

**LIMERICK CITY AND COUNTY COUNCIL**  
**MUNICIPAL DISTRICT OF NEWCASTLE WEST**  
**MEETING TO BE HELD ON WEDNESDAY, 5<sup>th</sup> APRIL 2023**

**To: The Chairman and Each Member of the Municipal District of Newcastle West**

**Re: Draft Schedule of Municipal District Works - (SMDW)**

Dear Councillor,

I wish to refer to previous discussions regarding the requirement to prepare a Schedule of Municipal District Works.

Section 58 of the Local Government Reform Act 2014 inserts a new section 103A in the Local Government Act 2001 providing that, following the adoption of the annual budget, a schedule of proposed works of maintenance and repair to be carried out during the financial year in each municipal district shall be prepared, for adoption by the municipal district members.

The SMDW is, in effect, a plan of works that prioritises and apportions the use, within each municipal district, of funding provided in the overall local authority revenue budget for particular purposes

The SMDW in respect of the Municipal District should be formulated on the basis of the amount of funding provided for maintenance and repair in the annual budget in respect of each relevant service division (e.g. housing, roads, amenities, street cleaning, drainage work, burial ground maintenance, etc.

Classification of items in the budget should largely determine what works and related expenditure are included in the SMDW but insofar as it may be necessary to make judgements in particular instances, it is considered that the term "maintenance" can include not only maintenance of the physical condition or fabric of items, but also more operational type matters such as grass cutting or tree pruning.

Within the level of funding available, details of the SMDW should be prepared on the basis of identified needs (taking account of relevant factors, for example, in the case of housing, age profile of stock) and priorities throughout the local authority area and taking due account of requirements in relation to standards and frequency of maintenance work. This should be informed by details of relevant requirements which were considered in the formulation of the overall local authority budget. It will also be relevant to have regard to the pattern of works and expenditure in previous years.

It is emphasised that adoption of the SMDW per se cannot involve revision of the adopted budget.

It is essential to maximise return on investment by avoiding dilution of expenditure, which could result from spreading allocations too thinly across the Municipal District each year. This could be minimised by taking a multi-annual approach where possible in the preparation of the SMDW.

Maximising value for money, overall effectiveness, and return from investment should also be a key objective in prioritising works and allocating available funding within each municipal district, along with the need to ensure appropriate balance in the allocation of resources as between urban and rural areas in the district.

Apportionment of funding on a thematic basis within the district over the life of the council could help to this end. For example, specific housing estate(s) in one location could be prioritised for refurbishment in year one, with a commitment to undertake works in another area in subsequent years. Similarly, where an overall local authority maintenance programme is drawn up for a particular purpose (say windows and doors in local authority dwellings) which might need to extend over a number of years, the required works would be reflected in relevant annual SMDWs.

Any maintenance type functions, for example, grass cutting, planting or other maintenance of open spaces, which are carried out by means of specific purpose grants for such purposes to community groups such as tidy towns committees can be provided for as appropriate, through the SMDW.

The GMA, which is a budgetary element providing funding for discretionary expenditure at municipal district level to be decided by the elected members in respect of each municipal district, is separate from the “strategic” budgetary funding for maintenance and repair, the utilisation of which is to be determined in the SMDW.

The Draft Schedule of Municipal District Works for the Municipal District of Newcastlewest is set out at appendix 1 attached.

The approval of the Members is sought for the Draft Schedule as presented.

**Gordon Daly,  
Director of Services.**

# Road Schemes Newcastle West Municipal District

## Appendix 1

<b>NEWCASTLE WEST MUNICIPAL DISTRICT</b> <b>Road Works Scheme 2023</b>	
<b>Work Category</b>	<b>€</b>
Restoration Improvement (RI) -Road Reconstruction	€2,658,000
Restoration Maintenance (RM) –Surface Dressing	€452,977
Supplementary Restoration Maintenance (SRM – Surface Dressing	€355,166
Drainage Grant	€200,000
General Maintenance (GM)	€688,065
Street Cleaning	€155,907
Tar Patching (TP)	€433,715
Low Cost Safety Improvement Works (LCSI)	€40,000
General Municipal Allocation (GMA)	€95,000
Bridge Rehabilitation	€100,000
N21 Abbeyfeale to Mount Mahon Pavement Strengthening	€1,000,000
N21 Abbeyfeale RSIS	€2,000,000
N21 Abbeyfeale Town Pavement	€1,000,000
N21 Abbeyfeale Relief Road	€1,450,000
N21 Newcastle West Relief Road	€1,450,000
N21 Murphys Cross RSIS	€70,000
Limerick Greenway – Rathkeale to Abbeyfeale	€2,500,000
Sustainable Travel Measures Grant ( Active Travel)	€915,000
Limerick Greenway Connections	€250,000
<b>Total Defined MD Spending</b>	<b>€15,813,830</b>

<b>Regional Roads Road Reconstruction Allocation € 150,000</b>			
<b>Road No.</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Length (m)</b>	<b>Total Cost €</b>
R523	Athea Village - Bridge - GAA overlay	500	258,000
R524	Abbeyfeale NCT Overlay	385	150,000
<b>Total</b>			<b>408,000</b>
<b>Local Roads Road Reconstruction Allocation €2,150,000</b>			
<b>Road No.</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Length (m)</b>	<b>Total Cost €</b>
L52002	Dromin, Newcastle West Overlay	160	€60,000
L1315	Monagea School Overlay	270	€100,000
L7085	Athea Upper	420	€35,000
L7068	Knocknasna , Abbeyfeale	1025	€75,000
L70691	Knocknasna , Abbeyfeale	870	€50,000
L7064	Tullgoline North, Abbeyfeale	1200	€90,000
L7088	Garryglass, Abbeyfeale	1170	€75,000
L7114	Dromstrasna, Abbeyfeale	1140	€75,000
L1325	Caher, Abbeyfeale	4220	€300,000
L13263	Caherlane, Abbeyfeale	1380	€75,000
L70413	Knocknadiha, Mountcollins	1525	€65,000
L7040	Reanagille Commons, Mountcollins	1450	€160,000
L7041	Reanagille Commons, Mountcollins	1000	€75,000
L7029	Clooncon, Ashford	650	€55,000
L70191	Boola , Broadford	1030	€60,000
L70192	Knocknacarlán, Broadford	370	€22,000
L7007	Gortskagh, Castlemahon	1600	€120,000
L85931	Cappanahane, Castletown	400	€25,000
L8594	Ballysalla, Ballyagran	1070	€75,000
L1217	Minsterland, Ardagh	1070	€60,000
L6076	Kerrkyle, Ardagh	2800	€190,000

L80592	Castletown Village	200	€50,000
L13252	Grogeen, Abbeyfeale	850	€50,000
L7089	Hill road, Abbeyfeale	650	€45,000
L6152	Marian Place Glin	260	€30,000
L6051	Tooraree, Glin	320	€18,000
L6079	Knockfinnisk, Carrigkerry	440	€30,000
L 70921	Dromstransa Abbeyfeale	900	€45,000
L70531	Rathcahill Templeglantine	870	€50,000
L7052	Templeglantine East	500	€35,000
L7053	Rathcahill West	950	€55,000
<b>Total</b>			<b>€2658000</b>

<b>Regional Roads Surface Dressing Allocation € 255,000</b>			
<b>Road No.</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Length (m)</b>	<b>Total Cost €</b>
R519	Mundelihy, Dromcolligher	2500	€60,000
R523	Upper Athea, Athea	1270	€45,000
R524	Glenagara, Glin	2400	€45,000
R515	Glenquin, Glin	1350	€50,000
R523	Templeathea	1600	€55,000
<b>Total</b>			<b>€255,000</b>

<b>Local Roads Surface Dressing Allocation €196,000</b>			
<b>Road No.</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Length (m)</b>	<b>Total Cost €</b>
L1328	Lower Athea, Athea	1700	€45,000
L1230	Tooraree upper, Glin	1600	€35,000
L7019	Boola, Broadford	1900	€35,000
L7016	Carroward, Dromcolligher	1300	€25,000

L8587	Castletown	1050	€15,000
L7014	Carroward, Dromcolligher	600	€12,000
L131182	Raheenagh	1500	€20,000
L6074	Glensharroid, Carrigkerry	500	€9,000
<b>Total</b>			<b>€196,000</b>

<b>Supplementary Restoration Maintenance</b> <b>Local Roads</b> <b>Surface Dressing</b> <b>Allocation €355,166</b>			
Road No.	Description	Length (m)	Total Cost €
L70111	Clooncrippa, Kilmeedy	1000	€12,000
L1309	Coolara, Feenagh	2650	€55,000
L1309	Ballynamuddagh, Feenagh	1200	€25,000
L6042	Ballykevin, Kilmeedy	3200	€50,000
L6076	Kerrkyle, Ardagh	2000	€20,000
L8594	Ballysalla, Ballyagran	1350	€20,000
L6091	Glenagragara, Glin	1400	€32,000
L13252	Grogeen, Abbeyfeale	750	€10,000
L6094	Ballygiltenan, Glin	2730	€45,000
L6095	Touraree Lower, Glin	1050	€15,000
R521	Ardagh	700	€25,000
L1226	Kerrkyle, Ardagh	2000	€44,000
<b>Total</b>			<b>€355,166</b>

<b>Drainage Works Allocation € 200,000</b>			
<b>Road No.</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Length (m)</b>	<b>Total Cost €</b>
L7050	Drainage Works Hill Road Abbeyfeale - Newcastle West Roads		€100,000
L1315	Monagea Road		€60,000
L70982	Drainage Glenduff Ashford		€40,000
<b>Total</b>			<b>€200,000</b>

<b>General Municipal Allocation Works Allocation € 95,000</b>			
<b>Road No.</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Length (m)</b>	<b>Total Cost €</b>
	Safety issues, Flashings signs, Strand Village		€10,000
	Newcastle West, Gortboy, Pedestrian crossing / Safety		€15,000
	Footpaths, Newcastle West Estates,		€14,000
	Monagea National school ramps		€14,000
	Footpaths, Abbeyfeale		€14,000
	Nashes Lane Public lights, Newcastle West		€5,000
	Upgrade ramps at maiden street, Newcastle West		€13,000
	Crash Barrier, Tournafulla		€10,000
<b>Total</b>		<b>0</b>	<b>€95,000</b>

<b>Bridges Allocation €200,000</b>			
<b>Road No.</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Length (m)</b>	<b>Total Cost €</b>
L1327	Rathornan bridge, Abbeyfeale		€100,000
<b>Total</b>		<b>0</b>	<b>€ 100,000</b>

Low Cost Safety Improvement Schemes (LCSI) Allocation € 90,000			
Road No.	Description	Length (m)	Total Cost €
R524/L1336/L1327	Buckleys cross, Abbeyfeale		€40,000
<b>Total</b>		<b>0</b>	<b>€40,000</b>

Active Travel Measures Allocation € 1,350,000			
Road No.	L7089 Abbeyfeale - St Itas Road	Length (m)	Total Cost €
	L7089 Abbeyfeale - St Itas Road - completion		€115,000
	R521 Ardagh footpath extension - completion		€100,000
	Kilmeedy village footpath improvements		€200,000
	Feenagh village footpath improvements		€150,000
	Athea village footpaths		€150,000
	Mountcollins village footpaths		€160,000
	R520 Bruff line – Footpath Improvements – Design costs		€40,000
	R522 Athletics Hub to Newcastle West Town centre		€110,000
<b>Total</b>			<b>€1,025,000</b>

**Brief summary of the above Work Categories and Allocations for the Newcastle West**

**Municipal District:**

**Restoration Improvement (RI)**

**€2,658,000**

This is a specific allocation under the Restoration Improvement Grant (RI). This grant is for the road strengthening programme and caters for surface restoration, pavement overlay works and complete road rehabilitation works where existing pavements are Structurally defective.



**Restoration Maintenance (RM) € 452,977**

This is a specific allocation under the Restoration Maintenance Grant (RM) for Surface Dressing Works only. This allocation will extend the life of the pavement and delay the development of potholes, thus protecting the investment in roads.

**Supplementary Restoration Maintenance (SRM) €355,166**

This is a specific allocation in 2023 under the Supplementary Restoration Maintenance Grant (SRM) for surface dressing works only. This allocation will extend the life of the pavement and delay the development of potholes, thus protecting the investment in roads.

**Drainage Grant €200,000**

This grant may be used for the alleviation of road drainage problems either through new works or remedial measures. Four main schemes have been identified and minor works planned at a number of sites in the Newcastle West District in 2023.

**General Maintenance € 688,065**

General maintenance covers a wide range of works such as verges and drainage, cleaning water channels, street cleaning, opening inlets, signage, elimination of localised flooding, junction maintenance, dealing with accidents, oil spillages, storms, emergencies and general repairs to roads and footpaths.

**Tar Patching (TP) €433,715**

Regular tar patching is necessary to prevent the deterioration of the road surface and substructure and in the interest of road safety.

**Bridge Rehabilitation - Structures (STR) €100,000**

The 2023 allocation provides funding to enable improvement works on bridge structures on regional and local roads. A specific grant allocation is made to Limerick City and County Council to undertake works on a defined list of structures. There is one scheme under this heading in the district for 2023. The schemes is L1327 Rathornan bridge, Abbeyfeale

**Low Cost Safety Improvement Works (LCSI) €40,000**

The 2023 allocation provides funding to enable low cost safety improvement works on non-national roads to be carried out. The criteria for approval and grant allocation are based on accident data along with inspection of sites. There is one scheme in the Newcastle west District for 2023 at R524/L1336/L1327 Buckley’s cross, Abbeyfeale with a budget of €40,000.

**General Municipal Allocation (GMA) €95,000**

This allocation has been agreed at Municipal District level.

**Parking Management (PM) €41,500**

This includes for disc parking operation, wages, traffic fines management system, communication equipment.

**Items for which expenditure is provided on a City and County at large basis**

**Public Lighting (PL) € 2,460,000**

This covers the operation, repair and maintenance of Public Lighting. The supply of energy is purchased through the National Procurement Service (NPS). The repair, replacement and maintenance of public lights are tendered separately. The above figure pertains to the whole City and County area.

**Winter Maintenance (WM) € 209,000**

This provision is for the treatment of roads in severe weather in accordance with the Winter Services Plan and pertains to the whole City and County area.

**Community Improvement schemes (CIS) €584,000**

A Grant of €584,000 has been allocated to Limerick City and County Council. Limerick City and County Council is currently identifying schemes to be undertaken in 2023. To date there are no schemes identified for Newcastle West area.

**Local Improvement Schemes (LIS) € TBC**

The Department for Rural and Community Development (DRCD) introduced ring-fenced funding for LIS in 2020 and proposes to continue to operate this scheme in 2023. The 2023 allocation for Limerick City & County Council has not yet been received.

## HOUSING MAINTENANCE NCW

Limerick City & County Council (LCCC) manages an expanding social housing portfolio, which currently amounts to 5,638 properties (Jan 2023). The range of properties is extensive, which is emphasised by the fact that over half the Council's housing stock was built before 1985.

64% of the entire housing stock is located within the Metropolitan District. The remaining 34% of housing stock is located between the Newcastle West (12%), Adare-Rathkeale (10%) and Cappamore-Kilmallock (14%) Districts.

In each municipal district area, direct labour crews respond to the needs of tenants. All requests are added to the Customer Relationship Management System (Sugar) and assigned to the area maintenance team for action.

Total Sugar (CRM) requests for Housing Maintenance during 2022 was 14,483 cases, with

- 73% of all cases received in the Metropolitan Area
- 10% of all cases received in Newcastle West
- 7% of all cases received cases received in the Adare-Rathkeale area
- 10% of all cases received in the Cappamore Kilmallock District.

Housing repairs are carried out based on need and budgetary constraints. Repairs are categorised into emergency, urgent and routine. Examples of each are listed below and please refer to the Tenant's Handbook for additional details

### **Emergency Repairs (within 24 Hours)**

Fire	Water Leaks	No Electricity	No Mains Water
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### **Urgent Repairs (within 1-5 Days)**

Blocked Flue in Open Fire	Blocked Foul Drains	No Hot Water	No Heating
Faulty Sockets	Faulty Switches	Faulty Storage Heater	Faulty Door Entry System
Banister or Hand Rail Loose or Detached	Storm Damage	Partial Loss of Water Supply	Unsafe Floor Boards or Stair Treads

### **Routine Repairs (within 1-6 Weeks)**

Other Electrical Works	Other Joinery Works	Plaster Works	Other Plumbing Works
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## **BUDGET Allocation 2023**

### **Newcastle West Municipal District 665 Properties (12% of housing stock)**

<b>Works Budget (non-pay)</b>	<b>2023</b>
Maintenance	€281,78.64
Re-lettings	€ 26,724.06
	€307,802.70

### **Housing Maintenance - Planned Works**

#### Planned Maintenance / Heating Systems Replacement – city and countywide

Many of our tenants have heating systems that are outdated and highly inefficient by current standards. A budget of €327,000 has been allocated for the replacement of heating systems and other works of a planned nature on a countywide basis. The scheme operates on a priority needs basis.

#### Voids/Re-lettings – city and countywide

Voids and Re-lettings continue to be undertaken in each municipal district area as vacancies arise. Each Housing Area Engineer and Area Foreman manages these refurbishment works. The units are delivered via a mix of direct labour crews and contractors, to ensure units are returned to Allocations section in an efficient manner.

A total of 51 void units were completed in 2022, which resulted in funding allocations of €561,000 from the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage (DoHLGH).

No department circular or allocation for Voids 2023 has been received to-date.

#### Energy Retrofit Project – city and countywide

The Energy Retrofit Project for 2022 remains ongoing with 33 of the total 50 properties upgraded.

No Department circular has been received for a 2023 thermal upgrade as yet.

Significant internal knowledge and experience has been accrued from the previous schemes, and this will be leveraged to deliver this new scheme in a more efficient manner.

## **Private Housing Grants**

The following private housing grants are available again in 2023

Housing Adaptation Grant Scheme – HAGS Mobility Aids Grants Scheme – MAGS Housing Aid Older People – HOPS

These grant circular has not yet been received for 2023, however, it is expected that the amounts will be similar to those in 2022. The Council is required to provide 20% towards the cost of such grants with the DoHPLG meeting 80%.

## **PARKS & LANDSCAPING**

The Council manages twenty six play amenities which include Playgrounds, Multi-Use-Games Areas and Skate Parks, nineteen Public Parks, eleven Outdoor Gym & Fitness sites and nine Walking Amenities that are managed directly by Limerick City and County Council.

The Parks & Landscaping Team carries out a wide range of functions in relation to parks and open spaces. These works include tree pruning, grass cutting, hedge trimming and maintenance and landscaping works. Grass cutting takes place between March and October with cuts on a two weekly cycle. During the Autumn and Winter period, works are concentrated on tree pruning and planned and responsive works.

The 2023 allocation for Parks and Landscaping for the Newcastle West District is €30,000. A separate budget of €56,000 is provided for the grass cutting contract, providing up to 14 cuts in excess of 30 hectares. The Council have identified some grass cutting areas which will be maintained in accordance with the All Ireland Pollinator Plan within an area and contain signage. The Parks Team manage response & reactive maintenance to the district's housing estates taken in charge which include small landscaping and tree surgery works.

### Parks

There are two Public Parks in the Newcastle West District, The Castle Demesne Park is managed by the Council Parks Team, Abbeyfeale Town Park is managed by the community with the Parks Team managing the play amenities within.

#### Proposed works to Castle Demesne

- The continued upkeep and maintenance of The Demesne.
- Provide a dog park.
- Design and implement new flower planting schemes at the entrance
- Installation of new picnic tables
- Provision of a walkway from the entrance to the MUGA.

- Tree planting scheme
- Tree surgery and maintenance as required.
- Refurbish boules area
- Upgrade planting adjacent to boules and create sensory area

Abbeyfeale Town Park – Replace fencing around MUGA

### Playgrounds

There are seven play amenities which include Playgrounds, Multi-Use-Games-Areas Outdoor Gym & Fitness Sites and a Skate Park located at Newcastle West Demesne and Abbeyfeale Town Park, all managed by the Council Parks Team. Inspections are carried out quarterly and repairs carried out as required. Repair and replacement works are proposed for Abbeyfeale & Newcastle Playgrounds to ensure the playground complies with ROSPA standards. Abbeyfeale MUGA requires extensive works including replacing the security fencing to ensure compliance with ROSPA standards.

### Cemeteries

There are 267 cemeteries in Limerick, approximately one third of these are used for the purchase of new burial plots. There are 102 cemeteries in the Cappamore Kilmallock Municipal District including closed burial grounds.

Municipal District	No. of Burial Grounds
Metro	40
Adare/Rathkeale	78
Newcastle West	47
Cappamore/Kilmallock	102

The budget allocation for the Cappamore Kilmallock district is €40,000 and will be utilised to provide the following works:

Castlemahon (Old)	Replace Footpaths + Fencing
Reilig Ide Naomha, Abbeyfeale	Install New Surface Water Drainage & Boundary Fencing
Calvary, Newcastlewest	Install New Paths & S/W Drainage
The Cistercian Abbey, Abbeyfeale	Construct New Concrete Retaining Wall

There is an annual budget of €45,000 provided as granting aiding to community groups across Limerick who wish to develop a new burial ground. The request must comply in accordance with findings in the Burial Ground Strategy. Technical assistance is provided to any community that expresses an interest.

Under the Community Monuments Fund 2023 an application to carry out advance works to Mahoonagh Church has been submitted to the National Monuments Service, if successful the

advance works will facilitate an application in 2024 for capital works to consolidate the church ruins.

### **Recycling Facilities**

#### **Bring Banks**

There are 65 no bring banks in the City and County. The 2023 budget for the operation of the bring bank contract is €136,277. The budget provides for collection and cleaning around all sites. The Area office provides additional cleaning at the Kilmallock CAS site due to issues with illegal dumping.

#### **Civic Amenity Sites**

There are three Civic Amenity Sites in Limerick, Mungret, Newcastle West and Kilmallock. The three sites are operated by a Contractor. The 2023 budget for the operation of the three Civic Amenity Sites is €336,000.

### **Other Environmental Schemes**

#### **Limerick Going for Gold Environmental Improvement Grant & Competition 2023**

Limerick City & County Council again invites applications for the Limerick Going for Gold Environmental Improvement Grant & Competition 2023

This grant scheme aims to assist with Environmental Improvement works undertaken by nonprofit making organisations working within Limerick City and County areas.

The Limerick Going for Gold Environmental Improvement Grant is 50% funded by the JP McManus Charitable Foundation. The Limerick Going for Gold Competition prize fund is 100% funded by JP McManus Charitable Foundation.

#### **Grant Scheme for Maintenance of Open Spaces in Housing Developments for 2023**

Limerick City and County Council will again invite applications for the Grant Scheme for Maintenance of Open Spaces in Housing Developments for 2023. This Scheme is designed to assist residents in the maintenance of open spaces in their estates by providing funding towards grass cutting.