

## **COUNCIL MEETING TO BE HELD ON MONDAY 25<sup>TH</sup> NOVEMBER, 2019.**

### **Question submitted by Councillor E. O'Donovan**

I will ask the Council to confirm what air and water quality monitoring is currently active in the all Limerick municipal districts. I would like to know where these monitors are placed, and the reasons for their positioning at these locations. I would like to know how the findings from these monitors can be accessed by the public.

### **Reply:**

#### **Air Monitors:**

The Council operates a network of three sets of indicative air quality monitors in the Metropolitan area. These are located as follows:

- The Junction between O'Connell Street and William Street
- Temple Mungret House, Mungret
- Castletroy College, Newtown, Castletroy.

One was placed in O'Connell Street to assess the impact of the proposed redevelopment of O'Connell Street on air quality. The monitors in Mungret and Castletroy were located away from traffic to show ambient/background air quality in these areas.

Each of the sets of sensors measure particulates: sulphur dioxide, nitrogen dioxide, nitric oxide, ozone and carbon monoxide.

Real time data from these sensors can be viewed at [www.airqweb.com](http://www.airqweb.com)

In addition to the Council network, the EPA has recently installed a high quality reference monitor in the People's Park. This measures particulates, ozone and nitrogen dioxide. It was placed in this location to measure background air quality in the city away from traffic. Results can be viewed at <http://www.epa.ie/air/quality/data/lp/>

The EPA intend to install a second monitor to obtain data from a trafficked location in the city. The location for this has not yet been finalised.

Limerick City and County Council does not operate any air quality monitoring stations outside of the Metropolitan District. The EPA operates an indicative Air Quality Monitoring Station at the Fire Station in Abbeyfeale. This station measures particulates, and its purpose is primarily to assess the impact of solid fuel burning in a town outside of the restricted area. Results from this station are available at:

<http://www.epa.ie/air/quality/localairqualitydata/limerick-abbeyfeale/>

#### **Water Monitors:**

There are no continuous water quality monitors in Limerick. Water quality is sampled monthly from March to October by the Council/Irish Water laboratory at Worrell's End, Castleconnell and Corbally Baths to look at water quality in the context of the Bathing Water Regulations.

The Marine Institute monitors biological water quality in the Shannon Estuary to assess status under the Water Framework Directive. Status of waterbodies can be viewed on <https://gis.epa.ie/EPAMaps/>

The Council's laboratory takes monthly grab samples from 38 sites on rivers throughout the county. These samples are tested for nutrients and organic matter.

The lab also takes samples from two lakes in the County (Bleach Lough and Lough Gur). These are also tested for nutrients and organic matter on a monthly basis.

Bathing water samples are taken during the bathing season from Kiltteery Pier and Glin Pier.

The EPA monitors biological water quality at approximately 100 locations around the county on a three yearly cycle. The results of this monitoring are combined with the Council's monitoring to establish status under the Water Framework Directive.

Monitoring data can be found on [www.catchments.ie](http://www.catchments.ie)



**Brian Kennedy**

**Director of Service**

**Physical Development Directorate**

**19th November, 2019**



Comhairle Cathrach  
& Contae Luimnigh

Limerick City  
& County Council

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## LIMERICK CITY AND COUNTY COUNCIL

### COUNCIL MEETING TO BE HELD ON MONDAY 25<sup>TH</sup> NOVEMBER 2019

#### **Question submitted by Councillor L. Galvin**

**I will ask at the next Meeting how many Departments is the Housing Section divided into in this Authority.**

#### **REPLY:**

The Housing function is delivered across the following key sections;

- 1. Housing Development** - Dealing with Housing Strategy under the policy direction of 'Rebuilding Ireland, Action Plan for Housing and Homelessness'- this directorate deals with the strategic management of the Buy, Build and Lease programme per the targets set for Limerick. Regeneration services are also managed within Housing Development.
- 2. Capital Investment** - Design and Delivery manage the completion of Capital Projects- Part VIII's, interactions with Department, Tendering projects etc. Derelicts, Buy and Renew packages.
- 3. Service Operations** provides a number of housing functions;  
**Community Support Services-** Allocations, Assessment, Rebuilding Ireland Home Loan, Inspections, RAS, HAP, Rents, Estate management/Tenancy Support, Homeless Action Team.  
**Operations and Maintenance-** Voids, Re-Lets, Response/Routine Maintenance
- 4. Community Development** – Urban and Village Renewal, through the Vacant Homes Officer, deal with vacancy, dereliction and CPO where necessary.

- 5. Customer Services– Manage all representation for Housing Services, facilitate clinics, validate Housing Application forms and log all Housing calls as first point of contact.**



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**Aoife Duke,  
Director of Service  
Housing Development**

**November 2019**

## **COUNCIL MEETING TO BE HELD ON 25<sup>th</sup> NOVEMBER, 2019**

### **Question submitted by Councillor B. Leddin**

I will ask at the next Meeting what proposals has Limerick City and County Council to effect a modal shift to active travel and public transport as per the objectives of national policy (Smarter Travel, 2009) and the Government's Climate Action Plan.

### **Reply**

The Council is cognisant of the actions contained in the Climate Action Plan 2019 relating to local authority involvement in the promotion of active transport modes and public transport, and will work towards meeting the targets and deadlines set out in the Plan.

Limerick City and County Council, in conjunction with the National Transport Authority, is working on a Transport Strategy for the Limerick-Shannon Metropolitan Area (LSMATS). The Strategy will set out the objectives for transport for the Metropolitan Area for the period up to 2040.

Significant emphasis will be placed on promoting active modes, particularly for shorter city based journeys. Limerick being relatively compact and flat is ideally suited to active modes. The promotion of Public Transport will be assisted by the identification of public transport corridors, many with segregated bus lanes. Bus priority will be provided where appropriate.

The Strategy is currently in preparation, and formal public consultation will take place in Q1 2020, with the Strategy being finalised in Q2 2020. It will identify short, medium and long-term actions to be implemented to incrementally build the transport infrastructure over its lifetime. Accordingly, significant NTA funding will be available to implement the infrastructure required for a successful transformation to active and public transport modal shift.



**Brian Kennedy**  
**Director of Service**  
**Physical Development Directorate**

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**COUNCIL MEETING TO BE HELD ON MONDAY 25<sup>TH</sup> NOVEMBER 2019**

**Question submitted by Councillor B. Leddin**

I will ask at the next Meeting what is the Building Energy Rating of all local authority housing which has undergone retrofit in the last two years. Please provide numbers of houses at each BER grade.

**REPLY:**

A schedule of Post-Works BER results for the voids programme is outlined below.

Voids			
Post Works BER	2019	2018	Total
A3	1		1
B1	4		4
B2	5	1	6
B3	8	1	9
C1	12	7	19
C2	7	2	9
C3	10	1	11
D1	7	3	10
D2	5	2	7
E1	4	3	7
G	1		1
<b>Total</b>	<b>64</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>84</b>

Thermal Upgrade works are also carried out under the Regeneration Programme where all houses within Regeneration areas qualify for a Thermal Upgrade (TU) regardless of ownership status ie Local Authority or Private Ownership. All TU Projects are scoped to achieve a C1 BER where all works have been implemented as scoped.

In more recent contracts where post contract works are still in progress, post-contract BET assessments have yet to be undertaken.



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**Aoife Duke,  
Director of Service  
Housing Development**

November 2019