



Comhairle Cathrach  
& Contae **Luimnigh**

**Limerick City**  
& County Council

Stiúrthóireacht na Forbartha Pobail,  
Comhairle Cathrach agus Contae Luimnigh  
Ceanncheathrú Chorparáideach,  
Cé na gCeannaithe,  
Luimneach.

Community Development Directorate,  
Limerick City and County Council,  
Corporate Headquarters,  
Merchants Quay,  
Limerick.

5<sup>th</sup> January, 2022

EIRCODE: V94 EH90

**To the Mayor and Each Member of Limerick City and County Council**

t: +353 (0) 61 556 000

**Chairperson's Report for the Community, Leisure and Culture Strategic Policy Committee Meeting of the 6<sup>th</sup> December, 2021.**

**A Chomhairleoir, A Chara,**

**Item 1: Adoption of Minutes**

On the proposal of Cllr C Sheehan, seconded by Cllr O O'Sullivan, the minutes of the previous committee meeting held on the 4<sup>th</sup> October, 2021 were adopted.

**Item 2: Matters Arising**

There were no matters arising from the minutes of the previous meeting.

**Item 3: To consider a notice of motion from Cllr Elena Secas (Referred from the Metropolitan District of Limerick meeting held on 18<sup>th</sup> October, 2021)**

**"I will move at the next meeting of the Metropolitan District of Limerick that Limerick City and County Council tables a strategic discussion at the Community , Leisure and Culture SPC on the following issue:**

*- the sense of community and place of the residential community in estates near UL is being fundamentally damaged by the Council's failure to protect these '10 minute walk neighbourhoods' from the devastating effects of the ever expanding UL student intake. This along with the high dependence of UL management on privately managed, houses of multiple occupancy (HMOs) to accommodate the majority of their students, with many HMOs being inappropriately managed. These issues, coupled with the student accommodation crisis and the antisocial behaviour of some UL students, are damaging the residential community resulting thus in a trend of many residents being forced out of their homes over the years.*

Cllr E Secas outlined UL's intention to increase their student body by over 4000 students over the coming years without any plans for the expansion of student housing on college grounds. Cllr E Secas proposed that Limerick City and County Council carry out a study in the area on the impact of HMO's on the local community in developing a culture of respect between the students and community. She advised the committee that she expects the issue will be discussed at the metropolitan meeting in January and the President of UL has been invited to attend. Cllr E Secas thanked the SPC members for their support.

**Item 4: EVA International Presentation**

The members received a presentation on EVA International. The presentation gave an overview on the three-phased current EVA international exhibition featuring over 90 works of art running at various locations including Park Point, Dublin Road. EVA International has acquired their own office premises on Catherine Street and are currently working with UL to archive historic art while also planning for future exhibitions. Members of EVA thanked the committee for the opportunity to highlight the positive benefits EVA international offers including increased awareness of the Cultural and Arts Sector, employment benefits and collaboration with Limerick City and County Council Arts Office.

**Item 5: Update on the Culture Sub Committee**

The members received an update on the Culture Sub Committee. The members were advised that two constructive meetings have taken place since the last SPC. The sub committee attended an online meeting with the Arts Council in relation to an overview into Arts Council supports for Limerick. An online briefing also took place with the National Campaign for the Arts with an overview of the pre Budget 2022 submissions and a post budget update. The appointment by the Council of a Research Evaluator is yet to be completed.

**Item 6: Limerick Greenway Update**

The members received a detailed presentation on the Limerick Greenway. The presentation gave an overview on the historical significance of the progression of the Greenway and the work that was carried out to bring it to where it is today. The presentation also outlined how the Limerick Greenway is already a key driver of tourism in the area since its' opening this year. The long term ambition is to extend the greenway into the City. The link to the Kerry Greenway (Tralee and Fenit) is expected to be completed by Summer 2022. G Daly outlined that the Greenway now provides a blueprint for subsequent greenways that can be adapted in different areas. He also updated the committee on the transfer of new greenway projects to Transport Infrastructure Ireland with the Midwest Roads department now taking the lead.

**Item 7: Date of next Meeting.**

The next meeting of the Community, Leisure and Culture SPC will take place on Monday 7<sup>th</sup> February 2022 at 3pm.

Is mise, le meas,



Cllr. Kieran O' Hanlon

Chairperson

Community, Leisure and Culture SPC