

## **CORRESPONDENCE**

### **MEETING OF THE METROPOLITAN DISTRICT OF LIMERICK**

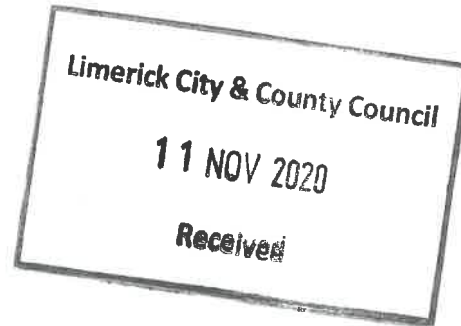
**21<sup>ST</sup> DECEMBER, 2020**

- Letter dated 9<sup>th</sup> November, 2020 from the Office of the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth in reply to Notice of Motion from Members calling on the Irish Government Departments of Health, Justice and Equality and Children and Disability, Equality and Integration to recognise that Parental Alienation is “Substantial and sustained dissatisfaction within a caregiver-child relationship associated with significant disturbance in functioning” as coded by the World Health Organisation in the latest International Classification of Diseases version 11 and to implement Recommendation 36 of the Report of the Reform of the Family Law System October 2019.
- Letter dated 12<sup>th</sup> November, 2020 from the Office of the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine in reply to Notice of Motion from Members calling on the Minister to implement an updated Control of Horses Act to give more effective powers to the Department of Agriculture, Local Authorities and the Gardai to deal with the urban horse control problem and strengthen the powers in relation to animal cruelty.
- Letter dated 27<sup>th</sup> November, 2020 from the Chief Executive, Iarnród Éireann in reply to Notice of Motion from Members calling on Irish Rail and the NTA to request that they carry out an engineer's report on the Limerick to Ballybrophy rail track. There has been 31 miles of continuous welded track laid over the past few years which should have resulted in an increase in speed. This hasn't happened. Increased speed is crucial to the development and marketing of the line.



9th November 2020

Mr. James Clune ,  
Corporate Services,  
Limerick City and County Council,  
Corporate Headquarters  
Merchants Quay,  
Limerick  
Ireland



Ref No: DCDEI-MOGO-02172-2020

Dear Mr. Clune,

On behalf of Roderic O’Gorman TD, Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration & Youth, I wish to acknowledge receipt and thank you for your letter concerning Parental Alienation. The contents have been noted.

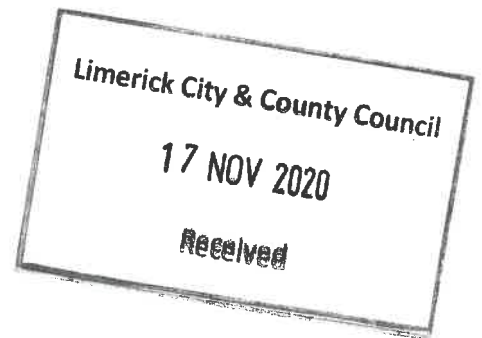
As this matter is more appropriate to the Minister’s colleague Ms Helen McEntee TD, Minister for Justice, I suggest you contact the Department of Justice for her attention and direct reply on [minister@justice.ie](mailto:minister@justice.ie)

If you wish for the Department to refer your correspondence on your behalf please indicate by return letter or email to [minister@dcya.gov.ie](mailto:minister@dcya.gov.ie), quoting the above reference number.

Yours sincerely,

Lisa Hughes  
Private Secretary to Minister Roderic O’Gorman TD





12 November 2020

Mr. James Clune  
Limerick City & County Council  
Corporate Headquarters  
Merchants Quay  
Limerick

**PLEASE QUOTE REF NUMBER ON ALL CORRESPONDENCE.**  
Our Ref: 2020/64477N /AS

Dear Mr. Clune

I wish to acknowledge receipt of your recent correspondence addressed to the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine, Charlie McConalogue, TD regarding the Control of Horses Act.

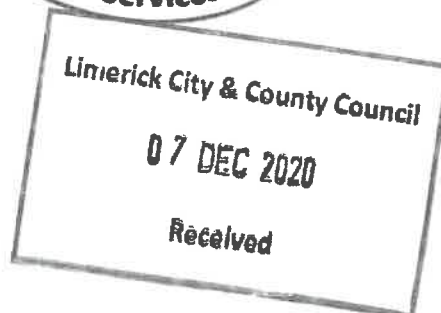
I will bring your correspondence to the Minister's attention as soon as possible. In the interim I have forwarded your correspondence for the attention of relevant Department officials.

Yours sincerely,

Aiden Kelly  
Private Secretary

All personal data processed by this Office will take place in accordance with the law on Data Protection and will only be for the purpose(s) connected to the functions of the Office. Further information is available on the Department's Data Protection page:  
<https://www.agriculture.gov.ie/dataprotection/>

Mr James Clune  
Meetings Administrator  
Limerick City & County Council  
Corporate Services  
Merchants Quay  
Limerick  
V94 EH90



27<sup>th</sup> November 2020

Dear Mr Clune

Thank you for your letter of 17<sup>th</sup> November regarding the rail line between Limerick and Ballybrophy.

Iarnród Éireann has a comprehensive regime of asset inspections and reporting for the entire rail network, including the Ballybrophy to Limerick line. All assets are subject to regular routine inspection, including weekly track patrols (as a minimum), track condition verification by a specialist Track Recording Vehicle (TRV) and ultrasonic rail testing of the network on a frequent basis to confirm that rails are defect free. In addition critical assets such as bridges, culverts and embankments are subject to regular routine inspections by qualified and competent Engineers. All of these inspections form part of the Safety, Technical and Quality Management Systems that feed into the Chief Civil Engineers overarching Asset Management System. This allows the on-going assessment of all data so as to plan interventions to keep the assets in good serviceable condition relative to the requirements of the route. Reports are produced regularly as a matter of routine in line with good Assets Management practices.

The current train speed profile on the Ballybrophy to Limerick section of the Iarnród Éireann network is consistent with the age and condition of the track infrastructure and the great number of user worked level crossings which pose safety risks with increased speed.

I have asked our Infrastructure Manager to review this however, to verify that speeds are appropriate to the current asset conditions and profile, I would stress that, as detailed above, continuous welded rail is not the sole determining factor for live speeds.

Yours sincerely,



Jim Meade

**Chief Executive**