



Comhairle Cathrach  
& Contae **Luimnigh**

**Limerick City**  
& County Council

Stiúrthóireacht na Forbartha Tithíochta  
Comhairle Cathrach agus Contae Luimnigh  
Ceanncheathrú Chorporáideach  
Cé na gCeannaithe  
Luimneach

Housing Development Directorate  
Limerick City and County Council  
Corporate Headquarters  
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12<sup>th</sup> November 2018

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

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Chairperson's Report for the **Home and Social Development Strategic Policy Committee Meeting of the 22<sup>nd</sup> October 2018.**

**A Chomhairleoir, a chara,**

**Summary Report/Main Issues:**

**Item 3: Update on the outcome of the Housing Workshop held on the 17th October 2018:**

A report of the discussions and recommendations from the workshop held on the 17<sup>th</sup> October 2018 was circulated. The Director of Services also presented a summary of the main issues covered by the workshop as follows:

**Planned Maintenance Programme:**

It is proposed that Limerick City and County Council will borrow €15 million to carry out a Planned Maintenance Programme.

<b>Issue</b>	<b>Recommendation:</b>
Do you agree with the introduction of a planned maintenance programme to run in parallel with a response maintenance programme?	This was endorsed by the workshop
Which areas should be prioritised?	Areas in both City and County should be prioritised based on the works needed, by BER rating and by occupancy type
What level of works should be undertaken as part of the programme?	Prioritise works to dwelling by Health and Safety Requirements

**Single Differential Rent Scheme:**

<b>Issue</b>	<b>Recommendation:</b>
Do you agree with the 7 key objectives of the new scheme?	Those attending agreed with the aims of a combined rent scheme
Do you have any suggestions on how schemes should be rebalanced to ensure fairness and protect the most vulnerable?	Support for balance on harmonisation with weekly rent based on weekly net income

Do you agree in principle that the new rent scheme provides a funding scheme for the planned preventative maintenance programme?	There was general agreement that the new rent scheme income should be a funding scheme for a planned preventative maintenance programme.
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**Choice Based Letting:**

<b>Issue</b>	<b>Recommendation:</b>
What housing types/areas should a choice based letting pilot apply to?	No clear consensus emerged at the meeting. Other local authorities will be contacted to obtain feedback from their experience
How should households bid under CBL?	Consideration should be given to all communication channels. Possibility of using different terminology should be considered e.g. expression of interest

**Simplifying Areas of Choice:**

<b>Issue</b>	<b>Recommendation:</b>
Currently nineteen areas of choice in the Metropolitan Area, the aim of the exercise to simplify the number of areas by expanding the geographical boundaries.	There was general agreement with this objective

The members of the SPC expressed a general welcome for the proposed planned maintenance programme.

A number of the members requested that the single rent scheme should be prioritised for implementation as a matter of urgency. The view was expressed that the current system of separate legacy rent schemes for the City and County leads to some people paying significantly more than others with similar incomes.

The Director of Services also stated that it is intended to have a second workshop for Councillors and Sectoral Interests during December.

The Chairperson Cllr. O'Donnell asked the committee to endorse the recommendations of the workshop and forward them to the full Council.

**Item 4: Update on Part VIII planning applications**

Ms. Maria Donoghue provided an update to the members of recently approved and forthcoming Part VIII planning applications.

The members expressed a general welcome for the additional housing these proposed developments will provide. Cllr Galvin expressed dissatisfaction with the proposed Abbeyfeale development with regard to the scheme's density and traffic management issues. Cllr O'Donnell advised that the matter will come before the Municipal District of Newcastle West

and that all members would get a chance to express their views at that point. A number of members requested for more consultation in preparation of Part VIII applications.

### **Item 5 Notice of Motion**

- **Notice of Motion submitted by Cllr. M. McCreesh** (referred from the September 2018 meeting of the Metropolitan District of Limerick):

**I will move at the next meeting that, Limerick City and County Council provide additional maintenance funding to facilitate the immediate response to outstanding requests from tenants of Council owned houses. Repairs considered essential have been left unresolved for a number of years due to lack of funding allocation. This is specifically highlighted in the number of houses awaiting window and door replacement.**

Cllr. McCreesh welcomed the provision of extra resources outlined in the proposed planned maintenance programme and informed the meeting that the issue of it is important that sufficient resources are invested in the Operations and Maintenance Department as lack of funding prevents necessary works from being carried out.

Cllr. O'Donnell suggested that the motion had been dealt with as part of the earlier recommendation to approve the planned maintenance programme. Cllr. McCreesh accepted this proposal.

Is mise le meas,

Cllr. William O'Donnell.

Chairperson

Home and Social Development Strategic Policy Committee

