

12th November, 2020

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To the Mayor and Each Member of Limerick City and County Council

**Chairperson's Report for the Community, Leisure and Culture Strategic Policy Committee
Meeting of the 9th November, 2020.**

A Chomhairleoir, A Chara,

Item 1: Adoption of Minutes

On the proposal of Cllr O' Sullivan, seconded by Cllr M Collins, the minutes of the previous committee meeting held on the 7th September, 2020 were unanimously adopted.

Item 2: Matters Arising

There were no matters arising from the minutes of the previous meeting.

Item 3: River Shannon Tourism Masterplan (Presentation)

The members received a presentation from Mr Eanna Rowe, Regional Manager, Waterways Ireland on plans for tourism development along the River Shannon. The presentation outlined how the masterplan will be a key step in the evolution of the new Fáilte Ireland Strategy for 'Ireland's Hidden Heartlands' which is one of the key regional tourism brands. The Masterplan also includes Limerick and the Council is represented on the Steering Group for the implementation of the Masterplan.

The members thanked Mr Rowe for his presentation and expressed their enthusiasm for the progression of the plan in relation to tourism in Limerick.

Item 4: Draft Play and Recreation Policy

The members were briefed on the Draft Play and Recreation Policy. The policy had been circulated and discussed at the September SPC meeting and the members were given the opportunity to provide feedback. This policy will guide Limerick City and County Council's approach to play and recreation. The policy will provide overall aims, objectives, and actions that will inform the development and delivery of many local authority led services, strategies and programmes.

G Daly explained that with the recommendation of the Community, Leisure and Culture SPC, the draft policy will go forward to the Full Council for consideration at its next Meeting to be held on 3rd December, 2020.

It was proposed by Cllr O' Sullivan, seconded by Cllr M Collins, and unanimously agreed, that the Draft Play and Recreation Policy go to Full Council for approval.

Item 5: Draft Limerick City Gallery of Art Strategy

The members were briefed on the draft Limerick City Gallery of Art Strategy after having reviewed the strategy from the July SPC meeting. The members were given the opportunity to provide feedback on the strategy.

The strategy outlines that the vision for LCGA will be delivered through four integrated ambitions, which focus on:

- Exhibitions + Cultural Programme
- Access – Developing Audiences
- Access – Strengthening Public Engagement
- Investment for the Future

G Daly explained that with the recommendation of the Community, Leisure and Culture SPC, the draft strategy will go forward to the Full Council for consideration at its next Meeting to be held on 3rd December, 2020.

It was proposed by Cllr M Donegan, seconded by Cllr O' Sullivan, and unanimously agreed, that the Draft Limerick City Gallery of Art Strategy go to Full Council for approval.

Item 6: Draft Burial Ground and Interment Strategy (Presentation)

The members received a presentation on the draft Burial Ground & Interment Strategy 2020-2040. The presentation highlighted the purpose of the strategy, how the data is collected, information on the capacity of graveyards in Limerick City and County and plans for future cremations, burials and columbarium walls. The presentation also discussed the preliminary assessment of heritage assets within Limerick City and County Council burial grounds.

G Daly outlined that this strategy will be brought back to members for discussion and feedback at a future SPC meeting.

Item 7: Notice of Motion submitted by Cllr Dan McSweeney.

“I will move at the next meeting that Limerick City and County Council carry out a full review of the current 2015 Cemetery Bye-Laws”

As Cllr McSweeney was unable to attend the meeting it was agreed to defer this notice of motion to the next Community, Leisure and Culture SPC taking place on 1st February, 2021.

Item 8: Notice of Motion submitted by Cllr Elisa O' Donovan.

"I will move at the next meeting that this Council put in place a working group to establish Limerick as an Autism-friendly City"

Cllr O' Donovan briefed the members on how it would be hugely beneficial for Limerick to be the first Autism friendly City and County in Ireland. She outlined that if a working group was set up it that they would work closely with the organisation ASIAM to assist in introducing Autism friendly services throughout Limerick.

Following the discussion the motion was seconded by Cllr O' Sullivan and unanimously agreed by the members the following wording was agreed.

"I will move at the next meeting that this Council put in place a working group to establish Limerick as an Autism friendly City and County"

Item 9: Notice of Motion submitted by Cllr Azad Talukder

"I will move at the next meeting that Limerick City and County Council examine the feasibility of a Shannon River Cruise Development Project as this project will be helpful to attract tourists in the ongoing post Covid-19 period and, in the long term, promote Limerick City's attractiveness to foreign tourists."

Cllr Talukder briefed the members on how this study would help to develop domestic and international tourism on the river Shannon. G Daly recommended that it would be beneficial for a study to be undertaken on the river usage and that this study would come back to the SPC at a future date.

Following the discussion by the members, the motion proposed by Cllr Talukder was unanimously agreed.

Item 10: Amended 2021 Meeting Schedule

- Dates for meetings of the Community, Leisure and Culture SPC for 2021 were agreed as follows:

1st February, 2021 3:00pm

19th April, 2021 3.00pm

Cllr O' Hanlon thanked all speakers and acknowledged the hard work they had put in to today's presentations.

As there were no other matters for discussion, the meeting was brought to a close.

Recommendation 1:

That the Draft Play and Recreation Policy be approved.

Recommendation 2:

That the Draft Limerick City Gallery of Art Strategy be approved.

Recommendation 3:

That the Council considers the Notice of Motion submitted by Cllr Elisa O' Donovan as follows:

"I will move at the next meeting that this Council put in place a working group to establish Limerick as an Autism-friendly City & County"

Recommendation 4:

That the Council considers the Notice of Motion submitted by Cllr Azad Talukder as follows:

"I will move at the next meeting that Limerick City and County Council examine the feasibility of a Shannon River Cruise Development Project as this project will be helpful to attract tourists in the ongoing post Covid-19 period and, in the long term, promote Limerick City's attractiveness to foreign tourists."

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Cllr. Kieran O' Hanlon

Chairperson

Community, Leisure and Culture SPC