

**MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS AT SPECIAL MEETING OF THE METROPOLITAN DISTRICT OF LIMERICK HELD IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER, MERCHANT'S QUAY, LIMERICK, ON MONDAY, 7<sup>TH</sup> OCTOBER, 2019.**

**PRESENT IN THE CHAIR:** Councillor James Collins, Cathaoirleach

**MEMBERS PRESENT:**

Councillors Benson, Costelloe, Kiely, Kilcoyne, McSweeney, Murphy, O'Dea, O'Donovan, O'Hanlon, O'Sullivan, Sheehan, Slattery and Talukder.

Apologies for his inability to attend were received from Cllr Leddin (J).

**OFFICIALS IN ATTENDANCE:**

Director, Service Operations (Mr. K. Lehane), Meetings Administrator (Mr. J. Clune), Administrative Officer (Ms. F. McCormack).

1. **Environmental Protection Agency's Decision to Grant an Incineration Licence to Irish Cement at Mungret**

The Cathaoirleach welcomed members to the Special meeting to discuss the EPA's decision to grant an incineration licence to Irish Cement at Mungret.

At the outset of the meeting an adjournment of 10 minutes was proposed by Cllr Kiely, seconded by Cllr O'Dea and agreed.

Members discussed the decision of the EPA to grant the licence and referred to Section 44 of the Planning & Development Act and requested advice on same. Director, Service Operations read the relevant section to the Meeting. Section 44 can only be used where the development to which the permission relates no longer conforms with the provisions of the development plan.

Members referred to the planning permission granted and how the planning permission will be enforced. Members discussed the requirement to vary the Development Plan and requested the Chief Executive to consider initiating a variation to the Development Plan to include a ban on incineration.

Following further discussion, it was proposed by Councillor Collins, seconded by Councillor O'Dea and agreed:

"That, the Members of the Metropolitan District of Limerick reject the decision of the Environmental Protection Agency to grant a licence to Irish Cement to incinerate waste in Mungret."

Members stated that in light of the public concerns the EPA should hold an oral hearing and on the proposal of Councillor Collins, seconded by Councillor O’Dea and agreed:

“That, the Members of the Metropolitan District of Limerick call on the Environmental Protection Agency to hold an Oral Hearing in Limerick in relation to the licence granted to Irish Cement.”

Members discussed the appeal process and the fees associated with lodging an appeal or request for an oral hearing. Following this discussion it was proposed by Councillor Collins, seconded by Councillor O’Dea and agreed :

“That, the Members of the Metropolitan District of Limerick write to the Environmental Protection Agency expressing concern regarding the appeal fees which are prohibitive to people who wish to lodge an objection.”

Members referred to the impact that this decision could potentially have on public health and following further discussion, it was proposed by Cllr O’Donovan, seconded by Cllr Collins and agreed “that an invitation be extended to the Public Health Unit of the HSE to address the Metropolitan Members at their next Metropolitan Meeting”.

Members also expressed concerns that they didn’t have the list of 60 items that can be incinerated and if they fall within raw materials or waste matter. Members requested that Physical Development Directorate would examine the relevant conditions and make a submission to the EPA to the 15th October

This concluded the Meeting.

**Signed:** \_\_\_\_\_  
**CATHAOIRLEACH**

**Dated:** \_\_\_\_\_