

17th July, 2018

To the Mayor and Each Member of Limerick City & County Council

Chairperson's Report for the Community, Leisure and Emergency Services Strategic Policy
Committee Meeting of the 18th June 2018.

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Summary Report Main Issues:

Three presentations, were made to the SPC members.

Item 1: Presentation on Civil Defence

The members received a presentation from both Mr. Josh Kirby, and Ms. Cecilia O'Flaherty, Civil Defence Officers, informing them on Limerick Civil Defence; its structure and development, range of services provided and supported, list of activities and events, details of volunteer training and range of equipment. The presentation was followed by a Q & A session.

Item 2: Presentation on Water Safety

The members received a presentation from Ms. Valerie Stundon, Water Safety Development Officer, informing them on Water Safety; outlining her role as Water Safety Development Officer in Limerick City and County Council, the Water Safety Team (Seasonal) employed, details of Water Safety Skills courses available in both primary and secondary schools and at various locations around Limerick City and County, the importance of Lifebuoys and its replacement programme and details of river rescues. The presentation was followed by a Q & A session.

A discussion was held on the fencing of lands around quarries. Following CPG review, it is recommended that this item be placed on next SPC Agenda for further discussion.

Item 3: Presentation on Development and Scope of Work in the Southill Area Centre

The members received a presentation from Ms. Jennifer O'Brien, Southill Area Centre Manager, informing them of the centre's vision for Southill, the opportunities it offers on Limerick's Southside as a facility and as a facilitator, offering space for groups and activities as well as supporting groups, running education programmes and creating links to generate positive outcomes over the past 10 years and for the future.

With the recently expanded café, new housing development, and 10th party relaunch proposed for September, the centre is looking forward to working with the Council and the community in the years ahead.

Item 4: Any Other Business

Cllr. M. Hurley extended her congratulations to the six new recruits who joined Limerick's Fire and Emergency Services recently.

The members supported, commended and acknowledged the tremendous work of all the Emergency Response Teams, deeming them to be, the unsung heroes of the community.

Mr. S. O'Connor advised members that a new Traveller Accommodation Plan process would be commencing shortly.

Recommendations:

It is recommended by the SPC members that Limerick City & County Council substantially increase the Water Safety budget for next year.

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Cllr. Marian Hurley
Chairperson
Community, Leisure and Emergency Services SPC.