

Chief Executive's Report

May 2022

Riverfest returns to Limerick City and over 120,000 people enjoy the festival

Limerick Diaspora gather as Ilen boat docks in London

As part of the Little Library initiative, Limerick Libraries made contact with all 197 Early Learning and Care settings to collect a Friendship Pack

Limerick Development Plan nearing its finalisation after 99-week work period

Milestone of 500,000 visits to Limerick Greenway

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Comhairle Cathrach & Contae **Luimnigh**

Limerick City & County Council

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Economic Development and Enterprise Directorate

1. Trade & Investment

- **Work on the €20m investment in the new Bus Terminal at Colbert Station commenced.**
- **'Limerick to London' - Ilen Sailing Ship Diaspora Engagement Initiative**

The Limerick to London journey undertaken by the Ilen was a symbolic acknowledgment to the shared maritime and riverine heritage of both cities, and an ideal way to celebrate the past inter-community trade which flowed between them.

Limerick City and County Council recently published its diaspora engagement strategy, "Global Limerick 2021 – 2025." Together with our new brand, Limerick: Atlantic Edge, European Embrace, we are going through a process of reflection on our connection to the wider world. Our diaspora engagement mission is simple: "To Animate and Mobilise the Connection between Limerick and its Diaspora." In order to achieve this, we are committed to supporting cultural initiatives, such as the Limerick to London voyage, which are key drivers of the relationship between Limerick and Limerick people around the world.

Approximately 100 members of our diaspora community attended the event at St. Katherine's Dock. The event gave us the opportunity to update our diaspora on developments in Limerick and to remind them that Limerick will always be their home and will always welcome them.

- **Visit to London Sport**

Additionally, while in London, the Mayor and his delegation visited London Sport. London Sport is a not-for-profit organisation, which works in partnership with London's local authorities, and other organisations, to provide opportunities for less active adults and young people to develop a positive physical activity habit for life. This is a similar concept to SportsTech Ireland.

SportsTech Ireland is a not-for-profit initiative committed to the development of the sports technology industry in Ireland. Both organisations are collaborating on a number of projects and we are looking forward to seeing them develop in the coming years.

2. Local Enterprise Office (LEO) Limerick

Funding Approved

Two Businesses were approved funding at the May Evaluation and Approvals meeting - one Priming Grant and one Business Expansion Grant for a total of €96,376.

LEO Workshops and Training Events, including

- Business Advice Clinics and Business Planning Webinar.
- Social Media for Business Training /Webinars.
- Start Your Own Business Course.
- Time Management for busy people.
- Bookkeeping Basics for Small Business.
- Management Development 16-week Programme completed.
- Networking Event for LINC Engineering Cluster.
- Trading Online Webinar.
- May Meetup for Food Producers and a tour of Treaty City Brewery.
- May Meetup at the ACM (Ahane/Castleconnell/Montpelier) Hub in Castleconnell with presentation on Steps to Engaging Effectively in Business.

The National Student Enterprise Awards took place in the Helix in Dublin on 18 May. Both Finalists from Limerick's Desmond College, Newcastle West, received National Special Merit Awards for their Student Enterprise Businesses.

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Network Limerick Businesswoman of the Year Awards took place on 19 May. The winners in each category go forward to the National Finals which will be held later in the year.

There were 149 participants on the LEO Business Training Courses and 17 Business Owners availed of the LEO Mentoring programme during the month.

3. Innovate Limerick

- Two active collaboration projects now in progress for the development of a software analytics platform between three separate companies.
- Successful workshop with UL Hospitals Group's new General Manager and progress on the Asset Management collaboration project.
- Very positive visit to Analog Devices Catalyst Laboratory and discussions with Chief Executive Officers of other companies in the region to look at collaboration opportunities and planning for launch of Engine Collaboration Centre.
- Now engaged with 18 software start-up businesses through the Software Start-up mentoring programme.

Film in Limerick

• Engine Shorts

Short film training and production scheme, in partnership with the Councils in Limerick, Tipperary and Clare, and Limerick and Clare Education and Training Board, is now complete and six short films have been delivered.

• Engine Docs

The Documentary film training and production scheme, in partnership with Limerick and Clare Education and Training Board and Sheffield DocFest, is now complete and three short films have been delivered and are already screening at festivals.

• Creative Producing Programme

The new Creative Producing programme, in partnership with Limerick and Clare Education and Training Board, is ongoing with 15 producers on a six-month programme. The new programme is the culmination of nearly two years of development and is training 15 new creative producers each year with ambitions to produce feature films and TV series in the region. Learners have been attending twice weekly sessions online as well as in-person classes at Engine, Troy Studios and during a trip to Fastnet Film Festival in Cork.

• Fastnet Film Festival, Cork

Film in Limerick brought a delegation of 15 producers from the Creative Producing programme to the Fastnet Festival in Cork for three days of industry events and networking opportunities. The trip was funded by Limerick and Clare Education and Training Board as part of the Creative Producing programme.

• Writers' Factory: Introduction to Screenwriting

Also in partnership with Limerick and Clare Education and Training Board, the second 22-week Introduction to Screenwriting course, with 20 budding film and television writers from the Mid-West, concluded in May. This hugely popular programme is designed by legendary script guru, Phil Parker, and led by award-winning screenwriter and director, Eleanor Yule. The course took place online and participants completed a script during the course and had the opportunity to pitch and receive feedback.

• Film and Digital Media Centre at Mulgrave Street

Limerick and Clare Education and Training Board are developing an application to develop a Film and Digital Media Centre of Excellence at their Mulgrave Street campus, in collaboration with 'Film in Limerick' and local industries. The centre will be a leading provider of film and digital media education and training in the Mid-West region.

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4. Forward Planning

- The preparation of the first consolidated Limerick Development Plan proceeded to the final stages with the publication of the Chief Executive's Report on the submissions received during the material alteration public consultation phase of the Draft Limerick Development Plan 2022-2028. The Chief Executive's Report included a summary of the submissions, the response and recommendation of the Chief Executive on the 39 valid submissions received.
- A Briefing was held on 11 May with the Elected Members regarding the Chief Executive's Draft Limerick Development Plan Material Alterations Report.

5. Digital Services

- Approval was received from the Garda Commissioner for four Community CCTV Schemes (Northside, Southside, Canal and Riverbank and Hinterland) following a review of all public realm CCTV systems. 353 Community CCTV cameras in Limerick City and County now have a legal basis under Section 38 of the Garda Síochána Act.

EU Programmes

- The EU Programme Manager attended the URBACT III Find Your Greatness Trans National meeting in Candelaria, Spain, along with members of the Limerick Urbact Local Group. Candelaria's Integrated Action Plan is mainly driven by culture and cultural heritage. The meeting started in the technological Centre, Ctcán, their equivalent to the Engine, where they work on technical and social development for the Municipality. They apply for grants across all areas for the Municipality with particular focuses on women in science, digitalisation, and climate action. The group saw how their branding 'Candelaria Viva' is used by food (local farmers market and zero km food) and leisure businesses to target a different segment of the tourism market who want cultural experiences alongside their beach holiday. The group also saw

some of the local culture around the Virgin of Candelaria, which acts as a draw for local festivals such as St. John's bonfire night, and Easter and Christmas festivities. This meeting was an excellent example of the sharing of practices, which Urbact is designed to facilitate.

- Digital Strategy and EU Programmes met with Derilinx to further identify data sets and APIs (application programming interface) which can be added to a citizen repository as part of the Citizen Innovation Lab. This facility will allow for excellent citizen science to be carried out in the city.
- Limerick City and County Council supported an application to the Sustainable Energy Authority of Ireland (SEAI) by the CONFIRM Centre. Their proposal is to use drone technology and thermal imaging to verify BER ratings on public housing, and to feed that information back to the Council.
- Attended an online Find Your Greatness City2City meeting with Wrocław, Poland. They showcased their tram museum and experience, as well as the branding they have developed through the project to promote it. Limerick promoted the FabLab facility and explained how it operates, as Wrocław had previously expressed an interest in it.
- Attended the online GoGreen Routes Progress Review Meeting. This meeting with the Commission's Project Officer and External Expert was to validate the first period of this Horizon 2020 project.

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Transportation & Mobility Directorate

1. Travel and Transportation Strategy

Dockless Bike Bye-Laws

On 16 May, Members of the Metropolitan District of Limerick adopted the Limerick City and County Council Control of Dockless On-Street Bicycle Hire Bye-Laws 2022 at their monthly meeting.

Electric Vehicle Strategy

A Multidisciplinary Consultancy Team has been appointed to prepare a strategy for Electric Vehicle Charging Point (EVCP) Infrastructure and Fleet Electrification for Limerick City and County Council.

Bike Week 2022

National Bike Week took place from 14 - 22 May.

- Community groups, schools and workplaces had the opportunity to apply for funding support to run bicycle-related events throughout the city and county. Events included free bicycle repair workshops, organised cycles, and safety promotions.
- Bike Week kicked off on 14 May with a Family Cycle along the Limerick Greenway. Families started their cycle from Rathkeale. A bike mechanic was in attendance to provide free bike checks and repairs ahead of the cycle.
- A screening of a film called 'Motherload' was held on 19 May. The film is a documentary style film and looks at the use of cargo bikes for families as an alternative to the private car, and how it can help in addressing climate change.
- Bike Clinics were held around Limerick throughout Bike Week. Bike Mechanics were in attendance at various locations, including The People's Park, Mungret Park, Castletroy Neighbourhood Park and Arthur's Quay Park. Bike Mechanics provided free bike checks and repairs.
- A 'Bling your Bike' colouring competition for children was held during Bike Week in conjunction with Limerick libraries.
- A photo competition was held on social media. People were invited to use the #LimerickBikeWeek hashtag and upload a photo out cycling in Limerick during Bike Week.
- A number of workplaces in Limerick got involved in Bike Week by holding cycling promotions.
- Schools from around Limerick city and county took part in Bike Week. A variety of events and promotions with staff and students were held, including cycle to school days, bike parades, cycle skills sessions, bling your bike competitions.
- A number of inclusive cycle events were also held throughout the week with various groups from around Limerick.
- A family bike parade and fun day was held in Limerick City on 22 May to mark the end of national Bike Week. A parade of almost one hundred cyclists took to the streets of Limerick, led by the Mayor of the City and County of Limerick, Councillor Daniel Butler. Cyclists left Arthur's Quay Park for a 4km Three Bridges loop route that took in King John's Castle, Thomond Bridge, Clancy Strand, O'Callaghan Strand and Shannon Bridge. Along with the bike parade, the crowds also enjoyed an afternoon of entertainment in the park with music, face painters and a puppet show. A bike mechanic was also on hand to provide free bike checks and minor repairs before and after the bike ride. Gardaí from Henry Street station were on hand on the day to provide information on safe cycling and bike theft prevention.

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2. Active Travel

• Works

Childers Road – Work was completed on a new two-way segregated cycleway between the Roxboro Roundabout and the Kilmallock Roundabout. The new stretch of cycleway will link up with the existing two-way segregated cycleway between Kilmallock Roundabout and Parkway. Two new raised crossings were also installed as part of the project works.

Footpath improvement works – Works were completed at locations including the Irish Estates, Bengal Terrace and Kennedy Park. Work also got underway at Collins Avenue, O'Malley Park.

Bike Parking Stands – new bike parking stands and 'bike bunkers' were installed on Sarsfield Street outside the Citizen Innovation Lab and on Michael Street outside Barrow House.

• New Road Sweepers

Limerick Active Travel took delivery of two new mini road sweepers. The new vehicles were funded by the National Transport Authority and will be used to clear cycleways of rubbish and debris.

• Planning

Fr. Russell Road Cycle Scheme Phase 1 – Limerick Active Travel submitted a Part 8 planning application for a proposed scheme on Fr. Russell Road.

R510 Quinn's Cross Roundabout to Raheen Roundabout – Limerick Active Travel submitted a Part 8 planning application for a proposed scheme on the R510 between Quinn's Cross roundabout and Raheen roundabout.

St. Nessian's Road – Limerick Active Travel published a Section 38 Notice for proposed works on St. Nessian's Road.

• Approvals

Limerick Active Travel received funding approval from the National Transport Authority for the following schemes:

Low-Cost Junction Tightening and Pedestrian Crossings (Metropolitan District of Limerick)

1.	Lisnagry National School Pedestrian Crossing
2.	Castleconnell Pedestrian Crossing
3.	Carey's Road Pedestrian Crossing
4.	Belmont Hill Junction tightening
5.	St. John's Hospital Pedestrian Crossing
6.	Garryglass Pedestrian Crossings
7.	Arthur's Quay Pedestrian Crossing
8.	Irish Estates Corbally Junction tightening
9.	Mallow Street/Pery Street Junction improvement

Low-Cost Junction Tightening and Pedestrian Crossings (Municipal Districts)

1.	R518 Ballingarry Village - Municipal District of Adare-Rathkeale
2.	L1423 Station Road, Adare Village - Municipal District of Adare-Rathkeale
3.	Nicker NS to Pallasgreen - Municipal District of Cappamore-Kilmallock
4.	Murroe (Ros Ferna) - Municipal District of Cappamore-Kilmallock
5.	Cloverfield National School - Municipal District of Cappamore-Kilmallock
6.	Newcastle West, Bishops Court - Municipal District of Newcastle West
7.	Newcastle West Pedestrian Crossing - Bishop Street/Bridewell Lane - Municipal District of Newcastle West

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Low-Cost Permeability Measures (Metropolitan District of Limerick)

	Project	Details
1.	Monaleen Heights to Kilmurry footpath	The scheme comprises installation of 130m of footpath and installation of public lighting. The proposed works would link Monaleen Heights to the Kilmurry Road.
2.	Elm Park footpath	The scheme comprises installation of 30m of footpath and the installation of public lighting at the start and end of footpath.
3.	Old Dooradoyle Road to Glencairin	The scheme comprises installation of 130m of shared surface linking the Old Dooradoyle Road to Glencairin.
4.	Nessan's Court to Meadow Lawn Permeability	The scheme comprises installation of 23m of footpath linking Meadow Lawn to Nessan's Court.
5.	Hunt Museum / Sylvester O'Halloran Bridge Pedestrian Access	The scheme comprises installation of a pedestrian access from the Hunt Museum to the Sylvester O'Halloran Bridge.

Low-Cost Permeability Measures (Municipal Districts)

1.	Bruff – Sycamore Drive Link – Municipal District of Cappamore-Kilmallock
2.	Galbally – Municipal District of Cappamore-Kilmallock
3.	Bruff Walkway Improvements - Municipal District of Cappamore-Kilmallock

Marketing and Communications

Limerick Active Travel tweeted 10 times from the Limerick Council Twitter account, with total followers now 17,400. Collectively, the tweets had 117 likes and 37 retweets.

Limerick Active Travel posted two updates to Limerick Council LinkedIn, with a total of 76 likes.

Limerick Active Travel produced four videos for social media platforms. Collectively, the videos have been viewed more than 1,400 times. Among the videos was drone footage of the recently opened Castletroy Urban Greenway.

Bike Week – six members of the Active Travel Team took part in a team cycle ride from the city centre to the University of Limerick to celebrate Limerick Bike Week. Active Travel's Communications Officer also supported Bike Week with Twitter posts and two press releases promoting the bike parade in the city centre.

Members of the Active Travel team hosted a workshop at Villiers School for Transition Year students.

3. Mid-West National Road Design Office

N24 Cahir to Limerick Junction

Tipperary County Council, in partnership with Limerick City and County Council and Transport Infrastructure Ireland, is progressing the development of the N24 Cahir to Limerick Junction Project. The section of the existing N24 being progressed is approx. 37 km in length between the M8 motorway, north of Cahir in Co. Tipperary, and Brooks Bridge, west of Oola, Co. Limerick. The project is being managed by the Mid-West National Road Design Office with Arup appointed as lead consultant to advance the project through the planning and design process.

The Preferred Transport Solution went on public display on 23 May with a presentation to the Elected Representatives of Limerick and Tipperary. The public display material for the Preferred Transport Solution was

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made available on the N24 Project [Website](#) following the briefing to the Elected Members. Public display events were held to enable affected landowners and stakeholders to engage with members of the project team. The project team will continue to be available to meet throughout the course of the project.

N69 Hegarty's Cross to Askeaton Phase 1

The Scheme is approximately 3.2km in length and provides for road reconstruction, drainage improvements, pavement surfacing, traffic signage, road markings and associated works. Construction works commenced in May.



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Community, Tourism & Culture Directorate

1. Urban & Rural Community Development

LOCAL COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

The May Meeting of the Local Community Development Committee (LCDC) was held on 03 May in the Council Chamber, Dooradoyle. The LEADER Local Action Group (LAG) approved funding of €249,948.91 under the LEADER Programme 2014-2022.

IPB / COOPERATION IRELAND 2021 PRIDE OF PLACE COMPETITION

Four Limerick groups were nominated by Limerick City and County Council for the 2021 Pride of Place competition. The awards ceremony, compered by RTE's Marty Whelan and hosted by Kerry County Council, was held in the INEC in Killarney on 16 May. The Limerick groups were:

- Draw Out Limerick, an urban art initiative to enhance the landscape of Limerick by re-imagining and regenerating derelict sites across the city with large murals was entered in the Creative Place category.
- Lough Gur Development Co-operative Society, which is driving tourism initiatives to improve the site and visitor experience at the unique heritage site of Lough Gur, was entered in the Community Tourism category.
- Woodlawn Park Residents Association in Limerick City was nominated in the Urban Neighbourhoods category.
- Tournafulla Community Council, West Limerick were nominated in the Community Resilience category.

“Draw Out” Limerick City-based project was announced as the runner-up winner in the Creative Place Initiative category. Draw Out Limerick drew praise from the judges for the impact the programme has had on the city and further afield.

Lough Gur Development Co-operative Society was the runner-up winner in the Community Tourism Initiative. The Judges praised Lough Gur, branding it “An excellent project and demonstrates that, with a positive attitude and passion for the area, so much can be achieved, even in the midst of a Pandemic.”

AGE FRIENDLY

National Older People's Council Convention - Health and Wellbeing - live well be well

The National Older People's Council Convention was held for the first time in three years in May. Meath Age Friendly programme hosted the convention, in the Knightsbrook, Hotel, Trim, Co Meath.

The two-day event showcased wonderful speakers, workshops and presentations.

The Minister for Older people, Mary Butler, TD, attended and spoke on the day. Sinead Hussey from RTÉ News visited on day one and documented the event and views of the older people, which aired on the six o'clock news on 12 May.

The Limerick Opera Festival

As part of the Limerick Opera Festival, “Opera for All,” a Community Opera/Age Friendly workshop, was held in St. Mary's Cathedral on 24 May. It was presented by the renowned Una Hunt, piano and local bass, Kevin Neville, and included an introduction to Limerick's own composer, George Alexander Osbourne (1806 -1893).

Age friendly Coffee Morning

As part of Limerick Lifelong Learning Festival 2022, an Age Friendly Coffee Morning was held in Mary Immaculate College on 27 May. Mary Immaculate College is commencing the process of making the campus more age friendly and took this opportunity to kick-start the process.

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EDUCATION

Limerick Lifelong Learning Festival 2022

The launch of the 12th annual Limerick Lifelong Learning Festival took place in Kilmallock Library at the beginning of the month. The event was a precursor to what was a very successful weeklong run of events from 23 – 29 May. This year's theme 'Learn Something New in 2022' saw a plethora of events ranging from Art, Cookery, Early Childhood Development, Wellness Clinics and Language Taster Sessions.

This year's Flagship UNESCO Learning City Event took place on 26 May in the University of Limerick City Campus and marked the fifth year of being an UNESCO Learning City awardee.

HEALTH AND WELLBEING INTEGRATION

Africa Day

A family fun day took place on 29 May at the Hunt Museum to celebrate Africa Day 2022. It showcased African traditional music and dance performances and included a fashion show, food sampling, face painting for kids and storytelling. The Mayor of the City and County of Limerick, Councillor Daniel Butler, attended the event.

Launch of LUAR, Limerick United against Racism

The Limerick United against Racism (LUAR) campaign, an initiative of the Limerick integration-working group, was formally launched by the Mayor of the City and County of Limerick, Councillor Daniel Butler, on 16 May.

This was followed by a campaign run across various social media with daily postings leading up to and after World Diversity Day, 21 May to encourage as many people as possible to learn and talk about racism by visiting limerickunitedagainstracism.ie

UKRAINIAN SUPPORTS

The Elected Members of the Council were given an update on the provision of supports for displaced Ukrainians arriving in Limerick at the May Meeting of Limerick City and County Council. The Council identifies potential accommodation options, excluding social housing options, with Ukrainian families being allocated accommodation via a national allocation process. The Council also facilitates the coordination of all services and a Community Response Forum meets weekly to ensure supports are being provided. At the end of May, there were 759 known displaced Ukrainians living in Limerick.

LIMERICK PUBLIC PARTICIPATION NETWORK (PPN)

At the May Meeting of Limerick City and County Council, nominations to the Travel and Transportation Strategic Policy Committee and the Local Community Development Committee were ratified.

All PPN seats on Limerick City and County Council Committees are now filled.

A PPN representative also sits on the Limerick Active Cities Steering Group.

The 2021 Annual Report for Limerick PPN has been completed and submitted to the Department of Rural and Community Development.

Limerick PPN continued to have an active social media presence on its regularly updated website and on Twitter and Facebook.

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2. Tourism

GREENWAY

Biodiversity Plan - JBA Consulting were appointed as Consultants to prepare a biodiversity plan for the entire length of the Greenway, the first comprehensive study of a Greenway in Ireland.

Bike Week - a number of events were held on the Greenway during Bike Week.

500,000 Visits Reached

In May, Limerick Greenway reached 500,000 visits to the 40km scenic off-road walking and cycling route since it reopened in July last year, following a €10 million investment by Limerick City and County Council. This is a testament to its popularity among local communities and visitors. Walkers, runners, cyclists and wheelchair users have been enjoying the Greenway, which has flourished since the first phase of its ambitious redevelopment was completed last summer. Development works will continue in 2022. The Railway Goods Shed at Rathkeale is to be restored to supply services to Limerick Greenway users and will form part of a Greenway Hub that will also include upgraded car parking facilities. Limerick City and County Council has also confirmed that it will commence work on a new Limerick Greenway car park at Station Road, Newcastle West, later in the year. In addition, design/master planning will advance in 2022 on Greenway Hubs at the Ardagh Station house site and Abbeyfeale Railway Goods Shed and car park. These projects will build on the first-class network of visitor facilities already in place along Limerick Greenway.

SHANNON ESTUARY WAY

The Shannon Estuary Way Website was launched by the Minister of State at the Department of Public Expenditure and Reform, Patrick O'Donovan, TD, on 30 May, in Kildimo. The result of a partnership between Clare County Council, Limerick City and County Council, West Limerick Resources and Clare Local Development Company, the website is the culmination of a Destination Development Programme run for the local communities along the route.

The Shannon Estuary Way is a spectacular 207km looped drive and unspoiled riverside destination just off the **Wild Atlantic Way**. An area of remarkable beauty, this is where Ireland's longest river, the Shannon, flows into the wild waters of the Atlantic Ocean. It connects the people of Clare to the north and Limerick and Kerry to the south. The Destination Programme has led to a number of partnerships and collaborations amongst the hospitality and tourism sector along the route to provide high quality tourism experiences for visitors.

See www.shannonestuaryway.ie for more information.

Adare Brand Workshops

In May, Adare Brand development workshops were held over two days in the Woodlands House Hotel, Adare, with Adare stakeholders. These workshops were facilitated by M&C Saatchi and provided an introduction to the Adare brand with a view to developing the brand identity and an opportunity to discuss how best to leverage the Adare brand to improve communication and achieve marketing and commercial objectives. The workshops also provided stakeholders with an important opportunity to discuss, collaborate and share valuable local knowledge.

Ballyhoura

The New Ballyhoura Trails Guide App was launched at the Ballyhoura Mountain Bike Trails on the 05 May. The App provides trail users with valuable information to improve the overall visitor experience in an accessible way. The App is available to download below:

Google Play:

https://play.google.com/store/apps/details?id=com.blackbearsoftware.trailguide&hl=en_CA

Apple:

<https://apps.apple.com/us/app/ballyhoura-trails-guide/id1469702426>

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3. Arts Office

Update on the SPC Sub-Committee for the recovery of the Arts and Culture Sector in Limerick, following the impact of COVID-19 on the Sector

- An online meeting with GM Innovations, who are providing Research Evaluation, took place on 31 May. The presentation provided an overview of the public survey-results and analysis of the data, focus groups and timelines.

OPEN CALLS

Festival and Events Grant 2022/2023 Open Call

The Limerick Arts Office Open Call for Festival and Events Grant 2022/2023 opened for applications on 18 May. This grant scheme offers the opportunity for funding under three Strands, through a competitive Open Call, to the sum of €184,000. The three strands of funding are:

- Strand 1: Delivery and Programming of Small and Community focused Festivals and Events
- Strand 2: Delivery and Programming of Medium and Large-Scale Festivals and Events
- Strand 3: Festival Development and Sustainability.

Platform 31

PLATFORM 31 is a nationwide Artist Development Scheme by the 31 Local Authority Arts Offices, in collaboration with the Arts Council. 31 artists, representing every Local Authority in Ireland, will receive an €8,000 bursary to invest in themselves and their practice, combined with participation in a development programme. Joanne Ryan is an Award-winning theatre artist, playwright and performer based in Limerick, and was announced as the recipient of the Limerick Award. The first Platform 31 2022 artists' network meeting and photocall took place in Limerick.

Strategic Fund

The Strategic Fund for Culture and Arts Scheme supports applications to national and international funding bodies

to help leverage funding, by offering general letters of support, benefit in kind, or a percentage of any funding awarded in the event of a successful application. In May, six letters of support were issued; one to the Northern Ireland Short Film Screen Scheme, two to the Arts Council Capacity Building Support Scheme, and three to the Arts Council Festival Investment Scheme.

Blas International Summer School for Traditional Irish Music and Dance Bursary Award and Meitheal Summer School Bursary Awards

Limerick Arts Office released an Open Call for applications, offering a bursary to attend the Blas International Summer School for Traditional Irish Music and Dance at the University of Limerick and offering two bursaries to attend Meitheal Summer School 2022. The Meitheal bursaries will cover five days residential stay, meals and tuition (lectures, workshops etc.), to the value of the Meitheal fee of €700. Deadline date for receipt of applications was 12 Noon on 25 May. Two Blas applications and seven Meitheal applications were submitted and are being processed.

Creative Ireland

Creative Ireland Made in Limerick Grants 2022

Limerick-based creative practitioners, organisations and communities of place and interest submitted applications for Made in Limerick Grants 2022. These grants are offered as part of Limerick Creative Ireland Programme to deliver activities taking place in 2022. Notification letters and grant agreements were issued to all applicants in May.

Arts Council Framework Agreement Programme

Michael Hartnett Annual Poetry Award 2022

Michael Hartnett Annual Poetry Award opened for applications. This annual award marks Michael Hartnett's contribution to literature in English and Irish.

This is the twentieth year of the Michael Hartnett Poetry Award, which is jointly funded by Limerick Arts Office, Limerick City and County Council and The Arts Council.

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This year, the value of the prize has been doubled and now stands at €8,000. Each year the award alternates between Irish and English and this year the award will be for a third or subsequent volume of poetry in English.

This year's adjudicators are poets Kerry Hardie and Peter Sirr, both past recipients of the award. The winning poet will be presented with the Michael Hartnett Poetry Award.

Culture Night Late Proposal

Limerick Arts Office collated and submitted a proposal to this Open Call, which supports implementing aspects of the Night Time Economy Task Force recommendations for Culture Night this year.

TUS, Limerick School of Art and Design Partnership Collections Display

Limerick City and County Council Arts Office invited TUS, Limerick School of Art and Design (LSAD), to display works from their collection in the Office of the Mayor. Over the years, TUS LSAD has purchased works of graduates and has built up an impressive collection. The Mayor of the City and County of Limerick, Councillor Daniel Butler, selected highlights from this collection to go on display in the Mayor's Office. This is a wonderful opportunity to showcase works made in Limerick over time, by graduate of LSAD, to anyone visiting the Mayor's Office, and illustrates the support of Limerick City and County Council to the arts in the city and county. Eight pieces are on display.

STEAM Pathways School to Work Day - 12 May

Organised by Junior Achievement Ireland and Human Resources, Limerick City and County Council, the School to Work Day with Coláiste Nano Nagle took place on 12 May. The Arts Officer presented a career talk.

RIVERFEST

Limerick proved the place to be on the May Bank Holiday weekend with more than 120,000 people enjoying the city's biggest festival, Riverfest. From fireworks to the daring zipline, delicious BBQ, to checking out life aboard

one of the naval ships, to the buzz of the Riverfestival Village, or hanging about at bingo with Fidget Feet, there was something for everyone. Added to the Riverfest mix was the Regeneron Great Limerick Run and a host of other events making Limerick truly the place to be for the May Bank Holiday weekend!

ECO Showboat

On 01 May, School of Looking Artists, Anne Cleary and Denis Connolly, launched the Eco Showboat expedition from the Hunt Museum in Limerick, a four-month voyage upriver to Enniskillen on the Mayfly, the first solar electric boat to make this journey.

HOUSE!

A drive-in show packed with entertainment from start to finish, 20 Fidget Feet artists performed alongside members of the local community to bring HOUSE!, a sold-out theatre, circus, bingo extravaganza in Limerick Racecourse over the May Bank Holiday. An invitation to Collaboration project, funded by the Arts Council with Limerick City and County Council's Arts Office, Clare Arts Office and Galway County Arts Office, this project culminated in a symposium on Diversity and Public Engagement while creating work in University of Limerick on 27 May. The Arts Officer presented on learnings and evolutions from previous project Bingo Wings and House!

Local Live Performance Scheme

The Limerick Opera Festival

The Limerick Opera Festival, "Opera for All," was held from 20 May, commencing with an Operatic Buffet Evening at Greenyard Café, featuring David Howes and Jean Wallace, on 21 May an "Opera Trail" at King John's Castle, Opera Square, Thomas Street and The People's Park, Age Friendly Workshop at St. Mary's Cathedral on 24 May, and culminating with an Opera Gala Evening at St. Mary's Cathedral on 28 May.

Artists taking part included David Howes, Jean Wallace, Conor Prendiville, Catherine O'Donnell, Una Hunt, Kevin Neville, Mairead Buicke and Dean Power.

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4. Property & Community Facilities

Dereliction, Vacancy & Reuse Team - May	
Inspections carried out	92
Property & Community Facilities Department Notices issued	0
Derelict Sites Cases opened	0
Statutory Notices issued under the Derelict Sites Act	38
Derelict Sites Cases closed through engagement	2
Properties entered into the Derelict Sites Register	12
Properties put forward for Compulsory Acquisition (Section 15 Notices)	0
Properties Compulsorily Acquired (Section 17 Notices)	0

Bin Waivers Approved	16
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5. Libraries, Gallery & Museum

Library

- The national 'Spring Into Storytime' initiative continued apace during the month of May. Local best-selling author, Roisin Meaney, visited Adare, Cappamore, Foynes, Glin, Kilmallock and Rathkeale libraries where she delighted over 140 children from local preschools and primary school junior classes with stories, rhymes and song. Roisin also visited the City Library for her monthly Saturday morning children's storytime which was thoroughly enjoyed by all who attended. Newcastle West Library promoted the magic of storytime with a visit to Monagea National School to loan the staff a carefully chosen selection of picture books, and also put together an informative display in-branch on children's literacy and recommended reads. Watch House Cross Library had a full schedule of events during the month as families enjoyed the weekly Thursday afternoon storytime and the Friday morning Parent and Toddler Group. Local preschools and

primary school classes also visited the branch throughout the month where staff entertained them with a selection of stories. The children from Little Wonders Preschool in Ballybrown were thrilled when they received a complimentary bedtime story to take home after their 'Spring into Storytime' visit to Dooradoyle Library.

- Limerick Library Service was honoured to be asked to host the launch of this year's Limerick Lifelong Learning Festival, which took place in Kilmallock Library on 06 May. Children from Scoil Mocheallóg attended an interactive workshop hosted by Enterprise and Community Engagement staff at Mary Immaculate College, where they explored scientific concepts to create simple engineering solutions to design challenges. The festival was officially launched by the Mayor of the City and County of Limerick, Councillor Daniel Butler, who took time to speak to each of the children about their suggestions for an improved future vision for Limerick. The festival took place from 23 to 29 May and a number of free events were held in library branches. Dooradoyle Library staff member, and Art Historian, Deirdre Kelly, delivered a talk on Irish Artists from the late 19th and early 20th century. The branch also welcomed poet and author, Gabriel Fitzmaurice, for a reading of his works, which was attended by members of the public and the Dooradoyle Library Bookclub. The City Library hosted an interactive workshop entitled 'Public Speaking - the Why and How,' which provided an introduction to the values of improved public speaking under the tutelage of Limerick Toastmasters. Watch House Cross Library hosted an exhibition from Northside Family Resource Centre titled 'Arts & Crafts Showcase,' which featured paintings and craft work created by adult learners during the past year. The week-long exhibition was officially opened on 24 May. Moyross Women's Group also celebrated the festival with a guided mindfulness meditation in the branch.
- As part of the Little Library initiative, Limerick Libraries made contact during the month with all 197 ELCs (Early Learning and Care settings) in the city and county to invite them to call to their local library to collect a Friendship Pack. The Little Library initiative aims to

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develop a consistent link between early learning and care services and their local library to encourage a love of books and reading among young children. The pack contains specially selected books based on the themes of friends and building friendships, a storysack that can be used in the ELC as a storytelling support for staff, video links to storytimes recorded by library staff members and an invite to attend a real time storytime in their local library.

- The return of in-branch book clubs continued to be popular in the City Library during the month. The Limerick University of the 3rd Age Book Club was particularly delighted to be joined by local author, Roisin Meaney, for a Q&A session when they met on 09 May. The ongoing Sahaja Yoga meditation meetings continued throughout the month, taking place every Tuesday evening at 6.00pm. Also visiting the branch were students from NED College (English School). The students are training to improve their English language skills and found their tour of the library and the introduction to the wide range of services to be of great benefit to their studies.
- Kilmallock Library was thrilled to welcome Animal Magic Wildlife Displays to the branch when they brought their mini zoo to visit with 3rd and 4th class from Scoil Mocheallóg. The children were in awe, getting up close and personal with the selection of animals and birds during this informative and highly interactive visit. On 25 May, Claire Flynn, Development Officer with Mental Health Ireland, delivered a free talk on 'Five Ways to Wellbeing.' Claire shared excellent advice and tips for looking after mental health. Throughout the month, some interesting local artefacts from Kilmallock Museum were on display in the branch.
- Newcastle West Library welcomed the Rainbow Class from Killoughteen National School during the month. They enjoyed their storytime with one of the staff members and had great fun using the interactive Magic Table and playing with the A.S.D. (Autism Spectrum Disorder) toy collection. The branch was delighted with the positive comments and reactions on social media of a photograph of Benjamin, a regular library visitor, enjoying the Magic Table during one of

his visits. Africa Day was celebrated with a colourful and informative display, study spaces were in high demand, and weekly visits continued from the Brothers of Charity and St. Ita's Community Hospital Nursing Home.

- Watch House Cross Library welcomed Judi Curtin to the branch on 05 May for workshops with classes from Corpus Christi and St. Patrick's G.N.S. All the classes attending had read her novel 'Lily Steps Up' as part of the library's Limerick Reads project and were fascinated to hear Judi speak about how she developed the story of Lily who is the central character in the book. The Sensory Room continued to be well used with over 120 users benefiting from the range of visual, tactile, auditory and vestibular stimuli in the room during the month. Age Action began a second programme of IT classes for seniors, running for over six weeks, and an eight-week computers with literacy course is also running in the branch, with tutoring provided by the LCETB (Limerick and Clare Education and Training Board).
- The Local Studies Department, based at Watch House Cross Library, was busy in May. There were 36 onsite visits by researchers. Twelve of these involved research on the microfilm archive of local newspapers, and 16 on the digital resources to which the department subscribes (primarily the Irish Newspaper Archive). Six patrons consulted materials from the Local Studies book and manuscript collection, and there were two advice sessions on family history research. Nineteen research queries were received via telephone or email, all of which were resolved, the near complete restoration of the Local Studies website contributing to the drop in the number of remote queries in previous months. The editing of essays for the department's forthcoming Decade of Centenaries publication, The Civil War in Limerick, 1922-1923, continued and several new acquisitions were added to stock.

Limerick City Gallery of Art (LCGA)

- The exhibition, 'In Time,' by Dutch artist, Arno Kramer, opened on 19 May. The official opening was performed by the Director of Poetry Ireland, Liz Kelly. The title of

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the exhibition comes from a poem written by Seamus Heaney before his premature death in 2013. Arno Kramer is also a published poet in both Dutch and English. The opening was attended by 90 people, many of whom had travelled from outside Limerick to attend. LCGA collaborated with CODA Museum on the realisation of this exhibition, and also jointly funded the publication of a fully illustrated catalogue.

- Tom Fitzgerald's exhibition finished on 08 May and was very successful, with 8,311 visitors during the run.
- The digitisation of the Permanent Collection has commenced with the first tranche of works having been documented. It will take a significant investment to complete this project and the approach adopted is an incremental one. The first tranche of works selected were the works donated to LCGA by Jim Sheehy. The donation includes works by Jasper Johns, William de Kooning and the Mushroom Book with notations by John Cage and illustrations by Lois Long. LCGA is one of two public institutions to have this work in their collection, the other being the Museum of Modern Art in New York.
- A total of 113 applications were received for the inaugural summer exhibition, PULSE. The impetus for the exhibition came about due to the lack of opportunities for recent graduates. An internal and external selection panel brought this number down to a final selection of 17 and was completed on 20 May. The external selectors were Director of the Royal Hibernian Academy (RHA), Patrick Murphy, and artist, Aideen Barry.
- Significant work was put into the acquisition of the Michael Hartnett portrait by Edward Maguire for the Permanent Collection held at LCGA.
- The two artists in residence worked very well to produce a series of prints in the Herbert Gallery and conducted a print workshop for a group of women from Doras Luimní on 28 May.
- University of the Third Age continue to use the Gallery for their poetry and music meetings on a regular basis.

- St. Camillus' Art Therapy Group (HSE) held three group meetings at LCGA.
- Helium Arts (an organisation providing art workshops for children with long-term illnesses) had a Photocall in the Gallery to highlight its upcoming exhibition in The Hub.
- The Arts Council held a two-day workshop in the Gallery on 26 and 27 May. This workshop provided an introduction for artists wishing to work with schools.
- Other meetings/events accommodated by LCGA included the (ITMA) the Irish Traditional Music Archive and the Polish Arts Festival.

Limerick Museum

- On 10 May, Leaf Litter, a life exhibition by renowned artist, Mags Dunne, opened in Limerick Museum. Leaf Litter is a new series of work where Mags has returned to her ceramic roots to produce delicate pieces on autumn/winter leaves. A common theme in poetry and art, leaves at the end of their lives are celebrated for their colour and are also referenced for the cycle of life. Each leaf is individually cast from a real leaf collected by the artist on her walks and explorations, and gathered together to produce chapters in this familiar leafy story. At a time where our own litter is causing devastation to the environment, these works were created around the simple joy of nature just outside our own door. It is a reminder that the beauty of the natural world around us nourishes our souls as well as the land, even in its seasonal fall and decay.
- On 12 May, as part of the Museum's ongoing and very active outreach programme, the Curator of the Museum gave an interview on Newstalk Radio on the history of the Limerick poem to mark National Limerick Day. Newstalk Radio has a daily listenership of 425,000.
- As part of the Museum's longstanding collaboration with the Limerick Lifelong Learning Festival, the Curator of the Museum gave two well-attended tours of the Museum on 24 and 26 May.

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Regeneration Directorate

1. Regeneration

Economic

Outreach to Employment Initiative

The programme continues to expand and evolve across the four Regeneration areas with significant agency and community buy-in. A second Jobs Fair, in partnership with Limerick and Clare Education and Training Board and TUS, was held in Ballinacurra Weston on 18 May. The event was a great success with several major local employers available on the night to engage directly with communities in relation to employment opportunities. Limerick City and County Council's Recruitment Team was also present to meet with the community. Feedback was very positive from the community and from the employers/agencies in attendance on the night.

<https://www.limerickleader.ie/news/home/815822/in-pictures-regeneration-communities-meet-prospective-employers-at-jobs-fair.html>

Social

Economic and Social Intervention Fund (ESIF) Update

The Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage approved funding for 127 projects across 72 organisations, totalling almost €3.8 million. Funding is supporting projects under the key Regeneration themes of:

Theme	Count of Project
Ageing Well	5
Community	32
Education and Learning	33
Employability and Work	9
Families and Youth at Risk	20
Health and Wellbeing	28
Grand Total	127

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

Clinics for Resident Queries

In-person clinics took place with residents of the Regeneration communities on a weekly basis throughout the month.

Regeneration Committee Meetings

In-person Regeneration Committee meetings took place in Southill, Ballinacurra Weston, Moyross and St. Mary's Park.

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Community Activities

- St. Mary's Estate Management has been involved in Foodcloud since its inception. This programme, in conjunction with Tesco Ireland, donates perishable and non-perishable goods with food collected from stores three evenings a week and distributed by a community worker and volunteers.
- A successful planting workshop was run in Our Lady of Lourdes in conjunction with Limerick's Lifelong Learning Festival.
- Tait House's befriending service has resumed in-person home visits since the pandemic when the service could only be provided by phone. Tait House is also working with the public health nurses to supply personal alarms to older people via the Senior Alert Scheme.

Physical

Housing Developments

- Construction of the new 57-unit social housing development at Cosgrave Park and Dalgaish Park, Moyross - ongoing.
- Construction of the new 37-unit social housing development at Churchfield (Phase 2) Southill - ongoing.
- Construction of the new 18-unit social housing development at Cliona Park (Phase 3), Moyross - ongoing.
- The Peter McVerry Trust is progressing matters to ensure the completion of Housing Development in Delmege Park, Moyross.
- Discussions ongoing with Clúid, the preferred Approved Housing Body to own, construct and manage the elderly housing development at the 27-unit Orchard Site, King's Island. Tender preparations currently being completed.

- Pre-contract actions being advanced following receipt of Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage Stage 4 approval in respect of the eight-unit Sheep Street / Athlunkard Street development.
- Construction Works ongoing on Thermal Upgrade Contract 122, St. Mary's Park.
- A Stage 3 submission was made to the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage seeking authorisation to advance Thermal Upgrade Contract No. 128 / 129 to tender stage.
- Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage approvals sanctioning advancement of the following Thermal Upgrade contracts to tender stage have been received. Contracts being progressed to tender on a sequential basis with the first contract currently being tendered:
 - Thermal Upgrade Contract 121, Moyross (47 units).
 - Thermal Upgrade Contract 121A, Moyross (18 units).
 - Thermal Upgrade Contract 123, Southill (53 units).
 - Thermal Upgrade Contract 125, St Mary's Park (16 units).
 - Thermal Upgrade Contract 126, Southill (50 units).

Community Facilities

- The Team is working to progress two community infrastructure projects:
- Our Lady of Lourdes Community Centre commissioned a community consultation.
- St. Mary's Park Community Centre Working Group continuing to meet with the Regeneration Team to establish the project brief.

Other

Galvone Arms demolition took place as part of the Limerick Regeneration Framework Implementation Plan.

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Housing Directorate

1. Housing Support Services

Approved Housing Applicants

Approved Housing Applicants	2,238
Approved Tenant Transfer Applicants	353

Closed Housing Applications

	May	Year to Date
Closed Applications	64	365

Applications are closed for the following reasons:

- Failure to satisfy the eligibility criteria for social housing support as set out in legislation.
- Failure to submit a complete application and/or further information requested.
- Applicants who have been housed by Limerick City and County Council or an Approved Housing Body.
- Applicants who wish to apply to another local authority or are no longer interested in social housing support.

Allocations

	No. of Units May	Year to Date
Adare-Rathkeale	2	3
Newcastle West	1	4
Metropolitan District	11	65
Cappamore-Kilmallock	3	30
Total	17	102

Refusals

	No. of Units May	Year to Date
Adare-Rathkeale	0	0
Newcastle West	0	0
Metropolitan District	1	8
Cappamore-Kilmallock	1	4
Total	2	12

Approved Housing Body Allocations 2022 (year to date)

Total Nominations	95
Successful Nominations	26
Nominations Pending	58
Unsuccessful Nominations	11

Traveller Accommodation *

No. of Units offered May	1
Year to Date	5

* these figures are included in allocations figures

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Housing Welfare Visits

No. of Visits May	12
Year to Date	70

Rental Assistance Scheme (RAS)

The total number of units in RAS accommodation in May was 1,254, of which 739 were private, 514 were Voluntary and one was Part V. Five new tenancies were created.

Housing Assistance Payments Limerick (HAP)

2,369 active HAP Tenancies monitored, reviewed and maintained.

No. of HAP tenancies set up this month	30
No. of Amendments	425
No. of Cessations	44

RENT COLLECTION

Rent Collection Limerick City and County Council					
Opening Balance at 01.01.2022	Accrued Income	Total for collection	Receipts	Closing Balance 31.05.2022	% Collection
€5,396,118	€7,654,959	€13,051,077	€7,253,006	€5,798,071	56%

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HOME IMPROVEMENT SCHEMES

May 2022		Adare-Rathkeale	Newcastle West	Metropolitan	Cappamore-Kilmallock	Total
Mobility Aids Grants	No. Approved	1	5	6	2	14
	MAG Expenditure	€0.00	€11,500.00	€34,200.00	€5,750.00	€51,450.00
	No. Paid	0	2	6	1	9
Housing Adaptation Grants	No. Approved	5	5	34	2	46
	HAG Expenditure	€15,424.90	€4,887.50	€52,732.20	€0.00	€73,044.60
	No. Paid	2	1	8	0	11
Housing Aid for Older People	No. Approved	7	7	48	6	68
	HOP Expenditure	€30,385.36	€52,115.00	€45,513.65	€7,332.10	€135,346.11
	No. Paid	8	10	14	1	33
Disabled Person's Grant	DPG Expenditure	€0.00	€0.00	25850.28	€14,686.90	€40,537.18
	No. Paid	0	0	4	2	6

Total No. Approved	128
Total Monies Paid	€300,377.89
Total No. Paid	59

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Year-to-Date

Jan-May 2022		Adare-Rathkeale	Newcastle West	Metropolitan	Cappamore-Kilmallock	Total
Mobility Aids Grants	No. Approved	9	9	28	14	60
	MAG Expenditure	€63,664.45	€52,757.27	€137,825.00	€52,990.00	€307,236.72
	No. Paid	12	11	27	10	60
Housing Adaptation Grants	No. Approved	18	11	86	15	130
	HAG Expenditure	€72,806.84	€146,492.09	€359,502.08	€50,772.78	€629,573.79
	No. Paid	10	11	46	6	73
Housing Aid for Older People	No. Approved	15	37	113	29	194
	HOP Expenditure	€98,038.86	€257,290.12	€332,383.24	€138,513.49	€826,225.71
	No. Paid	27	57	92	29	205
Disabled Person's Grant	DPG Expenditure	0	0	€104,327.02	€26,729.25	€131,056.27
	No. Paid	0	0	7	4	11

YTD Total No. Approved	384
YTD Total Monies Paid	€1,894,092.49
YTD Total No. Paid	349

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Community Sustainment Unit

The Community Sustainment Unit is comprised of three main strands: (i) Estate Support (ii) Individual Tenant Support and (iii) Tenancy Enforcement/Anti-Social Behaviour.

1. Estate Support

The main aim of this programme is the provision of supports with a view to improving quality of life and developing community spirit within Council estates. To this end, the Unit works closely with existing residents' associations and encourages the formation of new such groups, supporting the implementation of key actions identified by them to improve their estates. The support provided varies from assistance in provision of minor infrastructural works such as fencing, walls, signage etc. to softer measures such as committee skills training, contributing towards clean-up days, events for children etc.

2. Individual Tenant Support

The Unit provides a service, supported by the Housing Welfare Officer, of intensive support for tenants who may be identified as vulnerable or in need of such help for any other reason. In addition, there is monitoring of individual tenancies that may require particular attention to prevent problems occurring. There is an ongoing programme to reach out to all tenants in our estates. During the month of May, one hundred and eighty-seven such visits were carried out by the Community Sustainment Officers.

Tenancy Induction training is provided for all newly appointed tenants. Among other things, the terms of the Letting Agreements, which are signed, are clearly explained so that the obligations of both the tenants and, indeed, the Council are clearly understood. Thirty-two such inductions took place during May.

On 09 May, an event was held in the Deebert House Hotel, Kilmallock, with twenty-two newly appointed tenants of the Glengrove housing development in Kilmallock. Guests included the Leas-Chathaoirleach of the Municipal District of Cappamore-Kilmallock, Councillor Michael Donegan,

Inspector Pat Brennan and Sergeant Niamh Brosnan, as well as Council Officials from Community Sustainment Unit and Rents Unit. Tenancy Induction was delivered to all newly appointed tenants and they received the keys to their homes on the day.

3. Tenancy Enforcement/Anti-Social Behaviour

The Unit deals with in excess of 400 complaints each year, with approximately half of these relating to anti-social behaviour. The Council's policy is to respond to these issues quickly and firmly and it works in close co-operation with An Garda Síochána where necessary. The number of active cases at end of May was one hundred and eighty. The number of cases closed during May was fifty. The Community Sustainment Team secured possession of thirteen Council properties during the month, following death of tenant, abandonment of property or other particular circumstances.

The Unit carries out formal Garda checks on prospective new tenants. Sixty-three such formal reviews were undertaken during May.

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Limerick Homeless Action Team - Pathway Accommodation and Support System (PASS) Data

Date: 11 May, 2022		
Individuals		
Location	Description	Beds Used
McGarry House	Mixed Low threshold accommodation for singles	30
Oak Lodge	Adults without children accommodated in low threshold emergency accommodation	55
Thomond House	Higher threshold accommodation for single females	16
St. Joseph Street	Higher threshold accommodation for single females	5
B&B (no children)	Adults without children accommodated in B&B	14
Temporary Emergency Provision (TEP1 (Edenvilla))	Low threshold, night-by-night (9pm-9am) emergency accommodation. Mixed	12
Temporary Emergency Provision TEP 2 (Phoenix Lodge)	Low threshold, night-by-night (9pm-9am) emergency accommodation. Mixed	19
Total		151

Families				
Location	Description	Beds Used		
		Adults	Children	Families
Suaimhneas	Family Emergency accommodation	6	9	6
B&B/Hotel Accommodation	Families	47	65	31
Twin Oaks Family Hub	Family Hub	13	14	10
Totals		Adults	Children	Families
		66	88	47

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Tenant Purchase/Ground Rent/Deed of Discharge/Consent to Sale/Cottage Purchase Annuity details:

Tenant Purchase	
Tenant Purchase Applications: No. received	3
Tenant Purchase Applications: No. approved	0
Local Authority Home Loans	
Loan Applications: No. received	20
Loan Applications: No. approved	2
Deed of Discharge	
Deed of Discharge Applications: No. Received	14
Consent to Sale	
Consent to Sale Applications: No. Received	3
Cottage Purchase Annuity	
No of Cottage Purchase Annuity Applications	2
Ground Rent	
No of Ground Rent applications	2
Private Rented Inspections	
No. of Inspections	91

Freedom of Information, Data Requests and Ombudsman

Freedom of Information requested submitted	3
Ombudsman Query Cases	7
Data Access Requests	2

2. Local Authority Housing Construction and Maintenance

The Team is dedicated to delivering:

- Build programme on Council-owned lands.
- Council stock refurbishment.
- Council stock maintenance.

Local Authority Housing Construction

Project Updates

Return of Derelict Units: Work continues on the different Lots for the return of derelict units. Currently the scoping and designs for two Lots of the derelict houses have been completed and the tender documentation is being prepared. The tender returns for another Lot have been received and these are being assessed at present.

SHIP (Social Housing Investment Programme) Projects: Stage 1 approval for SHIP Site at No. 52 Thomondgate has been received from the Department and it can now move to the next stage. No other stage approvals were received since the previous report.

No recoupment of claimable expenditure was received since the previous report.

Affordable Housing Fund (SSF Serviced Sites Fund)

Toppins Field Lands: The integrated Design Team, led by Allies and Morrison / Cullen Payne Architects, is now evaluating the existing masterplan against the forthcoming Limerick Development Plan in collaboration with the Limerick City and County Council Affordable Housing Fund Team. A feasibility report is also being compiled to test and identify the most suitable and viable mix of tenures and unit typologies on the site.

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Local Authority Maintenance

Voids 2022

Circular 18/2022 has issued from the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage.

Assistance at a rate of €11,000/unit for approved works to each returned unit to a value €1,089,000 has been provided. This grant assistance will assist in the return of up to 99 units throughout the year in the Voids Programme. The balance of the funding requirement will be provided by Limerick City and County Council resources. These works are undertaken by a combination of Limerick City and County Council direct labour teams and contractor led works in each District.

Energy Efficiency and Retrofit Programme

The Energy Efficiency and Retrofit Programme 2022 (Circular 14/2022) has been issued. Approval has been received to seek grant assistance for the upgrading of homes to include energy efficiency measures such as external wall insulation, attic insulation, heat pump systems, window and door replacement, lighting upgrades and other supports. The completed works will see a home being improved to a B2 standard. Currently dwellings within the social housing stock are being assessed for inclusion in this year's programme.

Local Authority Houses: Maintenance Complaints dealt with during May

Housing Maintenance and Housing Cases - May	Requests/Cases Created	Cases Dealt With/ Closed	Balance of Open Cases at 31.05.2022
Metropolitan District	750	778	984
Municipal District of Adare-Rathkeale	62	100	408
Municipal District of Cappamore-Kilmallock	117	108	177
Municipal District of Newcastle West	100	136	615
Total	1,029	1,122	2,184

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Grants Inspections

Metropolitan District of Limerick - Inspections and Recommendations for Home Improvement Schemes/Disability Adaptations - May

Inspection Types	Pre-application	Initial Inspection	Re-inspection	Final Inspections after Works completed	Total Inspections by Grant Type
MAGs (Mobility Adaptation Grant Scheme)	0	7	0	5	12
HAGs (Housing Adaptation Grant Scheme)	2	13	0	12	27
HOPS (Housing Aid for Older Persons Grant Scheme)	0	29	0	29	58
DPGs (Disabled Person Grant)	0	0	0	1	1
Total Inspections by Inspection Type	2	49	0	47	98

Municipal District of Cappamore-Kilmallock - Inspections and Recommendations for Home Improvement Schemes/Disability Adaptations - May

Inspection Types	Pre-application	Initial Inspection	Re-inspection	Final Inspections after Works completed	Total Inspections by Grant Type
MAGs (Mobility Adaptation Grant Scheme)	0	1	1	6	8
HAGs (Housing Adaptation Grant Scheme)	0	4	2	8	14
HOPS (Housing Aid for Older Persons Grant Scheme)	0	9	0	11	20
DPGs (Disabled Person Grant)	0	0	0	0	0
Total Inspections by Inspection Type	0	14	3	25	42

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Municipal District of Adare-Rathkeale – Inspections and Recommendations for Home Improvement Schemes/ Disability Adaptations – May

Inspection Types	Pre-application	Initial Inspection	Re-inspection	Final Inspections after Works completed	Total Inspections by Grant Type
MAGs (Mobility Adaptation Grant Scheme)	0	3	0	1	4
HAGs (Housing Adaptation Grant Scheme)	0	3	0	2	5
HOPS (Housing Aid for Older Persons Grant Scheme)	0	6	0	6	12
DPGs (Disabled Person Grant)	0	0	0	0	0
Total Inspections by Inspection Type	0	12	0	9	21

Municipal District of Newcastle West – Inspections and Recommendations for Home Improvement Schemes/ Disability Adaptations – May

Inspection Types	Pre-application	Initial Inspection	Re-inspection	Final Inspections after Works completed	Total Inspections by Grant Type
MAGs (Mobility Adaptation Grant Scheme)	0	5	0	1	6
HAGs (Housing Adaptation Grant Scheme)	0	5	0	1	6
HOPS (Housing Aid for Older Persons Grant Scheme)	0	11	0	12	23
DPGs (Disabled Person Grant)	0	0	0	0	0
Total Inspections by Inspection Type	0	21	0	14	35

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3. Strategy & Non-Local Authority Housing Construction

The Team is dedicated to delivering:

- Formulation of Housing Strategies and Policies.
- Social-Rental Build Programme with Approved Housing Bodies and Private Developers/Builders.
- Social-Rental Acquisition Programme.
- Social-Rental Lease Programme.
- Affordable Housing with Private Developers/Builders.

1. BUILD, BUY AND LEASE

Buy/Build/Lease as of 31.05.2022 is as follows:

As at 31 May (01.01.22 - 31.05.22)				
	Complete	In Progress	Overall Complete and In Progress	"Housing for All" 2022 Delivery Target
Build	58	348	406	565
Buy	9	39	48*	0
Lease	13	63	76	21**
TOTAL	80	450	530	

* includes 33 units carried over from 2021.

** Limerick City and County Council has a target of 21 short-term leasing units. The 66 units in progress is made up of units carried over from 2021.

2. CURRENT OPERATIONAL PROGRAMME

14 properties were returned in May to be inspected and categorised under four categories:

Category 1 – Light refurbishment.

Category 2 – Minor refurbishment e.g. kitchen/ bathroom/ heating upgrades.

Category 3 – Deep retrofit e.g. wall insulation, windows, M&E (mechanical and electrical).

Category 4 – Derelict i.e. structural works – reroofing, complete retrofit.

House Returns May - Categorisation	
Cat 1	1
Cat 2	1
Cat 3	0
Cat 4	0
To be inspected	12
Total	14

House Returns May By Municipal District	
Adare-Rathkeale	2
Cappamore-Kilmallock	1
Newcastle West	2
Metropolitan District	9
Total	14

During May, Limerick City and County Council Strategy and Non-Local Authority Housing Construction Team was notified of two houses returned in the Municipal District of Adare-Rathkeale, one in the Municipal District of Cappamore-Kilmallock, two in the Municipal District of Newcastle West and nine in the Metropolitan District of Limerick.

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Current Housing Works Programme		
	Completed in May	In Progress
Local Authority Construction Team	0	109
Local Authority Maintenance Team	5	65
Approved Housing Body stock transfer in process	0	27
Regeneration Team	0	19
Team to be assigned	NA	28
Total	5	248

In May works on five properties were completed by the Local Authority Maintenance Team.

There are three teams in Limerick City and County Council assigned to refurbish properties. As of May, the Local Authority Construction Team is in the process of completing works in 109 properties, Local Authority Maintenance Team 65 properties and the Regeneration Team 19 properties. Approved Housing Body stock transfer in process - 27 properties. 28 properties have no Team assigned yet.

The Strategy and Non LA Housing Construction Team is currently looking at more sustainable solutions to the issue of vacant properties in our ownership.

- **Option 1** - assign to internal team for the refurbishment.
- **Option 2** - consider disposal to Approved Housing Body.

Options 2 is being considered at present with a view to moving through the current batch of houses that are vacant. Where Option 2 is proposed, the Team of the Housing Directorate will bring the matter before the relevant Municipal District for approval, with all disposals going through Section 183 for the approval of the Full Council.

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3. UPDATES

Finance

Claims totalling €9,744,694 were sent to the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage in May.

Claims totalling €7,053,402 were paid by the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage in May.

Project Approvals and Submissions

Project submissions to the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage in May

Scheme	Project Details	District
Capital Assistance Scheme	Stage 1 Construction Submission for 10 units at Glin, County Limerick	Municipal District of Newcastle West
Capital Assistance Scheme	Revised Stage 4 Construction Submission for 18 units at Thomondgate, Limerick	Metropolitan District of Limerick
Capital Assistance Scheme	Submission for the acquisition of two units at Joseph Street, Limerick	Metropolitan District of Limerick
Capital Assistance Scheme	Submission for the acquisition of one unit at Emmet Place, Limerick	Metropolitan District of Limerick
Part V	Submission for the approval of a Disability Community Dwelling at North Circular, Limerick	Metropolitan District of Limerick
Buy & Renew Acquisition (Private Downsizing)	Submission for the acquisition of one unit at Georgian Village, Limerick	Metropolitan District of Limerick
Buy & Renew Acquisition (Private Downsizing)	Submission for the acquisition of one unit at Rathbane, Limerick	Metropolitan District of Limerick
Social Housing Investment Programme (SHIP)	Submission for the acquisition of one unit at Newcastle West, Limerick	Municipal District of Newcastle West

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Project approvals from the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage in May

Scheme	Project Details	District
Short Term Lease Arrangements	Approval received to lease six units in Limerick City. Four units in James Street and two units in Sexton Street.	Metropolitan District of Limerick
Mortgage to Rent - under the Social Housing Current Expenditure Programme (SHCEP)	Approval to lease two properties under the Mortgage to Rent Scheme.	Metropolitan District of Limerick
Mortgage to Rent - under the Social Housing Current Expenditure Programme (SHCEP)	Approval to lease one property under the Mortgage to Rent Scheme.	Municipal District of Cappamore-Kilmallock
Capital Assistance Scheme	Acquisition approval for one unit at Emmet Place, Limerick	Metropolitan District of Limerick
Capital Assistance Scheme	Acquisition approval for two units at Joseph Street, Limerick	Metropolitan District of Limerick
Capital Assistance Scheme	Stage 3 Construction approval for eight units at Alphonsus Street, Limerick	Metropolitan District of Limerick
Capital Assistance Scheme	Stage 3 Construction approval for 12 units at Mallow Street, Limerick	Metropolitan District of Limerick
Capital Assistance Scheme	Stage 3 Construction approval for five units at Croom	Municipal District of Adare-Rathkeale

Conferences and Workshops

Housing Practitioners' Conference

Staff from the Housing Directorate attended the Housing Practitioners' Conference on 26 and 27 May. The Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage, Darragh O'Brien, TD, opened the Conference, which involved a day and a half of subject matter experts discussing best practice and policy on housing as well as a series of workshops. This year's conference was organised under the umbrella of Housing for All: Supply, Sustainability and Capacity.

Part V Costs: A Webinar for Local Authority Practitioners

Part V refers to Part V of the Planning and Development Acts 2000, as amended. The purpose of Part V is for the State to capture a portion of the increase in land value resulting from the granting of planning permission for residential development. The current Part V legislation provides for local authorities to acquire 20% of this land at existing use value and to utilise this land to deliver homes to those households who qualify for social and affordable housing support. The use of the land for the delivery of social, affordable purchase and cost rental housing

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satisfies a policy objective of encouraging integrated development and reducing housing segregation.

The Housing Agency and the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage have developed information and resources on Part V of the Planning and Development Act 2000, as amended, which are available to the wider housing sector <https://www.housingagency.ie/news-events/part-v-information-and-resources>.

On 17 May, staff from the Housing Directorate attended a webinar for Local Authority Practitioners on Part V Costs. Discussions included the role of a quantity surveyor in the Part V process, negotiating with developers on costs, and the challenges arising from recent construction inflation.

Assisted Decision-Making

The Assisted Decision- Making (Capacity) Act 2015 is about supporting decision-making and maximising a person's capacity to make decisions. Staff from Housing Directorate attended a one-day training session on Assisted Decision-Making Legislation in May

4. Municipal District Offices

Metropolitan District of Limerick

Upgrade/Refurbishment Works either started or completed during May

Description of Project: Scanlan Park Castleconnell Local Roads Reconstruction

- Location: Scanlan Park Castleconnell.
- Cost of project: €75,000.
- Contractor: Roadstone.

Description of Project: Rathbane Local Roads Reconstruction

- Location: Rathbane.
- Cost of project: €72,000.
- Contractor: Roadstone.

Description of Project: Sunville Local Roads Reconstruction

- Location: Sunville Avenue.
- Cost of project: €85,000.
- Contractor: Roadstone.

Description of Project: Iona Local Roads Reconstruction

- Location: Iona Drive.
- Cost of project: €106,000.
- Contractor: Roadstone.

Description of Project: Rosbrien Road Local Roads Reconstruction

- Location: Rosbrien Road.
- Cost of project: €160,000.
- Contractor: Roadstone.

Description of Project: Churchhill Local Roads Reconstruction

- Location: Churchhill Link Road.
- Cost of project: €450,000.
- Contractor: Roadstone.

Description of Project: Bengal Terrace Footpath Refurbishment

- Location: Bengal Terrace.
- Cost of project: €25,000.
- Contractor: Limerick City and County Council Roads Team.

Description of Project: Collins Avenue / O'Malley Park Footpath Refurbishment

- Location: Collins Avenue / O'Malley Park.
- Cost of project: €82,000.
- Contractor: Maramba.

Description of Project: School Road Lisnagry Footpaths

- Location: School Road, Lisnagry.
- Cost of project: €260,000.
- Contractor: Limerick City and County Council Roads Team.

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Description of Project: Footpath Refurbishment Roseville Gardens / Park Gardens Corbally

- Location: Roseville Gardens / Park Gardens Corbally.
- Cost of project: €150,000.
- Contractor: Peter Ryan.

Description of Project: Footpath Refurbishment Kennedy Park

- Location: Kennedy Park.
- Cost of project: €130,000.
- Contractor: Maramba.

Description of Project: Donoughmore Installation of Gullies and Pipework

- Location: Donoughmore.
- Cost of project: €35,000.
- Contractor: Limerick City and County Council Roads Team.

Description of Project: Installation of Gullies and Pipework

- Location: Donoughmore.
- Cost of project: €50,000.
- Contractor: Limerick City and County Council Roads Team.

Description of Project: Road Drainage and Rehabilitation of Footpaths

- Location: Lisnagry National School.
- Cost of project: €27,000.
- Contractor: Limerick City and County Council Roads Team.

Description of Project: Footpath Refurbishment Works

- Location: Irish Estates, Corbally.
- Cost of project: €150,000.
- Contractor: Peter Ryan.

Metropolitan District Meetings

May Monthly Meeting

The May Monthly Meeting of the Metropolitan District of Limerick took place on 16 May.

Special Briefings

Special Briefings were held during May for the Elected Members of the Metropolitan District on:

- Active Travel Overview and Update;
- Quarterly Housing Delivery Update.

Operational Area Briefings

Operational Area Briefings were also held for the Elected Members in early May.

Municipal District of Adare-Rathkeale

The monthly meeting of the Municipal District of Adare-Rathkeale took place on 11 May in the Woodlands House, Hotel, Adare.

Essential repairs to social houses and public roads were undertaken by the Housing Maintenance and Roads Maintenance Teams:

- 79 cases were assigned to the Housing Maintenance Team.
- 51 cases were assigned to the Roads Maintenance Team.

Capital Road Projects

Marine Cove Foynes – New Culvert under N69 and overflow Spillway currently underway.

€41,310 funding announced for Office of Public Works Minor Works Scheme at Ballyshonick, Pallaskenry.

Walkway on old N20 at Croom substantially completed under the Outdoor Recreation Infrastructure Fund.

Active Travel funded works ongoing at Creora GAA and Station Road, Adare.

Old Kildimo Junction Improvement Works complete.

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Municipal District of Cappamore-Kilmallock

Monthly Meeting

The Monthly Meeting of the Municipal District of Cappamore-Kilmallock was held in the Council Chamber, Dooradoyle, on 19 May.

Correspondence received from Minister Peter Burke's Office regarding the Directly Elected Mayor was read into the minutes.

An outline of the briefing and public display events for the upcoming N24 Cahir to Limerick Junction Preferred Transport Solution was provided.

The GMA (General Municipal Allocation) Roads, Tourism and Community Nominations 2022 budget was formally approved.

Workshops

A Workshop to plan a Civic Reception for the Municipal District of Cappamore-Kilmallock was held on 19 May.

A Supplementary Workshop to finalise the GMA Roads, Tourism and Community Nominations 2022 was held on 12 May.

Housing and Roads Maintenance

- 115 cases were assigned to the Housing Maintenance Team.
- 88 cases were assigned to the Roads Maintenance Team.

Housing Grants

Two Private Housing Grants were paid and 10 were approved. 14 initial inspections were undertaken, there were three re-inspections and 25 final inspections.

In relation to Disabled Persons Grants, one project commenced and was completed, and two Contractors were appointed.

Road Works

The following works were undertaken:

- Murroe Footpath Improvement Works.
- Restoration Improvement Works on the:
 - R518 Ballygubba Kilmallock.
 - R512 The Pike Bruff.
 - R662 Galbally.
- Drainage Works on the R662 Lissard Drainage Scheme.

Municipal District of Newcastle West

- The Monthly Meeting of the Municipal District of Newcastle West took place on 04 May in Áras William Smith O'Brien, Newcastle West.
- A Special Meeting of the Municipal District of Newcastle West took place on 25 May in Áras William Smith O'Brien, Newcastle West.
- 17 grant applications were approved under the Private Housing Grant Schemes. The total value of approvals was €113,256.00.
- Payments of €52,115 were made to 10 applicants who completed works under the Housing Aid for Older People Scheme.
- Payments of €4,887.50 were made to one applicant who completed works under the Housing Adaptation Grant Scheme.
- Payments of €11,500 were made to two applicants who completed works under the Mobility Aids Housing Grant Scheme.
- Routine road maintenance work, including the opening of drainage inlets along roadways and the repair and replacement of signage, also took place.
- During the month, the Motor Tax Section at the Newcastle West Office processed 1,128 routine transactions.

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Planning, Environment & Place-Making Directorate

1. Place-Making and Public Realm

Project Updates

Place-Making

O'Connell Street Revitalisation Project - paving works have continued in Block 1 West (from Sarsfield Street to Denmark Street in front of Penny's), with further sections of pedestrian paving opened to the public. Watermain works have continued in this Block, with the first section of the old and redundant watermain being removed. In Block 2 and Block 3 West between Sarsfield Street and Shannon Street, paving works are continuing at the Junction of Bedford Row and O'Connell St. Heras fencing was removed from a large portion on both of these blocks on the 28 May and this area is now freely accessible to the public. In Block 4 in front of the International Rugby Experience building, civil & paving works are continuing. Repair works have also been carried out to existing historical vaults in this area.

King's Island Walled Town Rejuvenation Works - the planters added to Nicholas Street and Verdant Place have been cleaned and replanted with bamboo, hydrangea, carex, and a variety of spring and winter bulbs to sustain growth throughout the year. A wildflower meadow is to be sown at the base of the Dolores O'Riordan Mural.

"Meanwhile Uses" at Honan's Quay - Traffic Management Consultant CHM LTD appointed to implement the Traffic Management Plans for Catherine Street, Sarsfield Bridge, and Honan's Quay road closures taking place on the June Bank Holiday weekend. These are to allow for street festivals to take place. Artwork by Lumen Street Theatre has commenced on Honan's Quay to paint ironworks, which include bollards, downpipes, and elements of the undercarriage of the Swivel Bridge. Cleansing work has taken place at the Swivel Bridge, along with grass cutting to the area adjacent to Shannon Boat Club inside Honan's Quay crash barriers.

Public Realm

Castletroy Park Playground Extension Works - The Playground was officially opened by the Mayor, Daniel Butler on 03 May.

Limerick Greenway Underpasses and overpasses - Construction has commenced on the construction of two cattle passes between Abbeyfeale and the Kerry Border. Detailed Design of further underpasses and overpasses to separate a number of livestock crossings from the Greenway is progressing together with landowner liaison. Part 8 Planning was approved for one overpass at Port, Abbeyfeale.

Limerick Greenway Newcastle West Carpark - design of a carpark for Greenway users at Station Road Newcastle West is progressing.

Adare Public Realm Plan - second public engagement day for the Draft Adare Public Realm plan was advertised in local papers and took place in Adare Town Hall on the 17 May from 16.30pm to 19.00pm with over 30 people in attendance. The date for feedback on the Draft Adare public realm plan on Limerick's MyPoint website was extended until 23 May. The submission period has now closed and public comments and contributions are being reviewed with a view to informing the principles and guidance contained within the finalised Public Realm Strategy.

Flood Protection - National Catchment Flood Risk Assessment and Management (CFRAM Programme)

Limerick City and Environs Flood Relief Scheme -

- Priority Geotechnical Ltd have been appointed to undertake the detailed geotechnical investigations of the existing embankments throughout the scheme area. The embankments outside the ownership of the OPW require planning consent under the 177AE Planning Application which is awaiting approval from An Bord Pleanála. Murphy Geospatial has completed

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the level surveys of the embankments, river channels and structures. Survey information will be used to inform the geotechnical assessment of the existing embankments and the development of the 1d and 2d hydraulic models.

- Hydrographic Surveys Ltd completed carrying out the Bathymetric Survey for the project. This survey recorded riverbed levels in the estuary upstream of Shannon Airport and will be used to develop the hydraulic model.
- Apex Surveys Ltd have been appointed to undertake the Public Realm Topographical surveys and are set to finish at the end of early June.

Adare Flood Relief Scheme - Site investigation works tender complete and appointment of site investigation contractor underway. Storm Sewer Investigation contract documents finalised and will be tendered in the coming week. Ecology surveys ongoing along the river Maigue. Awaiting Ministerial approval to proceed with site investigation.

Athea Flood relief Scheme - Draft Hydraulic model complete and final site investigations works complete. Optioneering workshop was held to refine various options. Awaiting decision from An Bord Pleanála to allow gravel removal from river bed. Commenced ecology surveys along River Galey.

Castleconnell Flood Relief Scheme - Draft Hydraulic model complete. A number of meetings were held with key stakeholders/ landowners in Castleconnell to inform option development. Commenced ecology surveys along the banks of the Shannon.

Capital Projects

Dock Road Improvement Scheme - The Compulsory Purchase Order for the scheme is with An Bord Pleanála. One objection was lodged.

Newcastle West Athletics Hub - Construction of a new 8 lane Athletics track and ancillary facilities is progressing on site.

Park Road Bridge - Detailed design is underway for a proposed new bridge between South Canal Bank and Lower Park Road which will improve the pedestrian, cyclist and vehicle crossing facilities of the canal. A Geotechnical Investigation Contractor has been appointed.

Askeaton Swimming Pool - Flood Protection Works. The Stage 1 EXEED application to SEAI for funding to carry out an Energy Study was successful and Lawler Sustainability are now progressing the Study and preparing a Stage 2 Application.

Mungret Local Infrastructure Housing Activation Fund (LIHAF) - Appointment of Sorensen Civil Engineering Limited on Mungret LIHAF Stage 2 road on 20 May. The contract Sum is €10,753,491.96 excluding VAT. The scheme involves the construction of approximately 1,610 metres of new roadway west of the R510 Regional Road and south of the R859 Regional Road in Mungret, County Limerick. The new roadway will comprise of two number roads (Road 1 approximately 1,210 metres long and Road 2 approximately 400 metres long) and a new junction connecting these new roads. The proposed new roadway will be 26.9 metres wide, consisting of a 6.5 metre wide carriageway, 2.5 metre car parking facility either side of the carriageway, two number 1.2 metre wide verges, two number 2 metre wide footpaths, two number 2 metre wide cyclepath and two number 2.5 metre wide privacy strips. The footpath and cyclepath are required to be provided on both sides of the proposed roads and at the proposed junction of the new roads. Public street lighting shall also be provided along the new roads. Bus-bays/stops and pedestrian crossings on a raised platform/ramp shall also be provided as part of the new road works. All services to facilitate the development of the residential development shall be provided along the new of roads. The construction of the road infrastructure also includes the provision of all necessary drainage works, foul and water main works and the provision of all necessary road markings and signage.

King's Island Flood Relief Scheme - Appointment of Lymar Contracts Limited on Refurbishment of Athlunkard Boat Club meeting room as part of accommodation works.

Archaeology - The Archaeology Section applied successfully, on behalf of Cemeteries, under Stream 1

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of the Community Monuments Fund, Department of Housing, Local Government & Heritage for capital works to the old church in Kilfinnane and the tower house in Ballynoe Graveyard, Bruree. It also applied for advance surveys for Galbally Church under the Heritage Council's new Heritage Stewardship Fund. In collaboration with local community groups it applied for a non-invasive survey at the site of the old monastic site on Kilmallock Hill under Stream 3 of the Community Monuments Fund. It also applied, under the Irish Walled Towns Network Capital (IWTN) Fund, Heritage Council, for the next phase of works to the City Wall at Johnsgate, Irishtown. All of these projects will be completed by November 2022. The IWTN Events Grant contributed to the voyage of the Ilen between the two walled port towns of Limerick & London. As IWTN representative for Limerick & Vice Chair of the Management Committee of the IWTN, the Local Authority Archaeologist toured the, largely Roman, Walls of London guided by a representative from English Heritage.

2. Planning Development

Planning Applications

A total of 116 new planning applications were received as follows:

Category	Amount
Part 8	4
Housing Developments	0
Domestic Developments	77
Agricultural Developments	8
Commercial Developments/ Change of Use	13
Sporting/ Community and Educational Developments	3
Other Developments	11

The current applications include proposals for:

- Construction of six commercial enterprise units, access road, car parking, signage and all associated

infrastructure and site development works at New Road/ Knockalisheen Road, Ballynanty More, Moyross, Limerick.

- Part 8 for the development of segregated cycle lanes and footpath upgrades along Fr Russell Road between Quinn's Cross Roundabout and the junction with Gouldavoher with dedicated pedestrian and cycle crossing facilities.
- Part 8 for the development of segregated cycle lanes and footpath upgrades along the extent of the R510 between Quinn's Cross Roundabout & Raheen Roundabout with dedicated pedestrian and cycle crossing facilities.

3. Environment, Recreation & Climate Change

Cemeteries

Number of Burials in City Cemeteries

Mount St. Lawrence	24
Mount St. Oliver	11
Castlemungret	18
Kilmurry	3

Waste Regulation and Enforcement

During the month -

- 297 complaints were received.
- A total of 407 inspections were undertaken.
- 123 Warnings were issued.
- Two Notices were issued.
- Four Directions were served by the Department.
- Five Prosecutions were initiated.
- A total of 21 fines were issued during the period.

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4. Urban Innovation

+CityxChange

+CityxChange – Extension Period

+CityxChange is currently in the implementation phase of the project. The project timeline indicates that this phase is due to finish at the end of October. However, some project works still need completion due to unforeseen barriers faced within this phase of the project. Partners are currently in discussion on whether a further 6-month extension is needed due to these incompletions.

Open Innovation Call 3

Limerick City and County Council are now looking for applicants for its Open Call 3: Social Innovation and Energy Collaboration. Open Innovation Call 3 will support projects that explore social and other innovations to enable energy collaboration. We are looking for ideas that can help us work together to reduce the amount of energy used. Applications for Open Call 3 are currently open. For more information, see [mypoint.ie/ Open Call 3: Social Innovation and Energy Collaboration Link - Open Innovation Call 3 : Social Innovation and Energy Collaboration | Limerick City & County Council's Online Consultation Portal](https://mypoint.ie/OpenCall3)

Decarbonising Together - A Creative Climate Action Fund Project

The Decarbonising Together Creative Call application process ended 16 May. An Assessment panel was formed to select suitable creative partners based on a set criteria. As part of the Decarbonising Together Project selected partners would have to support already chosen community concepts. On selection of the five chosen creatives, a further meeting was held to finalise the suitability of the collaboration groups.

5. Veterinary Services

- Seven stray or wandering equines were impounded.
- The Dog Control Unit processed 19 dogs during the month.
- Three food sample was submitted for analysis under the National Residues and Microbiological Sampling Programme.



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National and Regional Shared Services Centre Directorate

1. Housing Assistance Payments (HAP) Shared Services Centre (SSC)

- There were 61,057 active HAP tenancies nationally, managed by the HAP SSC at the end of May.
- A weekly average of 185 HAP tenancies have been set up during 2022.
- The May landlord payment run was €56.4 million.
- The weekly tenant charge at the end of May was €3.1 million.
- The Debt Management Unit of the HAP SSC collected a total of €65.8m million in differential rent to end of May.
- The HAP tenant rent collection rate at the end of May was 96%.
- The Debt Management Unit issued 7,570 HAP debt reminder letters in May.

2. Fire and Emergency

Statistics

	No of Fire Related Calls	No of Non Fire Related Calls	Total
No. of call outs 01.05.2022 – 31.05.2022	58	51	109
% of calls where on scene in < 10 mins from time of call	54	59	
% of calls where on scene between 11 and 20 mins from time of call	24	21	
% of calls where on scene in > 20 mins from time of call	22	20	

	No. received / assigned	No. validated	No. invalidated / refused	No. granted	No. Completed
Fire Certificate Applications May	24	18	1	4	5
Disability Access Cert Applications May	5	4	0	8	12
Licensing Applications May	4		0	4	
Commencement Notice May	61	55	5	55	60
Completion Certificate May	14	11	0	11	11
Planning Referrals May	13				13
Sugar CRM Cases May	8				3

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Fire and Emergency Training Events

During the month, the following training courses took place:

- Five personnel were successfully retrained and assessed in Emergency Service Driving Standards.
- A Station Officer completed a Road Traffic Collision Instructor Course in Nenagh.
- A Sub Station Officer completed a Module 2 Incident Management course in Nenagh.
- A Sub Station Officer completed a Wildland Firefighting course in Ennis.
- Four firefighters were trained in the use of the Simon Snorkel aerial platform by our in-house instructors.
- On Station training progressing in each station.

Management would like to thank all staff and instructors for their efforts over the last few months during a very busy period of training.

Civil Defence attendance at Events

The following activity took place in May:

- Regeneron Great Limerick Run, Limerick – Medical cover - 1 day
- Riverfest Fireworks, Limerick – Boat cover - 1 day
- Darkness into Light, Limerick City - 1 day
- Emergency Rest Centre Transfer (Limerick – Ukrainian Embassy, Dublin, return) - 1 day
- End-of-Year Bash at University of Limerick – Medical cover - 1 day
- Limerick Primary School Sports at University of Limerick arena – Medical cover - 1 day
- Bike Week Parade, Arthur's Quay, Limerick – Medical cover - 1 day

Water Safety

No. of lifebuoy replacements	Total January-April	May	Total 2022
Metropolitan District	4	1	5
Municipal District	1	3	4

Munster Regional Communications Centre

	No. of Calls mobilised to an emergency incident by MRCC	Other Calls	Average call processing time in minutes and seconds	Total No. of calls in May
No. of call-outs 01.05.2022 – 31.05.2022	814	1,140	1:44	1,954

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Support Services Directorate

1. Finance

Commercial Rates and Loans

Draft Collection Figures

Commercial Rates 2022	
As at 31st May 2022	
Opening Balance - 1 Jan €	8,732,896
Accruals €	59,596,744 **
Vacant Property Adjustment €	198,592
Writes offs/ Waivers €	2,329,593
Total for Collection €	65,801,455
Amount Collected €	26,059,046
Arrears €	39,742,409
Specific Doubtful Arrears €	3,216,857
% Collected	42%

** The Date for Making the 2022 Rate was 26 January 2022

Recourse to Overdraft Facility

No. of days in overdraft 0

Debtors Loans	
As at 31st May 2022	
Opening Balance - 1 Jan €	310,319
Accruals €	621,287 ^
Writes offs €	-
To Collect €	931,606
Receipts €	811,693
Arrears €	119,913
% Collected	87%

^ Accruals not updated for loans for May 2022

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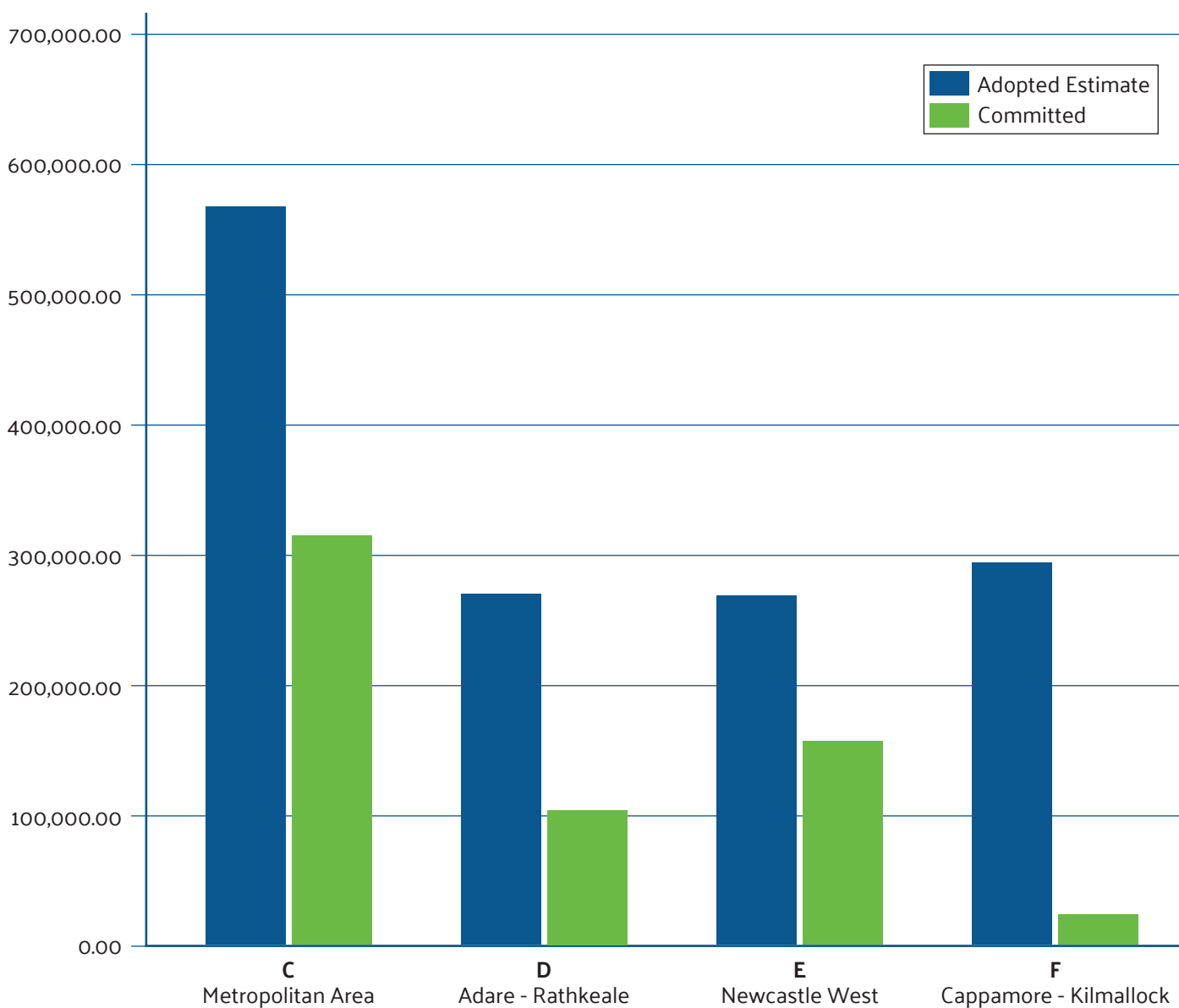


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Limerick City & County Council

General Municipal Allocation 2022 Adopted Estimate €1.403 Million

Graph outlining adopted budget and draft committed expenditure up to 31 May 2022



Municip (Code) + (Text)	Value Adopted Estimate (€)	Value Committed (€)
C Metropolitan Area	568,000.00	314,996
D Adare - Rathkeale	270,000.00	104,019
E Newcastle West	270,000.00	159,004
F Cappamore - Kilmallock	295,000.00	25,677

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2. Business Improvement

- Staff Liaison Network Meeting was held on 11 May.
- A total of 916 active users are now live on the Employee App.
- There are now 700 services on the Limerick City and County Council Service Catalogue.
- There are 251 capital projects now managed through Cora, our cloud-based project management system. Project Managers and Sponsors can now request job codes, budget adjustments, reports and a digitised audit trail through an automated workflow.
- Collaborated with various departments to launch Section 38 consultations and Part VIII consultations on MyPoint.

3. Corporate, Governance and Customer Services

Office of the Mayor

Mayoral Receptions were held for the following:

- **Liam Dillon**
In recognition of his voluntary contribution to the Caherdavin Community over 40 years.
- **Michael Graham**
In recognition of his dedicated service to Claughaun GAA Club over 50 years.
- **Declan Real**
In recognition of his voluntary service to the youth and community sector over 35 years.
- **Catholic Institute Women's Senior Hockey Team**
In recognition of the singular achievement of The Catholic Institute Women's Senior Hockey Team in winning the Women's Irish Senior Cup in 2022. This was the highlight of a remarkable year of success for hockey in the Institute.

The Mayor hosted the following in Corporate Headquarters:

- Courtesy Visit of the Ambassador of Romania.
- Courtesy Visit of the Ambassador for the Netherlands to Ireland.

The office of the Mayor co-ordinated and arranged for the Mayor to attend the following functions/events:

- Attendance at Riverfest Limerick 2022.
- Official Opening of Castletroy Playground.
Venue: Playground at Castletroy Park, opposite Castletroy College, Limerick.
- Limerick Gospel Choir, launching new Choir Gowns.
Venue: Clayton Hotel, Limerick.
- Office Opening for Transact Campus Inc.
Venue: Gardens International. Henry Street, Limerick.
- Official Launch of Ballyhoura Trails Guide App.
Venue: Ballyhoura Mountain Bike Trailhead, Ballyorgan/ Ardpatrick, Co. Limerick.
- Photocall for the handing over of keys of the Bank of Ireland branch at Rathkeale.
Venue: Rathkeale, Co. Limerick.
- Meeting with Ukraine Delegation.
Venue: Cahermoyle, Ardagh, Co. Limerick.
- Launch of Limerick Lifelong Learning Festival 2022. This year's festival theme - 'Learn Something New in 2022.'
Venue: Kilmallock Library, Kilmallock, Co. Limerick.
- 12 Infantry Battalion and Sarsfield Barracks, Opening of Sarsfield Barracks Gymnasium.
Venue: Sarsfield Barracks, Limerick.
- Ed Sheeran Concert.
Venue: Thomond Park, Limerick.

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- Enthronement of the Rt. Revd. Michael AJ Burrows, Bishop of Limerick, Ardferd, Aghadoe and Emly.
Venue: St. Mary's Cathedral. Limerick.
- Munster Senior Hurling Championship, Limerick vs Tipperary.
Venue: TUS Gaelic Grounds, Ennis Road, Limerick.
- Launch of the Pig 'n' Porter Festival 2022.
Venue: Old Crescent RFC, Limerick.
- Meeting delegation for the International Bus of the Year (IBOY) Euro Bus Test.
Venue: Coach Park on Merchant's Quay, Limerick.
- Official Launch of the 2022 Live at the Docklands 2022 Concert Series.
Venue: Dolan's Pub and Restaurant, 3-4 Dock Road, Limerick.
- Mr. Price Branded Bargains, Opening of revamped store at Roxboro.
Venue: Mr. Price, Roxboro Shopping Centre, Childers Road, Limerick.
- Presentation of Art Work from Limerick School of Art and Design (LSAD) to the Mayor's Office.
Venue: Mayor's Office, Merchant's Quay, Limerick.
- Launch of Limerick Garden Festival.
Venue: Milk Market, Limerick.
- Munster GAA Hurling Championship, Clare v Limerick.
Venue: Cusack Park, Ennis, Co. Clare.
- Launch of the Limerick United Against Racism (LUAR) campaign, an initiative of the Limerick Integration Working Group.
Venue: Beside LUAR Diversity=Strength Community Mural at Michael Street, Limerick.
- Launch of the Bar Manager Degree Apprenticeship.
Venue: The Old Quarter Pub, Little Ellen Street, Limerick.
- The Pride of Place Awards Ceremony.
Venue: INEC, Killarney, Co. Kerry.
- Welcome to the Under 14 Ladies Football Team.
Venue: Council Chamber, Dooradoyle, Limerick.
- Launch for Limerick Panto Society, 2022 Show Cinderella.
Venue: TUS Millennium Theatre, Moylish, Limerick.
- Signing of a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between the five cities of the Irish Network of Learning Cities (5 Learning cities, Limerick, Cork, Belfast, Dublin and Derry Strabane).
Venue: Belfast City Hall, Belfast, Northern Ireland.
- Visit to the recreated Hedge School Cottage, Newtown, Clarina.
Venue: Newtown, Clarina, Co. Limerick.
- Regeneration Directorate, Limerick City and County Council, in partnership with Limerick and Clare Education and Training Board (LCETB) and TUS - Jobs Fair.
Venue: Our Lady of Lourdes National School, Rosbrien, Limerick.
- Official Opening of 'Spark Hub' Ireland's first Coworking Hub in a Regeneration Area, located at the LEDP Campus in Roxboro.
Venue: Limerick Enterprise Development Partnership (LEDP), Roxboro, Limerick.
- Comhluadar Luimnigh and Conradh na Gaeilge, Social Launch Night, to relaunch Irish language and culture initiatives.
Venue: Halla Íde, Thomas Street, Limerick.
- CARI, celebration on the relocation of their National Head Office, from Dublin to their Limerick Centre on the Ennis Road (CARI charity providing support to children affected by child sexual abuse).
Venue: Greenhills Hotel, Ennis Road, Limerick.

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- Pandemic Volunteer Presentations, part of National Week of Volunteering and part of an Initiative of the Department of Rural and Community Development.
Venue: Istabraq Hall, Merchant's Quay, Limerick.
- Migrant Jobs Expo for Ukrainian and other Foreign Nationals.
Venue: Strand Hotel, Limerick.
- University of Limerick President's Annual Dinner.
Venue: Adare Manor, Adare, Co. Limerick.
- Bike Week, Family Bike Parade and Fun Day.
Venue: Arthur's Quay Park, Limerick.
- Limerick School of Music, 60th Anniversary Gala Concert and Launch of their new Alumni and Friends Scholarship Fund.
Venue: University Concert Hall, Castletroy, Limerick.
- Open Social Enterprise Limerick / Social Corporate Responsibility Event, as part of the Limerick Lifelong Learning Festival. Social Business Fair, linking Social Enterprise and Corporations in Limerick City through Corporate Social Responsibility.
Venue: The Urban Coop, 8 Eastway Business Park, Ballysimon Road, Limerick.
- Limerick Opera Festival 'Ireland in Opera and Song,' Operatic Workshop.
Venue: St. Mary's Cathedral, Limerick.
- Presentation of Certificates to students of Down Syndrome Limerick.
Venue: Council Chamber, Merchant's Quay, Limerick.
- Meet and greet group of health professional students from the University of Arkansas, USA.
Venue: Council Chamber, Merchant's Quay, Limerick.
- Limerick Lifelong Learning Festival for UNESCO Learning City Seminar Showcase.
Venue: Citizen Innovation Lab, Limerick.
- St. Marys Community Adult Education Group, 20th anniversary community event
Venue: St. Mary's Adult Education Centre, Island Road, Limerick.
- Launch of the Exhibition "Bringing Ireland's Wildlife Back to Life," Works by Donal Mulcahy.
Venue: The People's Museum, No. 2 Pery Square, Limerick.
- Munster GAA Football Final Kerry v Limerick.
Venue: Fitzgerald Stadium, Killarney, Co. Kerry.
- Official Opening of Dooradoyle/Raheen Men's Shed.
Venue: St. Nessan's Road, Dooradoyle, Limerick.
- Limerick Opera Festival, Opera Gala Evening.
Venue: St. Mary's Cathedral, Limerick.
- Commemoration Service to mark United Nations Peacekeepers' Day, Wreath Laying Ceremony.
Venue: UN Memorial, in the grounds of Saint Mary's Cathedral, Limerick.
- Africa Day.
Venue: The Hunt Museum Garden, Rutland Street, Limerick.
- Official Opening of Formula Management Systems Limited new factory in Rathkeale.
Venue: Formula Management Systems Limited, Rathkeale Industrial Estate, Rathkeale, Co. Limerick.
- Meeting group of students from Molloy College (USA) visiting Mary Immaculate College.
Venue: Council Chamber, Merchant's Quay, Limerick.
- Photocall for Cruinniú na nÓg, promoting a national day of free creative activity for young people.
Venue: The People's Park, Limerick.
- Limerick City and County Vintners' Ball.
Venue: Strand Hotel, Ennis Road, Limerick.

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- International Conference and Workshop: Greener Cities - Healthier Communities.
Venue: Istabraq Hall, Merchant's Quay, Limerick.

Visit to London

Attendance at the 'Limerick to London,' Ilken Marine School Cultural Voyage and Celebration of Limerick Culture and Trade.

Register of Electors

- Staff from the Register of Electors Team continued to process application forms and emails submitted in relation to the Register of Electors.
- Total number of additions carried out in May - 18, total deletions - 163, and total modifications - 6.

Health and Safety Training

The Health and Safety Training Team organised the following courses throughout the month:

Course Name	Numbers Trained
Safe Pass	25
Drivers' Certificate of Professional Competence	45
Manual Handling	36
Fire Manager Training	11
Construction Skills Certification Scheme - Locating Underground Services	4
Abrasive Wheels	25
Construction Skills Certification Scheme - Telescopic Handler	8
Signing, Lighting and Guarding Information Update Chapter 8	9
First Aid Response	10

Requisitions Oversight Unit

The Requisitions Oversight Unit staff validate all requisitions raised across the entire Council and the Unit provides a segregation of duties to avoid any potential conflict of interest. The following statistics apply for May:

Approved requisitions account for 81% of the total requisitions actioned for this given month.

Rejected requisitions account for 19% of the total requisitions actioned for this given month.

Month	Approved	Rejected	Total Requisitions Actioned
May	1,260	300	1,560

The Top five requisition rejection reasons for May are identified as follows:

Rejection Reason	May
Memo - Requisition Not Raised in Advance	155
Procurement Reference Omitted/Incorrect	43
Approved Officer's Order Omitted	34
Document uploaded not relevant to Requisition/Nothing Uploaded	30
Quotations Form - form incomplete/unsigned/missing quotation form	22

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Procurement Department

Staff in the Procurement Department are responsible for the setting up and extending existing procurement references on request from all Departments within the Council.

The following shows the number of Procurement References dealt with during May:

New Procurement References set up	26
Procurement References extended as per signed contract/arrangement	5

The Unit continues to work with staff of all Departments to ensure procurement to pay cycle is adhered to within the Council through the validation of all requisitions for approval or rejection via the Requisitions Oversight Unit.

Schedule of Meetings for May

Name of Meeting	Date	Location
Full Council		
Special Meeting of Limerick City and County Council on a Vote of Sympathy of former Member and Chairman of Limerick County Council, Paddy Hourigan	10.05.2022	Virtual
Bi Monthly - Meeting of Limerick City and County Council	23.05.2022	Dooradoyle and Online
Operational Briefings		
Limerick City East	03.05.2022	Virtual
Limerick City North	03.05.2022	Virtual
Limerick City West	04.05.2022	Virtual
Municipal District of		
Newcastle West		
Monthly Meeting	04.05.2022	Newcastle West
Special Meeting	25.05.2022	Newcastle West
Adare-Rathkeale		
Monthly Meeting	11.05.2022	Adare
Cappamore-Kilmallock		
Monthly Meeting	19.05.2022	Dooradoyle and Online
Metropolitan District of Limerick		
Monthly Meeting	16.05.2022	Dooradoyle and Online
Local Community and Development Committee (LCDC)	03.05.2022	Dooradoyle

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Name of Meeting	Date	Location
Audit & Risk Committee Meeting	13.05.2022	Merchant's Quay
Corporate Policy Meeting	16.05.2022	Virtual
Party Leader's Meeting	20.05.2022	Virtual
Protocol Committee Meeting	20.05.2022	Virtual

Access to Information

	May	2022 (January to May)
Total Freedom of Information Requests	18	99
Freedom of Information Internal Appeals	3	7
Information Commissioner Appeals	0	3
Total Ombudsman Requests	7	34
Total Access to Information on the Environment Requests	0	6

Customer Services

In May, the Housing Maintenance Department released a grant scheme for Council properties in the Municipal District of Newcastle West. Customer Services aided the Department by dispatching approximately 650 information letters, fielding telephone queries and issuing application forms in the post, when requested by clients.

Customer Services staff provided training and refresher training to staff on the internal SugarCRM systems, including all processes for managing the CRM (Customer Relationship Management) case process.

Customer Services staff also aided the Parks Maintenance Team by fielding any and all queries received in relation to the grass cutting schedule for 2022, logging 44 cases in total for the Grass Cutting Team.

The following figures highlight the activity within the Contact Centre throughout May:

- Customer Services Call Centre answered 10,420 calls. This represents an average of 496 per day, with the number of calls exceeding 570 on several occasions. 55% of calls were handled at first point of contact.
- 2,673 emails were processed through the Customer Services email platform.
- 2,652 cases were created, with 684 of these logged on behalf of Public Representatives. 2,884 cases were closed, with 710 of these being cases logged by Public Representatives.

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- The logging of cases through the MyLimerick portal continued, with a total of 251 cases being logged - of these, 216 were submitted by Public Representatives.
- Customer Services continued to support the Housing Maintenance Department in creating the service requests and keeping citizens up to date on progress made. Throughout the month, Customer Services logged 97% of cases for Housing Maintenance in the Metropolitan District of Limerick.
- Customer Services continued to provide other frontline services to the general public, such as processing applications for Burning of Agricultural Vegetation Permits, 13 of which were processed in May, as well as processing 83 new applications for Residential Parking Permits and issuing 55.
- Customer Services staff welcomed a total of 1,999 visitors to the public counters in both Merchant's Quay and Dooradoyle.

4. Marketing & Communications

Marketing

Riverfest Limerick

- Concluded four-week multimedia marketing and PR campaign for Riverfest Limerick.
- Riverfest Limerick secured national coverage across TV, digital and radio with features on Virgin Media News, Irish Independent.ie, Evoke.ie, Today FM and Ireland's Classic Hits.
- Festival photography featured in the Irish Times Images of the Day gallery and on the front page of the Sunday Independent.
- Topline Figures include – **Total impressions:** 4.9 million | **Video views:** 532,032 | **Website Views:** 158,239 | **#RiverfestLimerick impressions:** 4.6 million.

Summer Tourism Campaign

- Commenced preparations for a six-week national tourism marketing campaign positioning Limerick as a domestic holiday and leisure tourism destination.
- Ongoing engagement with local service providers to develop a confident and original domestic tourism offering to showcase Limerick's edge and embrace to national audiences.

Other Marketing Activities

- Commenced stakeholder engagement with Limerick's tertiary education sector in preparation the Limerick Student City CAO change of mind social campaign 2022.
- Attended and promoted Limerick to 600 delegates at the All-Ireland Business Foundation Summit in Croke Park. Created an advertisement for the accompanying print publication.
- Secured and produced two double-page spreads for the upcoming Eolas Magazine with regard to innovation and sustainability in Limerick.
- Secured a full-page advertisement in the Living and Working supplement in the Irish Times and contributed content to the editorial.
- Facilitated two stakeholder engagement workshops with Adare stakeholders to progress the development of strategic brand foundations for the new Adare brand.
- Continued progress on Invest Limerick assets – print publication, updated content on website and invest video asset.
- Interdepartmental collaboration regarding the Ryder Cup and getting Limerick en fête for upcoming international events.
- Created and issued five Limerick.ie e-newsletters.

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- Marketing support provided for:
 - STEAM Pathways School to Work Day organised by Human Resources.
 - Our Lady of Lourdes Jobs Fair.
 - Ilen Limerick to London Voyage.
 - Association of Irish Local Government Conference.

Social Media

- Continued to monitor, schedule and update social media channels with creative content to utilise our engagement with the public and put Limerick in people's minds.
- Posted 27 times on Limerick.ie's **Facebook** with followers now 32,589. Posts reached 22,301 Users with 1,698 engagements.
- Tweeted 29 times on Limerick.ie's **Twitter**, @limerick_ie, with total followers now 20,966. Our tweets earned 25,158 impressions (no. of times users saw our tweet).
- Posted 10 times on Limerick.ie's **Instagram** and created one Story with total followers now 20,648.
- Posted 26 times on Limerick City and County Council's LinkedIn with total followers now 8,757.

Limerick.ie

In May, there were 150,445* visitors on Limerick.ie, a 4% decrease on the same period in 2021. (*Fathom Analytics).

The most popular pages on Limerick.ie in May were:

1. www.limerick.ie
2. www.limerick.ie/riverfest
3. www.limerick.ie/council/services/planning-and-property/apply-or-search-planning-application/search-planning
4. www.limerick.ie/council
5. www.limerick.ie/discover/whats-on/browse

Content Report: 115 articles and 204 events were added to Limerick.ie in May.

Communications

Issued 25 news releases from the Marketing and Communications Department and researched and wrote 29 speeches for the Office of the Mayor.

Produced and distributed the monthly Council Connect staff e-newsletter.

Tweeted 199 times on Limerick City and County Council's **Twitter** account, @limerickcouncil, with total followers now 17,454. Our tweets earned 139,181 impressions (no. of times users saw our tweet).

