

CORRESPONDENCE

**MEETING OF THE MUNICIPAL DISTRICT OF
ADARE-RATHKEALE**

8TH FEBRUARY, 2021

- Report received on 19th January, 2022 from Kieran Lehane, Director of Service, National & Regional Shared Services Centre in reply to a Notice of Motion from Councillor Teskey proposing the Council should support the HSE in the current pandemic situation, where there are delays for ambulances due to staffing shortages, by allowing the Fire & Emergency Services be activated to emergency medical calls to provide first responder assistance in life and death situations.



Comhairle Cathrach
& Contae Luimnigh

Limerick City
& County Council



Seirbhís Dóiteáin agus Rialú Tógála.
Comhairle Cathrach agus Contae Luimnigh,
Teach Lios an Fhálaigh,
Bothar Thuar an Daill,
Luimneach

Fire Service and Building Control
Limerick City and County Council,
Lissanalta House,
Dooradoyle Road,
Limerick

MEETING OF THE MUNICIPAL DISTRICT OF ADARE-RATHKEALE TO BE HELD ON TUESDAY 8TH FEBRUARY 2022

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Notice of Motion submitted by Councillor Teskey

That this Council should support the HSE in the current pandemic situation, where there are delays for ambulances due to staffing shortages, by allowing the Fire & Emergency Services be activated to emergency medical calls to provide first responder assistance in life and death situations.

Reply

Limerick City and County Council has been working very closely to support the HSE since the start of the pandemic on a wide range of matters including the release of staff to work for the HSE, facilitating pop-up test centres, assisting with traffic management for the vaccination centres and planning for a range of responses. Close collaboration between the agencies of the state has been a key cornerstone as Ireland responded to the major and unheralded challenges associated with the pandemic. It is important to note that there has been an excellent working relationship between the principal response agencies throughout the pandemic as part of a 'whole of government approach' at the local and regional level.

The issue of ambulances is currently being discussed at national level between the Health Service Executive and National Directorate for Fire and Emergency Management under the aegis of the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage. Pending progress at a national level, the Limerick Fire and Emergency Service will have to await guidance from the National Directorate for Fire and Emergency Management in terms of this issue and cannot progress this matter until the national discussions have concluded.

Signed: _____

Date: _____

19/1/2022

Kieran Lehane

Director of Service

National & Regional Shared Services Centre