

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPORT



Comhairle Cathrach
& Contae **Luimnigh**

Limerick City
& County Council

October 2019

THIS MONTH:

RENEWAL - Over €1½ million for towns and village renewal

GOLD - Communities celebrate at Going for Gold Grand Final

PARK - New community park opened in Moyross

STORY - Limerick presents at various international conferences

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& County Council**Economic Development Directorate****1. Trade and Investment**

- Consulting Firm EY announced 16 new jobs in its Limerick Office over the next year.
- Ortec Inc. have reaffirmed their plans to establish a European Headquarters, Manufacturing and Operations Centre in Newcastle West, creating up to 110 skilled engineering and science jobs in the region over the next few years.
- Kirkland Investments lodged a planning application for a revised high-spec riverside development at Bishop's Quay, similar to previous application, but will reduce the building height from 14 storeys to seven. It will deliver 100 construction jobs and facilitate hundreds of office jobs when completed.
- Shannon Foynes Port Company lodged planning application for restoration of Bannatyne Mills, Dock Road and change of use from a grain store to commercial office use.

2. Strategic and Forward Planning

- The Kilmallock Local Area Plan 2019-2025 was made by the Elected Members of the Cappamore – Kilmallock Municipal District at the October Municipal Meeting.
- A submission was made on the Material Alterations to the draft Regional Spatial and Economic Strategy for the Southern Region on behalf of the Local Authority.

3. Local Enterprise Office (LEO)

- Brexit Advice Clinics took place throughout October in the LEO Offices in Patrick Street
- Limerickfood.ie website launched by Minister Pat Breen at the PIGTOWN annual industry seminar held in the Woodlands Hotel, Adare
- Mid West Region National Women's Enterprise Day Conference took place on Thursday 17 October in Dromoland Castle. Nationally this was the largest NWED celebration!
- LEO Limerick sponsored Network Limerick's October Women in Business event on 23 October in the Savoy Hotel: Creative Content Masterclass with PLAY – Creative Agency
- LEO continues to promote all activities and programmes, with emphasis on Brexit supports.

4. Innovate Limerick**Global Irish Festival Series**

A number of business related events were held as part of the INY and the Richard Harris International Film Festival, including:

- I.NY creative Education Symposium Design Group Workshop
- I.NY Sports Exchange Initiative Gathering
- I.NY Enterprise and Innovation Creativity in Enterprise Forum
- RHIFF - Developing Feature Films in Regional Locations
- RHIFF - Masterclass with writer/directors Conor McMahon and Mark Noonan hosted by Screen Ireland.
- RHIFF - iMET - Media Technology Summit.

5. Marketing & Communications**Marketing****Brand Limerick**

- Creation of Brand Ambassadorial Structure, to continue our extensive programme of brand stakeholder engagement and to harness Limerick's energy and enthusiasm across our community, which will deliver reach and multi layered community engagement.
- Progressing an internal stakeholder communications plan, which will feature over 20 engagement sessions with both outdoor and indoor Limerick City and County Council staff over the month of November to brief them on the development of the brand and the plan for its launch.
- Continued production of assets for use across all our communications channels.
- Informed and presented to the consultants responsible for the delivery of Fáilte Ireland's Visitor Experience Development Plan for Limerick, re the development of the brand and its implementation.

Halloween in Limerick Marketing Campaign

- Continued marketing campaign for Halloween in Limerick 2019
- Roll out of social media campaign

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- Re-development of Halloween logo
- Design and distribution of 2,000 printed guides throughout Limerick
- Dedicated section developed on Limerick.ie promoting Halloween events, festivals and hotel breaks
- Commenced PR and Marketing campaign for Christmas in Limerick 2019
- Launched Limerick City Walking Map, an Eireannachtharlear.com initiative showcasing Limerick as a compact, walkable destination. 5,000 copies distributed throughout Limerick.
- Engaged with Ursula Walsh, creator of nutrition and lifestyle blog Mom Fitness Diary, securing an Instagram Story feature with a potential reach of 56,000.
- Provided marketing support for Pigtown Culture and Food Series 2019
- Produced four Limerick.ie e-newsletters
 - Ran A/B testing to determine best time to issue weekly what's on e-zines
- Monthly Limerick.ie Business Bulletin e-newsletter issued
- Marketing materials provided to:
 - Corporate Services and Tourism Trade strand German Ambassador's Residence, representing Limerick's twinning partnership with Hohenlohe, Germany
 - I.NY Festival 2019 promoters
- Welcome to Limerick packs supplied to:
 - Guests attending the I.NY Gathering event at Limerick Strand Hotel, including representatives from Fáilte Ireland, Ralph Lauren and the Irish Times.
 - Members of German tour operator DER Touristik, one of Europe's leading travel companies and Tourism Ireland's inbound German agent, during their recent visit to Limerick.
 - Clayton Hotel Limerick for distribution in the UK.

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 74 times on Limerick.ie's Facebook with followers now 25,037. Posts reached 103,100 users with 14,830 engagements.
- Tweeted 27 times on Limerick.ie's Twitter, @limerick_ie, with total followers now 16,861. Our tweets earned 88,200 impressions (no. of times users saw our tweet).
- Posted seven times on Limerick.ie's Instagram and created 13 Stories with total followers now 8,702.
- Tweeted three times on Limerick Marketing's Twitter, @limkmarketing, with total followers now 2,786. Our tweets earned 9,935 impressions (no. of times users saw our tweet).
- Posted 10 times on Limerick City and County Council's LinkedIn with total followers now 3,174.

Limerick.ie

A total of 134,717 people visited the Limerick.ie website in October 2019.

Content Report: 91 articles, 216 events and eight amenities were added to Limerick.ie website in October 2019.

The most popular pages on Limerick.ie in October 2019 were:

1. www.limerick.ie
2. www.limerick.ie/discover/eat-see-do/festivals/halloween
3. www.limerick.ie/discover/whats-on/halloween/scare-factory
4. www.limerick.ie/council/services/planning-and-property/apply-or-search-planning-application/search-planning
5. www.limerick.ie/discover/whats-on/browse

49% of website pageviews were in Discover section and 28% of pageviews were in the Council section.

Communications

Limerick City and County Council's Communications took the lead in the Storm Lorenzo communications strategy for the LK Working Together group. This means that one message was sent from Limerick City and County Council on behalf of the local authority,

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HSE and An Garda Síochána when it came to general safety and updates about the storm.

- Issued 23 news releases from the Marketing and Communications Department and researched and wrote 25 speeches for the Office of the Mayor
- Produced and distributed the monthly Council Connect staff e-newsletter
- Tweeted 150 times on Limerick City and County Council's Twitter account, @limerickcouncil, with total followers now 13,305. Our tweets earned 285,000 impressions (no. of times users saw our tweet).

6. +CityxChange

- As part of the +CityxChange EU project the Urban Innovation Department hosted a series of Community Participation events. This series of events was the latest in the series City Engage weeks which commenced in 2017. The theme of the week's events was Limerick Laneways - collective thinking and action.

Eight events were hosted in the newly opened Citizens Observatory on Rutland Street and included: community mapping of the laneways of the city centre; a sensor making workshop; fire safety in historic buildings and a creative play workshop aimed at children. The week culminated in the hosting of a night of fun activities around the idea of creating a positive energy city to coincide with Culture Night.

In excess of 900 people attended the events over the week making it the most successful engage week to date. Another week of events are being planned to coincide with Riverfest in May as part of creating a Smart Positive Energy City.

- Small Business Innovation Research (SBIR) is a pre-commercial procurement that enables public bodies to purchase research to stimulate innovation that addresses identified citizen need. Over the course of the last 12 months, the Urban Innovation Department has with the support of Enterprise Ireland managed an SBIR process centred on the challenge of fire safety in historic buildings. The process culminated in the selection

of one company to potentially develop a "smart" solution to support the challenges of fire safety in the historic building stock that predominate in the city centre.

Safecility was selected to proceed to phase 2 of the process where they will test and develop an automated building safety product that can support the refurbishment of buildings in the city centre and to bring them back into residential use.

The project has been supported by; Innovate Limerick, Local Enterprise Office, Dublin City Council, Digital Services, Limerick City and County Council as well the Fire Service and the Conservation Office.

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Physical Development Directorate

1. Travel & Transportation Strategy

The newly elected Strategic Policy Committee held their first meeting on Tuesday 15 October, 2019.

Matters that were discussed are as follows:

- Update on Limerick Shannon Metropolitan Area Transport Strategy (LSMATS)
- Public Realm Projects Update
- Traffic Management Update
- Update on Study Visit to Utrecht, Netherlands looking at Cycling Infrastructure by Cllr. Elisa O'Donovan

2. Environment Strategy

The newly elected Strategic Policy Committee held their first meeting on Tuesday 22 October, 2019.

Matters that were discussed are as follows:

- Presentation on Green Infrastructure by Dr. Christy Boylan
- Presentation on ISO 50001 Energy Certification by Mr. Pat Stephens, Limerick Clare Energy Agency

3. Water Services

The official opening of the new Waste Water Treatment Plant at Athea was held on 14 October.



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& County Council**Community Development Directorate****1. Tourism, Culture & Arts****Tourism****Tourism Promotion Event**

Limerick City and County Council attended a twinning event at the German Ambassador's residence in Dublin to promote Limerick as a tourist destination. Limerick is twinned with Hohenlohe; which is a district in Baden-Wurttemberg, Southern Germany. Limerick has been twinned with Hohenlohe since 1990 and delegations travel between both areas on a regular basis.

EU MMIAH Project

Limerick City and County Council attended an EU project partner meeting in La Rochelle as part of the MMIAH project. MMIAH is an Interreg funded project under the Atlantic Area Programme, focused on the tourism potential of the shared military, maritime and industrial heritage of the Atlantic Area. Limerick City and County Council has secured funding to carry out restoration work on the canal harbour buildings on the Park Canal through participation in the MMIAH project.

Open Calls**Open Call Individual Artist Bursaries**

On 4 October, Limerick City and County Council announced an open call for the Individual Arts Bursary Awards Scheme, inviting applications from professional artists who wish to be considered for a Bursary of up to €4,000 for the development of work/professional skills. Artists based in Limerick City and County Council's administrative area, or operating substantially within Limerick City and County can apply for a Bursary in multiple art forms, including Visual Arts, Circus, Dance and Literature. A total budget of €20,000 is available in the grant scheme. The closing date for applications was 31 October.

Open Call Dolores O'Riordan Music Bursary

On 9 October, Limerick City and County Council announced an open call for applications to the new Dolores O'Riordan Music Bursary, to support professional musicians to develop their artistic practice. Dolores O'Riordan, singer, songwriter and lead vocalist with The Cranberries, was one of Ireland's

most enduringly popular artists. This music bursary is an award to honour her memory and to support a Limerick professional musician to develop their career. Applications from professional musicians who wish to be considered for a Bursary of up to €4,000 for the development of work/professional skills. Artists based in Limerick City and County Council's administrative area, or operating substantially within Limerick City and County can apply for a Bursary. The closing date for applications was 31 October.

Open Call Short Film Bursaries

On 8 October, Limerick City and County Council announced an open call for applications to Limerick Film Bursaries Scheme 2019. Limerick-based filmmakers were invited to submit applications for the Limerick Short Film Bursary - €8,000 (2 Awards Available). In light of the development of Troy Studios, Limerick Film Bursaries aim to support professional Limerick-based filmmakers, established and emerging in all genres, to foster and support the development of original film production. The closing date for applications was 31 October.

Open Call Stony Thursday Book

On 1 October, The Stony Thursday Book Open Call was issued seeking submissions from local, national and international poets for its next issue, to be published in Winter 2019. The Stony Thursday Book is one of the longest-running literary journals in Ireland and celebrates its 43rd edition in 2019. This year's Editor of the Stony Thursday Poetry Book is poet and writer Martin Dyar and as part of our digital development this year, submissions to Stony Thursday are through an online system. Closing date was 23 October.

Open Call Tyrone Guthrie

The applications that responded to the open call for a bursary to undertake a one-week residency at the Tyrone Guthrie Centre at Annaghmakerrig in Co. Monaghan were assessed by a panel on 7 October. Three successful applications were recommended. All applicants have been notified in writing of the outcome of the assessment process.

Open Call Words Ireland

Following an Open Call managed by Words Ireland, Limerick poet Paul McNamara has been selected to be the Limerick City and County Council Culture and

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Arts Department mentee. The mentoring process involves four two-hour meetings between the selected 'mentee' and their chosen professional writer. The mentor will read up to 10,000 words of the mentee's writing in advance of each meeting and share their hard earned critical feedback and advice. The work in progress of the mentee is discussed in depth. The hope is that the chosen mentees will go on to write great works of literature to match or beat the quality of their mentors. It's a form of peer to peer teaching that is increasingly popular across all sectors of Irish life – in industry as well as the arts. The National Mentoring Programme, run by Words Ireland with support from the Arts Council and a number of city and county Arts Offices, Centres and Libraries, aims to develop the best new talent on the Irish literary scene, which many say is undergoing a prolonged golden age.

Strategic Fund for Culture and Arts Scheme 2019

The following letters of support for the Strategic Fund were provided:

- One letter of support was provided for Culture Ireland
- One letter of support was provided for the Arts Council Festival Investment Scheme

The Strategic Fund for Culture and Arts Scheme supports applications to national and international funding bodies to help leverage funding by offering a percentage of any funding awarded, in the event of a successful application.

Festivals funded by Limerick City and County Council

Festivals in Limerick come in all shapes and sizes and cater to all tastes, no matter how eclectic or niche. This October was certainly alive and kicking with a wide range to choose from.

Éigse Michael Hartnett Literary and Arts Festival (3 to 5 October)

Éigse Michael Hartnett 2019, which took place in Newcastle West, Co Limerick from 3-5 October this year, marked the 20th anniversary of Michael Hartnett's death in October 1999. But his poems remain and two decades after his death, remain as compelling and as fresh as ever and it is this legacy which is celebrated through Eigse Michael Hartnett. This year, to mark the 20th anniversary, Limerick City and County Council in conjunction with the local

Eigse Michael Hartnett committee brought together a great gathering of poets and musicians in tribute. The list of poets that attended this year's Eigse is long and distinguished. Nuala Ní Dhomhnaill Paddy Bushe, Paula Meehan, Theo Dorgan, James Harpur, Eileen Sheahan, Doireann Ní Ghríofa, Gabriel Fitzmaurice, Jo Slade, Máighréad Medbh and Edward O'Dwyer.

Make A Move (4 – 6 October)

The Make A Move Festival, celebrating street generated culture and urban art, returned to Limerick City for its eighth year in 2019 with a range of Events which ran from 4-6 October. Make A Move seeks to engage young people by showcasing young Limerick artists as well as celebrating the wide range of diverse cultures and ethnic backgrounds from the city and beyond.

Bualadh Bos Children's Festival (6 – 19 October)

Bualadh Bos Children's Festival, Limerick's annual arts festival dedicated to children, took place in the Lime Tree and Belltable from 6-19 October. This, Limerick's only arts festival dedicated to children, captures the imagination of young audiences through music, theatre, book readings and more. The festival opened in the Belltable with Branar's Rocking Rhymes, Graffiti presented their new work This Girl Laughs, this Girl Cries, This Girl does Nothing, and Redbridge Arts with Stick by Me by Andy Manley, The Dig by artist Paul Curley touring with the support of Arts Council funding. Two productions toured to schools during Bualadh Bos Festival – Kyle Riley's Little Folk on Tour and Oskar's Amazing Adventure by Theatre Fideri (UK).

Joyce Brothers Weekend (11 – 13 October)

Joyce Brothers Music Festival commemorates and keeps alive the memory and spirit of the Joyce Brothers in the local area of Kilfinane. The weekend festival included historical walks and talks on the history of the locality during the Joyce Brothers era, live concerts and Seisiún traidisiúnta, exclusive workshops and guided tours of the beautiful Ballyhoura area.

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& County Council**Garry McMahon Singing Weekend
(18 – 20 October)**

The 11th Garry McMahon Annual Singing Weekend took place in Abbeyfeale over the weekend of 18-20 October. This weekend of traditional singing and storytelling sessions, newly composed ballad competition, and a bus tour of local heritage areas around Abbeyfeale.

**Open House Limerick 2019
(17 – 20 October)**

OpenHouse Limerick is an architectural weekend offering the public the chance to visit outstanding buildings and spaces, and meet the people who design, build and occupy Limerick, all completely free of charge. OpenHouse Limerick took place from the 17-20 October and is run by a voluntary, not-for-profit committee, who organise the programme of building tours, guided walks, talks and other events each year.

**Richard Harris International Film Festival (RHIFF)
(22 – 28 October)**

The Richard Harris International Film Festival 2019 is based in Limerick City, home of the legendary actor Richard Harris. The festival is a showcase for a wide variety of premieres and documentaries live script readings, acting masterclasses and more. Two films, "Told you" (Made Image Films) and "Everything looks better in the sunshine" (PIO Media), supported by the Limerick City and County Council Short Film Bursary Award (2019) premiered at the festival in the Belltable as part of the RHIFF.

**Samhain, Limerick's Halloween Festival
(24 – 26 October)**

Award winning Lumen Street Theatre brought the second Samhain, Limerick's Halloween Festival, back to the streets of medieval Limerick in October. Samhain festival culminated with a light filled lantern parade on Nicholas Street on 26 October. On the night The Bishop's Lady rose once again to roam the medieval streets of Limerick City, haunting all who gather before her. This bespoke festival celebrates local folklore and traditions through talks and workshops, and fun educational events for children that will include spooky storytelling, all set within this ancient part of the city. This magical time of year included a fire performance, a Death Café by Jennifer Moran Stritch in Jack Monday's, talks based on the philosophy behind 'Pagan Rave' by Billy Mag Fhloinn in Ormston

House, traditional stories by Eddie Lenihan and an evening plunge into the cool waters of our city's River Shannon by SwimableLimerick.

**St. Martin's Fair
(28 – 31 October)**

St Martin's Fair is an International, interdisciplinary conference at multiple venues on King's Island. This conference, based around the medieval manuscript known as the Black Book of Limerick. Over three days various themes celebrating Limerick's medieval urban history were covered. There was also a tour of King John's Castle, a concert of medieval music in St Mary's Cathedral and presentations on medieval sailing routes and Viking boat building techniques.

**Viva la Vida
(25 – 26 October)**

Limerick's first Latin American festival, ¡Viva la Vida!, took place from 25-26 October throughout the city. The aim of the festival is to highlight Latin American culture through educational events, community workshops and live music and dance performances that will educate and entertain.

European Projects

TRAINART is a Creative Europe Project designed to implement a capacity building programme for cultural operators to develop new skills and new business models in two specific performing arts sectors: (i) New management models for cultural spaces; and (ii) Live performances/artistic interventions in non-conventional frameworks. TRAINART will organise a blended training programme for cultural operators consisting of 60 online training hours and of 60 onsite training hours through several Training Hotspots to be organised across Europe. The first partner meeting took place in Ancona in Italy from 28-30 October. Limerick City and County Council is an associate partner and will welcome the partners to Limerick in May 2020 for training.

School of Participation is a Creative Europe Project that will provide capacity building opportunities for creative practitioners to give them the confidence to work in participatory practice. This project is a follow on project from the 2019 School of Spectacle, and will

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provide opportunities for Limerick based creatives to participate in learning schools in Graz, Coventry and Kaunas. Artists will be invited to apply for the opportunity through open calls. Limerick City and County Council is an associate partner in the project. The first partner meeting took place in Rijeka, Croatia in October.

Programming

County Limerick Youth Theatre

The County Limerick Youth Theatre workshops for the DynaLyts (2nd-6th class) and CoLYTS (secondary school students) took place on 1, 8, 15, 22 October at the HoneyFitz Theatre, Lough Gur.

Limerick Youth Choir

An open call for new members of the Limerick Youth Choir was announced in October. This choir is for those aged 16-28 and meets weekly during term times to learn a diverse repertoire of songs from all over the world, spanning many centuries, with the expert tuition of Choral Director Marie Keary Scanlon.

Castleconnell Concert Series

Introduced by Liz Nolan, RTÉ Lyric FM, the Castleconnell Autumn Concert Series is a Limerick Culture and Arts Department initiative in collaboration with the Castleconnell Concert Committee, and co-funded by the Arts Council, as a part of delivering a shared strategic action of Rural Arts and Excellence. Camerata Kilkenny with Maria Keohane – soprano, Maya Homburger - baroque violin, Sarah McMahon - baroque cello and Malcolm Proud - organ. A programme of sublime music from two different cultures - cantatas by Johann Sebastian Bach and folk hymns from Sweden will be performed by the internationally acclaimed Swedish soprano Maria Keohane and members of the renowned Irish Early Music ensemble, Camerata Kilkenny.

Integrated Dance

The Integrated Dance programme, with dance artist Mary Hartney at the West Limerick Children's Services, began with an information meeting for parents and guardians on 22 October. The aim of this project is to introduce participants to dance as an art form whilst facilitating active and productive engagement in dance activities amongst disabled and non-disabled participants.

Projects

Helium Arts

In October Helium Arts facilitated another set of weekly Saturday workshops over five weeks in Watch House Cross Library, with 5-8 year olds attending in the morning and 9-12 year olds attending in the afternoon. Medical cover is provided by a trained professional at the workshops. One child even remarked, "I never get the chance to paint." "You have inspired them to make a lot of stuff at home. (My other son) has also blossomed here. Usually he is very concerned about (my son with illness) and he is the one who gets all the attention." (Mother).

Culture and Arts Department Art Collection

The preparation for loaning a number of works to University Hospital Limerick are underway, with the works being valued and a number of works framed. Members of the UL Hospitals Committee made the selection for exhibition.

Creative Ireland

Kilfinane Community Art Exhibition

This exhibition showcased the work of community members in the Kilfinane Community Council's Art, Craft and Traditional Skills group. The group revived traditional skills of working with wool and gave them a new twist in an art project this summer. The group processed raw sheep and alpaca fleeces direct from the farm, into a fine quality, multicoloured art material. Under the guidance of Limerick textile artist Karen Cunneen-Bilbow, ten community members then learnt to 'paint with wool'. The result is a series of wool paintings, "Postcards from the Ballyhours", which were on display at Molly's Restaurant in Kilfinane from 9-18 October.

Local Creative Youth Partnership

The first meeting of the Limerick Local Creative Youth Partnership (LCYP) Steering Committee took place on 22 October. At their core, LCYPs are networks which enable information sharing, collaboration between local creative youth service providers to bring about better use of existing resources, practices and initiatives in an ETB area. A coordinator has been appointed to deliver the pilot project that Limerick and Clare ETB was successful in securing funding for as part of the Creative Youth Plan from Creative Ireland.

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Down Syndrome Limerick held the launch of DSL Calendar 2020 and Art Work Expo in the church in the Limerick School of Art and Design on Clare Street, on 23 October. The art work in the art expo was created by the children and young teens as part of the creation of a 2020 calendar.

Open House Architectural Treasure Hunt

OpenHouse Limerick's first Architectural Treasure Hunt is a project grounded in the understanding and appreciation of Limerick's architectural heritage. Its aim was to provide a fun and engaging experience that promotes curiosity, architectural appreciation and strengthens key competencies relating to STEAM (science, technology, engineering, art & design and maths). The treasure hunt took up to 15 stops of architectural heritage in Limerick city, with children between 4-12 years, allowing the whole family enjoy a day out on Saturday 19 October.

2. Urban & Rural Community Development**Domestic Waste Refuse Waiver Scheme****Bin Waivers:**

Bin Waivers issued	34
Bin Waivers refused	21

Cemeteries**Number of Burials in City Cemeteries:**

Mount St. Lawrence	15
Mount St. Oliver	18
Castlemungret	7
Kilmurry	3

Vacant Homes October 2019

Properties identified on Vacant Homes.ie	1
Properties identified through surveying	3
No of inspections carried out (including re-inspection)	8
Cases closed through engagement	4
No of properties forwarded for Buy and Renew	2
Properties put forward for C.P.O. Housing Act 1966	3

Thematic Programmes**PPN**

On 30 October, elections took place for the new 10 person Secretariat of Limerick PPN. Fifteen nominations were received in advance of the meeting, and each nominee was afforded the opportunity to address the plenary in advance of voting taking place. Following completion of the voting process, one representative of each of the four municipal districts was elected to the Secretariat, together with two community reps, two environment reps and two social inclusion reps. A meeting of the new Secretariat is scheduled to take place to begin the process of establishing Linkage Groups and seeking nominations to fill the vacant PPN seats on the five Council Strategic Policy Committees (SPCs).

COMHAIRLE NA NÓG

The Mayor of the City and County of Limerick, Councillor Michael Sheahan formally opened the annual AGM for Comhairle na nÓg on 24 October in the University of Limerick. 150 young people from local secondary schools and youth groups across Limerick attended this AGM. A Comhairle na nÓg Committee was elected. This committee will be responsible for leading out on the topics picked at the AGM and is the consultative forum that works with decision-makers. Limerick City and County Council chairs the Comhairle na nÓg steering group.

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On 2 October, the Age Friendly Programme Manager presented at the 8th International Age Forum in Dubai, United Arab Emirates. The theme for the Forum was "Empowerment and Effective Participation of Older People." 600 delegates from around the world were in attendance.

On 3 October, the Age Friendly Programme Manager hosted a half day workshop on Age Friendly Ireland and Age Friendly Limerick for 50 members of the Government of Sharjah, United Arab Emirates.

On 8 October, the Thematic Programmes team attended a meeting of NOPAG (Northside Older Peoples Advisory Group)

On 15 October, a meeting of the Older Peoples Executive was held in the Council Chamber, Merchant's Quay.

On 16 October, the Thematic Programmes team hosted a half day information session on the Limerick Age Friendly Programme. The event was launched by Deputy Mayor of the City and County of Limerick, Councillor Adam Teskey,, and Catherine Mc Guigan, Chief Officer of Age Friendly Ireland. They were joined by the Limerick Age Friendly Programme Manager in presenting on the work undertaken to date on both the national and local programmes, together with details of the Age Friendly Limerick projects to be rolled out in the coming months. An exhibition area hosted information stands from fifteen exhibitors and more than 100 Older People from across the county and city attended the event.

On the 17 October thematic programmes team hosted the Place EE showcase event. This event was launched by Deputy Mayor of the City and County of Limerick, Councillor Adam Teskey and included keynote presentations from Catherine Mc Guigan, Chief Officer of Age Friendly Ireland, Fiona Harkin, on behalf of the Projects lead partner, Ulster University and Anne Rizzo, Regional Age Friendly Manager. Over 100 people attended the event from the Newcastle West/ Adare Rathkeale areas. The event included exhibitions from the Newcastle West Library, Task, the Homeshare, the Crafty Angels, Limerick Sports Partnership, Community Gardai, Newcastle West Adult Education Centre, Tait House and the HSE.

On 22 October, the Age Friendly Programme Manager, presented on the national, regional and Limerick Age Friendly Programme activities to the Galway City and Galway County Age Friendly Programmes and Older Peoples Councils. 100 Older People from across Galway county and city attended.

On 24 October, the Age Friendly Programme Manager, together with the Chair of the Limerick Older Peoples Executive, hosted a stand at the "Connecting for Life" Roadshow event in Newcastlewest. The event is the first in a series of events being hosted across all municipal districts in the coming months.

On 30 October, Limerick City and County Council hosted a Halloween Tea Dance at Thomond Park, in collaboration with St. Munchin's Age Friendly Community Centre. 250 older people from across the county and city attended the event.

INTEGRATION

On 9 October, Limerick City and County Council hosted a meeting of the Migrant Integration Strategy sub-group tasked with implementing theme 4 of "Belonging to Limerick," Cultural Awareness and Anti-Racism. The group consists of staff of Limerick City and County Council, An Garda Síochána, Doras Luimní and Limerick Youth Service and its focus is to advance cultural awareness and anti-racism through schools education programmes, advertising campaigns and training programmes for front line staff.

EDUCATION

An invitation was extended by UNESCO, for the Mayor of the City and County of Limerick, Councillor Michael Sheahan, along with representatives of the Learning Limerick steering group, to participate in the fourth International Conference on Learning Cities. The conference theme was 'Inclusion – A principle for lifelong learning and sustainable cities' and was held in Medellín, Colombia, from 1-3 October. The President of Colombia, Iván Duque Márquez, opened the conference on 1 October together with David Atchoarena (UNESCO Institute of Lifelong Learning Director), Federico Gutiérrez (Mayor of Medellín, Colombia). Councillor Sarah Kiely, deputising for the Mayor of the City and County of Limerick, Councillor Michael Sheahan, attended along with representatives

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPORT



of the Learning Limerick Steering Group. The UNESCO Global Network of Learning Cities has 170 active members from 53 countries in every region of the world. Each of these ground-breaking cities in the network has implemented effective lifelong learning policies and practices that support the development of inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable cities and contribute to the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. The Learning City awards 2019 were delivered to 10 cities who are members of the Network during the conference. The Conference host city Medellín was one of the cities to receive this Learning City Award. Medellín coordinates a number of innovative programmes, including one that has helped to successfully reintegrate over 5,000 school drop-outs by engaging with them on a one-to-one basis. The 'How Are We Doing?' monitoring and evaluation project is another important component of Medellín's learning city initiative. As part of the conference, Councillor Kiely participated in a Mayors' Forum on GNLC strategy (closed session) hosted by speakers David Atchoarena (UNESCO Institute of Lifelong Learning Director), Federico Gutiérrez (Mayor of Medellín, Colombia) and Anne Coupez, (Chief of unit for strategic planning, monitoring UNESCO), following this session, a two-year strategy to enhance further the work of the UNESCO Global Network of Learning Cities was adopted. A fund to support the work of the network was also launched. Councillor Kiely presented at this forum at which Limerick had the opportunity to forge new partnerships that will enhance learning experiences for all people. Limerick has been invited to take on the role of co-ordinating city for the cluster on "Entrepreneurship" and the Learning Limerick steering group is looking forward to sharing experiences on the implementation of local actions and to leading the work of this thematic cluster. The city that Limerick will be working closely with in co-ordinating this cluster is Chengdu city in China. On the afternoon of 2 October, Limerick, represented by Councillor Kiely, formally presented on the theme "Digitally Excluded populations" along with Nam-seok Ko, Mayor, Yeonsu-gu, Incheon metropolitan, Republic of Korea and Ms Catherine Lido, Senior Lecturer, School of Education, Urban Big data Centre, University of Glasgow, UK. The key agencies in Limerick have strong expertise in this area, with Limerick Digital Strategy 2017 – 2020 – Building Ireland's First Digital City being launched by Limerick City and County Council in 2018. Councillor Kiely

presented on the work of the Digital Inclusion working group, which has inter-agency support and agreed terms of reference. Research has been commissioned around some of the key actions that the group has identified, which will focus on the experience of being digitally excluded and aiming to identify appropriate responses at local, regional and national levels; aligned to international best practice. Two site visits were also hosted by Federico Gutiérrez (Mayor of Medellín). Delegates visited an area called Commune 10, La Candelaria, and Commune 13 (San Javier). Both areas have been positively transformed following years of drug related violence.

Derelict Sites and Vacant Homes/Properties

DERELICT SITES:	
515	• No. of CRM Cases in progress
43	• No. of Inspections carried out
18	• No. of Statutory Notices issued under the Derelict Sites Act
8	• No. of Entries in the Derelict Sites Register
4	• No. of CRM cases resolved due to engagement
1	• No. of properties referred to Vacant Homes Office
8	• No. of new cases entered on SugarCRM

Local Community Development Committee

LEADER Programme 2014-2020

Minister Michael Ring TD allocated an additional €500,000 for LEADER to the Limerick LCDC as one of the top five performing areas in the country in the delivery of the current programme. At the October meeting of the LCDC members approved €61,000 for three LEADER projects.

- Cappagh GAA Community Walkway
- Ballyhoura Tidy Towns Initiative
- Munster Kayak Adventures, Lisnagry.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPORT**Limerick Healthy Ireland funding allocation**

The LCDC also recommended to the Department of Health that the following projects be approved as part of the Limerick Healthy Ireland funding allocation.

Limerick Food Partnership	€25,900
Tovertafel interactive Light Tables for people with Dementia and Autism	€22,000
Bio-Diversity Garden, Baggott Estate	€18,000
Social and Health Education Programme (SHEP)	€25,000
Public drinking fountains	€17,500
Suicide Prevention Supports/Measures	€32,050
Small Grants Scheme	€30,000
Community Engagement	€20,000

Town and Village Renewal Scheme 2019

The Department of Rural and Community Development awarded funding to six projects under the 2019 Town and Village Renewal Scheme. The funding for Limerick totalled €585,101 and the individual projects are noted below:

Askeaton	Create a pedestrian friendly Town Centre in the centre of Askeaton.	€200,000
Ballingarry	Public realm improvements in village.	€79,604
Broadford	Refurbish Parish Hall to develop a Community Centre in the village.	€99,911
Drumcollogher	Create a village heritage trail and carry out improvements to the Town Park.	€86,398
Kilteely	Develop a Community Wildlife area in the village.	€48,309
Murroe Boher	Complete the second phase of multi-access walkway at Murroe Town Park and install public lighting along the new section of the track.	€70,879

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Pride of Place

- Abbeyfeale Community Council gave a brief presentation of their project entry to the Newcastle West Municipal District meeting on the 9 October and their achievement in representing Limerick in Pride of Place 2019 was celebrated and recognised.
- Newtown Cottage Association and St. Mary's Parish Men's Shed gave a brief presentation of their project entry to the Metropolitan meeting on the 21 October in Merchant's Quay and their achievement in representing Limerick in Pride of Place 2019 was celebrated and recognised.

Environmental Awareness

- **National Tidy Towns:** Fifty-nine groups participated in the National Tidy Towns Competition in 2019. Adare was awarded a Silver Medal with an increase of eight points along with the Limerick County award in the National Tidy Towns Competition 2019. Limerick City, Galbally, Ardpatrick, Kilmallock, Newcastle West and Castleconnell have all been awarded Bronze Medals in this year's competition, with Adare receiving a County Award and Galbally a highly commended and Ardpatrick a commended award. Ballyagran Tidy Towns have received a Special Endeavour Award.
- **Limerick Going for Gold Grand Final:** The Limerick Going for Gold Grand Final was held on the 8 October 2019 with a total prize fund of €70,000. The top prize of €10,000 in the Tidy Towns Category was awarded to Ardpatrick, with Croom taking 2nd place and a prize of €7,000 and Newcastle West being awarded 3rd place and a prize of €5,000. The competition encompassed groups from across Limerick City and County with awards being given across the following categories: Limerick Bee Friendly in Bloom; Reuse: Residential Areas; Endeavour; Champions; Judges Award; and Best Front Garden all incorporated under the Limerick Going for Gold banner.
- **National Reuse Month:** October is Ireland's National Reuse Month and to mark it Limerick City and County Council has organised a new

exhibition called Let's Think About Consumption in the Parkway Shopping Centre in Limerick. Let's Think About Consumption challenges us to think about what we consume, bring us beyond the idea of 'reduce, reuse and recycle', to a more conscious prevention of waste in the first place.

Limerick Sports Partnership (LSP)

- The LSP launched their Club Sports Grants scheme for 2019. Closing date for completed applications is 15 November 2019. See Info at www.limericksports.ie
- LSP launched a suite of Activator Pole Walking Programmes in the following locations,
 - Newcastle West
 - Mungret
 - Castleconnell
 - Rathkeale
 - Adare
 - Bruff
 - Shelbourne Park
 - Ballyneety
- LSP has partnered with National Men's Shed association and are delivering a Physical Activity Research programme at 4 sites in:
 - Galbally
 - Doon
 - Abbeyfeale
 - Limerick City
- The Women on Wheels Cycling programme is supported by a Volunteer Team of Female Road Captains (12). These are past participants of this beginner cycling programme. They are an integral part of the programme's success. They have been Shortlisted for the Federation of Irish Sports VOLUNTEERS of the year Award.
- LSP Sports Development officers continue to develop programmes for key target groups, men and women 30-65 years, marginalised communities, older adult groups, walking groups and general populations across the county. See www.limericksports.ie for more information

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPORT**3. Libraries, Gallery & Museum****Library Services**

- Children's Book Festival was celebrated across city and county library branches with authors Gabriel Fitzmaurice, Pádraig Kenny, Helena Close, Roisin Meaney and Gillian Perdue meeting large numbers of children, teachers and parents to foster a love of books and reading. Activities ranged from Messy Hands art workshops to spooky Halloween tales to a walk in the woods sponsored by Foras na Gaeilge "Draíocht na gCoille", a walk, talk and workshop on trees, nature and the environment. Creative writing workshops for budding authors also featured.
- Foynes, Glin, Abbeyfeale and Cappamore branches all held events for Children's Book Festival. Competitions for designing bookmarks have been run in all other branches with book tokens as prizes.
- The new Sensory Room at Watch House Cross is in huge demand with families and organizations. Thirty-minute sessions can be booked and the uptake is growing. It started with 150 sessions in the first month and it has increased to 170 in the month of October. This space has been designed to help individuals with a variety of sensory and learning challenges, particularly those identified as being on the autism spectrum.
- Decade of Centenaries events continued with talks by historian Dr. John O'Callaghan, author of the book "Limerick: The Irish Revolution 1912-1923", in The Granary, Kilmallock and Newcastle West branches. This informative and illuminating review of this period of conflict focusing on Limerick was very well received by the attentive audiences. For younger historians Brian Gallagher visited Kilmallock Library on 11 October to talk about his books set during the War of Independence in Ireland. His stirring presentation had the audience delighted.
- Kilmallock branch celebrated Space Week 4 – 11 October by streaming live images from the International Space Station on the large digital screen in children's section of the Library. In association with Blackrock Castle Observatory Cork we promoted the wonders of space with stirring images and our collection of space books. Dooradoyle marked it with a display of Space books and a miniature Apollo 11.
- Restorative Practices is an emerging social science, which deals with relationships in all their aspects. Building and maintaining them and looking at what to do when things go wrong. Joe Power of Restorative Practices Limerick gave a workshop on the practice at Kilmallock Library on 11 October. Joe provided strategies for use in everyday life and there was time for a little fun. This workshop was hosted under the Healthy Ireland at the Library national campaign.
- Room on the Broom, the all-time favourite story for children from Julia Donaldson the writer of the Gruffalo was the focus for our Halloween tales for Children on 24 October in Kilmallock branch. Children from Scoil Mocheallóg read Room on the Broom and Winnie the Witch with creepy sound effects and made some witches wands which everyone got to take home. The Little Readers workshop ran on 16 October for very little ones and their grownups. Marie McElhinney from the Limerick Childcare Committee attended for this month's workshop to share information on the National Childcare Scheme.
- Author Ray Flannery visited Newcastle West and Adare on 9 October where his first publication "Moany Mc Moan", proved very popular with invited class groups.
- On 10 October Killoughteen National School availed of two coding workshops provided free to the library by Mobile IT in Newcastle West Library. These were an outstanding success, as these coding sessions are very popular with primary school classes. In this way, the library can play an active role in empowering future generations in IT. The group learned the basics of coding using Scratch, a visual coding language for children, and designed a digital game of hide and seek.
- On 22 October Fiona Ismail, our colleague from the Granary library gave an outstanding presentation on Dinosaurs; the audience of 26 students were captivated by the talk and slides.
- On 23 October as part of our Foras na Gaeilge events in the branch, the library hosted 'Draíocht na gCoille', a walk, talk and workshop on trees, nature and the environment. It started with a nature trail in the local Demesne, where the

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- 5th class Gaelscoil class, gathered nuts, berries and leaves, then returned to the library for light refreshments, followed by a talk and experiments by Environmentalist Seamus MacConmara. Foras Na Gaeilge sponsored this activity.
- Halloween was celebrated in all main branches with craft activities, spooky story times and dress up opportunities for all. Some sessions using Irish and English were very popular.
 - In Watch House Cross Library Niall De Burca, international storyteller launched the Book Festival this year with two fantastic performances attended by 250 children from our local schools and their teachers on 8 October.
 - UL Teddy Bears Hospital attended by a local preschool group and their teddies followed this on 9 October. This event provided children with the opportunity to interact with medical students in a safe and fun environment while learning about hospitals and doctors. Gary Ward, author of 'Under the Bed Monsters' delivered a fascinating event to two senior infant classes from Corpus Christi NS.
 - Tallest Smallest Theatre returned on 11 October with two BFG shows and as always was a resounding success with all of the 160 local schoolchildren who were lucky enough to attend these events. Authors Pdraig Kenny, Helena Close and Gillian Perdue hosted talks and workshops across the month.
 - The Dogs Trust also gave a talk to children from JFK Memorial School. All of the local schools got a chance to bring some of their classes to a Book Festival event ensuring that both teachers and pupils are aware of our many resources and facilities.
 - The QQI Learners awards ceremony took place on 15 October and many students collected their certificates for the courses they had completed during the year. There are seven different courses currently running in Watch House Cross Library affording interested patrons the opportunity of upskilling in IT, Web Design and Photoshop.
 - Watch House Cross Branch received an Age Friendly Charter in October and Minister Michael Ring presented this charter to Patricia Cusack representing Limerick at a ceremony in Dublin. Limerick Libraries also received a certificate for our involvement in the Right to Read Campaign.
 - ABC Start Right delivered a five-week baby reflexology programme to very young patrons. They invited author, Mary Murphy to deliver a workshop for Toddlers and pre-schoolers.
 - "Tallest Smallest Theatre" featuring Roald Dahl's BFG story visited The Granary, Dooradoyle, and Watch House Cross libraries this month to entertain and inform very large numbers of invited school groups.
 - The Age Action computer course with one to one tuition by volunteers and a Digital Skills course run by Ballyhoura CLG continued in Dooradoyle branch. Students from Catherine McAuley School visited on 11 October and students from St. Gabriel's visited on 16 October. Paul's N.S. have recommenced their class visits now that the school has moved back to its new building.

Limerick Museum

- An exhibition of paintings by Helen G Blake from Belfast opened in the Museum on 1 October and continued for the entire month.
- Amazing Lace, the Memory of the Cloth a symposium and accompanying pop-up exhibition celebrating Limerick Lace was held in the Absolute Hotel on 12 October. It was very successful and was attended by representatives from various Irish lace traditions, including Carrickmacross, South Armagh, Headford and Kenmare.
- As part of Limerick City and County Council's Decade of Centenaries programme, 1919 in Limerick: A Centenary Symposium was held in St. Mary's Cathedral on 25 October. It examined the important events that occurred in both Limerick and Ireland during the year 1919, and among the speakers were Dr. Angus Mitchell, Dr. John O'Callaghan and Fr. Brian Murphy.

Limerick City Gallery of Art (LCGA)

- The Gallery has enjoyed very strong visitor numbers for the month of October in response to the current exhibition, Sediment by Mariele Neudecker

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- Kerstin Mey, Vice-President of University of Limerick gave a personal response to Neudecker's work on 10 October
- Brendan Egan, the newly appointed Shinnors Scholar has been making contact with a number of Primary Schools in the area and has already led a number of workshops.
- Preparations continue for the next series of exhibitions including Charles Harper: A Retrospective; State of Print – a group exhibition of print-makers; and LSAD Graduate Award recipient, Niamh Schmidtke
- LCGA hosted the start of the HELIUM monthly workshops for sick children, running until December 2019
- LCGA hosted the start of the Limerick Art Society, Winter workshops running until December 2019
- OPEN HOUSE Limerick 2019, based their festival Hub at LCGA
- Work continues with the Strategic Plan for LCGA with consultant, Caoimhín Corrigan of M.CO consultants.
- LCGA in partnership with The Hunt Museum and Limerick Museum will complete the MOU between the three organisations by the end of October.



CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPORT**Housing Development Directorate****1. Housing Strategy Implementation****1. Housing Strategy Implementation**

1. The Housing Development Department co-ordinated a Housing Strategy Workshop on 17 October which included discussion around the following items :
 - An update and timeframe for the roll-out of the Single Differential Rent Scheme;
 - Planned Maintenance – Selection of Estates for Sample Survey –
 - Loan Approval and timeframe
 - Update on the Scheme of Affordable Priorities
2. The newly elected Strategic Policy Committee held their first meeting on 29 October. Matters that were discussed are as follows:
 - Private Downsizing Scheme
 - Land Availability
 - Regeneration Training Update
 - Strategic Goals and Priorities for 2020 such as:
 - a) Build Programme
 - b) Affordable Housing
 - c) Planned Maintenance
 - d) Removal of Voids/Vacant houses
 - e) Single Differential Rent Scheme
 - f) Choice-Based letting
 - g) Downsizing
 - h) Land Availability review
3. On 31 October, Housing Development Directorate had their workshop with the Department of Housing, Planning and Local Government (DHPLG) on rolling out the five sites that gained 'Approval in Principle' in August. The five sites include Council owned lands at the Guinness Site (lower Carey's Road), Toppin's Field, the Curragower, Sonny's Corner (Athlunkard Street) and Clonmacken.
4. Sarah Newell of Housing Development Directorate was a mentor who set the Housing challenge for Limerick's First Climathon, which took place

on 25-26 October at ENGINE on Upper Cecil Street. Participants were presented with the challenge, and worked in teams to come up with solutions, with the best solution winning prizes and developing the idea. 'ReStory' was a project, which won the overall challenge, and now with support seeks to develop a portal to integrate various platforms that highlight vacant buildings in Limerick City and showcase their reuse potential in an effort to de-risk and demystify the process for private sector enablement.

2. Regeneration Strategy Implementation

- An apprentice from Hospitality Education Training Centre, Southill which is partly funded through Limerick Regeneration Social Intervention Fund along with the Limerick and Clare Education and Training Board won SME Training and Apprenticeship Award (European Alliance for Apprenticeships) in Helsinki.
- Tait House, Southill working with the Regeneration has been shortlisted for Best Non-profit at Limerick Chamber Regional Business Awards 2019.
- Moyross Community Enterprise Centre has opened their new community park. It is a wonderful addition to the area. This is part of the Limerick Regeneration Framework Implementation Plan.
- With the help of Limerick Regeneration Our Lady of Lourdes Community Enterprise Centre's have purchased a new community bus to help to service the Community area of Ballinacurra Weston.
- Moyross Motocross Club have organised open days on the Moyross track. They are trying to involve local Red Cross or First Aid groups to attend on the day to cover them for First Aid by way of them using it as a training day plus maybe giving the participants basic instruction of what to do in the event of an accident.
- Nicholas Street has undergone a makeover funded partially by Regeneration – the new paint and murals have received very positive feedback.

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Service Operations Directorate

1. Housing Support Services

• Waiting List

Housing Waiting List	2,659
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• Allocations

	No. of Units October 2019	Year to Date
Metropolitan District	22	129
Newcastle West	2	25
Adare – Rathkeale	2	14
Cappamore – Kilmallock	1	26
Total	27	194

• Traveller Housing Welfare

No. of Units offered October 2019	Year to Date
4*	30*

* these figures are included in Allocations figures
2 Traveller Clinics held in October – 19 Clients seen.

• Housing Assistance Payments Limerick

2,293 Total no. of active HAP Tenancies monitored, reviewed and maintained.

No. of HAP tenancies set up this month	35
No. of Amendments	87
No. of Cessations	11

The HAP Department continues to hold validation clinics every Tuesday from 10 o'clock to 11 o'clock.

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

Individuals – 24 October 2019		
Location	Description	No.
McGarry House	Mixed Low threshold accommodation for singles	30
St. Patrick's Hostel	Higher threshold accommodation for single males	47
Thomond House	Higher threshold accommodation for single females	23
B&B (no children)	Adults without children accommodated in B&B	7
Temporary Emergency Provision TEP 1 (Edenvilla)	Low threshold, night by night (9pm-9am) emergency accommodation. Mixed	16
TEP 2 (Phoenix Lodge)	Low threshold, night by night (9pm-9am) emergency accommodation. Mixed	14
Total		137

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Families			
Location	Description	No. Adults	No. Children
Suaimhneas	Family Emergency accommodation	6	13
		Families - 6	
B&B/Hotel Accommodation	Families	59	75
		Families - 46	
Twin Oaks Family Hub	Family Hub	15	16
		Families - 10	
Totals		Adults	Children
		80	104
		Families - 62	

HOME IMPROVEMENT SCHEMES

October 2019	MAGS (Mobility Adaptation Grant Scheme)	No.	HAG (Housing Adaptation Grant Scheme)	No.	HOPS (Housing Aid for Older Persons Grant Scheme)	No.
Rathkeale	€11,400.00	2	€18,714.25	2	€0.00	0
Newcastle West	€7,300.00	2	€6,555.00	1	€23,673.73	4
Metropolitan	€37,752.00	9	€146,045.47	12	€29,742.48	11
Kilmallock	€0.00	0	€69,154.00	4	18,595.20	3
Total	€56,452.00	13	€240,468.72	19	€72,011.41	18
Total Monies issued in OCTOBER 2019 = €368,932.13						
Total Grants issued in OCTOBER 2019 = 50						

JANUARY TO October 2019	MAGS (Mobility Adaptation Grant Scheme)	No.	HAG (Housing Adaptation Grant Scheme)	No.	HOPS (Housing Aid for Older Persons Grant Scheme)	No.
Kilmallock	€58,368.95	13	€190,010.55	21	€143,214.25	27
Metropolitan	€317,243.70	76	€676,146.68	68	€388,973.85	104
Newcastle West	€141,705.82	29	€175,699.99	19	€251,447.16	55
Rathkeale	€51,187.71	11	€88,536.95	6	€65,549.20	18
Total	€568,506.18	129	€1,130,394.17	114	€849,184.46	204
Total Monies issued January to October 2019 = €2,548,084.81						
Total Grants issued January to October 2019 = 447						

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPORT**2. Planning & Environmental Services****Environmental Services (Litter, Waste Enforcement, Air, Noise, Water/Waste Water and Public Health).**

- 151 complaints were received in October
- 452 inspections were undertaken during the month
- The Department issued 15 Statutory Notices
- Seven Directions were served by the Department
- 46 Warning Letters were issued in October
- 80 Fines were issued during the period
- Legal proceedings were initiated in seven cases
- Clean up / improvement works were undertaken on a number of public sites in the City and County under the 2019 Anti-Dumping Initiative funded by the Department of Communications, Climate Action and Environment

Planning**Planning Applications.**

A total of 97 new planning applications were received as follows:

Part 8	3
Housing Developments	2
Domestic Developments	56
Agricultural Developments	4
Commercial Developments/Change of Use	9
Sporting/Community & Educational Developments	3
Other Developments	20

The current applications include proposals for:

- Part 8 for the construction of 12 residential units at Brookhaven, Montpelier.
- Part 8 for the construction of 31 residential units and 8 affordable housing sites at Deerpark and Rathkeale Road, Adare.
- Residential development for the construction of 95 residential units at Knockhill, Ennis Road.
- Conservation, restoration and change of use of Bannatyne Mill to commercial office use at Ted Russell Dock, Dock Road.
- Construction of a Post Primary school at Groody Road, Towerton, Ballysimon.

3. Veterinary Services

- 10 stray or wandering equines were impounded.
- The Dog Control Unit dealt with 21 dogs.
- Two food samples were submitted during October for analysis under the National Residues and Microbiological Sampling Programme
- A targeted dog licence compliance campaign continues to be operated.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPORT



Capital Investment Directorate

1. Design & Delivery

Finance

Recouplements paid by Department of Housing, Planning and Local Government (DHPLG) in October - €583, 862

Part 8:

- The elected representatives voted to grant Part 8 for the construction of 26 new homes at the Orchard Site.
- Part 8 application submitted for the construction of 30 new homes at Deerpark, Adare.
- Part 8 application submitted for the construction of 12 new homes in Montpelier.
- Part 8 application submitted for three additional houses on Mulgrave St.

Approvals sought/obtained

- Stage 4 Approval issued to DHPLG for Glenview Drive, Hospital (20 houses).
- Stage 4 Approval issued to DHPLG for Old Christians, Rathbane (43 houses).

Tenders

The O'Connell St. Public Art Stage 1 submissions were assessed and submissions for Stage 2 selected.

Buy & Renew and SHIP Refurbishment programme

Inspections Carried out - October	19
Refurbishment works Commenced in October	1
Refurbishment works Ongoing	11
Refurbishment works completed in October	2

Home Improvement Schemes

Inspections and Recommendations for Home Improvement Schemes - October 2019

Inspection Types	MAGs	HAGs	HOPs	Total Inspections by Inspection Type
Pre-application	1	1	2	4
Initial Inspection	2	7	13	22
Re-inspection	1	2	0	3
Final Inspection	7	7	11	25
Total Inspections by Grant Type	11	17	26	54

MAGs (Mobility Adaptation Grant Scheme)

HAGs (Housing Adaptation Grant Scheme)

HOPS (Housing Aid for Older Persons Grant Scheme)

Irish Building and Design Awards 2019

Three Capital Investment Directorate projects- Nicholas Street Regeneration (Tourism and Hospitality Project of the Year), Kilmallock West Wall Walkway (Heritage, Conservation/Culture Project of the Year) and the New Motorway Offices in Lissanalta House (Fit Out Project of the year) were shortlisted for the finals of the Irish Building and Design Awards 2019.

The winners will be announced on 29 November 2019. This is the first time local authorities could compete in this previously private sector-focused competition, and the representation from Limerick City and County Council is a very good indicator of the standard of work we are carrying out on a national platform.

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2. Property Services

Corporate Buildings

- Commenced design proposals for remodelling works to Newcastle West Library.
- Design of various small office remodelling proposals in Merchant's Quay and Dooradoyle Offices.

Acquisitions and Disposals statistics

House purchases concluded:	2
House purchases Sale Agreed:	1

Facilities Team:

The Council hosted in Istrabraq Hall an event for "Médecins Sans Frontières/Doctors Without Borders" (MSF), who are an international medical humanitarian organisation for treating people where the need is greatest.



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

- There were 51,092 active HAP tenancies nationally, managed by the HAPSSC at the end of October
- A weekly average of 330 HAP tenancies have been set-up during 2019
- The October landlord payment run was over €41 million
- The weekly tenant debit at the end of October, 2019 was over €2.4 million
- The HAP SSC Debt Management Unit issued 5,216 differential rent arrears letters to HAP recipients in October
- The HAPSSC Debt Management Unit collected a total of €97.7m in differential rent from January to October
- The HAP Tenant rent collection rate at the end of October 2019 was 98%.

**2. Fire & Emergency Services
Statistics**

	No. of Fire Related Calls	No. of Non Fire Related Calls	Total
No. of call outs 01/10/19 – 31/10/19	71	48	119
% of calls where on scene in < 10 mins from time of call	75%	64%	
% of calls where on scene between 11 and 20 mins from time of call	22%	34%	
% of calls where on scene in > 20 mins from time of call	3%	2%	

	No. received / assigned	No. Validated	No. invalidated / refused	No. granted	No. Completed
Fire Certificate Applications October 2019	13	9	2	23	
Disability Access Cert Applications October 2019	7	6	2	14	
Licensing Applications October 2019	8	8	0		
Commencement Notice October 2019	45	38	5	38	43
Completion Certificate October 2019	21	19	0	19	19
Planning Referrals October 2019	18				11
Sugar CRM Cases October 2019	5				1

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPORT**Fire & Emergency Training Events for month of October 2019**

- One Sub Station Officer attended the NDFEM Station Officer Course in Bray
- 25 fire fighters attended refresher training in the use of HIAB cranes and winches. This training was delivered in Newcastle West fire Station.
- 12 fire fighters attended initial training in the use of HIAB cranes and winches. This training was delivered in Newcastle West fire Station.
- Two fire fighters received training in Emergency Services Driver Standards and successfully completed an RSA driving assessment.
- Two officers attended a 2-day HYDRA 'Effective Decision Making Course' in Clonmel Fire Station.
- One new recruit fire fighter completed a 3-week Fire Fighting Skills course in Ennis Fire Station

Civil Defence attendance at Events for month of October

- 3K for 3 –Breast cancer awareness walk
- St. Michael's Rowing Club (SMRC) Urban Run
- Shine a Light Boat Parade
- Samhain Parade

Munster Regional Control Centre (MRCC)

	No. of calls mobilised to an emergency incident by MRCC	Other Calls	Average Call Processing Time	Total no. of calls in October
No. of call outs 01/10/2019 – 31/10/2019	800	1,052	1 minute 18 seconds	1,852

Water Safety

No. of lifebuoy replacements	Jan-Sept	Oct 2019	Total 2019
Metropolitan Area	16	0	16
Municipal Area	11	0	11

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPORT



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3. Digital Services

- On 22 October, members of the Digital Services team attended the All Ireland Smart Cities Forum Third Annual Conference in Croke Park. The theme of the conference was "Sustainable Places, Connected Communities". The Digital Services team had a stand providing information about Limerick's Digital Strategy as well as the +CityxChange project, while a digital model of a Georgian building developed as part of the +CityxChange project was also made available for attendees to interact with. Topics discussed at the conference included the Role of Technology in Sustainable Cities and Communities, Climate Change and the Smart City, Public Sector Innovation and the Role of Cities, Innovative Solutions to Public Sector Challenges, and Smart Places and the Citizen.
- Several new features were deployed to Limerick.ie this month, including an Irish language option which was added to the Council homepage and automatic updates to Councillor cases on My Limerick. The Christmas website was also relaunched.
- The LITe Programme was rolled out to the Customer Services department this month, while Digital Services will be working with the LITe team to migrate the HR Department onto Sharepoint Online in November.

EU Projects:

- On 4 October, Terry Connolly and Kieran Reeves discussed the Horizon 2020 +CityxChange project on Limerick City Community Radio with Michael O'Connor. The interview covered a range of topics around climate action and creating a sustainable energy future for Limerick.
- From 7-10 October, Dr. Mihai Bilauca and Terry Connolly attended the "European Week of Regions and Cities" (EWRC) which took place in Brussels. Sessions were attended dealing with Financial Investment in Green Energy, Smart Cities, Citizen Engagement and other topics related to Limerick's strategic goals. Bilateral meetings were held with Billy Kelleher MEP, Grainne Ryan from Enterprise Ireland, as well as with representatives from the cities of Cork (IE), Leeuwarden (NL), Milan (IT), Vienna (AT), and Trondheim (NO). Fringe discussions were also held with representatives from the UIA and Interreg Europe funding bodies.
- On 8 October Terry Connolly represented the +CityxChange project at the "RES in Buildings" clustering event hosted by the European Commission Innovation and Networks Executive Agency (INEA). This meeting was a knowledge sharing exercise between a number of EU Projects dealing with the incorporation of Renewable Energy technology into the fabric of cities.
- On 9 October a meeting was held between Limerick, Trondheim and the European Commission's Directorate-General for Regional and Urban Policy (DG REGIO). The meeting was hosted by Wallis Goelen-Vandebrock; senior expert on urban/territorial development and inclusive growth. A very productive and insightful discussion was held around the UN Sustainable Development Goals and the potential role of cities and regions in raising awareness of them among their inhabitants.
- On 10 October Limerick City and County Council represented by Chief Executive Dr. Pat Daly and Dr. Mihai Bilauca, along with Trondheim Municipality represented by Chief Executive Morten Wolden, highlighted the key challenges and solutions put forward by the +CityxChange project during a workshop as part of the EWRC. The session was on "The Future of Urban Energy Systems: Innovation for positive energy cities and sustainable communities". See: <https://www.limerick.ie/council/newsroom/news/limerick-and-trondheim-lighting-way-europes-mid-sized-cities>
- From 23-25 October Limerick City and County Council hosted the second +CityxChange Consortium meeting in The Strand Hotel. This 3 day meeting was attended by 70 experts from around Europe representing the 32 partners in the project. Workshops were held on topics such as City Modelling, Transport and Mobility, Citizen-Led Energy Transitions, and The Common Energy Market. The purpose of the meeting was to review work done on the project to date, and planning our efforts for 2020.
- From 28 October to 1 November, members of the Digital Services Team attended the Kick-Off Meeting for "Find Your Greatness", an EU Urbact III Phase 1 project. Over the next 4 months, Limerick will work with seven other European cities to design a plan to deliver Europe's first strategic brand building programme for smart cities.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPORT**Support Services Directorate****1. Finance Services****Rent Collection****Rent Collection Limerick City & County Council**

Opening Balance @ 01/01/2019	Accrued Income	Total for collection	Receipts	Closing balance 31/10/2019	% Collection
€3,822,761	€13,077,085	€16,899,846	€12,598,126	€4,301,720	72%

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 31st October 2019	11,723,152	59,019,352**	547,319	1,649,051	65,546,134	44,694,784	48,376,566	2,427,134	77%

** The Date for Making the 2019 Rate was 1st February 2019

Limerick City & County Council has objected to an appeal decision by the Valuation Tribunal and has engaged a junior counsel and an expert valuer to progress the Council's case. This is required to mitigate the loss of income to the Council.

Debtors Loans	Opening Balance 1 Jan €	Accruals €	Writes offs / Waivers €	To Collect €	Receipts €	Arrears €	% Collected
As at 31st October 2019	486,661	1,303,830		1,790,491	1,377,668	412,823	77%

Recourse to Overdraft Facility

No of days in overdraft **0**

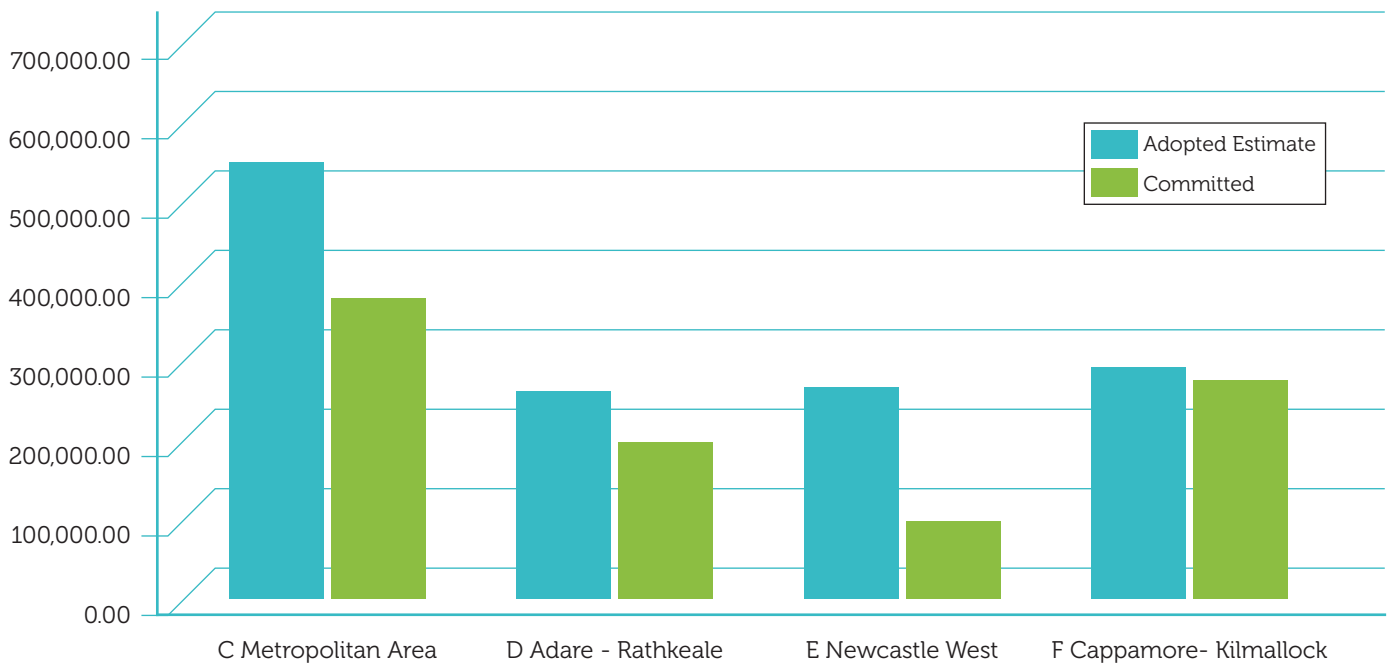


CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPORT



General Municipal Allocation 2019

Graph outlining adopted budget and draft committed expenditure up to 31st October 2019



Municip (Code) + (Text)	Value Adopted Estimate (€)	Value Committed (€)
C Metropolitan Area	503,000.00	330,658
D Adare - Rathkeale	225,000.00	165,665
E Newcastle West	225,000.00	51,650
F Cappamore - Kilmallock	250,000.00	233,195



CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPORT



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2. Corporate Services, Governance & Customer Services

Corporate Services

Joint Policing Committee

The first meeting of the new joint policing committee was held on 11 October. Councillor Adam Teskey was appointed chair. Matters that were discussed were as follows:

- Crime Statistics
- Garda Divisional Policing Model
- Garda Resources
- Operation Shannonside
- Crime Task Force

Audit Committee

The first meeting of the new Audit Committee was held on 11 October. Items discussed included:

- Internal Audit Plans
- Audit Committee Work Programme 2019-2020
- Audit Committee Charter
- Training Needs
- Internal Audit Reviews
- Risk Management Policy and Corporate Risk Register

Promotion of Hohenlohe Twinning Relationship

An invitation was received from the German Ambassador, Ms. Deike Potzel, to attend and participate in a Twinning Event and attend a Reception to celebrate the Day of German Unity, on Friday, 4 October, 2019 at the Residence of the German Embassy, Donnybrook, Dublin 4. Thirty years after the fall of the Berlin wall, this event celebrated the 29th Day of German Unity in the German Residence and promoted German Irish twinings.

Two officials from Corporate Services and Governance Department and The Tourism Officer attended this event. A stand was set up promoting and showcasing Limerick and all queries and questions were answered by all those visiting the stand. The relationship between Limerick and

Hohenlohe in Germany was also highlighted and visitors to the stand were given brochures and promotional materials on Limerick. Approximately 300 people attended this event which was an excellent event to show all that is good in Limerick. As a result of this, Ambassador Potzel paid a courtesy visit to the Mayor of the City and County of Limerick on 10 October where the economic and tourism links between Hohenlohe and Limerick were further discussed.

Mayoral Receptions were held for the following:

- Mae Leonard, in recognition of her achievements as one of Sunday Miscellany's best loved and longstanding contributors, Mae Leonard, has through her writing as a poet and folklorist continued to share lovingly with the nation her memory bank of all things Limerick. She has had a number of books published including a poetry collection and has also won a number of literary awards, including the Cecil Day Lewis and the Gerard Manley Hopkins awards, and some time ago was shortlisted for the Francis McManus Short Story Award on RTÉ Radio 1.
- Malachy McCourt, in recognition of his unique contribution and the contribution of the McCourt family to the telling of Limerick's story around the world. In celebration of Malachy's own personal story as an artist, activist, broadcaster, actor, raconteur and as a gentleman of Ireland and New York.
- Maureen Sparling, in recognition of her versatility as an author, as a novelist, short story writer and as a poet, her work has kept the literary tradition of the 'Parish' alive. Through her persistence, Limerick now has a statue of Bard of Thomond, a project she took on tirelessly to ensure that his legacy was honoured, not only by locals, but for visitors from around the world.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPORT**The Mayor hosted the following in Corporate Headquarters in October 2019:**

- Courtesy visit of German Ambassador
- Visit of St. John's Girls School.

The Office of the Mayor co-ordinated and arranged for the Mayor to attend the following functions/ events during month of October 2019:

- Official Launch of the SMART 4.0 Fellowship, University of Limerick.
- Ballyhoura Development in partnership with Mid West Traveller Health Unit, Launch of Research Report East Limerick Traveller Health Baseline Needs Assessment, Pastoral Resource Centre, Kilmallock, Co. Limerick
- Launch of Limerick Mental Health Week 2019
- Programme Launch for The Richard Harris International Film Festival 2019
- Mid Western Cancer Foundation Butterfly Ball 2019
- The Official Launch for Ballyneety Community Development Association, Community Hub and Astro-turf Pitch, Innovation Hub on the grounds of Ballyneety Golf Club
- Official Launch of Mulkear European Innovation Partnership (EIP), Oola Community Sports Centre, Oola, Co. Limerick
- Photoshoot / Launch of new Limerick Walking Map, City Centre, Limerick
- Press Launch for Limerick Panto Society Pantomime 'Beauty & the Beast'
- Going for Gold Final
- Open Evening for Limerick Suicide Watch, Dominic Street, Limerick
- University of Limerick, 9th Annual President's Volunteer Award Ceremony 2019
- America Chamber of Commerce Ireland - Mid West Regional Dinner
- Official Opening of new classroom extension, Saint Michael's National School, Barrington Street, Limerick
- Photocall, National Re-Use Month
- LIT President's Alumni Ball 2019
- Visit St. Michael's Infant School
- Open Older People's Executive Gathering
- Pieta House Open Day, Pieta House, Mungret, Limerick
- Press Launch Limerick Shannon Rotary Club Annual Fundraising Lunch in aid of the Children's Grief Project
- Conference hosted by Limerick & Clare Education & Training Board, National Association of Youthreach Co-ordinators (NAYC), 27th Annual Conference
- Open Place EE, Event based around Platforms for Ageing Community Engagement – Exchange and Enterprise or Place EE
- University of Limerick, 'Access at 20 celebration' - Celebrating 20 years of the Access Office at UL
- Villiers School Prize Day Ceremony, Villiers School, Limerick
- Launch 2018 Novas Annual Report
- Formally Open the 2019 Irish Woodturners Guild National Seminar
- Development Plan Launch, Mungret Regional Football Club
- Irish Red Cross, National First Aid Competition, Ard Scoil Ris, followed by dinner and prize giving ceremony
- I.N.Y (Ireland New York) Gathering and Gala Dinner
- Ballynanty Rovers AFC, in association with the FAI, Presentation by the FAI of the John Sherlock Services to Football Award to Mr. Tony Fitzgerald
- Joint Polish - Irish Choral Concert - Academy of Art Choir from Szczecin, Poland & Seoda Chamber Choir, Limerick at St. Michael's Church, Denmark Street
- St. Mary's Cathedral & Order of Malta, Ecumenical Service of Thanksgiving and the Dedication of a Memorial to the Order's Centuries-old Presence and Humanitarian Service in Limerick over the past 800 years, St. Mary's Cathedral, Limerick
- Photoshoot for Speakfor15 Mental Health Campaign, Council Chamber, Merchant's Quay

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPORTComhairle Cathrach
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- Cultural event and reception with Ambassador of Hungary on the occasion of the anniversary of the Hungarian Revolution 1956, Concert of Virtuosos Ensemble, Smock Alley Theatre, 7 Exchange Street Lower, Temple Bar, Dublin
- Land Development Agency Dinner
- Press Launch for College Players Limerick Production 'Translations' by Brian Friel
- Photoshoot for launch of Unity Gospel Choir CD 'Love Shine a Light'
- Open Comhairle na nÓg AGM at Foundation Building, University of Limerick
- Limerick & Clare Education & Training Board (LCETB) - VTOS Graduation Ceremony for adult learners, Further Education & Training Centre, Kilmallock Road, Limerick
- Mary Immaculate College Conferring Ceremonies, Mary Immaculate College, Limerick
- Official Opening of Richard Harris International Film Festival, Dance Limerick, St. John's Square
- Visit and officially open Limerick's first Climathon event, Engine Building, Upper Cecil Street
- Fashion Show at Southill Hub
- Mid West Indian Irish Association, Diwali Party, Indian Cultural Festival
- Richard Harris International Film Festival, Gala Awards Show of 7th Film Festival, followed by Gala Awards Party
- Thomond Archaeological & Historical Society, Launch of International Conference 'St. Martin's Fair, A Conference on Medieval Limerick and its International Connections, St. Munchins / Civic Trust

Travel Abroad

Fourth International Conference on Learning Cities (ICLC) 'Inclusion – A principle for lifelong learning and sustainable cities' in Medellin, Colombia 1-3 October, 2019

Health and Safety Training

During the month of October, the Health & Safety Training Unit arranged the following training courses:

Name of Course	Total Number of Staff Trained
Asbestos Awareness Training	10
Confined Spaces Management of Risk	19
Drivers CPC – Various Modules	12
Management of Violence & Aggression in the Workplace	12
Manual Handling	27
Safepass	6
Working at Heights	2
Winter Service Operators New Entrants	8
Total	96

Register of Electors

Work on the 2020/2021 Draft Register of Electors continued during the month of October. Members of the Register of Electors teams updated the Draft Register of Electors with returns received from Fieldworkers, who carry out door to door enquiries to check the accuracy of the Register in preparation for publication of the Draft Register of Electors on 1 November annually.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPORT



Customer Services

On 3 October, Limerick was hit by another orangeweather alert, Storm Lorenzo.

This weather alert saw wind speeds of 65km/h, with gusts of up to 100km/h, causing disruption across Limerick city and county. Throughout the storm, Customer Services' call centre remained open and available to the citizen to support their requests. Customer Services also worked very closely with the Major Emergency Team to ensure essential services continued throughout the city and county.

October also saw the establishment of dedicated Account Managers, who are an additional support to our elected members in accessing the services of the Council. Their role is to work with our colleagues and with our Councillors to ensure requests are answered appropriately and in a timely fashion.

In October, there was 210 cases logged through the MyLimerick platform, 206 of which were logged by local representatives.

Customer Services processed 77 Residential Parking Permits throughout October.

Customer Services also continued to support the Housing Maintenance Department by logging 70% of cases throughout the month of October, as well as logging 53 cases for housing maintenance in the area offices and taking 1,453 calls for Housing Maintenance in October

Customer Services received 12,770 calls via our call centre throughout the month, handling 46% of calls at first point of contact.

This works out at approximately 556 calls per day.

In October, there were 883 cases logged on behalf of elected representatives by Customer Services.

Overall, on the SugarCRM (Customer Relationship Management) System, 3,463 cases were logged throughout October. 68% of these being logged by Customer Services in both our Merchant's Quay and Dooradoyle offices.

Overall, on the SugarCRM (Customer Relationship Management) System, 3,463 cases were logged throughout October. 68% of these being logged by Customer Services in both our Merchant's Quay and Dooradoyle offices.

The majority of cases logged were for the following services;

Operations and Maintenance (62% being housing maintenance)	2,534
Housing Support Services	508
Planning and Environmental Services	158
Design and Delivery	67
Veterinary	61
Customer Services	31

The total number of callers to our counters at Merchant's Quay and Dooradoyle was 3,669.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPORTComhairle Cathrach
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& County Council**3. Schedule of Meetings**

Name of Meeting	Date	Location
Local Community Development Committee	01.10.2019	Merchant's Quay
Municipal District of: Adare-Rathkeale - Monthly Meeting Meeting to consider the Draft Budgetary Plan 2020	08.10.2019 23.10.2019	Rathkeale Rathkeale
Newcastle West - Monthly Meeting Meeting to consider the Draft Budgetary Plan 2020	09.10.2019 23.10.2019	Newcastle West Newcastle West
Cappamore-Kilmallock - Monthly Meeting Meeting to consider the Draft Budgetary Plan 2020	17.10.2019 17.10.2019	Kilmallock Kilmallock
Metropolitan District of Limerick Special Meeting to discuss the EPA's decision to grant an incineration licence to Irish Cement, Mungret	07.10.2019	Merchant's Quay
Meeting to consider the Draft Budgetary Plan 2020	18.10.2019	Merchant's Quay
Monthly Meeting	21.10.2019	Merchant's Quay
Joint Policing Sub-Committee Municipal District of Newcastle West	09.10.2019	Newcastle West
Audit Committee	11.10.2019	Merchant's Quay
Limerick City and County Council Joint Policing Committee	11.10.2019	Merchant's Quay
Corporate Policy Group	14.10.2019	Merchant's Quay
Strategic Policy Committee Meetings Travel and transportation	15.10.2019	Merchant's Quay
Economic Development, Enterprise and Planning	16.10.2019	Dooradoyle
Climate Action, Biodiversity and Environment	22.10.2019	Dooradoyle
Home and Social Development	29.10.2019	Dooradoyle

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPORT



4. Access to Information

	October	2019 (January to October)
Total Freedom of Information Requests	23	172
FOI Internal Appeals	1	9
Information Commissioner Appeals	0	4
Total Ombudsman Requests	9	30
Total AIE Requests	2	15

5. Business Improvement

- Business Improvement and Corporate Services worked with the Corporate Policy Group and other key stakeholders to assist in the production of a Draft Corporate Plan (2019 -2024) for Limerick City and County Council.
- The Corporate Plan is a strategic framework for actions over a five-year period. It is a central component of our business architecture, linking policy, organisational activity, governance and performance management and actions.
- The Mission Statement, Vision and Values in the Draft Corporate Plan were accompanied by the eight strategic goals of Limerick City and County Council for 2019 to 2024. Each goal is underpinned by a series of objectives.
- In keeping with Business Improvement's intention to engage with citizens, the Corporate Plan was published on "MyPoint", the Council's new online engagement platform. Citizens and staff alike were encouraged to deliver feedback on the Draft Corporate Plan which provided a digital outlet for engagement along with feedback sessions and discussions held with all key stakeholders.
- The Draft Corporate Plan will be further refined before being presented to the elected members on the 25 November, 2019.

