

CORRESPONDENCE

MEETING OF THE METROPOLITAN DISTRICT OF LIMERICK

19TH APRIL, 2021

- Letter dated 16th March, 2021 from the Office of the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage in reply to Notice of Motion from Members that Limerick City and County Council rejects the move by the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage to strip Councillors of powers to veto the sale of public land through the proposed Land Development Agency Bill and that the Members of the Metropolitan District write to the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage advising him of this.
- Email dated 8th April, 2021 from the Office of the Minister for Education in reply to Notice of Motion from Members that the Council writes to the Minister for Education and to keep the current levels of staff in St. Marys School, which has been recognised as, Deis school. The loss of staff would have a detrimental effect on the children's education and wellbeing and would be against the ethos of providing a proper education to them in their very important early years.
- Email dated 8th April, 2021 from the Office of the Minister for Education in reply to Notice of Motion from Members that the Metropolitan District of Limerick calls on the Minister for Education to approve as a matter of urgency the ETB's Stage 2(a) submission which was submitted in November last year for the extension in one phase to Monaleen N.S. in Castletroy.



16 March 2021.

Mr Mark Leahy,
Limerick City and Council,
Merchant Quay,
Co Limerick
V94 E490

RE: HPLG-MOBO-00471-2021

Dear Mr Leahy,

I refer to your correspondence of 17 February 2021 in relation to the Land Development Agency Bill and the queries you have raised.

The LDA has two central goals to build affordable homes on state lands and strategic land management. It is being set up to make the most of all state owned land in order to tackle the housing crisis. It has a core remit of providing affordable homes at scale in sustainable communities based on best environmental practise across under used or unused state lands. Every available tool needs to be used in addressing the housing crisis and state owned land cannot be neglected when it can play an important role in providing affordable homes to buy or cost rent in our towns and cities. In the long run the LDA will also help to strategically manage land by assembling sites in key areas. This draws directly on NESC recommendations and is based on best European planning practise to work with private land owners to create sustainable developments.

In relation to your specific query concerning Section 56 of the Bill, this would only arise where the local authority has decided to put lands up for sale and must give the LDA ‘first refusal’ to purchase the lands under Section 51(1). In this situation, Section 183 of the Local Government Act will not apply to avoid duplicatory decision making processes arising which could delay the delivery of homes on these lands. Section 56 does not remove the rights of elected members to vote on the disposal of lands to third parties and Section 183 of the Local Government Act will remain in force for local authority land disposals to all other parties.



Under Section 14 of the LDA Bill a local authority can direct the LDA to provide services to it in relation to the development of large scale sites for housing and urban development in population centres of 30,000 or more. These sites will predominantly remain in local authority ownership post development. It is envisaged that the majority of the LDA's work on local authority lands will be in such co-operative arrangements with the LDA as an additional resource to assist local authorities in housing delivery. The primary responsibility of local authorities as housing authorities to deliver housing will not be impacted by the LDA Bill. Section 56 will be kept under review by the Minister to ensure it is working as required in the LDA's legislation to speed up housing delivery.

I hope the above clarifies the matter.

Yours Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, which appears to read 'Niamh Redmond'. The signature is written in a cursive style and is located above the printed name.

**Niamh Redmond,
Private Secretary.**

From: Correspondence Unit [<mailto:no-reply@cloud.gov.ie>]
Sent: Thursday, April 8, 2021 12:36 PM
To: Customer Services <customerservices@limerick.ie>
Subject: FAO Mr. MARK LEAHY, MEETINGS ADMINISTRATOR DES-CU-02597-2021

Mr. Mark Leahy
Meetings Administrator
Limerick City and County Council
Corporate Headquarters
Merchants Quay
Limerick

customerservices@limerick.ie

PLEASE QUOTE REF NUMBER ON ALL CORRESPONDENCE

Our Ref: DES-CU-02597-2021

Dear Mr. Leahy,

The Minister for Education, Ms. Norma Foley TD, has asked me to acknowledge your recent letter in relation to staffing at St. Mary's School.

Enquiries are being made about this matter and a further e-mail will issue as soon as possible.

Yours sincerely,

Derek Newcombe
Private Secretary

From: Correspondence Unit [<mailto:no-reply@cloud.gov.ie>]

Sent: Thursday, April 8, 2021 12:42 PM

To: Customer Services <customerservices@limerick.ie>

Subject: DES-CU-02598-2021

Mr. Mark Leahy
Meetings Administrator
Limerick City and County Council
Corporate Headquarters
Merchants Quay
Limerick

customerservices@limerick.ie

PLEASE QUOTE REF NUMBER ON ALL CORRESPONDENCE

Our Ref: DES-CU-02598-2021

8th April 2021

Dear Mr. Leahy

The Minister for Education, Ms. Norma Foley TD has asked me to acknowledge your recent letter in relation to accommodation at Monaleen National School, Castletroy

Enquiries are being made about this matter and a further letter will issue as soon as possible.

Yours sincerely

Derek Newcombe
Private Secretary