

# CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPORT



Comhairle Cathrach  
& Contae **Luimnigh**

**Limerick City**  
& County Council

September 2018

## THIS MONTH:

**Launch of King's Island Conscious Cup Campaign**

**Adare wins Silver Medal for Limerick's Tidiest Town**

**Breastfeeding Friendly Limerick is launched**

**Limerick Smarter Travel runs Car Free Day**

**Troy Studios to become the largest International Standard Film and TV Studio in Ireland**

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## Empowering the Citizen

### 1. Community Support Services

#### Waiting List

Housing Waiting List	2,607
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#### Allocations

	Metropolitan District	Newcastle West	Adare – Rathkeale	Cappamore – Kilmallock	Total
No of Units September 2018	9	1	2	0	12
Year to Date	181	26	14	28	249

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

Individuals – 31 September 2018		
Location	Description	No.
McGarry House	Mixed low threshold accommodation for singles	30
St Patrick's Hostel	Higher threshold accommodation for single males	45
Thomond House	Higher threshold accommodation for single females	24
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	14
TEP 2 (Phoenix Lodge)	Low threshold, night by night (9pm-9am) emergency accommodation. Mixed	7
<b>Total</b>		<b>137</b>

Families - 31 September 2018			
Location	Description	No. Adults	No. Children
Suaimhneas	Family Emergency accommodation	6	8
		Families - 6	
B&B/Hotel Accommodation	Families	45	83
		Families - 34	
Twin Oaks Family Hub	Family Hub	16	22
		Families - 11	
<b>Totals</b>		<b>67</b>	<b>113</b>
		<b>Families - 51</b>	

### 2. HAP Shared Services

The Housing Assistance Payment (HAP) Scheme is a form of social housing support provided by all local authorities. Located in the Granary the HAP Shared Services Centre occupies two floors and specialises in a number of functions on behalf of the 31 Local Authorities including the Dublin Regional Homeless Executive in the delivery of the HAP Scheme nationally.

There were 40,837 active HAP tenancies at the end of September 2018. A weekly average of 352 HAP tenancies have been set-up during 2018.

The weekly tenant debit is just under €1.9 million. The September landlord payment run was just over €30 million.

### 3. Social Development

#### Environment Awareness

The King's Island Conscious Cup Campaign launched by the Mayor of the City and County of Limerick, Councillor James Collins on 4 September.

Preventing waste and litter is a key part of managing the impact of litter and waste in our environment. The King's Island Conscious Cup Campaign saw businesses on King's Island coming together to support the National Conscious Cup Campaign. The following businesses have registered with the national Conscious Cup Campaign and are offering a 20-cent discount on take out coffee for anyone who brings their own reusable cup. This will form a definite action for the City's 2019 Tidy Towns application.

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- Abbey Bridge Café
- Absolute Hotel
- Katie Daly's
- King John's Castle
- Limerick City and County Council (general public)
- The Locke
- Stix
- Nelly's Corner
- Tracey's
- St Mary's Community Café (offering a 5 cent discount)

Other Limerick businesses include:

- No. 1 Pery Square
- The Hunt Museum Café
- Chez Le Fab
- Creed's Shop in Elton
- All Butlers, Café Noirs, BBs, Applegreens, Starbucks, Insomnia Cafes
- The Green Onion

### National Tidy Towns Results 2018

- 55 communities across Limerick took part in the National Tidy Towns competition 2018.
- Adare is Limerick's Tidiest Town and received a silver medal with an increase of an excellent seven marks on last year with 328 marks (Listowel, the overall national winner, received 339 marks).
- Ardpatrick, Castleconnell, Galbally, Newcastle West and Limerick City Centre were awarded Bronze medals. This included a first time Bronze for Castleconnell and a 12-point increase for Limerick City to maintain a second Bronze.
- Garrienderk won an Endeavour Award for the area with the biggest percentage improvement over the previous year.

### Cemeteries

**Total No. of Burials in the City Graveyards: 39**

- Kilmurry: 1
- Castlemungret: 8
- Mount St. Oliver: 16
- Mount St. Lawrence: 14

### Domestic Waste Refuse Waiver Scheme

- Total number of waivers approved for Limerick City and County Council for September was 25 and 13 applications were refused.

### Healthy Limerick

We're Breastfeeding Friendly Limerick was launched on 26 September 2018.

Limerick City and County Council is leading this Healthy Ireland funded initiative - in partnership with Limerick Local Community Development Committee, (LCDC), Health Service Executive, Limerick Children and Young People's Services Committee (CYPSC), PAUL Partnership and West Limerick Resources - and is the first local authority in Ireland to do so.

### Platforms for Ageing Community Engagement – Exchange and Enterprise (PLACE-EE)

Four north Atlantic countries (Iceland, Ireland, Sweden and U.K.) are involved in a European research project titled PLACE-EE. Limerick hosted representatives from the other partner countries on 12 and 13 September. The partners viewed presentations regarding projects currently being undertaken in the City and County, including the Acorn Tablet for older people, Move4Life, "Shortening the Winter" campaign and Limerick Age Friendly Programme.

### Older People's Council

Mary Cronin, Chairperson of Limerick Older People's Council was elected National Chair of Older People's Councils of Ireland at a meeting in Dublin on 25 September. Mary will be Chair for a period of two years and will officially take office at the National Convention of Older People's Councils of Ireland in Wicklow in November.

### Launch of "Belonging to Limerick"

Friday 28 September saw the official launch of "Belonging to Limerick," the third integration strategy for Limerick and the first to be formally adopted by Council. Guest of honour was President of Ireland, Michael D. Higgins, who gave a keynote speech. Ms. Donnah Vuma addressed the attendees and spoke about her experience of "Belonging". The strategy was then launched by the Mayor of the City and County of Limerick, Councillor James Collins.



### 4. Customer Services

Housing maintenance requests, in particular for the Metropolitan area were formally integrated to Customer Services in June. A total of 1,415 cases were logged by our Customer Services teams in both Merchant's Quay and Dooradoyle supporting this front line service of the Council.

Customer Services handled and processed 82 Residential Parking Permits.

The call centre managed by the Customer Services Department received a total of 12,249 calls.

This works out at approximately 613 calls per day, with the average response time being 23 seconds for calls to be answered.

A total of 2,986 cases were logged, with the majority broken down as follows;

- Operations and Maintenance: 2,040
- Housing Support Services: 304
- Planning and Environmental Services: 212
- Customer Services: 119
- Veterinary: 68
- Design & Delivery: 86
- Urban & Village Renewal: 54

The total number of callers to our counters at Merchant's Quay and Dooradoyle was 2,250.

Customer Services managed the centralisation of incoming post for the organisation. Post addressed to Merchant's Quay, Lissanalta House and Dooradoyle is now received in Dooradoyle and opened and sorted by Customer Services staff.

All monies received are recorded and receipted daily. Facilities staff continue to work closely with Customer Services to ensure prompt and secure internal delivery of opened post.

Staff in Customer Services attended Service Design training. This training aims to take a service and through detailed analysis and consultation with all relevant parties including the customer, come up with a more efficient way of delivering that service.

### 5. Library Services

- In the Granary Library a workshop titled "Dogs Trust: Be Dog Smart" was held for new and expectant parents on 6 September as part of their Be Dog Smart nationwide programme giving new parents tips on how to help your dog and baby cohabit safely and harmoniously.
- The Granary Library facilitated a pain management workshop organised by "Chronic Pain Ireland" on 10 September.
- On 11 September the Granary Library hosted a café style conversation workshop for Palliative Care Week called "Palliative Care - Because every moment matters". This was organised by the Milford Care Centre for members of the public to learn about the services available to those with limiting conditions and the benefits gained by patients and their families. Healthcare Professionals attended to answer any queries.
- The Granary Library facilitated the "Breadwinner Storyboard Workshop" as part of the Limerick Elemental Festival on 15 September. This children's event was for those with an interest in movie making and animation. Storyboard artist Giovanna Ferrari, of Cartoon Saloon, delivered this hands-on, informative workshop.
- "The Breaking Rapids" by Joe Coleman was launched in the Granary Branch on 21 September, Culture Night. Limerick author Joe Coleman follows his bestselling "House Full" (History of Cinemas), "Falling Gradient" (A history of Limerick railways) with "The Breaking Rapids". This is an illustrated collection, full of local legends and heroes, saints and scholars, trials and tribulations, and tales of the normal and paranormal.
- The branch facilitated an information meeting on Fostering organised by FFI (Fostering First Ireland) on 26 September. A representative was available to answer any questions on the fostering process, the support available from FFI foster carers and a local fostering advisor. The meeting generated a lot of interest with the organisers delighted with the attendance on the day.
- Alliance Française de Limerick launched its first book, "Recueil de Nouvelles" a collection of short stories in the Granary on 28 September. The book is a compilation of original texts in French and in English written by Alliance students.

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- Friends of the Hunt Museum held an illustrated lunchtime lecture in the Granary entitled "Richard Thomas Moynan RHA, 1856 – 1906" on 25 September. Dr. Maebh O'Regan spoke of how Moynan, though known, primarily as one of the Irish Impressionist painters, was also influenced by education, family concerns, Freemasonry, unionism, and political issues.
- Kilmallock Library hosted Cruinniú 2018, the annual group exhibition during the months of July, August and September. This exhibition included paintings, sculpture, craft and fabric work, and ceramics.
- The monthly meeting of Little Readers workshop took place on 19 September in Kilmallock Library.
- Digital Skills classes in the Library continued in Kilmallock branch in partnership with Ballyhoura Development CLG. This month a further seven people took the initiative to delve into the digital world and learn how to navigate and operate in an online world using their own device.
- The Summer Stars Awards celebrations took place on 29 September in both Kilmallock and the Granary Libraries. Tommy the magician read from the hugely popular "The President's Glasses" in Kilmallock and Roisin Meaney presented the certificates and medals and entertained the children with wonderful story telling, rhymes and songs. Watch House Cross Library also rewarded their star readers with an award ceremony for 150 children on 22 September.
- Newcastle West Library hosted an exhibition titled "The Cool Vernacular" by Jim Furlong for the month of September. Jim is a Limerick based artist, who graduated from Limerick School of Art and Design in 2016 with a BA in Fine Art. He has held several solo exhibitions, in Clare, Kerry, Dublin and throughout Limerick.
- 'SMILE' (St Munchin's and Moyross Initiative for Learning and Education) held a training day for staff on 8 September at Watch House Cross Library. This project works with the DEIS schools in the north side of Limerick City and focuses primarily on encouraging those at risk of early school leaving to engage positively in education.
- "The Incredible Years" parent training intervention is a series of programmes focused on strengthening parenting competencies (monitoring, positive discipline, confidence) and fostering parents' involvement in children's school experiences in order to promote children's academic, social and

emotional competencies and reduce conduct problems. A two day training programme for their staff was held in the Watch House Cross Library on 11 and 12 September.

- Watch House Cross Library Adult Book Clubs have commenced for the new season while the children's book club, which is aimed at nine to twelve year olds, has four newcomers.
- The parent and toddler group meets in the Watch House Cross Library every Friday from 10.30am to 12pm, tea and coffee is served and the parents, grandparents and carers enjoy singing nursery rhymes, and listening to stories.

## 6. Limerick Culture and Arts Office Strategic Developments and Supports

### Cultural Strategic Policy Committee

The Cultural Strategic Policy Committee met on 3 September. The committee considered the new open call for Individual Arts Bursaries, the draft Framework Agreement between the Arts Council and Limerick City and County Council, considered the report on the evaluation of the recent Artists in Schools Programme, considered preparing a draft strategy on Festivals and Events for Limerick City and County Council.

Following the meeting, the following reports will be published:

- The Evaluation of Artist in Schools Programme 2017/2018.
- The Evaluation of Festival and Events Professional Development Training Scheme 2018.

### Letters of support from Limerick City and County Council Strategic Fund

The Limerick City and County Council Strategic Fund for Arts and Culture was developed by Limerick City and County Council to allow cultural, arts organisations and practitioners to bid for funding for ambitious, high potential projects with an aim to leverage funding from other sources. In September, Limerick Culture and Arts Department provided 12 letters of support to the recent open call for Strategic Funding from The Arts Council of Ireland.

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### Social Impact Assessment – Pilot Project

The Arts Council have initiated a pilot study to deliver a social impact assessment model to build a new framework for assessing the social impact of investment of the arts at local level, as a priority of the Arts Council's strategy, Making Great Art Work: Three Year Plan. Three local authority arts offices will be part of the pilot, Limerick, Carlow and Leitrim. The first meeting to set the terms of reference around the pilot project took place in September.

### The Arts Council Strategic Actions Update Form

A Strategic Actions Update Form was submitted to the Arts Council in September. This form outlines the potential four shared strategic actions Limerick City and County Council and the Arts Council are working to deliver:

- Strategic Action 1 : Supporting Artists and Key Strategic Organisations.
- Strategic Action 2 : Rural Arts and Excellence.
- Strategic Action 3 : Young People, Children and Education.
- Strategic Action : 4 Festivals and Events.

### UL Hospitals Group Arts Committee

Limerick Culture and Arts Department are working with UL Hospitals Group Arts Committee, to establish common areas of interest and possible collaborations.

### Open Calls to support artists and creatives in Limerick

#### The Individual Arts Bursaries Awards Scheme

This new Scheme was approved by the Cultural Strategic Policy Committee on 3 September on the basis that the individual Bursaries be open across all discipline. Bursaries Information Clinics took place at Culture House, 2 Pery Square on 27 and 28 September.

#### International Mobility Award

This was the second round of the Awards, with continued support for creatives in Limerick to encourage international mobility and opportunities for Limerick artists. Following the deadline on 28 August these awards are being processed.

### Emerging Writer Mentoring Opportunity

In partnership with Words Ireland, a Mentoring Opportunity for an emerging writer living in Limerick was offered. This mentoring opportunity will allow a writer to receive mentoring from a professional writer. Words Ireland administer and assess the open call. We are delighted to announce that the Poet Breda Spaight is the successful recipient of the Award for 2018-2019.

### Creative Ireland

On 12 September, An Taoiseach Leo Varadkar launched the Culture and Creative Strategies 2018-2022 for each local authority in Ireland, including Limerick. This ambitious and innovative five year strategy has been developed by the Limerick Culture Team, aligning culture-related strategic priorities of the Limerick City and County Council Departments that are currently involved in the provision of creative services or use creative tools as means of engaging and activating citizens. The Strategy aims to provide meaningful opportunities for citizens and local communities, together with our Local Authority, to nurture, sustain and facilitate participation in cultural and creative activities, and it has six strategic priorities:

1. Future Creator: Children and young people;
2. Creative Minds: Nurturing and supporting artists and other creators;
3. Creative Springboard: Fostering creative and cultural innovation;
4. People, Places, Networks: Enhancing our local cultural and creative infrastructure;
5. Creative Screens: Focus on film and coding;
6. Creative Citizens: People creating and accessing culture on their doorstep.

### Partnership with Limerick and Clare Educational and Training Board (LCETB) on Local Creative Youth Partnership (LCYP) Application

Limerick and Clare Educational and Training Board (LCETB) convened a workshop on 14 September, with relevant stakeholders and partners in the region, to discuss initiatives and share ideas for collaboration going forward. Based on the findings at the workshop and subsequent meetings, an application for funding to Creative Ireland for a LCYP was made for the deadline of 21 September 2018. Three ETB's will be selected nationally to deliver the pilot of Local Creative Youth Partnerships in 2019.

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### Projects delivered from 'Made in Limerick' Open Call Grants Scheme under Creative Ireland

#### **Kilfinane Arts: Our Traditions, Our Links with Nature**

Commencing in September 2018, Our traditions, Our Links with Nature is a community sculpture project run by Kilfinane Arts under the guidance of basketry artist Hanna van Aelst. This project includes a series of workshops over two months, culminating in a local three-day pop-up exhibition. The workshops are open to all and aim to strengthen community interactions by bringing people together in new ways and stimulating new conversations. It is capacity building, helping individuals develop as artists and makers and helping to group to collaborate on creative projects. It aims to renew and invigorate the local sense of cultural identity.

#### **Limerick Printmakers: Print-spiration**

Commencing in September 2018, Print-spiration project focuses on imparting printmaking skills to young adults aged 13 – 17 years and will culminate in each participant completing print artworks that will be exhibited both in their own locality and as part of group exhibition in Limerick City, as well as with a partner organisation in Georgia, USA. Limerick Printmakers will collaborate with two organisations on this project: Limerick Youth Service and Moyross Youth Academy.

#### **Narrative 4: Creative Pool**

Commencing in September 2018, Creative Pool is working to create, train and support a pool of ten Limerick based creative producers in the Narrative 4 methodology of story exchanges. Narrative 4 Limerick works to equip young people to use their stories to build empathy, shatter stereotypes, break down barriers and ultimately make the world a better place.

### Limerick Culture and Arts Office Programme Delivery

#### **Castleconnell Autumn Concerts Series**

Presented by RTE Lyric FM's Liz Nolan, the second of this year's programme took place on 25 September. Victoria Massey, one of Ireland's leading mezzo soprano voices, sang a programme of operatic arias. She was accompanied by Padhraic O'Cuinneagáin on Piano at All Saint's Church in Castleconnell. This programme brings national and international performers to Castleconnell, providing a high quality music programme to audiences in the region.

### Culture Night/Oíche Chultúir

Culture Night Limerick happens because many people share a vision and enthusiasm for enjoying, celebrating and promoting creativity and culture. This year on 21 September, a wide range of artists, cultural organisations, institutions and community groups were involved in delivering an exceptional programme of events. This year we also had a record number of volunteers recruited under the Cultural Civic Engagement Programme. This programme seeks to actively target at risk groups, new Irish and those living in regeneration areas as part of a programme of inclusion encouraging citizens to actively participate in the cultural life of Limerick through the Culture and Arts Department annual festivals programme. Limerick embraced this year's programme of activity with great enthusiasm. The following numbers illustrate that enthusiasm in terms of audience, locations and events:

- Total Audience: 21,600.
- Total Number of locations: 84 (City – 67 locations: County - 17 locations).
- Total no. of events: 99.

We had a very successful Twitter campaign and our Tweets for September 2018 earned 71.7K impressions.

- 21 September - 13,770 organic impressions.
- 22 September - 6,805 organic impressions.

The days following Culture Night saw a spike in Twitter impressions 3,000 – 4,000 impressions for some post-event Culture Night tweets.

### Sliabh Luchra Musician in Residence appointed

Eoin O'Sullivan has been appointed as Musician in residence and is just beginning work on this residency programme for the Sliabh Luachra area. Over the next 12 months Eoin will be working with children in schools in Sliabh Luachra promoting awareness of the region's vast musical heritage. Eoin will also engage with music festivals, music, singing and set dance groups, local musicians and music teachers to help promote the excellent work that is being done by these groups. The Sliabh Luachra Traditional Musician in Residence is a partnership between Limerick City and County Council and Cork and Kerry County Council's, the Irish traditional Music Archive and is supported by the Arts Council.

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### County Limerick Youth Theatre

The County Limerick Youth Theatre have a new home for the year ahead in The Honey Fitz Theatre, Lough Gur. Taster workshops with pupils in schools, Theatre in Education workshops, Irish Wheelchair Association participants and Youth Members have all taken place. Two youth theatre participants attended Dublin for National Youth Theatre audition call backs. The County Limerick Youth Theatre was selected for participation in the BNest Social Entrepreneur programme, Nexus Innovation Centre, University of Limerick.

### The Limerick Youth Choir

Auditions took place for members for the 2018-2019 season. This choir comprises young people between the ages 17 and 28 and is a mixed voice choir of Soprano, Alto, Tenor and Bass. The repertoire studied covers many different genres and eras, from Renaissance and classical to pop and contemporary. The goal of this choir is to perform good choral music to a high standard. Rehearsals take place weekly from September to May.

### Festivals in September Funded by Limerick City and County Council

- Pigtown Limerick : Culture and Food Series
- Hospital Arts and Culture Festival
- Festival of Ardagh Chalice 150
- Limerick Jazz Festival

### Capital Developments

#### Capital Works Programme - Dance Limerick Refurbishment

A site visit to inspect the refurbishment work carried out at Dance Limerick in John's Square, (which is in the long-term custodianship of Limerick City and County Council) took place. These works focus on the thermal performance of the building fabric allowing audiences and artists to enjoy seeing work in a warm venue. This work was joint funded by Limerick City and County Council and The Department of Culture Heritage and the Gaeltacht, Arts and Culture Capital Scheme 2016, Stream 1.

## 7. Limerick Museum

- Limerick Museum received 2,123 visitors in September 2018.
- Dimensions, a contemporary art exhibition by Limerick artist Cindy Fogarty opened in the Museum on 20 September. Cindy Fogarty is a BA Honours Fine Art Painting graduate of Limerick School of Art and Design who currently lives and works in her native Limerick city. Working predominately through the medium of paint, her practice examines our neurological digestion of information in our quickly evolving society, how we respond to it, and how it can mould our ways of thinking. The exhibition continues until 15 October.
- Limerick Museum has lent some objects to Ormston House for an exhibition entitled Museum of Mythological Water Beasts.
- Limerick Museum opened an extra three hours on Culture Night 21 September from 5pm to 8pm during which 350 visitors were received. John Elliott gave a guided tour of the Museum, attended by over 100 visitors.
- Friends of Limerick Lace Group held a meeting in the Museum on 13 September.

## 8. Limerick City Gallery of Art (LCGA)

- Crossing the Salt by Gabhann Dunne, Art Forms in Nature by Karl Blossfeldt, a Hayward Gallery Touring Exhibition from Southbank Centre, London, Florilegium A Gathering of Flowers by Naomin Draper and Rachel Myles, Imni which received the LCGA/LSAD Graduate Prize award for 2017 and a selections of works from the Permanent Collection finished on 3 September. Total number of visitors for duration of the four exhibitions was 8,133.
- Launch of the Exhibitions, Maud Cotter, a consequence of without stilling and Anita Groener, The Past is a Foreign Country, and selected works from the Permanent Collection. The official opening on 29 September by Mary McCarthy, Director of the Crawford Art Gallery, with an Artist's Talk prior to the launch with an attendance of around 350 people.
- Works from The Permanent Collection including works by local artists, Tom Fitzgerald, Don MacGabhann and recent donations from the Rodgers family in memory of their parents hang alongside The Mushroom Book.





- The exhibition, HEADLAND, by Elizabeth Magill concluded its run in the Ulster Museum, Belfast in September.
- LCGA's visitor attendance was 5,814. Visitor numbers reflect that we were changing over exhibitions and some initial building works commenced.
- Application and submission of LCGA's application to the Arts Council for Strategic Funding Grant, 2019 was submitted on 6 September.
- LCGA will store the ceramics collection owned by The Hunt Museum while they undergo building works. It is planned to exhibit these works alongside ceramics from the Permanent Collection in early 2019.
- Ongoing loan to the Crawford Art Gallery, Cork of the painting by Maurice MacGonigal, A Dublin Studio, from the Permanent Collection featured in the exhibition Naked Truth: The Nude by Irish Artists.
- Loan of two Mary Swanzy artworks to the Irish Museum of Modern Art, IMMA for a forthcoming retrospective exhibition by Mary Swanzy, exhibition touring in 2019 and will be exhibited at LCGA in the Summer of 2019.
- LCGA's continue its support for workshops by Limerick Art Society held in HUB space.
- Ongoing plans for exhibition in 2019, discussion with artists and galleries.
- Continued meetings and plans for essential Fire and Safety upgrade work to LCGA with the new boiler upgrade works started and continued plans for the scheduled works being carried out over the coming months. Funding provided by Department of Arts grant that has been matched by Limerick City and County Council. It will be necessary to raise further monies to complete the other works that have been identified as necessary to bring the building up to acceptable international standards.

## 9. Planning and Environment

### Litter/Waste Enforcement

- 150 complaints were received.
- 188 inspections were undertaken.
- 25 on the spot litter fines were issued.
- Legal proceedings were issued in three cases under the Waste Management Act.
- Legal proceedings were issued in two cases under the Litter Pollution Act.
- 15 warning letters were issued in relation to environmental issues.
- Five Notices were served under Section 18 of the Waste Management Act.
- One Statutory Notice was served under Section 71 of the Waste Management Act.
- One Statutory Notice was served under Section 55 of the Waste Management Act.
- Four Directions were served under the Waste Management Act.
- 68 cases were closed / resolved / completed.

### Air Noise and Water Pollution.

- 27 complaints were received.
- 29 inspections were undertaken.
- One Notice was served under Section 23 of the Water Pollution Acts 1977 – 2007.
- One Notice was served under Section 26(1) of the Air Pollution Act 1987.
- Two Notices were served under Section 107 of the Environmental Protection Agency Act, 1992.
- One Notice was served under Section 110 of the Public Health (Ireland) Act 1878.

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**10. Fire and Emergency Services**

**Statistics**

	Fire Related Calls	Non Fire Related Calls	Total
No. of call outs 1/09/18 – 30/09/18	64	72	136
% of calls where on scene in < 10 mins from time of call	75%	66%	
% of calls where on scene between 11 and 20 mins from time of call	18%	29%	
% of calls where on scene in > 20 mins from time of call	7%	5%	

	Received / Assigned	Validated	Invalidated / Refused	Granted	Completed
Fire Certificate Applications September	17	14	3	12	
Disability Access Cert Applications September	11	9	2	7	
Licensing Applications September	21	21			
Commencement Notice September	42	34			
Completion Certificate September	15	15			
Sugar CRM Cases September	5				2

**Civil Defence attendance at Events for the month**

- Glin Sprint Triathlon
- Milford Hospice Harvest Fair University of Limerick
- HSE Mid West Staff & Family day University of Limerick
- CARI ( Children At Risk In Ireland) Family Fun Day University of Limerick
- Company Relay Marathon Challenge University of Limerick

**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 September
No. of call outs 01/09/18 – 30/09/18	815	1293	71	2108

**11. Access to Information**

	September	2018 (Jan to Sept.)
Total Freedom of Information Requests	15	172
FOI Internal Appeals	2	7
Information Commissioner Appeals	-	-
Total Ombudsman Requests	3	21
Total AIE Requests	-	5

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### 12. Local Enterprise Office (LEO)

#### Training for small business

- Social Media Boot camp commenced on 3 September.
- Beyond Local Event was held on 4 September in conjunction with Local Enterprise Office (LEO) Clare, which highlighted opportunities in key overseas markets.
- One day Start Your Own Business Course took place on the 5 September.
- One day Google Analytics Course took place on 5 September.
- Trading On-Line Seminar took place on 6 September.
- Facebook Advanced for Business Course took place on 12 September.
- Six week Start Your Own Business Course commenced on 13 September.
- Six month LEAN for Business Programme commenced on 17 September.
- 12 Week Management Development Programme commencing on 18 September.

The Student Enterprise Programme 2018/19 was officially launched on the 26 September at Thomond Park.

General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) Information Seminar took place on 27 September 2018 with 25 participants.

### 13. Veterinary Services

- 20 stray or wandering horses were impounded.
- The Dog Control Unit dealt with 25 dogs.
- 37 food samples were submitted for analysis under the National Residues and Microbiological Sampling Programme.
- The Dog Licence Awareness Campaign continued to be implemented by the Dog Wardens.

### 14. Derelict Sites and Vacant Homes/Properties

- 64 inspections were carried out.
- Eight UVRD information notices.

- 14 Statutory Notices were issued under the Derelict Sites Act.
- Nine cases were closed through engagement.
- Two properties entered onto the Derelict Sites Register.
- 13 properties put forward for Buy & Renew.
- Three vacant homes identified through survey.
- Three owners identified for vacant properties.

### 15. Smarter Travel

As part of European Mobility Week, Limerick Smarter Travel (LST) ran a Car Free Day on 22 September. O'Connell Street was closed off to vehicular traffic excluding buses and the street was handed over to a host of activities and displays. The theme of this year's Mobility Week was multi-modality and people were encouraged to come to town using sustainable modes.

Joining LST in tents set up along the street were; the Mague River Trust providing awareness and information on the river and biodiversity; Limerick Environment awareness with information on recycling and composting; An Taisce Green Schools and Limerick Sports Partnership advocating the benefits of physical activity through games; Spin South West broadcasting from the street; Design and Delivery were on hand with drawings for the proposed O'Connell Street revitalisation and engaged with the public on their plans; the Hub were there with a selection of bikes and information on the Bike to Work Scheme; An Garda Síochána were providing cycle safety tips, bike registration information and details on locking bikes; and the RSA brought their Roll Over Car to simulate what it would feel like in the event of a crash.

Bus Éireann partnered with LST for the day showcasing their new double decker bus and provided free Leap Cards to those on the street. In addition to this they ran free half hourly guided tours along the banks of the river where people got an opportunity to hear about the benefits of public transport as well as learning some local facts.

The event was picked up on in all of the local media outlets and public feedback was predominantly positive. <https://www.limerickpost.ie/2018/09/27/editorial-leave-the-car/>

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPORT**



**Economic Development and Planning**

**1. Planning Applications**

A total of 75 new planning applications were received as follows:

Domestic Developments	55
Agricultural Developments	3
Commercial Developments/Change of Use	7
Other Developments	10

The current applications include proposals for:

- Extension comprising the construction of an extended production hall with mezzanine plant space overhead at Johnson & Johnson Vision Care, National Technology Park, Plassey.

**2. Investment**

- Investment group ICAV announced a potential €90 million development on the Horizon Mall Site on the Dublin Road, which will include a 300 bedroom hotel, a budget hotel, apartment housing 190 residents, offices and a filling station. 150 permanent jobs will be created between the two hotels, the offices and the proposed filling station. A start date of early 2020 is proposed for the project, with hundreds of jobs to be created during construction.
- Eurocar and GoCar, which provide a high quality car and van rental service, opened a new corporate office on the Dock Road, Limerick with the creation of 15 jobs.
- DesignPro Robotics, a provider of precision automation and machine-build services, has announced that it will create 30 new jobs at its hub in Rathkeale, Co Limerick.
- Matilda's Planet, a social enterprise which provides internal insulation has opened its first Irish outlet in Limerick. When fully operational, the factory will employ 30 staff directly and indirectly.
- A total of 38 jobs were announced by LEO supported companies Celignis Ltd, Black Bear Software and ABS Engineering Control Systems.

- Troy Studios announced plans to increase its sound stage space to 100,000 square feet with the addition of a fourth sound stage (33,000 sq. ft) within its existing site. Up to 150 jobs will be created during the construction phase alone. It will position Troy as the largest international standard film and TV studio in Ireland with the potential to double the level of inward production and jobs. It was also announced that Troy Studios, in collaboration with the University of Limerick, is in the process of extending the current Executive MBA offering to include a special focus on the business of content production, which will be the first MBA of its kind in Europe.

**3. Marketing and Communications**

- Ran organic and paid social media campaign for Retained Firefighters recruitment.
- Continued Limerick Student City #FeelTheCity marketing campaign to encourage third level students to explore Limerick – bus stop adverts installed at key locations near college campuses; on campus digital screen adverts and posterage; social media campaign launched; engaged with third level institutions to conduct 'student takeovers', blogs, sharing social posts.
- Commenced marketing campaign for Limerick October Bank Holiday Weekend 2018.
- Secured feature adverts in Tourism Ireland Magazine 2019 for circulation in five key international markets – USA, Great Britain, Germany, France and Spain.
- Commissioned logo for advance promotion of Limerick International Band Championship 50th anniversary in 2020.
- Feature September What's On advert for social and digital media marketing.
- Engaged with Sportsfile for the sponsorship and production of an official publication celebrating Limerick's Senior Hurlers All-Ireland victory.
- Supplied welcome packs to Chinese journalists and photographers visiting Limerick on a Tourism Ireland familiarisation trip (potential reach of 800 million people on social media).

## CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPORT



Comhairle Cathrach  
& Contae **Luimnigh**

**Limerick City**  
& County Council

- Engaged with comedian, TV and radio personality Bernard O'Shea on his recent visit to Limerick and secured a mention on RTE 2FM's Breakfast Republic.
- Provided Limerick.ie marketing materials for LGMA stand at the National Ploughing Championships 18-21 September.
- Produced five Limerick.ie e-newsletters.
- Monthly Limerick.ie Business Bulletin e-newsletter issued.

### Social Media

- Posted 37 times on Limerick.ie's Facebook with total page likes now 21,256. Posts reached 277,060 users with 22,544 engagements.
- Tweeted 28 times on Limerick.ie's Twitter, @limerick\_ie, with total followers now 14,897. Our tweets earned 86,900 impressions (no. of times users saw our tweet).
- Posted 11 times on Limerick.ie's Instagram and created three Stories, with total followers now 4,608.
- Tweeted seven times on Limerick Marketing's Twitter, @limkmarketing, with total followers now 2,399. Our tweets earned 16,500 impressions (no. of times users saw our tweet).
- Posted nine times on Limerick City and County Council's LinkedIn with total followers now 1,525.

### Limerick.ie

- A total of 124,942 people visited the Limerick.ie website in September 2018 – a 51% on the same period in 2017.

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

1. [www.limerick.ie](http://www.limerick.ie)
2. [www.limerick.ie/council/services/planning-and-property/apply-or-search-planning-application/search-planning](http://www.limerick.ie/council/services/planning-and-property/apply-or-search-planning-application/search-planning)
3. [www.limerick.ie/council](http://www.limerick.ie/council)
4. [www.limerick.ie/discover/whats-on/festivals/culture-night-2018](http://www.limerick.ie/discover/whats-on/festivals/culture-night-2018)
5. [www.limerick.ie/discover/whats-on/browse](http://www.limerick.ie/discover/whats-on/browse)

## 4. Housing Capital

- Part 8 Planning Permission was granted for the following:
  - Housing Development at Lower Carey's Road consisting of 11 units.
  - Housing Development at Kileely Road, Thomondgate consisting of five units.
  - Housing Development at Clonmacken, Condell Road consisting of 43 units.
  - Housing Development at Sycamore Avenue, Rathbane consisting of 43 units.
  - Development of a Play Area and Outdoor Gym at Verdant Place, St. Mary's Park, King's Island.
- Funding continues for the renovation of 70 void properties across Limerick.
- Contract started for the construction of seven houses at Kilmurry Court, Garryowen.

## 5. Design & Delivery

### Capital Works

Brian Conneely & Co., Ltd., has been appointed to carry out road construction works at Baunacloka, Mungret. The project involves the construction of approximately 300 meters of new roadway at a junction with the existing R510 Regional Road. The completion of the road will facilitate the construction of a mixed-use development, consisting of 201 number dwellings units and will open up adjoining lands for further development.

## 6. Water Services

### Capital Works

- Lead replacement works progressing in Garryowen Villas.
- Watermain rehabilitation completed in Rosbrien and progressing in Pallaskerry and Hospital.
- Works commenced on upgrade to Athea wastewater treatment plant.
- Works commenced on upgrade to electrical panels in Castletroy wastewater treatment plant.
- Limerick City Sewer rehabilitation works progressing on Catherine Street and O'Connell Street.



## 7. Forward Planning

- Twelve funding applications were made for strategic projects, within Limerick City and Suburbs by Limerick City and County Council under the Urban Regeneration and Development Fund.
- A submission was made to the Department of Housing, Planning and Local Government on the draft consultation document "Urban Development and Building Height Guidelines for Planning Authorities".
- Following consideration of the Chief Executives report and Castletroy Draft Local Area Plan at the Metropolitan District meeting material alterations were placed on public display for a period of four weeks.
- The Castleconnell Local Area Plan was extended for a period of five years at the Metropolitan District meeting.
- An amendment to the Adare Local Area Plan was prepared and placed on public display for a period of six weeks.

## 8. Physical Development

### Changes to Parking Fees for Electric Vehicles

Limerick City and County Council's Parking Bye-Laws have been amended in accordance with the Road Traffic Act, 1994 and the Local Government Act, 2001 to provide free parking for electric vehicles for a maximum period of four hours while such vehicles are recharging in "electrically powered vehicle recharging bays".

This parking waiver for electric vehicles came into operation on 1 September 2018.

Copies of Limerick City and County Council's Parking Bye-Laws are available on [www.Limerick.ie](http://www.Limerick.ie)

## Organisational Development

### 1. Communications

- Issued 23 news releases from the Office of Marketing and Communications.
- Produced and distributed the monthly Council Connect staff e-newsletter.
- Tweeted 133 times on Limerick City and County Council's Twitter account, @limerickcouncil, with total fans now 11,113. Our tweets earned over 212,700 impressions (no. of times users saw our tweet).

### 2 Digital Strategy

- Limerick Digital Strategy held the Smart Limerick Launch event in the Strand Hotel on 10 September. Members of Digital Strategy presented on what the strategy means for Limerick and displayed some current examples of digital transformation in Limerick City and County Council. The Mayor of the City and County of Limerick, Councillor James Collins and Minister of State Patrick O'Donovan TD spoke about public service transformation and the importance of having a digital strategy in both the local and national contexts, while the Chief Executive also spoke on how the use of digital technologies is accelerating the Limerick 2030 transformation efforts.
- Digital Strategy attended national AISCF conference in Croke Park on 26 September whose theme was "Shaping Smart Cities and Region: Real World Opportunities and Challenges". Digital Strategy made a presentation on the topic of "Harnessing European Opportunities – Becoming a 'Lighthouse' for Smart Cities".
- Also on 26 September Limerick City and County Council had a stand at the Department of Public Expenditure and Reform's annual conference on Public Service Innovation and Development in Dublin Castle. Members of the Digital Strategy department briefed Minister Paschal Donoghue TD on the new Smart Limerick initiative, while Limerick was specifically mentioned in the Minister's opening address as an example of how technology-based solutions make the citizens' engagement with core public services easier and more integrated.



### 3. Schedule of Meetings

Name of Meeting	Date	Location
<b>Full Council</b>		
Special Meeting to consider the nomination of a candidate for the Presidential Election 2018.	18.09.2018	Dooradoyle
Meeting of Limerick City and County Council	24.09.2018	Dooradoyle
<b>Operational Briefings</b>		
Limerick City East	04.09.2018	Merchant's Quay
Limerick City North	04.09.2018	Merchant's Quay
Limerick City West	04.09.2018	Merchant's Quay
<b>Metropolitan District of Limerick</b>		
Monthly Meeting	17.09.2018	Merchant's Quay
Adjourned Meeting	20.09.2018	Merchant's Quay
<b>Municipal District of:</b>		
(a) Special Meeting to discuss the future of Kilsconnell Graveyard	03.09.2018	Rathkeale
Adare-Rathkeale: Monthly Meeting	11.09.2018	Rathkeale
(b) Newcastle West: Monthly Meeting	05.09.2018	Newcastle West
(c) Cappamore-Kilmallock: Monthly Meeting	20.09.2018	Kilmallock
Special Meeting related to the Part 8 Approval for a roundabout at O'Rourkes Cross	26.09.2018	Kilmallock
<b>Strategic Policy Committee Meetings</b>		
Cultural	03.09.2018	Dooradoyle
Local Community Development Committee	04.09.2018	Merchant's Quay
Audit Committee	11.09.2018	Dooradoyle
Corporate Policy Group	17.09.2018	Merchant's Quay
<b>Joint-Policing Sub Committee Meeting</b>		
Cappamore-Kilmallock Municipal District	20.09.2018	Kilmallock
Joint Policing Committee	21.09.2018	Merchant's Quay
Party Leaders' Meeting	21.09.2018	Merchant's Quay
Protocol Committee	21.09.2018	Merchant's Quay

### 4 Training Fire and Emergency Services

- Four officers completed a NDFEM Ship and Ports course in Dublin.
- 12 Retained fire fighters completed Chainsaw refresher training.
- Cardiac First Responder Advanced courses on going in all Retained Fire Stations.
- Bronto Operator courses commenced in both Rathkeale and Limerick City.
- On Station Training on-going in all stations.
- Three retained recruits completed an initial Breathing Apparatus course in Athlone.

# CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPORT



Comhairle Cathrach  
& Contae **Luimnigh**

**Limerick City**  
& County Council

## Financial Matters

### 1. Home Improvement Schemes

SEPTEMBER 2018	MAGS (Mobility Adaptation Grant Scheme)	No.	HAG (Housing Adaptation Grant Scheme)	No.	HOPS (Housing Aid for Older Persons Grant Scheme)	No.
Kilmallock	€5,400.00	1	€0.00	0	€6,376.25	2
Metropolitan	€73,093.13	4	€87,270.80	9	€56,845.77	13
Newcastle West	€16,800.00	16	€47,488.23	3	€1,045.00	1
Rathkeale	€5,400.00	1	€27,715.55	2	€0.00	0
	<b>€100,693.13</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>€162,474.58</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>€64,267.02</b>	<b>16</b>

Total Monies issued in September 2018 = €327,434.73

Total Grants issued in September 2018 = 52

JANUARY TO SEPTEMBER 2018	MAGS (Mobility Adaptation Grant Scheme)	No.	HAG (Housing Adaptation Grant Scheme)	No.	HOPS (Housing Aid for Older Persons Grant Scheme)	No.
Kilmallock	€59,029.91	12	€170,412.51	12	€87,034.99	20
Metropolitan	€262,055.33	58	€575,493.81	55	€206,179.56	48
Newcastle West	€87,528.48	20	€121,199.01	15	€152,024.39	30
Rathkeale	€39,095.03	9	€48,089.05	5	€34,248.73	9
	<b>€447,708.75</b>	<b>99</b>	<b>€915,194.38</b>	<b>87</b>	<b>€479,487.67</b>	<b>107</b>

Total Monies issued January to September 2018 = €1,842,390.80

Total Grants issued January to September 2018 = 293

### 2. Rent Collection

Opening Balance @ 01/01/2018	Accrued Income	Total for collection	Receipts	Closing balance 30/09/2018	% Collection
€2,589,197	€11,271,142	€13,860,339	€10,633,231	€3,227,108	77%

### 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 30th September 2018	14,501,047	53,995,917 *	446,481	1,377,341	66,673,142	43,530,122	23,143,020	2,647,551	68%

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

Debtors Loans	Opening Balance 1 Jan €	Accruals €	Writes offs/ Waivers €	To Collect €	Receipts €	Arrears €	% Collection
As at 30th September 2018	461,159	1,005,163	1,624	1,464,698	1,117,104	347,594	76%

#### Recourse to Overdraft Facility

No of days in overdraft 0



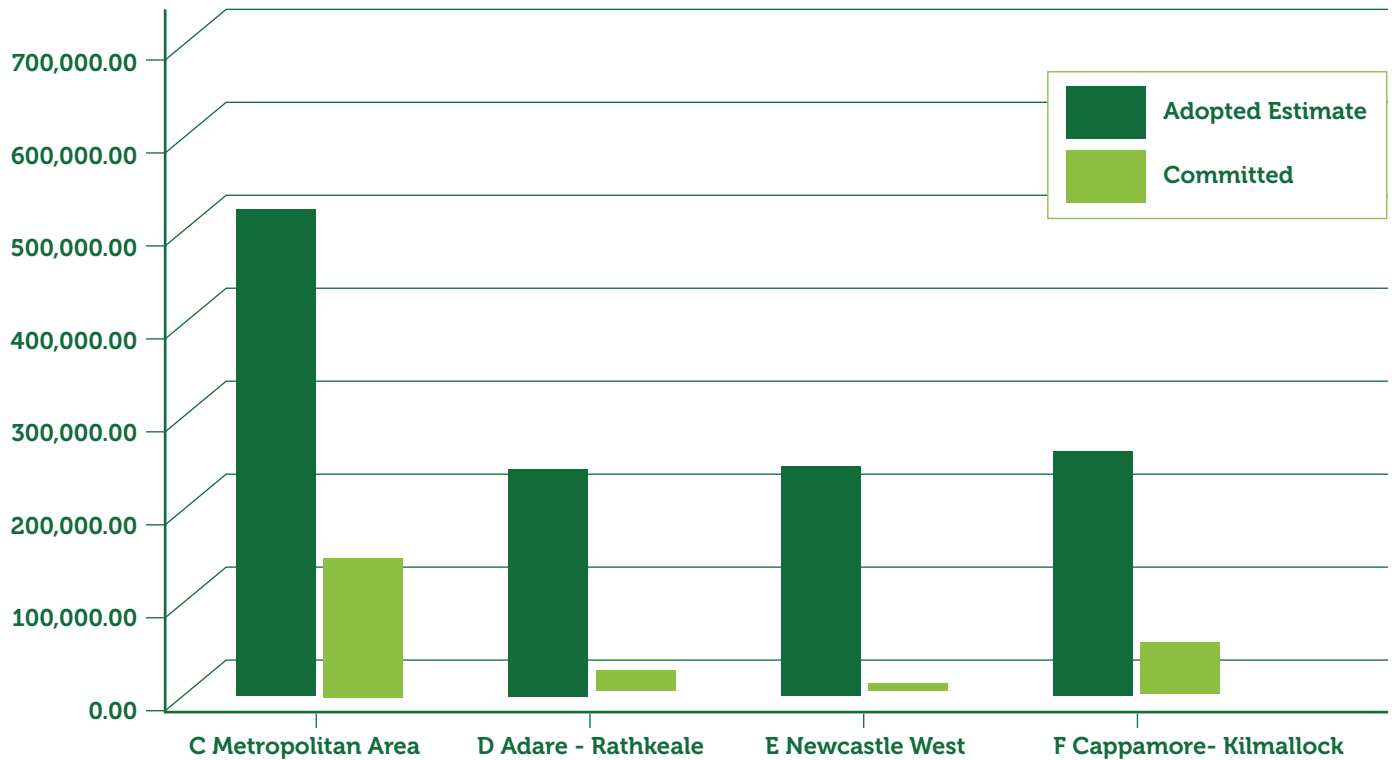
**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPORT**



**4. General Municipal Allocation 2018**

Adopted Estimate €1.203 Million

Graph outlining adopted budget and committed expenditure up to 30th September 2018



Municipal (Code) + (Text)	Value Adopted Estimate	Value Committed
C Metropolitan Area	503,000.00	127,386
D Adare - Rathkeale	225,000.00	24,359
E Newcastle West	225,000.00	16,288
F Cappamore - Kilmallock	250,000.00	48,408