

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPORT



Comhairle Cathrach
& Contae **Luimnígh**

Limerick City
& County Council

May 2019

THIS MONTH:

ELECTED – Local Elections take place with 40 Councillors elected

FIRST – Highest Award presented by RIAI for Colivet Court Southill

ACCESS – new MyPoint Consultation portal launched

PARTY – Riverfest Limerick 2019 'the best ever'

CONTENTS:

Economic Development Directorate

1. Trade & Investment
2. Strategic & Forward Planning
3. Limerick Local Enterprise Office
4. Digital Strategy
5. Innovate Limerick
6. Marketing & Communications

Physical Development Directorate

1. Travel & Transportation Strategy
2. Environment Strategy
3. Water Services
4. Mid-West Road Design Office

Social Development Directorate

1. Tourism Development, Culture & Arts
2. Urban & Rural Community Development
3. Libraries, Gallery & Museum
4. Limerick Sports Partnership

Housing Development Directorate

1. Housing Strategy Implementation
2. Regeneration Strategy Implementation

Service Operations Directorate

1. Housing Support Services
2. Planning & Environmental Services
3. Veterinary Services

Capital Investment Directorate

1. Design & Delivery
2. Property Services

National & Regional Shared Services Directorate

1. HAP SSC
2. Fire & Emergency Services

Support Services Directorate

1. Finance Services
2. Corporate Services, Governance & Customer Services
3. Schedule of Meetings
4. Access to Information
5. Business Improvement

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPORT

Economic Development Directorate



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& County Council

1. Trade & Investment

- BDO announced that it is to create 50 new jobs over the next three years. The company already employs 105 people in Limerick, and the jobs announcement comes as it moves premises to the city centre. The new posts will be across audit, taxation and advisory services.
- QAD announced 15 software development and quality analysis positions in the National Technological Park over the next three years. QAD a US software company based in Santa Barbara, California, provides "cloud-based enterprise software and services to global manufacturing firms".
- Irish Water announced 90 laboratory jobs in Limerick over the next four years. The new jobs will be open to scientific and technical staff who will undertake €1.5 million tests as well as assessing river and lake water quality. They have applied for planning permission for the construction of a new laboratory in Ballysimon, which will also create 70 construction jobs.
- Planning permission was granted to the IDA for the construction of a multi-storey advanced manufacturing facility in the National Technological Park, which will service the entire Irish-based manufacturing sector.

2. Strategic & Forward Planning

- An issues report was prepared for the Elected Members on the Southern Regional Assembly, in response to the Director's Report on the Draft Regional Spatial and Economic Strategy.
- The preparation of the Draft Climate Adaptation Strategy was prepared in advance of the public display period.
- As part of the public consultation on the Draft Kilmallock Local Area Plan 2019, a public information evening was held in Kilmallock on 8 May.

3. Limerick Local Enterprise Office (LEO)

- Grant Aid: €152,470 priming grant aid approved for five new start-up businesses during May.

- Student Enterprise Programme 2019: Limerick were represented at the National Final in Croke Park on 3 May by Gorgeous Gruaig from Laurel Hill Coláiste, Hy geenie & Safety Harness Attachment, both from Desmond College, Newcastle West
- LEO Limerick sponsored the Limerick Food Experience at Riverfest over the May Bank Holiday weekend in Arthur's Quay Park.
- LEO Limerick and Bank of Ireland have partnered to run the Friday Business Breakfast Club in Workbench O'Connell Street on a monthly basis.
- BREXIT: 'Prepare Your Business for Customs' Regional Workshop in association with LEO Clare took place on 14 May. This workshop highlighted the Customs facilities available to importers and exporters, opportunities to minimise import duty payments and to ensure compliance with customs procedures.
- Start Your Own Business: Six Week Start Your Own Business programme began on 16 May in the Kilmurry Lodge Hotel with 15 participants.
- LEO Limerick hosted food sector 'Meet the Buyer on The Street' at Limerick Institute of Technology (LIT) on 23 May in association with LIT and the Irish Quality Food Awards. 75 food and drink producers from 25 Local Enterprise Offices attended as well as Irish and English buyers in what was a hugely successful event.
- Women in Business: Network Ireland Limerick Businesswoman of the Year Awards sponsored by LEO Limerick, held on 23 May.
- Fashion Sector: 'Setting Up a Fashion Business' a 2 day workshop attended by 22 participants on 25 and 26 May.

4. Digital Strategy

- The first consultation was published on the Council's new MyPoint Public Participation Portal, on the draft Kilmallock Local Area Plan 2019-2025, while two more consultations are planned for June. Digital Strategy gave presentations on the new portal to the Management Team and the Senior Forum to raise awareness internally, while the MyPoint project board will continue to work to raise awareness of the platform both internally and externally.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPORT



- Rollout of the LITe program continued in May to Operations & Maintenance Services, bringing the total number of users 'live' on the system to approximately 240. The focus of the LITe project team will now move to setting up the councillors site on Sharepoint Online followed by a new Intranet homepage, which will replace the current one and be accessible to all staff.
- The +CityxChange project is proceeding at pace. This month, along with the regular meetings with partner organisations from industry and academia, there were two key meetings with important energy stakeholders. On 1 May, senior project members from Limerick City and County Council met with senior representatives from ESB Innovation, and ESB Networks to further pursue the technical potential of +CityxChange in helping meet the future renewable energy needs of Limerick City. This was followed up by a meeting with Commission for the Regulation of Utilities on 24 May, to highlight the project to them, and to start to create mechanisms to ensure that any planned work will be done with the end consumer being protected. There was also an introductory meeting with Derry City and Strabane District Council who are a Lighthouse city in the Stardust Project, so that both organisations can share best practices each other.
- The EU Project Manager gave a presentation of EU Funding Opportunities to the Digital Leaders Network on Thursday 23 May. The talk included information on how to develop an idea, create a consortium and then target the correct funding opportunities to match with an organisation's needs. There were some ideas with great potential, and new synergies based around them.

5. Innovate Limerick

- Prosper Limerick II was held on 2 May in ENGINE, Mike Cantwell, Head of Innovate Limerick and Dr. Pat Daly Deputy Chief Executive, Limerick City and County Council started the evening sharing the exciting initiatives coming out of Limerick. Three Limerick based entrepreneurs: JumpAgrade, Mica Nanotech and Precision Utility Mapping shared their exciting vision in scaling their companies from Limerick. Michelle Brassil of Troy Studios shared her entrepreneurial journey and the immense growth of Troy Studios and its wide-reaching impact on the economy of Limerick and the mid-west.

6. Marketing & Communications

- Riverfest Limerick 2019.
 - Concluded national digital, print, radio, marketing campaign for Riverfest Limerick 2019.
 - Produced Riverfest media book documenting local, regional and national press coverage for event worth an estimated €7m locally.
- Brand Limerick.
 - Appointed Strategic and Creative Services and Media Buying Services in the implementation of Brand Limerick following a competitive process to do so.
 - Ongoing key stakeholder meetings to discuss refinement of brand design and the development of a brand world.
- Launched the inaugural Limerick Economic Monitor, which analyses and tracks Limerick's economic and fiscal status and trends across all economic sectors.
- Launched the #OurCouncilOurStories video campaign across Limerick.ie and social media, celebrating the dedicated and diverse work of the organisation's employees.
- Participated in Failte Ireland's Taste the Island workshop, focusing on the development of visitor experiences which leverage Limerick's food and drink culture.
- National Geographic Traveller UK May 2019 front page feature and editorial secured, following liaison and itinerary consultation with travel editor Pól Ó Conghaile.
- Feature advert placed in the National Community Games 2019 Programme with a potential reach of 20,000 people.
- Engaged with German adventure travel bloggers "Off The Path", VIP visitors to Limerick through Fáilte Ireland.
- Engaged with beauty blogger Tara O'Farrell during her recent visit to Limerick.
- Organised Limerick City and County Council's 5th Birthday celebrations on 31 May.
- Marketing materials supplied to:
 - NAFSA 2019 Annual Conference and Expo in Washington DC.
 - US familiarisation trip members touring the Wild Atlantic Way.
 - Local Authority Heads of Finance annual conference.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPORT



- d. Retail Excellence National Trade Conference.
- e. Department of Rural & Community Development Helping Hand information session for community groups in Limerick.
- Produced six Limerick.ie e-newsletters.
- Monthly Limerick.ie Business Bulletin e-newsletter issued.

Social Media:

- Monitor, schedule and update social media channels with creative content to utilise our engagement with the public and put Limerick in people's minds.
- Posted 44 times on Limerick.ie's Facebook with total page likes now 23,407. Posts reached 50,523 users with 12,737 engagements.
- Tweeted 37 times on Limerick.ie's Twitter, @limerick_ie, with total followers now 16,238. Our tweets earned 108,600 impressions (no. of times users saw our tweet).
- Posted 13 times on Limerick.ie's Instagram and created seven Stories with total followers now 6,436.
- Tweeted seven times on Limerick Marketing's Twitter, @limkmarketing, with total followers now 2,692. Our tweets earned 30,000 impressions (no. of times users saw our tweet).
- Posted five times on Limerick City and County Council's LinkedIn with total followers now 2,623.

Limerick.ie

- A total of 156,445 people visited the Limerick.ie website in May 2019 – a 28% increase on the same period in 2018.
- Content Report: 310 events and 219 articles were added to Limerick.ie website in May 2019.
- Dedicated new webpages created for Limerick Elections Count, Self-guided Walking Tour of Historic Limerick, Africa Day, Choice Based Lettings Phase 2, Cruinniú na nÓg, Festival of the Maigue, Not Around Us, Limerick Economic Monitor, New Councillors, June Bank Holiday Weekend in Limerick and Our Council, Our Stories.

- The most popular pages on Limerick.ie in May 2019 were:
 1. www.limerick.ie
 2. www.limerick.ie/riverfest
 3. www.limerick.ie/council/services/planning-and-property/apply-or-search-planning-application/search-planning
 4. www.limerick.ie/council
 5. www.limerick.ie/council/services/your-council/voting-and-elections/local-elections
- 34% of website pageviews were in Discover section and 29% of pageviews were in the Council section.

Communications

- Limerick City and County Council provided live updates for the 2019 Local Elections and Plebiscite for a Directly Elected Mayor through its in-house Communications team. Every count result updated and communicated on Limerick.ie and across its social channels, a dedicated new Facebook page called 'Limerick Count' was created featuring 69 live videos (29,300 views).
- Issued 22 news releases from the Marketing and Communications Department and researched and wrote 14 speeches for the Office of the Mayor
- Produced and distributed the monthly Council Connect staff e-newsletter and annual Birthday e-zine.
- Tweeted 280 times on Limerick City and County Council's Twitter account, @limerickcouncil, with total fans now 12,601. Our tweets earned 691,800 impressions (no. of times users saw our tweet).
- Laura Ryan, Head of Marketing & Communications MC'd N/M20 Cork to Limerick Project contracts signing attended in part by An Taoiseach Leo Varadkar.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPORT



Physical Development Directorate

1. Travel & Transportation Strategy

Bus Shelters

- A new bus shelter was installed at Moyross Community Centre and the installation of another bus shelter at Avonmore Road, Raheen has commenced. These facilities will provide greater comfort to commuters and thereby assist the use of public transport.

Bike Stands

New bike parking stands have been installed at the following locations:

- Arthur's Quay at the entrance to Parkview House
- Island Road near Energie Fitness Gym
- St. Mary's RFC Clubhouse

2. Environment Strategy

World Bee Day 2019

The United Nations has designated 20 May for the annual observance of World Bee Day. The purpose of World Bee Day is to raise awareness of the importance of pollinators and their contribution to sustainable development by maintaining biodiversity and vibrant ecosystems.

On 20 May, three groups of second class students from An Mhodhscoil Primary School visited the Council's wildflower meadow in Corbally. Students participated in a workshop on wildflower and bumble bee identification and heard about how wildflower areas in urban environments help to support our pollinators.

3. Water Services

Capital Works

- Watermain rehabilitation works progressing in Ballingaddy.
- Works progressing on upgrade to Athea wastewater treatment plant.
- Works progressing on upgrade to electrical panels in Castletroy wastewater treatment plant.
- Limerick City Sewer Rehab works progressing on Catherine Street (liner), Thomas Street and O'Connell Street.

4. Mid-West Road Design Office

N/M20 Cork to Limerick Road Improvement Scheme

Limerick City and County Council has appointed Barry Transportation and its project partners WSP and Sweco as Technical Advisors to deliver planning and design services for N/M20 Cork to Limerick Road Improvement Scheme.

Limerick City and County Council is the lead authority for the N/M20 Scheme and a formal contract signing was hosted at Istabraq Hall, Merchant's Quay on 2 May. This event was attended by the Mayor of Limerick City and County Council Councillor James Collins, An Taoiseach Leo Varadkar T.D., representatives of Cork and Tipperary Councils and the CEO of Transport Infrastructure Ireland.

The N/M20 Cork to Limerick Road Improvement Scheme has been identified as a major enabler in the achievement of balanced regional development in National Development Plan: Project Ireland 2040. The N/M20 Scheme will deliver a substantial element of the Atlantic Corridor through the provision of a high quality road network linking Cork, Limerick and Galway. The N/M20 Cork to Limerick Road Improvement will improve journey times between Limerick and Cork cities thereby facilitating greater economic interaction and interrelationships between Cork, Limerick and Galway.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPORT



Comhairle Cathrach

& Contae Luimnigh

Limerick City

& County Council

Social Development Directorate

1. Tourism Development, Culture & Arts

The Great Southern Greenway – Old Barnagh Tunnel

Work is progressing on incorporating the Old Barnagh Tunnel to The Great Southern Greenway. The installation of the underpass beneath the N21 is almost complete and a mid-summer opening date is expected. It will make a fantastic addition to Greenway users when it re-connects to the existing trail.

Riverfest – 3 to 6 May

Limerick proved once again the place to be this May Bank Holiday weekend with more than 120,000 (growth of 20% on 2018) people celebrating at the city's biggest festival, Riverfest, bringing an estimated €7 million into the local economy. This year's programme saw new initiatives incorporated: community engagement via Swimmable Limerick social swim and the inaugural Limerick & District Angling Association Fishing competition; social inclusion through a new partnership with Limerick Autism Group; and cultural content in the form of locally produced Opera in the Sailors' Home, and an art market in the Potato Market. Water-based activities saw huge numbers enjoying the popular double zip line across the River Shannon while zorbing, kayaking, dragon boating and the panoramic wheel offered many a different perspective of the great river. High above the River, Limerick based aerial dance company Fidget Feet brought the world of the Shannon Fishermen to life with amazing displays of aerial acrobatics, while mermaids riding seas horses also enthralled the crowds during the festival.

Opera Workshop, Abandoned

Abandoned site-specific opera production at the Sailor's Home received the maximum grant of €1,000 from Grants under the Arts Act. 'Abandoned' was an hour-long performance of four short opera's in English that link to the city, its port and those left on shore. 'Abandoned' includes the world premiere of 'Off Tuskar' a new work, set in Limerick and written by

Limerick composer Fiona Linnane. The performances took place during Riverfest as part of the creative programme.

Peakshow

PeakShow received funding from Grants under the Arts Act Scheme. PeakShow provides a platform for local creatives to showcase their work through Open Call exhibitions organised in Limerick city. The exhibition was part of the creative programme at Riverfest and took place in FabLab in Rutland Street. The exhibition featured a range of traditional, collaborative, contemporary and experimental art and design practises to a public audience.

Fleadh by the Feale – 3 to 6 May

Fleadh by the Feale took place over the May bank holiday in Abbeyfeale. The Kilfenora Céili band were amongst the star attractions for this year's festival which saw live music and dancing at the Gig Rig in the town centre as well as traditional music sessions and workshops throughout the weekend. One of the unique programme elements of the festival is the bone playing competition, which this year attracted 13 competitors, six of whom were international. This festival is supported by Limerick City and County Council from the Festivals and Events Grant Scheme and the Invitation to Collaboration Funding Scheme from The Arts Council (a partnership across three local authorities, Limerick City and County Council, Cork and Kerry County Councils for the promotion of the Sliabh Luachra Trail).

The Big Four – Lampróig Theatre (formally County Limerick Youth Theatre) 12 – 19 May

The Big Four Series of Plays is a participative arts project involving approximately 110 actors with support from three rural villages and their local communities, performing to over 1,000 audience members with different theatre styles and types of audience engagement (i.e. interactive, promenade and site-specific). The project created an immersive theatre experience to celebrate the centenary of a landmark local action, the story of the rescue of Séan Hogan from the station in Knocklong. As well as the public performances, school performances were held on

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPORT



Comhairle Cathrach

& Contae Luimnigh

Limerick City

& County Council

two days, involving five standalone performances and workshops involving over 600 students.

Cultural Civic Engagement Programme (Volunteers) - Mayoral Reception – 15 May

As part of celebrating national volunteer week in Ireland, a Mayoral Reception for the participants from the Limerick Cultural Civic Engagement Programme took place on Wednesday 15 May. The Mayor of the City and County of Limerick, Councillor James Collins welcomed 50 volunteers to Merchant's Quay to honour them for their generosity of spirit and time, which they have given to supporting the delivery of civic festivals and events in Limerick over the past 12 months. In 2018, over 945 voluntary hours were given to support civic festivals in Limerick. The programme targets at risk of exclusion groups including residents of regeneration areas, community groups, men's sheds, direct provision residents, international students, new Irish and 1st year event management students. The programme aims to provide opportunity to engage directly with the city to encourage a sense of belonging whilst also providing a safe fun environment in which to meet new people, gain valuable experience and explore the cultural offerings of Limerick.

The Bingo Wings – Open Days – 19 and 26 May

In collaboration with Fidget Feet, everyone was invited to come along and partake in bingo themed Open Day activities and try some circus skills. The open days took place on Sunday 19 and 26 May, and brought together 10 groups who are participating ranging in age from 10 to 90 with interests in drama, bingo, meeting socially, circus, aerial dance and line dancing. The Project brings young and older citizens together in a programme of workshops and events, focusing on arts, health and wellbeing, through a series of circus and bingo themed activities, workshops and events. The Bingo Wings Project is a collaboration between multiple partners, led by Limerick City and County Council Culture and Arts Office, artistic lead Fidget Feet Aerial Dance Theatre, Kerry County Council and Donegal County Council to co-commission and produce the Bingo Wings Project, funded through the Arts Council's Invitation to Collaboration Scheme.

The Bingo Wings artist's residence in Limerick has commenced with workshops with local youth groups

and older people groups, using movement, circus and theatre to engage groups. The work of this residence will be incorporated into the final performance in September 2019 at the Lime Tree Theatre.

Partnerships

UL Hospitals Arts Committee

UL Hospitals Arts Committee reviewed and progressed the Arts Council national collection loan and the Limerick City and County Council collection loan.

Helium Arts

Helium Arts Creative Health Hub second Advisory Committee group meeting took place to offer support at this key point of programme roll out. Paediatric Outpatients Clinic referrals for participants to work with artist Paul Bokslag continued. The second block of community workshops programme, offering two sets of five 2 hour morning sessions to children with mixed conditions and rheumatic conditions took place at the Granary Library, with 7 and 12 participants, exploring the theme of animals and their habitats.

Bursary Opportunities and Open Calls

Limerick City and County Council, Culture and Arts Office, invited applications for the following bursary opportunities:

Blas International Summer School Bursary : Closing date for applications 29 May

This bursary will cover one weeks tuition (lectures, workshop, assessment and attendance at all concerts), to the value of €380. The purpose of these bursaries are to support professional development. The Blas International Summer School 2019 will take place from 24 June – 5 July. Blas provides young performers aged 16+ with the opportunity to train with leading professionals during a summer course.

Meitheal Summer School Bursary : Closing date for applications 29 May

The bursaries (2) will cover five days residential stay, meals and tuition (lectures, workshops etc.), to the

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPORT



Comhairle Cathrach
& Contae Luimnígh

Limerick City
& County Council

value of the Meitheal fee of €700. The purpose of these bursaries is to support professional development and allows students the opportunity to train with leading professionals during a residential summer course. During the week, students also attend concerts given by tutors and other artistes and various workshops and presentations finishing with a Finale Concert. Students live and breathe music for a week under expert guidance. Open to young Musicians, aged 13 or over on 1 January 2019.

Irish Youth Choir & Irish Youth Training Choir Bursary : Closing date for applications 29 May

The bursaries will cover one weeks tuition only (lectures, workshops etc.), to the value of €300. The purpose of these bursaries are to support professional development. Made up of Ireland's finest young singers aged from 18 to 28, the Irish Youth Choir meets annually for a main intensive rehearsal course in the summer under the expert tuition of the Artistic Director, Greg Beardsell, and a team of tutors and vocal coaches. The week culminates in a number of performances by the choir.

The Irish Youth Training Choir 2019 will take place from 25-29 June. IYTC provides young singers aged 14-17 with the opportunity to train with leading vocal and choral professionals during a residential summer course, culminating in an IYTC concert performance.

Drama League of Ireland Summer School Bursary : Closing date for applications 5th June

This bursary will cover one weeks tuition including lectures and workshops. The purpose of this bursary is to support professional development. Drama League of Ireland Summer School 2019 will take place from Saturday 27 July - Saturday 3 August 2019. This year they are offering a wide range of courses, catering for all levels of experience in acting and directing, as well as a class in Set Design.

Teacher-Artist Partnership CPD Programme (TAP) 2019

Limerick City and County Council, Culture and Arts Department, invited applications for the Teacher-Artist

Partnership CPD Programme (TAP) 2019 in partnership with the Limerick Education Centre. Assessments took place in May and four artists have been offered this opportunity. TAP is a Creative Ireland, Department of Education and Skills led and approved Summer Course offering. It is a fully paid training and in-school residency opportunities for artists (across all art forms) to work within primary school settings and develop partnerships with creative teachers.

Festivals and Events Grant Scheme 2019/2020

Limerick City and County Council Culture and Arts Department announced an open call for funding for Limerick based festivals and events. This competitive open call, offers the opportunity for funding under two Strands, for Festivals/Events taking place from 1 October 2019 to 30 September 2020. The closing date for applications was Friday 31 May 2019.

This year we are trialing an online application system to hopefully make the process more user-friendly and improve work efficiencies. Initial feedback has been positive.

Engagement and Information Sharing

Festivals and Events Grant Scheme Information Clinics

These Information Clinics were for festival organisers seeking further information about making an application. Two clinics which were held in May providing one to one information to applicants about the scheme and an opportunity to discuss project proposals with members of the Culture and Arts team.

- 14 May : Limerick City and County Council Offices, Merchant's Quay.
- 16 May : Newcastle West Library.

Helping Hands

The Culture and Arts Team took part in information sessions for community groups on improving grant applications on Thursday 23 May. Helping Hands was a regional event for community groups and an opportunity to provide information on how to submit good applications for grant funding. The event was run by the Department of Rural &

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPORT



Comhairle Cathrach
& Contae Luimnigh
Limerick City
& County Council

Community Development, Pobal, the Local Authority, the Irish Local Development Network, and the Local Development Company/Companies.

Creative Ireland

The Strand 3 open call 'Made in Limerick" Grants Scheme were assessed and marked by an assessment panel and letters issued to all applicants. A total of €10,000 was allocated.

Strand 3. People, Places, Networks: Enhancing our local cultural and creative infrastructure – Spotlight on Heritage:

Grant Recipient	Grant Awarded
Maigue Rivers Trust	€2,000
Lampróig Theatre (Co Limerick Youth Theatre)	€2,000
Open House Limerick	€1,900
Limerick City Gallery of Art	€1,300
Ballyhoura Comhaltas Ceoltóirí Éireann	€1,000
McCarthy's Circus Bar Travelling Exhibition	€1,000
Páini Luimní	€800
Total Awarded	€10,000

In line with Creative Ireland Guidelines, to activate local language based groups, two Irish themed applications were allocated funding through Creative Ireland in recognition of their contribution to supporting the Irish Culture and Language.

1. Conradh na Gaeilge (Limerick City) - Ag spreagadh le Scéalaíocht, Ealaín agus ár nOidhreacht" – "Inspiring through Storytelling, Art and Heritage.
2. Conradh na Gaeilge, Abbeyfeale – Ciocal Cainte agus Ranganna Gaeilge.

2. Urban & Rural Community Development

Domestic Waste Refuse Waiver Scheme

Bin Waivers:

Issued:	35
Refused:	16

Cemeteries

Mount St. Lawrence	17
Mount St. Oliver	11
Castlemungret	8
Kilmurry	4

Thematic Programmes

Health and Wellbeing

- #NotAroundUs was launched for "World No Tobacco Day." It is about communications and working together across sectors in Limerick to denormalise smoking, protect children from second-hand smoke, help reduce tobacco-related litter, and signpost to the HSE's Quit Services. So far, the management of twenty properties across the city and county including community playgrounds, community facilities, family resource centres, schools, early years services and places of worship have requested the #NotAroundUs signage. High-quality permanent #NotAroundUs signage will also be displayed in all Limerick City and County Council-owned playgrounds. A dedicated page on Limerick.ie provides information on the initiative.
- We're Breastfeeding Friendly Limerick has been entered into the Excellence in Local Government Awards under the "Health and Wellbeing" category.
- Limerick City and County Council was represented at a meeting of the National Committee of the Healthy Cities and Counties Network.

Age Friendly Programme

- The Place EE project has been entered into the Excellence in Local Government Awards under the category of 'Age Friendly Initiative.'
- Place EE nominated a number of its older participants for the Age Action National 'Silver Surfer Awards'. Subsequently one of nominees was shortlisted under the 'New to IT' category. This was a wonderful achievement as prior to the Place EE workshops the nominee was completely unfamiliar with IT.
- Limerick has, on behalf of the four demonstrator sites for PLACE – EE, completed the writing of

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPORT



Comhairle Cathrach
& Contae Luimnigh

Limerick City
& County Council

a detailed transnational report on the 'needs and assets of older citizens in rural sparsely populated areas'. The report contains quantitative and qualitative data gathered from the four demonstrator sites: Limerick, Skellefteå (Sweden), Fermanagh and Omagh (Northern Ireland) and Fjarðabyggð (Iceland).

- The Thematic Programmes team along with Mary Cronin (National Chair of the Older Peoples Councils of Ireland) presented 'Age Friendly Engagement Awards' to 2 Transition Year students from Desmond College, Newcastle West. The awards were presented to students who excelled in their participation in the Place EE intergenerational workshops run over a four month period.
- Age Friendly Limerick Programme Manager and Limerick Older Peoples Council Executive was represented at the National Convention of Older Peoples Councils of Ireland which took place in Donegal. Limerick showcased both the PLACE – EE and Acorn programmes at the event.
- The Acorn Tablet has been entered for an Excellence in Local Government award under the category of "Supporting Active Communities."
- Age Friendly Limerick Programme Manager delivered a presentation to the All Ireland Gerontological Nurses Association Annual Conference.
- Age Friendly Limerick Programme Manager delivered a presentation to the Community Participation Network.
- The Thematic Programmes team hosted a meeting of the Older Peoples Council Executive.

Integration

- The Thematic Programmes team hosted AkiDwA who delivered a one day seminar held in Merchant's Quay. The AkiDwA national Strategy 2019 – 2021 was launched by Councillor James Collins, Mayor of the City and County of Limerick, as part of the day's events.
- The Thematic Programmes team hosted Africa Day activities 2019. Events this year were spread over 11 days and culminated in an Irish-African International Soccer Tournament and a Family Fun Day. The Soccer Tournament saw four teams

take part, from Limerick City and County Council, An Garda Síochána, a team representing African communities from Dublin and a team representing African communities living in Limerick. Following a thrilling final, the outright winners were the team from An Garda Síochána. Sunday 26 May was the date for the Family Fun Day. The event was held in the Milk Market and saw 3,000 people attend. The event was a showcase of African music and dance, culture and heritage, comedy and food, with 800 people tasting a range of African dishes.

Education

- The Thematic Programmes team hosted a Comhairle na nÓg steering group meeting where the new Comhairle Na N-Óg dedicated page on Limerick.ie was presented.
- The Thematic Programmes team, as a member of the Embracing Diversity Nurturing Integration Programme (EDNIP) Steering Committee attended a workshop to finalise the Asylum Migration and Integration Fund (AMIF2) application.
- The Thematic Programmes team, as a member of the Move 4 Life Project Working Group attended a meeting to progress the Data Analysis Plan for the Programme.
- The Thematic Programmes team, as a member of the Limerick Childcare Committee, attended the AGM of the group.
- A new Learning City Charter involving the cities of Limerick, Dublin, Cork, and Derry has been signed, symbolising an act of solidarity and peace building at a time of political challenge. Councillor Eddie Ryan, deputising for the Mayor of the City and County of Limerick, joined counterparts from Cork, Dublin and Derry to jointly sign the Learning City Charter, committing to work together and to support each other through a programme of exchanges between their Learning Cities. Each of the cities, together with Belfast, is committed to following the UNESCO programme for Learning Cities and has in the past six months formed an all island network to support each other in these efforts. This charter is in the form of a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) and is a form of voluntary commitment, signed by the mayors on behalf of their cities.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPORT



Derelict Sites and Vacant Homes/Properties

Derelict Sites	
Inspections carried out	53
UVRD information notices posted	8
Statutory Notices issued under the Derelict Sites Act	15
Cases closed through engagement	15
Properties entered onto the Derelict Sites Register	4
Properties put forward for Buy & Renew	3
Properties put forward for C.P.O. Derelict Sites Act	0

Vacant Homes	
Properties identified on Vacant Homes.ie	0
Properties identified through surveying	4
No of inspections carried out (including re-inspection)	15
Cases closed through engagement	7
No. of properties forwarded for Buy & Renew	4
Properties put forward for C.P.O. Housing Act 1966	0

Limerick Local Community Development Committee

- A meeting of the LCDC took place on 30 April 2019 in Gardens International and funding under the EU LEADER Programme, totalling €341,578 was allocated to four projects.

Helping Hands Grant Workshop

Limerick City and County Council was represented at a regional event to advise and assist community groups applying for various funding streams. The event was one of a series events organised by the Department of Community and Rural Development and was held in the Southill Area Centre (Southill Hub) on 23 May.

Public Realm/Town and Village Renewal

A bronze statue of the former US President John F Kennedy was unveiled outside the Thomas Fitzgerald Centre in Bruff. The project was funded under the 2017 Town and Village Renewal Scheme.

The 2019 Town and Village Renewal Scheme was launched and Expressions of Interests have been sought. Final applications will be submitted to the Department of Rural and Community Development in June.

A public consultation event on public realm proposals for the Main Street/centre, Glin was held on the 13 May.

Traveller Accommodation Programme 2019-2023

A draft Traveller Accommodation Programme for Limerick for the period 2019-2023 was completed. The draft is available for public inspection and submissions can be made before 18 July.

Community Weekend. "The Big Hello"

The "Big Hello!" Community Event took place over the May Bank Holiday weekend. The event was a celebration of the great spirit of community that exists across the country, and is an effort to help people who share communities to come together, get to know each other and deepen the sense of community in their area. Limerick City and County Council supported over 20 local communities to organise local events to celebrate the event.

3. Libraries, Gallery & Museum

Library Services

- Bealtaine Festival, which celebrates creativity in older age, was marked in many libraries in May. Adare Library hosted an art workshop on 8 May with Chair Yoga on 15 and 22 May Kilmallock Library ran a workshop on Tracing Your Family Tree on 10 May Artist, Paul Weerasekera ran a painting workshop in Dooradoyle Library focusing on older participants. In Watch House Cross, patrons were shown how to access census records, military and pension archives and the Bureau of Military History.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPORT



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& Contae Luimnígh

Limerick City

& County Council

- To celebrate "Tech Week", 11–18 May, Adare, The Granary, Watch House Cross and Kilmallock Libraries held Cracking Codes Workshops for invited school groups. The Culture & Arts Department sponsored these workshops from Anyone4Science. On 17 May, Dooradoyle Library invited local company Whizzkids to deliver workshops on coding, animation and web design for three invited primary school groups.
- Dooradoyle Library commenced a five-week computer class for adults with special needs run by Ballyhoura Development CLG.
- Poetry Day Ireland on 2 May was celebrated in Adare and Dooradoyle branches with this year's theme of Truth or Dare!
- Primary school classes attended workshops by Irish Seedsavers and Sustainable Energy Authority Ireland in Dooradoyle and Adare and Watch House Cross.
- Author Michael Smith delivered the May Evening lecture event in The Granary. The Library was delighted to welcome back Michael, who spoke on this occasion about Irish Antarctic explorers who are less famous than Crean and Shackleton. It was a fascinating talk, much appreciated by the 50 or so in attendance. Michael also gave talks on Crean and Shackleton to children in Dooradoyle and Newcastle West.
- On 17 May as part of Decade of Centenaries "Greyhound on Train", a new play telling the story of The War of Independence through the eyes of three female activists whose voices have rarely been heard was performed in both The Granary and Watch House Cross Libraries by Carnation Theatre.
- Three music performances took place in The Granary with Bleeding Heart Pigeons on 15 May, Irish traditional music duo, Adam & Jon on 22 May and on 24 May, a lunchtime guitar recital with Aleksandra Lucic, from the Redemptorist School of Music.
- Dooradoyle Library hosted CPR Training on 11 May in association with Mungrit Parkrun and created a display to mark events at Knocklong 100 years ago.
- The Granary hosted a book launch, *La Promesse de Dublin* by Dominique La Mer on 30 May, in association with Alliance Française.
- Newcastle West started the month with a Glór na nGael awards night. Over 50 children received medals and plaques for artwork featuring captions in Gaeilge. Maple Lodge Residents, the Brothers of Charity and the Gortboy Training Centre, came together for a lovely afternoon of song and chat on 16 May, their fabulous art and crafts exhibition was officially launched as part of Mental Health Ireland events.
- Also, on the evening of 16 May, the library hosted a Festivals and Grant Scheme Clinic. Limerick City and County Council organised the information session for festival organisers, seeking further information about making an application for funding.
- The library held "Naturally Wild" workshops on 23 May. Four groups from local schools visited the library throughout the day, enjoying the presentations and talks on biodiversity in the garden by Dale Treadwell. An exhibition titled "Meanderings", from VTOS (Vocational training Opportunities Scheme) FET Adult Learning Centre in Shanagolden was shown throughout the month.
- The Salmons Wake community educational programme held an event in Watch House Cross Library on 2 May with over 60 people sharing stories of their experiences around the Angling Cot, sea shanties were sung and refreshments enjoyed by all.
- Spinal Injuries Ireland in conjunction with the Limerick college of Further Education are running a six-week programme on the topic of hospitality in the library.
- Maeve Mulrennan, artist working with EVA International's Better Words Programme held a workshop 'creating new words' with 35 Second Class children from Corpus Christi Primary School.
- Imelda Heffernan, play therapist held a very interesting and informative session for adults/ parents/guardians on 10 May in Adare Library.
- Book Clubs, Meditation classes, Digital Skills workshops all continued throughout the month at all main branches.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPORT



Limerick Museum

- Limerick Museum welcomed 2,308 visitors in May 2019.
- Five Years, an art exhibition by renowned Irish artist Ralph Gelbert opened in the Museum on 9 May and continued until 31 May.
- The Limerick Soviet 1919-2019, a Limerick Museum Exhibition in partnership with the Granary Library and Limerick Council of Trade Unions in Istabraq Hall, Merchant's Quay continued until 31 May. Among the many visitors were An Taoiseach Leo Varadker TD on 2 May.

Limerick City Gallery of Art (LCGA)

- Work on the refurbishment and other upgrades continued in the Gallery.
- Programme is going according to schedule.
- Work on the exhibition programme continued in May.
- Artist, Mary Burke, paid two visits to Co. Limerick farms for her exhibition At Home in the Farm.
- Anita Groener's exhibition, The Past is a Foreign Land, opened in The Lab on 23 May with a feature article in the Irish Times on Saturday.
- Gabhann Dunne's exhibition, Crossing the Salt, closed in Farmleigh House, Dublin on 26 May.
- Cherry Smyth performed, Famished, in St. Mary's Cathedral. This was part of a national tour.
- Loans agreements were made with The Hunt Museum for the Lavery Osborne exhibition opening on 30 May.
- A Request for Quote to develop a Strategic Plan for Limerick City Gallery of Art (LCGA) was issued to five potential candidates. The closing date for request for quotes was 27 May.

4. Limerick Sports Partnership

- 32 VIP Transition Year Students travelled to Madrid to deliver Coaching and Physical Activity sessions in two schools. They delivered sessions to 1,600 children over the four days. This was the final piece of their development over the academic year. The students were a credit to their schools and the programme over the four-day trip.
- The FitKidz Walking programme was launched where 2,500 primary school children are participating in the five-week challenge.
- The LSP hosted a Nordic walking Tutor Training programme to meet the ever-increasing demand for this programme across several communities.
- The GLR schools and community five-week programmes resulted in 3,300 participants completing the GLR Kids Run and the GLR 6 Mile.
- The LSP continues to utilise the local authority amenities for their programmes, Great Southern Greenway, UL Riverbank walk, Shelbourne Park, Grove Island, peoples park etc. these programmes include, Adventure Walk App, Activator Pole walking, Woodlands for Health walking etc.
- The LSP sports Development officers continue to develop programmes for key target groups, Men-30 to 65, Women-30 to 65, marginalised communities, walking groups and general populations across the county. See www.limericksports.ie for more information.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPORT



Housing Development Directorate

1. Housing Strategy Implementation

Choice Based Letting Pilot – Advertisement of Second Property Available

- Housing Development Directorate commenced on 17 May advertisement of a second Choice Based Letting Scheme property at 3 Cos na hAbhann, Strand, Newcastle West, Co. Limerick (3 bedroom).
- Expression of Interest deadline is 7 June 2019.
- Further information available at <https://www.limerick.ie/choice-based-letting-pilot>

Regional Housing Summit

- Representatives from Housing Development Directorate attended the Regional Housing Summit on the 2 May 2019 in Cork City.
- The purpose of the session was to:
 1. Take an opportunity for direct engagement between Local Authority staff and the Department of Housing, Planning and Local Government staff, with participation from the Housing Agency, focussed on Regional Social Housing Delivery.
 2. Provide a platform for bilateral exchange of key policy and implementation messages from the Minister/Department and key local delivery messages from Local Authorities.
 3. Update from Local Authorities on short, medium and long-term delivery pipelines and plans.
 4. Allow for opportunity for sharing of experiences and learnings.
 5. Focus sessions on key tools for delivery and activation measures.
- Seamus Hanrahan, Senior Architect, gave a presentation to the delegation on Limerick's experience with Rapid-Build.

Serviced Sites Fund

- The Housing Development Directorate applied to the second round of the Serviced Sites Fund on 17 May.

- The Fund was established by the Department of Housing, Planning and Local Government to provide funding for key facilitating infrastructure, on public lands, to support the delivery of affordable homes to purchase or rent.

National Housing Conference

- The National Housing Conference took place on 20 and 21 May in Dublin Castle, jointly organised by the RIAI and the Department of Housing, Planning and Local Government.
- The RIAI Silver Medal for Housing (the highest accolade for housing design quality in Ireland) was presented at the Conference to ABK Architects for the Southill Older Person's scheme at Colivet Court, Limerick.

Treaty City Brewery Launch

- Treaty City Brewery moved into their new flagship premises at 24 & 25 Nicholas Street on 20 May.
- Treaty City Brewery supports the creation of an identity for Nicholas Street, the main commercial street within King's Island in addition to develop stronger relationships with the creative, tourism and cultural industries sector.
- Funding through the Regeneration Programme enabled the stabilisation and refurbishment of the Council-owned properties 24 and 25 Nicholas Street which Treaty City Brewery has now occupied under a lease agreement.

2. Regeneration Strategy Implementation

- Southill Hub Win Youth category for the West region in the National Lottery Good Causes Award.

The judging panel was so impressed with their entry they now progress to the National final as a Regional Winner. The standard and quality of the entries were really high and Southill Hub should be very proud in reaching the final 36 projects, out of an original 500 entries.

Southill Hub will now pitch to the panel on why their Good Cause should be the national winner in October to receive the prize of €10,000.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPORT



Service Operations Directorate

1. Housing Support Services

Waiting List

Housing Waiting List	2,432
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Allocations

	Number of Units May 2019	Year to Date
Metropolitan District	14	50
Newcastle West	2	5
Adare - Rathkeale	2	7
Cappamore - Kilmallock	7	14
Total	25	76

Choice Based Letting

Limerick City and County Council introduced a Choice Based Letting Scheme on a pilot basis for certain council properties in the Newcastle West Municipal District, to be reviewed after 6 months. Choice Based Letting allows applicants currently on the housing waiting list to express an interest in becoming a tenant of certain properties advertised on the council website.

The pilot went live on the Council's website on Friday 29th March last. The first property advertised was 17 Lower Maiden Street, Newcastle West. Applicants had three weeks to submit their interest and the closing date was 19th April, 2019.

No. of Bids received:	403
Duplicates:	106
Closed:	1
No Decision:	3
Valid Bid:	293
Approved for 3 Bed:	39 (8 with Area of Choice for NCW)

The Communications team will update the website so all applicants can see that the property is allocated.

Currently a second property at 3 Cos Na hAbhann, Strand, Co. Limerick is advertised and will close on 7 June, 2019.

Housing Assistance Payments Limerick

2,239 – Total number of active HAP Tenancies monitored, reviewed and maintained

No. of HAP tenancies set up this month.	46
No. of Amendments.	150
No. of Cessations.	35

The HAP Department continue to hold clinics every Tuesday and Wednesday from 10 - 11 am.

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

Individuals – 26 May 2019

Location	Description	No.
McGarry House	Mixed Low threshold accommodation for singles	30
St. Patrick's Hostel	Higher threshold accommodation for single males	44
Thomond House	Higher threshold accommodation for single females	16
B&B (no children)	Adults without children accommodated in B&B	2
Temporary Emergency Provision TEP 1 (Edenvilla)	Low threshold, night by night (9pm-9am) emergency accommodation. Mixed	20
TEP 2 (Phoenix Lodge)	Low threshold, night by night (9pm-9am) emergency accommodation. Mixed	8
Total		120

Families - 26 May 2019

Location	Description	No. Adults	No. Children
Suaimhneas	Family Emergency accommodation	6	10
		Families - 6	
B&B/Hotel Accommodation	Families	48	67
		Families - 37	
Twin Oaks Family Hub	Family Hub	16	15
		Families - 10	
Totals		70	92
		Families - 53	

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPORT



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Home Improvement Schemes

MAY 2019	MAGS (Mobility Adaptation Grant Scheme)	No.	HAG (Housing Adaptation Grant Scheme)	No.	HOPS (Housing Aid for Older Persons Grant Scheme)	No.
Rathkeale	€0.00	0	€0.00	0	€3,375.00	1
Newcastle West	€22,740.81	5	€46,683.55	4	€68,267.50	12
Metropolitan	€23,785.46	5	€123,222.00	10	€42,188.10	12
Kilmallock	€20,983.82	4	€16,007.50	1	€16,000.00	2
Total	€67,510.09	14	€185,913.05	15	€129,830.60	27

Total Monies issued in May 2019 = €383,253.74

Total Grants issued in May 2019 = 56

JANUARY TO MAY 2019	MAGS (Mobility Adaptation Grant Scheme)	No.	HAG (Housing Adaptation Grant Scheme)	No.	HOPS (Housing Aid for Older Persons Grant Scheme)	No.
Kilmallock	€37,078.82	9	€51,705.73	4	75,214.17	13
Metropolitan	€153,722.32	36	€289,884.00	28	166,644.18	40
Newcastle West	€75,251.82	15	€133,197.47	13	124,916.59	26
Rathkeale	€8,680.00	3	€43,627.60	2	26,549.20	9
Total	€274,732.96	63	€518,414.80	47	393,324.14	88

Total Monies issued January to May 2019 = €1,186,471.90

Total Grants issued January to May 2019 = 198

2. Planning & Environmental Services

Environmental Services (Litter, Waste Enforcement, Air, Noise, Water/Waste Water and Public Health).

- 322 complaints were received in May
- 412 inspections were undertaken during the month
- 11 Statutory Notices were issued by the Department
- 25 Litter Fines were issued during the period
- 24 Presentation of Waste Fines were issued during May
- Five Waste Collection Permit Fines were issued during the month
- Legal proceedings were initiated in 12 cases

Economic Development & Planning Planning Applications

A total of 104 new planning applications were received as follows:

Part 8	1
Housing Developments	2
Domestic Developments	71
Agricultural Developments	9
Commercial Developments/Change of Use	11
Sporting/Community & Educational Developments	5
Other Developments	5

The current applications include proposals for:

- Part 8 for the construction of a new bridge crossing of the canal facilitating two-way traffic flow at Park Road and Lower Park Road.
- Construction of 16 semi-detached houses at Ballyanrahan East, Patrickswell.
- Construction of 52 dwellings at Coolbane, Castleconnell.
- Construction of a new Irish Water National Laboratory at Old Ballysimon Road, Garryglass.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPORT



3. Veterinary Services

- One stray or wandering equine was impounded.
- The Dog Control Unit dealt with 21 dogs.
- Four food samples were submitted during May 2019 for analysis under the National Residues and Microbiological Sampling Programme.
- The Dog Licence Awareness Campaign continued to be implemented by the Dog Wardens.

- Approval from the DHPLG was received for the Thermal Upgrade of 20 properties in St. Mary's Park (contract 124).
- Stage 3 submission was issued to DHPLG for construction of 14 houses at Brannigan's Site, Mulgrave Street, Limerick City.
- Approval received from the DHPLG for the construction of the St. Mary's Park Playground.
- Options Report for proposed works at Plassey Road Junction issued to NTA for approval to progress project.

Capital Investment Directorate

1. Design and Delivery

CoraPPM

The new Cora Project Management system for capital schemes went operationally live.

Finance

Design and Delivery are responsible for recouping for all Housing Delivery projects since March 2019. Since March 2019, €2,214,253.17 has been successfully recouped.

This amount includes:

In- house Professional/Technical Fees	€135,167.00
Project Administration	€12,973.00
Total recouped for May 2019	€425,144.18

Approvals sought/obtained:

- Stage 3 submission was issued to the Department of Housing, Planning and Local Government for approval to proceed to Tender for 11 no. new houses at Lower Carey's Road, Limerick City.
- Stage 4 submission was issued to DHPLG for approval to commence work St. Patrick's Villas, Castleconnell for the delivery of four houses.
- Stage 4 submission was issued to DHPLG for approval to commence work 45A / 46 Cliona Park for the delivery of one house and a linkage to Cloncananne Road.

Part VIII:

- The construction of a new bridge and road realignment works at Park Road Canal Bridge were submitted for Part VIII.
- Castletroy Urban Greenway proposal, which will provide much needed connectivity in the Castletroy area, was submitted for Part VIII.

Tenders:

- Tenders were received for the construction of 43 houses at Clonmacken, Limerick City.
- Tenders received for contractor to commence construction of the Croom Distributor Road.
- Tenders received for the construction of 27 houses at Barnakyle, Patrickswell.
- Seven houses that will be refurbished under the Derelicts Programme have been issued for Tender.

Commencement on Site:

- Work commenced on the delivery of three refurbished houses in the CHAS Flats, Mary Street.
- Work commenced on the construction of three extensions to existing Halting Bays and the refurbishment of the existing Community Centre at Kilmurry View Halting Site.

Completion:

- The construction of the new road under Mungret LIHAF Stage 1 was completed.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPORT



- The refurbishment of four houses were completed and handed over under the Buy and Renew programme.
- The Refurbishment of a Special Needs house in Abbeyfeale was completed and handed over.

Awards:

- ABK Architects were awarded the Royal Institute of Architects of Ireland (RIAI) Silver Medal for Housing for Southill Older Persons' Accommodation (Colivet Court). This is the highest honour awarded by the RIAI for housing design.

Facilities Team

- Mayoral Reception supported for the Crescent Comprehensive Hockey Team: Kate Russell All Ireland Senior 'A' Hockey Trophy in 2019.
- Facilities Team supported the FAI launch of Gaynor Cup.
- Facilities Team supported the Press room for the signing of Design Contracts N/M20 Cork to Limerick Road Improvement Scheme.
- Mayoral Reception supported for Cecilian Musical Society.
- Mayoral Reception supported for Rose Nolan, Thomas Shanahan and Siobhan Brady.

2. Property Services

Corporate Buildings

- New Office for Traffic Wardens in Merchant's Quay completed.

Property Transactions

Acquisitions and Disposals statistics:

Statistics	
House purchases concluded:	6
House Purchases at bidding stage:	7



CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPORT
**National & Regional
Shared Services Directorate**
**1. Housing Assistance Payments
(HAP) Shared Services Centre**

- There were 47,619 active HAP tenancies nationally managed by the HAP Shared Services Centre at the end of May, 2019.
- The weekly tenant debit was over €2.2 million
- The HAP Landlord payment run was over €37 million.

2. Fire & Emergency Services

Five new recruits passed out.

Statistics

	Fire Related Calls	Non Fire Related Calls	Total
No. of call outs 01/05/19 – 31/05/19	90	40	130
% of calls where on scene in < 10 minutes from time of call	59%	60%	
% of calls where on scene between 11 and 20 minutes from time of call	30%	31%	
% of calls where on scene in > 20 mins from time of call	11%	9%	

	Received / Assigned	Validated	Invalidated / Refused	Granted	Completed
Fire Certificate Applications May 2019	18	18	1	9	
Disability Access Cert Applications May 2019	19	19	1	6	
Licensing Applications May 2019	6	6	0		
Commencement Notice May 2019	62	53	9	53	
Completion Certificate May 2019	11	11	0	11	
Planning Referrals	21				10
Sugar CRM Cases May 2019	0				4

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPORT



Civil Defence attendance at Events for month of May 2019

- Riverfest BBQ
- Regeneron Great Limerick Run
- Limerick Primary School Athletics Finals

Fire & Emergency Training Events for month of May 2019

- Limerick Fire & Rescue Service ran a Sub Station Officer Course in Shannon Fire Station. 18 firefighters from Limerick successfully completed this course.
- Five instructors travelled to Wales to be re certified as Swiftwater Rescue Technician Instructors.
- A refresher course was run for the instructors of the Simon Snorkel 70' High Reach appliance.
- Four fire fighters completed an Emergency Services Driving Standard course.
- A five day Emergency First Responder course was delivered in Kilmallock Fire Station for 11 fire fighters.

- Five recruits were trained in the use of ladders, pumps and updated with the current Standard Operating Guidelines.
- Five recruits were trained as SwiftWater Rescue Technicians enabling them to respond to water based rescues.
- 11 staff members completed Positive Pressure Ventilation course.
- 10 fire fighters were trained in High Rise Fire Fighting Rescue Techniques.
- Six fire fighters received a Health & Safety presentation.
- Five recruits received Incident Command System training.
- Five recruits received Tunnel Fire Fighting Information training.
- Five recruits were trained as SwiftWater Rescue Technicians enabling them to respond to water based rescues.
- Five recruits were trained in the use of powerboats and can now carry out rescues from our FireSwift boat on the River Shannon.

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 May
No. of call outs 01/05/2019-31/05/2019	1,469	1,055	1:15min	2,524

Water Safety

No. of lifebuoy replacements	May 2019	Total 2019 Jan - May
Metropolitan Area	1	6
Municipal Area	0	7

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPORT



Support Services Directorate

1. Finance Services

Rent Collection

Opening Balance @ 01/01/2019	Accrued Income	Total for collection	Receipts	Closing balance 31/05/2019	% Collection
€3,822,761	€6,317,369	€10,140,130	€6,282,683	€3,857,447	62%

Commercial Rates and Loans

Draft Collection Figures

Commercial Rates 2019	Opening Balance 1 Jan €	Accruals €	Vacant Property Adjustment €	Writes offs/ Waivers €	Total for Collection €	Amount Collected €	Arrears €	Specific Doubtful Arrears €	% Collected
As at 31 May 2019*	11,723,152	56,166,755**	199,017	456,573	67,234,317	24,614,733	42,619,584	3,202,389	38%

**The date for making the 2019 Rate was 1st February 2019.

Debtors Loans	Opening Balance 1 Jan €	Accruals €	Writes offs/ Waivers €	To Collect €	Receipts €	Arrears €	% Collection
As at 31 May 2019*	486,661	499,307	11	985,979	683,642	302,337	69%

Recourse to Overdraft Facility

No. of days in overdraft 0

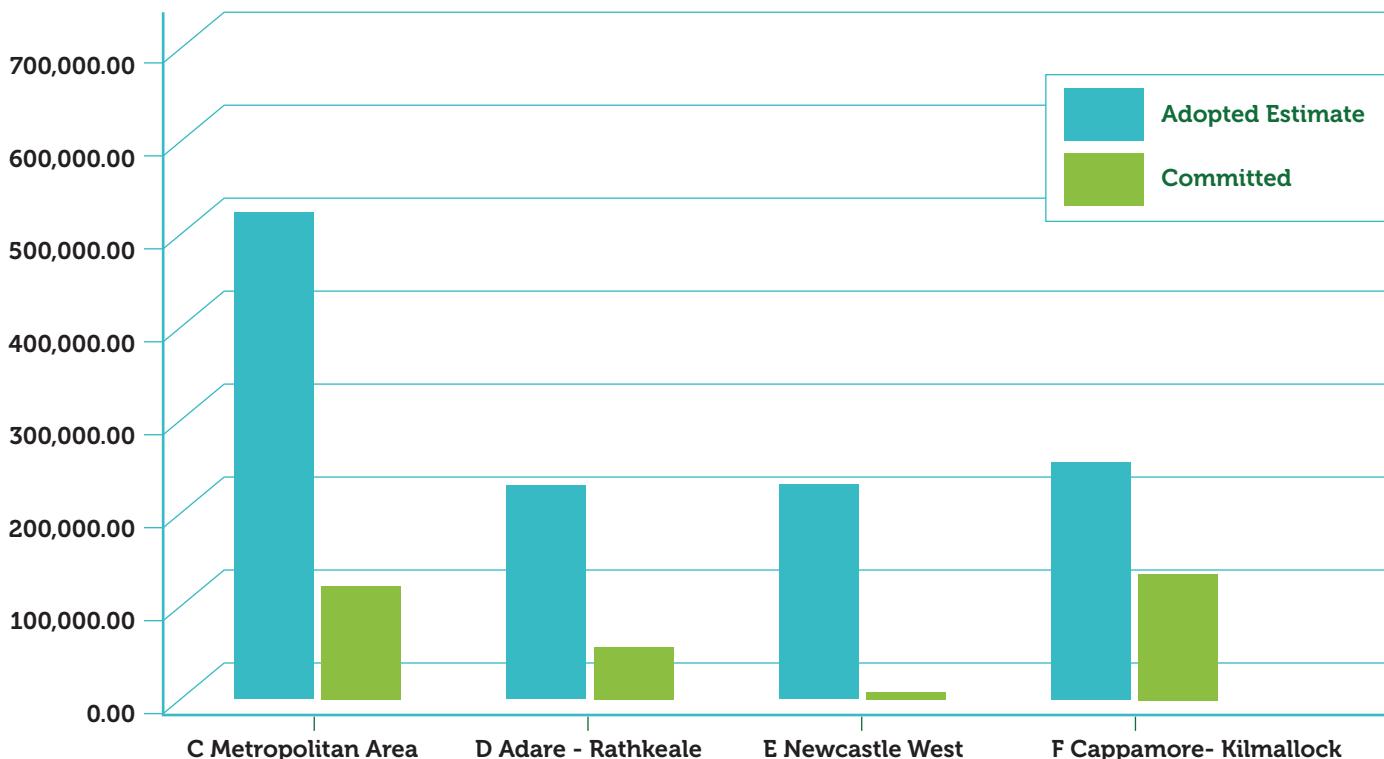
CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPORT



General Municipal Allocation 2019

Adopted Estimate €1.203 Million

Graph outlining adopted budget and draft committed expenditure up to 31 May 2019.



Municipal (Code) + (Text)	Value Adopted Estimate	Value Committed
C Metropolitan Area	503,000.00	99,072
D Adare - Rathkeale	225,000.00	50,321
E Newcastle West	225,000.00	0
F Cappamore - Kilmallock	250,000.00	123,243

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPORT



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Limerick City
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2. Corporate Services, Governance & Customer Services

Corporate Services

Corporate Services managed and co-ordinated all activities associated with Local Elections 2019 for the six Electoral Areas of Limerick City and County and for the Plebiscite on a proposed directly elected Mayor with Executive Functions.

Functions carried out by Corporate Services included:

- 92 Nominations were received and processed.
- Ballot papers were designed and produced for each Electoral Area for Local Elections 2019 and for the Plebiscite.
- Notice of Poll was placed in Local Media.
- A Freephone 1800 facility was set up to assist to assist Vision Impaired voters.

Additional work in advance of the Elections included

- Design and layout of suitable count centre and all equipment necessary for the count in each local electoral area.
- Employment of Count Staff.
- Supply of stationery and control cards.
- Issue of Passes to the Count Centre.
- Provision of facilities for the Media, Tallymen/ Agents, Candidates and Members of the Public.

Corporate Services also organised and managed a series of mock counts, which contributed to the overall success of the counts in each Electoral Area on Sunday, 26 May and the Plebiscite count held on Monday 27 May.

40 Members were duly elected and are listed hereunder as per each Electoral Area:

Adare-Rathkeale	
Adam Teskey	(F.G.)
Stephen Keary	(F.G.)
Richard O'Donoghue	(NON-P)
Emmett O'Brien	(NON-P)
Bridie Collins	(F.F.)
Kevin Sheahan	(F.F.)

Cappamore-Kilmallock	
Brigid Teefy	(NON-P)
Martin Ryan	(F.F.)
Eddie Ryan	(F.F.)
Gerald Mitchell	(F.G.)
John Egan	(F.G.)
P.J. Carey	(NON-P)
Michael Donegan	(F.F.)
Newcastle West	
Jerome Scanlan	(F.G.)
Michael Collins	(F.F.)
Liam Galvin	(F.G.)
John Sheahan	(F.G.)
Francis Foley	(F.F.)
Tom Ruddle	(F.G.)
Limerick City East	
Seán Hartigan	(G.P.)
Elena Secas	(LAB.)
Catherine Slattery	(F.F.)
Michael Murphy	(F.G.)
Sarah Kiely	(F.G.)
Michael Sheahan	(F.G.)
Jerry O'Dea	(F.F.)
Limerick City West	
James Collins	(F.F.)
Daniel Butler	(F.G.)
Joe Leddin	(LAB)
Dan McSweeney	(F.G.)
Fergus Kilcoyne	(NON-P)
Elisa O'Donovan	(S.D.)
Abul Kalam Azad Talukder	(F.F.)
Limerick City North	
Frankie Daly	(NON-P)
Brian Leddin	(G.P.)
Kieran O'Hanlon	(F.F.)
Olivia O'Sullivan	(F.G.)
Conor Sheehan	(LAB)
John Costeloe	(S.F.)
Sharon Benson	(S.F.)

A detailed list of results for each count is available on www.limerick.ie

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPORT



Receptions

Mayoral Receptions were held for the following:

- Crescent College Senior Hockey Team, in recognition of the singular achievement of Crescent College Senior Hockey Team in winning the Kate Russell All Ireland Senior A Hockey Trophy in 2019. This win was the highlight of a remarkable year of success for hockey in Crescent, at all levels. We recognise the application, talent, dedication and commitment of the girls involved and the volunteer coaches who continue to put so much into Crescent Hockey.
- Crescent College Under 15 Hockey Team, in recognition of the achievement of the Crescent College Under 15 Hockey Team in winning the silver medal in the June Smith All Ireland Under 15A Hockey Tournament in 2019. We recognise the application, talent, dedication and commitment of the girls involved and the volunteer coaches who continue to put so much into Crescent Hockey.
- Festival and Event Volunteers, to acknowledge the valued contribution of volunteers to Cultural Civic Festivals and Events in Limerick.
- Cecilian Musical Society, in recognition of their achievement in reaching the milestone of their Centenary year. The Cecilians have been entertaining Limerick audiences with quality musical theatre since 1919.

Mayor of the Metropolitan District of Limerick Receptions were held for the following:

- Thomas Shanahan, in recognition of his sporting achievement of completing 20 Marathons in 10 days.
- Joe O'Halloran, in recognition of his services to sport and the community in Limerick.
- Siobhan Brady, in recognition of her achievements as an internationally renowned harper which includes her record for the 'Highest Harp and Piano Concert in the Himalayas' in 2018.

Register of Electors

Corporate Services published the Supplement to the Register of Electors for the European Parliament Elections, Local Elections, Referendum and Plebiscite held on the 24th May.

- 4,259 application forms were processed.
- 3,636 electors were added to the Supplement to the Register of Electors.
- 783 electors were deleted from the Register of Electors.

Health and Safety Training

During the month of May, Health and Safety Training Unit arranged the following courses:

Name of Course	Total Number of Staff Trained
Best Practice in Preparing/Responding to Serious Incidents	26
Chemical Safety Awareness	113
Drivers CPC's	3
First Aid Response	1
Loading Shovel Course	4
Playground Inspections Training	11
Safe Pass	3
Manual Handling	3
Total Staff Trained in Month of May	164

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPORT



Customer Services

In May, Limerick saw both a local election and divorce referendum, as well as a Mayoral Plebiscite vote. Throughout the month, Customer Services aided the Franchise Team by answering queries via the counter, phone and email. Our teams in both Dooradoyle and Merchants Quay handled 293 telephone queries as well as 345 counter queries throughout May regarding the Register of Electors.

Customer Services also continued to support the Housing Maintenance Department by managing 1,083 of calls throughout the month of May.

Customer Services received calls 12,098 via our call centre throughout the month, handling 44% of calls at first point of contact.

This works out at approximately 526 calls per day.

In May, there were 903 cases logged on behalf of elected representatives by Customer Services.

Overall, on the SugarCRM (Customer Relationship Management) System, 3,052 cases were logged throughout May, 72% of these being logged by Customer Services in both our Merchants Quay and Dooradoyle offices.

The majority of cases logged were for the following services:

Operations and Maintenance (54% being housing maintenance)	2,280
Housing Support Services	323
Planning and Environmental Services	206
Design & Delivery	70
Veterinary	43
Customer Services	24

The total number of callers to our counters at Merchants Quay and Dooradoyle was 3,097.

3. Schedule of Meetings

Name of Meeting	Date	Location
Operational Briefings Limerick City East Limerick City North Limerick City West	07.05.2019 07.05.2019 07.05.2019	Merchant's Quay Merchant's Quay Merchant's Quay
Local Community Development Committee	07.05.2019	Merchant's Quay
Municipal District of: Newcastle West – Monthly Meeting Cappamore-Kilmallock – Monthly Meeting Adare-Rathkeale – Monthly Meeting	01.05.2019 09.05.2019 14.05.2019	Newcastle West Cappamore Rathkeale
Joint Policing Committee Meeting	10.05.2019	Dooradoyle
Metropolitan District of Limerick Monthly Meeting	20.05.2019	Merchant's Quay

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPORT



4. Access to Information

	May	2019 (January to May)
Total Freedom of Information Requests	10	83
FOI Internal Appeals	-	2
Information Commissioner Appeals	1	3
Total Ombudsman Requests	4	15
Total AIE Requests	-	2

5. Business Improvement

- In May, the Business Improvement Department launched the 'Did you know' email series. This will see emails sent on an ad hoc basis with information or data that may be useful to our staff and our public representatives in the course of fulfilling their duties.
- The first 'Did you know' email detailed our internal 'Team Communication Protocol template' which is available on the Intranet. This is the standardised template for all monthly team meetings in Limerick City and County Council. Updates from Management Team meetings, Senior Team meetings, Cross Directorate meetings, the Senior Forum and the Staff Liaison Network are provided on the template for discussion at monthly team meetings.
- The purpose of this template is to ensure all staff are kept up to date on what is going on in the organisation and are provided with opportunities to input into the continuous improvement of Limerick City and County Council.

