

**Meeting of the Metropolitan District of Limerick to be held on Monday,  
18<sup>th</sup> November, 2019.**

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

I will ask at the next Meeting for an update on the Coke Zero Bike Scheme proposed extension to L.I.T. Also, when the opening of the Colbert Station Bike Scheme and reopening of the King John's Castle Station might take place and why there is currently a delay with this scheme.

**Reply:**

The Coke Zero Bike Scheme is operated in Limerick by the National Transport Authority (NTA). The scheme commenced in 2014 and there are currently 23 active docking stations with approximately 215 bikes in service. There are plans to add additional stations to the network in 2019 and 2020. The following outlines the status of each of the stations requested:

**LIT:**

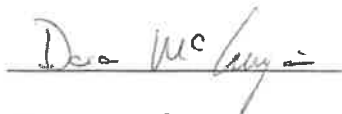
A site survey and preliminary design has been completed on the LIT scheme. The Coke Zero station design team is awaiting the final agreed layout of the LIT to city centre cycle facilities in order to finalise the station positions on this route. It is anticipated that Part 8 will be lodged in early 2020.

**Colbert Station:**

In order to progress this station an element of ground works was required which is now completed. Wiring has now been installed and the station is expected to be operational by the end of November 2019.

**King John's Castle:**

A site survey has been completed on this station and preliminary design has been drafted. Construction of new station is programmed by the NTA for Quarter 1, 2020.



pp **Brian Kennedy**  
**Director of Service**  
**Physical Development Directorate**  
**13<sup>th</sup> November, 2019**

## METROPOLITAN DISTRICT OF LIMERICK

MEETING TO BE HELD ON MONDAY, 18<sup>TH</sup> NOVEMBER, 2019.

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

I will ask at the next Meeting, given that insurance considerations are having an impact on the quality of repair works being carried out (for example poured cement being used instead of stone paving on Thomond Bridge) could I ask what level of claims have been submitted and settled or are outstanding in relation to footpaths/pavements and what impact this has had on urban design.

### REPLY:

The number of active claims that relate to Slips/Trips on footpaths as at 30<sup>th</sup> September, 2019. amounted to 361. This figure reflects all footpath claims including those in open spaces, parks, playgrounds, burial grounds etc.

The number of new claims registered in 2019 which resulted in footpath injuries amounts to 50. This figure was 103 in 2018, a 50% reduction in new claims notified.

The value of settled claims arising from Slip/Trip injuries on footpaths to date this year amounts to €2.4M. This is reflective of the significant increase in the number of cases which came before the Courts in 2019. The value of settled claims in this category in 2018 amounted to €1.6M.

It should be noted where repairs to existing footpaths and pavements are carried out by the Operations & Maintenance (Metropolitan District) Section the quality of such repairs should not be compromised by insurance or public liability 'concerns'. All such repairs or replacement works carried out must have regard for the existing street or pavement design as well as the materials used and the public realm and context.

Specifically in respect of ongoing works on Thomond Bridge the selection of concrete as a replacement material for the footpaths relates to particular preventative maintenance action in respect of water ingress & the ongoing impact of such ingress on the stone arch bridge below. Specifically such measures are executed in order to protect the bridge from structural damage as a result of such water ingress in the long term.

Design and Delivery Services endeavour to provide high quality public realm projects, encompassing both the quality of spaces these projects provide, the existing context that the projects are within and the material selection to support the quality of these spaces. An integral part of this design process is to uphold public health and safety in all projects, including public realm projects; this is paramount. Building regulation compliance, cyclist / transport / pedestrian policy documents and Universal Access requirements influence all

projects on issues ranging from level changes, appropriate material selection, colour contrast for visual legibility, adequate surface water drainage. These policy documents include public safety measures, and from that perspective, influence urban design of public spaces. From a practitioner's perspective, public safety, rather than risk of claims, is always considered throughout the design and construction of public realm projects.

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**Kieran Lehane,**  
**Director of Service,**  
**Service Operations Directorate**  
**12<sup>th</sup> November, 2019.**

**LIMERICK CITY AND COUNTY COUNCIL**

**NOVEMBER MEETING OF THE METROPOLITAN DISTRICT OF LIMERICK.**

**MEETING TO BE HELD ON MONDAY 18<sup>TH</sup> NOVEMBER 2019.**

**Question submitted by Councillor S.Hartigan.**

I will ask at the next Meeting for a breakdown of the total costs to the Council, of dealing with waste originating from households and businesses.

**Reply.**

The onus is on each respective household and business to arrange for the collection / proper disposal of all waste arising at their property / premises by an authorised collector.

However, the Council spent a total of €4,001,918 in relation to Street Cleaning and Litter Warden Services in 2018. Further monies of €73,857 and €50,200 were allocated to Public Awareness / Promotional Initiatives and the Anti-Dumping Initiative respectively during the year.



**Stephane Duclot.**

**A/Senior Planner.  
Planning & Environmental Services.**



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Ceannteathrú Chorpáraideach,  
Cé na gCeannaithe,  
Luimneach.

Community Development Directorate,  
Limerick City and County Council,  
Corporate Headquarters,  
Merchants Quay,  
Limerick.

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**MEETING OF THE METROPOLITAN DISTRICT OF LIMERICK TO BE HELD ON MONDAY, 18<sup>TH</sup>  
NOVEMBER, 2019**

**Question submitted by Councillor O. O'Sullivan**

I will ask at the next Metropolitan Meeting of Limerick City and County Council for confirmation of how many staff are directly employed by the Council for tourism and what roles each staff member holds.

**REPLY:**

The staff dealing with tourism are based in the Tourism, Culture and Arts Department which forms part the Community Development Directorate.

There are a number of positions that deal with the tourism function including:

- Senior Executive Officer – Tourism, Culture & Arts
- Staff Officer (Tourism Officer)
- Clerical Officer
- Technician Grade 1
- Senior Executive Engineer (shared with wider Directorate)

In addition there are other areas of the Community Development Directorate that also contribute to tourism related activities including:

- The development and management of Festivals and Events
- The operation of Limerick Museum and Limerick City Gallery of Art
- The preparation and submission of Funding Applications

The Marketing and Communication team in the Economic Development Directorate also supports the area of tourism significantly through marketing and promotion, festivals and events, Limerick.ie and the forthcoming Limerick brand.

***Gordon Daly***  
***Director of Services***  
***Community Development Directorate***



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## **MEETING OF THE METROPOLITAN DISTRICT OF LIMERICK TO BE HELD ON MONDAY, 18<sup>TH</sup> NOVEMBER, 2019**

### Question submitted by Councillor S. Hartigan

I will ask at the next Meeting for an update of the findings of the audit of community and cultural facilities in Limerick, which was agreed on at the Meeting of Metropolitan District of Limerick on the 21st January 2019.

### REPLY:

The audit of Community and Cultural and Arts Facilities involves a comprehensive questionnaire-based survey of existing facilities across the City and County. The survey is being conducted in co-operation with the three Local Development Companies: PAUL Partnership covering the Urban Area, Ballyhoura Development, East Limerick and West Limerick Resources, West Limerick.

The findings will allow for assessment of needs and will inform the preparation of the Council's Strategy for planning and seeking funding for new and/or improved Community and Cultural and Arts facilities in Local Communities. The findings will also be used to prepare an on-line Directory of such facilities.

The time-schedule for completion of the study is as follows:

November 2019: Survey of Facilities commenced

Mid-February 2020: Draft Report of findings

Mid-March 2020: Final Report

**Gordon Daly**  
**Director of Service**  
**Community Development Directorate**



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Cé na gCeannaithe,  
Luimneach

Housing Support Services,  
Limerick City and County Council,  
Corporate Headquarters,  
Merchants Quay,  
Limerick

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556 000

**Metropolitan District of Limerick to be held on: Monday, 18<sup>th</sup> November 2019**

**Question submitted by Councillor S. Benson**

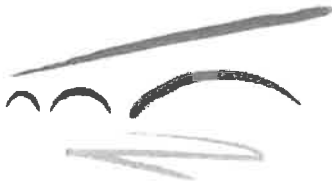
I will ask at the next Metropolitan Meeting of Limerick City and County Council what additional plans have been made to provide emergency accommodation for our homeless citizens over the winter period.

**REPLY:**

From November 1<sup>st</sup> 2019, Limerick City & County Council have provided 30 TEP (temporary emergency provision) beds to homeless individuals (the 30 spaces are not 100% full at any one time) on top of the 101 hostel beds we have in operation. As part of the Cold Weather Initiative an additional 14 beds are available via Emergency Accommodation Providers. Potentially Limerick can have 152 beds in total if required.

**Rob Lowth, Housing Support Services**

**13/11/2019.**



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Housing Support Services,  
Limerick City and County Council,  
Corporate Headquarters,  
Merchants Quay,  
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556 000

**Metropolitan District of Limerick to be held on: Monday, 18<sup>th</sup> November 2019**

**Question submitted by Councillor S. Benson**

I will ask at the next Metropolitan Meeting of Limerick City and County Council, how many 1 bed properties have been allocated in the Metropolitan area over the past 12 months and of these how many were allocated to people living in emergency accommodation.

**REPLY:**

In the past 12 months, Limerick City and Council allocated 21 One Bed Units in the Metropolitan District. 10 of these units were allocated to persons who were living in emergency accommodation.

It is important to understand that many of the 1 Bed Units within Council Stock is specifically designated elderly housing, for example Vizes Court, Thomond Court, School House Lane etc...

**Rob Lowth, Housing Support Services**

**13/11/2019.**



**LIMERICK CITY AND COUNTY COUNCIL.**

**NOVEMBER MEETING OF THE METROPOLITAN DISTRICT OF LIMERICK.**

**MEETING TO BE HELD ON MONDAY 18<sup>TH</sup> NOVEMBER 2019.**

**Question submitted by Councillor S.Hartigan.**

I will ask at the next Meeting how many dog fouling fines have Limerick City and County Council issued so far this year, how many were paid and how many have resulted in prosecution.

**Reply.**

Limerick City & County Council has issued a total of 7 spot fines in 2019 in relation to dog fouling offences.

To date one of these fines has been paid and prosecutions are pending in respect of the remaining case.



**Stephane Duclot.**

**A/Senior Planner.**

**Planning & Environmental Services.**

**Limerick City and County Council**

**Meeting of Metropolitan District of Limerick**

**18<sup>th</sup> November 2019**

**Question submitted by Councillor C. Sheehan**

I will ask at the next Meeting when the Council will review the speed limit in College and Janemount Parks in Corbally.

**Reply:**

The speed limits in College and Janemount Parks Corbally will be changed to 30kph in 2020 as part of the Council's phased introduction of 30 kph speed limits in all housing estates in the City and County

**Signed:** Trevor McKechnie SEE  
Operations and Maintenance - Central Services

**Date:** 14<sup>th</sup> November, 2019

**Meeting of the Metropolitan District of Limerick to be held on Monday,  
18<sup>th</sup> November, 2019.**

**Question submitted by Councillor C. Sheehan**

I will ask at the next Meeting when the Council will organise a workshop on the Westfield Wetlands given that an amended motion from Cllr. Sean Hartigan and myself was passed at the October Meeting of the Metropolitan District.

**Reply:**

A workshop is planned for the last week of November. It is proposed to invite the Members of the Climate Action, Biodiversity and Environment SPC, the Local Area Members, Local Interest Groups and relevant State Bodies.

Physical Development Directorate will invite Members to the workshop once arrangements are confirmed.



pp

**Brian Kennedy**

**Director of Service**

**Physical Development Directorate**

**12<sup>th</sup> November, 2019**

**Metropolitan District of Limerick**

**Meeting to be held on 18<sup>th</sup> November 2019**

**Question submitted by Councillor C. Sheehan**

I will ask at the next Meeting for an update on the retail strategy for Limerick City Centre.

**Reply:**

The Forward Planning Section propose to commence the review and preparation of a new Retail Strategy for the Metropolitan Area next year in line with the requirements of an objective set out in the Draft Regional Spatial and Economic Strategy for the Southern Region. The strategy will be a joint strategy with Clare and Tipperary County Councils, as part of the Metropolitan areas lie within these counties.

**Maria Woods  
A/Senior Planner  
Economic Development Directorate**

## **Meeting of the Metropolitan District of Limerick to be held on Monday, 18<sup>th</sup> November, 2019.**

### **Question submitted by Councillor E. Secas**

I will ask at the next Meeting if the road improvement works on the Old Dublin Road R445 are the scheme designed by consultant engineers Mott McDonald who were paid 26,866 euro plus VAT in 2016 for the scheme and I will also ask the Council what happened to the Part 8 Planning Submission on this scheme which was supposed to be lodged in May 2017 but has never been lodged to date.

### **Reply:**

Mott McDonald, on behalf of Limerick City and County Council, developed a number of options for road improvement works adjacent to the Gaelscoil Chaladh an Treoigh entrance on the R445 in 2016. At this time a viable scheme did not progress to Part 8 because of issues arising with some of the lands required to deliver the scheme. The lands were in private ownership, and at that time funding to progress the options was unavailable.

To date the following improvements, independent of the Mott McDonald options, have been progressed:

- Resurfacing of the road pavement between Annacotty Roundabout and Kilmurry Roundabout due to the condition of the existing road surface;
- Pedestrian access created to Castletroy Town Centre in order to provide a Park & Stride facility to the Gaelscoil;
- Median barrier from Kilmurry Roundabout heading north to prevent right turning movements from Chawkes and Lidl onto the R445, which has been constructed to comply with a condition of planning.
- The above works focused on improving road safety.

Limerick City and County Council is currently working on a revised scheme for the R445 from Kilmurry Roundabout to Annacotty Roundabout with support from adjacent landowners, the National Transport Authority and the Department of Transport, Tourism and Sport.

We hope to be in a position to present emerging options to the area Councillors during Q1 of 2020

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**Brian Kennedy**  
**Director of Service**  
**Physical Development Directorate**  
**13<sup>th</sup> November, 2019**

## **Meeting of the Metropolitan District of Limerick to be held on Monday, 18<sup>th</sup> November, 2019.**

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

"I will ask at the next Meeting for details of spending on the planning and development of the Northern Distributor Road (both phases) from both its own and from other resources since the inception of the project".

### **Reply:**

The Limerick Northern Distributor Road (LNDR) will link the N18 Limerick to Ennis Road with the M7 Limerick to Dublin Motorway. It is being developed as two schemes: Coonagh to Knockalisheen, which is a Limerick City and County Council scheme, and Knockalisheen to Annacotty, of which Clare County Council is the lead authority. Both schemes are being supported by the Department of Transport, Tourism and Sport (DTTAS).

The Project was initiated in 2010, and Roughan O'Donovan Consulting Engineers were appointed to undertake the design of the scheme.

The benefits of the LNDR to Limerick and the Mid-West Region will include:

- The unlocking of new industrial and commercial sites.
- Potential to attract new jobs and retain graduates and young people in the region.
- The reduction in congestion on access routes to Limerick
- Increased competitiveness due to reduction in congestion.
- The reduction of unnecessary through traffic in Limerick city centre, enhancing the city's status as the regional capital and premier shopping destination.
- Allowing road space to be re-allocated to improved public transport, cycle and pedestrian facilities.
- A reduction in journey times and improved access to Limerick city and Shannon International Airport.

### **Coonagh to Knockalisheen**

Phase 1 of the Coonagh to Knockalisheen scheme was substantially completed at the end of 2018 by the contractor P & D Lydon.

Works include the development of an access road from the Coonagh Roundabout on the N18 extending eastwards to the rear of Tesco in Coonagh; associated cycle lanes and footpaths and advance works on the remainder of the route to Knockalisheen.

It is anticipated that the Tender documentation for Phase 2 of the Coonagh to Knockalisheen scheme will be published in December 2019, with construction commencing in Quarter 2 of 2020 with a construction period of approximately 30 months.

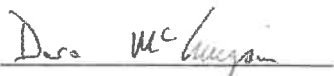
Expenditure to date on the Coonagh to Knockalisheen scheme is set out in the Table below:

<b>Total Costs Incurred:</b>	
Consultancy, Utility and Land Purchase	€7,108,831
Contractor costs to date	€10,265,055
<b>Total Costs:</b>	<b>€17,373,886</b>
<b>Income Sources to Date:</b>	
Dept. of Transport, Tourism and Sport	€16,195,037
Regeneration	€450,000
Irish Water	€728,849
<b>Total Income:</b>	<b>€17,373,886</b>

#### Knockalisheen to Annacotty

Clare County Council is the Lead Authority for this element of the LNDR. Roughan and O'Donovan Consulting Engineers were appointed as design team lead for the scheme in 2010.

This phase of the scheme is currently at Stage 2 - Project Appraisal stage, which was submitted in March 2019, and is currently being assessed/reviewed by the Department.

  
 PP **Brian Kennedy**  
**Director of Service**  
**Physical Development Directorate**  
**15<sup>th</sup> November, 2019**

**Meeting of the Metropolitan District of Limerick to be held on Monday,  
18<sup>th</sup> November, 2019.**

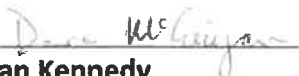
**Question submitted by Councillor B. Leddin**

“I will ask at the next Meeting when Steamboat Quay is expected to be taken in charge by the Council.”

**Reply:**

Limerick City and County Council has ongoing engagement with business and property owners in Steamboat Quay. Due to the complicated nature of the ownership of the public realm at Steamboat Quay this process is complex and slow moving. It is difficult to put a timeframe on when these matters will be resolved. We will endeavour to progress the matter in 2020.

The Steamboat Quay area will be included in the Limerick City and Environs Flood Relief Scheme which, when advanced, will include for the upgrade of the public realm in the area.



**Brian Kennedy**

**Director of Service**

**Physical Development Directorate**

**14<sup>th</sup> November, 2019**



**METROPOLITAN DISTRICT OF LIMERICK**

**MEETING TO BE HELD ON MONDAY, 18<sup>TH</sup> NOVEMBER, 2019.**

**Question submitted by Councillor B. Leddin**

I will ask at the next Meeting to please advise on the maximum wait times for all controlled pedestrian crossings in the Metropolitan Area.

**REPLY:**

Eighty percent of the traffic signal stock in the Metropolitan area is controlled by the city's Adaptive Urban Traffic Control system (AUTC). To minimise congestion the system collects vehicular traffic flow and demand data, including pedestrian crossing demand, in real time, and automatically optimises signal timings in response to changing traffic flows.

In the city centre, junctions operate cycle times in the range of 72 seconds up to 192 seconds if warranted. Within these cycle times the maximum "wait to walk" time is 90 seconds and the shortest is 29 seconds.

Congestion is an expression of traffic density and becomes manifest where traffic demand is greater than the capacity of a road or the intersections along a road.

Traffic signals provide for :

- Safe and orderly movement of road users.
- Accident reduction.
- Safe pedestrian mobility.
- Increased handling capacity of junctions.
- Reduction of travel delay across the road network.

**Kieran Lehane,  
Director of Service,  
Service Operations Directorate**

**15<sup>th</sup> November, 2019.**