

Chief Executive's Report

June 2022

Launch of Limerick 11 Summer 2022- a multi-media domestic tourism marketing campaign, to position Limerick as a leading tourism destination for value, welcome and excitement.

Announcement of €17 million in Funding for the 2022 Town and Village Renewal Scheme.

Chief Executive's Report



Comhairle Cathrach & Contae **Luimnigh**

Limerick City & County Council

Contents

Economic Development and Enterprise Directorate

1. Trade & Investment	3
2. Local Enterprise Office (LEO) Limerick	3
3. Innovate Limerick	3
4. Forward Planning	5
5. Digital Services	5

Housing Directorate

1. Housing Support Services	20
2. Local Authority Housing Construction and Maintenance	26
3. Strategy & Non-Local Authority Housing Construction	31
4. Municipal District Offices	33

Transportation & Mobility Directorate

1. Travel and Transportation Strategy	7
2. Active Travel	7
3. Mid-West National Road Design Office	8

Planning, Environment & Place-Making Directorate

1. Place-Making and Public Realm	35
2. Planning Development	36
3. Environment, Recreation & Climate Change	36
4. Urban Innovation	36
5. Veterinary Services	37

Community, Tourism & Culture Directorate

1. Urban & Rural Community Development	9
2. Tourism	10
3. Arts Office	10
4. Property & Community Facilities	12
5. Libraries, Gallery & Museum	12

National and Regional Shared Services Centre Directorate

1. Housing Assistance Payments (HAP) Shared Services Centre (SSC)	38
2. Fire and Emergency	38

Regeneration Directorate

1. Regeneration	18
-----------------	----

Support Services Directorate

1. Finance	40
2. Business Improvement	42
3. Corporate, Governance and Customer Services	42
4. Marketing & Communications	48
5. Munster Regional Communications Centre	49

Chief Executive's Report



Comhairle Cathrach
& Contae **Luimnigh**

Limerick City
& County Council

Economic Development and Enterprise Directorate

1. Trade & Investment

- Three Ireland announced the expansion of its operations at its Limerick centre in Castletroy, with the creation of 175 new jobs over the next four years, as the Irish office begins to export services to Three UK business customers.
- Croom Medical announced plans to develop another manufacturing facility in Limerick in 2023, along with the creation of 170 new jobs by end of 2022.
- Legato Health Technologies announced the creation of 80 new jobs at its Research and Development hub in Plassey.
- Intersports Elverys opened a new store in Cruises Street, creating 12 new jobs.
- Evolv AI, an Experienced Optimisation Solutions Provider, announced it is making Ireland the focal point for its European Team, which will create 25 new jobs at its Limerick base.
- Works commenced on a €20m investment in Colbert Station which will include a major upgrade of the bus station and car-park.

2. Local Enterprise Office (LEO) Limerick

Funding Approved

- Five Businesses were approved funding at the June Evaluation and Approvals meeting, one Feasibility Study Grant, three Priming Grants and one Agile Research, Development and Innovation Grant to a total of €140,300.
- Eight businesses were approved for a Trading Online Voucher in June.

LEO Workshops and Training Events in June included:

- Business Advice Clinics and Business Planning Webinar.
- Trading Online Webinar.
- June Meetup – Tech Tour.
- Cyber Security Training.
- Basic Marketing Principles – six-week course commenced.
- Mid-West Exporting Event - Taking Your Business from Local to Global.

There were 79 participants on the LEO Business Training Courses and 16 Business Owners have availed of the LEO Mentoring Programme in June.

3. Innovate Limerick

Engine Collaboration Centre

- Developed partnership with University of Limerick Immersive Software Engineering Team to support Education/Technology project collaboration with Innovate Engine Collaboration Centre.
- Working with Citizen Innovation Lab to support innovation calls with a focus on industry collaboration.
- Demonstrated and hosted a number of successful meetings with customers and partners at the Digital Manufacturing Exhibition in Limerick.
- Very positive engagement with the Kemmy Business School to develop framework for collaboration between Digital Labs and the Innovate Engine Collaboration Centre.
- Now engaged with 30 software start-up businesses through the Software Start-Up Mentoring Programme.

Chief Executive's Report



Comhairle Cathrach
& Contae **Luimnigh**

Limerick City
& County Council

Connected Hubs Funding 2022

- Awarded funding of €408,250 through Connected Hubs Fund, Department of Rural and Community Development.
- Fund will be divided among seven Hubs to upgrade facilities – the seven Hubs involved are: Spark Hub, Roxboro; Bruree Food Units; Croom Enterprise Centre; The Boat Club, Limerick; The Pavilion, Adare; The Yard, Newcastle West; Engine, Limerick.
- Highest county total funding allocated nationwide.
- Infrastructural upgrades have commenced in all successful Hubs.

Connected Hubs Voucher Scheme Launched

- Engine Hubs Network participating in the Connected Hubs Voucher Scheme, which allows users three free days of hub use for a period from 27 June. Sign-up and list of the participating hubs at www.connectedhubs.ie
- Marketing campaign to promote Connected Hubs Voucher Scheme in Limerick.

Engine Hubs Network

- Membership of Engine Hubs Network has increased to 19:
 - The Yard - Newcastle West.
 - Bruree Food Units, Bruree.
 - Spark Hub, LEDP Roxboro.
 - HQ Listowel.
 - Croom Enterprise Centre, Croom.
 - Kantoher Enterprise Centre, Newcastle West.
 - The Boat Club, Sarsfield Bridge, Limerick.
 - ACM Community Centre, Castleconnell.
 - Ballyhoura Heritage and Development, Kilfinane.
 - Engine Collaboration Centre, Cecil Street, Limerick.
 - Broadford Enterprise Centre.
 - HQ Tralee.
 - Tipp Digital Hub, Tipperary Town.
 - Rathkeale Enterprise Centre.
 - Engine, Cecil Street, Limerick.

- WorkBase, Abbeyfeale.
- Manor Fields, Adare.
- Bruff.
- Askeaton.
- Hub Owner/Manager Network Member monthly meet-ups continued.
- LEO Limerick and Engine Hubs have run workshops/training in The Yard, Newcastle West, and ACM Castleconnell.
- Limerick Business Welcoming Ukrainians Campaign launched.
- Developing Working Relationship with HUUB in Estonia – Business Youth Hub -national winner of the European Charlemagne Youth Prize.
- Participated in Mid West Project Management Forum on Innovation in Analog Devices, Raheen.

Film in Limerick

Film and TV Crew Academy Launch

Innovate Limerick, through Film in Limerick, has launched its new Film and TV Crew Academy for the Munster Region.

Responding to the huge demand for new talent across all areas of the screen industries, the Limerick-based Crew Hub is one of three in Ireland set up with Screen Ireland, with the others based in Galway and Wicklow. These new hubs will develop skills and build capacity in production crew roles at all levels both regionally and as a result nationally.

The Academy Steering Group, chaired by Elaine Geraghty, CEO at Troy Studios, and the Mid-West Film Education and Training Committee, chaired by Eimear Brophy, Further Education and Training Manager at Limerick and Clare Education and Training Board, both held their first meetings in June to discuss the training needs for the region and to feed into the planning for the coming year.

Chief Executive's Report



Comhairle Cathrach
& Contae **Luimnigh**

Limerick City
& County Council

Engine Shorts 1 Preview Screening

Engine Shorts held a preview screening of the six short films completed as part of the film training and production scheme to a full-house at the Belltable in June. The training scheme is a partnership with the Councils in Limerick, Tipperary and Clare, Limerick and Clare Education and Training Board and Creative Ireland.

Association of Film Commissioners International AFCI Week in Los Angeles

Innovate Limerick, through Film in Limerick, was represented by Regional Film Manager, Paul C. Ryan, at the Annual Association of Film Commissioners International (AFCI) Week in Los Angeles in June. AFCI Week brought together over 60 film commissions from around the world, plus top executives from studios including NBC Universal, Netflix, HBO and Disney for a week of industry and networking events. The conference focused on best practice for film commission offices working to attract and support international productions and on developing training initiatives to build local crew skills and employment.

4. Forward Planning

- Following two years of extensive public consultation and engagement with the public, prescribed bodies and stakeholders, the first consolidated Limerick Development Plan 2022-2028 was adopted by the Elected Members of Limerick City and County Council at a Special Meeting on 17 June. The Plan comes into effect six weeks from the date of adoption.
- Following a briefing with the Elected Members of the Municipal District of Adare-Rathkeale, the proposed Rathkeale Local Area Plan 2023-2029, Strategic Environmental Assessment Screening, Appropriate Assessment Screening and Determination and Stage 1 Flood Risk Assessment were placed on public display from 18 June. Submissions received will be taken into consideration before the Local Area Plan is made.

5. Digital Services

EU Programmes

- A meeting was held with Norwegian University of Science and Technology (NTNU) in their capacity as coordinators of the new CrAft project. This project is an EU-funded coordination and support action for New European Bauhaus transformations towards climate-neutral, beautiful and inclusive cities. It aims to support Smart-cities through a network of 70 Municipalities which Limerick will apply to join.
- The EU Programme Manager took part in an Urbact City2City meeting as part of the Find Your Greatness project in Võru (Estonia) during June. A number of interesting urban solutions were demonstrated including: a free bus service to connect villages to the town; a mobile shop for very rural areas; creating sustainable open green areas (e.g. a permanently planted Christmas tree); the co-creation of a skate park with local youth groups; their new energy efficient health centre; helping the Soomaa culture to promote itself and maintain traditions; reviving the traditional smoke sauna as a cultural experience; and looking at traditional houses and how wooden family homes can last well over a century. Võru is also a Follower City in the +CityxChange project and the Friday afternoon was dedicated to discussing the replication of Limerick Light House solutions over the next 14 months, in particular our citizen engagement and participatory mapping activities.
- Two members of the 'Find your Greatness' project attended the Urbact City Festival in Paris. European cities use this festival to exchange ideas, network, Show and Tell the results of work in Find Your Greatness and Health and Greenspace, and also to exchange advice on the implementation of Integrated Action Plans. This was also a good opportunity to meet potential partners for URBACT IV.
- An information session, run by the Department of Public Expenditure and Reform, regarding the next round of Technical Support Instrument Applications, was attended by EU programme Team members.

Chief Executive's Report



Comhairle Cathrach
& Contae **Luimnigh**

Limerick City
& County Council

- The Third Periodic review of +CityxChange was completed in June with the European Commission online. Limerick's work was received very well, and the project as a whole received very positive and complimentary feedback from the Project Officer and the External Reviewer.



Chief Executive's Report



Comhairle Cathrach
& Contae **Luimnigh**

Limerick City
& County Council

Transportation & Mobility Directorate

1. Travel and Transportation Strategy

MOVE Conference London

The Move Conference was held in London on 15 and 16 June. The Mayor of the City and County of Limerick, Councillor Daniel Butler, was invited to speak at the Conference which is a showcase of innovation and developments in sustainable transport. He was represented by the Director of Services, Transportation and Mobility, who took part in a panel discussion on 'Innovating for Accessibility: the Latest Developments in Ability Transport Tech.' The discussion included the showcasing of the development of the space finder app for disabled parking spaces in the Metropolitan District.

2. Active Travel

Works

- **Drombanna Footpaths** – Public lighting and drainage works commenced end of June as part of Drombanna footpath works.
- **School Road Lisnagry Footpaths** – Public lighting and drainage element complete.
- **Collins Avenue, O'Malley Park** – Works continuing on renewal of 410m of footpath along the R511 Collins Avenue/Lilac Court.
- **Roseville Gardens/Park Gardens, Corbally** – Works commenced on 750m of refurbished footpath.

Cycle Parking/Security/Maintenance Equipment

- **Bike Bunkers/Bike Stands** – Public bike stands were installed on Sarsfield Street and Michael Street. Bike bunkers (for up to five bikes) were also installed outside the University of Limerick (UL) City Campus Building on

Sarsfield Street and Barrow House on Michael Street. The bike bunkers are for use by staff based at those buildings.

- **Bike Repair Stations** – four new repair stations were installed at locations throughout the city centre.

Planning

- **Hyde Road** – A Section 38 Notice was published in relation to proposed works on Hyde Road, Limerick, including the installation of an inbound and outbound cycle lane.
- **Ros Mór Roundabout** – A Part 8 planning application has been submitted for works that include a 3m Shared Active Travel Path connecting the Willows Housing Estate to the Ros Mór Housing Estate.
- **L-1435, Dooradoyle Estates** – A Section 38 Notice was published in relation to proposed works in the vicinity of St. Paul's National School, Dooradoyle, as part of the Safe Routes to School Programme.

Marketing & Communications

Limerick Active Travel filmed a series of videos with the Mayor of the City and County of Limerick, Councillor Daniel Butler, as he spent a day travelling to and from his different appointments on his bike. The five videos were posted to Limerick Council Twitter account. Collectively, they had 8,620 views, 195 likes and 60 retweets.

Limerick Active Travel tweeted nine times from the Limerick Council twitter account, with total followers now 17,400.

Limerick Active Travel posted two updates to Limerick Council's LinkedIn account, with total followers of 8,887.

Chief Executive's Report



Comhairle Cathrach
& Contae **Luimnigh**

Limerick City
& County Council

Limerick Active Travel issued three Press Releases in June with all three stories getting coverage in Limerick Leader, Limerick Post, I Love Limerick and on Live95 news bulletins.

Limerick Active Travel's new road sweepers have been named following a competition with local schools. The winning names, put forward by children at Gaelscoil Sáirséal, are 'Sweep de Limerick' and 'Speedy Wheely.' The sweepers visited the school for a Photocall with the Mayor of the City and County of Limerick, Councillor Daniel Butler.

Three members of Limerick's Active Travel Team visited the Active Travel Team at Dún Laoghaire Rathdown County Council to view how cycling and pedestrian infrastructure is being implemented in another local authority area.

3. Mid-West National Road Design Office

N21 Croagh to Coolballyshane Pavement Improvement Scheme

The Scheme is approximately two km in length and provides for milling of existing pavement, pavement surfacing, drainage, road markings and associated works. Construction works commenced in June.



Chief Executive's Report



Comhairle Cathrach
& Contae **Luimnigh**

**Limerick City
& County Council**

Community, Tourism & Culture Directorate

1. Urban & Rural Community Development

AGE FRIENDLY

Launch of Shannon Airport and Ireland West Airport as Age Friendly Airports

At a ceremony on 17 June, Minister Hildegard Naughton formally launched Shannon Airport and Ireland West Airport as the first airports in the world to be recognised as Age Friendly airports by the World Health Organisation (WHO). Minister Naughton also launched the Age Friendly Airport Guidelines which can be used as a template for other airports and transport hubs in Ireland and internationally as a replicable model.

Age Friendly Airport Guidelines were drafted for certification by the World Health Organisation, based on walkability audits of the buildings and their environs, carried out at both airports by Age Friendly staff and members of the Old People's Councils from Mayo, Clare and Limerick. These audits examined seating, signage, car parking, toilet, access routes and other facilities. Both airports scored well for their existing facilities, but also identified improvements needed and subsequently rolled out a work plan to develop their amenities as Age Friendly.

INTEGRATION

Ukrainian Supports

The Ukrainian Ambassador to Ireland, Larysa Gerasko, visited Limerick on 23 June. During her visit, Ambassador Gerasko met with the Mayor of the City and County of Limerick, Councillor Daniel Butler, members of the displaced Ukrainian community and agencies/community groups involved in supporting the new arrivals to Limerick. The programme included a visit to St. Leila's, Killeely, which is one of the rest accommodation centres for the refugees in the city. The Ambassador expressed her thanks and appreciation and thanked the people of

Limerick for their generosity and the welcome they have shown to refugees fleeing the war in her home country. Around 1,180 Ukrainian people are currently staying in Limerick in a variety of accommodation centres, tourist accommodation, student accommodation and with host families.

Announcement of €17 million in Funding for the 2022 Town and Village Renewal Scheme

On 09 June, Urban and Rural Community Development invited Expressions of Interest (EOI) from town/village community groups and/or business interests who may have suitable projects for consideration under the 2022 Scheme. The 2022 Scheme will prioritise tackling vacancy and dereliction in towns and villages for projects that will bring vacant and derelict buildings and sites back into use as multi-purpose spaces or re-purpose existing community/publicly owned buildings to facilitate remote working. Other projects which will be welcomed include regeneration projects that assist in revitalising towns and villages, projects to develop parks, plazas, green spaces etc. to increase footfall for businesses and marketing campaigns targeted at attracting remote workers and mobile talent. The closing date for receipt of EOIs was 29 June.

Limerick Public Participation Network (PPN):

- Limerick PPN Secretariat met once this month and continues to successfully deliver on its key functions.
- Limerick PPN hosted a "Climate Conversations" event with members from all pillars participating. This was held at the request of the Department of the Environment, Climate and Communications and was designed to access the views of community groups regarding Climate Action.
- Two PPN Linkage Group meetings took place this month: Economic Development, Enterprise and Planning and Home and Social Development. Details of the Linkage Groups are on the Limerick PPN [website](#).

Chief Executive's Report



Comhairle Cathrach
& Contae **Luimnigh**

**Limerick City
& County Council**

- Membership of the PPN continues to grow and now stands at 180. The membership registration form is on the Limerick PPN website and eligible groups in Limerick can register at any time.
- Limerick PPN continued to have an active social media presence on its regularly updated website and on Twitter and Facebook.

Local Community Development Committee (LCDC) Meeting

The June meeting of the LCDC was held on 07 June in the Council Chamber, Dooradoyle.

The Local Action Group (LAG) approved funding of €210,617.11 under the LEADER Programme 2014-2022 (€136,407.61 funded from the LEADER\Transitional LEADER Programme and €74,209.50 funded from the European Union Recovery Instrument Fund).

2. Tourism

Discover Limerick DAC

Four Elected Members of Limerick City and County Council have been appointed to the Board of Discover Limerick DAC and attended their first board meeting on 24 June. The Elected Members include Councillor Bridie Collins (FF), Councillor Olivia O'Sullivan (FG), Councillor Catherine Slattery (FF) and Councillor Frankie Daly (Ind).

Discover Limerick DAC has signed a Heads of Agreement with Adare Heritage Centre to commence the transfer process to the DAC.

Limerick Greenway

The Limerick Greenway welcomed the Rás Tailteann on 17 June for a non-competitive section of Stage 3. The race had twenty-two domestic teams, twelve International teams and 170 riders in total, who cycled the section from Newcastle West to Ardagh, before commencing the race proper.

A large entourage followed the race giving a significant boost to the hospitality sector in the greater Newcastle West area.

“The Rás” is Ireland’s number one elite cycling race and one of the country’s top sporting events. The race itself began in 1953 and has been a major event on the national and international calendar for many years. It is renowned for its role in developing both Ireland’s top domestic riders as well as some of the world’s top names. The 2022 edition returns to the sporting calendar after a three-year absence and began in Dublin on 15 June. It finished five days later in Blackrock, Co. Louth, on 19 June.

3. Arts Office

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

On 13 June, a presentation was received from GM Innovations, who are providing Research Evaluation. This presentation was an overview of the challenges and the opportunities that have arisen from the pandemic, drawing from the data and analysis of 115 surveys which were completed by the Sector. The purpose of the Research Evaluation is to inform policy-making when considering the recovery of the Sector, by presenting an evidence-based report with recommendations on the delivery of Limerick City and County Council policy in this area.

Contemporary at the Castle

An exhibition of contemporary sculpture is showing at King John’s Castle. This fantastic initiative from the Mayor of the City and County of Limerick, Councillor Daniel Butler, sees three Limerick artists working in steel, metal and discarded tools on display upstairs in the Castle. These contemporary sculptures sit contrastingly in the historic setting of this great Limerick tourist attraction.

Chief Executive's Report



Comhairle Cathrach
& Contae **Luimnigh**

**Limerick City
& County Council**

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 June, 11 letters of support were issued.

Open Calls

Festival and Events Grant 2022/2023 Open Call

The assessment panel for the Limerick City and County Council Festivals and Events Grant Scheme 2022/2023 met on 16 June to consider all applications based on the guidelines and criteria for the grant scheme.

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.

41 applications were received with a total ask of €532,790.32.

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.

Two Blas applications and seven Meitheal applications were submitted and are being processed.

Creative Ireland

Cruinniú na nÓg

Cruinniú na nÓg is a national initiative that celebrates and encourages participation in culture and creativity through performance, theatre, art and music workshops, readings, screenings, special events and much more. Cruinniú na nÓg is a flagship initiative funded by Creative Ireland Programme's Creative Youth Plan to enable the creative potential of children and young people. All events are free of charge, child-centred and activity based. It is a day for lots of doing, making and creating.

A Creative Ireland funded project, Limerick Arts Office, in partnership with Fresh Film, provided a series of free workshops, activities and performances across the city and county on 11 June for children and young people to take part and enjoy. Silent films were set to music by the Irish Chamber Orchestra Youth Orchestra, Lego workshops with stop motion animation and VR headsets went down a treat in UL City Campus, and taster workshops took place in dance and drama groups across the county.

Arts Council Framework Agreement Programme

Michael Hartnett Annual Poetry Award 2022

Michael Hartnett Annual Poetry Award closed for applications on 17 June with 46 publications submitted from 15 different publishers.

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. This year, we were delighted to announce that the value of the prize has been doubled and now stands at €8,000. 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 on the opening night of Éigse Michael Hartnett Literary and Arts Festival in Newcastle West, Co. Limerick.

Chief Executive's Report



Comhairle Cathrach
& Contae **Luimnigh**

Limerick City
& County Council

Limerick Culture Night 2022

Limerick Culture Night 2022 Open Call for events and participants was issued on 22 June. Limerick Arts Office invited arts and cultural organisations to submit proposals for events or collaborations that could be hosted individually or as part of a series of culture hubs across the city and county, in association with one or more other groups. It is a night to celebrate the cultural, artistic and creative communities of our city and county by inviting existing and new audiences into our galleries, museums, workshops and studios. We are confident that the Limerick Culture and Arts community will respond to this call out with enthusiasm and innovation and Culture Night 2022 will be one to remember. Expressions of interest for grant support were requested as part of the application form.

4. Property & Community Facilities

Dereliction, Vacancy & Reuse Team - June	
Inspections carried out	142
Property & Community Facilities Department Notices issued	19
Derelict Sites Cases opened	11
Statutory Notices issued under the Derelict Sites Act	28
Derelict Sites Cases closed through engagement	7
Properties entered into the Derelict Sites Register	14
Properties put forward for Compulsory Acquisition (Section 15 Notices)	0
Properties Compulsorily Acquired (Section 17 Notices)	6
Bin Waivers Approved	4

5. Libraries, Gallery & Museum

Library

- Summer Stars Reading Challenge is the free national reading programme for children that takes place in all public libraries and online each summer and runs from 13 June. For any child who wants to maintain good reading habits over the school holidays, Limerick Libraries are delighted to offer this fun, rewarding and inclusive programme. This year the City Library at Barrow House hosted the city and countywide launch with well-known author, Roisin Meaney, and pupils from St. Mary's National School. Medals, notebooks, pencils and free access to a wealth of reading materials for all levels in branches and online are all part of the package, culminating with an individual reading certificate for each participant. Participating branches offer story sessions and other motivational activities with top tips on how to help children enjoy reading and improve literacy over the summer.
- Two workshops with local authors were held in the City Library during June. On 08 June, as part of the Right to Read Programme, Helena Close gave a workshop to fifth class from St. Patrick's Girls' National School. She spoke to the group about writing and together they explored the idea of creative writing and storytelling. The second workshop took place on 21 June and was organised by Engage in Education. Engage in Education help individual students to realise their potential, using the education system with support and encouragement. They start early with childhood education and in the primary school years in their community setting, working with students and families. The group consisted of students from fifth class to 2nd Year and author, Padraig Kenny, shared his writing journey with them. The wonderful Róisín Meaney visited again on 18 June for the monthly Saturday morning children's story time, where children and adults alike enjoyed the story and songs.
- Sahaja Yoga meditation meetings continued in June. These free weekly sessions take place every Tuesday evening at 6.00 p.m.

Chief Executive's Report



Comhairle Cathrach
& Contae **Luimnigh**

Limerick City
& County Council

- Also during June, the Writepace Creative Writing Group returned in person for their bi-monthly meetings in the City Library.
- On 23 June, the branch hosted the launch of the book “Recovering an Irish Voice from the American Frontier: the Prose Writings of Eoin Ua Cathail,” by Pádraig Fhia Ó Mathúna, and published by University of North Texas Press. Eoin Ua Cathail emigrated from Templeglantine, Co. Limerick, in 1863, at the age of 23. He went to the USA and styled himself on the famous Buffalo Bill and he delivered accounts of his travels in America entirely in the Irish language. Pádraig gave an interesting talk and reading from the book, followed by a book signing. Both Pádraig and the library staff were delighted to have members of Eoin Ua Cathail’s family in attendance.
- The Limerick University of the 3rd Age Book Club met on 13 June, where they discussed *The Lowland* by Jhumpa Lahiri, and the Second Wednesday Book Club met on 08 June where they had a lively discussion about *The Capital* by Robert Menasse.
- Throughout June, school visits from St. Michael’s National School, CBS Primary School, St. Patrick’s Boys National School, St. Patrick’s Girls National School, Presentation National School and Monaleen National School were welcomed.
- At the end of June, the City Library had the pleasure of hosting groups participating in the Department of Education Summer programme, including St. Michael’s Infant School and St. Mary’s National School. The children enjoyed story times and crafts.
- Limerick Library staff have been engaging with Men’s Sheds, and more recently with a local Women’s Shed, to introduce members to the various library services on offer. As part of the Healthy Ireland at your Library Initiative, a talk by Pius Murray on the Hidden Benefits of Walking and the Pilgrim Paths of Ireland was organised in June at four branch libraries, Dooradoyle, Adare, Kilmallock and Watch House Cross. Speaking from his own vast knowledge of leading walks in the Burren and the Aran Islands, Pius shared some great tips for making walking a richer and more mindful experience. Members of the wide network of both Men’s sheds and the Adare Women’s 2020 Club attended this event and, for some, it was their first visit to their local library.
- Kilmallock Library marked the centenary of James Joyce’s *Ulysses* with a talk by Donal Thurlow, a noted authority on Joyce. Donal explored the world of Joyce discussing his works and illustrating the connections between his books, the Ballyhouras and hurling in what proved to be a most engaging and illuminating event. Donal also brought some rare Joycean books from his collection on the day.
- Kilmallock Library staff were thrilled to welcome Abbey Kids Preschool for a fun session of songs, stories and rhymes and also all who participated in our “Little Readers” event for littles ones and their grown-ups who eagerly joined in song, story and crafting.
- Study spaces continued to be filled to capacity by exam students of all ages across the city and county
- Seven classes from St. Nicholas’ National School and Our Lady Abbey National School visited Adare Library in June. Over 100 children were excited to hear all about this year’s Summer Stars Reading Programme. In the first two weeks, more than 140 children signed up for this popular reading programme in Adare Library. As part of the Right to Read programme, Roisin Meaney visited the branch and talked about her book “*The Restaurant*” offering insights into her writing process. This event was enjoyed by the local Women’s Shed – 2020 Club. The 2020 Club also attended a talk on “5 Ways to Wellbeing” delivered by Claire Flynn, Development Officer with Mental Health Ireland. This successful collaboration with 2020 Club continued through an Art Exhibition featuring mosaics created during a six-week course organised by West Limerick Resources. After the art programme, the mosaics were exhibited as part of the Limerick Lifelong Learning Festival 2022.”

Chief Executive's Report



Comhairle Cathrach
& Contae **Luimnigh**

**Limerick City
& County Council**

- The Adare Library Parent, Baby and Toddler Group met every Thursday throughout June. During the last planned session on 23 June, all parents received a complimentary book. Promoting the group on Limerick Library Social Media and within Adare Library proved to be extremely successful and the activities will continue during the summer.
- Newcastle West Library created Book/Board displays during the month of June to mark "Pride Month" "Bloomsday" and "Exam Time" showing books, links to websites, and other materials appropriate to each subject. To celebrate "Cruinniú na nÓg,"- the branch ran an online Children's Art Exhibition on the Library's Promethean screen.
- Patrons from St. Ita's Community Hospital Nursing Home and local residents with Brothers of Charity enjoyed regular visits to the branch. Classes from Scoil Iósaf and Courtenay Boys School dropped in and were very happy with the new selection of junior book stock.
- Newcastle West branch commenced a weekly draw, running from 03 June, for all who register for the Summer Stars Reading Adventure. The weekly winner receives a book token. This is proving to be a big incentive to enthusiastic young readers.
- The branch was delighted to receive an "Age Friendly Charter Certificate" recognising the branch's commitment to hosting events for seniors from the local Brothers of Charity Community Group. The branch offers a warm welcome to all age groups organising age appropriate activities and has made great use of the "Magic Table" for sensory stimulation.
- Dooradoyle Library recently celebrated its 25th Anniversary. To mark this occasion, poet and author, Gabriel Fitzmaurice, delivered a reading of his works to 3rd Class students from St. Paul's National School.
- This year also marks the 25th Anniversary of the first book in the Harry Potter series, 'Harry Potter and the Philosopher's Stone,' by J.K. Rowling. A beautiful piece of artwork is currently on display in the children's library depicting Hogwarts, the Wizarding School from the book. Children have enjoyed taking part in a Harry Potter themed treasure hunt in the library also. On 08 June, 5th and 6th Class students from Caherelly National School attended a Creative Writing workshop with local author, Helena Close. Children were asked to bring along their favourite story to use as inspiration for their own creative piece.
- The branch also welcomed the return of the Irish Myalgia Encephalomyelitis (M.E.) Trust recently, who delivered an informative session on M.E., Chronic Fatigue Syndrome (C.F.S), and Long COVID.
- The launch of local author Tom McElligott's latest book 'The Leaking Pen' took place in Dooradoyle Library on 24 June. A large crowd attended supported by the Limerick Writers' Centre.
- Dooradoyle Library was pleased to welcome a group of pre-school children recently, from Kiddies Corner in Pallaskenry. The children found out all about the library, listened to some stories and did some colouring.
- Cruinniú na nÓg – Limerick Libraries were delighted to be involved once again with the Cruinniú na nÓg programme which took place on 11 June. Children in Limerick were encouraged to learn to juggle as part of the 'Circus Explored' initiative. Over 70 children registered for this free event and were invited to collect a set of juggling balls from either the City, Dooradoyle, Kilmallock or Newcastle West Library. They then followed four specially commissioned online tutorials to perfect their juggling skills. Throughout the day, a number of libraries also showcased the work of young Limerick artists. RTE and Creative Ireland teamed up once again to create this celebration of visual art, the theme of which this year was 'This is Extraordinary.'
- There were 32 onsite visits by researchers to the Local Studies Department at Watch House Cross Community Library in June. Most of these involved research on the microfilm archive of local newspapers, and the digital resources to which the department subscribes (primarily the Irish Newspaper Archive and FindMyPast). Two of these visits comprised advice sessions on family history research. Fifteen research queries were received

Chief Executive's Report



Comhairle Cathrach
& Contae **Luimnigh**

Limerick City
& County Council

- via telephone or email, all of which were resolved or are in the process, the near complete restoration of the Local Studies website continuing to contribute to a reduction in the number of remote queries. The department's forthcoming Decade of Centenaries publication, 'The Inevitable Conflict: Essays on the Civil War in Limerick,' went to design and several new acquisitions (both books and journals) were added to stock.
- Author, Padraig Kenny, one of our "Limerick Reads" selection, visited the library on 01 June to chat and answer questions from pupils in 5th and 6th classes from JFK Primary School and Gaelscoil Sairséal. The students had read his latest book 'The Monsters of Rookhaven' and were delighted with the opportunity to meet the author.
 - Watch House Cross Library hosted four Story Writing Workshops in collaboration with "Fighting Words" and Corpus Christi Primary School. The focus of these workshops is on imagination and creativity. The structure allows students to participate both orally and through writing, which means there is a way for everyone to get involved and have a great time inventing new stories. Volunteer mentors work with the young writers to identify key elements of a story and help them write the first half of their story together as a group. The children choose their characters and plot the group story sentence-by-sentence, editing as they go. In the second half of the workshop, students can choose to continue the group story or write a new story of their own. Each student leaves Fighting Words as a published author! At the end of each workshop, the students receive a printed and illustrated copy of their story as a keepsake for them to share with friends and family. Each group's story is also published on the Fighting Words website for children to show off their incredible, imaginative writing to the world! Two staff members completed training with Fighting Words and were part of the team facilitating the workshops in the library.
 - On 02 June, Life coach, Zinaida Nourreddine, held a workshop titled "Understanding YOU, to write your own story," for all those interested in writing their own life story.
 - Criunniú na nÓg was celebrated on 11 June with a storytime and art and craft session. Children learned all about the work of the Bees and then made a Bee Hotel using recycled materials. The Bee Hotel is then placed in the garden to encourage the bees to do the vital work of pollinating flowers and plants.
 - The children's Book Club had 12 new members and will meet once a month in the library, the first meeting was held on 17 June and the children were given 'Back to Blackbrick' by Sarah Moore Fitzgerald to read for the next meeting.
 - ABC Startright Limerick held a weaning and nutrition workshop for parents and babies in the library on 22 June.
 - We had several class visits from our local primary school during June, with classes from Corpus Christi, Thomond Primary and Gaelscoil Sairséal coming to browse and borrow.
 - The Sensory room continues to be well used with 110 sessions during June and over 200 users availing of the space.

Limerick City Gallery of Art (LCGA)

- The highlight of the month was the acquisition of a portrait of Michael Hartnett by Edward Maguire. The painting had been in a private collection in the USA since 1972 and came up for auction in Adam's auction house, Dublin, on 01 June. The painting was eventually acquired for the Permanent Collection, housed in LCGA, prior to auction. This is an important painting and will add greatly to the collection and provide opportunities to ensure Michael Hartnett's legacy as a major poet continues for future generation.

Chief Executive's Report



Comhairle Cathrach
& Contae **Luimnigh**

Limerick City
& County Council

- In Time, the exhibition by Dutch artist, Arno Kramer, continues to attract a very positive response with over 4,000 visitors since it opened.
- LCGA continued to display artworks selected from the Permanent Collections to complement the contemporary exhibition In Time by Arno Kramer, with over 50 artists represented and 80 artworks displayed.
- The first LCGA Test Space residencies ended in early June. The in-house residency was awarded to two printers from Limerick, Fiona and Rowena Quill. The online residency was awarded to Rachel Rothwell. Of the two residencies, the in-house residency was very dynamic with much interaction between visitors to the Gallery who engaged with the print-makers and witnessed the various processes they used in their practice. This residency culminated with a family workshop for children and parents who are currently in direct provision in Limerick. This workshop introduced the Gallery and what we have to offer to a group of people who had not previously interacted with the Gallery.
- An online workshop for members of the University of the Third Age was also held that looked at people creating a narrative about places in Limerick.
- Two artists in residence from Nova Scotia, Canada, commenced a two-week residency at LCGA. This is a collaboration with Dance Moves, a biennial festival held in Limerick.
- Preparatory work is ongoing for our next exhibition, PULSE, which will include 16 recent graduates from art colleges in Ireland in a new initiative for LCGA. In addition to the exhibition, there will be a number of prizes awarded to some of the participants, including a research grant awarded by the Irish Research Council and residency at Limerick Printmakers.
- Helium, a national organisation providing workshops for children with long term illnesses, held the exhibition, Objects of Wonder, in The Hub from 08 – 25 June. An open day for participants and families was held on 18 June, which was well attended.
- The Limerick and Clare Education and Training Board (LCETB) organised an informal tour of the Gallery for 50 Ukrainian residents on 23 June.
- Workshops for primary schools have now concluded with the three primary schools, St. Michael's, The Model and Limerick School Project, participating in a range of workshops responding to the exhibition programme. Over 100 students engaged in the workshops, which was led by the Shinnors Scholar, Brendan Egan.

Limerick Museum

- The Limerick Operatic Memorabilia Exhibition was officially opened by the Mayor of the City and County of Limerick, Councillor Daniel Butler, on 02 June and continued until the end of the month. It was curated by the Curator of Limerick Museum and Mr. Ger Reidy, Director of the Limerick Opera Festival, of which it formed part. It featured objects from the permanent collection of Limerick Museum and items on loan from private collectors. They demonstrated the high quality of Limerick's musical life over the past two centuries and reminded us of some of the great venues that the city boasted such as the Theatre Royal on Mallow Street, which flourished for eighty years from 1840 to 1920, and the Savoy Theatre on Bedford Row, one of Ireland's greatest cinemas and theatres for most of the twentieth century. It was fascinating to see the objects that were lent by two of the top five Opera Houses in the world, the Royal Opera House, Covent Garden, and La Scala Opera House, Milan. The exhibition showed how Limerick punched above its weight in the world's musical culture in the past 200 years.
- The Mayor of the City and County of Limerick, Councillor Daniel Butler, officially launched the online Revolutionary Map of Limerick on 27 June. Created by William O'Neill on commission from the Curator Limerick Museum, the Map seeks to pinpoint the locations in Limerick city and county of events pertaining to one of the most important decades in Irish history. The information included is based on the work and research of Tom Donovan, Michael Hopkinson, Jennifer Levey, Helen Litton, Des Long, Sinead McCoole,

Chief Executive's Report



Comhairle Cathrach
& Contae **Luimnigh**

Limerick City
& County Council

John O'Callaghan, Padraic O'Farrell, Eunan O'Halpin, William T O'Neill, Pádraig Óg Ó Ruairc, Matthew Potter, Des Ryan, Sharon Slater and Thomas Toomey. The project also used newspapers such as the Irish Times, Freeman's Journal, Limerick Leader, and Limerick Chronicle. Limerick was a major theatre of activity during the Irish Revolutionary period. Both the city and county produced an array of figures who were willing to train, fund, and fight for Irish republicanism. In addition, there was also the Limerick Soviet, one of the most extraordinary events of the period, a general strike in which city's citizens governed their own affairs independent of British rule. Limerick also had a disproportionately large number of both police and army barracks, garrisoned by the Royal Irish Constabulary (including the Black and Tans), the

British Army, and the Auxiliaries. In addition, Limerick was the scene of the Dromkeen Ambush (1921), the most successful ambush by the IRA outside of Cork, during the entire War of Independence. The Civil War engulfed the nation in 1922-23, and all eyes were looking at Munster, which was the scene of major engagements, such as the Battle of Limerick City and the Battle of Kilmallock.

- His Excellency, Mr Akhilesh Mishra, Indian Ambassador to Ireland, visited Limerick Museum on 08 June and was given a guided tour by the Curator. Arising from this event, Ambassador Mishra has invited the Curator to give a lecture in the Indian Embassy, Dublin, on the history of Ireland-India relations.



Chief Executive's Report



Comhairle Cathrach
& Contae **Luimnigh**

Limerick City
& County Council

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 third Jobs Fair, in partnership with Limerick and Clare Education and Training Board and TUS, was held in the community centre in St. Mary's Park on 15 June. The event was a great success with 21 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.

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 €3.8million. Site visits were undertaken throughout June as part of the monitoring programme in place.

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

Clinics for Resident Queries

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

A flyer of useful Regeneration contacts has been circulated in the St. Mary's Park community and the content for the other flyers for the other Regeneration communities is being finalised.

Physical

Housing Developments

- Construction of the new 57-unit social housing development at Cosgrave Park and Dalgaish Park, Moyross, is ongoing.
- Construction of the new 37-unit social housing development at Churchfield (Phase 2), Southill, is ongoing.
- Construction of the new 18-unit social housing development at Cliona Park (Phase 3), Moyross, is ongoing.
- The Peter McVerry Trust is progressing matters to ensure the completion of Housing Development in Delmege Park, Moyross.
- Discussions ongoing with CLUID, 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 are currently being completed.
- Pre-contract actions are 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 are ongoing on Thermal Upgrade Contract No. 122, St. Marys Park.
- A Stage 3 submission has been made to the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage seeking authorisation to advance Thermal Upgrade Contract No. 128/129 to tender stage.

Chief Executive's Report



Comhairle Cathrach
& Contae **Luimnigh**

Limerick City
& County Council

- Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage approvals sanctioning advancement of the following Thermal Upgrade contracts to tender stage have been received. Contracts are 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 with regard to the refurbishment of the Centre and what services the community would like to see.
- St. Mary's Park Community Centre Working Group continue to meet with the Regeneration Team to establish the project brief.

Other

The following works took place as part of the Limerick Regeneration Framework Implementation Plan:

- Demolition of Nos. 1 and 2, Pineview Gardens, Moyross, Nos. 82 and 83 Cliona Park Moyross, No. 4 St. Munchin's Street, St. Mary's Park, and No. 32 Rose Court, Southill.



Chief Executive's Report



Comhairle Cathrach
& Contae **Luimnigh**

Limerick City
& County Council

Housing Directorate

1. Housing Support Services

Housing Waiting List

Approved Housing Applicants	2,260
Approved Tenant Transfer Applicants	358

Closed Housing Applications

	June	Year to Date
Closed Applications	32	397

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 June	Year to Date
Adare-Rathkeale	1	4
Newcastle West	2	6
Metropolitan District	14	79
Cappamore-Kilmallock	5	35
Total	22	124

Refusals

	No. of Units June	Year to Date
Adare-Rathkeale	0	0
Newcastle West	0	0
Metropolitan District	1	9
Cappamore-Kilmallock	1	5
Total	2	14

Approved Housing Body Allocations 2022 (year to date)

Total Nominations	103
Successful Nominations	58
Nominations Pending	30
Unsuccessful Nominations	15

Traveller Accommodation *

No. of Units offered June	1
Year to Date	6

* these figures are included in allocations figures

Chief Executive's Report



Comhairle Cathrach
& Contae **Luimnigh**

Limerick City
& County Council

Housing Welfare Visits

No. of Visits June	15
Year to Date	85

Rental Assistance Scheme (RAS)

The total number of units in RAS accommodation in June was 1,251, of which 735 were private, 515 were Voluntary and one was Part V. Seven new tenancies were created.

Housing Assistance Payments Limerick (HAP)

2,347 active HAP Tenancies monitored, reviewed and maintained.

No. of HAP tenancies set up this month	21
No. of Amendments	434
No. of Cessations	54

RENT COLLECTION

Rent Collection Limerick City and County Council					
Opening Balance	Accrued Income	Total for collection	Receipts	Closing Balance	% Collection
€5,396,118	€9,118,783	€14,514,901	€8,650,242	€5,864,659	60%

Chief Executive's Report



Comhairle Cathrach
& Contae **Luimnigh**

Limerick City
& County Council

HOME IMPROVEMENT SCHEMES

June 2022		Adare-Rathkeale	Newcastle West	Metropolitan	Cappamore-Kilmallock	Total
Mobility Aid Grants	No. Approved	1	3	6	0	10
	MAG Expenditure	€10,648.00	€5,750.00	€37,690.00	€30,750.00	€84,838.00
	No. Paid	2	1	10	6	19
Housing Adaptation Grants	No. Approved	1	1	21	2	25
	HAG Expenditure	€9,690.00	€2,875.00	€130,650.15	€37,622.00	€180,837.15
	No. Paid	1	1	16	2	20
Housing Aid for Older People	No. Approved	9	20	10	1	40
	HOP Expenditure	€20,901.00	€82,497.50	€194,383.25	€37,696.10	€335,477.85
	No. Paid	6	16	49	10	81
Disabled Person's Grant	DPG Expenditure	€2,150.83	€0.00	€61,219.36	€13,506.50	€76,876.69
	No. Paid	1	0	0	2	3

Total No. Approved	75
Total Monies Paid	€678,029.69
Total No. Paid	123

Chief Executive's Report



Comhairle Cathrach & Contae **Luimnigh**

Limerick City & County Council

Year-to-Date

Jan-Jun2022		Adare-Rathkeale	Newcastle West	Metropolitan	Cappamore-Kilmallock	Total
Mobility Aid Grants	No. Approved	10	12	34	14	70
	MAG Expenditure	€74,312.45	€58,507.27	€175,515.00	€83,740.00	€392,074.72
	No. Paid	14	12	37	16	79
Housing Adaptation Grants	No. Approved	19	12	107	17	155
	HAG Expenditure	€82,496.84	€149,367.09	€490,152.23	€88,394.78	€810,410.94
	No. Paid	11	12	62	8	93
Housing Aid for Older People	No. Approved	24	57	123	30	234
	HOP Expenditure	€118,939.86	€339,787.62	€526,766.49	€176,209.59	€1,161,703.56
	No. Paid	33	73	141	39	286
Disabled Person's Grant	DPG Expenditure	€2,150.83	0	€165,546.38	€40,235.75	€207,932.96
	No. Paid	1	0	7	6	14

YTD Total No. Approved	459
YTD Total Monies Paid	€2,572,122.18
YTD Total No. Paid	472

Chief Executive's Report



Comhairle Cathrach
& Contae **Luimnigh**

**Limerick City
& County Council**

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.
- On 14 June, the residents of Parkview Terrace, Hassett's Cross, together with the Community Sustainment Team, took part in a big clean-up operation within the estate. Works included weeding, clearing back of overgrowth and the installation of a new flowerbed. The Parks Department delivered topsoil and removed thirty bags of green waste on the day. The clean-up operation was quite successful and the residents have committed to commencing painting works within the estate in the coming weeks.

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 June, 353 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. 20 such inductions took place during June.

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 June was 169. The number of cases closed during June was 88. The Community Sustainment Team secured possession of 11 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. 57 such formal reviews were undertaken during the month.

Chief Executive's Report



Comhairle Cathrach
& Contae **Luimnigh**

Limerick City
& County Council

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

Date: 09 June, 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	57
Thomond House	Higher threshold accommodation for single females	15
St. Joseph Street	Higher threshold accommodation for single females	4
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	15
Temporary Emergency Provision TEP 2 (Phoenix Lodge)	Low threshold, night-by-night (9pm-9am) emergency accommodation. Mixed	15
Total		150

Families				
Location	Description	Beds Used		
		Adults	Children	Families
Suaimhneas	Family Emergency accommodation	6	10	6
B&B/Hotel Accommodation	Families	61	86	41
Twin Oaks Family Hub	Family Hub	13	13	10
Totals		Adults	Children	Families
		80	109	57

Chief Executive's Report



Comhairle Cathrach
& Contae **Luimnigh**

Limerick City
& County Council

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

Tenant Purchase	
Tenant Purchase Applications: No. received	7
Tenant Purchase Applications: No. approved	3
Local Authority Home Loans	
Loan Applications: No. received	16
Loan Applications: No. approved	1
Deed of Discharge	
Deed of Discharge Applications: No. Received	23
Consent to Sale	
Consent to Sale Applications: No. Received	5
Cottage Purchase Annuity	
No of Cottage Purchase Annuity Applications	0
Ground Rent	
No of Ground Rent applications	3
Private Rented Inspections	
No. of Inspections	111

Freedom of Information, Data Requests and Ombudsman

Freedom of Information requested submitted	0
Ombudsman Query Cases	1
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

House Returns June - Categorisation	
Cat 1	1
Cat 2	0
Cat 3	0
Cat 4	0
To be inspected	10
Total	11

House Returns June By Municipal District	
Adare-Rathkeale	0
Cappamore-Kilmallock	0
Newcastle West	2
Metropolitan District	9
Total	11

During June, Limerick City and County Council Strategy and Non LA Housing Construction Team was notified of 0 houses returned in the Municipal District of Adare-Rathkeale, 0 in the Municipal District of Cappamore-Kilmallock, two in the Municipal District of Newcastle West and nine in the Metropolitan District.

Chief Executive's Report



Comhairle Cathrach & Contae **Luimnigh**

Limerick City & County Council

Current Working Programme		
	Completed in June	In Progress
Local Authority Construction Team	0	110
Local Authority Maintenance Team	4	61
Approved Housing Body stock transfer in process	0	27
Regeneration Team	2	19
Team to be assigned	N/A	32
Total	6	249

In June, works on four properties were completed by the LA Maintenance Team. The Regeneration Team completed works on two properties.

There are three teams in Limerick City and County Council assigned to refurbish properties. As of June, the Local Authority Construction Team is in the process of completing works in 110 properties, Local Authority Maintenance Team 61 properties and the Regeneration Team 19 properties. Approved Housing Bodies stock transfer in process 27 properties. 32 properties have no Team assigned yet.

The Strategy and Non Local Authority Housing Construction Team is currently looking at more sustainable solutions to the issue of vacant properties in the Council's 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.

Project Updates:

A Part 8 application has been submitted for 10 housing units in O'Connor Park, Reerasta North, Ardagh, County Limerick. The proposed works will include the construction of 10 no. housing units in addition to ancillary site works comprising of a new vehicular junction (with the R521), an access road, services, footpaths, parking, boundary treatment and landscaping works.

A capital appraisal was submitted to the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage for Mulcair Drive in June. It is proposed to build six social housing units.

Affordable Housing Fund (AHF)

Toppins Field Lands

The integrated Design Team, led by Allies and Morrison / Cullen Payne Architects, are continuing work on an updated masterplan for housing on the site. Site investigations are being undertaken and a feasibility report is underway to test and identify the most suitable and viable mix of tenures and unit typologies on the site. This report will also look at the phasing strategy for the site and environs, and its integration with the new Blue/Green City Infrastructure Strategy. There is a strong focus on SuDs (sustainable urban drainage solutions) and the creation of a sustainable neighbourhood. The report will also establish whether the scheme will continue under existing Serviced Sites Fund (SSF) funding or if it will need to move to the higher level of subsidy under the AHF Fund to achieve the affordability targets.

Chief Executive's Report



Comhairle Cathrach
& Contae **Luimnigh**

Limerick City
& County Council

Finance

Applications for funding totalling €1,036,133 were issued to the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage during June.

A total of €851,913 was paid in claims by the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage during the same period.

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. Works are being undertaken on properties.

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 June

Housing Maintenance Cases - June	Requests/Cases Created	Cases Dealt With/Closed	Balance of Open Cases at 30.06.2022
Metropolitan District	706	769	922
Municipal District of Adare-Rathkeale	76	109	379
Municipal District of Cappamore-Kilmallock	122	101	192
Municipal District of Newcastle West	87	149	573
Total	991	1,128	2,066

Chief Executive's Report



Comhairle Cathrach
& Contae **Luimnigh**

Limerick City
& County Council

Grants Inspections

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

Inspection Types	Pre-application	Initial Inspection	Re-inspection	Final Inspections after Works completed	Total Inspections by Grant Type
MAGs (Mobility Adaptation Grant Scheme)	0	12	0	9	21
HAGs (Housing Adaptation Grant Scheme)	1	22	0	9	32
HOPS (Housing Aid for Older Persons Grant Scheme)	0	15	0	28	43
DPGs (Disabled Person Grant)	0	7	0	1	8
Total Inspections by Inspection Type	1	56	0	47	104

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

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	1	3
HAGs (Housing Adaptation Grant Scheme)	0	4	1	3	8
HOPS (Housing Aid for Older Persons Grant Scheme)	0	7	0	5	12
DPGs (Disabled Person Grant)	0	0	0	0	0
Total Inspections by Inspection Type	0	12	2	9	23

Chief Executive's Report



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Limerick City
& County Council

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

Inspection Types	Pre-application	Initial Inspection	Re-inspection	Final Inspections after Works completed	Total Inspections by Grant Type
MAGs (Mobility Adaptation Grant Scheme)	0	2	0	5	7
HAGs (Housing Adaptation Grant Scheme)	0	2	0	1	3
HOPS (Housing Aid for Older Persons Grant Scheme)	0	11	0	4	15
DPGs (Disabled Person Grant)	0	0	0	0	0
Total Inspections by Inspection Type	0	15	0	10	25

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

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	2	5
HAGs (Housing Adaptation Grant Scheme)	0	0	0	3	3
HOPS (Housing Aid for Older Persons Grant Scheme)	0	24	0	8	32
DPGs (Disabled Person Grant)	0	0	0	0	0
Total Inspections by Inspection Type	0	27	0	13	40

Chief Executive's Report



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Limerick City
& County Council

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 30.06.2022 is as follows:

As at 30 June (01.01.22 – 30.06.22)				
	Complete	In Progress	Overall Complete and In Progress	"Housing for All" 2022 Delivery Target
Build	97	273	370	565
Buy	11	29	40*	0
Lease	20	40	60	21**
TOTAL	128	342	470	

* includes 33 no. units carried over from 2021.

* Limerick City and County Council has a target of 21 no. short-term leasing units. The 60 no. units 'Complete and in Progress' is made up of units carried over from 2021.

2. CURRENT OPERATIONAL PROGRAMME

Finance

Claims totalling €2,112,855 were sent to the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage in June.

Claims totaling €3,589,739 were paid by the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage in June.

Project Approvals and Submissions

Project approvals received from the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage in June		
Scheme	Project Details	District
Mortgage to Rent - under the Social Housing Current Expenditure Programme (SHCEP)	Approval to lease 1 no. property under the Mortgage to Rent Scheme.	Metropolitan District of Limerick
Capital Assistance Scheme (CAS)	Stage 4 Construction Approval for 18 no. units at Thomondgate, Limerick.	Metropolitan District of Limerick
Social Housing Investment Project (SHIP)	Approval for the acquisition of 1 no. unit at Annacotty, Limerick.	Metropolitan District of Limerick
Capital Assistance Scheme (CAS)	Submission for the acquisition of 1 no. unit at Dympna's Terrace, Limerick.	Metropolitan District of Limerick

Chief Executive's Report



Comhairle Cathrach
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Limerick City
& County Council

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

Scheme	Project Details	District
Capital Assistance Scheme (CAS)	Stage 1 Construction Submission for 7 no. units at Ballygrennan, Limerick.	Metropolitan District of Limerick
Capital Assistance Scheme (CAS)	Stage 1 Construction Submission for 8 no. units at Feenagh, Co. Limerick.	Municipal District of Newcastle West
Capital Assistance Scheme (CAS)	Stage 3 Construction Submission for 9 no. units at Kilfinane, Co. Limerick.	Municipal District of Cappamore-Kilmallock
Part V	Submission for the acquisition of 4 no. units at Adare, Co. Limerick.	Municipal District of Adare-Rathkeale
Buy and Renew Acquisition	Submission for the acquisition of 1 no. unit at Caherdavin, Limerick.	Metropolitan District of Limerick
Buy and Renew Acquisition	Submission for the acquisition of 1 no. unit at Kennedy Park, Limerick.	Metropolitan District of Limerick
Buy and Renew Acquisition	Submission for the acquisition of 1 no. unit at Kilfinane, Co. Limerick.	Municipal District of Cappamore-Kilmallock

3. UPDATES

On 30 June, the Affordable Housing Team of Strategy and Non-LA Housing Construction Unit invited home builders and housing developers to submit proposals for residential developments for affordable housing. The aim is to enter into advance purchase arrangements to secure affordable homes in areas where the need is most acute. Information is available on Limerick City and County Council's website <https://www.limerick.ie/affordable-housing-acquisition>.

Conferences and Workshops

During the month of June, staff from Strategy and Non-LA Housing Construction attended online webinars hosted by the Irish Council for Social Housing. Topics covered included Housing Policy and Approved Housing Body Governance and Compliance.

The Housing Delivery Co-ordination Office, in conjunction with the Housing Agency, held an online launch of the recently updated and relaunched Housing Manual. The Housing Manual is an online resource and tool for Local Authority practitioners and is aimed at providing practical guidance across all sectors of housing. The demonstration took place on 22 June and staff from Strategy and Non-LA Housing Construction attended this launch.

Staff from Housing Strategy and Non-LA Housing Construction met with Eileen Davis, ICT Manager, Housing Delivery Co-Ordination Office. The Housing Delivery Co-ordination Office assists all Local Authorities in the delivery of social and affordable housing. The Office also acts as a central liaison point between the Local Authority Sector and the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage, and other external stakeholders. Eileen gave a presentation to the Team in respect of the recording and reporting on the delivery of social housing units on a dedicated reporting suite created by the Housing Delivery Co-Ordination Office.

Chief Executive's Report



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**Limerick City
& County Council**

4. Municipal District Offices

Metropolitan District of Limerick

Metropolitan District Meetings

June Monthly Meeting and Annual Meeting

The June Monthly Meeting of the Metropolitan District of Limerick took place on 20 June.

The Annual Meeting followed this where Councillor Olivia O'Sullivan was elected Cathaoirleach of the Metropolitan District of Limerick, and Councillor Dan McSweeney was elected as Leas-Chathaoirleach.

Operational Area Briefings

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

Upgrade/Refurbishment Works either started or completed during June 2022

Description of Project: Lissnalta / Lemonfield Local Roads Reconstruction

- Location: Lissnalta.
- Cost of project: €150,000.
- Contractor: Roadstone.

Description of project: Stoneyhurst Local Roads Reconstruction

- Location: Stoneyhurst, Dooradoyle.
- Cost of project: €120,000.
- Contractor: Roadstone.

Description of Project: Smith O'Brien Avenue Local Roads Reconstruction

- Location: Smith O'Brien Avenue Kileely.
- Cost of project: €50,000.
- Contractor: Roadstone.

Description of Project: Bushy Island Local Roads Surface Dressing

- Location: Bushy Island Drombanna.
- Cost of project: €10,000.
- Contractor: Limerick City and County Council surface dressing fleet.

Description of Project: Knockea (South Liberties Junction to Knockea) Local Roads Surface Dressing

- Location: Knockea.
- Cost of project: €30,000.
- Contractor: Limerick City and County Council surface dressing fleet.

Description of Project: Kilpeacon Cross to Lissnalta

- Location: Lissnalta.
- Cost of project: €72,000.
- Contractor: Limerick City and County Council surface dressing fleet.

Description of Project: School Road Lisnagry Footpaths

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

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

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

Municipal District of Adare-Rathkeale

The Annual Meeting of the District was held on 28 June. Councillor Stephen Keary was elected Cathaoirleach and Councillor Adam Teskey was elected Leas-Chathaoirleach.

The monthly meeting of the District took place on 14 June in the Woodlands House Hotel, Adare.

Chief Executive's Report



Comhairle Cathrach
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**Limerick City
& County Council**

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

- 76 cases were assigned to the Housing Maintenance Team.
- 53 cases were assigned to the Roads Maintenance Team.

- **Capital Road Projects**

Marine Cove, Foynes – New Culvert under N69 and overflow spillway ongoing.

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

- **Road Works**

Drainage works underway at Poultaloon, Fedamore, and Ballywilliam, Rathkeale.

Macadam overlay completed on the R518 Ballingarry.

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 16 June.

A Summary Report on the work undertaken in the Municipal District in 2021 and 2022 to date was presented to the Elected Members.

- **Annual Meeting**

The Annual Meeting of the Municipal District of Cappamore-Kilmallock was held on 16 June. Councillor John Egan was elected Cathaoirleach and Councillor Gerald Mitchell was elected Leas-Chathaoirleach.

Housing and Road Maintenance

- 120 cases were assigned to the Housing Maintenance Team.
- 86 cases were assigned to the Roads Maintenance Team.

Housing Grants

18 Private Housing Grants were paid totalling €106,068.10, and three were approved. 12 initial inspections were undertaken, two re-inspections and nine final inspections.

In relation to Disabled Persons Grants, four projects were completed, and four were contracted in June.

Municipal District of Newcastle West

- The Monthly Meeting of the Municipal District of Newcastle West took place on 15 June in Áras William Smith O'Brien, Newcastle West.
- The Annual Meeting of the Municipal District of Newcastle West took place on 15 June in Áras William Smith O'Brien, Newcastle West.
- Councillor Francis Foley was elected Cathaoirleach of the Municipal District of Newcastle West and Councillor Michael Collins was elected Leas-Chathaoirleach.
- 24 grant applications were approved under the Private Housing Grant Schemes during the month. The total value of approvals was €116,932.35.
- Payments of €82,497.50 were made to 16 applicants who completed works under the Housing Aid for Older People Scheme.
- Payments of €2,875.00 were made to one applicant who completed works under the Housing Adaptation Grant Scheme.

Chief Executive's Report



Comhairle Cathrach
& Contae **Luimnigh**

Limerick City
& County Council

- Payments of €5,750.00 were made to one applicant 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.
- 1,206 routine transactions were processed by the Motor Tax Section, Newcastle West Office.



Chief Executive's Report



Comhairle Cathrach
& Contae **Luimnigh**

Limerick City
& County Council

Planning, Environment & Place-Making Directorate

1. Place-Making and Public Realm

Project Updates

Place-Making

- **“Greening Limerick” Event** - road closures took place on the June Bank Holiday weekend on Catherine Street, Sarsfield Bridge, and Honan’s Quay, to allow for street festivals to take place. The event was supported by artists, storytellers, and musicians who, along with local stakeholders, took part in the event.
- **“Meanwhile Use” at Honan’s Quay** - Expressions of Interest were sought for hot food and drink kiosks to occupy the area directly adjacent to the University building as part of the ‘Meanwhile Use’ event. Artwork by Lumen Street Theatre has continued on Honan’s Quay. New flood lighting has been installed to the University of Limerick building in order to enhance lighting in this area. Honan’s Quay roadway has also been partially upgraded and resurfaced.

Public Realm

- **Limerick Greenway Underpasses and Overpasses** - Construction is continuing to programme 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.
- **Limerick Greenway Newcastle West Carpark** - design of a carpark for Greenway users at Station Road, Newcastle West, is being finalised. A Part 8 Planning Application is being prepared for the revised design.

Capital Projects

- **Newcastle West Athletics Hub** - Construction of a new eight-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 the Sustainable Energy Authority of Ireland for funding to carry out an Energy Study was successful. Lawler Sustainability have carried out an Energy Study at the facility and are now finalising the Stage 2 Application.
- **King’s Island Flood Relief Scheme** - Priority Geotechnical Limited, Unit 12, Owenacurra Business Park, Middleton, Co. Cork, commenced architectural conservation trench excavations to quay walls at Merchant’s Quay.
- **Coonagh to Knockalisheen Distributor Road** - Appointment GSN Plant Hire Limited, Old Road, Monasterboice, Co. Louth, for an advance works fencing contract.

Archaeology

Capital Works for Kilfinane Church Conservation, under the Community Monuments Fund, were tendered in June.

Chief Executive's Report



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Limerick City & County Council

2. Planning Development

Planning Applications

A total of 107 new planning applications were received as follows:

Category	Amount
Part 8	6
Housing Developments	2
Domestic Developments	74
Agricultural Developments	4
Commercial Developments/ Change of Use	12
Sporting/ Community and Educational Developments	2
Other Developments	7

The current applications include proposals for:

- Construction of 27 No. dwellings to include for 26 No. semi-detached dwellings and 1 No. detached dwelling, entrance, service road, associated parking, infrastructure and all associated site works at Anglers Walk, Rhebogue, Limerick.
- Part 8 for the construction of 10 No. housing units in addition to ancillary site works comprising of a new vehicular junction (with the R521), an access road, services, footpaths, parking, boundary treatment and landscaping units at O'Connor Park, Reerasta North, Ardagh, Co. Limerick.

3. Environment, Recreation & Climate Change

Cemeteries

Number of Burials in City Cemeteries

Mount St. Lawrence	12
Mount St. Oliver	11
Castlemungret	10
Kilmurry	4

Environmental Services (Litter, Waste Enforcement, Air, Noise, Water/Waste Water and Public Health)

- 321 complaints were received.
- A total of 544 inspections were undertaken.
- 135 Warnings were issued.
- Three Notices were issued.
- Seven Directions were served by the Department.
- Three Prosecutions were initiated.
- A total of 11 fines were issued during the period.

4. Urban Innovation

+CityxChange

Two deliverables were submitted to project partners for review in advance of submission to the European Commission. These reports detail the activities and implementation of two tasks within the +CityxChange project: Community-led Open Innovation and the development of Limerick's Bold City Vision as part of the Development Plan process. These deliverables will form part of the knowledge base and legacy of the project.

Chief Executive's Report



Comhairle Cathrach
& Contae **Luimnigh**

Limerick City
& County Council

Deliverable 4.8 Citizen Innovation Lab

This deliverable describes the implementation of Task 4.3 Community-Led Open Innovation, which focuses on creating an innovation ecosystem that fosters and influences positive energy behaviour across a wide stakeholder group of individuals, government, and business in Limerick. It documents the development and establishment of the Citizen Innovation Lab, as well as the engagement programme of community participation events and the establishment of a Positive energy Champions' Network.

Deliverable 4.6 Limerick 2050 Vision, Integrated action plan and Digital Guide

This deliverable demonstrates how Limerick City and County Council utilised the Bold City Vision (BCV) Framework in supporting the Limerick Development Plan 2022-2028. It maps and aligns the processes and initiatives used in preparing the draft plan against the framework. The report outlines a number of key actions that will enable and support the creation of a Positive Energy City by 2050, and a framework on how Limerick can develop this capability to last through generations, together with local stakeholders. A key outcome of this process is the development of a Roadmap for the decarbonisation of Limerick City.

Citizen Innovation Lab

Supporting the formation of Sustainable Energy Communities

Through the Citizen Innovation Lab programmes and digital tools, the Urban Innovation Department is supporting communities in the formation of Sustainable Energy Communities. Following connection made during the recent City Engage Week, Adare Tidy Towns utilised the +CityxChange Crowd Source Mapping Tool in their "Adare's Renewable Future" project to map renewable energy in their village. The project garnered over 50 submissions from locals mapping current engagement with renewable energy sources and pinpointing possible future projects in Adare Village. The mapping project will form part of Adare's Tidy Towns application and

provides a key data set in the development of an Adare Energy Master Plan as part of the Sustainable Energy Communities process in the future.

Cruinnú na nÓg

The Citizen Innovation Lab hosted a Lego animation and virtual reality activity as part of Cruinnú na nÓg, Ireland's national day of creativity for children and young people. Participants were enabled to create their own Lego environment where they could then animate their own stories and check out a virtual reality experience as part of the event.

Decarbonising Together - Creative Climate Action

June saw creative practitioners matched with community partners and commenced the creative process of exploring decarbonisation together. Each project will be unique to that community; the objective is to use these collaborations to be a catalyst for further action on the decarbonisation process at community level.

5. Veterinary Services

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

Chief Executive's Report



Comhairle Cathrach
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Limerick City
& County Council

National and Regional Shared Services Centre Directorate

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

- There were 60,870 active HAP tenancies nationally, managed by the HAP SSC at the end of June 2022.
- A weekly average of 181 HAP tenancies have been set up during 2022.
- The June landlord payment run was €56.2 million.
- The weekly tenant charge at the end of June 2022 was €3.1 million.
- The Debt Management Unit of the HAP SSC collected a total of €78.3 million in differential rent to end of June 2022.
- The HAP tenant rent collection rate at the end of June 2022 was 97%.
- The Debt Management Unit issued 9,036 HAP debt reminder letters in June 2022.

2. Fire and Emergency

Statistics

	No of Fire Related Calls	No of Non Fire Related Calls	Total
No. of call outs 01.06.2022 – 30.06.2022	50	38	88
% of calls where on scene in < 10 mins from time of call	64	60	
% of calls where on scene between 11 and 20 mins from time of call	26	32	
% of calls where on scene in > 20 mins from time of call	10	8	

Chief Executive's Report



Comhairle Cathrach
& Contae **Luimnigh**

Limerick City
& County Council

	No. received / assigned	No. validated	No. invalidated / refused	No. granted	No. Completed
Fire Certificate Applications June	9	4	1	14	15
Disability Access Cert Applications June	5	3	0	7	7
Licensing Applications June	8	8	0	3	3
Commencement Notice June	38	35	1	35	36
Completion Certificate June	13	9	0	9	9
Planning Referrals June	27	15	0	15	15
Sugar CRM Cases June	4	2			2

Fire and Emergency Training Events

During the month, the following training courses took place:

- One fire fighter completed Emergency Services Driving Standard (ESDS) training.
- One fire fighter attended National ESDS Driving Instructor Workshop.
- An Officer attended a Hydra 'Effective Decision Making' course in Clonmel Fire Station.
- On-Station training is being delivered within all stations.
- NDFEM Fire Safety Engineering courses for Senior Fire Officers

Water Safety

No. of lifebuoy replacements	Total January-May	June	Total 2022
Metropolitan District	5	1	6
Municipal District	4	2	6

Civil Defence attendance at Events

The following activity took place in June:

- Patient Transfer – Limerick residence to UHL and return to residence - 1 day
- Patient Transfer – Limerick residence to Vaccination Centre and return to residence - 1 day
- Patient Transfer – Limerick residence to St. Gabriel's and return to residence - 1 day
- Patient Transfer – Limerick residence to UHL and return to residence - 2 days
- An Garda Síochána Open Day at Henry Street Garda Station - 1 day
- Tour of Adare Manor prior to the JP McManus ProAm - 1 day
- Medical Cover for Thomond Swim - 1 day
- Medical Cover for World Masters Ultimate frisbee Club Championships - 2 days

Chief Executive's Report



Comhairle Cathrach
& Contae **Luimnigh**

Limerick City
& County Council

Support Services Directorate

1. Finance

Commercial Rates and Loans

Draft Collection Figures

Commercial Rates 2022	
As at 30th June 2022	
Opening Balance - 1 Jan €	8,732,896
Accruals €	59,597,880 **
Vacant Property Adjustment €	304,554
Writes offs/ Waivers €	2,712,114
Total for Collection €	65,314,108
Amount Collected €	31,352,742
Arrears €	33,961,366
Specific Doubtful Arrears €	3,033,860
% Collected	50%

** 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 30th June 2022	
Opening Balance - 1 Jan €	310,319
Accruals €	774,867 ^
Writes offs €	-
To Collect €	1,085,186
Receipts €	923,152
Arrears €	162,034
% Collected	85%

^ Accruals not updated for loans for June 2022

Chief Executive's Report

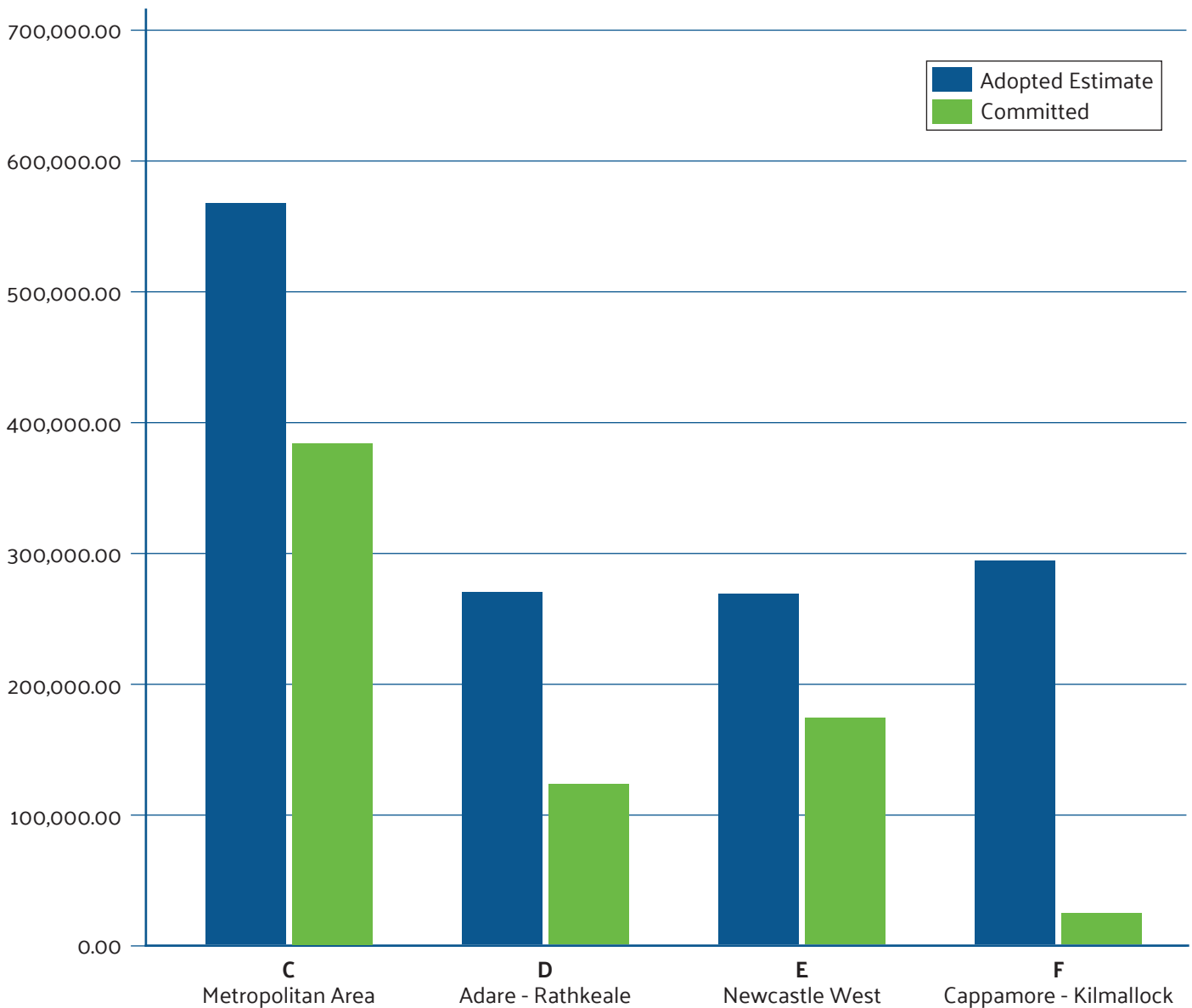


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Limerick City & County Council

General Municipal Allocation 2022 Adopted Estimate €1.403 Million

Graph outlining adopted budget and draft committed expenditure up to 30th June 2022



Municip (Code) + (Text)	Value Adopted Estimate (€)	Value Committed (€)
C Metropolitan Area	568,000.00	384,883
D Adare - Rathkeale	270,000.00	122,519
E Newcastle West	270,000.00	173,109
F Cappamore - Kilmallock	295,000.00	25,949

Chief Executive's Report



Comhairle Cathrach
& Contae **Luimnigh**

**Limerick City
& County Council**

2. Business Improvement

- A total of 919 active users are now live on the employee app, Council Connect.
- Services on the Service Catalogue = 700.
- 15 staff members received MyPoint Consultation and Survey training in June.
- There are 255 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.
- 12 staff members attended a Cora PPM training session.

3. Corporate, Governance and Customer Services

Office of the Mayor

Mayoral Receptions were held for the following:

- **Paul Foley**
In recognition of his committed and passionate leadership in creating a better Limerick socially, culturally and in sport.
- **Linda Ledger**
In recognition of her committed leadership in supporting communities across Limerick helping to build a more inclusive Limerick.
- **Mawuli MuRli Boevi, Denise Mwaka Chaila and Munyaradzi Godknows Jonas**
In recognition of their achievements in music and their leadership in redefining Limerick culturally and socially.

The Mayor hosted the following in Corporate Headquarters:

- Courtesy Visit of the British Ambassador to Ireland, Paul Johnston.
- Courtesy Visit of the Ambassador of Ukraine to Ireland, Ms. Larysa Gerasko.

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

- Reception to celebrate the Italian National Day and to bid farewell to His Excellency, Mr. Paolo Serpi, Ambassador of Italy, and Mrs. Maria Gabriela Echeverria Serpi.
Venue: Lucan House, Main Street, Lucan, Co. Dublin.
- Launch of Limerick Pride.
Venue: The Hunt Museum, Rutland Street, Limerick.
- Limerick Youth Service together with the Health Service Executive and the Traveller Youth Mental Health Advisory Panel, Launch of the Traveller Youth Mental Health Resources.
Venue: Northside Youth Space, Ballynanty, Limerick.
- Official Opening of the Limerick Operatic Memorabilia Exhibition as part of the Limerick Opera Festival.
Venue: Limerick Museum, Old Franciscan Friary, Henry Street, Limerick.
- Ballingarry Development Association, Unveiling of Signage at The Mall, Ballingarry, which has recently been refurbished.
Venue: Ballingarry Mall, Ballingarry, Co. Limerick.
- Open Day for Evolution Cycles.
Venue: 11, Patrick Street, Limerick.
- 2022 Munster Senior Hurling Championship Final, Limerick v Clare.
Venue: FBD Semple Stadium, Thurles, Co. Tipperary.
- Visit by the Mayor of Dunkirk, Mr. Patrice Vergriete.
Venue: Council Chamber, Merchant's Quay, Limerick.

Chief Executive's Report



Comhairle Cathrach
& Contae **Luimnigh**

**Limerick City
& County Council**

- Coffee Morning at Vitalograph to welcome the Garbe Family and other major Vitalograph shareholders to see their new offices, and to showcase Limerick as a prime location for their recent expansion.
Venue: Vitalograph's new offices, Innovate Building, Cecil Street, Limerick.
- Launch of "The Treaty 1921: Records from the Archives." The exhibition marks the centenary of the signing of the Anglo Irish Treaty, one of the most important documents in modern Irish history.
Venue: Istabraq Hall, Merchant's Quay, Limerick.
- Croom Family Resource Centre CLG, Annual Summer BBQ.
Venue: Croom Scout Den, High Street, Croom, Co. Limerick.
- University of Limerick Summer Conferring Ceremony.
Venue: University Concert Hall (UCH), Castletroy, Limerick.
- Presentation of Cheques from University of Limerick students, raised by UL Charity Week 2022. The students raised €20,000 for two chosen charities, The Irish Red Cross (Limerick Area) and the Irish Community Air Ambulance, and each received a €10,000 donation.
Venue: Scholars Club, Student Courtyard, University of Limerick, Castletroy, Limerick.
- Regeneration Directorate, Limerick City and County Council, in partnership with Limerick and Clare Education and Training Board (LCETB) and TUS - Jobs Fair.
Venue: King's Island Community Centre, King's Island, Limerick.
- The Creative Ireland Programme, Gala Concert, Featuring The Artists of the COVID Care Concert, Performing in honour of Frontline Healthcare Workers.
Venue: National Concert Hall, Earlsfort Terrace, Dublin.
- Official Opening of Spine Excellence, Limerick.
Venue: Lonsdale Road, National Technology Park, Castletroy, Limerick.
- Photoshoot to launch Sculpture Exhibition.
Venue: Upstairs Foyer, King John's Castle, Limerick.
- Treaty United FC v Athlone Town.
Venue: Markets Field Stadium, Garryowen, Limerick.
- Munster Indian Cultural Association, Celebration of International Yoga Day.
Venue: Mungret St. Paul's GAA Club, Mungret, Limerick.
- Limerick Summerfest 2022, Music Festival.
Venue: Limerick Racecourse, Patrickswell, Co. Limerick.
- 'Day on a Bike' Idea for Active Travel.
- Welcomed Group of Secondary School Students from Guadalajara, Mexico, visiting Mary Immaculate College.
Venue: Council Chamber, Merchant's Quay, Limerick.
- Photo-Op with Children from Gaelscoil Sáirséal, winners of a Naming Competition for Limerick City and County Council's new Active Travel cycle lane sweepers, Speedy Wheely and Sweep de Limerick.
Venue: Gaelscoil Sáirséal, Shelbourne Road, Limerick.
- Northern Trust Limerick, celebration of LGBTQ Pride, **Theme:** 'Belonging.'
Venue: Northern Trust Office, City East Plaza, Ballysimon Road, Limerick.
- Fundraiser Cheque Presentation, 'Marching for the Maternities,' Presentation of Cheques to University Maternity Hospital Limerick and the Coombe Women and Infants University Hospital.
Venue: Sarsfield Barracks, Limerick.
- Tree Planting to acknowledge the resilience of communities across the county over the last number of years.
Venue: Kilkeely, Hospital, Murroe, Castleconnell and Glin.

Chief Executive's Report



Comhairle Cathrach
& Contae **Luimnigh**

Limerick City
& County Council

- Helium Arts (Ireland's Children's Arts and Health Charity) to a Special Lunchtime Gathering 'Objects of Wonder' - A Celebration of Children's Art.

Venue: Limerick City Gallery of Art, Pery Square, Limerick.

- Lunch with Guidance Counsellors from the US.

Venue: Mary Immaculate College, South Circular Road, Limerick.

- Cycle with the Limerick School Cycle Bus and cycle as a group to Limerick School Project and to The Model School on O'Connell Avenue, Limerick.

Starting Point: Strand Hotel, Limerick.

- Launch of new video as part of the Three Muses Programme, 'The Three Muses' is a joint education initiative for primary schools developed and delivered by three Limerick cultural institutions: The Hunt Museum as lead partners, Limerick City Gallery of Art and Limerick Museum.

Venue: Hunt Museum, Rutland Street, Limerick.

- Opening Ceremony of the World Flying Disc Federation (WFDF) Ultimate Frisbee World Championships.

Venue: University of Limerick, Castletroy, Limerick.

- Dromcollogher Community Council CLG, Mass and the Blessing of The Labyrinth, A Sacred Path, on the grounds of the former Parochial House, Dromcollogher, by Bishop Brendan Leahy.

Venue: Dromcollogher, Co. Limerick.

- Launch of the online Revolutionary Map of Limerick 1913-23.

Venue: Mayor's Office, Merchant's Quay, Limerick.

- Irish Red Cross, Awards Ceremony.

Venue: Horse and Hound, Mulgrave Street, Limerick.

Visit to Austin, Texas, and Santa Clara/San Francisco, California, USA

- Visit to Austin, Texas and Santa Clara/San Francisco, California, USA, from 04 to 11 June with the objective of promoting Limerick, developing deeper business relationships, developing our Sister City links and engaging with the Limerick diaspora community.

Register of Electors

- Staff from the Register of Electors Team continue to process application forms and emails which have been submitted in relation to the Register of Electors.

Total number of additions carried out in June was 14, total deletions 181, and total modifications was one.

- Staff from the Electoral Register Team attended a Webinar which gave an update on the Electoral Reform Bill and the Modernisation Project for the Electoral Register. The Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage advised that the Electoral Reform Bill, 2022, has been published and the Bill is now going through the final stages of the Houses of the Oireachtas.

Chief Executive's Report



Comhairle Cathrach & Contae **Luimnigh**

Limerick City & County Council

Health and Safety Training

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

Course Name	Numbers Trained
Safe Pass	17
Drivers' Certificate of Professional Competence	6
Manual Handling	62
Dealing with Aggressive Customers	18
Construction Skills Certification Scheme -Locating Underground Services	4
Abrasive Wheels	22
Construction Skills Certification Scheme - Telescopic Handler	5
Aebestos Handling	19
Confined Spaces Medium Risk	1
Roller Driver Training	23
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 June:

Approved requisitions account for 83% of the total requisitions actioned for this given month.

Rejected requisitions account for 17% of the total requisitions actioned for this given month.

Month	Approved	Rejected	Total Requisitions Actioned
June	1,310	272	1,582

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

Rejection Reason	June
Memo – Requisition Not Raised in Advance	81
Procurement Reference Omitted/Incorrect	58
Signature Required – Signature(s) missing	34
Document uploaded not relevant to Requisition/Nothing Uploaded	29
CAPA- for incomplete/unsigned/missing/incorrect level CAPA (Corrective Action, Preventative Action) form	24

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 the month of June:

New Procurement References set up	22
Procurement References extended as per signed contract/arrangement	1

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.

Chief Executive's Report



Comhairle Cathrach
& Contae **Luimnigh**

Limerick City
& County Council

Schedule of Meetings for June

Name of Meeting	Date	Location
Full Council		
Special Meeting - Vote of Sympathy for former Cathaoirleach of Limerick County Council, Mary Jackman, RIP.	02.06.2022	Dooradoyle and Online
Special Meeting - Limerick Development Plan 2022-2028.	17.06.2022	Dooradoyle and Online
Special Meeting - Housing.	23.06.2022	Dooradoyle and Online
Special Meeting - Vote of Sympathy for Councillor Jerry O'Dea, RIP.	30.06.2022	Dooradoyle and Online
Operational Briefings		
Limerick City East	07.06.2022	Virtual
Limerick City North	07.06.2022	Virtual
Limerick City West	08.06.2022	Virtual
Municipal District of		
Newcastle West		
Monthly Meeting	15.06.2022	Newcastle West
Annual Meeting	15.06.2022	Newcastle West
Adare-Rathkeale		
Monthly Meeting	14.06.2022	Adare
Annual Meeting	28.06.2022	Rathkeale
Cappamore-Kilmallock		
Monthly Meeting	16.06.2022	Dooradoyle and Online
Annual Meeting	16.06.2022	Dooradoyle and Online
Metropolitan District of Limerick		
Monthly Meeting	20.06.2022	Dooradoyle and Online
Annual Meeting	20.06.2022	Dooradoyle and Online
Local Community Development Committee (LCDC)	07.06.2022	Dooradoyle
Corporate Policy Group	28.06.2022	Virtual
Joint Policing Committee	10.06.2022	Virtual

Chief Executive's Report



Comhairle Cathrach & Contae **Luimnigh**

Limerick City & County Council

Name of Meeting	Date	Location
Strategic Policy Committees		
Community, Leisure and Culture	13.06.2022	Dooradoyle and Online
Home and Social Development	15.06.2022	Dooradoyle and Online
Economic Development, Enterprise & Planning	20.06.2022	Dooradoyle and Online
Climate Action, Biodiversity & Environment	21.06.2022	Dooradoyle and Online
Travel and Transportation	27.06.2022	Dooradoyle and Online

Access to Information

	June	2022 (January to June)
Total Freedom of Information Requests	11	110
Freedom of Information Internal Appeals	1	8
Information Commissioner Appeals	0	3
Total Ombudsman Requests	2	36
Total Access to Information on the Environment Requests	3	9

Customer Services

During the month, the Customer Services Team supported Operations and Maintenance by providing customers with 'weekly look ahead' information on grass cutting, strimming, and weed spraying in the city and county. Cases were then logged by the Customer Services Team as appropriate. Having access to this 'weekly look ahead' information resulted in the reduction of cases being created from previous years without access by 50%.

June also saw Customer Services staff aid the updating of the Dogs Licence database for the Veterinary Team

by logging cases for each update received, either via telephone or email. This resulted in a total of 163 cases created for the Veterinary Team.

The following figures highlight the activity within the contact centre throughout June:

- Customer Services Call Centre answered 10,040 calls. This represents an average of 478 per day, with the number of calls exceeding 540 on several occasions. 55% of calls this month were handled at first point of contact.
- A total of 2,409 emails were processed through the Customer Services email platform.
- 2,528 cases were created, with 468 of these logged on behalf of Public Representatives. 2,754 cases were closed, with 628 of these being cases logged by Public Representatives.
- The logging of cases through the MyLimerick portal continued, with a total of 243 cases being logged. Of these, 208 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 88% of cases for Housing Maintenance in the Metropolitan District.

Chief Executive's Report



Comhairle Cathrach
& Contae **Luimnigh**

Limerick City
& County Council

- Customer Services continued to provide other frontline services to the general public, such as processing applications for Residential Parking Permits, of which 97 were applied for and 84 issued.
- Customer Services staff welcomed a total of 1,981 visitors to public counters in both Merchant's Quay and Dooradoyle.

4. Marketing & Communications

Marketing

Limerick 11 Summer 2022 Domestic Tourism Campaign

- Launched a multi-media domestic tourism marketing campaign, 'Limerick 11,' to position Limerick as a leading tourism destination for value, welcome and excitement.
- Building on the success of last year's 'Double Your Summer' campaign, local service providers and operators were engaged with and a confident and original tourism offering with a range of incentives and reasons for visitors to come to Limerick was developed.
- The hook for the campaign is that we are celebrating 11 centuries since the foundation of Limerick in 922AD. The campaign is framed in terms of "Eleven," with fantastic stakeholder offers, itineraries and things to see and do and unique prize packages for visitors to enjoy.
- A dedicated campaign hub www.limerick.ie/11 was created to showcase local stakeholder accommodation, dining and retail offers and promotions.
- Securing collaboration with top Irish influencers to promote specific itineraries.
- The campaign is promoted across Limerick.ie's social media channels, via paid and organic social media advertising; Limerick.ie newsletters; digital display; SEM and a national radio campaign, including Newstalk and Today FM.

Limerick Student City - CAO (Central Applications Office) Change of Mind Campaign

- In the run-in to CAO Change of Mind deadline date, Marketing and Communications implemented a social media campaign utilising campaign-specific assets, including our 'There's no Place Like Limerick' video to highlight and promote Limerick's offering as a complete college experience – from cutting edge institutions to Ireland's most vibrant social scene.
- Platforms utilised included LinkedIn, Facebook, Instagram and Twitter.

Other Marketing Activities

- Secured a feature in the Irish Times 'Living and Working in Limerick' publication, featuring an advert, editorial and digital content.
- Secured a feature in the Limerick Post 'Leaders of the Mid West' publication, featuring an Invest Limerick advert and editorial.
- Secured two Double Page Spreads in Eolas Magazine showcasing the innovative, collaborative spirit and strong sustainability narrative present in Limerick.
- Continued engagement with our third level colleagues to discuss potential marketing and promotion of Limerick as a study location of choice.
- New Invest Limerick assets produced, including a print brochure and video asset. Updated content created for Limerick.ie/business.
- Provided marketing support to an Adare Tidy Towns visit to Buckow, Germany.
- Created and issued seven Limerick.ie e-newsletters.

Chief Executive's Report



Comhairle Cathrach & Contae **Luimnigh**

Limerick City & County Council

Social Media:

- Continued to monitor, schedule and update social media channels with creative content to utilise engagement with the public and put Limerick in people's minds.
- Posted 40 times on Limerick.ie's **Facebook** with followers now 32,731. Posts reached 487,606 users with 32,328 engagements.
- Tweeted 38 times on Limerick.ie's **Twitter**, @limerick_ie, with total followers now 21,050. Our tweets earned 879,700 impressions (no. of times users saw our tweet).
- Posted 21 times on Limerick.ie's **Instagram** and created 14 Stories with total followers now 20,892.
- Posted nine times on Limerick City and County Council's LinkedIn with total followers now 8,887.

Limerick.ie

In June, there 169,120* unique site visits to Limerick.ie, a 9% increase on the same period in 2021. (*Fathom Analytics)

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

- www.limerick.ie
- <https://www.limerick.ie/council/services/planning-and-property/apply-or-search-planning-application/search-planning>
- <https://www.limerick.ie/discover/learning>
- <https://www.limerick.ie/greenway>
- www.limerick.ie/council

Content Report: 141 articles and 97 events were added to Limerick.ie in June.

Communications

- Issued 23 news releases from the Marketing and Communications Department and researched and wrote 10 speeches for the Office of the Mayor.
- Produced and distributed the monthly Council Connect staff e-newsletter.
- Tweeted 178 times on Limerick City and County Council's **Twitter** account, @limerickcouncil, with total followers now 17,530. Our tweets earned 279,100 impressions (no. of times users saw our tweet).

5. 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 June
No. of call-outs 01.06.2022 – 30.06.2022	832	1,237	1:48	2,069