



Oifig an Runaí Aire
Office of the Minister of State

30 June 2022

Cllr Martin Ryan
dara.obrien@limerick.ie

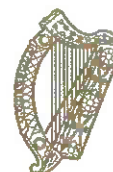
Please quote ref: HPLG-MoSB-00310-2022

Dear Cllr Ryan,

I wish to refer to your further correspondence dated 16th June 2022 regarding the legislative proposals for a directly elected mayor with executive functions for Limerick City and County Council.

Regarding the specific queries raised, I would like to respond to each in order:

- It is intended that the role of the directly elected mayor with executive functions will be based insofar as possible on the recommendations of the final report of the Implementation Advisory Group, subject to drafting considerations and the legislative process, and taking into account the recommendations contained in the pre-legislative scrutiny report of the Joint Oireachtas Committee on Housing, Local Government and Heritage. The General Scheme of the Bill to provide for the directly elected mayor in Limerick is available here: <https://www.gov.ie/en/publication/45a69-general-scheme-of-local-government-directly-elected-mayor-with-executive-functions-in-limerick-city-county-bill-2021/>
- As you will be aware, the 2019 plebiscite in Limerick was followed by a process of deliberation by an Implementation Advisory Group (IAG), which had representation from the elected council and staff of Limerick City and County Council and local sectoral interests, including the Limerick Chamber, the Limerick PPN and the student body, with my Department. The IAG's process included an extensive public consultation exercise. There are therefore no plans to hold a citizens' assembly on a directly elected mayor for Limerick.
- I wish to advise you that the budget process set out in the final report of the IAG and in the General Scheme provides that a simple majority of the elected council will be required to pass the local authority's annual budget, as under existing arrangements. This recommendation reflects the feedback from elected members of the IAG that the



role and primacy of the elected council in exercising its reserved functions, including its oversight role in relation to the directly elected mayor, should be upheld.

- Drafting of the complex legislation to establish a directly elected mayor in Limerick is an advanced stage 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. As indicated in our previous correspondence, the timing of elections for a mayor in Limerick will be decided by Government once the legislation is enacted.

For your convenience, a copy of the IAG's report is available to download at the following address: <https://www.gov.ie/en/publication/8083b-report-of-the-implementation-advisory-group-established-to-consider-a-directly-elected-mayor-with-executive-functions-for-limerick-city-and-county/>

I trust that the above information is of assistance. I would like to thank the elected members of Cappamore-Kilmallock Municipal District for their continued interest in and engagement with this important reform of local government in Limerick.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Peter Burke', written over a horizontal line.

Peter Burke T.D.

Minister for Local Government and Planning

Please note: I am a Designated Public Official under the Regulation of Lobbying Act, 2015