



Meeting of the Metropolitan District of Limerick

to be held on Monday, 15th May, 2023

Question submitted by Councillor S.Hartigan :

I will ask at the next meeting of the Metropolitan District of Limerick, what department is responsible for maintenance of the smarter travel path connecting Lock Quay and Corbally with the boat club at UL and what financial resources are available for this maintenance.

Reply:

Limerick City & County Councils Roads Department recently met internally with the Active Travel and the Environment, Recreation and Climate Change Departments to discuss the maintenance of the Metropolitan Greenway routes. It has been agreed that the Roads Dept will maintain any of the roads infrastructural elements and the Parks section will maintain the greens, hedges and recreational elements of these greenways. Maintenance works will be undertaken within existing maintenance budgets by operations staff or frameworks contractors within the relevant departments depending on the type of specialised works required. Budgets for the maintenance of these areas will be further reviewed in 2024.

**Mike Richardson,
Senior Executive Engineer,
Roads, Traffic & Cleansing**
10th May, 2023



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Question submitted by Councillor D.McSweeney :

I will ask at the next Meeting of the Metropolitan District of Limerick for a breakdown of the additional resource (including outdoor staff and finances) that have been allocated to Transport and Mobility to deal with the ongoing maintenance of active travel schemes that have been delivered since 2020.

Reply:

Limerick City & County Council's Roads and Cleansing operations currently maintain any new active travel infrastructure that have been delivered since 2020 in the Limerick Metropolitan area. These works are undertaken within existing maintenance budgets by operations staff or frameworks contractors depending on the type of specialised works required. Two additional road sweepers, which were funded by the NTA, were procured in 2022 to sweep, clean and maintain any newly installed cycle lanes in the Metropolitan area. Budgets for the maintenance of these areas will be further reviewed in 2024.

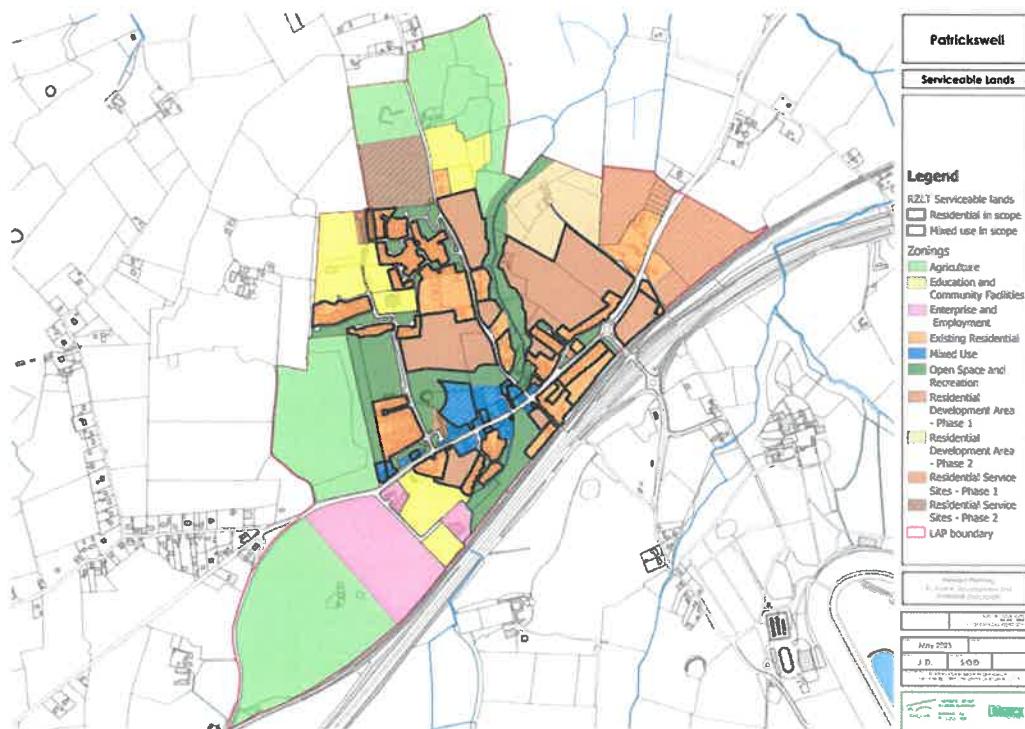
**Mike Richardson,
Senior Executive Engineer,
Roads, Traffic & Cleansing**
10th May, 2023

Reply to Question for a Meeting of the Metropolitan District of Limerick, January Meeting to be held on Monday, 15th May, 2023.

Question submitted by Councillor D. McSweeney

I will ask at the next Meeting of the Metropolitan District of Limerick for a map of lands currently zoned in Patrickswell that is deemed to be serviced by forward planning and the area of same.

Response: The following areas outlined in black on the Patrickswell Local Area Plan 2015-2021 zoning map are deemed to be serviced or serviceable. The total area is 36.68 ha.



Maria Woods

Maria Woods,
Senior Planner
11th May 2023



Comhairle Cathrach
& Contae Luimních

Limerick City
& County Council

Stiúrthóireacht Iompair agus Soghluaiseachta,
Comhairle Cathrach agus Contae Luimních,
Cé na gCeannaithe,
Luimneach, V94 EH90.

Transportation and Mobility Directorate,
Limerick City and County Council,
Merchants Quay,
Limerick, V94 EH90.

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Meeting of the Metropolitan District of Limerick

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Question submitted by Councillor D. McSweeney :

I will ask at the next Meeting of the Metropolitan District of Limerick for an update on what plans have been developed to improve traffic safety at the Collophys Cross Junction, Patrickswell as was requested by this District at our February 2022 meeting.

Reply:

Limerick City & County Councils Roads Department have previously reviewed traffic safety at the Collopy Cross junction. The junction layout and sightlines are currently adequate at this junction in its current environment. In 2022 LCCC Roads completed the recovery of line markings, improvements to road signage and a surface dressing scheme on the approach R526 road from the N20 towards Collopy Cross. We will continue to liaise with the Gardai regarding any relevant traffic data or incidents in this area and further review if required.

Mike Richardson,
Senior Executive Engineer,
Roads, Traffic & Cleansing
10th May, 2023



MEETING OF THE METROPOLITAN DISTRICT OF LIMERICK TO BE HELD ON MONDAY, 15TH MAY, 2023

Question submitted by Councillor E. O'Donovan

I will ask at the next Meeting of the Metropolitan District of Limerick for the number of investigations that took place by planning enforcement in the last 12 months on the grounds of non-compliance with planning, in the Metropolitan District, and the status and/or outcomes of these investigations.

REPLY:

Planning Enforcement Section received four hundred and eighty-seven (487) complaints between 1 May 2022 and 30 April 2023 across the city and county as a whole.

The status of these cases is set out in the below table:

Status	Number of Cases
Cases Closed	166
Warning Letter Served	188
Enforcement Notice Served	56
Cases Under Investigation	48
Under Review	13
Court Proceedings Initiated	16

Nuala O'Connell
Senior Planner
12 May 2023



Comhairle Cathrach
& Contae Luimních
Limerick City
& County Council

Féacháin a Chomhairle Cathrach agus Contae Luimních
Comhairle Cathrach agus Contae Luimních
Limerick

Planning, Environment and Place-Making
Limerick City and County Council
Limerick

MEETING OF THE METROPOLITAN DISTRICT OF LIMERICK TO BE HELD ON MONDAY, 15TH MAY, 2023

Question submitted by Councillor E. O'Donovan

I will ask at the next Meeting of the Metropolitan District of Limerick regarding recent branch removal in Arthur's Quay Park for Riverfest and what policy the Parks Department have for cutting trees during nesting season.

REPLY:

The Parks department does not carry out any tree works during the nesting season unless in an emergency situation or where there is a safety risk. In relation to Arthur's Quay Park, a branch was removed to allow access for a vehicle for Riverfest, as it hindered access to an area in the Park. This was an exceptional situation and considered necessary for Riverfest. In general, tree surgery works are minimised, whether they are within or outside the nesting season.

Aidan Finn
Senior Engineer
11 May, 2023



Comhairle Cathrach
& Contae **Luimnigh**

Limerick City
& County Council

Athnuachana Luimnigh
Comhairle Cathrach agus Contae Luimnigh
Maigh Rois | Baile an Róistigh
Luimneach

Limerick Regeneration
Limerick City and County Council
Moyross | Roxboro
Limerick

EIRCODE: V94 EH90

Metropolitan District of Limerick
Meeting held on Monday, 15th May 2023

Question submitted by Councillor S. Kiely

I will ask at the next Meeting of the Metropolitan District of Limerick what mechanism or checks are in place when grant funding is allocated from Regeneration for projects funded, what follow up is there to ensure the funds are spent as intended by the application.

1) Governance requirements for the Economic Social Intervention Fund (ESIF) funding are outlined in the My Point application process and formally through a Service Level Agreement with the relevant organisation. Governance requirements differ based on the levels of grant approved. Generally, the local authority will require:

- A Service Level Agreement (SLA);
- Company Number / Charity Number / VAT Number / Tax Reference Number where applicable
- Quotations for capital / equipment costs and copies of bank statements
- Child Safeguarding Statement where applicable;
- For salaries relevant supporting documentation; and,
- An expenditure report together with verified receipts

Additional paperwork for grants of €10,000 and upwards includes:

- Copy of applicant's most recent audited or certified accounts;
- Relevant job descriptions;
- Relevant health and safety documentation together with insurance certificates;
- Relevant minutes of Board or Management meetings and,
- Memorandum or Articles of Association where applicable;

Prior to finalising their last ESIF tranche, recipients are required to meet the Social Coordinator on site. The Social Coordinator assesses progress made during the year. Subject to a satisfactory review, the Social Coordinator formally recommends the final payment. Additionally, recipients must provide the Regeneration Directorate with a Progress Report and an Expenditure Report to receive their final tranche funding.

Brendan Troy,
Senior Executive Officer, Regeneration Directorate



MEETING OF THE METROPOLITAN DISTRICT OF LIMERICK to be held on Monday, 15th May 2023.

Question submitted by Councillor S.Kiely

I will ask at the next meeting of the Metropolitan District of Limerick how many Council properties in the Metropolitan District are vacant and what is the breakdown by electoral area.

REPLY:

There are c. 130 vacant council housing units in the Metropolitan District of Limerick being actively progressed at present. The direct labour work force in Housing Maintenance have 40 units at various stages of the process. There are approximately c. 90 units being progressed through external building contractors, these are predominantly higher value contracts.

The breakdown is approx. as follows: 45% Limerick City North, 30% Limerick City West, 25% Limerick City East.

Brendan Kidney
Senior Engineer
Housing Construction and Maintenance
11th May 2023



**Metropolitan District of Limerick
Meeting held on Monday, 15th May 2023**

Question submitted by Councillor S. Kiely

I will ask at the next Meeting of the Metropolitan District of Limerick how much was granted to Tait House for the Turner Vinery project and at what stage is the project at.

In 2022 the Council undertook to lead on the restoration and reinstatement of Turner Vinery, a 19th century brick, wrought and cast iron glasshouse, designed by renowned ironmaster Richard Turner. The project involves three distinct phases:

Phase A: The Restoration & Partial Reconstruction of the Masonry Structure

Phase B: Historic Ironwork Conservation Works and Reconstruction of Original Frame on Site

Phase C: Re-Glazing of Repaired and Reconstructed Frame.

Prior to the Council taking the lead on this project Tait House Community Enterprise obtained €153,000 in funding in relation to the restoration of Turner Vinery. €29,413 of this funding has been spent to date on Turner Vinery rehabilitation works however further works were paused due to insufficient level of funding available.

During 2022 the preparation of a Condition Survey, Conservation Strategy and specification was successfully completed under the Heritage Councils Community Heritage Grant Scheme 2022.

In March 2023, based on the output of the Community Heritage Grant and alongside a committed contribution from Tait House Community Enterprise of the 2017 funding provision balance, the Council were successful in obtaining a Historic Structures Fund grant allocation of €160,000: €80,000 in 2023 and €80,000 in 2024.

The Council have commenced the procurement process for the appointment of a Grade 1 Conservation Architect as per conditions of the Historic Structures Fund grant allocation with an expected appointment in Q2, 2023. The intention being to progress contractor appointment and Phase A in 2023 and Phase B and C in 2024.

**Brendan Troy,
Senior Executive Officer
Regeneration Directorate.**



Meeting of the Metropolitan District of Limerick

to be held on Monday, 15th May, 2023

Question submitted by Councillor J. Leddin:

I will ask at the next Meeting of the Metropolitan District of Limerick that the Council clean and paint traffic islands across the city, many of which have weeds and are filthy.

Reply:

Weeds have been sprayed and the Cleansing Section will arrange to clean the islands. The two new small road sweepers will also be deployed to sweep around the islands to remove accumulations of grit and gravel.

**Liam Browne,
Senior Executive Engineer,
Roads, Traffic & Cleansing**
10th May, 2023



Comhairle Cathrach
& Contae Luimnigh

Limerick City
& County Council

Environmental Strategy,
Environment, Recreation &
Climate Change Department,
Limerick City and County Council,
Merchant's Quay, Limerick
V94 EH90

Date: 12th May 2023

RE: May Meeting of Metropolitan District.

Question submitted by Councillor C. Sheehan

I will ask at the next Meeting of the Metropolitan District of Limerick for an update on the implementation of the management plan for the Westfield Wetlands.

Response

The Westfield Management Plan is in the final stages of drafting with an anticipation that all documentation will be with Environment Strategy by the 30th June and will be presented to CABE SPC at the next scheduled meeting thereafter. The delay in finalising the management plan is related to the sensitive nature of the site and the requirement to ensure that a robust Appropriate Assessment of the plan is undertaken.

PP

Aidan Finn

Senior Engineer

Environment, Recreation and Climate Change



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Ceanncheathrú Chorparáideach
Cé na gCeannaithe
Luimneach

Housing Development Directorate
Limerick City and County Council
Corporate Headquarters
Merchant's Quay
Limerick

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MEETING OF THE METROPOLITAN DISTRICT OF LIMERICK to be held on Monday, 15th May 2023.

Question submitted by Councillor C. Sheehan

I will ask at the next Meeting of the Metropolitan District of Limerick for an update on what the Council intends to do with the old shop on the Mill Road that it acquired a number of years ago and why the building has remained vacant for so long.

REPLY:

Stage 1 approval was received from the Department in November 2022 which would see the demolition of the existing shop unit and the provision of 7 new units, in the form of 3 No. 2 bed units, 4 No. 1 bed units (one of which is a universal access unit).

We are currently preparing stage 2 costs for submittal to the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage (DHLGH) in the next two weeks.

Brendan Kidney
Senior Engineer
Housing Construction and Maintenance
11th May 2023



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Question submitted by Councillor C. Sheehan

I will ask at the next Meeting of the Metropolitan District of Limerick for an outline in tabular form of the cost to the local authority of post bonfire night clean ups for 2019, 2020, 2021 and 2022.

Reply:

The following table outlines the approximate costs of bonfire night clean-ups from 2019 to 2023:

Bonfire Night Clean-ups		
Year	Approximate Cost	Notes
2019	€ 25,845	
2020	€ 26,333	
2021	€ 27,105	
2022	€ 29,475	
2023	€ 34,200	estimated

**Liam Browne,
Senior Executive Engineer,
Roads, Traffic & Cleansing**
10th May, 2023



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& Contae Luimnigh

Limerick City
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MEETING OF THE METROPOLITAN DISTRICT OF LIMERICK to be held on Monday, 15th May 2023.

Question submitted by Councillor C. Slattery

I will ask at the next Meeting of the Metropolitan District of Limerick can Limerick City and County Council advise how many properties they received back since 2019 for stock from the downsizing scheme and how many of those properties have been refurbished and allocated to people on the housing list.

REPLY:

8 properties were acquired through the private rightsizing scheme. The property status is outlined in the table below.

Status		
3	Refurbishment Complete	1 allocated through AHB 2 due to be allocated in the coming weeks.
2	Estimated date of refurbishment completion is July 2023	
1	Estimated date of refurbishment completion is October 2023	
2	Estimated date of refurbishment completion is December 2023	

Caroline Curley
Director of Service, Housing
12th May 2023



MEETING OF THE METROPOLITAN DISTRICT OF LIMERICK to be held on Monday, 15th May 2023.

Question submitted by Councillor C. Slattery

I will ask at the next Meeting of the Metropolitan District of Limerick, can Limerick City and County Council advise how many properties they received back into stock since 2019 from acquiring houses through issuing derelict site notices and how many have been refurbished and allocated to people on the housing list.

REPLY:

There were 15 properties that have been compulsory acquired under the derelict sites act in the Metropolitan District of Limerick.

1 unit is completed and occupied.

6 vacant units are on Limerick City and County Council's refurbishment programme. 4 units are estimated to be completed in Q4 2023 and 2 units are estimated to be completed in Q1 2024.

7 units are expected to transfer to an AHB in Q2 2023.

1 unit is scheduled for demolition to facilitate 6 units for social housing.

Brendan Kidney
Senior Engineer
Housing Construction and Maintenance
12th May 2023



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Question submitted by Councillor C. Slattery

I will ask at the next Meeting of the Metropolitan District of Limerick can Limerick City and County Council advise how many properties they have acquired through the repair and lease scheme and how many have been allocated to people on the housing list.

REPLY:

Limerick City and County Council do not acquire properties through the repair and lease scheme however owners of properties that have been vacant for 12 months or longer and in need of repair can contact the Council to express an interest in the repair and lease scheme.

There are currently 12 active repair and lease agreements in the Metropolitan District and all units are currently occupied.

Caroline Curley
Director of Service, Housing
12th May 2023