

**MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS AT ANNUAL MEETING OF THE METROPOLITAN DISTRICT OF LIMERICK  
HELD IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER, DOORADOYLE AND ONLINE, ON MONDAY, 19<sup>TH</sup> JUNE, 2023 AT  
12 NOON**

**PRESENT IN THE CHAIR:** Councillor O. O'Sullivan, Cathaoirleach

**MEMBERS PRESENT:**

Councillors Benson, Butler, Collins, Daly, Hartigan, Kiely, Kilcoyne, Leddin, McSweeney, Murphy, Novak Uí Chonchúir, O'Donovan, O'Hanlon, Pond, Secas, Sheahan (M), Sheehan (C), Slattery and Talukder.

**OFFICIALS IN ATTENDANCE:**

Director, National and Regional SSC (Mr. K. Lehane), Meetings Administrator (Mr. M. Leahy), Senior Staff Officer, Corporate Services, Governance and Customer Services (Ms. A. Foley), Assistant Staff Officer, Corporate Services and Governance (Ms. S. Carroll).

Apologies for his inability to attend were received from Councillor Collopy.

The outgoing Cathaoirleach of the Metropolitan District, Councillor O'Sullivan welcomed everyone to the Annual Meeting of the Metropolitan District, which was being held to elect the Cathaoirleach and Leas Cathaoirleach of the Metropolitan District of Limerick.

She thanked the Executive for their help and support, throughout what was a very busy year for the Metropolitan District. She also thanked her Party Colleagues and the Members for their support and encouragement during her term. She noted the excellent work that was carried out during the year in the District. Councillor O'Sullivan finished by thanking her family and friends for their support during her term as Cathaoirleach of the Metropolitan District, expressed her best wishes to the incoming Cathaoirleach and Leas Cathaoirleach, and offered to support them in their new roles.

The Members congratulated Councillor O'Sullivan on her very successful year as Cathaoirleach of the Metropolitan District and commended her for the professional manner in which she chaired the Metropolitan Meetings.

The Director, National and Regional SSC, on behalf of Management and Staff thanked Councillor O'Sullivan for her work throughout the year.

**1. To elect a Cathaoirleach of the Metropolitan District of Limerick to hold Office until the next Annual Meeting or until a successor has been elected**

The outgoing Cathaoirleach invited nominations for the Office of Cathaoirleach for the coming year.

Proposed by Councillor Collins;  
Seconded by Councillor Slattery;

"That Councillor Azad Talukder be appointed Cathaoirleach of the Metropolitan District of Limerick to hold office until the next Annual Meeting or until a successor has been appointed".

Proposed by Councillor Hartigan;  
Seconded by Councillor Sheehan (C);

"That Councillor Sasa Novak Uí Chonchúir be appointed Cathaoirleach of the Metropolitan District of Limerick to hold office until the next Annual Meeting or until a successor has been appointed".

As there was more than one nomination, a Roll Call vote was taken which resulted as follows:

**For Councillor Talukder**

Councillors Butler, Collins, Daly, Kiely, McSweeney, Murphy, O'Donovan, O'Hanlon, O'Sullivan, Pond, Sheahan (M), Slattery and Talukder (13)

**For Councillor Novak Uí Chonchúir**

Councillors Benson, Hartigan, Kilcoyne, Leddin, Novak Uí Chonchúir, Secas and Sheehan (C) (7)

The outgoing Cathaoirleach declared Councillor Azad Talukder elected as Cathaoirleach of the Metropolitan District of Limerick and congratulated him on his election.

The Members congratulated Councillor Talukder on his election as Cathaoirleach and wished him every success in the coming year. They agreed that his Election was historic, and, following on from three years of a female Cathaoirleach in the Metropolitan District, that it demonstrated that Limerick is a diverse city. They agreed that Cllr Talukder had made an excellent Deputy Mayor in 2020 and had no doubt that he would make an excellent Cathaoirleach too.

The newly elected Cathaoirleach, Councillor Talukder, said it was a huge privilege to have represented the people of Limerick City West and the Metropolitan District for the past 4 years and that he was greatly honoured to now be elected as Cathaoirleach of the Metropolitan District of Limerick. He thanked his wife Shahana Akter, and his two daughters, Tashfia and Amira for their continued help and support that they had given him and the sacrifices that they had made over the years to support him in his role as a Councillor. He outlined how he had come to Limerick to work from Bangladesh in 2000 and how he had built a life for himself and his family and how Limerick had now become his home and he was proud to be called a Limerick man.

He remembered former Councillor Jerry O'Dea, who had passed unexpectedly in 2022 and who had been such a good friend and mentor to him. He also thanked his Fianna Fáil colleagues for their support and for nominating him to this position and those who had voted for him. He pledged to work with all the Elected Members during his term on behalf of all the people in the Metropolitan District. He thanked the Management and staff of Limerick City and County Council for their work and efforts in providing a wide range of services across the Metropolitan District.

He outlined how Limerick was now a multi-cultural city and his election as Cathaoirleach, sent a strong message to everyone that if you get involved in your local community or in politics, and work for others in your community, that you can succeed. He confirmed that he would like to see an Integration Officer installed on the staff of Limerick City and County Council to offer advice and support to immigrants arriving in Limerick and to help them with the transition. Cllr Talukder congratulated the Limerick Senior Hurling Team on their recent five-in-a-row Munster championship success and he looked forward to the challenge of the All-Ireland Semi-Final against Galway and hopefully further All Ireland success in 2023.

The Director, National and Regional SSC, on behalf of Management and Staff congratulated Councillor Talukder on his Election and pledged to work with him and support him over the forthcoming twelve months in his role as the Cathaoirleach of the Municipal District of Limerick.

**2. To elect a Leas Cathaoirleach of the Metropolitan District of Limerick to hold Office until the next Annual Meeting or until a successor has been elected.**

The Cathaoirleach invited nominations for the Office of Leas Cathaoirleach of the Metropolitan District of Limerick.

Proposed by Councillor Collins;  
Seconded by Councillor Slattery;

“That Councillor Joe Pond be appointed Leas Cathaoirleach of the Metropolitan District of Limerick to hold office until the next Annual Meeting or until a successor is appointed”.

Proposed by Councillor Sheehan (C);  
Seconded by Councillor Hartigan;

“That Councillor Elena Secas be appointed Leas Cathaoirleach of the Metropolitan District of Limerick to hold office until the next Annual Meeting or until a successor is appointed”.

As there was more than one nomination, a Roll Call vote was taken which resulted as follows:

**For Councillor Pond**

Councillors Butler, Collins, Daly, Kiely, McSweeney, Murphy, O’Hanlon, O’Sullivan, Pond, Sheahan (M), Slattery and Talukder (12)

**For Councillor Secas**

Councillors Benson, Hartigan, Kilcoyne, Leddin, Novak Uí Chonchúir, O’Donovan, Secas and Sheehan (C) (8)

The Cathaoirleach declared Councillor Pond elected as Leas Cathaoirleach of the Metropolitan District of Limerick.

The Members congratulated Councillor Pond on his election as Leas Cathaoirleach and wished him well in the coming year. Councillor Pond thanked the Members for nominating him, looked forward to the year ahead, and stated that he would support the Cathaoirleach during his twelve months term in the Metropolitan District.

The Director, Service Operations, on behalf of Management and Staff wished the incoming Cathaoirleach, Councillor Talukder and Leas Cathaoirleach, Councillor Pond every success, and looked forward to working with them, and the Members, in the coming year.

This concluded the Meeting.

**SIGNED:** \_\_\_\_\_  
Cathaoirleach

**DATE :** \_\_\_\_\_