

CORRESPONDENCE

MEETING OF THE METROPOLITAN DISTRICT OF LIMERICK

19TH JUNE, 2023

- Email dated 12th May, 2023 from the Inspector, Henry Street Garda Station in reply to Notice of Motion from Members that Limerick City and County Council write to the Minister for Justice and the Garda Commissioner asking them to urgently consider the provision of a 24/7 Garda Station for the Castletroy / Monaleen / Annacotty area of Limerick.
- Email dated 22nd May, 2023 and letter dated 25th May, 2023 from the CEO, Pobal in reply to Notice of Motion from Members that the Council write to Tusla and Pobal in support of urgently finding a suitable city centre building for One World Pre-school to purchase or rent for the 44 children that access pre-school services on Henry Street and are currently without a facility.
- Email dated 24th May, 2023 from the Office of the Minister of State for Public Expenditure, National Development Plan, Delivery and Reform, in reply to Notice of Motion from Members that Limerick City and County Council write to the Minister for Health to allocate dedicated funding to treat people suffering from the mental health disorder known as compulsive hoarding or hoarding disorder, and for the Minister for the Environment, Climate & Communications to allocate dedicated funding to local authorities to assist with the removal of hoarded material accumulated by people suffering from this disorder, from their private or Council properties.
- Email dated 29th May, 2023 from the Office of the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage in reply to Notice of Motion from Members calling on the Department of Housing to expand the eligibility criteria of the Croi Conaithe Scheme beyond the current year cut off, to include properties with potential for rental and that properties that are to be lived in by the applicants have their grant amount increased by at least 50%.
- Letter dated 29th May, 2023 from the National Transport Authority in reply to Notice of Motion from Members that the District writes to Minister Eamon Ryan and the National Transport Authority outlining the need to allocate funding for maintenance of active travel routes.
- Letter dated 7th June, 2023 from the National Transport Authority in reply to Notice of Motion from Members that the Council write to the NTA to ask them to give Elected Members a presentation on their proposals for a demand responsive transport service to serve areas that will not be connected to BusConnects such as the Mill Road and Rhebogue. To also request that they provide a timeline for the introduction of such a service and commit to rolling this service out with BusConnects in 2025.

Sent: Friday, May 12, 2023 3:35 PM

To: Leahy, Mark <mark.leahy@limerick.ie>; Carroll, Siobhan <siobhan.carroll@limerick.ie>

Subject: [EXTERNAL]Re : Castletroy Garda Station

Caution: This is an external email and may have a suspicious subject or attached content. Please take care when clicking links or opening attachments. When in doubt, contact your IT Department


Good afternoon Siobhan,

As per conversation and in relation to your query in relation to plans for a Garda Station in Castletroy, Limerick, I wish to inform you of the following:

Castletroy Garda Station is included in the An Garda Síochána Capital Plan Pipeline Projects on site 2025-2030, as a new Garda Station, which was compiled by the Office of Public Works (OPW). An Garda Síochána will liaise with the OPW as necessary with respect to this matter.

I would be obliged if you could forward any future queries in relation to this matter to the Divisional Officer, Chief Superintendent Derek Smart at Henry St Garda Station please. ([Henry Street DV@garda.ie](mailto:Henry.Street.DV@garda.ie))

Kind regards,



Sandra Heelan
Inspector

Sandra Heelan | Inspector | Assistant Superintendent. Henry Street Garda Station, Limerick, Ireland, V94 VY64.

***** Faisnéis í seo don té sin nó don eintiteas sin a bhfuil a sheoladh uirthi, agus dó siúd amháin, agus d'fhéadfadh ábhar rúnda agus/ nó ábhar faoi phribhléid a bheith iniata. Toirmisctear aon athbhreithniú, atarchur nó leathadh a dhéanamh ar an bhfaisnéis seo, aon úsáid eile a bhaint aisti nó aon ghníomh a dhéanamh ar a hiontaoibh, ag daoine nó ag eintitis seachas an faighteoir beartaithe. Más trí bhotún a fuair tú é seo, cuir scéala chuig an seoltóir le do thoil agus scríos an t-ábhar d'aon ríomhaire. Is é polasaí An Gharda Síochána seoladh ábhair cholúil a dhícheadú, agus más dóigh leat gur ábhar colúil atá sa teachtaireacht seo ba cheart duit dul i dteagmháil leis an seoltóir agus le postmaster@garda.ie láithreach. The information transmitted is intended only for the person or entity to which it is addressed and may contain confidential and/or privileged material. Any review, retransmission, dissemination or other use of, or taking of any action in reliance upon, this information by persons or entities other than the intended recipient is prohibited. If you received this in error, please contact the sender and delete the material from any computer. It is the policy of An Garda Síochána to disallow the sending of offensive material and should you consider that the material contained in this message is offensive you should contact both the sender and postmaster@garda.ie immediately.

From: Alissa Fitzsimons <afitzsimons@pobal.ie>

Sent: Monday, May 22, 2023 10:30 AM

To: Customer Services <customerservices@limerick.ie>

Subject: [EXTERNAL]Acknowledgement of Receipt from Pobal to letter dated 18 May - FAO Mark Leahy

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Good morning Mark,

Thank you for your letter to Pobal CEO Anna Shakespeare dated 18 May, in relation to the resolution adopted at the Meeting of the Metropolitan District of Limerick.

I am writing to acknowledge receipt of this letter and to advise that this has been forwarded on to the relevant team and is receiving attention.

Best wishes,
Alissa

Alissa Fitzsimons

Executive Administrator, Office of the CEO



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END MENTAL HEALTH STIGMA
We're the Green Ribbon



#GreenRibbonRL
#EndTheStigma



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Web: www.pobal.ie
Twitter: @pobal

Mark Leahy
Limerick City and County Council
Corporate Headquarters
Merchants Quay
Limerick

25 May 2023

A Chara,

Thank you for your letter dated May 18th regarding the service provider 'One World Pre-school'.

This is a privately owned early learning and care service that provides a 38-week programme, funded through the Early Childhood Care and Education (ECCE) scheme supporting 44 ECCE places (22 children in a morning session and 22 children in an afternoon session). In addition, seven children are in receipt of supports provided by the Access and Inclusion Model (AIM).

Pobal is aware that the service no longer has a suitable premises available for the next academic year in September 2023. Limerick County Childcare Committee, which supports early learning and care providers at a local level, is supporting this provider directly.

In our liaison with Limerick CCC, Pobal have been made aware that several vacant buildings have been identified in the locality and viewings have been scheduled for these premises over the coming days.

Working closely with the CCC and the provider, our focus is to ensure a service continues to be provided in this community. Please be assured of Pobal's continued support on this matter and that we will continue to monitor this situation daily.

Is mise le meas,

Anna Shakespeare
Pobal CEO

Directors: Ms Rosarií Mannion (Chairperson), Ms Molly Buckley, Mr Tom Lavin, Mr Ciarán Reid, Ms Patricia Ball O'Keeffe, Ms Aine Hanley, Ms Donna Creaven, Ms Catherine Lynch, Mr Fintan Breen, Ms Iseult White.

CEO: Ms Anna Shakespeare

Company Registration Number: 194360. **Registered Charity Number:** 20029609. — Pobal is a company limited by guarantee and without share capital.

From: Minister of State <noreplymos-dccae@corr.cloud.gov.ie>

Sent: Wednesday, May 24, 2023 10:20 AM

To: Customer Services <customerservices@limerick.ie>

Subject: [EXTERNAL]Re: Compulsive hoarding disorder - Dedicated funding to local authorities to assist with removal of hoarded material

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Ref: CCAE-MOS-00336-2023

Mr. Mark Leahy

customerservices@limerick.ie

24th May 2023

Dear Mr. Leahy,

On behalf of the Minister of State for the Department of Public Expenditure, National Development Plan, Delivery and Reform with special responsibility for Communications and Circular Economy, Ossian Smyth T.D., I would like to thank you for your recent correspondence relating to allocation of funds to local authorities to assist with the removal of hoarded material accumulated by people suffering from compulsive hoarding disorder.

The contents of your email have been noted and I will bring this to the attention of the Minister.

Kind regards,

Gladstone Ogbonna
Minister of State's Office.

From: Minister O'Brien Office <ministerobrien-housing@corr.cloud.gov.ie>

Sent: Monday, May 29, 2023 8:44 AM

To: Customer Services <customerservices@limerick.ie>

Subject: [EXTERNAL]HPLG-MOBO-01504-2023

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Oifig an Aire

Office of the Minister

29th May 2023.

RE: HPLG-MOBO-01504-2023

Dear Mr. Leahy,

Thank you for your email to Mr. Darragh O'Brien, T.D., Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage, in connection with your Vacant Property Refurbishment Grant query. I wish to apologise for the delay to this query as we are currently experiencing a high volume of correspondence.

In July 2022 the Vacant Property Refurbishment Grant was launched as part of the Croí Cónaithe Towns Fund. The grant benefited those who wished to turn a formerly vacant house or building into their principal private residence. The grant, which was initially launched in respect of vacant properties in towns and villages, was expanded to include eligible vacant properties in both cities and rural areas from 15 November, 2022.

From 1 May 2023, the grant was expanded further to build upon its success to date and increase the support being provided to bring vacant and derelict properties back into use. These changes include:

- The inclusion of properties which will be made available for rent, along with those which will be used as a principal private residence;
- Changing the eligibility date of vacant and derelict properties from 1993 to one built up to and including 2007;
- Increasing the grant rates available.

From 1 May 2023, a grant of up to a maximum of €50,000 is available for the refurbishment of vacant properties for occupation as a principal private residence and for properties which will be made available for rent, including the conversion of a property which has not been used as residential heretofore, subject to appropriate planning permission being in place. Where the refurbishment costs are expected to exceed the standard grant of up to €50,000, a top-up grant amount of up to €20,000 is available where the property is confirmed by the applicant to be derelict or if the property is on the Derelict Sites Register, bringing the total grant available for a derelict property up to a maximum of €70,000.

The level of grant aid is contingent upon the works approved by the local authority and will be paid based on vouched expenditure following a final inspection by the local authority.

Applicants may only avail of a maximum of two grants, once in respect of a principal private residence and once in respect of a property to be made available for rent.

The updated scheme documentation and revised guidance, including a circular, outlining changes to the grant have issued to local authorities and have been published on the Department's website <https://www.gov.ie/en/service/f8f1b-vacant-property-refurbishment-grant/>

I trust the above information is of assistance to you.

Yours sincerely,

Niamh Redmond
Private Secretary

Limerick City and County Council
Corporate Services
Corporate Headquarters
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FAO: Mark Leahy

29th May 2023

Dear Mr Leahy,

I refer to your correspondence dated 18th May 2023 regarding a motion that was adopted by Councillors at the May meeting of the Metropolitan District of Limerick relating to funding of the maintenance of active travel routes.

The National Transport Authority works with local authorities to plan, implement and improve facilities for public transport and active travel users, including walking and cycling. While the Government has provided the NTA with Exchequer funding to support the development of Active Travel infrastructure, including cycle facilities and footpaths, no Exchequer monies have been made available to the NTA for the funding of maintenance activities. Accordingly, the NTA is not in a position, and is not empowered, to fund maintenance works.

We have raised the issue of ensuring adequate funding of active travel infrastructure with the Department of Transport, and have asked that consideration be given to such funding as part of the annual budgetary process. We recognise that investment in new infrastructure without appropriate maintenance provision, risks the premature erosion of the benefits of the initial investment.

We trust that the above information clarifies the position.

Yours sincerely,

Hugh Creegan

Hugh Creegan,
Deputy Chief Executive.

Limerick City and County Council
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Corporate Headquarters
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FAO: Mark Leahy

7th June 2023

Dear Mr Leahy,

I refer to your correspondence dated 24th April 2023 regarding a motion that was adopted by Councillors at the April meeting of the Metropolitan District of Limerick relating to a request for a presentation on demand responsive transport proposals.

The NTA is in the very early stages of preparing a new demand responsive transport service proposal. We intend going to the market in the near future with a procurement competition for 3 pilot schemes.

As such, it would be premature to present to external stakeholders on this specific project at this point in time. Once a supplier has been appointed, the project fully defined and any proposals significantly advanced, we would at that point be open to providing a presentation to Limerick City and County Council.

We trust that the above information clarifies the position.

Yours sincerely,



Anne Graham,
Chief Executive.