

## MEETING OF THE METROPOLITAN DISTRICT OF LIMERICK TO BE HELD ON MONDAY, 18<sup>th</sup> October, 2021

### Question submitted by Councillor Leddin

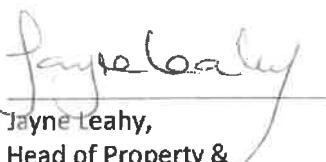
I will ask at the next Meeting of the Metropolitan District of Limerick how many Council owned houses have been sold over the previous three years and why these houses were not upgraded for letting.

### REPLY:

Over the past 18 months, the Derelict Sites Section has compulsorily acquired a number of residential properties in the Metropolitan District. These properties are assessed by the Housing Directorate as to whether they are suitable for social housing.

If they are not deemed to be suitable properties for social housing then they are transferred to the Property and Community Facilities Department to be put on the open market for sale. These will subsequently be brought to the Metropolitan District Meetings for noting before they are brought to Full Council.

A small number of these properties that are located in the Metropolitan District are currently in the process of being disposed of, having been approved at Full Council.



Jayne Leahy,  
Head of Property &  
Community Facilities

Date: 14<sup>th</sup> October, 2021.

**MEETING OF THE METROPOLITAN DISTRICT OF LIMERICK TO BE HELD ON MONDAY 18<sup>TH</sup>  
October, 2021**

**Question submitted by Councillor C. Sheehan**

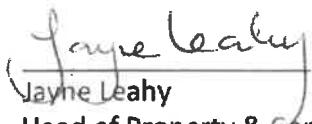
I will ask at the next Meeting of the Metropolitan District of Limerick for a list of current Limerick City and County Council residential properties currently listed for sale or disposal.

**REPLY:**

The Council has the following Council-owned residential properties currently listed for sale/disposal in the Metropolitan District:

- 3 Mount Vincent Place, O'Connell Avenue
- 3 properties at Woolworth's Lane
- 11 & 12 Clontarf Place (including 1-4 Wellesley Lane)
- 35 Lord Edward Street

Regards,

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Jayne Leahy  
Head of Property & Community Facilities

12 October 2021

## MEETING OF THE METROPOLITAN DISTRICT OF LIMERICK TO BE HELD ON Monday 18<sup>th</sup> October 2021

### Question submitted by Councillor C. Sheehan

I will ask at the next Meeting of the Metropolitan District of Limerick for the list of all the Approved Housing Bodies currently engaged with Limerick City and County Council and for the number and location of the properties leased by Limerick City and County Council from these Approved Housing Bodies.

### Reply:

Limerick City and County Council has been partnering with Approved Housing Bodies (AHBs) for over 30 years. AHBs provide social housing to households on the Council's waiting list under the following categories:

- General Needs
- Special Needs Housing – Older Persons, People with Disabilities, Homeless Households

AHBs are also entering into the provision of cost rental housing, which is now legally enshrined under the Affordable Housing Act 2021.

Based on the best available information held by the Council, the following table sets out all active AHBs currently engaged with Limerick City and County Council and the number and location of properties owned/managed and leased by AHBs.

AHB	Total units	Location of units	Primary settlement(s)
Abha Bhan Voluntary Housing Association Limited	6	County	Ballyhahill
Adapt Domestic Abuse Limited	3	City	Limerick city
Adare Sheltered Housing Limited	4	County	Adare
Ardagh Voluntary Housing Association Limited	9	County	Ardagh
Associated Charities Trust Limited	16	City	Limerick city
Athea Voluntary Housing Association Limited	10	County	Athea
Ballyhoura Rural Services	0	County	Doon
Ballylanders Housing Association Limited	18	County	Ballylanders
Bergerie Trust Ltd	38	City	Limerick city
Broadford Voluntary Housing Association and Community Childcare Facility Limited	21	County	Broadford
Bruff Housing Association Limited	5	County	Bruff
Bruree Rockhill Community Housing Association Limited	6	County	Bruree
Cappamore Housing Association Limited	0	County	Cappamore
CareBright Ltd	6	County	Bruff
Cheshire Foundation Of Ireland (The)	9	County	Newcastle West
Circle VHA	4	City	Limerick city
Cluid Housing Association Limited	240	City and County	Limerick city, Ballingarry, Askeaton, Newcastle West, Abbeyfeale

AHB	Total units	Location of units	Primary settlement(s)
Co-operative Housing Ireland	81	City and County	Newcastle West, Fedamore, Limerick city,
Corran-Deel Voluntary Housing Association Limited	29	County	Feenagh, Kilmeedy
Croom Voluntary Housing Association Limited	33	County	Croom
Cuan Mhuire Teoranta	9	County	Bruree
Doon Community Housing Limited	18	County	Doon
Drombanna Housing Association Limited	11	County	Drombanna
Dromcollogher Community Housing Association	43	County	Dromcollogher
Dromcollogher Voluntary Family Housing Association Limited	6	County	Dromcollogher
Dromin/Athlacca Housing Project	20	County	Athlacca
Embury Close Sheltered Company, Adare	28	County	Adare
Focus Housing Association	165	City and County	Limerick city
Galbally Voluntary Housing Association Limited	4	County	Galbally
Glin Homes for the Elderly	20	County	Glin
Hospital Voluntary Housing Association Limited	21	County	Hospital
ICare	12	City and County	Limerick city
Inis Housing Association	0	City and County	
Kilteeley/Dromkeen Housing Association Limited	21	County	Kilteeley

AHB	Total units	Location of units	Primary settlement(s)	County Council
Knocklong Glenbrohane Elton VHA	11	County	Knocklong	
Marillac (Daughters of Charity)	5	City and County	Limerick city	
Midwest Simon Community	58	City and County	Limerick city	
Murroe Community Housing Limited	8	County	Murroe	
Nash Charity (John)	17	City	Limerick city	
Newgrove Housing Association (Rehab)	24	City	Limerick city	
Novas	212	City	Limerick city	
Oaklee Housing Trust	0	City	Limerick city	
Peter McVerry Trust Limited	52	City and County	Askeaton, Newcastle West and Limerick city	
Rathkeale Sheltered Housing Association	20	County	Rathkeale	
Respond	111	City and County	Limerick city	
Saint Andrews Voluntary Housing Association Limited	7	County	Kilfinnane	
Simon Communities of Ireland	0	City	Limerick city	
St Vincent De Paul Midwest	23	City	Limerick city	
St Vincent De Paul NCW	4	County	Newcastle West	
Sophia Housing Association Limited	84	City and County	Limerick city	
St Ita's Voluntary Housing Association And Day-Care Centre Limited	23	County	Abbeyfeale	

AHB	Total units	Location of units	Primary settlement(s)
Thomond Housing Association Limited (Brothers of Charity)	24	City and County	Limerick city
Tuath Housing Association Limited	28	City and County	Newcastle West, Limerick city, Caherconlish
Villiers Housing Association Limited	18	City	Limerick city

*Owner.*

Sarah Newell

Senior Executive Officer

Strategy and Non-LA Housing Construction

**MEETING OF THE METROPOLITAN DISTRICT OF LIMERICK TO BE HELD ON Monday 18<sup>th</sup>  
October 2021**

**Question submitted by Councillor C. Sheehan**

I will ask at the next Meeting of the Metropolitan District of Limerick to detail annual spending on housing provision through long term leasing over the past five years and projected spending on same in the coming five years and to name the companies/developers with whom Limerick City and County Council currently has such contracts.

**Reply:**

With Limerick City and County Council, leases with commercial entities commenced in 2019, in line with Government policy to enable this social-rental supply stream. The table below sets the unit type, number of units and average monthly rent for commercial entities availing of long-term leasing with Limerick City and County Council. The rent paid to Lessors under the scheme is 80% of market rent for houses in a non-managed development and 85% market rent where management fees apply for units in a managed development. Rent reviews under standard long-term leasing occur on the third anniversary of the commencement date and every third year thereafter. These reviews are based on changes in the Harmonised Index of Consumer Prices (HICP). Data on average spend on monthly rent therefore has been collated for 2019, 2020 and 2021.

YEAR	BEDTYPE	NO OF UNITS	TOTAL AVERAGE MONTHLY
2019, 2020 & 2021	1 bed	1	€765.00
	2 bed	20	€984.75
	3 bed	31	€1,213.94
	4 bed	7	€1,070.36

Last month, the Government launched Housing for All - a New Housing Plan for Ireland. On page 21 of that document, it states the Government's intention to "end long-term leasing of social housing by Local Authorities and AHBs through phasing out new entrants and

focussing on new-build to provide social homes." Therefore, projected long term lease arrangements and associated spend over the next 5 years are anticipated to be low.

Long-term lease arrangements, including the enhanced lease, of privately owned dwellings can be entered into by either local authorities or AHBs. Under these arrangements, the local authority or AHB acts as the landlord to the tenant. The terms of these agreements are set out in standard template agreements provided by my Department, which must be used, by all local authorities and AHBs. Agreements may be entered into for periods of between 10 to 25 years in duration; availability agreements under the CALF scheme can be up to 30 years in duration.

Since the leasing arrangements commenced with Limerick City and County Council in 2019, the following commercial entities have signed Long Term Lease Agreements with the Limerick City and County Council:

COMMERCIAL ENTITY	NUMBER OF LEASE AGREEMENTS
REDIRESI IFIVE LIMITED	12
First Step Homes (Ireland) Ltd	13
Tom Walsh Pension Trust	1
Elm Long Income ICAV	7
Chartered Capital Investment Ltd	1
Liam O' Grady Auctioneers	2
IPSFA	2
Maple Long Income	19
Basalt ICAV	2




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Sarah Newell

Senior Executive Officer

Strategy and Non-LA Housing Construction



## METROPOLITAN DISTRICT OF LIMERICK

MEETING TO BE HELD ON MONDAY 18<sup>th</sup> OCTOBER 2021

### Question submitted by Councillor C. Slattery

I will ask at the next Meeting of the Metropolitan District of Limerick, can Limerick City and County Council take in charge the laneways at the back of Lynwood Park houses as there are a lot of elderly people living in the area that just cannot keep them maintained.

### REPLY:

In order to declare such a road as a public road the provisions of Section 11 of the Roads Act, 1993 must be considered. However there are a number of issues that need to be carefully considered before such a process is initiated including but not limited to :-

- (i) The road being of general public utility
- (ii) The Financial implications to the Roads Authority (including current & future liabilities)
- (iii) Public consultation\advertising of intent.
- (iv) Consideration of objections.

The lanes referenced are currently only accessible via locked gates and therefore are not currently a public right of way.

Furthermore as the lanes serve primarily as an access to premises they would not be considered to be of general public utility.

As proposed there is not merit in further consideration for such a declaration in respect of these lanes.

Regards

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**Hugh McGrath C.Eng** | Senior Engineer  
Head of Roads, Traffic & Cleansing  
Transportation & Mobility Directorate

14<sup>th</sup> October, 2021

**MEETING OF THE METROPOLITAN DISTRICT OF LIMERICK TO BE HELD ON Monday 18<sup>th</sup>  
October 2021**

**Question submitted by Councillor C. Slattery**

I will ask at the next Meeting of the Metropolitan District of Limerick, can I have an update on the status of the internet connection for the new development at Woodlawn Park, they have not had internet connection since been allocated these houses.

**REPLY:**

New estate infrastructure developed by Limerick City and County Council includes all the technical ducting required by Media Companies to deliver the various telephony and media connections to Council Tenants.

Where Media Companies often struggle to provide connections is associated with making the external link to the new estate. This is not an area the Council can deliver directly. However, we are engaged directly with Media Companies to bridge the gaps in the various estates and a Woodlawn solution is planned by a Media company in the coming weeks.

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Rob Lowth  
A/Senior Executive Officer  
Housing Support Services

**LIMERICK CITY AND COUNTY COUNCIL**

**METROPOLITAN DISTRICT OF LIMERICK**

**MEETING TO BE HELD ON MONDAY 18<sup>th</sup> October, 2021**

**Question submitted by Councillor C. Slattery**

I will ask at the next Meeting of the Metropolitan District of Limerick, can you advise if there is a scheme available or any plans to introduce a recycling scheme to dispose of plastic bottles for sports clubs in Limerick City and County.

**Reply**

Limerick City and County Council proactively promote across a wide range of measures that all citizens embrace reuse with the objective of reducing the use of single use plastic bottles in Limerick. In the event that there are used single use plastic bottles for recycling sports clubs are reminded to use their dry recyclable collection, (which under waste legislation is part of their own segregated waste service collection), to recycle plastic bottles. The Council will review the outcome and the learnings from the “The Green Club Programme” which will be shared with GAA and other clubs across the county. “The Green Club Programme” is a partnership between the GAA, LGFA and Camogie Association and local authorities across Ireland and is structured around five key areas; Waste, Water, Biodiversity, Energy and Travel and Transportation. St. Patrick’s GAA is one of several GAA clubs that have been chosen nationally to participate in the pilot phase of the programme.

**Signed:**

Sinead Mc Donnell  
Environment Awareness Officer



## METROPOLITAN DISTRICT OF LIMERICK

**MEETING TO BE HELD ON MONDAY 18<sup>th</sup> OCTOBER 2021**

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

I will ask at the next Meeting of the Metropolitan District of Limerick for an update on the feasibility study for footpaths along the Rossbrien Road.

**REPLY:**

Limerick City and County Council is to submit an application for funding for development of these works.

Regards

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**Hugh McGrath C.Eng** | Senior Engineer  
Head of Roads, Traffic & Cleansing  
Transportation & Mobility Directorate

14<sup>th</sup> October 2021.

**MEETING OF THE METROPOLITAN DISTRICT OF LIMERICK TO BE HELD ON MONDAY 18<sup>TH</sup>  
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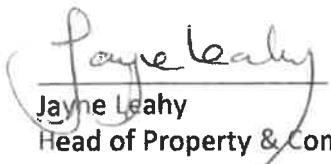
**Question submitted by Councillor E. O'Donovan**

I will ask at the next Meeting of the Metropolitan District of Limerick for an update on the plans for the Old Garda Barracks in Lord Edward Street.

**REPLY:**

Limerick City and County Council has acquired the remainder of the OPW leasehold interest in the Old Garda Barracks in Lord Edward Street. We are in the process of securing the freehold interest in the property. This is complex and until the freehold title is secured, a decision cannot be made as to the future treatment of the premises.

Regards,

  
Jayne Leahy  
Head of Property & Community Facilities

13 October 2021



**MEETING OF THE MUNICIPAL DISTRICT OF METRO TO BE HELD ON MONDAY 18<sup>th</sup> OF  
OCTOBER 2021**

**Question submitted by Councillor J. Costeloe**

I will ask at the next Meeting of the Metropolitan District of Limerick who is responsible for the upkeep and maintenance of the Canal Bank, given its deteriorating state at present, and will the Council encourage all stakeholders (i.e. Waterways Ireland, ESB, UL and the Council) meet and take responsibility for this very important amenity.

**REPLY:**

The Council has met with Waterways Ireland in relation to the maintenance of the Canal and discussed a number of maintenance measures for the Canal, in particular the Lock Quay area. Waterways Ireland will undertake a programme of work that will see the railings painted at Lock Quay, the brick paving replaced and all rubbish in the canal removed. Waterways Ireland have advised that this programme of work will take place in the next number of weeks. It is expected that the works will be completed by mid-November.

Waterways Ireland will also arrange for the vegetation in the Canal at Lock Quay to be removed. They will prepare a Screening Report and will seek the appropriate environmental permissions to have the vegetation removed. The presence of the algal bloom was also discussed with Waterways Ireland. It is expected that the algae will dissipate as the temperature drops over the next number of weeks.

The Council are in the process of seeking additional equipment to assist with the maintenance of the verges along the canal. This will provide the necessary assistance required to maintain the length of vegetation along the canal.

*Nuala Gallagher*

**Nuala Gallagher**

**Director**

**Planning, Environment & Place-making**

**MEETING OF THE METROPOLITAN DISTRICT OF LIMERICK TO BE HELD ON Monday 18<sup>th</sup>  
October 2021**

**Question submitted by Councillor J. Costelloe**

I will ask at the next Meeting of the Metropolitan District of Limerick how many HAP inspections are expected to be carried out in the Metropolitan area once the Covid rules permit so.

**REPLY:**

Covid Restrictions have significantly impacted the ability of the Private Rented Inspections Team to carry out regular duties in person. Housing Support services have engaged in virtual inspections with Tenants and Landlords during restrictions but this has proven difficult at times as we respect the rights of Tenants to protect their families.

We estimate in the region of a further 300 inspections to be completed by the 3 members of the team by the end of 2021. This takes into account the time consuming Inspection, Reports, Photographs and follow-up with Landlord.

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Rob Lowth  
A/Senior Executive Officer  
Housing Support Services



## METROPOLITAN DISTRICT OF LIMERICK

MEETING TO BE HELD ON MONDAY 18<sup>th</sup> OCTOBER 2021

### Question submitted by Councillor E. Secas

I will ask at the next Meeting of the Metropolitan District of Limerick if the Council have received a response from the TII on the final cost benefit assessment report concerning the M7 Noise and if there is an update on this matter.

### Reply:

Limerick City and County Council has received numerous complaints re road noise in Annacotty/Monaleen/Castletroy and Ballycummin over a number of years. Complainants allege that the road noise is causing annoyance, sleep disruption, adverse effects to health and restricted usage of gardens.

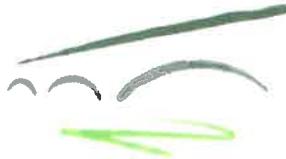
The Council is required under Environmental Noise Regulations to prepare a Noise Action Plan which is incorporated as part of the City and County Development Plan. The purpose of the plan is to reduce noise levels where they are high, protect noise quality where it is good and to avoid local populations being exposed to high noise levels.

In response to the complaints the Council has investigated these two locations, under the Noise Action Plan and entered into dialogue with TII in relation to these matters. In addition the Council undertook cost benefit analyses on the benefits to health of implementing measures versus the actual cost of their implementation. Reports were completed and submitted to TII for its consideration.

The reports set out a number of potential mitigation options and it is a matter for TII to consider their implementation. The Council and TII are in continued dialogue in relation to these matters and pending a reply from TII, the Members will be updated.

It is the responsibility of local authorities, under their Noise Action Plans, to make recommendations on noise intervention measures to TII for the national road network. Members should note that the Council is the first local authority to undertake a project of this nature in collaboration with TII.

**Kieran Lehane,  
Director of Service.**



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

Comhairle Cathrach agus Contae Luimnigh,  
Ceanncheathrú Chorparáideach,  
Cé na gCeannaithe,  
Luimneach

Place-making and Public Realm,  
Limerick City and County Council,  
Corporate Headquarters,  
Merchants Quay,  
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## **METROPOLITAN DISTRICT MEETING TO BE HELD ON MONDAY 18 OCTOBER 2021.**

### **Question submitted by Councillor E Secas**

I will ask at the next Meeting of the Metropolitan District of Limerick, if the green areas in the housing estates near UL can be included into the Council's Blue Green infrastructure for the City.

### **REPLY:**

The purpose of the Blue-Green Infrastructure Strategy is to identify existing and future parks and green spaces; assess existing parks for their value and accessibility; identify gaps in the provision of quality open space; and recommend opportunities for the upgrade of existing and the future expansion of BGI in the city and environs.

The BGI Strategy will not be considering specific green space in estates, but the strategy will likely be making overall recommendations for the protection and enhancement of green spaces, in addition to recommendations for our existing parks and opportunity sites.

  
Nuala Gallagher  
Director of Service  
Planning, Environment and Place-making



## **METROPOLITAN DISTRICT OF LIMERICK**

**MEETING TO BE HELD ON MONDAY 18<sup>th</sup> OCTOBER 2021**

**Question submitted by Councillor F. Kilcoyne**

I will ask at the next Meeting of the Metropolitan District of Limerick, to purchase a Gully Sucker with jets to clean gullies before the problem of flooding arises for Limerick City and County.

**REPLY:**

Limerick City and County Council has a contract in place to address such matters including the Patrickswell area are included in this contract.

Regards

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**Hugh McGrath C.Eng** | Senior Engineer  
Head of Roads, Traffic & Cleansing  
Transportation & Mobility Directorate

14<sup>th</sup> October 2021



## METROPOLITAN DISTRICT OF LIMERICK

**MEETING TO BE HELD ON MONDAY 18<sup>th</sup> OCTOBER 2021**

**Question submitted by Councillor F. Kilcoyne**

I will ask at the next Meeting of the Metropolitan District of Limerick, from Cement Roundabout on N69 along the Dock Road to Limerick City Hotel Roundabout, there are briers \ weeds \ moss, etc that badly need to be cleaned. This is a major approach road to Limerick city which is in a deplorable condition.

**REPLY:**

It is our intention to address roadside verges and hedges on this section of road in the coming weeks along with a number of other City Centre approach roads needing such attention.

Regards

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**Hugh McGrath C.Eng | Senior Engineer**  
Head of Roads, Traffic & Cleansing  
Transportation & Mobility Directorate

14<sup>th</sup> October, 2021



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

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**MEETING OF THE MUNICIPAL DISTRICT OF METRO TO BE HELD ON MONDAY 18<sup>th</sup> OF OCTOBER 2021**

**Question submitted by Councillor F. Kilcoyne**

I will ask at the next Meeting of the Metropolitan District of Limerick to provide funding for tree surgeons in the Limerick City West area to the tune of 50,000 euro. I hope this would be approved in the upcoming budget.

**REPLY:**

The Council provides an annual budget in the order of €90,000 for tree surgery works. Any increase in the existing budget can be addressed as part of the budgetary process.

*Nuala Gallagher*  
Nuala Gallagher  
Director  
Planning, Environment & Place-making



## **METROPOLITAN DISTRICT OF LIMERICK**

**MEETING TO BE HELD ON MONDAY 18<sup>th</sup> OCTOBER 2021**

**Question submitted by Councillor O. O'Sullivan**

I will ask at the next Meeting of the Metropolitan District of Limerick for an update on the rollout of Smart Bins to replace our existing street bins.

**REPLY:**

Further to recent grant funding provided we are currently at tender stage for procurement of new 'Smart Bins' for the Metropolitan District. It is expected that installation of the new bins will commence in December following a successful award of tender.

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**Hugh McGrath C.Eng | Senior Engineer**  
Head of Roads, Traffic & Cleansing  
Transportation & Mobility Directorate

**14<sup>th</sup> October, 2021**