

COUNCILLORS REPORT ON CONFERENCE WHICH THEY ATTENDED

REQUIRED TO BE COMPLETED UNDER SECTION 142(5) (f) and (fa) OF THE  
LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 2001

Organiser of Conference Celtic conferences

Name of Conference The Finance Act 2022

Location of Conference Carlingford. Co. Louth.

Date of Conference 6/7/8 January 2023

Summary of Conference Content

The Tax consultant at the conference was Peter Hayes. The Finance Bill gives effect to the tax measures announced in September 2022 Budget and various other tax measures. This Bill sets out the proposed legislative change required to be put in place many of the Budget day announcements.

Signature: Fergus Kilcoyne

Print Name: Fergus Kilcoyne

THIS FORM TO BE SUBMITTED WITH CLAIM FORM FOR TRAVEL AND  
SUBSISTENCE



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LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 2001**

**Organiser of Conference Celtic Conferences**

**Name of Conference: The Finance Act**

**Location of Conference Carlingford**

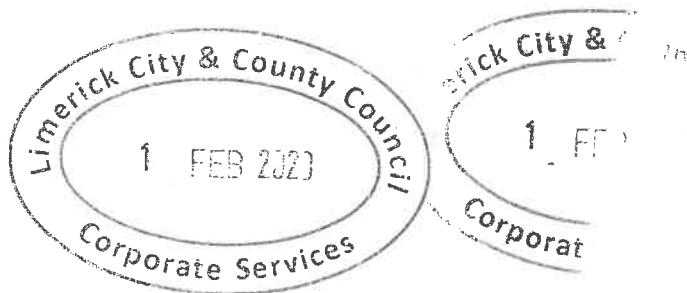
**Date of Conference 6th-8<sup>th</sup> January 2023**

**Summary of Conference Content**

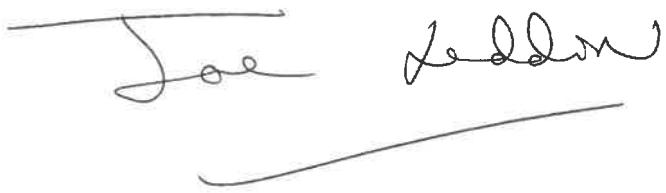
Briefing on budget 2023 covering the primary changes in taxation including USC rates, personal tax bands and the overall Social Protection budget of €23.4 billion, Overview on the Government cost of living supports to include long term social welfare and those on disability lump sum payment schedules and eligibility guidelines.

Overview on the new Child Benefit rates, Xmas bonus and Fuel allowance payments. Briefing on the employment programmes and also overview on the various supports to help offset energy costs. Separate briefing on the main taxation changes together with presentation on new vacant homes tax, and carbon tax changes. Presentation also on the Ukrainian credit guarantee scheme, small firms investment efficiency scheme and additional supports for agri sector. Other areas included housing and capital allocations for social and affordable houses, supports for homeless services and the main regeneration schemes.

Information also on Health budgets, Environment, Justice, Education and Transport in terms of main changes included as part of the new budget.



Signature:



A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Joe Leddin", is written over a horizontal line. A curved line is drawn below the signature line.

Print Name: Joe Leddin

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# CONFERENCE ATTENDEE AT BANBEGFEND.



Limerick County Council  
Comhairle Chontae Luimnigh

Councillor Jerome Scanlan



Ballydonnell  
Feohanagh  
Co. Limerick

Baile Uí Dhónaill  
An Fheoethanach  
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## Presentation & Discussion on Finance Act 2023.

### Principal Topics on Agenda:

Social Protection, Terms of last offering supports  
weekly allowances proposed new parameters  
for fuel allowance, Regibility on Meals.

Changes to Working Family Payment.

The various programmes relating to  
Community Employment, this as the  
Rural Social Scheme.

The Proposed, Vacant Houses & Green  
taxes & their likely impact.

The value of the small Benefits  
to Employment particularly to lower paid employees  
the night time Economy, Support for  
farmers, Education Training

Housing and its Social & Affordable aspects  
The value of Cai, Building & the cost impact of  
the Pinde, & Micro Remediation Scheme as well  
as the ongoing challenge of Brexit

Jerome Scanlan



Comhairle Cathrach  
& Contae Luimních

Limerick City  
& County Council

20<sup>th</sup> March, 2023



**Francis Foley**

An Comhairleoir  
Méara Cathrach agus Contae Luimních.  
Councillor  
Mayor of the City and County of Limerick.

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**To: The Mayor and Each Member of Limerick City and County Council  
Report on Trip to Tallinn, Estonia  
18<sup>th</sup> to 21<sup>st</sup> January 2023**

A Chomhairleoir, a chara,

A delegation recently travelled to Tallinn, Estonia to attend the European Green Capital 2023 conference. The delegation from Limerick attended because of Limerick being awarded the Green Cities award in 2020.

The delegation comprised of Mayor Francis Foley and Ms. Nuala O'Connell, Senior Planner, Planning Environment and Place Making.

The delegation took part in a number of events with the objective of:

- Fostering closer links with other European Green Cities.
- Sharing and learning from best practice in other cities.
- Developing relationships and contacts from local authorities from across Europe.

I am satisfied that these objectives were met during the course of the events attended. Travel took place on 18 January, 2023 from Dublin to Helsinki and onward from Helsinki to Tallinn.

On 20<sup>th</sup> January the delegation attended the event Conference entitled "Fantastic Beasts: Making European cities safe, inclusive, resilient and sustainable" which covered topics including building ecosystems for green and healthy cities; shaping inclusive and just cities; involving citizens, organisations and businesses in city governance; rethinking governance at local level; and realising Sustainable Development Goals in European cities.

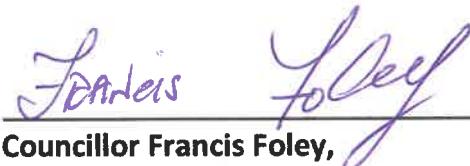
On the evening of 20<sup>th</sup> January the delegation attended a gala dinner which provided further opportunities for networking and discussion.

On the 21<sup>st</sup> January the delegation undertook a tour of the City guided by the City Architect and a visit to the City Cultural Hub developed through community collaboration social enterprise.

The Opening Ceremony of the European Green Capital 2023 took place on the evening of the 21<sup>st</sup> January. The event concluded with the signing of a Joint Statement of support for the Localisation of Sustainable Development Goals by the URBACT Global Goals for Cities network.

The delegation returned to Ireland on the morning of 22<sup>nd</sup> January.

Is mise, le meas,



Francis Foley  
Councillor Francis Foley,  
Mayor of the City and County of Limerick.



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20<sup>th</sup> March, 2023

**To: The Mayor and Each Member of Limerick City and County Council**

**Report on Mayoral visit to Birmingham, England – 23<sup>rd</sup> to 25<sup>th</sup> February 2023**

A Chomhairleoir, a Chara,

As members will be aware, at the invitation of the Limerick Association Birmingham, I travelled to Birmingham, England from the 23rd – 25th of February 2023. I was accompanied on this trip by Vincent Murray, Director of Service, Economic Development & Enterprise.

Limerick City and County Council has a long-standing relationship with the Limerick Association Birmingham. As Mayor of the City and County of Limerick, I was honored to be invited to meet the Lord Mayor of Birmingham and also to attend the association's annual Grand Dinner Dance at St. Francis Centre, Wretham Road, Birmingham.

The Limerick Association Birmingham is a community group, which provides various economic and social support and cultural services to the Limerick diaspora, and indeed wider Irish community, in Birmingham. Limerick City and County Council are committed to working with our diaspora networks to promote and share Limerick culture more widely around the world. During this trip, I also took the opportunity to promote Limerick as the business investment location of choice for Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) and Indigenous Companies. The meetings and events, which I attended during the course of our visit, are summarised below:

1. On my first engagement, I had the opportunity to tour Birmingham City Centre to look at the various transformational projects across their city Centre and to see first-hand how the city Centre is reinventing itself as a sustainable and cosmopolitan city.
2. Later that evening, I had a meeting, presentations and dinner with officials from the Limerick Association Birmingham on their ongoing programs.
3. On the second day of my visit, I had the pleasure of meeting with Eileen Schofield, Chairperson of the West Midlands Irish Business Group (WMIBG). Eileen is one of the founding members of the WMIBG, which was formed in 2008 to bring first and second

generation Irish business professionals together in an informal way to engage and network. This meeting gave Vincent Murray and I the opportunity to update Eileen on the various economic developments projects, which are taking place across Limerick City and County.

4. Later that morning I had a meeting with the Birmingham Chamber of Commerce. Here I met with Mandy Haque. Ms Haque has direct responsibility for all International activities for the Greater Birmingham Chambers of Commerce including the Transatlantic Chamber, the Commonwealth Chamber, export and import documentation, translations, international programmes, training and the delivery of the international trade programme on behalf of the Department for International Trade. She is also Vice President of the British American Business Council globally. This again was a fantastic opportunity to promote Limerick as an international investment location and the Chamber and very keen to link business in Birmingham with opportunities in Limerick and vice versa. I took the opportunity to invite Mandy and a delegation from Birmingham to visit Limerick on a trade mission in the future.
5. In the afternoon, I paid a courtesy visit to the Deputy Leader of Birmingham City Council, Councillor Brigid Jones. Councillor Brigid Jones informed me she had visited Limerick last year and was very impressed with her visit. Councillor Jones is the Labour Member for Bournbrook and Selly Park and the Deputy Leader of Birmingham City Council. She becomes leader of the Council when the leader is not available and has accountability for the review and improvement of all council services, management of all corporate resources of the council, and oversight of the management of services and delivery of outcomes. It was very interesting to get some insight into the workings of Birmingham City Council and to hear about the challenges and opportunities, which they face.
6. On the final day of my visit, following her invitation I visited the Lord Mayor of Birmingham, Councilor Maureen Cornish at Birmingham City Hall. On this visit I was accompanied by Key officers of The Limerick Association and Vincent Murray. In addition to her work as a Lord Mayor, Maureen serves the community as a local magistrate, has done for the last ten years, and is a school governor for Arthur Terry School. Maureen has always been passionate about helping and supporting young people and their families. Her practical life experiences in courts and schools made her an ideal candidate for Mayor. In our meeting we discussed the role that Irish people play in the development of Birmingham and we discussed how our two cities could cooperate better across economic and cultural activities.



Councillor Francis Foley, Mayor of the City and County of Limerick and the Lord Mayor of Birmingham, Councillor Maureen Cornish.

7. That evening I attended the Limerick Association of Birmingham, Annual Grand Dinner Dance at St. Francis Centre. I was the joint guest of honor at this event with the Lord Mayor of Birmingham, Councillor Maureen Cornish and the Most Reverend Bernard Longley the Archbishop of Birmingham, head of the Archdiocese of Birmingham. It was great to meet so many Limerick people at this event and to hear about all the great work the organisation is doing with the Limerick diaspora community in the region and also to meet the various Limerick people who have made Birmingham their home.

I am satisfied that suitable engagement with our diaspora and the business community in Birmingham was achieved during this trip and that further opportunities will arise. I am particularly pleased with the passion, pride and energy for Limerick, which I experienced from meeting Limerick's people abroad.

Is mise, le meas,

Francis Foley  
Councillor Francis Foley,  
Mayor of the City and County of Limerick.



22<sup>nd</sup> March, 2023



**Francis Foley**

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**To: Each Member of Limerick City and County Council**

**Mayoral Visit to New York, USA**

A Chomhairleoir, a chara,

As Members will be aware a delegation from the Council travelled to New York for the Annual St. Patrick's Day celebrations where the Grand Marshal this year was Mr. Kevin J. Conway, Vice Chairman of Clayton, Dubilier & Rice.

The delegation was comprised of the Mayor and Councillors John, Egan, Brigid Teefy, Azad Talukder, Dan McSweeney and Catherine Slattery with Director of Service Caroline Curley and Donn O'Sullivan, Head of Marketing and Communications. The Group travelled on 14<sup>th</sup> March and departed New York on the 18<sup>th</sup> March. The Mayor and Donn O'Sullivan met with the group in New York returning from Los Angeles.

Members of the delegation took part in a number of events during the visit, in addition to taking part in the Annual St. Patrick's Day Parade, to promote Limerick and the Mid-West Region and to develop business and Diaspora linkages. These included:

**Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> March, 2023**

American Chamber of Commerce Ireland

**Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> March, 2023**

Reception for the Irish Community at Consulate General of Ireland

**Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> March, 2023**

Meeting with Tourism Ireland

Meeting with IDA

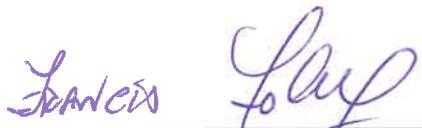
Meeting with Enterprise Ireland

Ireland-US Council St. Patrick's Lunch

**Friday 17<sup>th</sup> March, 2023**

Mass at St. Patrick's Cathedral  
St. Patrick's Day Parade

Is mise, le meas,



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**Councillor Francis Foley**  
**Mayor of the City and County of Limerick.**



Comhairle Cathrach  
& Contae Luimních

Limerick City  
& County Council

22<sup>nd</sup> March, 2023



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**To: The Mayor and Each Member of Limerick City and County Council  
Mayoral Visit to Los Angeles, USA**

A Chomhairleoir, a chara,

As Members will be aware Mayor Francis Foley and the Head of Marketing and Communications Donn O'Sullivan, travelled to Los Angeles for the announcement that Limerick had been chosen to host Cineposium, AFCI's 2023 Global Film Industry Summit in September 2023.

The team travelled on 8<sup>th</sup> March, 2023 and departed Los Angeles on the 12<sup>th</sup> March, 2023.

The delegation took part in a number of events during the visit, in addition to attending the official press announcement

These included:

**Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> March, 2023**

Meeting with Screen Ireland ahead of the Launch.

**Friday 10<sup>th</sup> March, 2023**

Launch of Limerick being chosen to host the Cineposium, AFCI's 2023 Global Film Industry Summit.

**Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> March, 2023**

Represented Limerick at the Consul General's St Patrick's Day celebration event.

**Sunday 12<sup>th</sup> March, 2023**

Represented Limerick at the Consul General's Oscar Nominee's celebration event.

Is mise, le meas,

**Councillor Francis Foley,  
Mayor of the City and County of Limerick.**

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