



Comhairle Cathrach
& Contae **Luimnigh**

Limerick City
& County Council

Forbairt Gheilleagrach,
Ceanncheathrú Chorpáraideach,
Cé na gCeannaithe,
Luimneach

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

15th November 2018

**Chairpersons Report for the Economic Development, Enterprise and Planning
Strategic Policy Committee Meeting of 8th October 2018**

A Chomhairleoir, a chara,

Item 1

**Notice of Motion from Cllr A Teskey referred from the full Council meeting on
23rd July 2018.**

*"I will move at the next meeting that Limerick City & County Council review its
schedule of development levies so as to ensure that such charges apply exclusively
to new build scenarios'.*

The Chairperson explained that Cllr Teskey could not attend the meeting and he
asked that the Notice of Motion be adjourned to the next meeting of the SPC.

This was agreed by the members.

Item 2

**Notice of Motion from Cmhlr Ó Ceallaigh referred from the full Council meeting
held on 24th September 2018.**

*'I will move at the next meeting that this Council invite the Minister for Tourism and
Fáilte Ireland to the Council Chamber in order to give a briefing as to the reasons for
the lack of tourism support and inclusion that Limerick has received in recent years.'*

Concern was expressed that Limerick was not featuring in Fáilte Irelands brand
products of the Wild Atlantic Way, Irelands Ancient East or Irelands Hidden
Heartlands. Members felt that Limerick was being overlooked when it came to
marketing of tourism projects nationally and internationally and thus losing out on
visitors to the region. Members felt that Limerick City & County Council has invested
heavily in tourism products in recent years and the national tourism bodies should

support it. Tourism products outside the metropolitan area also need to be highlighted and promoted. It was stated that Limerick has no high profile state supported festival in its calendar of events.

Even though visitor numbers were increasing in Limerick it was felt that with greater levels of support from Fáilte Ireland visitor tourist numbers could rise dramatically. The Council was commended in its work on the Tourism Strategy and in the investment in various projects such as the Great Southern Greenway, Lough Gur, various festivals and events, etc.

Details of FI's Festival Innovation Programme were outlined to the meeting.

It was agreed that Fáilte Ireland would be invited to the next SPC Meeting to brief the members on their plans for the promotion and investment in Limerick.

Item 3.

Update on the Urban and Rural Regeneration and Development Fund Applications.

Members received presentations on the projects submitted under both funding calls. The submissions were made on 27th/28th September 2018 respectfully.

Twelve applications were submitted under the URDF to the value of €20.5m. The Council is leading ten of the projects while the remaining two focussed on the Limerick Docklands and the International Rugby Museum. Council projects included; the Opera Project, O'Connell Street Revitalisation, Great Streets, Living Georgian City, World Class Waterfront, Mungret Residential Initiative, Digital Collaboration and VR Centre, etc.

Seven projects were submitted for funding under the RRDF. Five are Council led (Regional Athletics Hub, Great Southern Greenway, Croom Distributor Road, West Limerick Tourism Gateway, and Glin Public Realm Project). The value of the Council led projects is €9.3m

Members were also briefed on other projects submitted by other state agencies and community led Organisations. Decisions on the applications are expected in November 2018.

Members expressed a huge gratitude to all associated with the preparation and submission of the applications. The applications showed that the Council and other agencies are hugely ambitious for Limerick. The City region required investment on this scale if it is to act as an economic counterbalance to the east coast. Members supported all applications but were conscious of the absence of the Patrickswell and Kildimo initiatives. Officials addressed the issues surrounding both projects.

Members will be kept updated on the applications as they progress through the selection process.

Item 4.

Update on EU Projects and Initiatives

Members agreed to defer this item to a future meeting.

Mise le meas

Councillor Vivienne Crowley

Chairperson

Economic Development, Enterprise and Planning SPC

