

# CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPORT



Comhairle Cathrach  
& Contae **Luimnigh**

**Limerick City**  
& County Council

## September 2019

THIS MONTH:

**POSITIVE** – EU project +CityxChange launched

**WATER** – Consultants appointed for Askeaton Wastewater Treatment Plant planning

**CULTURE** – Limerick wraps itself in culture

**PRIDE** – 4 pride of place groups welcome judges

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### Economic Development Directorate

## 1. Strategic and Forward Planning

- Submission made to the Office of the Planning Regulator on the Office of the Planning Regulator Draft Strategic Plan 2019 – 2024.
- Input into Atlantic Economic Corridor progress report and Ezine and attendance at meetings.
- Chief Executive's Report issued to Elected Members on the Material Alterations to the draft Kilmallock Local Area Plan 2019 -2025, which will be considered at the October Cappamore-Kilmallock Municipal Meeting.

## 2. Local Enterprise Office (LEO)

- Brexit 1:1 Advice Clinics took place throughout September in the LEO Office.
- Limerick Entrepreneur, Eoghan Mulcahy of Deepseek AI, reached the National Finals of Irelands Best Young Entrepreneur (IBYE) which was held in Google HQ, Dublin on Sunday 15 September.
- Philip Mackessy, MD of Mackessy Technology Ltd. represented Limerick at the Local Enterprise Village at this year's National Ploughing Championships from 17 – 19 September in Ballintranee, Co. Carlow.
- LEO Limerick sponsored Network Limerick's September Women in Business event on 18 September in the Clayton Hotel: 'Helping Women in Business Get the Balance Right' with Dr. Mary Ryan.
- 6 week Start Your Own Business (SYOB) Course commenced on the 5 September.
- Management Development Course for Owner managers of small businesses commenced on the 11 September.
- LEO continues to promote all activities and programmes, with the emphasis on Brexit supports.

## 3. Digital Services

- Evaluation of the responses received to the tender published for a new enterprise-standard Customer Relationship Management (CRM) system for the Council began in September and will continue into the first half of October, with the contract due to be awarded in late October.

- Design and development work on the new Limerick Food website was completed in September. Work is now underway by James Burke & Associates on updating of the site content, and preparation of a marketing strategy for the website.
- A Digital Leaders Network meeting was held in ENGINE on 5 September on the topic of Funding Sustainable Open Innovation.
- The consultation on plans for the O'Connell Street Revitalisation project that was published on MyPoint, the Council's online citizen engagement platform, closed on 6 September with 58 online submissions received. Digital Services will continue to work with Business Improvement to drive the use of MyPoint across the organisation for both internal and external engagement.
- Digital Services attended a National Broadband Plan meeting in Nenagh with Minister Sean Canney on 13 September, where Limerick's commitment to the rollout of the national plan was outlined, as well as the internal structures being setup locally to support the rollout and challenges that are currently being faced at the local level by broadband officers.
- At a Digital Champions Forum meeting on 18 September, Smart Limerick Infrastructure plans were agreed, covering digital displays, LoRa network, smart bins pilot, ducting and fibre infrastructure.
- Digital Services made a presentation on 18 September at DataCloud Ireland on Digital Infrastructure for the Limerick Region.
- On 25 September Digital Services, along with ICT, presented the current status of their operational plan for 2019 to members of the Staff Liaison Network at their meeting in the Woodlands Hotel, Adare.

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- On 5 September, Limerick City and County Council, led by Dr. Tadhg MacIntyre of the Health Research Institute, University of Limerick, submitted a H2020 application called Go Green Routes. If successful, this project will bring together experts in the fields of Health, Environmental Science, and Wellbeing to co-develop and co-implement innovative mechanisms for greater human and environmental states of health in the urban setting. This project is focused on Limerick (IE), Burgas (BG), Lahti (FI), Tallinn (EE), Umea (SE) and Versailles (FR).
- Also on 5 September, Deputy Mayor of the City and County of Limerick, Councillor Adam Teskey and Chief Executive Dr. Pat Daly, along with management staff from Limerick City and County Council met with a delegation from Leeuwarden/ Fryslan (NL) to discuss potential common areas of interest, and future cooperation on EU projects. In the weeks since this meeting, work is underway to establish a proposal together to capitalise on Leeuwarden's and Limerick's considerable expertise in Culture.
- On 6 September, the formal Launch of the H2020 +CityxChange EU Project took place in The People's Museum on Pery Square. The project was launched by Richard Bruton TD, Minister for Communications, Climate Action and Environment, along with Deputy Mayor of the City and County of Limerick, Councillor Adam Teskey and Chief Executive Dr. Pat Daly. The launch was a great success with coverage in the Irish Times and RTE. It marks once again the success of Limerick's policies in the areas of Environment, Climate Action, and Energy.
- On 9 September, Councillor James Collins, Cathaoirleach of the Metropolitan District and Chief Executive Dr. Pat Daly attended the Launch of the European Expo 2020, which took place in the Hunt Museum. The Expo is a unique exploration of the relationship between the European Union and the people of Limerick. Over the course of 2020 it will showcase Irish and other EU cultures, through education, entertainment and information. At its centre will be an exhibition of a selection from the European Investment Bank Art Collection.
- From Monday 16 to Friday 20 of September, a series of events took place in Limerick's Citizens Observatory on Rutland Street. The Citizens Observatory is an initiative of Limerick City and County Council and the University of Limerick as part of the +CityxChange Project. Over the week, culminating in Culture Night, hundreds of people visited the Observatory to take part in Community Mapping events, information sessions, and games to help reimagine the future of the city.
- From 24-26 September, Anne Goggin and Sarah Newell took part in the Kick-off meeting for the Urbact III project Health & Greenspace. This meeting, which took place in Espoo (Finland), will plan the next steps to create healthier interactive environments in our urban areas, making use of the best expertise available in partnership with other European cities.

**4. Innovate Limerick**

- Mr. Paul C. Ryan joined the Innovate Limerick team as Regional Film Manager. The main function of his role is to work as a liaison between incoming film production companies and statutory agencies to develop the Mid-West as an International Location.

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

- Continued, intensive programme of stakeholder engagement across sectors incorporating tourism, local, education and business interests. Stakeholder workshops also facilitated by M&C Saatchi to determine how stakeholders can best activate the brand and how it can support their marketing efforts.
- Brand asset matrix produced, with executions and channels mapped across each of our core target audiences.
- Event brief for brand launch event produced and event organisers consulted.
- Process of trademarking the brand's assets underway.

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- Process involving reskin of limerick.ie to reflect the new Limerick brand identity also underway.

### Limerick Student City Marketing Campaign

- Continued student marketing campaign to raise awareness about all there is to see and do in Limerick and encourage our third level students to experience life off campus.
- Rolled out the campaign on Limerick.ie social media.
- On campus promotion during orientation week at Mary Immaculate College, University of Limerick, Limerick Institute of Technology and LIT Limerick School of Art & Design.
- Secured a three page Limerick.ie feature on Mary Immaculate College Students' Union diary 2019/2020 .
- Ran an iPad student giveaway on campus and on Limerick.ie Instagram
- Developed tailored digital content on Limerick.ie including a helpful transport guide From Campus to City.
- Engaged with popular Limerick student bloggers Lucy Fitzgibbon, Reece Creed and Brianna Barry, securing Instagram Story features with a potential reach of 87k.
- Collaborated with LSAD Fashion Design student to film a Limerick Thirft Trail feature for Instagram and article for Limerick.ie
- Student's Guide to Limerick e-zine issued to Limerick.ie subscribers.

### Culture Night 2019

- Provided a free bus service from the University of Limerick and Limerick Institute of Technology campuses to Limerick City Centre for Culture Night 2019 to showcase Limerick City's colourful history, heritage and cultural vibrancy to our international students.
- Culture Night Instagram Stories featuring Made in Limerick, the Limerick School of Music, Limerick Printmakers.
- Marketing & Communications and Physical Development co-funded the production of a Walkable Neighbourhood Limerick City Map

showcasing Limerick as a compact, walkable destination.

- Engaged with actress and co-founder of BEO Wellness Aoibhín Garrihy during her recent visit to Limerick. Featured on her Instagram Story (potential reach of 117k).
- Commenced marketing campaign for Halloween in Limerick 2019.
- Produced six 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 for:
  - Limerick Pride of Place judging.
  - +CityxChange Community Participation Events
  - A group of Dutch delegates on their recent visit to Limerick.
  - Limerick Inside Out practicum, a programme aimed at bringing more students into the city centre to work with community groups on projects to develop positive social change.
  - Limerick Going for Gold campaign judges.
  - LGMA trade stand, National Ploughing Championships which attracts 240,700 visitors annually.

### 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 19 times on Limerick.ie's Facebook with followers now 24,868. Posts reached 80,348 users with 7,250 engagements.
- Tweeted 16 times on Limerick.ie's Twitter, @limerick\_ie, with total followers now 16,700. Our tweets earned 100,600 impressions (no. of times users saw our tweet).
- Posted 22 times on Limerick.ie's Instagram and created 20 Stories with total followers now 8,385.
- Tweeted one time on Limerick Marketing's Twitter, @limkmarketing, with total followers now 2,749. Our tweets earned 8,800 impressions (no. of times users saw our tweet).

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- Posted seven times on Limerick City and County Council's LinkedIn with total followers now 3,003.

### Limerick.ie

A total of 122,105 people visited the Limerick ie website in September 2019. 44% of website pageviews were in Discover section and 27% of pageviews were in the Council section.

Content Report: 80 articles, 222 events and 12 amenities were added to Limerick.ie website in September 2019.

Dedicated new webpages created for Limerick CityxChange, Halloween in Limerick, EU Programmes, Make a Move Festival, Éigse Michael Hartnett, Viva la Vida Festival, OpenHouse Limerick, Pride of Place 2019, I.NY and Limerick Jazz Festival.

The most popular pages on Limerick.ie were:

1. [www.limerick.ie](http://www.limerick.ie)
2. [Whats-on/festivals/culture-night](#).
3. [Planning enquiries](#).
4. [Limerick.ie/Council](#).

### Communications

- Issued 23 news releases from the Marketing and Communications Department and researched and wrote 13 speeches for the Office of the Mayor.
- Produced and distributed the monthly Council Connect staff e-newsletter.
- Tweeted 126 times on Limerick City and County Council's Twitter account, @limerickcouncil, with total fans now 13,118. Our tweets earned 291,000 impressions (no. of times users saw our tweet).

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### Physical Development Directorate

## 1. Travel & Transportation Strategy

### Limerick Shannon Metropolitan Area Transport Study (LSMATS)

- Preliminary consultation with selected stakeholders commenced with the National Transport Authority (NTA).
- Formal public consultation will be undertaken later this year.

## 2. Environment Strategy

### Litter Management Plan 2019-2022

- At its Meeting held on 23 September 2019, the Full Council considered and adopted the Draft Litter Management Plan 2019-2022 which sets out the Council's objectives and actions for the prevention and control of litter in Limerick for the period 2019-2022.

### URBACT Health and Greenspaces

Limerick City and County Council is participating in the URBACT Health and Greenspaces project, a multi partner, transnational project which aims to exploit the health benefits of urban green space under four main themes:

1. Relieving heat stress
2. Improving air quality and the noise environment
3. Improving physical and mental well being
4. Encouraging healthier lifestyles and better social interaction.

There are a total of nine partner city authorities involved in the project, which is being led by the 12th District of Budapest, Hungary. The other partners are: Limerick, Ireland; Messina, Italy; Suceava, Romania; Tartu, Estonia; Espoo, Finland; Santa Pola, Spain; Poznan, Poland and Breda, The Netherlands.

Under phase 1 of the project, Limerick is committed to: hosting the lead partner in Limerick for 1.5 days in November 2019; identifying the

likely membership of a Limerick stakeholder's group called an Urbact Local Group; providing baseline information on the City's green spaces; and attending the Phase 1 close out meeting Budapest in February 2020.

## 3. Water Services

### Capital Works

- Water main rehabilitation works progressing in Ballingaddy and Carrig, Clarina.
- Works progressing on upgrade to Athea Wastewater Treatment Plant.
- Arup consultants have been appointed to prepare the planning application for the new Wastewater Treatment Plant in Askeaton. Irish Water are proceeding with site acquisition for Dromcollogher Wastewater Treatment Plant.
- Works progressing on upgrade to electrical panels in Castletroy Wastewater Treatment Plant.
- Limerick Sewer Rehab works completed on Catherine Street (liner), and progressing on William Street and O'Connell Street, as per programme.

**Community Development Directorate****1. Tourism, Culture & Arts****Tourism**

On 13 September, the ribbon was cut on the latest phase of the re-development of the Great Southern Greenway Limerick (GSGL). The incorporation of the Barnagh Tunnel onto the GSGL involved the construction of an underpass under the N21 Limerick to Tralee Road. The scheme included the upgrading of the old railway track to a shared greenway surface and carrying out extensive renovations to the old Railway Tunnel. A further 1.3 km has been added onto the Greenway and increases safety for walkers and cyclists, who previously had to cross the N21 to the viewing and picnic areas and the tunnel.

The old railway tunnel is over 100m long with rock cut approaches at either end and stands as a testament to the sophistication on the 19th Century engineering. The work was funded through Rural Regeneration and Development Fund (RRDF), the Hinderland Fund and Limerick City and County Council's own resources. This is the latest of a series of proposed works for the development and improvement of the Greenway.

**Programming****Castleconnell Concert Series**

Introduced by Liz Nolan, RTÉ Lyric FM, the Castleconnell Autumn Concert Series is a Limerick City and County Council 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. The Esmé Quartet, a chamber ensemble of exceptional achievement and promise was the second in the concert series and included pieces from Frank Bridge, Beethoven and Mendelssohn and on their first visit to Ireland they performed magnificently to a packed house on Tuesday 24 September. In 2018 the quartet won First Prize and the Alan Bradley

Mozart, Bram Eldering Beethoven, the ProQuartet and the Esterházy Foundation Prizes at the prestigious Wigmore Hall International String Quartet Competition in London, and in autumn 2018 it became HSBC Laureate of the Académie du Festival d'Aix.

**Culture Night 2019**

Culture Night is supported by the Department of Culture, Heritage and the Gaeltacht in partnership with Limerick City and County Council and Creative Ireland. Wrap up in Culture was the theme of this year's event. From a daredevil high wire circus act in Arthur's Quay Park, to getting a look inside Henry Street Garda Station, reliving 1,000 years of maritime history, exploring the role of small market towns or seeing how you can get involved in the future development of the city centre, Culture Night Limerick had an amazing menu of 74 exciting events on Friday 20 September.

Culture Night Limerick celebrates the cultural diversity across our city and county from a celebration of the Culture of Food at the Hunt Museum, to Limerick's food festival, Pigtown and its now traditional Pigtown Parade, which had the biggest numbers yet. There were tours of St. John's Cathedral, Sarsfield Barracks and a special Speakers' Corner just for children. Visitors arriving to Colbert Station were entertained by music from a new piano installed by Irish Rail as part of their national arts and culture programme. For those who love a good tale there were local musical and storytelling gatherings in Garryspillane, Abbeyfeale, Kilfinane, Ballyneety and Kildimo. Culture in Limerick is more than one night and our message to everyone was (i) to do something you would not normally do, (ii) go somewhere you haven't been before and (iii) see something unusual.

**Integrated Dance**

The Integrated Dance programme, with Dance artist Mary Hartney began at two schools in Desmond College and Newcastle West in September. The aim of this project is to introduce participants to dance as an art form whilst facilitating active and productive

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engagement in dance activities amongst disabled and non-disabled participants.

### **Lampróg Theatre (formally County Limerick Youth Theatre)**

Lampróg was successful with their application for TheeArThee, a 2 year Erasmus+ KA2 Strategic Partnership, with Chickenshed Theatre, London, UK. The Re-Enactment of 'The Rescue', took place in Clonoulty on 1 September.

### **Continued Professional Development for Artists at Ormston House**

Workshops continued to take place in September in Ormston House and on 24 September curator Maeve Mulrennan provided practical advice on assessing how different opportunities might be right for artists and those present shared tips with peers to learn how to make decisions that fit a career plan. This CPD training is delivered in partnership with Visual Artists Ireland, Ormston House and three Arts Offices, Limerick, Tipperary and Clare.

Award-winning Lumen Street Theatre that brings 'Samhain', Limerick Halloween Festival 2019 to the streets of medieval Limerick launched their event at Ormston House on 30 September. Lumen will undertake a 6-week production residency as Artists in Residence at Ormston House in preparation for Samhain next month.

## **Projects**

### **Bingo Wings at Lime Tree Theatre 13-14 September**

This exciting new Fidget Feet production, blending circus, aerial dance and theatre, delivered by an award-winning team including director Jo Mangan, choreographer Chantal McCormick, playwright Tom Swift and composer Jym Daly had its premiere in the Lime Tree Theatre on 13 September. A ripping yarn about love, luck and bingo that takes audiences on a flight of fantasy - It's 1974, and Bingo Fever has hit the town of Ballydawn, where everyone dreams of scooping the huge Snowball jackpot. But when star

crossed lovers Jimmy and Moya try to rig the game, fate, family and a giant storm get in the way. Will destiny keep them apart, or will their lucky number finally come up? Limerick Culture and Arts Office secured the funding for this with an application to the Arts Council Invitation to Collaboration Scheme in partnership with Kerry County Council and Donegal County Council.

### **Launch of European Expo**

Limerick City and County Council along with the Hunt Museum launched The European Expo 2020 on Monday 9 September. Along with universities, cultural institutions and local businesses, the European Expo 2020 is a unique exploration of the importance of the European Union to its people and vice versa. Over the course of 2020 year, it will showcase Irish and other EU cultures, through education, entertainment and information. It takes the form of exhibitions to educate us about the work of the EU institutions, debates about the big issues facing the EU and our region and, of course fun participatory events highlighting the common ties, which bind us together. At its heart is an exhibition from the European Investment Bank Art Collection, called Belonging, to be based in venues across the city and curated by the Hunt Museum.

### **UL Hospitals Arts Committee**

The UL Hospitals Group Arts Committee is a small, dedicated group, of multi-disciplinary staff from across the hospital Group, with an interest in the Arts, including clinicians, patient advocacy and liaison service, operational services and communications, with the support of Limerick City and County Council. In September, a loan of 16 works from the Arts Council National Collection was installed at the main Hospital Street. The artwork on loan includes work by some of Ireland's leading artists such as Grainne Cuffe, Michael Cullen, Tim Goulding, Charles Harper, Estella Solomons and Samuel Walsh.

### **Helium Arts**

The Helium Arts Advisory Group Committee met for



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the 4th time in September, including a presentation on evaluation methodologies. Two blocks of creative workshops (September -October) for children with long-term medical conditions began at Watch House Cross Community Library. Children aged 5-8 and 9-12 have participated in creative arts workshops with artist Paul Bokslag. Medical cover is provided by a trained professional at the workshops which take place on Saturdays from 11am- 1pm and 2-4pm.

Tyrone Guthrie Centre Regional Bursary Scheme Limerick City and County Council, announced an open call in August, for a bursary to undertake a one week residency at the Tyrone Guthrie Centre at Annaghmakerrig in Co. Monaghan. This bursary covers all board and lodging expenses for one week. The closing date was 18 September 2019. Applications are being processed.

**Festival and Events****Hospital Arts and Culture Festival**

Now in its 5th year, the biggest and longest running Arts Festival in County Limerick continues to embrace all of the arts while aiming to empower the rural community of Hospital and its environs. Events at the festival included Nights On Broadway - The Bee Gees Story, the twinning and sharing of history with Hospital De Orbigo on the Camino way Northern Spain, along with numerous events such as Window Art, Theatre In A Tent, Pop Up Saturday as well as a schools programme. The festival took place from 10-15 September.

**Launch of Eigse Michael Hartnett**

On 12 September, Irish-language poet Ailbhe Ní Ghearbhuigh was announced as the winner of the Michael Hartnett Poetry Award, for her collection Tost agus Allagar. This announcement also saw the launch in Newcastle West of the programme for this year's festival that will take place in October on the 20th anniversary of the death of Michael Hartnett.

**TradFest Garryowen**

A festival weekend by Comhaltas Ceoltóirí Garraí Eoin took place from 20 - 22 September as part of the 10th Birthday celebrations of this local Comhaltas group. The weekend included a free recital on Culture Night, workshops in jigs, reels, polkas along with Irish dancing at St. John's Girls School and a festival concert including outstanding musicians Mickey Dunne, Elaine Hogan, James Devine and Fionn O'Sullivan McCarthy. The weekend finished with sessions in the local pubs.

**Limerick Jazz Festival**

Limerick City hosted top international and Irish artists for the eighth annual Limerick Jazz Festival, from 26-29 September at various locations across the city. This year's headline acts were: The Darius Brubeck Quartet, led by the son of jazz legend Dave Brubeck with a programme celebrating his father's centenary, rising London-based singer-songwriter Sarah Gillespie leading a quintet featuring outstanding pianist Kit Downes and performing material reflecting her jazz, folk and alt-country roots; Septeto Internacional a group of Cuban, Brazilian and European musicians who play music for the ears and the legs with a hot and spicy Latin groove; Beats and Pieces from the UK, fourteen musicians who bring a modern take on the classic big-band tradition with rocking energy and infectious floor-filling rhythms; UK jazz guitar virtuoso Ant Law; Irish-based vocalist Gemma Sugrue performing with the Julien Colarossi Quartet.

**Strategic Developments****Strategic Fund for Culture and Arts Scheme 2019**

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

- Five letters of support were provided for the Arts Council Strategic Fund
- One letter of support was provided for the Arts Council Theatre Development Fund

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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.

### Submission of annual Arts Council Application

A Framework Agreement Report Form was submitted to the Arts Council in September. This form outlines the potential four shared strategic actions Limerick City and County Council and the Arts Council are working to deliver:

- Strategic Action 1: Supporting Artists and Key Strategic Organisations
- Strategic Action 2: Rural Arts and Excellence
- Strategic Action 3: Young People, Children and Education
- Strategic Action 4: Festivals and Events

### Creative Ireland funded projects

John McCarthy's Circus Bar Exhibition, chronicles the wonderful story of the John McCarthy circus archive from the child collecting circus posters and photos in the 1890's to the young man who first opened his circus bar/museum in 1917 right up until its closure in 1966. It delivers an exciting new cultural experience for visitors, something different and never before seen in Ireland. It is very positive and vibrant for Limerick culture and showcases a unique authentic Limerick product associated with the performing circus arts. The "Nationwide" programme broadcast to approx. 380,000 viewers in late August. The exhibition took place in the Parkway Shopping Centre from 13-20 September.

Free Market Exhibition - Kilmallock as it Lives and Breathes' at The Friars Gate Theatre, Kilmallock, a joint Culture Night event with Grey Heron Media, award winning Kilfinane based sound designers and producers that involved audience participation in the live recording and editing of a Kilmallock soundscape.

## 2. Urban & Rural Community Development

### Domestic Waste Refuse Waiver Scheme

#### Bin Waivers:

Bin Waivers issued	40
Bin Waivers refused	17

### Cemeteries

#### Number of Burials in City Cemeteries:

Mount St. Lawrence	18
Mount St. Oliver	14
Castlemungret	5
Kilmurry	0

### Scheme of Assistance for Community Developed Playgrounds

- Kileedy Community Playground was added in September 2019 to the Council's Scheme of Assistance for Community Developed Playgrounds bringing the total number to 18 of playgrounds being supported under this Scheme.

### Thematic Programmes

#### Health and Wellbeing

- The Limerick Local Community Development Committee's draft programme of work for Round Three Healthy Ireland funding was prepared this month. There are eight proposed cross-sectoral actions promoting health and wellbeing, totalling €246,050 and running up to June 2021.

#### Not Around Us

- 37 outdoor places where children and young people are likely to be in Limerick are now displaying Not Around Us signage. The sites

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include playgrounds, early years services, schools and community and recreation amenities. Signage is free for not-for-profits and early years services in Limerick. Not Around Us is about supporting the Tobacco Free Ireland policy and action plan at a local level. More information is available on [limerick.ie](http://limerick.ie)

- A presentation on the Not Around Us initiative was made at a meeting of HSE representatives who sit on LCDC's nationally. This presentation followed a presentation by Dr. Robert Van de Graaf, MD Addiction Medicine Specialist / Tobacco Control Expert / Co-ordinator Dutch Network of Tobacco Free Health Services. Such was Dr. Van de Graaf's interest in the Limerick initiative, he used the Limerick material in a subsequent presentation to senior HSE staff at national level and wishes to share the Not Around Us concept with his national and international colleagues.

### Age Friendly Programme

- The Urban and Rural Development Department held a meeting with members of the Older Peoples Executive to discuss the upcoming 'Information Session' planned for October 2019.
- The Urban and Rural Development Department attended a Place EE transnational partner meeting in Iceland and presented as keynote speakers at the events showcase meeting, which was attended by the town's mayor and key stakeholders.
- The Urban and Rural Development Department attended the launch of 'Positive Ageing Week' to promote an age friendly user-friendly guide for services within the city and county.

### Integration

- A commemoration ceremony took place in Templeglantine Community Centre on 11 September. Councillor Jerome Scanlan, Cathaoirleach of the Newcastlewest Municipal District, and Deputy Mayor of the City and County of Limerick and His Excellency, Mr. Sandeep Kumar, Indian Ambassador to Ireland unveiled a plaque at

the event to honour the groundbreaking work of a West Limerick man, Max Arthur MacAuliffe. Mr. MacAuliffe translated the holy book of the Sikh religion into English and is known worldwide. The event also included key note speakers Professor Tadhg Foley from NUI Galway and Dr. Jasbir Puri, representative of the Sikh community in Ireland. A presentation of posters on Sikhism was also made by pupils of Templeglantine National School.

### Education

- The Urban and Rural Development Department hosted a Comhairle Na nÓg steering group meeting where the new Comhairle Na nÓg members presented updates on work to date and plans for Q4.

### Limerick Public Participation Network (LPPN)

Significant preparation took place in September for the Limerick PPN Plenary meeting on 26 September. Over 50% of the membership was represented on the night with 47 member groups present (total membership up to 26 September was 86). Registration for Limerick PPN membership remains open and the membership registration form can be accessed on [limerickppn.ie](http://limerickppn.ie). The following were agreed to at the meeting:

- Two plenary meetings over next two months
- Election of new Secretariat at next Plenary meeting in October
- Elections of PPN reps to Strategic Policy Committees and Joint Policing Committee via PPN Linkage Groups
- Names of the nominees to be ratified at early November Plenary
- Training for all interested representatives of PPN member groups on the PPN and Council structures
- Implement the findings of the independent review published last year - i.e. address all governance issues raised in the report.

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## Derelict Sites and Vacant Homes/Properties

DERELICT SITES:	
302	• No. of CRM Cases in progress
55	• No. of Inspections carried out
7	• No. of Statutory Notices issued under the Derelict Sites Act
0	• No. of Entries in the Derelict Sites Register
2	• No. of CRM cases resolved due to engagement
7	• No. of properties referred to Vacant Homes Office
11	• No. of new cases entered on SugarCRM
VACANT SITES:	
1	• No. of properties identified on Vacant Homes.ie
4	• No. of properties identified through surveying
22	• No. of inspections carried out (including re-inspection)
8	• No. of cases closed through engagement
1	• No. of properties forwarded for Buy & Renew
0	• No. of properties put forward for C.P.O. Housing Act 1966

## Local Community Development Committee

### Leader Programme 2014-2020

At the September meeting of the LCDC, the members approved €105,760.34 in respect of LEADER Projects.

### Community Enhancement Programme (CEP)

The Community Enhancement Programme (CEP) has a focus on supporting groups in disadvantaged communities throughout the county by providing capital grants to community groups. The Department of Rural and Community Development has combined two existing schemes so that funding is provided to improve facilities in a manner that is more flexible and responsive at a local level.

The Local Community Development Committee

(LCDC) approved a total of €180,429 in funding under CEP. €152,942 targeted small scale renewable energy efficiency type projects and burial grounds and a further €27,487 in funding for both Men's and Women's Sheds.

Below is a list of all groups/organisations that are approved for funding under the CEP and the Men's and Women's Sheds 2019 for 2019 by the Local Community Development Committee.

Group / Organisation Name:	Amount Granted
• Men's Shed	€994.00
• Adare Community Council	€3,420.00
• Adare Men's Shed	€1,249.00
• Ardpatrick Cemetery Committee	€1,487.00
• Athea Craft Group	€1,371.30
• Athea Graveyard Committee	€6,708.90
• Athlacca Community Hall	€4,880.50
• Athlunkard Boat Club	€10,000.00
• Bruff Men's Shed	€1,249.00
• Bruff Parish Trustees	€990.00
• Bruff Tidy Towns	€350.00
• Caherconlish Old Burial Ground Committee	€1,000.00
• Caherconlish Parish Community	€10,000.00
• Caherdavin & District Men's Shed	€1,037.00
• Combined Residents Association	€4,800.00
• Con Colbert Community Hall	€2,792.10
• Crecora Graveyard Committee	€908.00
• Croom Men's Shed	€1,249.00
• Croom Woman's Cave	€1,249.00
• Doon & District Men's Shed	€1,249.00
• Doon Community Centre LTD. TA Doon Community Council	€800.00
• Dooradoyle Raheen Men's Shed	€1,249.00
• Effin and Garrienderk Development Association	€1,000.00
• Effin and Kilquane Committee Burial Comm	€2,132.85
• Families Men's Shed Abbeyfeale	€1,249.00
• Galbally Men's Shed	€1,249.00
• Glenroe Tidy Towns	€1,459.46
• Glin Men's Shed	€1,249.00
• Herbertstown and District Men's Shed	€1,249.00

## CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPORT



Group / Organisation Name: (cont.)	Amount Granted
• Hospital Family Resource Centre	€3,718.26
• Irish Wheelchair Association	€1,378.00
• Kantoher Development Group CLG	€10,000.00
• Killacholiathan Cemetery	€10,208.97
• Limerick Youth Service	€10,000.00
• Mellon Cemetery Commit tee	€3,500.00
• Moyross Community Enterprise Centre	€6,000.00
• Mulcair Men's Shed	€1,249.00
• Mungret Cemetery Restoration Committee	€10,000.00
• Murroe-Boher Historical Society	€8,550.96
• Newcastle West Men's Shed	€1,249.00
• Northside Family Resource Centre	€1,249.00
• Positively Women	€1,249.00
• Rathkeale Boxing Club	€10,000.00
• Reilig Ide Naofa Development Committee	€3,000.00
• Sliabh Ri Ltd.(CE Scheme - Graveyards)	€785.00
• Southill Men's Shed	€1,249.00
• St. Mary's Cathedral Limerick	€9,500.00
• St. Mary's Parish Men's Shed	€1,094.70
• St. Mary's Parish Rathkeale	€4,950.00
• St. Patrick's Men's Shed, Rhebogoue	€1,249.00
• Taylors Cross Burial Ground LTD	€10,000.00
• The Womans Cave Cappagh	€1,628.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>€180,429.00</b>

### CLÁR 2019

Limerick City and County Council has received funding from the Department of Rural and Community Development of €95,000 under the CLÁR Programme for 2019. Under Measure 1 (Support for Schools/Community Safety Measures), €45,000 has been allocated to Ardpatrick National School and under Measure 2 (Support for Play Areas, including Multi Use Games Areas) €50,000 has been allocated to Tournafulla Community Playground. The announcements by the Department of Rural and Community Development under Measure 3(c): Community Wellbeing Supports – Sensory Gardens are expected in the coming weeks.

Group Description	Funding Received
Ardpatrick National School – Construction of footpath linking Ardpatrick National School with the Church and Community Hall in the village as well as the erection of 2 No. Pedestrian Crossings at the School and Church/Community Hall locations.	€45,000
Tournafulla Community Playground – Construction of a Community Playground to include equipment that will provide inclusive activities for young children.	€50,000

### Sport Capital Programme

Under the Sports Capital Programme, Department of Transport Tourism and Sport, final approval has been given by the Department for a grant of €86,466 for the construction of a Multi-Use Games Area (MUGA) in Newcastle West. This will be located in centre of the town, in the Demesne area.

### Pride of Place

- Pride of Place Judges attended the four groups entered for this years competition on 4 and 5 September under the following categories;
  - 2000-5000 Population Category – Abbeyfeale Community Council
  - Community Tourism Initiative – Newtown Cottage Association
  - Community Wellbeing Initiative – St. Mary's Parish Men's Shed
  - Age Friendly Initiative – St. Michael's Day Care Centre
- St. Michael's Day Care Centre gave a brief presentation of their project entry to the Cappamore Kilmallock Municipal District meeting the 19 September and their achievement in representing Limerick in Pride of Place 2019 was celebrated and recognised.

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPORT**Comhairle Cathrach  
& Contae **Luimnigh****Limerick City**  
& County Council**Limerick Sports Partnership (LSP)**

- The LSP hosted the Company Marathon Challenge and 16 companies participated in this novelty event where they complete the Marathon distance over repeated 200 meter runs. This year's event was won by Johnson and Johnson. In total 320 participants completed the Marathon distance.
- The 2nd roll out of the Boxing Clever programme supporting individuals on a recovery path from addiction commenced with 16 new recruits. The programme is delivered over 3 half days for 18 weeks.
- Positive Ageing week kicked off with a Seminar in Thomond Park for 180 participants covering topics on Physical health, Mental health and the positive impact Physical Activity has on dementia.
- Training and Planning has been completed for the Partnership programme between the Men's Sheds, Get Ireland Walking and the LSP. Walking will be delivered in Doon, Galbally, Caherdavin and Limerick city.
- The 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](http://www.limericksports.ie) for more information.

**3. Libraries, Gallery & Museum****Library Services**

- Kilmallock Library played host to the "Free Market" exhibition on the final leg of its return tour from the Irish Pavilion at the 2018 Venice Biennale of Architecture. The exhibition includes original models and drawings, which focus on the uniqueness of rural Irish towns and the challenges they face. The exhibition will run from 19-30 September. Complimenting this is the Kilmallock Town Threshold Exhibition. This project is an ongoing collaborative project between Limerick City and County Council, students of Architecture at University of Limerick and the people living in Kilmallock.
- The project aims to slow traffic as it enters the town and make a clear threshold between the town and surrounding countryside. Taking the historic medieval North Gate entrance to the walled town as inspiration the Threshold Exhibition illustrates both the collaborative process involved in bringing the project to fruition, and the resultant temporary structures, which together silhouette the lost North Gate to the town.
- Summer Stars Awards Days continued in Watch House Cross, Kilmallock, Dooradoyle and the Granary where children who had completed the summer reading challenge gathered to collect certificates and medals while enjoying a party in the library to honour their achievement.
- Kilmallock Library hosted a special opening of the Library on 21 September to mark Culture Night and the hosting of the Free Market Architecture exhibition. Grey Heron Media, the award winning sound producers based in Kilfinane, created a soundscape of the town of Kilmallock with the participation of members of the public. The soundscape mirrors that which formed part of the Free Market Exhibition at the Venice Biennale and accompanies the exhibition. In The Granary for Culture Night, the library presented an event called, 'Once Upon October' an autumn themed presentation of poetry and traditional Irish music, which was very well attended.
- Adare Library was the venue for a fun workshop with Comhluadar Luimnigh on Saturday 7 September with children from 6 months - 8 years and their parents/guardians. Julie Ann de Brún led dance, percussion and songs in Irish and other languages, to a young and enthusiastic audience. On 13 September, Limerick Childcare Committee gave a talk on promoting access to quality, affordable childcare across Limerick City and County to the regular parent and toddler group. Class visits resumed with schools reopening.

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPORT**Comhairle Cathrach  
& Contae **Luimnigh****Limerick City**  
& County Council

- Between 6-20 September in Newcastle West Library "China Cups and Feathered Friends" was the title of an exhibition of watercolour and ink paintings by Marian Sheehan Ahern. Marian is a Cork based artist who has exhibited nationally and internationally since graduating with an MA from Limerick School of Art and Design. Marian's work is strongly influenced by Irish flora, fauna and folklore." Winner of the Gothic Legacy Award and the Curators Choice Drawing Award, her art practise is strongly influenced by her research into Irish Folklore superstition and oral storytelling.
- From 23 September to end of month a photographic exhibition by student Roisín Normoyle featured photographs from New York, Brighton and Irish scenes including "The Halfpenny Bridge" in Dublin, Ballybunion beach and Gougane Barra. On September 25 the library linked up with the Speech and Language Unit of the local Primary school, providing a "Messy Hands" workshop and sensory play material for the students. The students and teachers enjoyed storytelling on pond and woodland animals, followed by a workshop with crafts based on wildlife. The weekly Friday morning Knitting Club continued with stitching and friendships going from strength to strength, this provides a weekly outlet for retired and unemployed people. As the schools are back, the weekly class visits have resumed, with all classes from the Courtenay Boys School attending as well as other Parish Primary schools visiting and becoming patrons of the Library with many children joining the library for the first time.
- The Granary Library History lecture Series 2019/2020 started in September, this being the 21st season of these lectures. Dr. Keith Munro from Northern Ireland gave a fascinating presentation on the life of a little-known but significant player in the women's suffrage movement. Operating both here in Ireland and, later in India. 'Through The Eyes of Margaret Cousins' was a very well received illustrated talk and was a promising start to this season's series.
- Music activities continued to be a feature of programming at the Granary Library. There were gatherings of the two music clubs: The Gramophone Circle and Rock Record Club, presented this month by well-known local arts aficionado, Tom Muldowney.
- The show in the Granary Music Library Free Concert Series this month was by the group Seafoam Green. This UK-based Irish group played a hugely well-received set of blues, country and rock music to a very appreciative audience.
- Finally, the end of the summer saw the re convening of many regular activities in the Granary Library, including the University of the Third Age, Limerick Seniors Forum, Limerick Lace workshops, Digital Skills Classes, various book clubs, etc.
- Dooradoyle Library has opened two exciting art exhibitions in the month of September by Limerick artists Alison Quaid, and Una Breen. Ballyhoura Development CLG and Age Action are offering ongoing free digital skill training sessions for adults in the branch. Book clubs, pre-school story readings and meditation classes have resumed after the summer.

**Limerick Museum**

- Heterotopia, a solo exhibition of paintings by Sheila Richardson opened in Limerick Museum on 5 September and continued for the entire month.
- Limerick's Military Tradition, an exhibition on the service of Limerick men and women in armies all over the world opened in the Glazed Street, Limerick City and County Council, Merchant's Quay, on 20 September and continued until 27 September.
- The Florence Vere O'Brien Lace Collection, which was recently officially handed over by Florence's granddaughter Veronica Rowe to Limerick Museum, is currently on display in the Hunt Museum.
- Limerick Museum marked Culture Night on 20 September by opening from 5.00 to 8.00 pm during which it received 311 visitors.



### **Limerick City Gallery of Art (LCGA)**

- The Gallery has enjoyed very strong visitor numbers for the month of September. This is partly as a result of 1st year students commencing their new courses and many are advised to familiarise themselves with the FREE admission to LCGA.
- Sediment by Mariele Neudecker, officially opened on 5 September. This exhibition is the first major solo exhibition of Neudecker's work in an Irish cultural institution. The exhibition runs to 17 November 2019.
- LCGA submitted its application to the Art Council of Ireland for the Annual Strategic Funding for the exhibition programme for 2020. Decisions will be communicated in December.
- Preparations continue for future exhibitions.
- LCGA in partnership with The Hunt Museum and Limerick Museum has appointed a Public Engagement Co-ordinator. This position is for a one-year period, jointly funded by The Hunt Museum, and the Arts Office. LCGA will apply for programme funding.
- The Shinnors Scholar, Brendan Egan has taken up his position for a two-year period and he will focus on designing and developing an education programme based on the temporary exhibition programme of LCGA for primary schools.
- Loans from the Permanent Collection to the Highlanes Gallery, Drogheda and GLÓR, Ennis were returned to LCGA. Both exhibition were very popular with audiences in these areas. LCGA is working on future collaborations with other institutions to promote the resource of LCGA's Collections.
- Anita Groener's exhibition, The Past is a Foreign Country, the recipient of an Arts Council Touring and Dissemination Award, opened in West Cork Arts Centre and runs to end of October.



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

1. The Housing Development Directorate co-ordinated a workshop which included discussion around the delivery of NZEB using Passive House Technology
  - Construction systems best suited to NZEB.
  - Key tools that Limerick City and County Council could deploy to deliver cost neutral NZEB.
  - Understand what the passive house standard has to offer to Limerick City and County Council in the delivery of high quality NZEB housing.
  - Is Ventilation likely to be the biggest impact of NZEB legislation in Ireland?
  - Key skill gaps in NZEB and how we can flatten the learning curve.
  - The benefits of using Passive House Technology to deliver NZEB in housing for people age 50+.

The workshop was facilitated by Tomas O'Leary of MOSART Architecture in conjunction with developer, Michael Bennett. Michael has delivered both private

and social housing for Wexford County Council to NZEB standard using Passive House Technology with no additional costs.

2. Representatives from Housing Development travelled to Cork City Council to meet with the Housing Capital Section to share learnings of public land activation and housing delivery.
3. The Housing Development Directorate collaborated with Physical Development Directorate to prepare a competitive bid application under Healthy Ireland funds for the Baggot Estate.
4. Sarah Newell from the Housing Development Directorate gave a tour of the Limerick Regeneration Programme to Ian Tant, president of the Royal Town Planning Institute (UK), Aidan Culhane Chair RTPI Ireland and Craig McLaren Director of RTPI Scotland. The President's blog by Ian Tant gives an overview of his experiences: <https://www.rtpi.org.uk/briefing-room/rtpi-blog/history,-culture,-talent-%E2%80%93-and-determination-a-planner%E2%80%99s-view-of-limerick/>

5. The Housing Development Directorate in collaboration with the Physical Development Directorate travelled to Espoo Finland to begin working on an URBACT III Health & Greenspace project with eight other European partners. The Housing Developments' interest is in promoting Integrated Sustainable Urban Neighbourhoods with a particular focus on creating neighbourhoods with health responsive green infrastructure (active recreation, cycle linkages between large residential areas, improved connectivity etc.)

**2. Regeneration Strategy Implementation**

- German logistics firm Dachser has acquired an 80% stake in Johnston Logistics. Johnston Logistics employs 150 staff between its head office in Rathcoole and regional depots in Cork and Limerick. Dachser Limerick will be based in Galvone Industrial Estate with the creation of 30 full-time jobs. Limerick Regeneration is working with Dachser to create training and employment opportunities for residents within the Southhill Area of Regeneration. Dachser appointed Johnston Logistics as its partner for Ireland more than a decade ago. The Irish firm will continue to be headed by Albert Johnston and the current management team. In the coming months, it will be rebranded as Dachser and integrated within the group. Commenting, Albert Johnston said: "The acquisition of Johnston Logistics by Dachser secures the future of our staff and the company for generations to come."
- Tait House who are funded by the Regeneration Department welcomed Minister Richard Bruton alongside members of the EPA, SEAI and An Taisce to participate in a climate action panel discussion on the 6 September. There were over 120 attendees at this event.
- The Southhill Regeneration Committee met with Limerick City and County Council Estate Management Unit on 24 September to discuss estate support, individual tenant support and tenancy enforcement/anti-social behaviour.
- The Bays Training Centre Moyross has made

## CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPORT



it through to the finals in The Innovation in Politics Awards. The Innovation in Politics Awards recognise political work that improves our lives as Europeans.

### SOUTHILL:

- Southill Hub held a successful Fun Day on 14 September.
- The rock armour removal phased project continues in Southill.
- 450 have been removed to date in five phases in cooperation with the local Tidy Towns Committee to improve the appearance of the area.
- Seven bathroom and kitchen refurbishments were carried out on the Southside.
- Two relocations and one demolition took place in Southill.
- The Voids Project Team completed four full house refurbishments in September.



# CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPORT



Comhairle Cathrach  
& Contae **Luimnigh**

**Limerick City**  
& County Council

## Service Operations Directorate

### 1. Housing Support Services

#### • Waiting List

Housing Waiting List	2,625
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#### • Allocations

	No. of Units September 2019	Year to Date
Metropolitan District	13	108
Newcastle West	3	24
Adare – Rathkeale	1	12
Cappamore – Kilmallock	1	25
<b>Total</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>169</b>

#### • Traveller Housing Welfare

No. of Units offered September 2019	Year to Date
5*	26*

\* these figures are included in Allocations figures  
2 Traveller Clinics held in September – 22 Clients seen.

#### • Housing Assistance Payments Limerick

Total number of active HAP Tenancies monitored, reviewed and maintained.

No. of HAP tenancies set up this month	28
No. of Amendments	151
No. of Cessations	16

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

#### Choice Based Letting

The pilot went live on the Councils website on Friday 29 March last. There were two properties advertised under CBL. The closing date for expression of interest for both properties had passed. There were no properties advertised under CBL in September 2019.

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

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

Individuals – 27 September 2019		
Location	Description	No.
McGarry House	Mixed Low threshold accommodation for singles	30
St. Patrick's Hostel	Higher threshold accommodation for single males	44
Thomond House	Higher threshold accommodation for single females	20
B&B (no children)	Adults without children accommodated in B&B	2
Temporary Emergency Provision TEP 1 (Edenvilla)	Low threshold, night by night (9pm-9am) emergency accommodation. Mixed	17
TEP 2 (Phoenix Lodge)	Low threshold, night by night (9pm-9am) emergency accommodation. Mixed	10
<b>Total</b>		<b>123</b>

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPORT**



Families			
Location	Description	No. Adults	No. Children
Suaimhneas	Family Emergency accommodation	4	10
		Families - 4	
B&B/Hotel Accommodation	Families	47	61
		Families - 37	
Twin Oaks Family Hub	Family Hub	16	15
		Families - 10	
Totals		Adults	Children
		67	86
		Families - 51	

**HOME IMPROVEMENT SCHEMES**

September 2019	MAGS (Mobility Adaptation Grant Scheme)	No.	HAG (Housing Adaptation Grant Scheme)	No.	HOPS (Housing Aid for Older Persons Grant Scheme)	No.
Rathkeale	€16,000.00	3	€0.00	0	€10,450.00	2
Newcastle West	€8,820.00	2	€14,547.50	2	€30,145.14	8
Metro	€33,257.82	9	€51,072.67	6	€54,543.12	15
Kilmallock	€5,110.13	1	€52,621.57	6	€27,504.63	5
<b>Total</b>	<b>€63,187.95</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>€118,241.74</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>€122,642.89</b>	<b>30</b>
Total Monies issued in SEPTEMBER 2019 = €304,072.58						
Total Grants issued in SEPTEMBER 2019 = 59						

JANUARY TO September 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	€120,856.55	17	€124,619.05	24
Metropolitan	€279,491.70	67	€530,101.21	56	€359,231.37	93
Newcastle West	€134,405.82	27	€169,144.97	18	€227,773.43	51
Rathkeale	€39,787.71	9	€69,822.70	4	€65,549.20	18
<b>Total</b>	<b>€512,054.18</b>	<b>116</b>	<b>€889,925.43</b>	<b>95</b>	<b>€777,173.05</b>	<b>186</b>
Total Monies issued January to September 2019 = €2,179,151.66						
Total Grants issued January to September 2019 = 397						



## 2. Planning & Environmental Services

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

- 185 complaints were received in September 2019.
- 342 inspections were undertaken during the month.
- The Department issued 8 Statutory Notices.
- 11 Directions were served by the Department.
- 52 Warning Letters were issued in September 2019.
- 19 Fines were issued during the period.
- Legal proceedings were initiated in five cases.
- Bulky furniture waste collections were held on 14 September at the Council's three Civic Amenity Centres in Mungret, Newcastle West and Kilmallock under the 2019 Anti-Dumping Initiative funded by the Department of Communications, Climate Action & Environment.

### Economic Development and Planning.

#### Planning Applications.

A total of 90 new planning applications were received as follows:

Part 8	1
Housing Developments	2
Domestic Developments	58
Agricultural Developments	12
Commercial Developments/Change of Use	5
Sporting/Community & Educational Developments	2
Other Developments	10

The current applications include proposals for:

- Part 8 for the construction of 12 residential units at Station Close, Knocklong.
- Construction of 10 elderly accommodation units at Turagh, Cappamore.

## 3. Veterinary Services

- The Dog Control Unit dealt with 28 dogs.
- A total of ten food samples were submitted during September 2019 for analysis under the National Residues and Microbiological Sampling Programme.
- A targeted dog licence compliance campaign continues to be operated.

# CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPORT



Comhairle Cathrach  
& Contae **Luimnigh**

**Limerick** City  
& County Council

## Capital Investment Directorate

### 1. Design & Delivery

#### Finance

Recoupmnts submitted to the Department of Housing, Planning and Local Government (DHPLG) in September - €2,903,982

Recoupmnts paid by DHPLG in September - €1,329,213

#### Part VIII:

- The elected representatives voted to grant Part VIII for the O'Connell St. revitalisation project subject to amendment. This project will now commence detailed design.
- The elected representatives voted to grant Part VIII for the construction of 27 new homes at Dalgaish Park.

#### Contracts Awarded

Contract awarded for Kings Island District playground.

#### Tenders

Tenders received for the construction of 20 new houses at Glenview, Hospital.

#### Commencement on Site

- Contractor commenced onsite for Derelicts package 1 and 2 providing 9 new homes.
- Six contracts were awarded for DPG projects bringing much needed improvement works to 33 homes.
- Contracts were signed with Glenman Corporation Ltd. and works have commenced onsite to construct 43 new homes at Clonmacken.

#### Completion

Work at the Barnagh Tunnel project was completed. This strategic project connects the North and South routes of the Great Southern Greenway.

#### Occupancy/Handover

Handover of 5 new homes at Sycamore Avenue to Housing Support Services for allocation.

#### Procurement

At the Senior Forum meeting held on 17 September 2019 it was agreed to have a Procurement Support Person (PSP) per Directorate to enhance the procurement process.

### 2. Property Services

#### Facilities Team:

Property Services has submitted the recent design of the new Motorway Offices in Lissanalta House to the BDA Awards – under the Refurbishment and fit-out Category.

#### Acquisitions and Disposals statistics:

House purchases concluded:	3
House purchases Sale Agreed:	5
House Purchases at bidding stage:	6

# CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPORT



## National and Regional Shared Services Directorate

### 1. Housing Assistance Payments (HAP) Shared Services Centre

- There are currently 50,381 active HAP tenancies nationally, managed by the HAPSSC at the end of September, 2019
- A weekly average of 330 HAP tenancies have been set-up during 2019
- The September landlord payment run was over €41 million
- The weekly tenant debit at the end of September, 2019 was over €2.4 million

### 2. Fire & Emergency Services Statistics

	No. of Fire Related Calls	No. of Non Fire Related Calls	Total
No. of call outs 01/09/19 – 30/09/19	50	27	77
% of calls where on scene in < 10 mins from time of call	86%	48%	
% of calls where on scene between 11 and 20 mins from time of call	9%	43%	
% of calls where on scene in > 20 mins from time of call	5%	9%	

	No. received / assigned	No. Validated	No. invalidated / refused	No. granted	No. Completed
Fire Certificate Applications September 2019	20	17	3	8	
Disability Access Cert Applications September 2019	18	14	2	7	
Licensing Applications September 2019	18	18	0		
Commencement Notice September 2019	46	42	3	42	
Completion Certificate September 2019	17	16	0	16	
Planning Referrals September 2019	26				25
Sugar CRM Cases September 2019	21				4

## CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPORT



### Fire & Emergency Training Events for month of September 2019

- Limerick Fire Service ran a QQI Level 5 Breathing Apparatus Initial Wearers Course in Clonmel Fire Station. Eight fire fighters from Limerick attended this course.
- Six fire fighters were trained in the use of chainsaws in emergency situations.
- 8 fire fighters attended a refresher course for the use of the Bronto High Reach fire appliance.
- 26 fire fighters attended an abrasive wheels course
- 28 fire fighters attended a refresher course on the emergency procedures for responses to Limerick Tunnel.

### Civil Defence attendance at Events for month of September

- Milford Harvest Fair
- Glin Triathlon
- Doon Vintage Show
- Irish Seed Savers Association
- LSP Company Relay Challenge
- Night Exercise

### 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 September
No. of call outs 01/09/2019 – 30/09/2019	930	1,424	1 minute 17 seconds	2,354

### Water Safety

No. of lifebuoy replacements	Jan-Aug	Sept 2019	Total 2019
Metropolitan Area	14	2	16
Municipal Area	10	1	11



# CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPORT



Comhairle Cathrach & Contae **Luimnigh**

**Limerick** City & County Council

## 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 30/09/2019	% Collection
€3,822,761	€11,855,068	€15,677,829	€11,247,633	€4,430,196.00	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 30th September 2019	11,723,152	56,026,671**	347,700	1,454,339	65,947,784	44,694,784	21,252,908	2,632,685	71%

\*\* 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 30th September 2019	486,661	885,902		1,372,563	1,246,226	126,337	91%

#### Recourse to Overdraft Facility

No of days in overdraft 0

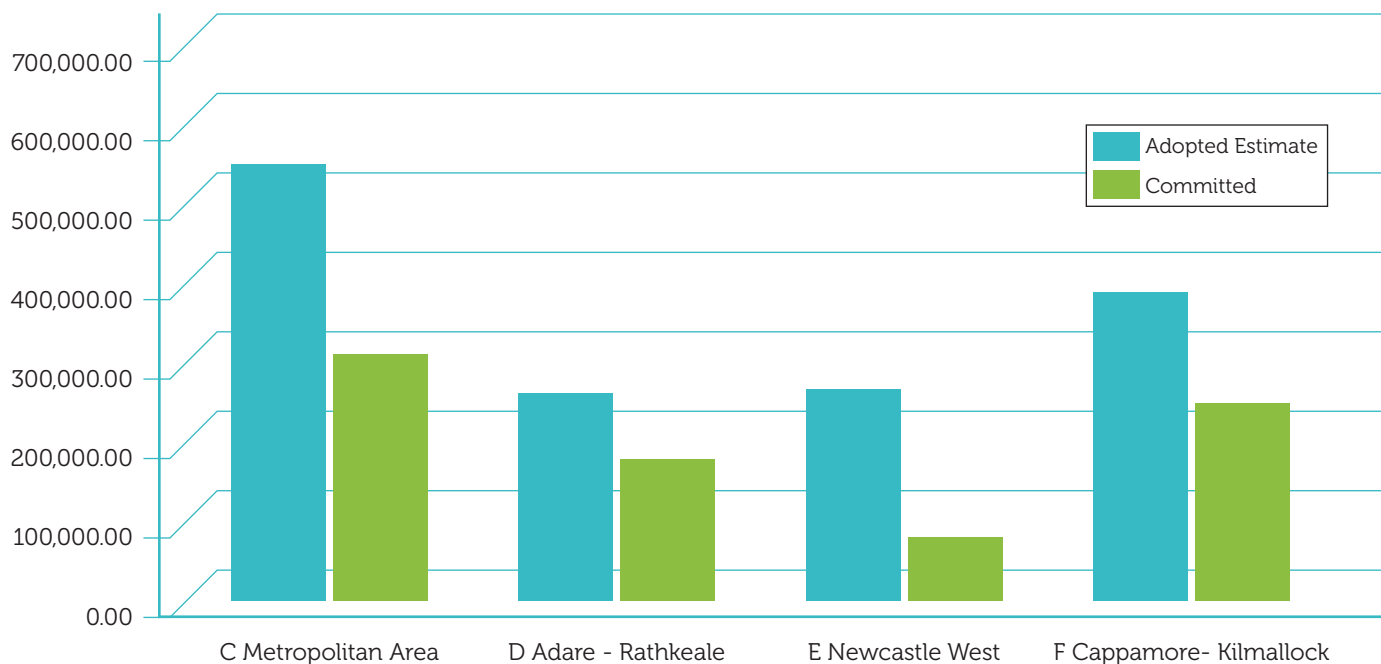


**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPORT**



**General Municipal Allocation 2019**

Graph outlining adopted budget and draft committed expenditure up to 30th September 2019



<b>Municip (Code) + (Text)</b>	<b>Value Adopted Estimate (€)</b>	<b>Value Committed (€)</b>
C Metropolitan Area	503,000.00	270,596
D Adare - Rathkeale	225,000.00	140,058
E Newcastle West	225,000.00	41,313
F Cappamore - Kilmallock	250,000.00	208,310



**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPORT**Comhairle Cathrach  
& Contae **Luimnigh****Limerick** City  
& County Council**2. Corporate Services, Governance & Customer Services****Corporate Services****Corporate Plan 2019 - 2024**

The process for drafting a new Corporate Plan commenced in September including the strategic goals and objectives. Presentations on the Draft Corporate Plan were made to the Corporate Policy Group, Management Team, Senior Forum and the Staff Liaison Network and provided with a briefing on the draft strategic goals and objectives set out for the next five years. Elected Members and staff were informed of the public consultation process that will commence in October through Limerick City and County Council's new online consultation platform 'MyPoint'.

**Mayoral Receptions were held for the following:**

- Scoil Uí Nualláin, in recognition of the magnificent work it has done teaching step, céilí and figure dancing to generations of people across Limerick. Thank you for furthering our Irish culture and for the many World, All-Ireland and Munster Championships you have brought back to Limerick city over the past 60 years.
- Northside Legacy AFC, in recognition of Northside Legacy AFC's ten year existence and inclusive approach to participation. Critically, the clubs' main aim is to improve mental health and wellbeing.
- Norma Prendiville, in recognition of her tireless commitment to local journalism over the past 30 years. Her dedication to reporting on life in Limerick is to be commended. We also acknowledge Norma's activism through her work as a National Union of Journalists representative both locally and nationally.

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

- Milford Hospice Harvest Fair at the Sports Arena, University of Limerick
- Ennis Road Care Facility Summer Party and Grand Opening Ceremony
- Castleconnell National School for the presentation of cheque to Principal, fundraiser for Astro Pitch
- Welcome Reception for Limerick Institute of Technology incoming International Students, LIT, Moylish Campus
- Opening of 'Fighting & Suffering: Polish Citizens during World War II'. An Exhibition commemorating the 80th Anniversary of the Outbreak of World War II organised by the Embassy of the Republic of Poland in Dún Laoghaire
- Met delegation from the City of Leeuwarden and the Fryslan Region of the Netherlands
- Met delegation of Mexican primary teachers studying at Mary Immaculate College
- Climate Action Forum, Tait House, at invitation of Minister for Communications, Climate Action and Environment
- Launched +CityxChange Project with Minister Richard Bruton, Minister for Communications, Climate Action and the Environment
- Function for Aisling Annacotty AFC and visit of Liverpool Legends, Castletroy Park Hotel
- Launched European Expo 2020 for Limerick
- Contract Signing for Clonmacken Housing Development
- Commemoration event for Max Arthur Macauliffe, Templeglantine, Co. Limerick
- Courtesy visit with Ambassador of India, Sandeep Kumar in Mayor's Office.
- Opening of Exhibition by Sheila Richardson in the Limerick Museum
- Celebration and Medal Presentation to U14 Limerick Ladies Gaelic Football, Woodlands House Hotel, Adare
- Ribbon cutting for opening of Barnagh Tunnel,

# CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPORT



- Great Southern Greenway, Limerick
- Reception for Hospital Arts and Cultural Festival, Hospital
- Opening of McCarthy Circus Bar Travelling Exhibition, Parkway Shopping Centre
- Performance of 'Bingo Wings' at the Lime Tree Theatre.
- Launched Fit for Work and Life Programme Evaluation Report, Moyross Community Centre
- Reception with Ambassador of Japan on occasion of his accreditation to Ireland, Foxrock, Dublin
- Official Opening of Annual Polish Arts Festival, Hunt Museum
- Construction Industry Federation (CIF) Special Briefing on Housing Supply in the Mid West, Castletroy Park Hotel.
- Official Opening of Military Exhibition in Merchant's Quay
- Led the Pigtown Parade on Culture Night around the streets of Limerick
- Official Opening of Maguires Pitches, a UL student funded project, followed by reception on site and display of sporting activities with UL Wolves Clubs.
- 'The Local Authority – Champion for Disability Inclusion event, Leinster House.
- Launch of Johnson & Johnson Vision, Bridge to Employment Project, Strand Hotel
- Bedford Row Family Project 20th Birthday Celebrations
- Promotion Make Way Day - Theme Parking Obstructions, 'Being more considerate of people with disabilities when parking or leaving out rubbish', Merchant's Quay
- Inaugural Lecture of Professor Donald Truxillo 'Supporting Workers, Organisations and Society: Interventions from Work Psychology', University of Limerick
- Reception on the occasion of the 70th Anniversary of the Founding of the People's Republic of China, Dublin 4
- Limerick City Special Olympics, 10th Anniversary Celebration, Castletroy Park Hotel
- Launch of new Limerick Food Website [www.limerickfood.ie](http://www.limerickfood.ie)

- limerickfood.ie, Woodlands House Hotel, Adare
- Launched New Year's Eve Casino Royale in aid of Munster Heart Foundation, Savoy Hotel
- Performance of Agatha Christie's 'A Murder is Announced', Lime Tree Theatre

## Travel Abroad

2019 Hangzhou International Sisters Cities Mayors Conference in Hangzhou, China from 3– 6 September.

Spokane Annual 'Our Town Gala' and dedication of a Riverfront Park as The Sister City Garden from 11 – 15 September.

## Health and Safety Training

During the month of September, the Health & Safety Training Unit arrange the following courses:

Name of Course	Total No. of Staff Trained
Abrasive Wheels	16
Best Practice for dealing with Overhead Power Lines	70
Drivers CPC – Various Modules	27
First Aid Responders	16
First Aid Responder Refresher	1
IOSH Managing Safety in Construction	18
Management of Violence & Aggression in the Workplace	21
Manual Handling	25
MEWP	6
Safepass	10
Winter Service Operators Refresher	12
<b>Total</b>	<b>222</b>

# CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPORT



## Register of Electors

Preparation for the publication of the Draft Register of Electors begun in September. The closing date for receipt of application for the Postal Voters List was advertised in Local Papers.

## Customer Services

Customer Services staff continued to aid and train both new and current staff on the use of the SugarCRM (Customer Relationship Management) system, as well as working in conjunction with other departments to improve case management.

September saw 224 cases logged through the MyLimerick platform, 215 of which were logged by local representatives.

Customer Services processed 82 Residential Parking Permits throughout September.

Customer Services also continued to support the Housing Maintenance Department by logging 72% of cases throughout the month of September, as well as logging 69 cases for Housing Maintenance in the area offices and taking 1,165 calls for Housing Maintenance in September

Customer Services received 11,911 via our call centre throughout the month, handling 41% of calls at first point of contact.

This works out at approximately 567 calls per day. In September, there were 684 cases logged on behalf of elected representatives by Customer Services.

Overall, on the SugarCRM System, 3,165 cases were logged throughout September. 67% 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 (63% being housing maintenance)	2,265
Housing Support Services	391
Planning and Environmental Services	199
Veterinary	77
Design and Delivery	72
Customer Services	46

The total number of callers to our counters at Merchant's Quay and Dooradoyle was 3,442.

# CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPORT



## 3. Schedule of Meetings

Name of Meeting	Date	Location
<b>Full Council</b> Meeting of Limerick City and County Council	23.09.2019	Dooradoyle
<b>Municipal District of</b> Adare-Rathkeale - Monthly Meeting Newcastle West - Monthly Meeting Cappamore-Kilmallock - Monthly Meeting	10.09.2019 18.09.2019 19.09.2019	Pallaskenry Community Centre Newcastle West Kilmallock
<b>Metropolitan District of Limerick</b> Monthly Meeting Adjourned Meeting	16.09.2019 30.09.2019	Merchant's Quay Merchant's Quay
<b>Corporate Policy Group</b>	16.09.2019	Dooradoyle
<b>Joint Policing Sub-Committee</b> Municipal District of Cappamore-Kilmallock	19.09.2019	Kilmallock
<b>Protocol Committee</b>	23.09.2019	Dooradoyle
<b>Party Leaders</b>	23.09.2019	Dooradoyle

## 4. Access to Information

	September	2019 (January to September)
Total Freedom of Information Requests	15	149
FOI Internal Appeals	0	8
Information Commissioner Appeals	0	4
Total Ombudsman Requests	2	21
Total AIE Requests	0	13

the opportunity for citizens to engage on an online platform. This engagement was incredibly successful with 58 submissions received online which generated 111 different observations.

- This month Cora, our new project management system, was integrated fully with our financial management system, Agresso. This is a key deliverable of Project 18 providing up to date financial data on our Capital projects which can be compared in a live environment against project progression.
- The Staff Liaison Network was relaunched this month and representatives across the organisation met to discuss how to best use this forum to ensure a two way communication between staff at all levels and senior management. Presentations were given by ICT and Digital Services on their work programmes and Health and Safety presented on the results of the recent staff survey. The draft Corporate Plan 2019-2024 was also discussed with a detailed engagement schedule outlined for our public representatives, citizens, key stakeholders and staff.

## 5. Business Improvement

- Business Improvement facilitated the use of "MyPoint" to accept online submissions for the O'Connell Street Revitalisation Project (Part VIII). This was the first time a Part VIII process provided