notice of Motion:

The Notice of Motion, if passed, is subject to an application to the Department of Housing, Planning and Local Government for sanction, to fill what would be considered, a newly created post in Limerick City & County Council.

Where sanction is received, the position will be considered as part of the annual budgetary review process.

Sean Coughlan
Director of Services
17th May, 2018.

COUNCIL MEETING TO BE HELD ON MONDAY 28th MAY 2018

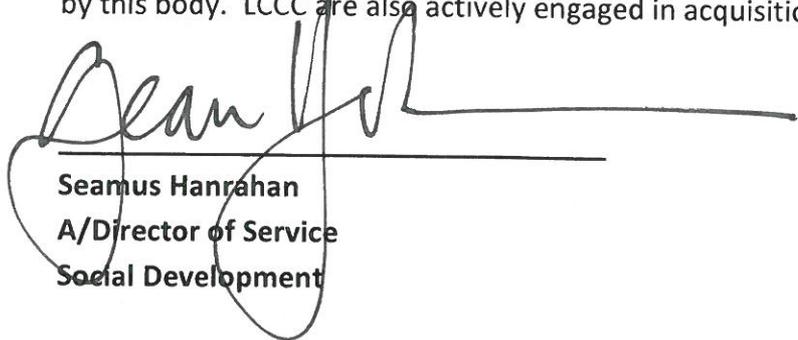
Notice of Motion submitted by Councillors N. Gleeson, M. Donegan, G. Mitchell, W. O'Donnell, E. Ryan, L.M. Sheehy and B. Teefy.

We will move at the next Meeting that, due to the lack of construction of Local Authority housing in the Municipal District of Cappamore-Kilmallock, we, the Elected Members, request that Limerick City and County Council should review all of its landbanks in the Municipal District with a view to providing the resources to construct Local Authority housing on this land.

Response to Notice of Motion

Limerick City and County Council have secured funding for the construction of Local Authority houses at Hospital and Knocklong in the Municipal District of Cappamore-Kilmallock. The Cappamore Housing Association, an Approved Housing Body, have also secured funding for a scheme in Cappamore.

Limerick City and County Council (LCCC) are reviewing all available LCCC owned land suitable for housing in Limerick including land in the Municipal District of Cappamore-Kilmallock. Funding will be sought from the Department of Housing, Planning and Local Government for the construction of Local Authority housing on suitable sites. Limerick City and County Council are also engaged with the Housing Agency in relation to sites owned or controlled by this body. LCCC are also actively engaged in acquisitions in this Municipal District.



Seamus Hanrahan
A/Director of Service
Social Development

25th May 2018