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Limerick City and County Council

Meeting 22nd November 2021

Question submitted by Councillor S. Kiely

I will ask at the next Meeting how many playing pitches are owned by the Council and what are the terms and conditions for use of these presently.

Reply:

Details in relation to Numbers of Playing Pitches where the Council have an ownership interest are as follows:

Soccer: 36 pitches

GAA: 11 pitches

Rugby: 11 pitches

These pitches are held by Clubs under long-term Sporting Leases or Rights of Occupation accrued due to long term tenure of the area, subject to the area being used for sporting purposes.

**Jayne Leahy,
Head of Property & Community Facilities**

Date: 17th November 2021



Comhairle Cathrach
& Contae **Luimnígh**

Limerick City
& County Council

Athnuachana Luimnígh
Comhairle Cathrach agus Contae Luimnígh
Maigh Rois | Baile an Róistigh
Luimneach

Limerick Regeneration
Limerick City and County Council
Moyross | Roxboro
Limerick

EIRCODE: V94 EH90

COUNCIL MEETING TO BE HELD ON Monday 22nd November 2021.

Question submitted by Councillor Sharon Benson

I will ask at the next Meeting if a report or analysis is available, from the before and after energy bills, that were collected from all houses that received a thermal upgrade, in Regeneration areas.

REPLY:

Limerick County Council does not monitor actual before and after energy bills.

The objective of the Thermal Upgrade Programme is to reduce the level of energy required to heat and run homes. Dwelling energy performance is measured by means of a Building Energy Rating (BER). The Thermal Upgrade programme seeks to bring the rating of all eligible dwellings to a C grade BER (as set out within the Limerick Regeneration Framework Implementation Plan).

Brendan Troy
Senior Executive Officer
18/11/2021



COUNCIL MEETING TO BE HELD ON Monday 22nd November 2021.

Question submitted by Councillor Sharon Benson

I will ask at the next Meeting when does the Council intend to submit a proposal to the Department of Housing regarding the removal of Pineview Gardens from the demolition area.

REPLY:

The zoning at Pineview Gardens is a matter for the Council.

The Moyross Residents Forum made a submission in relation to the current proposed Pineview Gardens Open Space & Recreation zoning indicated in the draft Limerick Development Plan 2022 – 2023 on 6th September 2021. The current zoning is derived from the demolition strategy, Limerick Framework Implementation Plan, which was embedded in to the statutory Limerick City Development Plan in May 2016. The submission requests the removal of an element of Pineview Gardens from the Open Space and Recreation zoning and a rezoning suitable to reflect the existing residential and potential to progress future residential.

The submission is currently being reviewed as part of the Chief Executives report on the Limerick Development Plan 2022 -2028 and members will have an opportunity to consider that report ahead of a statutory consultation on the Development Plan in February and March 2022. The final adoption of the Limerick Development Plan 2022 – 2028 will be determined by the Limerick City and County Elected Members.

Brendan Troy
Senior Executive Officer
18/11/2021



Council Meeting to be held on Monday 22nd November 2021

Question submitted by Councillor E. O'Donovan

I will ask at the next Meeting for an update on the use of Drones within public parks, public play areas and in residential areas, what signage and where has the Council installed in relation to drone flying.

Reply:

EU Regulations 2019/947 and 2019/945 governs the use of drones in Ireland and across the European Union. There are a number of limitations for the operation of drones. EU Regulations 2019/947 and 2019/945 define these limits.

The Irish Aviation Authority (IAA) supervises and implements the Regulation in Ireland. The IAA also provides guidance for operating and flying drones in order to ensure public safety. The Regulation allows registered operators and pilots to fly their drones across the EU. Registration as a drone operator is required if the drone used weighs over 250 grams or if it has a camera or sensor.

Those who adhere to the limits prescribed within the regulations and the EASA safety guidance material do not need the permission of the IAA to fly a drone. Those who wish to fly a drone outside the limits prescribed in the regulations must apply for a Specific Operating Permission (SOP) from the IAA following training with one of the IAA approved drone training facilities.

Regulation (EU) 2019/947, caters for most types of civil drone operations and their levels of risk. It defines three categories of civil drone operations: the 'open', the 'specific' and the 'certified' category.

The 'open' category addresses the lower-risk civil drone operations, where safety is ensured provided the civil drone operator complies with the relevant requirements for its intended operation. This category is subdivided into three subcategories, namely A1, A2 and A3. Operational risks in the 'open' category are considered low and, therefore, no operational authorisation is required before starting a flight.

The 'specific' category covers riskier civil drone operations, where safety is ensured by the drone operator by obtaining an operational authorisation from the national competent authority before starting the operation. To obtain the operational authorisation, the drone

operator is required to conduct a risk assessment, which will determine the requirements necessary for the safe operation of the civil drone(s).

In the 'certified' category, the safety risk is considerably high; therefore, the certification of the drone operator and its drone, as well as the licensing of the remote pilot(s), is always required to ensure safety.

The management of drone traffic will be ensured through the U-space: a set of services that will be deployed in airspace where heavier traffic is expected, such as in urban areas. The U-space Regulation establishes and harmonises the necessary requirements for manned and unmanned aircraft to operate safely in the U-space airspace, so as to prevent collisions between aircraft and to mitigate air and ground risks. The U-space regulatory framework will provide for safe aircraft operations in all areas and for all types of unmanned aircraft operations. The U-space Regulation was adopted in April 2021.

The Council will consider the risks posed by the use of Drones within public parks, public play areas and residential areas in terms of the above legislation and the appropriate use of signage to mitigate these risks.



Nuala Gallagher
Director of Service
Planning, Environment & Place-Making
19th November 2021