

13th February 2019

To: The Mayor and Each Member of the Metropolitan District of Limerick

It is intended that the following proposed Disposal of Property by way of a Lease will be included on the Agenda for the March Council Meeting:

It is proposed to lease Culture House, 2 Pery Square to Limerick Civic Trust.

The proposed term is a 25 year lease subject to the covenants and conditions contained within the lease agreement. The proposed lease will make provision for the future use of the building by Limerick City and County Council for future civic events as required.

The proposed consideration is at a nominal value of €1 per annum.

See attached report re proposal

Joe Delaney
Acting Director of Services
Capital Investment Directorate

Proposal from Limerick Civic Trust to Limerick City & County Council to Lease property at No 2 Pery Square

In summary, the proposed role of No. 2 Pery Square would be as a visitor destination with the following objectives:

- Objective 1: Open No. 2 Pery Square as a Visitor Attraction – “a Little Museum of Limerick”
- Objective 2: Assist in reinvigorating the Development of Georgian Limerick
- Objective 3: Part of a wider Limerick Cultural / Tourism Experience

For over three decades, Limerick Civic Trust (LCT) has played a key role in Limerick’s heritage development as well as the social and environmental vitality of the city. LCT have the expertise and know-how to restore and maintain Georgian buildings. Work completed to date includes the restoration of the Bishop’s Palace to its former glory and the renovation of John’s Square House. The Bishop’s Palace is now open as a visitor centre. LCT manage over 70 CE Scheme workers each year providing over 55,000 man hours towards the betterment of Limerick.

LCT have broad experience of engaging stakeholders and working in partnerships. As a voluntary organisation, many of their projects are undertaken through collaboration and partnership arrangements with organisations like Limerick City and County Council, the Wildlife Services, local communities, and parishes in various parts of Limerick.

In its current state, this beautiful Georgian building, in Pery Square, is not accessible to the public. The building and its garden needs attention, repair and an ongoing maintenance plan to be put in place. As a cultural and events space, the Georgian House played a key role in the year of Limerick City of Culture. There is an opportunity to build on this and reflect on the efforts made over the last number of years.

Limerick’s Georgian Quarter is an architectural gem and the biggest in Ireland outside Dublin. One of the strengths of this proposal lies in the ability of LCT to deliver a high quality product that enhances the current offering both to the people of Limerick and to guests of the city.

The proposed lease will make provision for the future use of the building by Limerick City and County Council for future civic events as required.

Gordon Daly

Director of Services – Social Development