

To : The Mayor and Each Member of Limerick City and County Council

Re : Mayoral Visit to Hangzhou, China

9th September, 2019

A Chomhairleoir, a Chara,

An invitation from the Mayor of Hangzhou, China, was received by the Mayor in July 2019 to attend the 2019 Hangzhou International Sisters Cities Mayors Conference in Hangzhou from 3rd to 6th September 2019 (see attached).

You will recall that Limerick City and County Council signed an Economic Memorandum of Understanding with the Chinese city of Hangzhou in December, 2018. Since then, the Economic Development Directorate has been working with the Irish Chinese Association and the Chinese Embassy in Ireland to strengthen economic ties between the two cities. The purpose of the Mayor's attendance is to build on existing work to date and to deepen the relationship between the two cities in the areas of mutual economic and cultural co-operation.

The Mayor was requested to present a paper on Limerick's progression to becoming a Smart City. The Mayor also attended the 2019 Hangzhou International Day while in the city.

The costs associated with the visit were €2,750 (flights, transfers and accommodation).

In accordance with Section 142(5) of the Local Government Act 2001, as amended, the retrospective approval of the Council is hereby sought for the visit to Hangzhou.

Yours sincerely,



James Clune

A/Senior Executive Officer

Corporate Services



杭州市人民政府

MUNICIPAL GOVERNMENT OF HANGZHOU
188 FUCHUN ROAD, HANGZHOU 310002, CHINA
TEL: +86-571-85256664; FAX: +86-571-85256394

Invitation to 2019 Hangzhou Int'l Sister City Mayors' Conference

James Collins
Mayor of the City & County of Limerick, Ireland

Dear Mr. James Collins,

The recent years have seen Hangzhou's unyielding efforts to grow as a digital economy forerunner city in China. In synergy of the world famous tech enterprises such as Alibaba Group and Hikivision, Hangzhou is accelerating the development of the booming High-Tech industrial cluster areas, led by the City West High-Tech Innovation Corridor and the City East Smart Manufacturing Corridor.

In this context, Hangzhou Municipal Government will host the 7th International Sister City Mayors' Conference with the theme of "Digital Economy and Smart City" from September 3rd to 6th, 2019, with the forum discussion on 3 topics, namely, "Digital Economy, Innovation and Entrepreneurship", "AI Application" and "Smart City in the Upcoming 5G Era". The conference also includes a variety of other well-designed programs with highlights such as "Friendship City Agreement Signing Ceremony", "Sister City Forest Planting Ceremony" and city tour. The conference will offer a platform for the global city operators, the business and academic representatives to meet up for brainstorming, dialogue and cooperation. We sincerely hope that, through case studying and communication, we could bring more knowledge and opportunities for the participated cities.

In joint with the conference, Council Meeting of UCLG-ASPAC Committee on Belt and Road Local Cooperation will be held to review the annual work and compose the work plan for the next year. New members are to be admitted and more opportunities of cooperation in the digital field are to be navigated among its members.

Hereby I cordially invite you to attend the conference and the City of Hangzhou will cover the cost of ground transport and accommodations for you and other 2 representatives for the 3 nights and 4 days' participation at the conference.

Look forward to welcoming you by the beautiful West Lake.

Yours faithfully,

Xu Liyi
Mayor of Hangzhou