



Comhairle Cathrach  
& Contae **Luimnigh**  
**Limerick City**  
& County Council

Stiúrthóireacht na Forbartha Pobail,  
Comhairle Cathrach agus Contae Luimnigh  
Ceannteathrú Chorparáideach,  
Cé na gCeannaithe,  
Luimneach.

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

EIRCODE: V94 EH90

**COUNCIL MEETING TO BE HELD ON MONDAY, 28TH SEPTEMBER, 2020**

t: +353 (0) 61 556 000

**Question submitted by Councillor Liam Galvin**

I will ask at the next Meeting (a) what is the current Council budget 2020 for Protected Structures; (b) what funding comes from the Department to invest in same; (c) how many Protected Structures has this Council; (d) how many fall under the Derelict Sites Act; (e) how many should be added to the Derelict Sites Act; (f) can lists be made available of (i) Protected Structures; (ii) Protected Structures in dereliction; and (iii) Protected Structures to be added to the Dereliction List.

**REPLY:**

(a) What is the current Council budget 2020 for Protected Structures:

- The current available funding for protected structures is as follows:-

Built Heritage Investment Scheme-	€118,000
Historic Structures Fund-	€41,000
Architectural Conservation Supports-	€10,000
CURRENT TOTAL FOR 2020-	€169,000

(b) What funding comes from the Department to invest in same:

- Of the above, €159,000 is channeled to Limerick City and County Council from the Department of Culture.

(c) how many Protected Structures has this Council:

- Currently, the County Record of Protected Structures stands at 1605 entries while the City Record of Protected Structures has 438 entries.

(d) how many fall under the Derelict Sites Act:

- There Derelict Sites Register currently has 181 no. entries. Of these, there are 12 no. which also appear on the Record of Protected Structures.

(e) how many should be added to the Derelict Sites Act:

- Through regular dereliction and vacancy surveys, and responding to public representations and concerns, lands are inspected within the administrative area of Limerick City and County Council. As required, the particulars of lands which fall under Section 3 of the Derelict Sites Act, 1990 (as amended), are added to the Derelict Sites Register.



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(f) can lists be made available of:

- i. **Protected Structures:** A list of the Protected Structures in the city can be found in the [Limerick City Development Plan 2010-2016](#) (Appendix II, Part I) and a list of the Protected Structures in the county can be found in the [Limerick County Development Plan 2010-2016](#) (Volume 3).
- ii. **Protected Structures in dereliction:**

REF NUMBER	LOCATION OF LAND	MUNICIPAL AREA
DS-001-05	Market House, Kilfinane, Co. Limerick.	Kilmallock-Cappamore
DS-005-04	Disused shop & shed, Kilfinane, Co. Limerick.	Kilmallock-Cappamore
DS-005-05	Glengort Schoolhouse, Tournafulla, Co. Limerick.	Newcastle West
DS-053-19	Fuller's Folly, Bridge Street, Newcastle West, Co. Limerick.	Newcastle West
DS-057-18	Neilan's Public House, Main Street, Bruff, Co. Limerick	Kilmallock-Cappamore
DS-058-18	Butler's, Main Street, Bruff, Co. Limerick	Kilmallock-Cappamore
DS-059-18	Main Street, Bruff, Co. Limerick	Kilmallock-Cappamore
DS-007-04	Main St Croom, Co. Limerick.	Kilmallock-Cappamore
DS-034-16	Harte's Cottage, Church View, Askeaton, Co. Limerick.	Adare- Rathkeale
DS-035-17	The Quay, Askeaton, Co. Limerick.	Adare- Rathkeale
DS-036-17	1 West Square, Askeaton, Co Limerick.	Adare- Rathkeale
DS-148-18	Bridge Street, Knocklong, Co. Limerick	Adare- Rathkeale

A full copy of the Derelict Sites Register is available for viewing during office hours at the Property and Community Facilities Department, Limerick City and County Council, Merchants Quay, Limerick, or may be downloaded from [www.limerick.ie/council](http://www.limerick.ie/council)

- iii. **Protected Structures to be added to the Dereliction List:**
  - Please refer to part (e) above. The particulars of lands which fall under the definition of derelict site contained in Section 3 of the Derelict Sites Act, 1990 (as amended), are added to the Derelict Sites Register.

Gordon Daly  
Director of Services  
Community Development Directorate

24th September 2020

## **COUNCIL MEETING TO BE HELD ON THE 28<sup>th</sup> OF SEPTEMBER 2020**

### **Question submitted by Councillor C. Slattery**

**I will ask at the next Meeting how many Council tenant evictions have taken place by Court Order in the last five years due to Anti-Social Behaviour.**

### **REPLY:**

In addition to providing support to tenants and residents of local authority-provided accommodation, through working with residents' groups and individuals, the Council's Community Sustainment Unit is also responsible for investigating complaints of anti-social behaviour. A new legislative code for seeking repossession of properties was enacted in April 2015 on foot of provisions contained in the Housing (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 2014.

Securing repossession orders on foot of anti-social behaviour through the courts can be a slow and difficult process in terms of proving the case and the scope for tenants to appeal decisions made at district court level to higher courts. In any event, the Council takes the view that evictions in themselves, in many cases, may not always be the appropriate solution in that innocent parties, particularly children, may suffer unduly for the actions of one or two individuals. This is not to say that the eviction route is not pursued where deemed to be warranted. In the five years since September 2015, six (6) properties were repossessed on foot of court orders. In only one of these cases had the tenants to be formally evicted with the assistance of the Sheriff and An Garda Síochána. In four (4) of the other cases, the tenants vacated of their own volition, and the remaining 1 (one) stands under appeal to the Circuit Court.

Having regard to the foregoing, the Council has been very pro-active in using other legislative tools in trying to curb anti-social behaviour. Section 3 of the Housing (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1997 enables housing authorities to seek formal court orders (Excluding Orders) against individuals effectively evicting them from their homes and estates for periods of up to three years. These orders have proven to be particularly effective, with sentences of up to twelve months imprisonment being imposed for breaches. Limerick City & County Council has been to the forefront among local authorities in utilising this particular legal mechanism. In the five year period under question, the Council secured twelve (12) such Orders, the most recent being two weeks ago, with three (3) other applications likely to proceed before the end of the year.



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Section 20 of the Act referred to above provides that, where Gardaí have been advised by a housing authority that a person is illegally residing in a Council house, and that person is believed to be engaged in anti-social behaviour, then that person can be directed by An Garda Síochána to leave the house immediately. Failure to comply with such a request is a criminal offence and an offender can be arrested and charged. The Council has availed of this provision in quite a number of instances in the past five years.

In almost all formal enforcement proceedings that the Council initiates, it relies quite heavily on close co-operation with An Garda Síochána, and this partnership approach is vital going forward in trying to curb anti-social behaviour.

Seamus Hayes

Administrative Officer

Housing Support Services

24<sup>th</sup> September 2020

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**COUNCIL MEETING TO BE HELD ON 28TH SEPTEMBER 2020**

**Question submitted by Councillor C. Slattery**

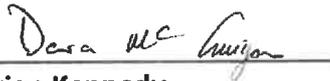
I will ask at the next Meeting for a detailed update on the application by Limerick City and County Council to the NTA for funding for safety measures on Hyde Road and how long it will take to get a decision on this application.

**Reply:**

A formal application for this scheme has been made to the NTA following detailed discussions with the NTA on the issues particular to this site.

We have been informed to include the proposal in the next tranche of sustainable transport projects and the scheme has been listed in the NTA short term plan for action.

Once formal approval is issued the preliminary options/design and planning process will begin without delay. At this stage it is reasonable to expect construction on site in mid-2021.



**Brian Kennedy**  
**Director of Service**  
**Physical Development Directorate**  
**24th September, 2020**



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## **COUNCIL MEETING TO BE HELD ON MONDAY, 28<sup>TH</sup> SEPTEMBER, 2020.**

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

I will ask at the next Meeting if this Council can use its new powers under the Derelict Sites Act against the Limerick and Clare Education and Training Board regarding the maintenance of the Convent of Mercy, Abbeyfeale.

### **REPLY**

Limerick City & County Council will arrange to carry out an inspection on the site at the Convent of Mercy, Abbeyfeale, Co. Limerick and an update will be provided to the Elected Members as soon as possible.

**Gordon Daly**  
**Director of Services**  
**Community Development Directorate**  
**24<sup>th</sup> September, 2020**

**COUNCIL MEETING TO BE HELD ON THE 28<sup>th</sup> OF SEPTEMBER 2020**

**Question submitted by Councillor C. Sheehan**

I will ask at the next Meeting for the number of voids by Local Electoral Area in the Metropolitan District and the Municipal Districts, the cost involved in refurbishment and the turnaround time for each void to come back into stock.

**REPLY:**

I would refer Cllr Sheehan to the monthly housing newsletter, which contains the number of voids completed by electoral area. The latest copy of the Housing Development Newsletter contains the most up to date information.

We do not publish costs per unit due to commercial sensitivity however, the following information is available via the NOAC statistics published annually – see below.

<b>Year</b>	<b>Vacancy Period in Weeks (Average)</b>	<b>Cost per unit (Average)</b>
2019*	44.17	€ 15,411
2018	28.49	€ 18,664
2017	25.04	€ 16,901
<i>* 2019 return, not yet published by NOAC</i>		

Cathal Quaid

Administrative Officer

Operations & Maintenance

23<sup>rd</sup> September 2020

**Limerick City and County Council**

**Council Meeting to be held on Monday, 28<sup>th</sup> September, 2020**

**Question submitted by Councillor C. Sheehan**

**I will ask at the next Meeting for an updated list of the number of vacant commercial premises in the Metropolitan District.**

**REPLY:**

There are 7,625 premises listed as commercial of which 981 are estimated as vacant. Therefore, a vacancy rate of 12.8% applies to commercial properties in the Metropolitan District.



**Sean Coughlan,  
Director, Support Services.**

**21<sup>st</sup> September, 2020.**

**COUNCIL MEETING TO BE HELD ON THE 28<sup>th</sup> OF SEPTEMBER 2020**

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

**I will ask at the next Meeting for an overview of the process by Limerick City and County Council around notifying Elected Representatives of individual housing allocations by email; and to specify the Elected Representatives these emails are sent to and the rationale for this practice.**

**REPLY:**

The process around notification of Councillors regarding allocations is something that has been raised previously and is considered a courtesy to the public representatives for the area.

We are happy to review the process in detail at our next housing workshop where all members can put forward their views and collectively agree a strategy in dealing with this matter going forward.

Aoife Duke  
Director of Services  
Housing Development Directorate  
24<sup>th</sup> September 2020