

## **Limerick City and County Council**

**Meeting to be held on Monday, 8<sup>th</sup> July, 2019**

### **Question submitted by Councillor F. Kilcoyne**

I will ask at the next meeting that the cycle lanes in Limerick City and County be swept once a month to clear broken glass and debris for cyclists.

### **REPLY:**

Limerick City and County Council carries out extensive street sweeping daily on many routes across the city and county. As the network of cycle routes increases and more cyclists avail of same, the Council will continue to monitor the maintenance of the cycle network. This will include sweeping, maintenance and repair of same. Where the Council is made aware that a cycle route needs attention outside of routine maintenance the Council will address as soon as is possible. Members of the Council and the public are requested to use Sugar CRM to make us aware of individual cases.

Accordingly as the network of cycle ways increases, the Council will keep the maintenance of all roads and footpaths under review in the context of competing demands for services. It is important to understand that where additional sweeping may be required, this will have resource implications and will need to be considered in the context of the annual budget. It will also be open to members to allocate resources under the General Municipal Allocation for various services, should they wish.

**Anne Peters,  
Senior Engineer.**



**COUNCIL MEETING TO BE HELD ON: MONDAY 8<sup>TH</sup> JULY 2019**

**Question submitted by Cllr. S Benson**

I will ask at the next meeting that Limerick City and County Council provide the following details in relation to Mobility Aids Grants, Housing Adaptation Grants for People with Disabilities and Disabled Person's Grant for each year from 2015 to 2019 (to date) inclusive.

The number of applications that were received, awarded and are still outstanding for each particular grant, for each of the years specified.

The amount of Government funding that was awarded for each particular grant, for each of the years specified.

The value of awarded outstanding applications for each particular grant.

The value, if any, of funding returned to government, unspent, over the years specified for each of the grants.

The average waiting time for each type of grant from the time of application to when works are complete.

**REPLY:**

|       |                |                    |
|-------|----------------|--------------------|
| 2016  | 556 households | €2.7 million       |
| 2017  | 453 households | €2.28 million      |
| 2018  | 461 households | €2.9 million       |
| 2019* | In progress    | €3,351,160 million |

**Private Grants – Housing Adaptation, Mobility Aid and Housing Aid for Older People**

**Disabled Persons Grant Scheme**

|      |                |               |
|------|----------------|---------------|
| 2016 | 111 households | €905,903.18   |
| 2017 | 81 households  | €654,002.36   |
| 2018 | 53 households  | €504,000.00   |
| 2019 | *              | €1,402,500.00 |

- At no point has funding ever been returned to the Department of Housing, as an Authority we strive to utilise the maximum funding available at all times.
- The application process can take between 3 to 8 weeks depending on time of year and volume of applications received at any one time. Funding available also fluctuates from year to year coupled with the Department of Housing grant approval dates changing each year which can add time to the overall process.
- For DPG funding, there is currently a very large backlog due to funding limitations experienced over the past number of years. The 2019 allocation increase is very welcome and it will significantly improve the backlog. However we must stress the importance of maintaining this level of funding for the next number of years.

**Rob Lowth, Housing Support Services**

**02/07/2019**

**LIMERICK CITY AND COUNTY COUNCIL**

**MEETING TO BE HELD ON 8<sup>TH</sup> JULY, 2019**

**Question submitted by Councillor S. Benson**

I will ask at the next meeting, the reason why the housing adaptation grants season closes from October to January each year and if there are any plans to review this going forward, to allow for urgent applications to be processed and awarded during this time.

**REPLY:**

The Housing Adaptation Grant Scheme and Mobility Aid Grant does not close at any stage during the year. Funding in October would be largely allocated at this time.

We are not in a position to issue approval letters where we have no funding to allocate as we strive to manage customer expectations at all times. Doing this allows us to ensure that all works are completed and that we can submit our returns to the Department of Housing. Please note that Priority Emergency Cases will always be addressed.

**Rob Lowth, Housing Support Services  
5/07/2019.**

**LIMERICK CITY AND COUNTY COUNCIL**  
**MEETING TO BE HELD ON MONDAY 8<sup>TH</sup> JULY 2019**

**Question submitted by Councillor C. Sheehan**

I will ask at the next meeting for a timeframe for the completion of the Limerick Shannon Metropolitan Area Transport Strategy.

**Reply**

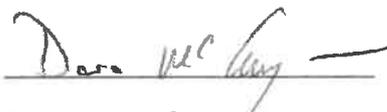
The National Transport Authority (NTA), in partnership with Limerick City and County Council (LCCC) and Clare County Council (CCC), has commenced work to develop a new Metropolitan Area Transport Strategy (MATS) for the Limerick Shannon Metropolitan Area.

The LSMATS will set out a series of actions and measures, covering infrastructural, operational and policy elements to be implemented in the Limerick Shannon Metropolitan Area over the next 20 years and will outline a framework to deliver the projects in a phased manner. The strategy will take account of current and predicted population, National Planning Framework objectives, national transport policies, existing plans and strategies in the region and existing transport assets.

Progress to date has included the collation of data in relation to land use forecasts and demand analysis modelling. Analysis is currently under way and a Baseline Report is being drafted.

The next step is review of the Baseline Report and the Demand Analysis Report by LCCC and CCC and feedback to the NTA.

Once the review of baseline and demand analysis is complete, development of transport options will commence. It is anticipated that stakeholder consultation will commence in August/September 2019, with a draft of the Strategy being prepared for public consultation in January, 2020. Following public consultation the Strategy should be completed by Quarter 2 2020.



**pp Brian Kennedy**  
**Director**  
**Physical Development Directorate**  
**3<sup>rd</sup> July, 2019**

**LIMERICK CITY AND COUNTY COUNCIL**

**MEETING TO BE HELD ON MONDAY 8<sup>TH</sup> JULY 2019**

**Question submitted by Councillor J. Collins**

I will ask at the next meeting of Limerick Council for an update on Limerick's Transport Strategy. When is the strategy to be delivered? When will consultation take place with members of the public, other interest groups and local representatives?

**Reply**

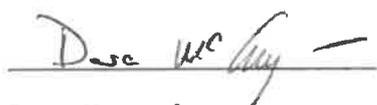
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**Brian Kennedy**

**Director**

**Physical Development Directorate**

**3<sup>rd</sup> July, 2019**



## LIMERICK CITY AND COUNTY COUNCIL

**MEETING TO BE HELD ON MONDAY 8<sup>th</sup> July, 2019**

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### Question submitted by Councillor J. Collins

I will ask at the next meeting of Limerick City and County Council for details of how many new social housing units, by district, will be delivered in 2019? How many voids, by district, does Limerick Council currently have? What is the average time to return a void house back into use? What measures are planned to reduce this turnaround time?

### Response to Question

New Social Housing units are being delivered under the following programmes in 2019:

- CAS Construction
- SHIP and Regeneration Construction
- Part V
- Part V Community Homes
- SHIP Turnkey

The number of units projected to be delivered under these programmes in 2019 is 109. 92 of these units are in the Metropolitan District, 6 in the Cappamore/Kilmallock Municipal District and 11 in the Newcastle West Municipal District.

The number of voids currently in Limerick City and County Council's stock are as follows:

- Limerick Metropolitan District: 64 Major Refurb & 81 Casual Vacancies
- Adare-Rathkeale District: 2 Major Refurb & 9 Casual Vacancies
- Newcastle West District: 15 Major Refurb & 24 Casual Vacancies
- Cappamore-Kilmallock District: 9 Major Refurb & 17 Casual Vacancies

The average return time for void properties is 28.49 weeks.

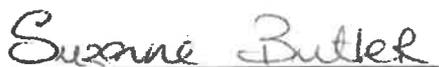
We committed to removing the current batch of Voids by June 2020, understanding that the return of properties, for various reasons, takes place on an on-going basis.

To manage the issue we have introduced a fast-track process that will see a pilot project being launched to return 30 of the properties in the coming months. After the first phase is completed we will move to return more of the properties in batches of 30.

The pilot will be completed in conjunction with the existing work programme of Operations and Maintenance and Design and Delivery who look after the properties approved for Voids funding and properties approved under the Buy and Renew Scheme.

We are introducing a single point of contact to assess the returned property immediately. This will ensure that the vacated property enters a work stream based on a standard scope and timeframe, which is determined by an inspection of the property at the outset.

The above measures will be reviewed on a monthly basis to assess progress made with regular reporting on same to be included in our report to Council.



Aoife Duke

Director of Service

Housing Development

4<sup>th</sup> July, 2019