

LIMERICK CITY AND COUNTY COUNCIL
MUNICIPAL DISTRICT OF NEWCASTLE WEST
MEETING TO BE HELD ON WEDNESDAY, 6th APRIL 2022

To: The Chairman and Each Member of the Municipal District of Newcastle West

Re: Draft Schedule of Municipal District Works - (SMDW)

Dear Councillor,

I wish to refer to previous discussions regarding the requirement to prepare a Schedule of Municipal District Works.

Section 58 of the Local Government Reform Act 2014 inserts a new section 103A in the Local Government Act 2001 providing that, following the adoption of the annual budget, a schedule of proposed works of maintenance and repair to be carried out during the financial year in each municipal district shall be prepared, for adoption by the municipal district members.

The SMDW is, in effect, a plan of works that prioritises and apportions the use, within each municipal district, of funding provided in the overall local authority revenue budget for particular purposes

The SMDW in respect of the Municipal District should be formulated on the basis of the amount of funding provided for maintenance and repair in the annual budget in respect of each relevant service division (e.g. housing, roads, amenities, street cleaning, drainage work, burial ground maintenance, etc.

Classification of items in the budget should largely determine what works and related expenditure are included in the SMDW but insofar as it may be necessary to make judgements in particular instances, it is considered that the term “maintenance” can include not only maintenance of the physical condition or fabric of items, but also more operational type matters such as grass cutting or tree pruning.

Within the level of funding available, details of the SMDW should be prepared on the basis of identified needs (taking account of relevant factors, for example, in the case of housing, age profile of stock) and priorities throughout the local authority area and taking due account of requirements in relation to standards and frequency of maintenance work. This should be informed by details of relevant requirements which were considered in the formulation of the overall local authority budget. It will also be relevant to have regard to the pattern of works and expenditure in previous years.

It is emphasised that adoption of the SMDW per se cannot involve revision of the adopted budget.

It is essential to maximise return on investment by avoiding dilution of expenditure, which could result from spreading allocations too thinly across the Municipal District each year. This could be minimised by taking a multi-annual approach where possible in the preparation of the SMDW.

Maximising value for money, overall effectiveness, and return from investment should also be a key objective in prioritising works and allocating available funding within each municipal district, along with the need to ensure appropriate balance in the allocation of resources as between urban and rural areas in the district.

Apportionment of funding on a thematic basis within the district over the life of the council could help to this end. For example, specific housing estate(s) in one location could be prioritised for refurbishment in year one, with a commitment to undertake works in another area in subsequent years. Similarly, where an overall local authority maintenance programme is drawn up for a particular purpose (say windows and doors in local authority dwellings) which might need to extend over a number of years, the required works would be reflected in relevant annual SMDWs.

Any maintenance type functions, for example, grass cutting, planting or other maintenance of open spaces, which are carried out by means of specific purpose grants for such purposes to community groups such as tidy towns committees can be provided for as appropriate, through the SMDW.

The GMA, which is a budgetary element providing funding for discretionary expenditure at municipal district level to be decided by the elected members in respect of each municipal district, is separate from the “strategic” budgetary funding for maintenance and repair, the utilisation of which is to be determined in the SMDW.

The Draft Schedule of Municipal District Works for the Municipal District of Newcastlewest is set out at appendix 1 attached.

The approval of the Members is sought for the Draft Schedule as presented.

Gordon Daly,
Director of Services.

Appendix 1

NEWCASTLE WEST MUNICIPAL DISTRICT Road Works Scheme 2022	
Work Category	€
Restoration Improvement (RI) -Road Reconstruction	€2,501,078
Restoration Maintenance (RM) –Surface Dressing	€452,977
Supplementary Restoration Maintenance (SRM – Surface Dressing	€355,166
Drainage Grant	€200,000
General Maintenance (GM)	€700,090
Street Cleaning	€155,907
Tar Patching (TP)	€433,715
Low Cost Safety Improvement Works (LCSI)	€60,000
General Municipal Allocation (GMA)	€95,000
Bridge Rehabilitation	€200,000
N21 Abbeyfeale to Mount Mahon Pavement Strengthening	€1,000,000
N21 Newcastle West Pavement	€200,000
N21 Abbeyfeale Relief Road	€250,000
N21 Newcastle West Relief Road	€250,000
N21 Wards Cross	€400,000
Sustainable Travel Measures Grant (Active Travel)	€1,350,000
Limerick Greenway Connections	€1000,000
Low Cost Active Travel Low Cost Permeability measures	€100,000
Total Defined MD Spending	€9,703,933

Regional Roads Road Reconstruction Allocation € 150,000			
Road No.	Description	Length (m)	Total Cost €
R523	Ardagh Village overlay	500	150,000
Total		500	150,000

Local Roads Road Reconstruction Allocation € 2,501,078			
Road No.	Description	Length (m)	Total Cost €
L1345	Assumpta Park, NCW overlay	700	201,078
L1542	Ballyagran Village overlay	500	150,000
L13261	Caher Mountcollins	500	€35,000
L13262	Caher Mountcollins	700	€45,000
L70065	Cratloe east, Abbeyfeale	4555	€185,000
L1326	Kilkinlea Abbeyfeale	780	€60,000
L6092	Glenagragara Glin	3000	€150,000
L6095	Tooraree Glin	1100	€75,000
L70171	Barnagarrane, Dromcollighier	1000	€60,000
L7121	Collins Park, Abbeyfeale overlay	800	€70,000
L1232	Ballygoghlan, Glin	1000	€75,000
L13201	Knockglass, Broadford	1000	€70,000
L1320	Tooreenagreana, Broadford	1500	€100,000
L12322	Ballygoughlan Glin	1200	€75,000
L1225	Knockdown, Glin	750	€70,000
L13213	Gortnacolohy, Ashford	1200	€75,000
L70411	Caherlevoy, Mountcollins	1000	€65,000
L7091	Kilmeedy	250	€15,000
L8588	Rossmore, Castletown	1200	€80,000
L1321	Cleanglass, Tournafulla	1300	€90,000
L85881	Croghteen, Feenagh	800	€50,000
L8586	Croghteen, Feenagh	1500	€80,000
L8597	Derraulin, Castletown	1000	€60,000
L6100	BallyGiltenan Lower, Glin	3000	€210,000

L70201	Lacka Broadford	3000	€130,000
L7044	Mountcollins	400	€75,000
Total		33,735	€2,351,078

Regional Roads Surface Dressing Allocation € 260,000			
Road No.	Description	Length (m)	Total Cost €
R524	BallyGiltenan, Glin	1000	€30,977
R515	Tournafulla	2500	€70,000
R579	Boola, Broadford	2700	€60,000
R523	CarrigKerry	1000	€30,000
R523	Athea - Listowel	1500	€40,000
R519	Dromcolloghier to Kilmeedy	1000	€30,000
Total		10450	€260,977

Local Roads Surface Dressing Allocation €192,000			
Road No.	Description	Length (m)	Total Cost €
L1312	Camas, Raheenagh	1500	€40,000
L1311	Ahawilk, Broadford	2000	€50,000
L1328	Lower Athea	2000	€50,000
L6100	BallyGiltenan, Glin	1000	€27,000
L8616	CaherClough, Castletown	1000	€25,000
Total		7,500	€192,000

Supplementary Restoration Maintenance Local Roads Surface Dressing Allocation €355,166			
Road No.	Description	Length (m)	Total Cost €
L1327	Kilmorna, Abbeyfeale	1500	€35,000
L21001	Kilkinlea, Abbeyfeale	1000	€30,000
L52404	Ballygilteneane, Glin	800	€20,000
L60461	Ballinarooga, Ballingarry	900	€15,000
L1309	Kells Dromcolloghier	2000	€40,000
L7012	Gorteen, Feenagh	2000	€40,000
L6036	Kilmihill, Ballingarry	1500	€30,000
L1329	Clash Road, Athea	1000	€30,000
L7076	Killoughteen , NCW	800	€20,000
L6104	Ballynaddagh Glin	2000	€20,000
L70361	Glenquinn Strand	1500	€30,000
L8599	Derraulin Castletown	1000	€20,000
L8595	Cappanahane, Castletown	1500	€25,166
Total		11,500	€355,166

Drainage Works Allocation € 200,000			
Road No.	Description	Length (m)	Total Cost €
L7050	Drainage Works Hill Road Abbeyfeale - Newcastle West Roads	400	€70,000
R522	Drainage Works Bunoke Bridge - Newcastle West Roads	150	€20,000
L70982	Drainage Glenduff Ashford	150	€50,000
R520	Drainage Works Bruff Line , Ratfreedy - Newcastle West Roads	300	€60,000
Total		1000	€200,000

General Municipal Allocation Works Allocation € 95,000			
Road No.	Description	Length (m)	Total Cost €
	Ballyagran footpaths		€60,000
	Pedestrian Crossing NCW		€20,000
	Newcastle West Footpaths Estates		€15,000
Total		0	€95,000

Bridges Allocation €200,000			
Road No.	Description	Length (m)	Total Cost €
L7073	Ballinloughnane, Templeathea, Athea		€200,000
Total		0	€ 200,000

Low Cost Safety Improvement Schemes (LCSI) Allocation € 90,000			
Road No.	Description	Length (m)	Total Cost €
L1227	Corby Estate/ River View Manor, Glin		€60,000
Total		0	€60,000

Active Travel Measures Allocation € 1,350,000			
Road No.	Description	Length (m)	Total Cost €
	Glin Village Footpath Improvement works		€200,000
	Knockane Lower and Boher Bui, Newcastle West		€250,000
	L7089 Abbeyfeale - St Itas Road		€250,000
	R521 Ardagh footpath extension		€200,000
	Mountcollins village footpaths		€170,000
	Athea village footpaths		€120,000
	R522 Dromcollogher		€80,000
	L1324 Tournafulla		€80,000
Total		0	€1,350,000

Brief summary of the above Work Categories and Allocations for the Newcastle West

Municipal District:

Restoration Improvement (RI) €2,501,078

This is a specific allocation under the Restoration Improvement Grant (RI). This grant is for the road strengthening programme and caters for surface restoration, pavement overlay works and complete road rehabilitation works where existing pavements are structurally defective.

Restoration Maintenance (RM) € 452,977

This is a specific allocation under the Restoration Maintenance Grant (RM) for Surface Dressing Works only. This allocation will extend the life of the pavement and delay the development of potholes, thus protecting the investment in roads.

Supplementary Restoration Maintenance (SRM) €355,166

This is a specific allocation in 2022 under the Supplementary Restoration Maintenance Grant (SRM) for surface dressing works only. This allocation will extend the life of the pavement and delay the development of potholes, thus protecting the investment in roads.

Drainage Grant **€200,000**

This grant may be used for the alleviation of road drainage problems either through new works or remedial measures. Four main schemes have been identified and minor works planned at a number of sites in the Newcastle West District in 2022.

General Maintenance **€ 700,090**

General maintenance covers a wide range of works such as verges and drainage, cleaning water channels, street cleaning, opening inlets, signage, elimination of localised flooding, junction maintenance, dealing with accidents, oil spillages, storms, emergencies and general repairs to roads and footpaths.

Tar Patching (TP) **€433,715**

Regular tar patching is necessary to prevent the deterioration of the road surface and substructure and in the interest of road safety.

Bridge Rehabilitation - Structures (STR) **€200,000**

The 2022 allocation provides funding to enable improvement works on bridge structures on regional and local roads. A specific grant allocation is made to Limerick City and County Council to undertake works on a defined list of structures. There is one scheme under this heading in the district for 2022. The schemes is Ballinloughnane, Templeathea, Athea

Low Cost Safety Improvement Works (LCSI) **€60,000**

The 2022 allocation provides funding to enable low cost safety improvement works on non national roads to be carried out. The criteria for approval and grant allocation are based on accident data along with inspection of sites. There is one scheme in the Newcastlewest District for 2022 at Corby Estate/ River View Manor, Glin.

General Municipal Allocation (GMA) **€95,000**

This allocation has been agreed at Municipal District level.

Parking Management (PM) **€41,500**

This includes for disc parking operation, wages, traffic fines management system, communication equipment.

Items for which expenditure is provided on a City and County at large basis

Public Lighting (PL) € 2,460,000

This covers the operation, repair and maintenance of Public Lighting. The supply of energy is purchased through the National Procurement Service (NPS). The repair, replacement and maintenance of public lights are tendered separately. The above figure pertains to the whole City and County area.

Road Safety: Engineering, Promotion, Education (RS) €622,594

This includes for school wardens, road safety plan, road safety education and training. The above figure pertains to the whole City and County area.

General Maintenance of National Roads €268,920

General maintenance of National Roads covers a wide range of works for which this allocation will be used. €268,920 is the allocation for Limerick City & County for 2022. Improvement works locations to be agreed with Transport Infrastructure Ireland.

Capital Maintenance TII Roads € TBC

Capital maintenance of National Roads is used for pavement schemes with a values between €50,000 and €200,000. Applications are made through the pavement defects survey app. Awaiting TII funding allocation / instruction.

Winter Maintenance (WM) € 558,954

This provision is for the treatment of roads in severe weather in accordance with the Winter Services Plan and pertains to the whole City and County area.

Community Improvement schemes (CIS) €714,000

A Grant of €316,000 has been allocated to Limerick City and County Council. Limerick City and County Council is currently identifying schemes to be undertaken in 2022.

Local Improvement Schemes (LIS) € TBC

The Department for Rural and Community Development (DRCD) introduced ring-fenced funding for LIS in 2020 and proposes to continue to operate this scheme in 2022. The 2022 allocation for Limerick City & County Council has not yet been received.

General Maintenance Safety**€303,118**

A proportion of the general maintenance allocation is allocated to general maintenance safety. General maintenance safety funding will be used to cover a wide range of works such as road markings, road studs, road signs and general upkeep of roads in the city and county which will improve road safety

Community Involvement Schemes (CIS)**€714,000**

Limerick City & County Council are currently identifying schemes that will be included in the 2022 programme. An allocation of €714,000 has been made to Limerick City and County.

Local Improvement Schemes (LIS)**€TBC**

The Department for Rural and Community Development (DRCD) introduced ring fenced funding for LIS in 2020. The 2022 allocation for Limerick City and County Council has not yet been received.

HOUSING MAINTENANCE

Limerick City & County Council (LCCC) manages an expanding social housing portfolio, which currently amounts to 5,579 properties (Jan 2022). The range of properties is extensive, which is emphasised by the fact that over half the Council's housing stock was built before 1985.

64% of the entire housing stock is located within the Metropolitan District. The remaining 34% of housing stock is located between the Newcastle West (12%), Adare-Rathkeale (10%) and Cappamore-Kilmallock (14%) Districts.

In each municipal district area, direct labour crews respond to the needs of tenants. All requests are added to the Customer Relationship Management System (Sugar) and assigned to the area maintenance team for action.

Total requests for Housing Maintenance during 2021 was 12,921, with 10% of all cases received in the Newcastle West District.

Housing repairs are carried out based on need and budgetary constraints. Repairs are categorised into emergency, urgent and routine. Examples of each are listed below and please refer to the Tenant's Handbook for additional details

Emergency Repairs (within 24 Hours)

Fire	Water Leaks	No Electricity	No Mains Water
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Urgent Repairs (within 1-5 Days)

Blocked Flue in Open Fire	Blocked Foul Drains	No Hot Water	No Heating
Faulty Sockets	Faulty Switches	Faulty Storage Heater	Faulty Door Entry System
Banister or Hand Rail Loose or Detached	Storm Damage	Partial Loss of Water Supply	Unsafe Floor Boards or Stair Treads

Routine Repairs (within 1-6 Weeks)

Other Electrical Works	Other Joinery Works	Plaster Works	Other Plumbing Works
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BUDGET Allocation 2022

Newcastle West Municipal District (12% of housing stock)

Works Budget (non-pay)	2022
Maintenance	€161,078.64
Re-lettings	€ 81,280.00
	€242,358.64

Housing Maintenance - Planned Works

Planned Maintenance / Heating Systems Replacement – city and countywide

Many of our tenants have heating systems that are outdated and highly inefficient by current standards. A budget of €373,000 has been allocated for the replacement of heating systems and other works of a planned nature on a countywide basis. The scheme operates on a priority needs basis.

Voids/Re-lettings – city and countywide

Voids and Re-lettings continue to be undertaken in each municipal district area as vacancies arise. Each Housing Area Engineer and Area Foreman manages these refurbishment works. The units are delivered via a mix of direct labour crews and contractors, to ensure units are returned to Allocations section in an efficient manner.

A total of 73 void units were completed in 2021, which resulted in funding allocations of €1.118m from the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage (DoHLGH).

No department circular or allocation for Voids 2022 has been received to-date.

Energy Retrofit Project – city and countywide

No Department circular has been received for a 2022 thermal upgrade as yet, it is intended to progress 20 units within the Municipal District. Significant internal knowledge and experience has been accrued from the previous schemes, and this will be leveraged to deliver this new scheme in a more efficient manner.

Private Housing Grants

The following private housing grants are available again in 2022

Housing Adaptation Grant Scheme – HAGS Mobility Aids Grants Scheme – MAGS Housing Aid Older People – HOPS

These grant circular has not yet been received for 2022, however, it is expected that the amounts will be similar to those in 2021. The Council is required to provide 20% towards the cost of such grants with the DoHPLG meeting 80%.