

Metropolitan District of Limerick

Meeting to be held on Monday, 20th July, 2020.

Question submitted by Councillor C. Slattery

Limerick Museum has reopened in line with Government Guidelines, However as it only opens from Monday to Friday between 10am and 5pm, I am requesting that it should be opened up for longer hours and more days such as weekends to allow people to visit and also to allow for easier implementation for social distancing .

Reply:

On the 29th June 2020 Limerick Museum reopened for 5 days per week Monday to Friday, including lunch time opening. Since then new procedures and practices have been put in place in order to meet Covid-19 safety requirements.

A review is currently underway to examine how the Museum can open at weekends in accordance with the new Covid-19 operating guidelines. When this review is complete we will revert to the Council with a further update.

**Damien Brady,
Limerick City and County Librarian.**



Comhairle Cathrach
& Contae Luimnigh

Limerick City
& County Council

Stiúrthóireacht na Forbatha Pobail
Comhairle Cathrach agus Contae Luimnigh
Ceanncheathrú Chorparáideach
Cé n gCeannaithe
Luimneach

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**MEETING OF THE METROPOLITAN DISTRICT OF LIMERICK TO BE HELD ON
MONDAY, 20TH JULY, 2020.**

Question submitted by Councillor E. Secas

I will ask at the next meeting if Limerick City and County Council have completed inspections of the vacant properties in Newenham Street and if a report is yet available.

REPLY

The inspections in Newenham Street are in progress but the report is not yet completed.

***Jayne Leahy
Head of Property and Community Facilities
Community Development Directorate***

16th July, 2020

Metropolitan District of Limerick

Meeting to be held on 20th July 2020

Question submitted by Councillor J. Leddin

I will ask Limerick Metropolitan Council how many social and affordable houses have been delivered under LIHAF, where the schemes are and the costs per scheme provided to

Reply:

Mungret Gate is the only LIHAF site in Limerick.

To date our records show that a total of 98 LIHAF reduced properties have sold in Mungret. 20 properties have been agreed for social rental under Part V of the Planning and Development Act (as amended). None of the Part V units have been delivered as yet as they are in later phases.

No funding in the scheme has been provided to any developer. Grant funding in the amount of €7.88m has been approved by the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage for the development of the road infrastructure on the site.

Aoife Duke
Director of Service
Housing Development Directorate

METROPOLITAN DISTRICT OF LIMERICK

MEETING TO BE HELD ON Monday, 20th July, 2020.

Question submitted by Councillor J. Leddin

I will ask Limerick Metropolitan Council how much funding has been applied for to the NTA to facilitate Guiding Limerick through Covid infrastructure works and how much funding has been received.

Reply

We are in regular contact with the National Transport Authority in relation to guiding Limerick through Covid. Currently the Council has applied for €150,000 in funding for capital expenditure relating to this project and to date €100,000 has been received in this regard.

Brian Kennedy
Director of Service
Physical Development Directorate
14th July 2020

METROPOLITAN DISTRICT OF LIMERICK

MEETING TO BE HELD ON 20 July 2020

Question submitted by Councillor S. Novak Uí Chonchúir

I will ask at the next meeting whether assessment is being done of the impact of individual measures of the Guiding Limerick through Covid-19 plan, what metrics are being used (for measuring, among others, advisory speed limit compliance, changes in footfall, uptake of cycling, air pollution levels, citizen satisfaction, economic impact, etc.), and when will the results be available?

Reply:

'The Guiding Limerick through Covid-19 Plan developed through consultation by Limerick City & County Council set out a large number of measures under a number of headings to assist Limerick through COVID19. These include;

- Measures to change our public Spaces
- Culture & Place Making Measures
- Business Support Measures

1. *Changing our Public Spaces*

Counts have been undertaken on weeks beginning the 6th and 13th July to assess traffic, pedestrian and cycle numbers at a number of locations throughout the city.

Similar and ongoing counts will be undertaken following implementation of the measures to determine impact on footfall, cycling and car movements and will be available as the scheme develops. In addition, existing noise and air monitors located in the city will also measure these important environmental metrics.

Subject to availability of resources, consideration will be given to carrying out a number of vehicle speed surveys in the City.

2. *Culture & Place Making Measures*

The success of these Culture & Place Making measures is monitored by the numbers of people attending the various events and the level of interest from local Artists in the public call. We will also monitor the level of coverage in the local media channels.

3. *Business Support Measures*

The numbers of organisations availing of the various support measures and grants monitors the success of the business support measures.

We will document and review the measures as outlined above in September.



Brian Kennedy
Director of Service
Physical Development Directorate.
16th July 2020.

METROPOLITAN DISTRICT OF LIMERICK

MEETING TO BE HELD ON 20 July 2020

Question submitted by Councillor S. Novak Uí Chonchúir

I will ask at the next meeting how many of the Council staff have completed training in Design Manual for Urban Roads and Streets (DMURS), and National Cycle Manual (NCM) and if there is any training planned in the near future with the focus on the changed circumstances due to the Covid-19 public health crisis and the implications of it?

Reply

All Council staff working in road infrastructure projects are fully aware of both DMURS and the NCM and have regards to contents of both in the projects being managed, in some cases through internal tutoring, as recent organised training has not been available. It should be noted that the design process for most NTA schemes is actually carried out by 3rd party consultants, who are required to be fully conversant with both manuals.

However, it is acknowledged that the NCM is becoming increasingly significant in the context of current and new NTA schemes and discussions are underway with the NTA to organise some courses in this area, both for consultants and relevant council staff.

In a similar fashion, refresher courses in DMURS will be undertaken for the newer members of staff working in this area when they are readily available again.

However, it should also be noted that individual staff training requirements are a matter for line managers as part of their Performance Development Plan.

Brian Kennedy
Director of Service
Physical Development Directorate.
17th July 2020.

MEETING OF THE METROPOLITAN DISTRICT OF LIMERICK TO BE HELD ON Monday, 20th July, 2020.

Question submitted by Councillor E. O'Donovan

I will ask the Council for an update on the installation of advisory speed limit signs in Limerick City centre. I would like to know the contractors hired for these works and cost. Was there an additional cost to Limerick Council for the poles installed and subsequently removed on Sarsfield Bridge? Who is responsible for quality control of these works?

UPDATED REPLY:

Signage associated with the 25kph advisory speed for the City Centre has now been erected at the most appropriate locations entering the zone where the advisory is being publicised. In accordance with the Mobility Plan as approved additional signage associated with restricted access to certain roads has also been erected in accordance with National Guidance and Traffic Regulations. Grant funding has been provided for such works, and implementation is managed by Limerick City and County Council Transport and Infrastructure Department.

Limerick City and County Council operates publicly tendered framework contracts for road Maintenance and Small Civil works. There are a number of contractors on this framework and Maramba Road Services Ltd is one of these contractors and was engaged for the speed limit signs work. All contractors must produce a current tax clearance certificate to be paid and comply with the Government conditions of contract for public works. The cost for all the speed limit signs installed was €6050. Two poles were unfortunately vandalised on Sarsfield Bridge and had to be replaced at a cost of €240 plus VAT. The Senior Engineer (Roads) is responsible for the quality control.

**Kieran Lehane,
Director of Service,
Service Operations Directorate
July, 2020.**

METROPOLITAN DISTRICT OF LIMERICK

MEETING TO BE HELD ON **Monday, 20th July, 2020.**

Question submitted by Councillor E. O'Donovan

I will ask the Council for an update on feasibility of speed restriction measures and segregated cycling infrastructure on Hyde Road and Ballycummin Road.

Reply

We have commenced discussion with the NTA about introducing traffic calming measures on Hyde Road. The proposals would include rationalising and improving the side road junctions and incorporating a cycleway on both sides of the road. Following this progressive discussion, a formal application to include Hyde Road as an NTA project in 2020 has been made and we await confirmation of funding before commencing the design process. A request will also be made to the NTA to include for cycleway infrastructure/traffic calming measures on Ballycummin Road.

Brian Kennedy
Director of Service
Physical Development Directorate
14th July 2020