



To the Mayor and Each Member of Limerick City and County Council Limerick City and County Council

Corporate Headquarters

Merchants Quay

Chairperson's Report for the Community, Leisure and Culture Strategic Policy Committee Limerick

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The Community, Leisure and Culture Committee meeting was held 7th February 2023 where the previous minutes of the meeting held 5th December 2022 were adopted. The members were advised of the resignation of Karen O'Donnell O'Connor and Mary Conlon PPN representatives from the SPC.

GD gave a presentation to the members on the Dereliction, Vacancy and Reuse Initiative for Limerick and how the initiative aligns with the Government Policy Housing for All. He advised members of the functions of the team involved in the initiative under a number of headings including Derelict Sites, Vacant Sites and Vacant Homes/Croi Conaithe.

GD spoke about the Definition of a Derelict Site (Section 3 of the Derelict Sites Act, 1990 as amended), how Derelicts Sites are identified, the Derelict Sites register and positive outcomes of engagement with owners. He also spoke about the process regarding Compulsory Purchase Orders, managing and disposing of property, unfinished housing developments the role of the vacant homes officer in the above and the Croi Conaithe (Towns) Fund. A discussion took place among the members regarding the presentation.

SOC gave a presentation to members on Ukrainian Supports. He outlined the Council's role in the response not only in terms of Ukrainian supports but also the Council's responsibility for notifying the International Accommodation Service (IPAS) of potential accommodation options. IPAS manage the contracts and decide on allocation of the properties. LCCC launched a Programme for hosted accommodation for those offering non-shared accommodation for Ukrainians in December 2022. SOC advised that the majority of accommodation being offered is in rural locations and this has presented challenges around transport and rural isolation.

LCCC is responsible for facilitating the co-ordination of supports for displaced Ukrainians. The Ukrainian Community Response Forum was established in March 2022 as a single point of contact locally to coordinate efforts with all key stakeholders attending. There was 3 Local Fora established in Limerick City, West Limerick and East Limerick. SOC outlined the number of displaced Ukrainians in Limerick according to IPAS figures at 31/01/2023 is 1666 and the Number of Ukrainians in Limerick based on PPSN allocations in November 2022 is 2301.

SOC advised on the announcement of the Community Recognition Fund, which is a €50 million fund to support communities who have supported Ukrainians, and International Protection Refugees living in multi occupancy accommodation located in their area. Limerick has received €1.389 million under this fund, which is for capital works only to benefit local communities

The Scheme will be administered by Limerick City and County Council who will consult with Elected Members & Municipal Districts, local community groups, community fora, Limerick LCDC and the PPN. The fund must align to the objectives in the Limerick Local Economic and Community Plan. The proposals must be submitted to the Department of Rural and Community Development (DRCD) by 15th March 2023, at least 60% of the fund must be claimed from the DRCD by 6th October and all projects must be completed by Quarter 4 2023. A discussion took place among the members regarding the Fund.



Clir Michael Donegan
Chairperson
Community, Leisure and Culture SPC

13th March 2023