

LIMERICK CITY AND COUNTY COUNCIL
MUNICIPAL DISTRICT OF ADARE RATHKEALE
MEETING TO BE HELD ON Tuesday 9th MARCH 2021

**To: The Chairman and Each Member of the Municipal District of
Adare-Rathkeale**

Re: Draft Schedule of Municipal District Works - (SMDW)

Dear Councillor,

I wish to refer to previous discussions regarding the requirement to prepare a Schedule of Municipal District Works.

Section 58 of the Local Government Reform Act 2014 inserts a new section 103A in the Local Government Act 2001 providing that, following the adoption of the annual budget, a schedule of proposed works of maintenance and repair to be carried out during the financial year in each municipal district shall be prepared, for adoption by the municipal district members.

The SMDW is, in effect, a plan of works that prioritises and apportions the use, within each municipal district, of funding provided in the overall local authority revenue budget for particular purposes

The SMDW in respect of the Municipal District should be formulated on the basis of the amount of funding provided for maintenance and repair in the annual budget in respect of each relevant service division (e.g. housing, roads, amenities, street cleaning, drainage work, burial ground maintenance, etc.

Classification of items in the budget should largely determine what works and related expenditure are included in the SMDW but insofar as it may be necessary to make judgements in particular instances, it is considered that the term "maintenance" can include not only maintenance of the physical condition or fabric of items, but also more operational type matters such as grass cutting or tree pruning.

Within the level of funding available, details of the SMDW should be prepared on the basis of identified needs (taking account of relevant factors, for example, in the case of housing, age profile of stock) and priorities throughout the local authority area and taking due account of requirements in relation to standards and frequency of maintenance work. This should be informed by details of relevant requirements which were considered in the formulation of the overall local authority budget. It will also be relevant to have regard to the pattern of works and expenditure in previous years.

It is emphasised that adoption of the SMDW per se cannot involve revision of the adopted budget.

It is essential to maximise return on investment by avoiding dilution of expenditure which could result from spreading allocations too thinly across the Municipal District each year. This could be minimised by taking a multi-annual approach where possible in the preparation of the SMDW.

Maximising value for money, overall effectiveness, and return from investment should also be a key objective in prioritising works and allocating available funding within each municipal district, along with the need to ensure appropriate balance in the allocation of resources as between urban and rural areas in the district.

Apportionment of funding on a thematic basis within the district over the life of the council could help to this end. For example, specific housing estate(s) in one location could be prioritised for refurbishment in year one, with a commitment to undertake works in another area in subsequent years. Similarly, where an overall local authority maintenance programme is drawn up for a particular purpose (say windows and doors in local authority dwellings) which might need to extend over a number of years, the required works would be reflected in relevant annual SMDWs.

Any maintenance type functions, for example, grass cutting, planting or other maintenance of open spaces, that are carried out by means of specific purpose grants for such purposes to community groups such as tidy towns committees can be provided for, as appropriate, through the SMDW.

The GMA, which is a budgetary element providing funding for discretionary expenditure at municipal district level to be decided by the elected members in respect of each municipal district, is separate from the “strategic” budgetary funding for maintenance and repair, the utilisation of which is to be determined in the SMDW.

The Draft Schedule of Municipal District Works for the Municipal District of Adare Rathkeale is set out at appendix 1 attached.

The approval of the Members is sought for the Draft Schedule as presented.

Caroline Curley,
Director of Services.

Appendix 1

ADARE RATHKEALE MUNICIPAL DISTRICT Road Works Scheme 2021	
Work Category	€
Restoration Improvement (RI) -Road Reconstruction	€1,947,561
Restoration Maintenance (RM) –Surface Dressing	€397,114
Supplementary Restoration Maintenance (SRM – Surface Dressing	€283,089
Drainage Grant	€200,000
General Maintenance (GM)	€824,738
General Maintenance Safety (GMS)	€91,637
Tar Patching (TP)	€365,543
Low Cost Safety Improvement Works (LCSI)	€50,000
General Municipal Allocation (GMA)	€ 270,000
Bridge Rehabilitation	€185,000
N69 Kilcornan Traffic Calming	€100,000
N69 Court Cross	€275,000
M20 Limerick to Cork	€5,000,000
Foynes to Limerick	€2,000,000
Sustainable Travel Measures Grant (Active Travel)	€1,200,000
Total Defined MD Spending	€ 13,189,682

- Winter Maintenance (WM) €558,954 Total City & County.
- Community Improvement Schemes (CIS) – Limerick City & County Council are currently identifying schemes that will be included in the 2021 programme. An allocation of €316,000 has been made to Limerick City and County.
- Local Improvement Schemes (LIS) – The Department for Rural and Community Development (DRCD) introduced ring fenced funding for LIS in 2020. The 2021 allocation for Limerick City and County Council has not yet been received.

- Public Lighting € 2,460,000 Total City & County.
- Former National Road Grant – €400,000 – In accordance with Circular RW 1/2021, €400,000 has been made available for the upkeep of declassified national roads.
- TII Capital Maintenance Works 2021 for national roads across Limerick City and County – Awaiting TII funding allocation / instruction.
- NTA Pedestrian Improvements at junctions at various locations. Total of €600,000 for the City and County

Regional Roads Road Reconstruction Allocation € 593,261.58			
Road No.	Description	Length (m)	Total Cost €
R518	Ballingarry Main Street Overlay	400	€425,261.58
R521	Shanagolden to N69 Overlay	130	€68,000.00
R512	Ballyneety Overlay	230	€40,000.00
R521	Moig Road Edge Stabilising	50	€30,000.00
R521	Shanid Lower Edge Stabilising	50	€30,000.00
Total		860	€593,261.58

Local Roads Road Reconstruction Allocation € 1,354,300.00			
Road No.	Description	Length (m)	Total Cost €
L1423	Kildimo School to N69 Overlay	215	€95,000.00
L6106	Loghill Middle Rd	1074	€107,400.00
L6010	Shanpallas	1100	€110,000.00

L8032	Hollywood Road	1450	€145,000.00
L1423	Clorhane	200	€24,000.00
L6083	Park	300	€27,000.00
L6019	Cragmore Askeaton	1000	€110,000.00
L6135	Curraghchase	1430	€171,600.00
L6117	Shanid Gardens Rd	400	€52,000.00
L1210	Ballygrennan - Bridge towards Lees X	700	€84,000.00
L8002	Attyflin	1000	€104,000.00
L1207	Kilfinny to Nevilles	400	€44,000.00
L1142	Poulatoon	670	€98,700.00
L8014	Monaster Abbey Rd	600	€63,600.00
L8003	Crecura to Equestrian Centre	800	€118,000.00
Total		11339	€1,354,300.00

Regional Roads Surface Dressing Allocation € 255,132.00			
Road No.	Description	Length (m)	Total Cost €
R521	Grouse Lodge towards Kate Daly	2300	€88,550.00
R518	Mullins Cross to Dromard	2410	€86,144.50
R512	Rockstown to Grange	2250	€80,437.50
Total		6960	€255,132.00

Local Roads Surface Dressing Allocation € 141,982.13			
Road No.	Description	Length (m)	Total Cost €
L1237	Kilcool to the Thatch	2100	€56,700.00
L8034	Tuogh East to Adare/Kildimo Rd Jn	700	€15,750.00
L6117	Mountdavid Rd	1451	€29,382.75
L8006	Ballyregan	1442	€32,040.38
L1410	Manister to Croom	340	€8,109.00
Total		6033	€141,982.13

Supplementary Restoration Maintenance Local Roads Surface Dressing Allocation € 283,089.25			
Road No.	Description	Length (m)	Total Cost €
L6005	Ballyengland Lower	1540	€33,294.25
L1236	Askeaton Ballycullen jn towards Newbridge	410	€11,992.50
L8029	Cappagh to Knockdromin Railway	1650	€40,837.50
L6176	Cappagh Cross to Reservoir	900	€20,250.00
L1222	Thatch to Ardgoul	900	€22,275.00
L8003	Ballycahane to Equestrian Centre	2340	€57,915.00
L1207	Kilfinny to Nevilles	700	€17,325.00
L1410	Manister to Croom	2000	€47,700.00
L5086	Ballybricken	1400	€31,500.00
Total		11840	€283,089.25

Drainage Works Allocation € 200,000			
Road No.	Description	Length (m)	Total Cost €
L6110	L6110 Kiltteery	120	€25,000.00
L6113	L6113 Knocknabooly West	100	€10,000.00
L6110	L6110 Kiltteery	60	€12,000.00
L1224	L1224 Dromin - Gullies above Scanlons House	130	€15,000.00
L1219	L1219 Curraghdeely		€12,000.00
L1409	L1409 - Across L8006 Jn	250	€20,000.00
R523	R523 Courtmatrix	200	€21,000.00
L6035	L6035 Woodstock Road	100	€10,000.00
R518	Dromard - 320m of 300mm storm drainage along R518 on southbound lane outfalling to existing drain in field - some works to field drain - Extends along all houses on southbound lane side of road	320	€65,000.00
L8017	L8017 Banogue	100	€10,000.00
Total		1380	€200,000.00

Bridges Allocation € 185,000.00			
Road No.	Description	Length (m)	Total Cost €
L6035	Fortwilliam Ballingarry		€50,000.00
L6150	Ballingarry		€85,000.00
L12341	Glenbane West		€50,000.00
Total			€185,000.00

Low Cost Safety Improvement Schemes (LCSI) Allocation € 50,000.00			
Road No.	Description	Length (m)	Total Cost €
L6070	Kilcolman		€50,000.00
Total			€50,000.00

Active Travel Measures Allocation € 1,200,000			
Road No.	Description	Length (m)	Total Cost €
	Croom Village Pedestrian Improvement Works		€ 250,000.00
	Rathkeale Pedestrian Improvement Works		€ 265,000.00
	Ballingarry Village Pedestrian Improvement Works		€ 175,000.00
	Kildimo Pedestrian Connection Works		€ 170,000.00
	Askeaton Village Pedestrian Improvement Works		€ 260,000.00
	Pallaskenry Pedestrian Improvement Works		€ 80,000.00
Total			€1,200,000.00

Brief summary of the above Work Categories and Allocations for the Adare Rathkeale Municipal District:

Restoration Improvement (RI) € 1,947,561.58

This is a specific allocation under the Restoration Improvement Grant (RI). This grant is for the road strengthening programme and caters for surface restoration, pavement overlay works and complete road rehabilitation works where existing pavements are structurally defective.

Restoration Maintenance (RM) € 397,114.13

This is a specific allocation under the Restoration Maintenance Grant (RM) for Surface Dressing Works only. This allocation will extend the life of the pavement and delay the development of potholes, thus protecting the investment in roads.

Supplementary Restoration Maintenance (SRM) € 283,089.25

This is a specific allocation in 2021 under the Supplementary Restoration Maintenance Grant (SRM) for surface dressing works only. This allocation will extend the life of the pavement and delay the development of potholes, thus protecting the investment in roads.

Drainage Grant € 200,000.00

This grant may be used for the alleviation of road drainage problems either through new works or remedial measures. Minor works are planned at a number of sites in the Adare/Rathkeale District in 2021.

General Maintenance € 824,738.00

General maintenance covers a wide range of works such as verges and drainage, cleaning water channels, street cleaning, opening inlets, signage, elimination of localised flooding, junction maintenance, dealing with accidents, oil spillages, storms, emergencies and general repairs to roads and footpaths.

General Maintenance Safety € 91,637.56

A proportion of the general maintenance allocation is allocated to general maintenance safety. General maintenance safety funding will be used to cover a wide range of works such as road markings, road studs, road signs and general upkeep of roads in the city and county which will improve road safety.

Tar Patching (TP) €365,543.13

Regular tar patching is necessary to prevent the deterioration of the road surface and substructure and in the interest of road safety.

Bridge Rehabilitation - Structures (STR) € 185,000.00

The 2021 allocation provides funding to enable improvement works on bridge structures on regional and local roads. A specific grant allocation is made to Limerick City and County Council to undertake works on a defined list of structures. There are three schemes under this heading in the district for 2021.

Low Cost Safety Improvement Works (LCSI) € 50,000.00

The 2021 allocation provides funding to enable low cost safety improvement works on non-national roads to be carried out. The criteria for approval and grant allocation are based on accident data along with inspection of sites and discussions between the local authority and the Regional Road Safety Engineer. There is currently 1 scheme in the Adare/Rathkeale District.

General Municipal Allocation (GMA) € 270,000.00

This allocation has been agreed at Municipal District level.

Items for which expenditure is provided on a City and County at large basis

Public Lighting (PL) € 2,460,000

This covers the operation, repair and maintenance of Public Lighting. The supply of energy is purchased through the National Procurement Service (NPS). The repair, replacement and maintenance of public lights are tendered separately. The above figure pertains to the whole City and County area.

Road Safety: Engineering, Promotion, Education (RS) € 622,594

This includes for school wardens, road safety plan, road safety education and training. The above figure pertains to the whole City and County area.

General Maintenance of National Roads **€ 268,920**

General maintenance of National Roads covers a wide range of works for which this allocation will be used. € 268,920 is the allocation for Limerick City & County for 2021.

Capital Maintenance TII Roads **€ TBC**

Capital maintenance of National Roads is used for pavement schemes with values between €50,000 and €200,000. Applications are made through the pavement defects survey app. Awaiting TII funding allocation / instruction.

Winter Maintenance (WM) **€ 558,954**

This provision is for the treatment of roads in severe weather in accordance with the Winter Services Plan and pertains to the whole City and County area.

Community Improvement schemes **€316,000**

A Grant of €316,000 has been allocated to Limerick City and County Council. Limerick City and County Council is currently identifying schemes to be undertaken in 2021.

Local Improvement Schemes (LIS) **€ TBC**

The Department for Rural and Community Development (DRCD) introduced ring-fenced funding for LIS in 2020 and proposes to continue to operate this scheme in 2021. The 2021 allocation for Limerick City & County Council has not yet been received.

Overheads (OH) **€ 1,874,552**

This includes for insurances (EL/PL), Health and Safety training and equipment, sick pay, holiday pay, legal costs, office expenses, etc. The above figure pertains to the whole City and County area.

Former National Road Grant (FNR) **€ 400,000**

Arising from the 2018 regional road pavement condition survey findings, the Department introduced a grant in 2019 to assist local authorities with the

rehabilitation of sections of former national roads with a poor condition rating. Two schemes are proposed in the Adare/Rathkeale area under this grant, ie the R523 Rathkeale at Castlematrix towards the New Line Junction and the L1478/R516 Croom Garda Station Junction towards Caherass & Main Street.

NTA Pedestrian Improvements at junctions

€600,000

This is funding from the NTA for pedestrian improvements at junctions. The allocation is for the overall city and county area.

Work Category – Social Development

Housing Maintenance

Limerick City & County Council (LCCC) manages an expanding social housing portfolio, which currently amounts to 5,545 properties (Jan 2021). The range of properties is extensive, which is emphasised by the fact that over half the Council's housing stock was built before 1985.

64% of the entire housing stock is located within the Metropolitan District. The remaining 34% of housing stock is located between the Newcastle West (12%), Adare-Rathkeale (10%) and Cappamore-Kilmallock (14%) Districts.

In each municipal district area, we have small but effective direct labour crew who respond to the needs of our tenants. All requests are added to the Customer Relationship Management System (Sugar) and assigned to the area maintenance team for action.

Total requests for Housing Maintenance during 2020 was 13,703, with 7% of all cases received in the Adare-Rathkeale area. Please note that the response maintenance requests that can be actioned during Covid Level 5 guidance is restricted to emergency works.

Housing repairs are carried out based on need and budgetary constraints. Repairs are categorised into emergency, urgent and routine. Examples of each are listed below and please refer to the Tenant's Handbook for additional details

Emergency Repairs (within 24 Hours)

Fire	Water Leaks	No Electricity	No Mains Water
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Urgent Repairs (within 1-5 Days)

Blocked Flue in Open Fire	Blocked Foul Drains	No Hot Water	No Heating
Faulty Sockets	Faulty Switches	Faulty Storage Heater	Faulty Door Entry System
Banister or Hand Rail Loose or Detached	Storm Damage	Partial Loss of Water Supply	Unsafe Floor Boards or Stair Treads

Routine Repairs (within 1-6 Weeks)

Other Electrical Works	Other Joinery Works	Plaster Works	Other Plumbing Works
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BUDGET Allocation 2021

Adare-Rathkeale Municipal District 535 Properties (10% of housing stock)

Works Budget (non-pay)	2021
Maintenance	€ 148,396
Re-lettings	€ 77,095
	€ 225,491

Housing Maintenance - Planned Works

Heating Servicing – city and countywide

In 2021, a budget of €101,078 has been allocated to ensure that heating systems countywide are working effectively and safely. This is an important area and ensures that the Council maintain heating system guarantees, some that currently run for 10 years, which represents a long-term savings to the Council.

Planned Maintenance / Heating Systems Replacement – city and countywide

Many of our tenants have heating systems that are outdated and highly inefficient by current standards. €375,000 (2020: €387,000) has been allocated for the replacement of heating systems and other works of a planned nature on a countywide basis. The scheme operates on a priority needs basis.

Voids/Re-lettings – city and countywide

Voids and Re-lettings continue to be undertaken in each municipal district area as vacancies arise. Each Housing Area Engineer and Area Foreman manages these refurbishment works. The units are delivered via a mix of direct labour crews and contractors, to ensure units are returned to Allocations section in an efficient manner.

A total of 109 void units in two tranches were completed in 2020, which resulted in funding allocations of €1.531m from the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage (DoHLGH).

No department circular or allocation for Voids 2021 has been received to-date.

Thermal Upgrade Project – city and countywide

Approval was received in August 2019 for a thermal upgrade project for 120 units across Limerick City and County Council. 20 units in each electoral area have been refurbished during 2020 (with final works being completed in Q1 2021). Area Engineers and Housing Foremen recommended the units. This scheme was part funded by the DoHLGH, the European Regional Development Fund and LCCC.

While no Department circular has been received for a 2021 thermal upgrade as yet, the DoHLGH has notified LCCC of an allocation of €1.3m. Therefore a smaller scale thermal upgrade scheme will be progress to tender in the near future. Significant internal knowledge and experience has been accrued from the 2020 scheme, and this will be leveraged to deliver this new scheme in a more efficient manner.

Private Housing Grants

The following private housing grants are available again in 2021

Housing Adaptation Grant Scheme – HAGS

Mobility Aids Grants Scheme – MAGS

Housing Aid Older People – HOPS

These grant circular has not yet been received for 2021, however, it is expected that the amounts will be similar to those in 2020. The total 2020 revenue grant allocation for Limerick City and County Council was €2,975,778. The Council is required to provide 20% towards the cost of such grants with the DoHPLG meeting 80%.

Parks and Landscaping

The Council manages nineteen parks and amenities throughout the City and County. The Parks & Landscaping Team carries out a wide range of functions in relation to parks and open spaces. These works include tree pruning, grass cutting, hedge trimming and small maintenance and landscaping works. Grass cutting takes place between March and October with cuts on a two weekly cycle. During the Autumn and Winter period, works are concentrated on tree pruning and planned and responsive works.

The 2021 allocation for Parks and Landscaping for the Adare Rathkeale District is €48,838. A separate budget of €34,980 is provided for the grass cutting contract, providing up to 15 cuts on 30 hectares.

Parks

There are two Parks in the Adare Rathkeale District, Adare Park which is managed by the Council and Croom Park which is managed by the community. An annual grant of €10,000 is payable to the community council for the maintenance and upkeep of Croom Park.

Adare Park is undergoing a complete overhaul in terms of maintenance, extensive pruning works, removal of some beds and planting new areas. Some colour is also

being added to the Park with the addition of tulips and roses. An area has been identified for a natural play area for young children. New seating will be installed beside the gazebo.

Site clearance works have commenced for the Sensory Garden with the removal of trees along the stream. Further clearance works are planned once the site dries out.

Playgrounds

There are eight playgrounds in the district, the majority of which are community playgrounds. Inspections are carried out quarterly and repairs carried out as required.

Cemeteries

There are 267 cemeteries in Limerick, approximately one third of these are used for the purchase of new burial plots. There are 78 cemeteries in the Adare Rathkeale District including closed burial grounds.

Municipal District	No. of Burial Grounds
Metro	40
Adare/Rathkeale	78
Newcastle West	47
Cappamore/Kilmallock	102

The 2021 budget allocation for the Adare Rathkeale district is €49,000. This funding will be utilised to provide the following works.

St Nicholas Adare	Tree surgery works
Kildimo (Old)	Repair boundary wall
Clonshire, Adare (Old)	Repair boundary wall
St Josephs, Rathkeale	New boundary wall and remove refuse storage area
Granagh (Old)	Repair/replace footpaths
Clonshire BG	Reinstate gable walls

An extension is required to Askeaton cemetery which will be tendered and constructed this year.

There is an annual budget of €30,000 provided as granting aiding to community groups across Limerick who wish to develop a new burial ground. Technical assistance is provided to any community that expresses an interest.

Recycling Facilities

Bring Banks

There are 65 no bring banks in the City and County. The 2021 budget for the operation of the bring bank contract is €136,277. The budget provides for collection and cleaning around all sites. Covid 19 has seen increased usage at a number of the sites, resulting in increased frequency of collection and also illegal dumping.

Civic Amenity Sites

There are three Civic Amenity Sites in Limerick, Mungret, Newcastle West and Kilmallock. The three sites are operated by a Contractor. The 2021 budget for the operation of the three Civic Amenity Sites is €336,000. Covid 19 has also seen increased usage at the Civic Amenity Sites.

Other Environmental Schemes

Limerick Going for Gold Environmental Improvement Grant & Competition 2021

Limerick City & County Council again invites applications for the Limerick Going for Gold Environmental Improvement Grant & Competition 2021

This grant scheme aims to assist with Environmental Improvement works undertaken by nonprofit making organisations working within Limerick City and County areas.

The Limerick Going for Gold Environmental Improvement Grant is 50% funded by the JP

McManus Charitable Foundation. The Limerick Going for Gold Competition prize fund is 100% funded by JP McManus Charitable Foundation.

Grant Scheme for Maintenance of Open Spaces in Housing Developments for 2021.

Limerick City and County Council will again invite applications for the Grant Scheme for Maintenance of Open Spaces in Housing Developments for 2021. This Scheme is

designed to assist residents in the maintenance of open spaces in their estates by providing funding towards grass cutting.