

MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS AT MEETING OF LIMERICK CITY AND COUNTY COUNCIL HELD IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER, DOORADOYLE, LIMERICK, ON MONDAY, 28TH JANUARY, 2019, AT 3.00 P.M.

PRESENT IN THE CHAIR:

Mayor.

Councillor J. Collins,

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Councillors Browne, Butler, Collins (M), Costelloe, Crowley, Cahillane, Daly, Donegan, Foley, Galvin, Gilligan, Gleeson, Hogan, Hurley, Keary, Keller, Leddin, Loftus, Lynch, McCreesh, McMahon, Mitchell, O'Brien, Cmhlr. Ó Ceallaigh, O'Dea, O'Donnell, O'Donoghue, O'Hanlon, Pond, Ryan, Scanlan, Secas, Sheahan (J), Sheahan (K), Sheahan (M), Sheehy, Teefy, Teskey.

OFFICIALS IN ATTENDANCE:

Deputy Chief Executive and Director, Economic Development (Mr. P. Daly), Director, National and Regional Shared Services (Ms. C. Curley), Director, Support Services (Mr. S. Coughlan), Director, Service Operations (Mr. K. Lehane), Director, Social Development (Mr. G. Daly), Director, Physical Development (Mr. B. Kennedy), Director, Housing Development (Ms. A. Duke), A/Director, Capital Investment (Mr. J. Delaney), Meetings Administrator (Mr. J. Clune), Administrative Officer, Corporate Services (Mr. T. O'Callaghan).

An apology for his inability to attend was noted on behalf of the Chief Executive Mr. C. Murray.

At the outset, Members extended a vote of sympathy to Councillor Michael Donegan and family on the sad passing of his brother J.J.

1. Adoption of Minutes

Circulated, copies of draft Minutes of the following Meetings:

- a) Ordinary Meeting of the Council held on 26th November, 2018.
- b) Special Meeting of the Council held on 26th November, 2018.

Proposed by Councillor Collins (M);
Seconded by Concillor Sheahan (J);
And Resolved:

"That, the draft Minutes, as circulated, be taken as read and adopted and signed"

2. Disposal of Land

- (a) Circulated, copy of Statutory Notice dated 22nd November, 2018, concerning disposal of land at 8, O'Donoghue Avenue, Janesboro, Limerick.

Proposed by Councillor Collins (M);
Seconded by Councillor Sheahan (J);
And Resolved:

“That, in accordance with the provisions of Section 183 of the Local Government Act, 2001, as amended, and Section 211 of the Planning and Development Act, 2000, as amended, the approval of the Council be and is hereby given to the disposal of land at 8, O’Donoghue Avenue, Janesboro, Limerick, to Linda McGuire, for the sum of €129.20, particulars of which were contained in the Statutory Notice dated 22nd November, 2018.”

(b) Circulated, copy of Statutory Notice dated 22nd November, 2018, concerning disposal of land at 4, McDonagh Avenue, Janesboro, Limerick.

Proposed by Councillor Collins (M);
Seconded by Councillor Sheahan (J);
And Resolved:

“That, in accordance with the provisions of Section 183 of the Local Government Act, 2001, as amended, and Section 211 of the Planning and Development Act, 2000, as amended, the approval of the Council be and is hereby given to the disposal of land at 4, McDonagh Avenue, Janesboro, Limerick, to Lorraine Ryan, for the sum of €129.20, particulars of which were contained in the Statutory Notice dated 22nd November, 2018.”

(c) Circulated, copy of Statutory Notice dated 10th December, 2018, concerning disposal of land at Devon Road, Templeglantine, Co. Limerick.

Proposed by Councillor Collins (M);
Seconded by Councillor Sheahan (J);
And Resolved:

“That, in accordance with the provisions of Section 183 of the Local Government Act, 2001, as amended, and Section 211 of the Planning and Development Act, 2000, as amended, the approval of the Council be and is hereby given to the disposal of land at Devon Road, Templeglantine, Co. Limerick, to Teresa Mahony Dee, for the sum of €1.00, particulars of which were contained in the Statutory Notice dated 10th December, 2018.”

(d) Circulated, copy of Statutory Notice dated 8th January, 2019, concerning disposal of land at 2, Galvone View, Limerick.

Proposed by Councillor Collins (M);
Seconded by Councillor Sheahan (J);
And Resolved:

“That, in accordance with the provisions of Section 183 of the Local Government Act, 2001, as amended, and Section 211 of the Planning and Development Act, 2000, as amended, the approval of the Council be and is hereby given to the disposal of land at 2, Galvone View, Limerick, to Patrick Dillon and Claire Dillon, in exchange for 142, Oisin Drive, O’Malley Park, Limerick, particulars of which were contained in the Statutory Notice dated 8th January, 2019.”

(e) Circulated, copy of Statutory Notice dated 8th January, 2019, concerning disposal of land at 3, Galvone View, Limerick.

Proposed by Councillor Collins (M);
Seconded by Councillor Sheahan (J);
And Resolved:

“That, in accordance with the provisions of Section 183 of the Local Government Act, 2001, as amended, and Section 211 of the Planning and Development Act, 2000, as amended, the approval of the Council be and is hereby given to the disposal of land at 3, Galvone View, Limerick, to Patrick Gavin and Delores Gavin, in exchange for 207, Valley View, O’Malley Park, Limerick, particulars of which were contained in the Statutory Notice dated 8th January, 2019.”

(f) Circulated, copy of Statutory Notice dated 8th January, 2019, concerning disposal of land at 4, Galvone View, Limerick.

Proposed by Councillor Collins (M);
Seconded by Councillor Sheahan (J);
And Resolved:

“That, in accordance with the provisions of Section 183 of the Local Government Act, 2001, as amended, and Section 211 of the Planning and Development Act, 2000, as amended, the approval of the Council be and is hereby given to the disposal of land at 4, Galvone View, Limerick, to Helena Mackey, in exchange for 205, Valley View, O’Malley

Park, Limerick, particulars of which were contained in the Statutory Notice dated 8th January, 2019.”

- (g) Circulated, copy of Statutory Notice dated 8th January, 2019, concerning disposal of land at 5, Galvone View, Limerick.

Proposed by Councillor Collins (M);
Seconded by Councillor Sheahan (J);
And Resolved:

“That, in accordance with the provisions of Section 183 of the Local Government Act, 2001, as amended, and Section 211 of the Planning and Development Act, 2000, as amended, the approval of the Council be and is hereby given to the disposal of land at 5, Galvone View, Limerick, to Patricia Sheehan, in exchange for 206, Valley View, O’Malley Park, Limerick, particulars of which were contained in the Statutory Notice dated 8th January, 2019.”

- (h) Circulated, copy of Statutory Notice dated 8th January, 2019, concerning disposal of land at 6, Galvone View, Limerick.

Proposed by Councillor Collins (M);
Seconded by Councillor Sheahan (J);
And Resolved:

“That, in accordance with the provisions of Section 183 of the Local Government Act, 2001, as amended, and Section 211 of the Planning and Development Act, 2000, as amended, the approval of the Council be and is hereby given to the disposal of land at 6, Galvone View, Limerick, to John O’Malley, in exchange for 204, Valley View, O’Malley Park, Limerick, particulars of which were contained in the Statutory Notice dated 8th January, 2019.”

- (i) Circulated, copy of Statutory Notice dated 8th January, 2019, concerning disposal of land at 27, Lord Edward Street, Limerick.

Proposed by Councillor Collins (M);
Seconded by Councillor Sheahan (J);
And Resolved:

“That, in accordance with the provisions of Section 183 of the Local Government Act, 2001, as amended, and Section 211 of the Planning and Development Act, 2000, as

amended, the approval of the Council be and is hereby given to the disposal of land at 27, Lord Edward Street, Limerick, to Aidan Cahill, in exchange for 140, Oisín Drive, O'Malley Park, Limerick, particulars of which were contained in the Statutory Notice dated 8th January, 2019."

- (j) Circulated, copy of Statutory Notice dated 8th January, 2019, concerning disposal of land at 9, Rose Court, Keyes Park, Limerick.

Proposed by Councillor Collins (M);
Seconded by Councillor Sheahan (J);
And Resolved:

"That, in accordance with the provisions of Section 183 of the Local Government Act, 2001, as amended, and Section 211 of the Planning and Development Act, 2000, as amended, the approval of the Council be and is hereby given to the disposal of land at 9, Rose Court, Keyes Park, Limerick, to Anthony Hanlon, in exchange for 32, Rose Court, Keyes Park, Limerick, particulars of which were contained in the Statutory Notice dated 8th January, 2019."

- (k) Circulated, copy of Statutory Notice dated 8th January, 2019, concerning disposal of land at 3, Beechgrove Avenue, Ballinacurra Weston, Limerick.

Proposed by Councillor Collins (M);
Seconded by Councillor Sheahan (J);
And Resolved:

"That, in accordance with the provisions of Section 183 of the Local Government Act, 2001, as amended, and Section 211 of the Planning and Development Act, 2000, as amended, the approval of the Council be and is hereby given to the disposal of land at 3, Beechgrove Avenue, Ballinacurra Weston, Limerick, to Christopher Ingle, for the sum of €125.42, particulars of which were contained in the Statutory Notice dated 8th January, 2019."

- (l) Circulated, copy of Statutory Notice dated 7th December, 2018, concerning disposal of land at 13, North Claughaun Road, Garryowen, Limerick.

Proposed by Councillor Collins (M);
Seconded by Councillor Sheahan (J);
And Resolved:

“That, in accordance with the provisions of Section 183 of the Local Government Act, 2001, as amended, and Section 211 of the Planning and Development Act, 2000, as amended, the approval of the Council be and is hereby given to the disposal of land at 13, North Claughnaun Road, Garryowen, Limerick, to Anthony and Geraldine McMahon, for the sum of €125.42, particulars of which were contained in the Statutory Notice dated 7th December, 2018.”

3. Support Services Directorate

(a) Chief Executive's Report

Circulated, Chief Executive's Reports for the months of November and December, 2018. The reports, as circulated, were noted by members.

(b) Foreign Travel

- (i) Circulated, report from Deputy Chief Executive, Dr Pat Daly dated 10th January, 2019, seeking approval for a visit in respect of an invitation received by Councillor Kieran O'Hanlon to receive 'Gael of the Year 2019' award from Queens County St. Patrick's Day Parade and Culture Committee, Queens County, New York, under Section 142 (5) of the Local Government Act, as amended.

In response to a query raised the Meeting's Administrator noted that attendance at this prestigious international award would afford an important networking opportunity for the Council.

Proposed By Councillor O'Dea (J);
Seconded By Councillor Collins (M);
And Resolved:

“That, the approval of the Council be and is hereby given to visit by Councillor Kieran O'Hanlon to New York under Section 142(5) of the Local Government Act 2001, as amended.

- (ii) Circulated, report from James Clune, A/Senior Executive Officer, Corporate Services dated 24th January, 2019 seeking retrospective approval for a visit by the Mayor of the City and County of Limerick, under Section 142 (5) of the Local Government Act, 2001, as amended to attend a function and National League fixture between Limerick and London in London 26th – 27th January, 2019 on foot of an invitation from The Limerick Association of London.

Proposed By Councillor Sheahan (J);
Seconded By Councillor O'Donnell (W);
And Resolved:

“That, the approval of the Council be and is hereby given to visit by the Mayor of the City and County of Limerick to London, under Section 142(5) of the Local Government Act 2001, as amended.”

It was agreed that items 3(c)(i) and 4(a) should be taken together.

(c) Strategic Policy Committee Reports

- (i) Circulated, Report of the Chairperson of the Economic Development, Enterprise and Planning Strategic Policy Committee dated 9th January, 2019, in relation to the meeting held on the 3rd December, 2018.

Recommendation No. 1:

On the proposition of Councillor O’Dea, seconded by Stephen Keary, it was recommended that Limerick Tourism Development Strategy Action Plan 2019-2023 will partner and collaborate with the Sporting Limerick website on the Limerick.ie platform in order to achieve the objective 3.0 (unlocking the potential) of the above mentioned plan.

Recommendation No. 2:

On the proposition of Councillor O’Dea, seconded by Councillor Eleanora Hogan it was agreed that the SPC recommend the adoption of the Final Draft Limerick Tourism Development Strategy at the Full Council meeting in January 2019.

4. Social Development Directorate

(a) Draft Limerick Tourism Development Strategy 2019-2023

Circulated, Limerick Tourism Department Strategy, Final Draft Action Plan 2019-2023. The Director, Social Development presented an overview of the Limerick Tourism Development Strategy Action Plan to the Members which included the objectives and targets of the plan, the four themes of the plan and additional actions included.

Members welcomed the plan and acknowledged the efforts that had gone into producing same. Members discussed the plan in detail and made the following points in relation to same;

- The need for signage to be provided to advertise Glin Pier as a picnic/amenity area and viewing point.
- The potential of Glin Walking Trails to be marketed as part of a product that includes quiet rural breaks and the opportunity to experience real rural life.
- The need to tap into the recreational potential of the Shannon Estuary, it’s piers, islands and links to County Clare and the need for signage to highlight these amenities.

- The need to develop the potential of Knockfierna Famine Heritage, Glenquin and Broadford Castles, Barnagh Tunnel, the two Railway houses on the greenway, Fullers Folly and walks at Knockfierna and Mularadharc.
- The need, in relation to the Great Southern Greenway to provide better access for those with special needs, improved signage, toilet facilities and surface and to address the fact that the trail passes through a working farm.
- The potential of the Old Railway Store in Rathkeale to be restored and developed as a location where bicycles could be hired by those planning to cycle the Great Southern Greenway
- The need to provide details of our tourism products online and in an interactive format, availing of technologies such as phone apps, appropriate for younger age groups.
- The benefit of the new location for the City Museum and the need for this amenity to be open to the public on Saturdays.
- The need to promote the potential of the Hedge School and Sailors Haggard in Ballybrown, along with Carrigogunnel Castle.
- The need to provide online details of all walking and horse trekking trails in the area, including the Keale River Walk.
- The need to include reference to the range of Hotels, Cafes and Pubs throughout the area, along with the camping facilities at Curraghchase, the amenities for camper vans at Askeaton Swimming Club, the Limerick Hellfire Club and Kilcornan Kart Racing
- The need to promote the South East of the County including the Munster Vales, where related signage is required.
- The need for the gates at Sarsfield House to be kept open to maintain access to the 3-Bridges walk.
- With a wealth of tourism potential associated with sports, the need for the Council to consider extending their marketing services into the weekend.
- The need for confirmed investment in tourism to create local jobs and promote local attractions such as Lough Gur and the stone circle.
- That Limerick has been let down by Fáilte Ireland with most of the funding going elsewhere. That an increase in the Council's Arts and Culture budget is needed along with increased engagement with the Cultural Committee.
- A marina on the River Shannon should be developed in the City.
- The risk to the amenity of the River Shannon associated with the proposed extraction by Irish Water should be addressed in the Plan.
- The need for a yearly review of the strategy.
- The need for proposals to reopen the Black Bridge on the Shannon to be included in the strategy.
- The need to be mindful of the Shannon Way offering and to tie in with same.
- The need to embrace urbanism through graffiti tours and build a stronger tourist offering in the city centre with the development of cinemas, crafts, fashion and cultural attractions.
- The need to link the Great Southern Greenway into the city.
- The need to develop Nicholas Street as an attraction, in conjunction with King John's Castle.

- The need to include culture in the strategy and develop a weekend festival of Traditional Music and Irish Language.
- The need to work with neighbouring authorities in the context of overseas marketing and meetings with key stakeholders.
- The need for a strategic fund to be in place to lever key attractions to the city.
- The need to develop skills in the hospitality sector to enhance the visitor experience
- The need to include Knights Hospitallers Abbey, Hospital in the plan.

In response to the issues raised by members, the Director, Social Development acknowledged the importance of implementing the actions highlighted in the plan, as circulated, and noted that many of the issues raised by Members were included in a more in-depth version of the plan, which was also available. He pointed out that Brand Limerick and a Festivals and Events Strategy were under development.

In relation to the Great Southern Greenway, the Director, Social Development noted that the Council was looking at tendering the design of same and that signage and standards would improve as the project progressed. Visitor numbers and commercial interest was increasing and there would be engagement with the Members at the appropriate juncture. He stressed that, while the Tourism Development Strategy covered a four year period it would be reviewed annually at SPC level and it would be easy to measure progress.

With regard to the Munster Vales, the Director, Social Development noted that this was not a Fáilte Ireland Brand but was funded by the associated four Local Authorities. He pointed out that Castleconnell would be included on the Shannon River Masterplan. He noted that suggestions to open the Museum at weekends would be taken on board but that resource implications would have to be taken into consideration. With regard the Rugby Museum he pointed out that this was not a Council Project and that same was progressing.

On the proposal of Councillor Sheahan (J), seconded by Councillor O'Hanlon, the recommendations of the Economic Development, Enterprise and Planning Strategic Policy Committee as set out at item 3(c)(i), including the adoption of the Limerick Tourism Development Strategy 2019-2023, were agreed.

- (ii) Circulated, Report of the Chairperson of the Home and Social Development Strategic Policy Committee dated 2nd January, 2019, in relation to the meeting held on the 10th December, 2018.

The Report was noted by the Council.

- (iii) Circulated, Report of the Chairperson of the Travel and Transportation Strategic Policy Committee dated 28th December, 2018, in relation to the meeting held on the 3rd December, 2018.

The Report was noted by the Council.

- (iv) Circulated, Report of the Chairperson of the Environment Strategic Policy Committee dated 4th January, 2019 in relation to the meeting held on the 10th December, 2018.

The Report was noted by the Council.

- (v) Circulated, Report of the Chairperson of the Community, Leisure and Emergency Services Strategic Policy Committee dated 17th December, 2018 in relation to the meeting held on 17th December, 2018.

The Report was noted by the Council.

(d) Granting of Refundable Contribution

Circulated, report of the Director, Support Services, dated 24th January, 2019, setting out the background to the proposal to grant a refundable contribution of €150,000 to DVM Productions Ltd. (Dolans) to support a cultural event.

In discussing this item Members noted this was a rolling loan facility and expressed disappointment that the first loan approved under this heading, paid to the GAA, had not yet been repaid and also noted the consequence this had for a subsequent applicant for this facility.

Members discussed risks associated with the proposed DVM Productions Ltd. event and sought guarantees that any loan amount approved would not be at risk.

The Director, Support Services, pointed out that a reminder had been issued to the GAA requesting repayment of the outstanding amount and stressed that any loan approved in respect of DVM Productions Ltd (Dolans) was provisional on receiving repayment of the initial loan to the GAA.

In relation to any loan given to DVM Productions Ltd the Director, Support Services, pointed out that appropriate securities would be put in place through either a charge on the property or a personal guarantee.

Proposed By Councillor Lynch (S);

Seconded By Councillor O’Hanlon (K);
And Resolved:

“That, the approval of the Council be and is hereby given to the granting of a refundable contribution of €150,000 to DVM Productions Ltd. (Dolans) in support of a cultural event, in accordance with Section 66 of the Local Government Act, 2001, as amended, repayable by 30th November 2019, subject to the availability of the facility”

4. Social Development Directorate

(a) Draft Limerick Tourism Development Strategy 2019-2023

It was noted that this item had already been taken in conjunction with item 3(c)(i)

(b) Decade of Centenaries – 1912-1923

Damien Brady, Senior Manager, Libraries, Museums and Gallery of Art, made a presentation to Members entitled ‘Decade of Centenaries – 1912-1923’ outlining the following key events to be commemorated; –

- 1913 Dublin Lockout
- 1914 Outlook of World War 1
- 1916 Rising
- 1917 Hunger Strike
- 1918 Women’s Suffrage Movement
- Ending of First World War
- Spanish Flu
- General Election of 1918
- An Teanga Bheo – Bliain na Gaeilge 2018
- Meeting of First Dáil, 1919
- War of Independence, 1919-1921
- The 120th Anniversary of Local Government, 1899
- Anglo-Irish Treaty, 1921
- Civil War, 1922-1923
- Key Events in Limerick, 1919-1923
- Irish Free State enters League of Nations, 1923.

He noted that the commemorative programme will be overseen by the Government with the executive role falling under the Minister for Culture, Heritage and the Gaeltacht, with advice from an All Party Group on Commemorations and an Expert Advisory Group.

Members thanked Mr. Brady for his presentation and commended all those involved with the 1916 commemoration for their professionalism. Members stressed the important role the Council's cross part committee had played with regard the 1916 commemoration and it was proposed by Councillor Leddin (J), seconded by Councillor Galvin (L) that that committee should continue its role in relation to the Decade of Centenaries commemorative programme. Members stressed the importance of carrying out this commemorative programme in a mature fashion and ensuring that the protocol in relation to the national flag was maintained.

Suspension of Standing Orders: As the time had reached 5.30 pm, on the proposal of Councillor Sheahan (J) and seconded by Councillor Galvin (L) it was agreed that standing orders would be suspended to facilitate completion of the agenda.

5. Physical Development Directorate

Draft City and County of Limerick (Segregation, Storage and Presentation of Household and Commercial Waste) Bye-Laws 2019.

Circulated, report of Brian Kennedy, Director of Service, Physical Development Directorate dated 16th January, 2019 in relation to the Draft City and County of Limerick (Segregation, Storage and Presentation of Household and Commercial Waste) Bye-Laws, 2019.

Members welcomed the byelaws and expressed disappointment that no submissions had been received in relation to same. It was suggested that draft byelaws be put on public display in all Council Libraries.

Proposed by Councillor Galvin (L);
Seconded by Councillor Donegan (M);
And Resolved:

“That the City and County of Limerick (Segregation and Presentation of Household and Commercial Waste) Bye-Laws 2019 are hereby adopted in accordance with Section 35 of the Waste Management Act 1996 and Part 19 of the Local Government Act 2001, as amended.”

6. Conferences

(i) Participation by Members at Conferences

Details of the following Conferences had been circulated electronically to the Members: (a) "Politics Needs Women" held in North Wall Quay, Dublin 1 on 14th December, 2018; (b) "The Finance Act, 2018" held in Carlingford, Co. Louth on 11th, 12th and 13th January, 2019; (c) "Understanding the Asylum Process in Ireland" held in Clonakilty, Co. Cork on 18th, 19th and 20th January, 2019; (d) "Insolvency Services in Ireland" to be held in Dungarven, Co. Waterford on 25th, 26th and 27th January, 2019; (e) "Retirement Entitlements and Taxation Benefits for Councillors" to be held in Clonakilty, Co. Cork on 25th, 26th and 27th January, 2019; (f) "A guide to EU Educational Programmes" to be held in Carlingford, Co. Louth on 8th, 9th and 10th February, 2019; (g) "Good Guidance of Community, Voluntary & Charitable Organisations in Ireland" to be held in Clonakilty, Co. Cork on 22nd, 23rd and 24th February, 2019; (h) "Local Election 2019" to be held in Letterkenny, Co. Donegal on 15th, 16th and 17th February, 2019.

On the proposal of Councillor Galvin, seconded by Councillor Donegan, the Council approved the attendance of the following Members:

(ii) Reports on Conference/Meeting/Seminar/Event

Circulated, reports by Members who had participated at Conference / Seminar / Meeting / Event.

The Reports were noted by the Members.

Questions

Replies to the following Questions on the Agenda were circulated to all Members prior to the Meeting and the Questions were therefore considered as having been dealt with:

7. Question submitted by Comhairleoir S. Ó Ceallaigh

I will ask at the next meeting if there has been progress on an Irish Language Policy, particularly in relation to equality of size for Irish on signage and the feasibility of hiring an Irish Language Officer for Comhairle Cathrach agus Contae Luimnigh.

REPLY: Limerick City and County Council's draft Irish Language Scheme 2019-2022 has been forwarded to the Minister for Culture, Heritage and the Gaeltacht for approval. This scheme will commence once confirmed by the Minister.

The majority of signs erected by Limerick City and County Council are regulatory traffic signs and they are covered by the Traffic Signs Manual as issued by the Department of Transport and, as such, are in compliance with Irish Language requirements. However, there are signs in place, including estate nameplates and directional signs, that do not fully conform with the Council's policy on the use of Irish. An inventory of this noncompliance signage will be carried out and a strategy developed for their replacement.

No Budgetary provision was made for the provision of an Irish Language Officer in 2019.

8. Question submitted by Comhairleoir S. Ó Ceallaigh

I will ask at the next meeting how many houses are expected to be built by Comhairle Cathrach agus Contae Luimnigh in each municipal district 2019.

REPLY: 29 New Build Houses are anticipated to complete in Limerick City East in 2019, which includes housing delivered as part of the Buy and Renew programme. Additionally, 97 New Build Houses are anticipated to commence works on site in Limerick City East in 2019, excluding the Buy and Renew programme.

16 New Build Houses are anticipated to complete in Limerick City West in 2019, which includes housing delivered as part of the Buy and Renew programme. Additionally, 44 New Build Houses are anticipated to commence works on site in Limerick City West in 2019, excluding the Buy and Renew Programme.

14 New Build Houses are anticipated to complete in Limerick City North in 2019, which includes housing delivered as part of the Buy and Renew programme. Additionally, 53 New Build Houses are anticipated to commence works on site in Limerick City North in 2019, excluding the Buy and Renew programme.

6 New Build Houses are anticipated to complete in Municipal District of NCW in 2019, which includes housing delivered as part of the Buy and Renew programme. Additionally, 3 New Build Houses are anticipated to commence works on site in Municipal District of NCW in 2019, excluding the Buy and Renew programme.

1 New Build House is anticipated to complete in Municipal District of Cappamore Kilmallock in 2019 as part of the Buy and Renew Programme. Additionally, 20 New Build Houses are anticipated to commence works on site in Municipal District of Cappamore Kilmallock in 2019, excluding the Buy and Renew programme.

1 New Build House is anticipated to complete in Municipal District of Adare Rathkeale in 2019 as part of the Buy and Renew programme. Additionally, 30 New Build Houses are anticipate to commence works on site in Municipal District of Adare Rathkeale in 3029, excluding the Buy and Renew programme.

9. Question submitted by Councillor J. Scanlan

I will ask at the next meeting as to the Council's rental incomes from its various commercial property letting within Limerick City in each of years 2016, 2017 and 2018.

REPLY: The amount of rent received in each of the years 2016, 2017 and 2018 is as follows:

Year	Amount
2016	€528,729
2017	€732,247
2018	€740,482

10. Question submitted by Councillor J. Scanlan

I will ask as to "the number of currently vacant local authority properties within Limerick City and County"

REPLY: As of the 31st December, 2018 the total number of vacant units is 207, broken down as follows:

Name of Municipal District	Number of Vacant Units
Metropolitan District of Limerick	141 consisting of 48 Casual Vacancies, 27 Regeneration Units and 66 Major Refurbishments
Municipal District of Newcastle West	32 (21 casual and 11 major refurb)

Municipal District of Adare-Rathkeale	11 (10 casual and 1 major refurb)
Municipal District of Cappamore-Kilmallock	23 (17 casual and 6 major refurb)

11. Question submitted by Councillor R. O'Donoghue

As the new secondary school in Croom is on target for completion in 2019 what infrastructure is in place, or will be in place, to allow students, teachers and parents to access the school safely?

REPLY: The detailed design for the Croom distributor road from Limerick Road (old N20) to Crecora Road and spur to Coláiste Chiarán is being carried out. The project will be tendered in March 2019 with a view to commencing construction Summer 2019 and completion in time for the opening of the school. The Council's discussions with landowners over the transfer of lands to construct the road are ongoing.

Notices of Motion

12. Notice of Motion submitted by Councillor E. Hogan

I am calling on Limerick City and County Council to agree and confirm dates with the National Transport Authority for the installation of the additional Docking Stations promised in 2018 for Limerick City Coca Cola Bike Scheme and to also consider licencing an alternative 'Dockless Bike Hire Scheme' for Limerick City and Environs that would provide greater flexibility and coverage to areas of Limerick City and Environs not currently covered with Coca Cola Bike stations.

The motion was proposed by Councillor Hogan (E) and seconded by Councillor Donegan (M);

In proposing the motion Councillor Hogan noted previous commitments in this regard from the Council and highlighted the benefits of the Dublin Dockless System operated through a phone App.

In seconding this motion Councillor Donnegan highlighted the need for the Crescent College to be included in the existing bike scheme and suggested that the motion be forwarded to the Travel and Transportation SPC for further discussion.

REPLY: The National Transport Authority (NTA) is responsible for the Coca Cola Bike Scheme in Limerick, and has contracted out the operation of this scheme to a private company. The NTA has previously agreed to an extension to the Coca

Cola Bike Scheme in Limerick, but this has not been able to proceed to date due to issues the NTA has experienced in obtaining new equipment. This has unfortunately resulted in delays to opening new stations and major maintenance works at existing stations.

The NTA is resolving this equipment supply issue and has confirmed that its first priority is to replace damaged equipment at existing stations and bring these stations back to full operational capacity and then to follow on with the installation and opening of the new stations.

The NTA has advised that it will endeavour to advance the works as quickly as possible, however at this time, it is unable to confirm precise dates for the works, but it has indicated that it plans to repair and bring current stations back to full operational capacity during Q1 and Q2 of 2019, and that it could be Q3 to Q4 of 2019 before the promised new stations are installed and opened. The NTA will keep the Council updated during the year and will endeavour to complete the works as quickly as possible.

In relation to a 'Dockless Bike Hire Scheme' for Limerick, a small number of companies have expressed an interest in operating this type of scheme in Limerick. Presently we are researching the viability of these schemes and developing guidance and policy for their operation in Limerick based on experience in other cities. When this work is completed and we identify the appropriate scheme and guidance for Limerick we will formally seek expressions of interest from interested companies to operate the scheme. Before introducing any scheme in Limerick City, we will seek the approval of the Metropolitan District Council for the preferred scheme.

In discussing the motion, Members highlighted the need to expand the current bike scheme to UL and Patrickswell. With regard to Dockless Schemes, it was noted that a high level of bicycle theft prevailed in relation to the scheme in Amsterdam, while in Paris many such bicycles were found when the canals were cleaned.

13. Notice of Motion submitted by Councillor L. Galvin

I will move at the next Full Council Meeting that this Council calls on the Department of Housing to consider a grant aid scheme for Granny Flat extensions for persons on the housing list where agreement is reached with the houses owner and the applicants.

The motion was proposed by Councillor Galvin (L) and seconded by Councillor Keary (S).

In proposing the motion Councillor Galvin pointed out that such a scheme would encourage young couples to build next to rural houses, support small scale contractors, help maintain pupil numbers in local schools and reduce housing waiting lists. He noted the potential for

the Council to let out the property in the future and asked that the Housing Department contact the Minister in relation to the motion and that the motion be circulated to all Local Authorities.

In seconding the motion Councillor Keary noted that this proposal had previously been raised at the Home and Social Development SPC and he expressed disappointment that no reply had been received by the Department of Housing, Planning and Local Government in this regard. He pointed out that the proposal could be availed of by couples seeking to downsize their accommodation by building an extension to their family home for their own use with their children taking over the original family home.

REPLY: The Housing Development Department note the proposal.

There is no scheme of this nature at present. However, it is open for private owners to make a proposal to Limerick City and County Council to construct an additional unit on their lands and sell or lease the additional unit to the Local Authority. In this case the units would be allocated in accordance with the scheme of letting priorities. Any proposal to add an additional unit/granny flat within an existing plot would be subject to the normal planning criteria.

Members supported the motion, noted high pre building costs and that the Improvement Works In Lieu Scheme, previously in place, was relevant to the proposal. Members also highlighted the need for new house builds and access to mortgage finance to resolve the housing crisis.

The Director, Housing Development, noted that the Improvement Works in Lieu Scheme was no longer active and that the number of houses being built was increasing through the year with plans to exceed current targets.

14. Notice of Motion submitted by Councillor M. McCreesh

I will move at the next meeting that this Council acknowledges resource issues in the departments performing the inspection and enforcement processes and this lack of resources is having an impact on Building Control, Fire Safety and Tenancy Enforcement. I will request the Council to examine the feasibility of assigning additional resources to these departments.

The motion was proposed by Councillor McCreesh (M) and seconded by Councillor Costelloe (J).

In proposing the motion Councillor McCreesh acknowledged work taking place but expressed concern that the level of resources assigned to monitoring the construction of new buildings in the Council's administrative area was not sufficient to robustly monitor the

level of construction taking place. Councillor McCreesh highlighted the risks that buildings will not be constructed in accordance with planning permission and that development levies due to the Council will not be identified as collectable. He stressed the need for ongoing communication between the Planning and Building Control Departments.

Councillor McCreesh also noted the need for greater resources to be applied to Tenancy Enforcement to deal with tenants breaking the conditions of their Tenancy Agreements and to the inspection of privately owned property providing accommodation under HAP and RAS.

REPLY:

Budget 2019 has included provision for the recruitment of three additional staff members to join the Council's tenancy enforcement team.

Limerick City and County Council Fire Authority and Building Control Authority operates under the **Fire Services Act 1981 and 2003** and the **Building Control Act 1990 to 2014**.

Section 18 (2) of the Fire Services Act places a duty on every person having control over premises to take all reasonable measures to guard against the outbreak of fire on such premises in the event of an outbreak of fire.

Section 3 (5) of the Building Control Act requires buildings to be designated and constructed in accordance with relevant requirements of the building regulations and that building owners, designers and builders are bound by this legal requirement.

Limerick City and County Council carried out 210 inspections under the Fire Services Act and 82 inspections under the Building Control Act in 2018. This gives a total of 292 inspections.

Limerick City and County Council implements a comprehensive programme of inspections under both the Fire Services Act and the Building Control Act. The majority of the inspections under the Fire Services Act were as a result of complaints from the general public, pre event inspections and pre court inspections for licensing. The follow up procedure depends on the issues identified as a result of the inspections and may involve writing to the owner or occupier setting out the fire safety deficiencies and any remedial works or initiating enforcement action e.g. warning letters, fire safety notices etc.

In terms of inspections under the Building Control Act, the performance standard for a risk based programme of building control inspections is set nationally at 12-15% of new buildings notified to the Building Control Authority. Limerick City and County Council as Building Control Authority has

consistently achieved this target in recent years. Building Control inspections may be as a result of complaints from the public or part of a programme of building control inspections.

Limerick City and County Council as Fire Authority and Building Control Authority is satisfied that the level of resources currently available for the inspection and enforcement processes is reasonable and delivers a comprehensive programme of inspections. As additional funds were not sought for this work programme during the 2019 Budget process, it should be noted that any reassignments of resources to this area from within the Fire and Emergency Services Department would have a negative impact on other areas of activity within the Department.

The Director, National and Regional Shared Services noted that 100% of HAP related inspections were carried out. The Deputy Chief Executive pointed out that budgetary constraints would have to be taken into consideration in relation to any additional resources allocated.

Members noted that any project involving the construction of two or more houses had to be certified by the associated Quantity Surveyor, Architect or Engineer as compliant with Building Regulations.

15. Notice of Motion submitted by Councillor J. Costelloe

I will move at the next meeting that each individual Councillor considers sending solidarity and support to our nurses and midwives who have balloted for strike action beginning January 30th to demand a safe, fully staffed, functioning health service that values and pays them as essential skilled workers.

The motion was proposed by Councillor Costelloe (J) and seconded by Councillor McCreesh (M).

In proposing the motion Councillor Costelloe noted the extent of patients waiting on trolleys and the stressful conditions nurses work under.

16. Correspondence

The Correspondence circulated with the Agenda was taken as read.

Councillor Galvin referred to the letter dated 18th December, 2018 from Kerry County Council and the enclosed resolution relating to the undocumented in America and indicated his support for the resolution.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S ORDERS:

The Register of Orders made by the Chief Executive up to the date of the Meeting was available on Alfresco for inspection by the Members.

PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT:

The Register of Decisions on Applications under the Planning and Development Act, 2000, as amended, was also available on Alfresco for inspection by the Members.

Signed:

Mayor

Date:
