

## **CORRESPONDENCE**

### **March 2022 Council Meeting**

- Letter received on 21<sup>st</sup> January, 2022, from the Office of the Taoiseach in reply to resolution adopted by the Council calling on the Government and the HSE to deliver proper recognition and compensation for healthcare workers at the frontline of the Health Service for their risk, sacrifice and exceptional efforts during the COVID-19 crisis.
- Letter received on 25<sup>th</sup> January, 2022, from the Meetings Administrator, Sligo County Council, outlining resolution adopted by the Council calling on the HSE and the Department of Health to end the practice of pursuing patients, including cancer patients, with private commercial debt collection agencies; to review exemptions to the inpatient charge by the Department; and for the practice of withdrawing medical cards from terminally ill patients to be reviewed.
- Letter received on 25<sup>th</sup> January, 2022, from the County Secretary, Galway County Council, outlining resolution adopted by the Council supporting the campaign of Epilepsy Ireland to address longstanding issues impacting on people with epilepsy and their families, namely access to free travel and the provision of reasonable accommodations for state examinations for students with epilepsy.
- Correspondence received on 27<sup>th</sup> January and 10<sup>th</sup> February, 2022, from the Office of the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage in reply to resolution adopted by the Council requesting a review of the maximum grant allocation, and terms of scheme, for Housing Adaptation Grants for People with a Disability, Housing Grants for Older People and Housing Grants for Mobility Aids.
- Letter received on 11<sup>th</sup> February, 2022, from the Meetings Administrator, Sligo County Council, outlining resolution adopted by the Council calling for increases in the housing adaptation grant for people with a disability and the older persons grant scheme.

- Correspondence received on 17<sup>th</sup> February, 2022, from the Office of the Taoiseach and the Office of the Minister of State for Community Development and Charities, and further correspondence received on 21<sup>st</sup> March, 2022, from the Minister of State for Community Development and Charities, Mr. Joe O'Brien, TD, in reply to resolution adopted by the Council requesting the Government to waive the requirement of matching funding for local community groups in light of the fact that their ability to fundraise has been severely hampered by the COVID-19 pandemic.
- Letter received on 17<sup>th</sup> February, 2022, from the Meetings Administrator, Tipperary County Council, outlining resolution adopted by the Council supporting the 'Women of Honour' campaign for a Statutory Commission of Investigation into alleged issues within the Defence Forces.
- Letters received on 22<sup>nd</sup> February, 2022, from the Meetings Administrator, Clare County Council, outlining resolutions adopted by the Council –
  - (i) Calling on the Minister for Finance to broaden the Household Benefits Package and include exemption from property tax for those people under extreme pressure in meeting day-to-day expenses.
  - (ii) Calling on the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine and the Minister for Transport to put in place a system of compensation and indemnity as a component of the licensing system for forestry to cover the cost of repairs and maintenance to the public road network damaged by forestry planting, maintenance and harvesting.
  - (iii) Calling on the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine and the Minister for Transport to make it a requirement that forestry licence holders – prior to commencing licensed forestry activities – consult with the relevant local authority with a view to minimising damage to the public road network.
- Letters received on 24<sup>th</sup> February, 2022, from the Office of the Taoiseach, and 22<sup>nd</sup> March, 2022, from the Office of the Minister of State for Heritage and Electoral Reform, in reply to resolution adopted by the Council calling on the State to have only one agency with responsibility for rivers and lakes.
- Letter received on 1<sup>st</sup> March, 2022, from the Meetings Administrator, Kerry County Council, outlining resolution adopted by the Council conveying the Council's objection, to the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications, to the Bill brought forward by the Green Party in relation to the granting of planning permission for LNG infrastructure in Ireland.

- Letter received on 2<sup>nd</sup> March, 2022, from the Chief Executive, Limerick and Clare Education and Training Board, in reply to resolution adopted by the Council asking the CEO and Chairperson of the Board to make their sports facilities available by agreement to sports clubs without access to facilities of their own in the City and County.
  - Emails received on 10<sup>th</sup> February and 10<sup>th</sup> March, 2022, from the Office of the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage in reply to resolution adopted by the Council demanding the full implementation of the recommendations of the Implementation Advisory Group Report in relation to the legislation for the Directly Elected Mayor of Limerick and that the Minister set the date for the election of a Directly Elected Mayor.
  - Letter received on 10<sup>th</sup> March, 2022, from the Meetings Administrator, Westmeath County Council, outlining resolution adopted by the Council in relation to children with Spina Bifida and/or Hydrocephalus currently requiring Orthopaedic intervention and calling on the Minister for Health to fast-track these children for surgical review and to ensure also the provision of services for disabled children within elective hospital settings, as well as acute hospital settings, to avoid a similar situation in the future.
  - E-mails received on 22<sup>nd</sup> February and 8<sup>th</sup> March, 2022, from the Office of the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage in reply to resolution adopted by the Council calling on the Minister to raise the income eligibility limit for social housing.
  - Correspondence received on 10<sup>th</sup> March, 2022, from the Meetings Administrator, Cork County Council, following letter issued jointly on behalf of Cork County Council and Limerick City and County Council to Irish Water requesting that a sewage treatment plant be put in place in Kilbehenny for the residents of Kilbehenny, Carrigane and Mitchelstown.
  - E-mail received on 11<sup>th</sup> March, 2022, from the Office of the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage in reply to resolution adopted by the Council that the Minister bring forward legislation that An Bord Pleanála would have regard to policies in the Limerick Development Plan, along with national policy, taking account of habitual objectors.
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19th January 2022

Ms. Laura Flannery  
Meetings Administrator  
Limerick City & County Council  
Corporate Headquarters  
Merchants Quay  
Limerick  
V94 EH90



Reference Number: DOT-TM-01094-2022



Dear Ms. Flannery

I wish to acknowledge receipt of your letter to the Taoiseach, Micheál Martin T.D., dated 10th December 2021.

A copy of your correspondence has been forwarded to the Tánaiste and Minister for Enterprise, Trade & Employment, Leo Varadkar T.D., for attention.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in purple ink, appearing to read 'Christina Downey'.

Christina Downey  
Assistant Private Secretary to the Taoiseach

Telephone: 01 619 4021  
Email: [taoiseach@taoiseach.gov.ie](mailto:taoiseach@taoiseach.gov.ie)



COMHAIRLE CONTAE SHLIGIGH  
ÁRAS AN CONTAE COIS ABHAINN SLIGEACH

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25<sup>th</sup> January 2022

To/ Each Local Authority

At the Ordinary meeting Sligo County Council held on 17<sup>th</sup> January 2022, the Members agreed the following resolution:

*"To call on the HSE and the Department of Health to end the practice of pursuing patients, including cancer patients with private commercial debt collection agencies and to review exemptions to the inpatient charge by the Department of Health, and for this be shared with all other local authorities around the country."*

The Meeting also asked that the Department of Health review the practice of withdrawing medical cards from terminally ill patients.

It was agreed to circulate this motion to all other local authorities for their support.

Yours sincerely,

  
Kevin Colreavy  
Meetings Administrator

County Hall  
Riverside  
Sligo F91 Y763  
Tel: 0719111216  
e-mail: [meetings@sligococo.ie](mailto:meetings@sligococo.ie)

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Choc na Raudharc, Gaillimh.  
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Áras an Chontae,  
Prospect Hill, Galway.  
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Téarmaí/Website: [www.gaillimh.ie](http://www.gaillimh.ie)  
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GalwayCounty

Seirbhísí Corparáideacha  
Corporate Services  
(091) 509 225  
[corpserv@galwaycoco.ie](mailto:corpserv@galwaycoco.ie)

Tithíocht  
Housing  
(091) 509 300  
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Timpeallacht & Tréidliacht  
Environment & Veterinary  
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[environment@galwaycoco.ie](mailto:environment@galwaycoco.ie)

Bóithre, Iompar, Cúrsaí Mara  
& Seirbhísí Ginearálta  
Roads, Transportation, Marine  
& General Services  
(091) 509 309  
[roads@galwaycoco.ie](mailto:roads@galwaycoco.ie)

Acmhainní Daonra  
Human Resources  
(091) 509 303  
[hr@galwaycoco.ie](mailto:hr@galwaycoco.ie)

Mótorcháin  
Motor Taxation  
(091) 509 099  
[motortax@galwaycoco.ie](mailto:motortax@galwaycoco.ie)

Clár na dToghthóirí  
Register of Electors  
(091) 509 310  
[electors@galwaycoco.ie](mailto:electors@galwaycoco.ie)

Seirbhísí Uisce  
Water Services  
(091) 509 505  
[water@galwaycoco.ie](mailto:water@galwaycoco.ie)

Pobal & Fiontar  
Community & Enterprise  
(091) 509 521  
[community@galwaycoco.ie](mailto:community@galwaycoco.ie)

Pleanáil  
Planning  
(091) 509 308  
[planning@galwaycoco.ie](mailto:planning@galwaycoco.ie)

Leatharlann  
Library  
(091) 562 471  
[info@galwaylibrary.ie](mailto:info@galwaylibrary.ie)



CC1-1a-0025 – Nov. 2021 **Comhairle Chontae na Gaillimhe**  
**Galway County Council**

JB/cw

To all Local Authorities

25<sup>th</sup> January 2022

**RE: Resolution of Galway County Council – Epilepsy Ireland**

A chara,

At a recent meeting of Galway County Council, the following resolution was passed:

*"That Galway County Council supports the campaign of Epilepsy Ireland to address long-standing issues that continue to impact on people with epilepsy and their families in Ireland today, namely:*

**1. Access to Free Travel.**

**2. Provision of Reasonable Accommodations for State Examinations for students with epilepsy." The Motion, if agreed, to be then sent to the Minister for Health, Stephen Donnelly TD, Minister for State for Disabilities, Anne Rabbitte, T.D. Minister for Social Protection, Heather Humphreys TD, Minister for Education, Norma Foley TD, Michael Moynihan TD (Chair, Oireachtas Committee on Disability Matters) and to other local authorities for correspondence purposes."**

I would be obliged if you could consider and revert to me with your views on the above Motion so that I can advise the Elected Members. Please arrange to reply directly to Ms. Jean Brann, County Secretary at [secretar@GalwayCoCo.ie](mailto:secretar@GalwayCoCo.ie)

Mise, le meas,

**Ms. J. Brann**  
**County Secretary**

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**From:** Housing Minister  
**Sent:** Thursday, January 27, 2022 5:16 PM  
**To:** Customer Services  
**Subject:** HPLG-MOBO-00224-2022 FAO Ms Laura Flannery

27 January 2022

Ms Laura Flannery

HPLG-MOBO-00224-2022

Dear Ms Flannery,

Thank you for your email to Mr. Darragh O'Brien, T.D., and Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage, in connection with Housing Adaptation Grants.

Your correspondence is currently receiving attention and a further reply will issue as soon as possible.

Yours sincerely

**Niamh Redmond**

**Private Secretary**

Minister Darragh O'Brien's Office

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**An Roinn Tithíochta, Rialtais Áitiúil agus Oidhreachta**  
Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage

Teach an Chustaim, Baile Átha Cliath 1. D01 W6X0  
Custom House, Custom House Quay, Dublin D01 W6X0

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[www.tithiocht.gov.ie](http://www.tithiocht.gov.ie) [www.housing.gov.ie](http://www.housing.gov.ie)

\*The Minister is a Designated Public Official under the Regulation of Lobbying Act, 2015 (details available on [www.lobbying.ie](http://www.lobbying.ie))



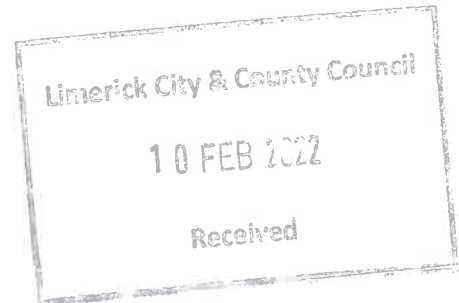
**An Roinn Tithíochta,  
Rialtais Áitiúil agus Oidhreachta**  
Department of Housing,  
Local Government and Heritage

Beartas ríomhphoist an Oireachtais agus séanadh. [oireachtas.ie/ga/email-policy/](http://oireachtas.ie/ga/email-policy/)  
Oireachtas email policy and disclaimer. [oireachtas.ie/en/email-policy/](http://oireachtas.ie/en/email-policy/)



08 February 2022

Ms. Laura Flannery  
Limerick City & County Council  
Corporate Headquarters  
Merchants Quay  
Limerick



**RE: HPLG-MOBO-00224-2022**

Dear Ms. Flannery,

I have been asked by Mr. Darragh O'Brien T.D., Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage, to thank you for your letter dated 24 January 2022, in connection with the current grant limits and general terms under the Housing Adaptation Grants for Older People and People with a Disability scheme, in respect of private houses.

Housing for All commits to undertaking a review of the range of housing grants available to assist with meeting specific housing needs both for our ageing population and people with a disability. A review of the existing grant limits and income thresholds applicable to the grant schemes is currently underway, and I expect this work to be completed in the coming months. There are no plans to make any changes to the current limits until this project has concluded and the Minister has had an opportunity to review the results.

I trust this information will be of assistance to you.

Yours sincerely,

*PP Niamh Redmond*  
**Niamh Redmond**  
**Private Secretary**

*LF noted  
10/2/22*





COMHAIRLE CONTAE SHLIGIGH  
ÁRAS AN CONTAE COIS ABHAINN SLIGEACH

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Our Ref: 02/2022-26/30

11<sup>th</sup> February 2022

To/ **Each Local Authority**

At the Ordinary Meeting of Sligo County Council held on 7<sup>th</sup> February 2022, the following resolutions were agreed:

*"Given that building materials and labour has gone up by than 60% we call on the Department of Housing, Local Government & Heritage to increase accordingly the maximum grant from €8,000 to €15,000 and from €30,000 to €45,000 for housing adaption grant for people with a disability."*

*"To call on the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage to increase the maximum grant under the older persons grant scheme by 50% to reflect building inflation and also to increase the overall allocation to the county a pro rata amount."*

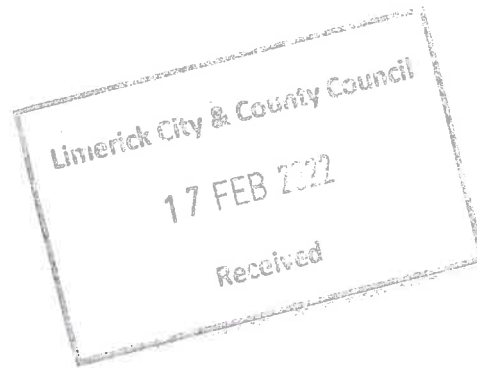
It was agreed to circulate these motions to all other local authorities for their support.

  
Kevin Colreavy  
Meetings Administrator

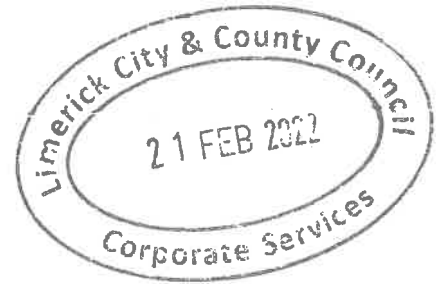
*Corporate Services Section  
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16th February 2022



Ms. Laura Flannery  
Meetings Administrator  
Limerick City & County Council  
Corporate Headquarters  
Merchants Quay  
Limerick  
V94 EH90



Reference Number: DOT-TM-03083-2022

LF  
21/2/22

Dear Ms. Flannery

I wish to acknowledge receipt of your recent letter to the Taoiseach, Micheál Martin T.D.

A copy of your correspondence has been forwarded to the Minister for Rural & Community Development, Heather Humphreys T.D., for attention.

Yours sincerely

Sarah Garry

Assistant Private Secretary to the Taoiseach

Telephone: 01 619 4021

Email: [taoiseach@taoiseach.gov.ie](mailto:taoiseach@taoiseach.gov.ie)

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**From:** Minister Of State  
**Sent:** Thursday, February 17, 2022 4:24 PM  
**To:** Customer Services  
**Subject:** Our Ref: DRCD-MoS-00042-2022

**CAUTION:** This email originated from outside of the Organisation. Do not follow guidance, click links or open attachments unless you recognise the sender and know the content is safe.

Our Ref: DRCD-MoS-00042-2022

Dear Ms. Flannery,

I wish to acknowledge receipt of your correspondence regarding Limerick City and County Council, to Mr. Joe O'Brien T.D., Minister of State for Community Development and Charities.

This correspondence will be brought to the attention of the Minister at the earliest opportunity.

Yours sincerely,

p.p. Emma Deegan

Michelle Kilcommons  
Private Secretary to Joe O'Brien T.D.  
Minister of State for Community Development and Charities

*The Minister is a Designated Public Official under the Regulation of Lobbying Act, 2015  
(details available on [www.lobbying.ie](http://www.lobbying.ie))*



Ms. Laura Flannery  
Meetings Administrator  
Corporate Services  
Limerick City and County Council  
Corporate Headquarters  
Merchants Quay  
Co. Limerick

Via email: customerservices@limerickcityandcounty.ie

Our Ref: DRCD-MoS-00042-2022

21<sup>st</sup> March 2022

Dear Laura,

My Department introduced a range of supports to help community and voluntary organisations meet the challenges they faced during and after COVID-19.

For instance, the **COVID-19 Stability Fund** supported 863 organisations in 2020 and 2021 with total funding of approximately €48.8 million. No match funding was required.

In 2020, €4.2 million was provided under the COVID-19 Emergency Fund which targeted help at groups participating in the Government's "**Community Call**" initiative.

The **Community Enhancement Programme** provides vital supports to assist local groups to re-open their facilities post COVID-19. The programme provided €4.5m funding in 2021 for small capital grants for the improvement of facilities and it is planned to run the scheme again in 2022.

In November 2021, I launched the new **Community Activities Fund**. This €9 million fund is being provided to support community and voluntary groups impacted by COVID-19, helping them with their bills and maintenance.



Match funding is required for almost all **LEADER** funded projects with the exception of training related projects, including for projects where the project promoter is a community group. The rate of aid provided to community projects ranges from up to 75% to up to 90% depending on the type of activity being supported. In order to meet the full cost of the project activity, the project promoter must provide the additional funding required through match funds. Providing it is not sourced from an EU fund, match funding for community-led projects only, may come from other public sources but the overall public funding must not exceed 95% of the overall cost of the project. Community groups are required to provide a minimum contribution of 5% to the cost of the project.

The **CLÁR** programme is a targeted capital investment programme which provides funding for small scale infrastructural projects in rural areas that have experienced significant levels of population decline. Funding is provided under a range of different Measures and administered by relevant local authorities and/or established organisations/groups that operate entirely on a voluntary basis. Match funding for CLÁR is typically a 10% cash contribution, the remaining 10% or balance of the cost should be provided through local authority/community/other resources. Philanthropic contributions will be accepted as full or part of match funding costs.

The **Outdoor Recreation and Infrastructure Scheme (ORIS)** provides funding for the development and enhancement of outdoor recreational infrastructure such as walking trails, forest walks, beaches, bogs, lakes, blueways and local greenways. The scheme invests in physical infrastructure that underpins recreational activities based on the use of the resources of the countryside. Up to 90% of the total cost of a project under the Scheme will be provided for any individual project. The remaining 10% match funding must be contributed by the successful applicant and/or the community group and/or philanthropic contributions.

The **Town and Village Renewal Scheme** has been adapted to reflect the significant challenges facing communities as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic. As an exceptional measure for 2020 and 2021, the rate of grant aid was increased to a maximum of 90% of total project cost, with 10% match funding to be provided by the project.

The higher level of aid was introduced in recognition of the fact that for new projects, communities are faced with reduced capacity to fundraise, while there are also increased demands on the resources of Local Authorities in responding to COVID-19. I have no plans to revisit that requirement at this time.



The **Local Improvement Scheme** supports the improvement of rural roads and laneways that are not normally maintained by local authorities. Funding is provided to Local Authorities who administer the scheme on behalf of the Department. A local contribution is required from all beneficiaries along the road based on a percentage of the total cost of improvement works but this is capped at €1,200. It should be noted however, that the majority of beneficiaries pay much less than the capped amount.

The primary objective of the **Connected Hubs** Call is to support and complement the development of the National Hub Network, which is a key action of the Rural Development Policy - Our Rural Future and the National Remote Working Strategy – Making Remote Work. The Connected Hubs Call aims to add additional capacity to the existing remote working infrastructure in Ireland by upgrading existing hubs and Broadband Connection Points (BCPs), while continuing to support COVID-19 mitigation measures.

With regards to applications to the Connected Hubs Fund 2022, the match funding requirements are as follow:

- If the applicant is a commercial or for profit hub, matched funding of 10% of the total project cost must be provided in the form of a cash contribution
- If the applicant is a Social Enterprise or Other not for profit hub, matched funding of 10% must be provided with a minimum 5% cash contribution

Match funding is a requirement for this scheme as it demonstrates the applicants' commitment to the initiative.

The Department's **Community Services Programme (CSP)** is administered by Pobal on behalf of the Department and currently supports over 420 community organisations to provide local services through a social enterprise model. CSP funding provides a co-funding contribution of €19,033 towards the cost of each agreed full-time equivalent (FTE) position and €32,000 towards the cost of each manager position, where warranted. The CSP contribution does not meet the full salary cost of the supported positions, organisations are required to provide additional funds from their own resources such as traded income, to meet the full cost of employment.

In response to the difficulties encountered by CSP supported organisations, as a result of the Covid-19 crisis, the Department developed a €8.95m CSP Support Fund to cover the period 2020 to 2021. This funding helped organisations who required additional assistance, ensuring that they could continue to retain their CSP supported employees on their payroll, provide assistance for the Employers PRSI contribution for all CSP



supported employees, including managers and meet their ongoing operational costs such as insurance, light and heat and audit fees, during the crisis period up to December 2021, in line with other Government wage support schemes. We are monitoring the situation closely in collaboration with Pobal and any additional supports will be considered in light of available resources.

My Department has responded to the needs of the community and voluntary sector throughout COVID-19 and will continue to engage with the sector and its supporting structures to foster sustainable, resilient and empowered communities to live, work and play in.

In general, I would encourage all organisations to check on the [www.gov.ie](http://www.gov.ie) website in order to be aware of funding opportunities as they become available.

Yours sincerely,

Mr. Joe O'Brien T.D.,

Minister of State for Community Development and Charities

*The Minister is a Designated Public Official under the Regulation of Lobbying Act, 2015  
(details available on [www.lobbying.ie](http://www.lobbying.ie))*



Comhairle Contae Thiobraid Árann  
Tipperary County Council

Comhairle Contae  
Thiobraid Árann,  
Oifigí Cathartha,  
Cluain Meala,  
Co. Thiobraid Árann

Tipperary County Council  
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17<sup>th</sup> February, 2022

To/ Each Local Authority

At the Plenary Meeting of Tipperary County Council held on 14<sup>th</sup> February, 2022, the following resolution was agreed: -

**"That Tipperary County Council supports the "Women of Honour" campaign for a statutory Commission of Investigation into alleged issues within our Defence Forces surrounding dignity in the workplace, bullying, harassment, discrimination, assault, sexual harassment and sexual assault".**

It was agreed to circulate this motion to all other local authorities for their support.

Yours sincerely,

Ger Walsh  
Meetings Administrator





COMHAIRLE | CLARE  
CONTAE AN CHLÁIR | COUNTY COUNCIL

22<sup>nd</sup> February, 2022.

**Our Ref: February 22-35**

Dear Meetings Administrator,

At the February meeting of Clare County Council the members passed the following resolution:

"I am calling on the Minister for Finance to broaden the Household Benefits Package and include exemption from property tax for those people that are under extreme pressure to meet day to day expenses in light of the rising cost of living and their struggle to survive on a very low level of income."

It was agreed that this resolution would be circulated to other local authorities.

Yours sincerely,

***Ann Reynolds,  
Senior Executive Officer,  
Corporate Services Department,  
Finance and Support Services Directorate.***

**An Roinn Seirbhísí Corparáideach  
Stiúrthóireacht Airgeadais agus Seirbhísí Tacaíochta**  
Áras Contae an Chláir, Bóthar Nua, Inis, Co. an Chláir, V95 DXP2

**Corporate Services Department  
Finance and Support Services Directorate**  
Áras Contae an Chláir, New Road, Ennis, Co. Clare, V95 DXP2



COMHAIRLE | CLARE  
CONTAE AN CHLÁIR | COUNTY COUNCIL

22<sup>nd</sup> February, 2022.

**Our Ref: February 22-29**

Dear Meetings Administrator,

At the February meeting of Clare County Council the members passed the following resolution:

“We call on the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine and the Minister for Transport to put in place a system of compensation and indemnity as a component of the licensing system for forestry. It is anticipated that this compensation fund will cover the cost of repairs and maintenance to damage caused to the public road network by forestry planting, maintenance and harvesting.

“We further call on the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine and the Minister for Transport to make it a requirement that forestry license holders - prior to commencing licenced forestry activities - consult with the relevant local authority with a view to minimizing damage to the public road network”.

It was agreed that this resolution would be circulated to other local authorities.

Yours sincerely,

***Ann Reynolds,  
Senior Executive Officer,  
Corporate Services Department,  
Finance and Support Services Directorate.***

**An Roinn Seirbhísí Corparáideach  
Stiúrthóireacht Airgeadais agus Seirbhísí Tacaíochta  
Áras Contae an Chláir, Bóthar Nua, Inis, Co. an Chláir, V95 DXP2**

**Corporate Services Department  
Finance and Support Services Directorate  
Áras Contae an Chláir, New Road, Ennis, Co. Clare, V95 DXP2**



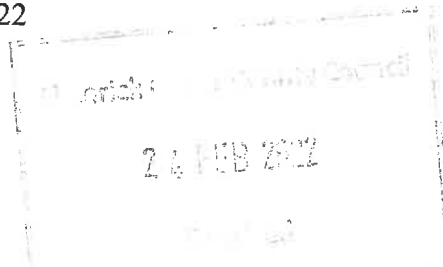
22nd February 2022

Ms. Laura Flannery  
Meetings Administrator  
Limerick City & County Council  
Corporate Headquarters  
Merchants Quay  
Limerick  
V94 EH90



Reference Number: DOT-TM-03333-2022

Dear Ms. Flannery



*S*  
25/2/22

I wish to acknowledge receipt of your letter to the Taoiseach, Micheál Martin T.D., dated 30th January 2022.

A copy of your correspondence has been forwarded to the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage, Darragh O'Brien T.D., for attention.

Yours sincerely

Sarah Garry

Assistant Private Secretary to the Taoiseach

Telephone: 01 619 4021

Email: [taoiseach@taoiseach.gov.ie](mailto:taoiseach@taoiseach.gov.ie)



Ms. Laura Flannery  
Limerick City & County Council  
Corporate Headquarters,  
Merchants Quay,  
Limerick.

22 March 2022

Email: [customerservices](mailto:customerservices@housing.gov.ie)

Our Ref: HPLG-MoSN-00140-2022

Dear Ms. Flannery,

On behalf of Mr. Malcolm Noonan, T.D. Minister of State for Heritage and Electoral Reform, I wish to refer to your correspondence of 30<sup>th</sup> January regarding the following resolution that was adopted at a meeting of Limerick City and County Council, held on 24th January 2022:

*"That, Limerick City and County Council call on the State to have only one agency with responsibility for our rivers and lakes"*

After consulting with Waterways Ireland with regard to the motion we have been advised of the following:

1. The management of the inland waterways in relation to flooding is coordinated through the Shannon Flood Risk State Agencies Co-Ordination Working Group. This Group is chaired by the OPW. If the motion from the Council is in relation to flood management then the matter should be referred to the OPW.
2. The management of certain inland waterways in relation to Angling is managed by Inland Fisheries Ireland if the motion is referring to angling then the correspondence should be forwarded to IFI.
3. Waterways Ireland is charged with the management of certain inland navigable waterways. The remit of WI is to manage, maintain, develop and restore those specific waterways primarily for recreational purposes. The waterways under the



care of WI are specified in legislation and the inclusion of other inland navigable waterways would require agreement and a change in legislation in both Ireland and Northern Ireland.”

In conclusion, the management of our waterways is the responsibility of various bodies such as the Office of Public Works, Inland Fisheries Ireland, and Waterways Ireland, there are currently no plans to create one agency with responsibility for rivers and lakes.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "D. McDonnell". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

**Danielle McDonnell**

**Private Secretary to Minister Malcolm Noonan T.D.**

Please note: the Minister of State for Heritage and Electoral Reform is a Designated Public Official under the Regulation of Lobbying Act, 2015 (details available on [www.lobbying.ie](http://www.lobbying.ie))

## Seirbhísí Corparáideacha

Comhairle Contae Chiarraí,  
Áras an Chontae,  
Trá Lí, Co. Chiarraí,  
V92 H7VT.



## COMHAIRLE CONTAE CHIARRAÍ KERRY COUNTY COUNCIL

## Corporate Services

Kerry County Council,  
County Buildings,  
Tralee, Co. Kerry,  
V92 H7VT.

Guthán | Tel 066 7183514 Rphost | Email [secretary@kerrycoco.ie](mailto:secretary@kerrycoco.ie) Suíomh | Web [www.kerrycoco.ie](http://www.kerrycoco.ie)

28 February 2022

### To/ Each Local Authority

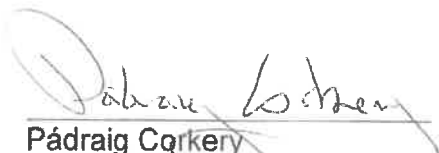
A Chairde,

I write to inform you that the members of Kerry County Council at their recent meeting adopted the following resolution.

"That Kerry County Council writes to Minister Eamon Ryan, Minister for Environment, Climate and Communications, objecting to the Bill brought forward by the Green Party in relation to the granting of planning permission for LNG infrastructure in Ireland."

It was agreed to circulate this motion to all local authorities for their attention and consideration.

Mise le meas,



Pádraig Corkery  
Meetings Administrator



GAEILGE AGUS FÁILTE

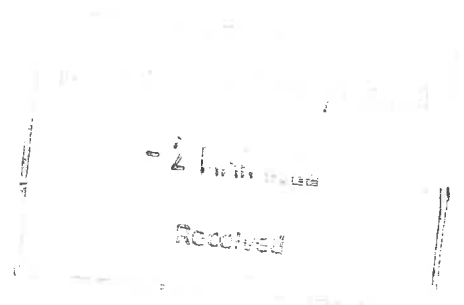


Bord Oideachais & Oiliúna  
**LUIMNIGH & AN CHLÁIR**

**LIMERICK & CLARE**  
Education & Training Board

**Ms Laura Flannery,  
Meetings Administrator,  
Corporate Services,  
Limerick City and County Council,  
Corporate Headquarters,  
Merchants Quay,  
Limerick City.**

1<sup>st</sup> March 2022.



**Re: Resolution adopted by Limerick City and County Council re the availability of LCERTB sports facilities**

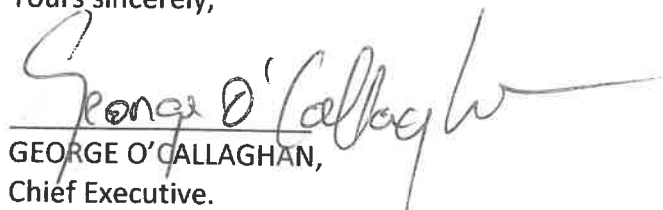
Dear Ms Flannery,

uf  
2/3/22

I refer to your letter of January 27<sup>th</sup> 2022 regarding the resolution adopted by Limerick City and County Council re the availability of LCETB sports facilities.

On behalf of Limerick and Clare Education and Training Board I wish to state that it has always been and continues to remain the policy of the Board to make its facilities available to the community and to sports clubs

Yours sincerely,

  
GEORGE O'CALLAGHAN,  
Chief Executive.

**Príomhoifig**

Teach Marshal, Bóthar Tuar an Daill,  
Luimneach, V94 HAC4

**Head Office**

Marshal House, Dooradoyle Road,  
Limerick, V94 HAC4  
061 442 100

**Oifig na hInse**

Bóthar an Stáisiúin, Inis,  
Co. an Chláir, V95 D32F

**Ennis Office**

Station Road, Ennis,  
Co. Clare, V95 D32F  
065 682 8107

Príomhfheidhmeannach  
Chief Executive

**George O'Callaghan**

info@lctb.ie  
[www.lctb.ie](http://www.lctb.ie)

**From:** Housing Minister  
**Sent:** Thursday 10 February 2022 16:12  
**To:** customerservices  
**Subject:** HPLG-MOBO-00379-2022 Fao Laura Flannery

10 February 2022

HPLG-MOBO-00379-2022

Dear Ms Flannery

Thank you for your email to Mr. Darragh O'Brien, T.D., and Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage, in connection a directly elected mayor for Limerick.

Your correspondence is currently receiving attention and a further reply will issue as soon as possible.

Yours sincerely

**Niamh Redmond**  
**Private Secretary**

Minister Darragh O'Brien's Office

---

**An Roinn Tithíochta, Rialtais Áitiúil agus Oidhreacht**  
Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage

Teach an Chustaim, Baile Átha Cliath 1. D01 W6X0  
Custom House, Custom House Quay, Dublin D01 W6X0

---

[www.tithiocht.gov.ie](http://www.tithiocht.gov.ie) [www.housing.gov.ie](http://www.housing.gov.ie)

\*The Minister is a Designated Public Official under the Regulation of Lobbying Act, 2015 (details available on [www.lobbying.ie](http://www.lobbying.ie))



**An Roinn Tithíochta,  
Rialtais Áitiúil agus Oidhreacht**  
**Department of Housing,  
Local Government and Heritage**

Beartas ríomhphoist an Oireachtais agus séanadh. [oireachtas.ie/ga/email-policy/](http://oireachtas.ie/ga/email-policy/)  
Oireachtas email policy and disclaimer. [oireachtas.ie/en/email-policy/](http://oireachtas.ie/en/email-policy/)



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**From:** Housing Minister  
**Sent:** Thursday, March 10, 2022 8:34 AM  
**To:** Customer Services  
**Subject:** RE: HPLG-MOBO-00379-2022 Fao Laura Flannery

**CAUTION:** This email originated from outside of the Organisation. Do not follow guidance, click links or open attachments unless you recognise the sender and know the content is safe.

10 March 2022

Ms Laura Flannery,  
Meetings Administrator,  
Corporate Services,  
Limerick City and County Council,  
Corporate Headquarters,  
Merchants Quay,  
Limerick. V94 EH90

**Re: Case: HPLG-MOBO-00379-2022: motion of elected council in relation to the directly elected mayor of Limerick**

Dear Ms Flannery,

I have been asked by the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage, Mr Darragh O'Brien TD, to refer to your letter of 26 January 2022 regarding the adoption Limerick City and County Council of a recent motion in relation to the directly elected mayor of Limerick and the date of the first mayoral election.

The General Scheme of the Local Government (Directly Elected Mayor with Executive Functions in Limerick City and County) Bill 2021, which was approved by Government and published in April 2021, is in line with the 2019 Government policy proposals for a directly elected mayor with executive functions and reflects many of the recommendations of the Report of the Implementation Advisory Group (IAG).

Following the publication by the Joint Oireachtas Committee for Housing, Local Government and Heritage of its Report on Pre-Legislative Scrutiny of the General Scheme in November 2021, the recommendations of the Committee's report are under consideration with a view to their incorporation in the Bill in such a way that it will build on the work of the Implementation Advisory Group.

Drafting of this complex Bill is progressing steadily and publication of the Bill has been identified as a priority for the Department as soon as practicable in 2022. The time frame for its passage through the legislative process will then be a matter for the Oireachtas. The timing of elections for a mayor in Limerick will be decided by Government once the legislation is enacted.

I trust that this information is of assistance.

Yours sincerely,

**Niamh Redmond**  
Private Secretary to Darragh O'Brien T.D., Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage

10 March 2022

To: **All Local Authorities**

Re: **Motion of Westmeath County Council**

A Chara,

At the recent meeting of Westmeath County Council held on 24 January 2022, the following resolution was passed, and it was agreed to circulate it to all Local Authorities for your attention:

**Cllr. Emily Wallace:**

*"There are 82 children with Spina Bifida and/or Hydrocephalus currently requiring urgent Orthopaedic intervention.*

*This was brought to the attention of the Minister for Health Stephen Donnelly's in December 2020 (1).*

*However, no action has been instigated by the Minister to resolve this matter and these children continue to deteriorate.*

*Lack of surgical intervention has caused their limbs and bodies to become deformed and maimed. Some of these children legs are so badly affected that the soles of their feet permanently rub together causing open sores and bleeding.*

*Children who have the ability to walk are losing or have lost that ability due to the absence of timely surgical management. Others who are manual wheelchair users, due to the same issue are unable to self-propel themselves effectively leaving them immobile.*

*The lack of timely surgical intervention means that effectively these children end up requiring more complex surgeries and facing that amputation of limbs.*

*I am calling on the County Council to write to the Minister for Health, Stephen Donnelly and fast track these children for surgical review as a matter of urgency.*

*We also wish to call on the Minister for Health to ensure that provision of services is made to Disabled Children within elective Hospital settings as well as acute Hospital settings to avoid a repeat of this situation in the future."*

I would be grateful if you would bring the contents of this letter to the Elected Members at the next meeting of the Local Authority.

Mise le meas,



---

Anne Galvin  
Meetings Administrator  
Corporate Services  
0449332247  
0879196777  
[anne.galvin@westmeathcoco.ie](mailto:anne.galvin@westmeathcoco.ie)

**From:** Housing Minister  
**Sent:** Tuesday 22 February 2022 14:24  
**To:** 'customerservices@limerick.ie' <customerservices@limerick.ie>  
**Subject:** HPLG-MOBO-00482-2022

22 February 2022

Ms. Laura Flannery

RE: HPLG-MOBO-00482-2022

Dear Ms. Flannery,

Thank you for your email to Mr. Darragh O'Brien, T.D., Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage, in connection with your eligible income limits for social housing query.

Your correspondence is currently receiving attention and a further reply will issue as soon as possible.

Yours sincerely

**Niamh Redmond**  
**Private Secretary**

**Nicole Coughlan**

Minister Darragh O'Brien's Office

**An Roinn Tithíochta, Rialtais Áitiúil agus Oidhreachta**  
Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage

**Teach an Chustaim, Baile Átha Cliath 1, D01 W6X0**  
Custom House, Dublin 1, D01 W6X0

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T +353 (0) 1 888 2504

[www.housing.gov.ie](http://www.housing.gov.ie)

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**From:** Housing Minister  
**Sent:** Tuesday, March 8, 2022 4:34 PM  
**To:** Customer Services  
**Subject:** RE: HPLG-MOBO-00482-2022 FAO Ms. Laura Flannery

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07 March 2022

Ms. Laura Flannery

RE: HPLG-MOBO-00482-2022

Dear Ms. Flannery,

I have been asked by Mr. Darragh O'Brien, TD, Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage, to respond to your recent letter regarding a resolution passed in relation to Limerick City & County Council's income limit for social housing.

The Minister has asked me to thank you for your letter, the contents of which have been noted.

*Housing for All – A New Housing Plan for Ireland* was published in September 2021 and, as part of a broad suite of social housing reforms, committed to reviewing income eligibility for social housing.

The review, which examined inter alia the efficiency of the current banding model and income limits applicable to local authorities, was completed in Q4 2021. The Minister is currently considering its findings and expects to decide on proposed changes and recommendations shortly.

I trust that the above is of some assistance.

Yours sincerely

**Niamh Redmond**  
**Private Secretary**

**From:** Niamh Mullins  
**Sent:** Thursday, March 10, 2022 1:21 PM  
**To:** Leahy, Mark  
**Cc:** Kevin Morey; James Fogarty  
**Subject:** RE: Notice of Motion re Wastewater Treatment Plant at Kilbehenny & Carrigane

Good Afternoon Mark,

Please find attached letter drafted by Cork County Council's County Engineer Mr Kevin Morey which has issued to Irish Water.

Regards,  
Niamh Mullins  
Meeting Administrator,  
Northern Committee

**From:** Leahy, Mark  
**Sent:** Wednesday 9 February 2022 13:22  
**To:** Niamh Mullins  
**Cc:** Flannery, Laura  
**Subject:** Notice of Motion re Wastewater Treatment Plant at Kilbehenny & Carrigane

Hi Niamh,

Further to our phone conversation earlier, I wish to confirm that the correspondence from Cork County Council in relation to the above, was considered at the Full Meeting of Limerick City and County Council which took place on Monday 24<sup>th</sup> January, 2022.

The Elected Members were in agreement that Limerick City and County Council would write jointly with Cork County Council to Irish Water, in relation to the Motion requesting Irish Water put in place a sewage treatment plant in Kilbehenny for the residents of Kilbehenny, Carrigane and Mitchelstown.

Take care,  
Mark

**Mark Leahy | Administrative Officer | Corporate Services & Governance | Limerick City & County Council | City Hall | Merchants Quay | Limerick | V94EH90 | 087-2941627 | [mark.leahy@limerick.ie](mailto:mark.leahy@limerick.ie)**

# Comhairle Contae Chorcaí Cork County Council

Annabella,  
Mala,  
Co. Chorcaí, P51 Y6YT.  
Fón: (022) 21123 • Faics: (022) 21983  
Suíomh Gréasáin: [www.corkcoco.ie](http://www.corkcoco.ie)  
Annabella,  
Mallow,  
Co. Cork, P51 Y6YT.  
Tel: (022) 21123 • Fax: (022) 21983  
Web: [www.corkcoco.ie](http://www.corkcoco.ie)



Maria O'Dwyer  
Head of Asset Management  
Irish Water  
Colvill House  
Dublin 1

07<sup>th</sup> March 2022

**Re: Sewerage Scheme to Serve the Settlements at Carrigane, Co. Cork and  
Kilbehenny, Co. Limerick**

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Dear Ms O'Dwyer,

The elected members of the Northern Committee of Cork County Council, with the support of the elected members of Limerick City & County Council, wrote to Irish Water in March 2019 highlighting the urgent need for a new or expanded wastewater collection and treatment system to serve the residents of Kilbehenny and Carrigane on the Cork/Limerick border. The water services departments of both councils had submitted asset needs briefs for a sewerage scheme to serve these areas in December 2016.

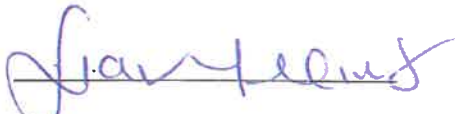
Attached is a copy of the letter from the Northern Committee dated 25<sup>th</sup> March 2019 and the response received from Irish Water dated 18<sup>th</sup> April 2019 which said that the matter had been referred to the relevant department within Irish Water and that a member of the team would be in contact as soon as further information became available. However, there has been no sign of progress and no further contact from Irish Water to date.

At the December meeting of the Northern Committee members again expressed strong concerns about the impact of the current inadequate public wastewater treatment system near Kilbehenny combined with the level of unserved development in the village of Kilbehenny and at Carrigane. The members feel that this poses a significant public health and environmental risk which merits urgent attention. They resolved to liaise with Limerick City & County Council seeking agreement to make a renewed joint submission to Irish Water on this issue. The elected members of Limerick City & County Council considered the matter at a full council meeting on 14<sup>th</sup> January 2022 and agreed that a joint letter should issue from both local authorities.

We therefore request, on behalf of both authorities, that Irish Water would urgently address this issue and would provide a prompt update to the elected members on their plans.

I would welcome your response to this for the purpose of informing members of the committee.

Is mise le meas,



**NIAMH MULLINS**  
**MEETINGS ADMINISTRATOR**  
**Tel: 022/30473**  
**Email: [Niamh.mullins@corkcoco.ie](mailto:Niamh.mullins@corkcoco.ie)**



Customer Services Manager  
Irish Water  
PO Box 448  
South City Delivery Office  
Cork City  
Cork

25<sup>th</sup> March 2019

**Re: Sewerage System for Residents of Carrigane, Mitchelstown**

A Chara

At the March 2019 meeting of the Northern Committee of Cork County Council, the following Notice of Motion was included on the Agenda:-

**" That Cork County Council would call on Irish Water to put in place a sewage system to meet the needs of the residents at Carrigane, Mitchelstown "**

This issue also concerns the residents of Kilbehenny, Co. Limerick as the proposed system would service both areas. It was requested that a letter would also issue to Limerick City and County Council on the matter. I would be obliged if you would respond on this matter for the purpose of informing the Members.

Is mise le meas

---

Sheila O'Keeffe  
Meeting Administrator  
022 30497  
email [sheila.okeeffe@corkcoco.ie](mailto:sheila.okeeffe@corkcoco.ie)



Sheila O'Keeffe,  
Meeting Administrator,  
Cork County Council,  
Annabella,  
Mallow,  
Co. Cork.



Uisce Éireann  
Bosca OP 860  
Oifig Shearhanta  
na Cathrach Fheas  
Cathair Chorcaí

Irish Water  
PO Box 860  
South City  
Delivery Office  
Cork City

[www.water.ie](http://www.water.ie)

18<sup>th</sup> April 2019

**Irish Water Reference Number: 3879222588**

Dear Ms O'Keeffe,

I am writing to you in relation to your query with regard to a recent meeting about the Sewerage System for residents of Carrigane, Mitchelstown.

I have forwarded this matter to the relevant department within Irish Water and a member of our team will be in contact with you as soon as further information becomes available. Your Irish Water reference number is 3879222588, which you may wish to keep for your own records.

If you have any further queries, please contact us on 1850 278 278 (minicom 1890 378 378); alternatively, you can visit the Help Centre on our website, [www.water.ie](http://www.water.ie).

Thank you for contacting Irish Water.

Yours sincerely,

**Ann Collins**  
Customer Service Advisor  
Uisce Éireann  
Irish Water

Stiúrthóirí / Directors: Mike Quinn (Chairman), Jerry Grant, Cathal Marley, Brendan Murphy, Michael G. O'Sullivan  
Oifig Chláraithe / Registered Office: Teach Colm, 24-26 Sráid Thalbóid, Baile Átha Cliath 1, D01 NP86 / Colm House, 24-26 Talbot Street, Dublin 1, D01 NP86  
Is cuideachta ghlomhálachta ainmnithe atá faoi theorainn scaireanna é Uisce Éireann / Irish Water is a designated activity company, limited by shares.  
Uimhir Chláraithe in Éirinn / Registered in Ireland No.: 530363

**From:** Housing Minister

**Sent:** Friday, March 11, 2022 4:57 PM

**Subject:** FW: Resolution from Limerick City and County Council - Limerick Development Plan

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A Chara,

Thank you for your email to Mr. Darragh O'Brien, T.D., and Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage, in connection with planning matters in Limerick.

The issue you raise comes under the remit of the Minister of State Peter Burke. I have, therefore, forwarded your correspondence to his Office for attention and direct reply.

Yours Sincerely

**Niamh Redmond**  
**Private Secretary**