



Comhairle Cathrach
& Contae Luimnigh

Limerick City
& County Council

Seirbhísí Tacaíochta Tithíochta,
Comhairle Cathrach agus Contae Luimnigh,
Ceanncheathrú Chorpáraideach,
Cé na gCeannaithe,
Luimneach

Housing Support Services,
Limerick City and County Council,
Corporate Headquarters,
Merchants Quay,
Limerick

11th February, 2022

EIRCODE V94 EH90

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

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**Chairperson's Report for the Community, Leisure and Culture Strategic Policy Committee
Meeting of the 7th February, 2022.**

A Chomhairleoir, A Chara,

Item 1: Adoption of Minutes

On the proposal of Cllr M Donegan, seconded by Cllr Foley, the minutes of the previous committee meeting held on the 6th December, 2021 were adopted.

Item 2: Matters Arising

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

Item 3: Derelict Site Presentation

The members received a presentation overview of vacant/derelict sites and vacant homes in Limerick. The members were briefed on the contributing factors leading to vacancy and dereliction. The members were advised that informal owner engagement is the first step in the process with compulsory acquisition of a derelict property being the last. As of the end of January 2022 Limerick City and County Council has 290 no. properties on its derelict sites register. Between 2019 and January 2022, 2944 site inspections were completed with 1217 notices served under the Derelict Sites Act 1990. Managing and disposing of properties has four strands; 1) internally to housing, 2) sale on the open market, 3) refurbish and sale on open market and 4) retain or dispose for community use. Limerick City and County Council are utilising the Derelict Sites Act 1990 on three cases of unfinished estates in Rathkeale, Abbeyfeale and Patrickswell. Community and media engagement is integral in identifying owners.

Item 4: Age Friendly Healthy Homes Programme Presentation

The members received a presentation on a new programme to Limerick that enables older people to continue living in their homes or a home more suited to their needs. The programme's objectives are to enable older people to live with a sense of independence and autonomy, be and feel part of their communities and to support the avoidance of early or premature admission to long-term residential care. It is a two-year programme aiming to

target 4,500 older people with proof of the concept leading to a national scale rollout. The local coordinator works in partnership with stakeholders and existing service providers, manages a caseload of referrals, assesses each older person and coordinates and facilitates a plan of supports identifying any gaps in services. The programme adopts a holistic person centered approach offering a range of supports on a case-by-case basis. The needs assessment is based on housing, health, technology and community.

Item 5: Update on the Culture Sub Committee

An online presentation by researcher group GM Innovations took place on Tuesday 11th January. The presentation provided overview of the research to date.

An on-line survey has been produced and circulated to sub-committee members for feedback. It will shortly be distributed to the sector in Limerick. We would like to thank the members of the sub-committee who have contributed their time and to the feedback on this.

An invitation was sent to the representatives from the Department of Tourism Culture, Arts Gaeltacht, Sports and Media and the Arts and Culture Recovery Taskforce to present on-line to the sub-committee. This has been issued from the Chair of the Strategic Policy Committee for Community, Leisure and Culture, Cllr. Kieran O'Hanlon.

Item 6: Autism Programme Update

The members received an update on the Autism programme with the welcome news of a €75,000 grant providing training and awareness in supporting Limerick to be an Autism Friendly county. The training and awareness programme will be delivered to Limerick City and County Council staff and staff based in community based organisations such as the culture, arts and youth community settings. A dedicated staff member will be leading the programme across a 12-month period to both internal and external stakeholders. The funding will run from March 2022 to March 2023. As a first point of action, there will be a sensory room as part of the St. Patrick's Day festival. A report will be prepared at the end of May.

Item 7: Date of next Meeting.

The next meeting of the Community, Leisure and Culture SPC will take place on Monday 4th April 2022 at 3pm.

Is mise, le meas,



Cllr. Kieran O' Hanlon

Chairperson

Community, Leisure and Culture SPC