

# Chief Executive's Report

June 2023

Forbes Under 30 Forum shines international spotlight on Limerick innovation

Limerick Greenway links with Kingdom of Kerry Greenways to create 50k trail

New Discover Limerick Pass offers value for money trips to Limerick attractions

Work begins on Limerick City's first fully inclusive playground

'Your Council Day' messages reach 1.6m users with star turn for library staff

# Chief Executive's Report



Comhairle Cathrach  
& Contae **Luimnigh**  
**Limerick** City  
& County Council

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## Economic Development, Enterprise and Tourism Directorate

### 1. Trade & Investment

#### Jobs and Investments

French company, Expleo, a global engineering, technology, and consulting service, announced that they will open a new Limerick office, bringing their Irish office portfolio to six. The Limerick office is set to create 15 additional jobs, adding to the company's aim of having 1,000 staff in Ireland by the end of 2024. Expleo specialise in quality testing for technology, having previously worked on testing the Covid-19 tracing app.

Dell Technologies has announced the expansion of its Customer Solution Centre Innovation Lab at its campus in Limerick. The lab allows customers to test technologies such as Artificial Intelligence (AI), 5G and edge computing. The expanded capabilities were built in collaboration with Vodafone and Ericsson. The partners, together with NovaUCD, the hub of innovation at University College Dublin, are developing an accelerator programme to support innovative start-ups.

#### Forbes Under 30 Forum

The Forbes Under 30 Forum came to Limerick on 26 June. Over 140 attendees were treated to a showcase of entrepreneurship and start-up companies in Ireland. The event shone an international spotlight on Irish innovation, while showcasing Limerick's thriving business landscape.

The day-long forum saw a number of speakers share their experiences with business and investment, while the audience had guests from Ireland, Australia, the US and beyond shining a light on the Mid West Region. Speakers included three honourees of the 2023 Forbes 30 Under 30 Europe list, Dan Hobbs, Grainne Mullins and Ruth Williams.

During the afternoon, two groups of event participants dispersed across the city centre for lunch and tours at four locations: STATS Perform, International Rugby Experience, Innovate Limerick and Gardens International. Here the

groups heard from business leaders and executives about their work operating in Limerick and attracting talent into office buildings in the era of remote work.

### 2. Digital Services

#### EU Programmes

Following the submission by the EU Project Office and Environment Department of two EU Funding Applications, Greenplace and BiodiverCity under the URBACT IV Call, notification was received in June confirming that these applications were successful. Both projects will be led by the Environment, Recreation and Climate Change Department. Funding of €70,000 has been approved for each project.

The Green Place Action Planning Network examines changing urban spaces that have lost their current functionality to be friendly to residents, the environment and the city.

The Biodiversity Action Planning Network measures biodiversity in a city and ecosystem services to verify, design and scale up nature-based solutions.

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## 3. Local Enterprise Office (LEO) Limerick

### Funding Approved

- Three Feasibility Study Grants were approved.
- Three Business Expansion Grants were approved.
- One Technical Assistance Grant for Micro Exporters approved.
- Three Businesses were approved a Trading Online Voucher.
- Two Businesses approved an IPStart Grant
- Two Businesses approved the Green for Micro.

### Several Workshops and Webinars were held as follows:

- Business Planning Workshop.
- Start Your Own Business Course.
- Search Engine Optimisation.
- Business Advice Clinics (Various).
- Employment Law.
- Sales Strategies for Small Business.
- Lean for Micro Introduction.
- Summer Networking Event for Small Business Owners - A Masterclass with Pat McDonagh.

There were 157 participants on the LEO Business Training Workshops and 15 Business Owners were approved for the LEO Mentoring Programme.

## 4. Tourism

### Limerick Greenway

#### Press Release

A joint Press Release between Limerick City and County Council and Kerry County Council, along with photography "at the border," was issued on 28 June. This media release was to highlight the fact that now over 50kms of Greenway are open to visitors who can make their way from Rathkeale, via Newcastle West, Abbeyfeale and now onto Listowel. Some coverage below:

[Irish Independent](#)

[Business Plus](#)

[Limerick.ie](#)

#### Advertising

Limerick Greenway featured in a number of online pieces during the month targeting various audiences from families to younger groups and those looking for staycations:

Irish Times - "Saddle Up and head out West

Completed - See [HERE](#)

Irish Independent - "Summer Cycles - Limerick Greenway Awaits" - See [HERE](#)

Reach PLC - "Fabulous Reasons to Explore Limerick this summer [HERE](#)

**RTE Guide** - It was also great to see Limerick Greenway featured in the RTE Guide on 18 June and even better to find out how much Irish Broadcaster, John Creedon, enjoys walking along the 40km off-road walking and cycling route that runs through West Limerick.

**Kerry Eye** - created a three-page feature "Growing the Greenway Experience" which included both Limerick Greenway and the new Kingdom of Kerry's Greenway in their edition published on 22 June. The Limerick Greenway team provided information and quotes in this very positive news story.

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Some of Limerick Greenway's OOH (Out of Home) Advertising that all went live during June:

Bus Shelters - LIVE  
Airport Digital Screens - LIVE -  
Billboards - Arramount, Ennis Road, M18 - LIVE -

## Limerick Greenway GAA Competition

The Limerick Greenway team ran a competition in the programme for the nail-biting Senior Hurling match between Limerick and Clare. This was also shared on social media and on limerick.ie. The competition allowed five lucky winners the opportunity to visit and stay along the Limerick Greenway route and included a stay at the Rathkeale House Hotel, a voucher for the Limerick Greenway HUB @ Barnagh, along with free bike hire and Limerick Greenway goodies. The competition proved very successful and creating a presence at the Gaelic Grounds provided an additional promotional opportunity for Limerick Greenway

## Trips and Events

### 24 June

Influencer, April Drew, and her family (getawaywithkids) visited Limerick Greenway, starting in Newcastle West, stopping at Fergusons Viaduct and onto the Limerick Greenway HUB @ Barnagh for pottery, a bite to eat and, of course, a walk through the famous Barnagh Tunnel. April's trip was live streamed on social media.

### 29 June

The Greenway Team arranged for the OPE (Older Persons Executive) to visit Limerick Greenway to walk or cycle and also stopping off at some of the popular spots along the way, including Ardagh and Barnagh.

## Social Media Stats

- Facebook reach 133,054
- Instagram reach 6,994
- Facebook page visits 2,162
- Instagram page visits 287
- Facebook new likes 64
- Instagram new followers 50

## Google Ads

01/06/2023 - 26/06/2023

Clicks: 5,930  
Impressions: 324,000  
Click through rate: 1.83%

## Limerick Greenway Hub @ Ardagh

SIDC have been appointed as tourism consultants to provide advice to Healy Partners and the multi-disciplinary design team at detailed design stage for the new Limerick Greenway Hub @ Ardagh.

## Limerick Greenway Data Collection Project

Repucon Consulting continued to engage with Greenway users, local communities and businesses as part of a data collection project, to provide insights and inform funding applications and future marketing campaigns.

## Limerick Greenway Interpretation

Mirador Media has been appointed to provide audio from local sources as part of new interpretation equipment, to be installed at Barnagh Viewing Point and Tullig Wood.

## DISCOVER LIMERICK PASS

The Discover Limerick PASS was launched on 06 June at King John's Castle, the first destination sightseeing pass of its kind on the Wild Atlantic Way. The PASS was developed between Limerick City and County Council and Fáilte Ireland and in partnership with tourism partners and Open Pass UK.

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The Discover Limerick PASS gives entry to 14 incredible attractions across the city and county of Limerick.

The Discover Limerick Pass is convenient and easy-to-use and is available to download onto smartphones. All that visitors have to do is purchase a 1, 2 or 3-day pass at [discoverlimerickpass.com](http://discoverlimerickpass.com), download on their phones and start exploring. Child passes are also available.

## Shannon Conference Bureau

The Tourism Department was delighted to share anniversary celebrations with the Shannon Conference Bureau, celebrating 20 years in existence, promoting the region for visiting conferences and events. In this time, it has attracted blue-chip events worth more than €150m to the local economy. Limerick City and County Council is a significant stakeholder with the Bureau and works very closely with it to attract major sporting events to Limerick.

## Festivals and Events

### Christmas in Limerick Survey 2023

Christmas in Limerick is a calendar of festive events and offerings delivered by Limerick City and County Council. Each year Limerick has a seasonal mix of everything from Christmas Markets to an ice rink and on-street entertainment.

The survey, which was launched on 26 June, will allow people to have their say on Limerick City and County Council's planning for Christmas in Limerick 2023. It will give people the opportunity to tell us what they would like to see in Limerick this Christmas and is available through MyPoint on Limerick.ie.

### Fleadh Cheoil Luimnigh 2023

Limerick City and County Council Festivals and Events grant-aided this year's Fleadh Cheoil which took place from 01 - 05 June. This festival of Irish Traditional Music, Song, Dance, Gaeilge and Culture gives the opportunity for four different age groups to participate in various music, song, dance, storytelling and Comhrá Gaeilge events in the town of Kilfinane.

### The Limerick Sings International Choral Festival

Limerick Sings is a non-competitive annual celebration of choral music at the University of Limerick and took place from 09 -11 June. As a choral festival, it welcomes choirs of all traditions and nationalities to come together for a weekend of festive singing while inviting them to explore the amazing locality and sites of the Wild Atlantic Way. It is a celebration of the choral tradition of choral singing, opera and musical theatre, with many choral groups existing and performing for decades in Limerick City. Limerick City and County Council supported this festival with grant funding through the Festivals and Events Grant Scheme.

### Welcome to the Neighbourhood 2023

'Welcome to the Neighbourhood' is an annual festival of contemporary art in Askeaton which took place from 12 - 25 June and benefitted from Limerick City and County Council grant funding through the Festivals and Events Grant Scheme. International and Irish artists stayed in the town taking part in residencies, activating and presenting new cultural projects that connect with the unique history and everyday life of Askeaton.

Askeaton native, Jim Clarken (CEO of Oxfam Ireland and an Executive Director at Oxfam International), joined Curator, Michele Horrigan, to give a talk on 22 June. Other events over the festival included 'relatively stable conditions,' Deel River tour which explored the history, traditions and connection the river has with the area.

### The Limerick Garden Festival

The Limerick Garden Festival took place on 18 June at Limerick's Milk Market and had an array of exciting plants, garden and food market with over 50 traders from all over Ireland. It featured all-day talks with garden experts. It provided opportunities for gardeners and enthusiasts to see different elements of gardening and enjoy the display of plants and stalls. Limerick City and County Council supported this festival with grant funding through the Festivals and Events Grant Scheme. The Garden Festival broadens the range of festivals and events in Limerick and adds to the diversity of offering at the Milk Market as a venue in the heart of the city.

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## 5. Innovate Limerick DAC

### FILM IN LIMERICK

#### Engine Short Film Scheme Pitching Weekend

12 teams pitched their Engine short film projects that they have been developing over the past few months with Film in Limerick. The in-person pitches took place at the Engine Collaboration Centre and six projects have been selected to go forward for funding approval. This year's judging panel members were Kate McCullough, cinematographer on the OSCAR-nominated *An Cailín Ciúin*, Fionnuala Halligan, Screen International's executive editor and Grainne Humphreys, Director of the Dublin International Film Festival.

Run by Innovate Limerick through Film in Limerick, Engine Shorts is a partnership between the Local Authorities in Tipperary, Limerick and Clare, and Limerick and Clare Education and Training Board. The new scheme aims to inspire and support up-and-coming writers, directors and producers to create inspiring, engaging world-class short films that resonate with a wide international audience.

#### Local and Inwards Productions

'Blackshore,' from the makers of 'Smother,' wrapped 13 weeks of filming in Clare and Limerick in June. Film in Limerick assisted with locations, crewing, training, placement and provided production support during the pre-production and production of this new series.

Film in Limerick assisted with three scouting trips in the region in June, arranging tours for US, UK and Irish-based producers seeking locations for feature films and TV series.

#### Film and TV Crew Academy

A quarterly Film and TV Crew Academy Steering Group meeting took place at Engine in June, focusing on training plans for the coming months and on plans for the upcoming Cineposium conference that Film in Limerick is hosting. A separate meeting was held with the other National Talent Academies to discuss Cineposium and

to plan for Film Week, a series of events for aspiring and experienced filmmakers taking place in Limerick in September.

#### Evening Course: Managing Tax as a Freelancer

Held over two evenings, this Crew Academy course focused on crew, operating as sole traders or as company owners. The course covered book-keeping, starting your own business and Tax/VAT issues. 27 participants took part in the course.

## 6. Discover Limerick DAC

### King John's Castle

**06 June:** the Discover Limerick PASS was officially launched at the Castle. This is the official sightseeing pass for the city and county and the only one on the Wild Atlantic Way.

**07 June:** A number of delegates from the Oceans Conference, held at the University of Limerick, visited King John's Castle as part of a conference event.

**12 June:** Our Lady of the Lake Catholic School Band from St. Joseph, Michigan, performed in the Castle as part of their journey around Ireland.

The Castle welcomed Pat Shortt and Mike Hanrahan who were filming at the Castle for their upcoming TV show.

**22 June:** the Castle welcomed Deric Hartigan from Ireland AM to present the weather slot. Animators welcomed Deric and the team and this was a lovely slot to showcase the Castle.

A number of sold-out Concerts took place at the Castle, hosted by Dolans:

14 June	Kasabian
17 June	Bell X1
28 June	Kraftwork
30 June	Madness

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## Lough Gur

Pupils from Caherelly National School gathered on 02 June at Lough Gur Visitor Centre to open their art exhibition "The Folklore of Lough Gur."

On 21 June, the Summer Solstice, a special radio programme by Lyric FM, was broadcast from the Lakeshore Park from 5am to 7am. An arts and craft market was also set up to celebrate the Summer Solstice. Many people gathered at Grange Stone Circle at dawn on 21 June to celebrate the Summer Solstice and the longest day of the year at Lough Gur.



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## Transportation and Mobility Directorate

### 1. Travel and Transport Strategy

- A meeting of the Travel and Transportation Strategic Policy Committee was held in the Council Chamber, Dooradoyle, and online, on 20 June:
  - The dates for the Strategic Policy Committee Meetings for 2024 were agreed.
  - The Communications Team presented on an upcoming campaign regarding Illegal Parking.
  - There was an update on BusConnects.
- A public consultation event was held in the Market Square in Newcastle West to allow members of the public to discuss the Newcastle West Local Transport Plan which is currently on display as part of the Draft Local Area Plan.
- The Travel and Transport Team presented at the Zero Emission Vehicles Ireland (ZEVI) Public and Private Sector Stakeholder Workshop in Athlone in June. The presentation comprised of an overview of the Draft Limerick Electric Vehicle (EV) Strategy and EV Charger Pilot project.
- Works are ongoing for the development of EV Charger pilot sites around Limerick. Civil works commenced during June.

### 2. Active Travel

#### Metropolitan District of Limerick

**Wickham Street to Clare Street:** A report on feedback received from a non-statutory consultation held, has been published.

**Hyde Road:** Works approximately 90% complete at end of June.

**Childers Road (Greenpark to Roxboro Road Roundabout):** Construction ready to begin.

**Mill Road:** Tender period commenced in June.

**Roxboro Road:** Draft Option Report being developed.

**St. Paul's to Ballykeefe:** Non-statutory public consultation period underway.

**South Circular Road:** Smart micro traffic radars installed in June.

**Ennis Road:** Options Report complete and currently being reviewed.

**Patrickswell Village Renewal Scheme:** Work ongoing.

**Rosmór/Old Cork Road:** Detailed design ongoing.

**Kilmallock Road:** Section 38 public consultation in process.

**Bike Parking:** Currently compiling a list of potential sites for bike parking in 2023.

#### Municipal District of Newcastle West

**Abbeyfeale Connectivity:** Options drawings circulated to Elected Members.

#### Municipal District of Adare-Rathkeale

**Christopher Lynch Bridge, Rathkeale:** Draft Options Report received.

**St. Anne's School, Rathkeale:** Draft Options Report received.

**Station Road, Askeaton:** Section 38 published – currently open.

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## Safe Routes To School

**Corbally Road:** Public Information Evening held on 01 June. Part 8 published and being advertised.

**St. Paul's National School, Dooradoyle:** Car free zone trial completed.

**Limerick School Project, O'Connell Avenue:** Initial consultation ongoing with the school and nearby residents.

## Active Travel Marketing and Communications:

Press Releases issued to local media on: non-statutory public consultation for St. Paul's to Ballykeefe Scheme; progress on Hyde Road and Childers Road Schemes.

Social media updates issued on the following projects: St. Paul's to Ballykeefe; Wickham Street to Clare Street; Rathkeale Bus Shelter works; Kilmallock Road; Hyde Road.

## 3. Mid West National Road Design Office

The completed N24 Beary's Cross Road Improvement scheme was officially opened by the Mayor of the City and County of Limerick, Councillor Francis Foley.

The project represents a continuation of the collaboration between Limerick City and County Council and Transport Infrastructure Ireland (TII) in delivering significant capital infrastructure investments in the region. The project was funded by TII as part of Project Ireland 2040. The new junction configuration consists of a roundabout located on the N24 approx. 150m southeast of the original junction, along with the realignment of 400m of the R513 and creation of a cul-de-sac access to the existing properties located on the old R513.



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## Rural, Community and Culture Development Directorate

### 1. Culture

#### Libraries

- 'Summer Stars' is a free reading programme that takes place in all Limerick Libraries over the summer months as part of the national Right to Read initiative. Limerick Libraries launched this programme for the entire network of branches on 19 June. Children are encouraged to read eight books as part of the programme, and there are rewards and incentives along the way, culminating in a certificate and medal being awarded to all those who complete the programme.
- The 'My Little Library Book Bag' initiative is a collaboration between Public Libraries, the Department of Rural and Community Development, and the Department of Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth as part of the First 5 Strategy. As part of the initiative, a 'My Little Library Book Bag' is available free for every child about to start school to help them to prepare for this big step. Children and their parents/guardians can collect the bags at any library throughout Limerick from 08 June.
- Limerick Libraries were happy to visit the Live 95 radio studios on 27 June to speak on the 'Limerick Today with Joe Nash' show about "Summer Stars," 'My Little Library Book Bag' and other dynamic initiatives available from all branches.
- On 16 June, the City Library was delighted to host its first Fighting Words creative writing workshop, which proved a great success. Third Class from St. Brigid's National School were authors for the day and their hilarious and imaginative story, 'Jake and Joe's Shenanigans,' is now available to be enjoyed online at the Fighting Words website.
- On 15 June, Dr. Robert Collins (author and Lecturer at the University of Limerick) delivered a well-attended

talk to mark the 25th anniversary of the Good Friday Agreement. The lecture, entitled 'Irish America and the Path to the Good Friday Agreement,' sparked great engagement and debate from the audience.

- Clare Donnellan from Repak Ireland visited the City Library on 21 June with a special presentation for Fifth and Sixth Class from St. Mary's National School about all things recycling. During the talk, Clare showed some practical examples to the children of what can and cannot be recycled and explained what happens to our recyclables after they have been collected by waste contractors.
- The annual Cruinniú Na nÓg celebrations took place on 10 June and several young people called in to collect this year's Circus Explored-themed spinning plates sets which were made available for free at all branch libraries. They were also treated to the 'This Is Art' digital gallery of young Limerick artists, which was on display throughout the day.
- The ongoing series of Migrant Support Clinics continued across Monday mornings in June. These drop-in clinics are jointly organised by the Limerick and Clare Education and Training Board and PAUL Partnership. The monthly Aphasia Conversation Group met in the community activity room on 30 June and the Writepace creative writing group held their monthly meeting on 10 June.
- Monthly book clubs continued to meet and discuss their chosen reads with seven separate meetings in June. The children's book club for ages 9-12 years had their meeting on 01 June and the Young Adult book club took place on 08 June.
- Róisín Meaney visited on 17 June for her final story time before taking a well-deserved summer break. Also breaking for the summer is the monthly Spanish language storytelling group, 'Cuenta Cuentos,' who held their meeting 13 June.

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- Weekly toddler story time continued to entertain an ever-growing group of babies, toddlers and their accompanying adults on Wednesday mornings at 10.30am.
- June proved to be a busy month for school visits, which saw the City Library welcome 16 different class groups from primary schools, Presentation Primary School, CBS Primary School, St. Mary's National School and St. John's National School; and from the city centre English language schools Limerick Student Campus and RightWord.
- In addition to these class visits, the City Library also hosted visits from some of the school summer camps taking place in local primary schools. On 27 June, Presentation Primary School brought a group of 36 children aged seven to nine years for an introduction to the Library and a story time. On 30 June, two groups from St. Mary's National School visited for their library tour and all pledged to complete the annual Summer Stars reading challenge during their summer school break.
- On 23 June, the City Library participated in the national initiative #YourCouncilDay on Limerick City and Council's Twitter account. The City Library had nine different posts on the day highlighting some of the many activities and services offered by the library service. All posts had high levels of engagement with one particular post, a video created by City Library staff, reaching more than 6,800 views.
- Cruinníú na nÓg, the national day of free creativity for children and young people, took place on 10 June and Limerick Libraries were once again delighted to be involved. RTÉ and Creative Ireland teamed up to present This is Art!, Ireland's national young people's art competition. The theme for 2023 was 'This is Inspiration,' encouraging artists to show what inspires them and sparks their creativity, and Limerick's entries were displayed in a digital gallery in library branches across the city and county in: Abbeyfeale, Dooradoyle, Kilmallock, Newcastle West, Watch House Cross and City Library. In the weeks leading up to the day itself, families were invited to call in to one of the seven

full-time branches to take away a set of spinning plates as part of the Circus Explored theme, and were also given a link to a video showing them tips and tricks. Each of the seven branches has kept sets for families to borrow over the coming months.

- Glin Library welcomed Claire Flynn from Mental Health Ireland on 07 June for an informative talk on mental health and wellbeing, followed by a lively Question and Answer session. The event was organised and funded by West Limerick Resources. It was a full house for a chair yoga session delivered by instructor, Joanne O'Callaghan, on 08 June. This Healthy Ireland in Your Library event was so popular that requests have been flying in for another session. A local scrabble club returned to playing in the library for the month of June, meeting two to three mornings a week. Glin Library's book club has continued meeting across two days to accommodate its growing numbers, meeting on the 14 and 15 of the month. On 14 June, the library received a surprise visit from second/third class students from St. Fergus National School. Having received an invitation from library staff to sign up for Summer Stars, they returned the following week to collect their colourful bags and reading cards.
- Rathkeale Library hosted an exhibition of paintings by the girls from Fifth Class in St. Anne's Primary School. The exhibition, which featured paintings of Frida Kahlo, was launched on 09 June and sponsored by Rathkeale Together. The paintings are all for sale, with the proceeds going to the school. The library also hosted seven class visits during the month from local primary schools, and a creative writing workshop, which was facilitated by library staff, and a co-ordinator from Fighting Words.
- Adare Library was the venue for Acorn Tablet training classes, which took place on 21 and 28 June. The Acorn Tablet is an Age-Friendly smart tablet designed with the older person in mind and Limerick Libraries have acquired seven in total for loaning to borrowers. The attendees borrowed the tablet for three weeks once the training was finished.

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- Newcastle West Library continued weekly activities including the knitting group, class visits and sessions in the Sensory Area. On 14 June, the branch invited thirty children from Mrs. Brosnan's Third Class at Courtenay National School for a talk on recycling from Repak Ireland.
- Kilmallock Library launched its "Summer Stars" reading challenge at the beginning of June and children flocked to receive their registration cards and free book-bags.
- Mid-West Aries (Advancing Recovery in Ireland Education Service) presented two very effective and inspiring wellbeing workshops at Kilmallock Library. On 15 June, the workshop focused on "Creativity for Wellbeing" to broaden people's understanding of creativity and how to weave it into our daily lives. Twenty-five adults eagerly participated and many registered for the workshop on the following week. On 22 June, the theme was "Journaling for Wellbeing." Journaling has long been recognised as an effective way to reduce stress, help with depression and anxiety, focus the mind, and organise your life.
- On 24 June, Kilmallock Library celebrated the opening of The GAFF'S audio and photographic exhibition "Tiny Little Histories," a community-sharing programme that brings untold histories from the Mid-West to life. THE GAFF is a resource for community and voluntary arts in Limerick, facilitating direct connection between artists, communities and the wider public. Through a collaborative arts methodology, Tiny Little Histories embraces a layer of oral history that too often disappears with the passing of generations. [The Gaff](#) with [Creative Communities Midwest](#) invited artists and community groups to share cultural and historical experiences with the intention of bringing them to public audiences through digital platforms. Then, working with UK-based artist, Lowri Evans, and curator, Maeve McGrath, artists working with community groups excavated these stories, bringing them into the public domain through this audio installation.
- The branch was delighted to welcome 32 children on two Summer Camps with Scoil Mocheallóg, Kilmallock, for a morning of storytelling, singing, and crafting on

28 June. Little Readers continued on 30 June for an interactive session of nursery rhymes, song, stories and crafting with refreshments for young and old.

- Dooradoyle Library was the venue for a series of Beginner Social Media Workshops organised by The Women's Shed, Limerick. The group met weekly on Thursday evenings for a period of four weeks where members learned how to set up an email account, search the internet and use Facebook, Twitter and Instagram.
- To date, 450 children have registered for the Summer Stars Programme in Dooradoyle Library.
- Dooradoyle Library's latest exhibition, 'Through The Looking Glass,' was officially opened on 02 June, with approximately sixty people in attendance on the night. The exhibits, by local artist, Tarah Scott, were a mix of paintings, sculpture and fine art prints. The exhibition ran for the month of June.
- The branch was delighted to welcome sixty Fifth Class students from Monaleen National School on 14 June for a special awards ceremony. Having completed a Book Review Project with the library, children attended the library for a visual quiz, followed by a certificate presentation. All of the book reviews were on display in the library.
- The monthly book club met on 29 June where they discussed their latest novel, 'The Glass Hotel,' by Emily St. John Mandel. The First Friday Book Club met to discuss 'In Kiltumper: A Year in an Irish Garden,' by Niall Williams and Christine Breen.
- Regular visits from Catherine McAuley School, Health Service Executive Training Centre and the National Learning Network continued throughout the month.
- There were 20 onsite visits by researchers to the Local Studies Department. These comprised 12 research sessions on the archives of local and national newspapers, three on the FindMyPast site, and five on material from the Local Studies and Archives collections. There were 17 remote queries,

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submitted by email or telephone. The editing of essays and the collection and scanning of images, for the Department's Decade of Centenaries' volume on Protestant life in Limerick during the revolutionary period, continued. Work on the new Local Studies website was further progressed and some new acquisitions were added to stock.

- In Watch House Cross Library, classes continued to run weekly for those seeking international protection who are living in the Knockalisheen Centre. The English language classes and driver theory classes were facilitated by a tutor from The Limerick and Clare Education and Training Board with 30 people attending.
- June featured many class visits with children returning their library books before the school holidays. Gaelscoil Sáirséal Third and Fourth Classes, Thomond Primary Third and Fourth Classes, and Corpus Christi First and Second Classes visited and heard all about the summer Stars Programme and were encouraged to join and enjoy reading during the summer.
- 10 June was an amazing day of creativity celebrating Criunnu na nÓg with 25 children participating in a workshop designing sets and filming stop motion Lego movies.
- The Lego Club continued on 16 June with some highly skilled and imaginative creations.
- On 21 June, the branch was delighted to welcome pupils from Corpus Christi and the Green Schools' Committee to meet with Claire from Repack, an environmental not-for-profit organisation. The children heard all about the need for, and value of, recycling and were engaged and had loads of questions on the day.
- Helium Arts, the charity working with children and young people with lifelong health conditions, continued with their monthly art and craft session in the library on 24 June. This series of arts-based workshops creates safe and inclusive spaces that inspire creativity, spark friendships, and improve

mental health and wellbeing for children and young people coping with long-term illness.

- Caherdavin Girls' Primary School Literacy and Numeracy Camp visited on 27 June with 40 children and 10 staff. The girls were given a tour of the library, chose some books to take home and were invited to participate in the Summer Stars Programme.
- Caherdavin Boys' Primary School Literacy and Numeracy Camp visited the library on 28 June with twenty children and five staff.
- The Friday Adult Book Club held its last meeting before the summer holidays on 30 June. The book choice in June was Marianne Lee's debut novel, *A Quiet Tide*. Set in the early 1800's, this book is a fictionalised account of the life of Irish botanist, Ellen Hutchins. It was a huge hit with the club, getting a 10 out of 10.
- The Parent and Toddler Group celebrated the last meeting before the summer holidays on 30 June, with lots of rhymes, song and some stories.
- Storytime was held each Thursday during the month. World Refugee Day was marked with stories to celebrate the day. The Sensory Room had 70 bookings in June with 160 users in total.

## Arts

### OPEN CALLS

#### Strategic Fund for Culture and Arts Scheme 2023

Limerick Arts Office manages the 2023 Strategic Fund for Culture and Arts Scheme. The purpose of the Scheme is to support the maximising of the leveraging of funding into Limerick from national and international sources and to support a vibrant creative culture. In June, 11 letters of support were issued.

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## Gradam Bliantúil Filíochta i gCuimhne ar Mhícheál Ó hAirtnéide 2023 / Michael Hartnett Annual Poetry Award 2023

This annual award closed for application on 16 June following an open call out. It was established by Limerick County Council and is jointly funded by Limerick City and County Council and The Arts Council to mark Michael Hartnett's contribution to literature in English and Irish. The Michael Hartnett Annual Poetry Award is awarded in alternate years to books of poetry in the Irish and English language. This year, 2023, the award will be made to a poet writing in Irish. A prize of €4,000 will be awarded to the winning poet on the basis of a second or subsequent book of poetry, published in the last three years, i.e. 2020 – 2022. This year's adjudicators are poets, Áine Uí Fhoghlu and Paddy Bushe, who are currently assessing applications.

## Limerick Culture Night 2023

The deadline for receipt of applications for Culture Night 2023 from the Limerick Culture and Arts Community was 30 June at 4pm. Expressions of interest for grant support were requested as part of the online registration process. Limerick Culture Night is supported each year by the Arts Council in partnership with Limerick City and County Council.

## CREATIVE IRELAND

### Cruinníu na nÓg 2023

Cruinníu na nÓg is a national day of creativity for children and young people, that celebrates and encourages participation in culture and creativity through performance, theatre, art and music workshops, readings, screenings, special events and much more. Cruinníu na nÓg is a flagship initiative funded by Creative Ireland Programme's Creative Youth Plan to enable the creative potential of children and young people. All events are free of charge, child-centred and activity based. It is a day for lots of doing, making and creating.

Limerick Arts Office, in partnership with Fresh Film, provided a series of free workshops, activities and performances across the city and county which took place on 10 June for children and young people to take part and enjoy. The programme was delivered in partnership with the Library Service, Hunt Museum, Music Generation, Irish Chamber Orchestra Youth Orchestra, Emerging Limerick Filmmakers, King's Island Lego Club, the Limerick and Clare Local Creative Youth Partnership and Glórach Theatre, Abbeyfeale, to deliver a wide ranging and exciting programme for the day! Limerick also engaged in several national youth arts initiatives including Circus Explored, Youth Theatre Ireland Taster workshops, Rap Music Workshops with Rhyme Island and This Is Art, a national art competition.

Programme highlights included Open Air Movie in The People's Park! Film Screening: Moana. Arriving with blankets and popcorn, children and young people and their families enjoyed a feature film for all ages presented on a large LED screen in the beautiful setting of The People's Park. Silent films were set to music by the Irish Chamber Orchestra Youth Orchestra, Lego workshops with stop motion animation and VR headsets went down a treat in UL City Campus, and taster workshops took place in drama groups across the county.

Limerick City and County Council secured additional funding of €4,550 to deliver events that targeted equality, human rights and diversity as part of Cruinníu na nÓg 2023. This programme included Shadow Animation @ the Ark, University Hospital Limerick, and partner event workshops with Ukrainian teenagers. For the Shadow Animation, local animator, Dr. Emma Fisher-Owen, designed an animation work pack for children and young people who were in hospital on Cruinníu na nÓg. These packs each contained shadow puppets, backgrounds and materials to colour them in, along with instructions on how to make your own shadow puppet animation film!

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## Cruinníu na nÓg Advisory Group

The Cruinníu na nÓg Advisory Group debriefing meeting took place on 21 June. Joining Limerick Arts Office and Fresh Film were representatives from Innovate Limerick - Film in Limerick, Limerick Libraries and Limerick City Gallery of Art.

## Creative Communities on a Shared Island Fund application

The Creative Ireland Programme developed the Creative Communities - Shared Island Initiative that seeks to build on the experience and expertise of local authorities' existing strategic north-south and east-west (Ireland-Britain) ambitions and transform them into a collaborative network across the island of Ireland. It intends to recognise and utilise the inherent creativity of all who live on the island of Ireland.

The project that Limerick City and County Council submitted focused on supporting collaboration and exchanges between lace-maker groups and heritage institutions on the island of Ireland. This application is in collaboration with voluntary experienced groups, Friends of Lace Limerick, and the South Armagh Lace Collective and involving Limerick Museum, Armagh County Museum and Cork Public Museum. The long-term goal is to create and promote a lace trail through the majority of historical lacemaking centres on the island of Ireland. Limerick Arts Office coordinated the application and submitted it in June.

## ARTS COUNCIL FRAMEWORK AGREEMENT PROGRAMME

### Culture Night Late Funding Application

Limerick Arts Office applied for Culture Night Late Funding, securing an additional €16,000 from the Arts Council from the Culture Night Late Funding Scheme, to host a flagship event in Limerick for Culture Night 2023. Limerick has hosted two previous flagship events for Culture Night, both in King John's Castle, showcasing emerging talent across Hip-Hop and Electronic Dance

Music. Limerick will showcase emerging talent, in the large-scale event, late into the night.

### River Residencies - Invitation to Collaboration

Limerick was lead partner on this Arts Council funded Invitation to Collaboration project with the Arts Offices in Cavan, Clare, and Tipperary, and Ormston House as artistic lead. Over the past two years, artists met with communities in rural locations along the River Shannon in Clare, Cavan, Limerick and Tipperary. Final reporting documents were prepared and submitted to the Arts Council in June.

### Limerick City Gallery of Art (LCGA)

- Diana Copperwhite's exhibition, *Onomatopoeia*, finished on 25 June and was visited by 9,887 people. It was curated by Aoife Ruane and presented as a national tour with financial support from The Arts Council Touring Award. Copperwhite is from Co. Limerick and she has gained a significant national and international profile over her thirty-year career.
- A selection of works from the Permanent Collection forms the basis of a very fine representation from The Collection on exhibit in the East Gallery and the first floor galleries, including works by seminal artists from the last century including Paul Henry, Evie Hone, William Leech and Limerick artist, Walter Verling, who recently died (RIP).
- LCGA continues to collaborate with other national institutions and galleries making artworks available from the Permanent Collections for temporary exhibitions and most recently loaned work to the Model in Sligo. Talks have also commenced with Crawford Gallery in Cork. The executive are keen to ensure that the public still has access to works from their significant Permanent Collection.
- Juliette Morrison, who is currently doing an MA, by practice, at TUS - Limerick School of Art and Design (LSAD), exhibited the painting produced during her residency in the LCGA TEST SPACE programme.

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Visitors to the Gallery had the opportunity to engage with Juliette and observe an artist while she works.

- The recruitment of the Shinnors Scholar, a two year MA by practice, was awarded to LSAD graduate, Aoife Doherty. The position is for a two-year period. This initiative is a partnership with TUS, which has been in place for 16 years with eight participants to date. The focus of the Shinnors Scholar is on the development of the education programme with primary schools.
- LCGA continued to have a notable increase in school groups, foreign visitors from EU, South America (particularly Brazil), USA, and Ukraine, which suggests that there are significant opportunities for LCGA to grow this audience.
- LCGA continued to collaborate with local community groups, facilitating meetings for U3A (University of the 3<sup>rd</sup> Age) with meetings held three times in the month, hosting meetings with The Wheel and Helium and a concert/performance with the Irish Chamber Orchestra youth orchestra.
- LCGA hosted a photographic exhibition by Limerick College of Further Education students which ended on 02 June.

## Limerick Museum

- On 15 June, the Mayor of the City and County of Limerick, Councillor Francis Foley, performed the Official Opening of *Riband*, an art exhibition by Pauline Flynn, in Limerick Museum. 'Riband' is the title of Pauline Flynn's new work based on the ribbons of the military medals on display in the Museum. The exhibition showed how a simple starting point could inspire an artist towards an exciting and very creative group of paintings. As part of the Opening, the Curator gave a short talk on the history of the Museum's collection of military medals and Pauline Flynn recited some of her poems.
- Pauline Flynn is a visual artist/poet. She studied at the National College of Art & Design, University College Dublin, the Art Institute of Chicago and Kyoto

University of Arts. She has worked as a professional artist since 1985 and has exhibited in Ireland, United Kingdom, Japan and China. Her imagery is abstract, acrylic on canvas. Her work is influenced by the Bauhaus and Japanese aesthetics. She was selected for the Beijing International Art Biennale in 2022. Her poetry is published in Literary Journals in Ireland, UK and USA. She lives and works in County Wicklow.

- On 16 June, Dr. Catherine Moran, Associate Professor of American Studies of Saint Louis University, USA, who is conducting research on the links between the Good Shepherd Convents in Limerick City and Saint Louis, Missouri, visited the Museum and examined some of the Limerick lace in the permanent collection.
- On 22 June, the Assistant Curator welcomed members of the extended Unthank family from Ireland and abroad to Limerick Museum where she showed them portraits of their nineteenth-century ancestors from the Museum's permanent collection. The Untharks were a prominent Quaker merchant family in eighteenth and nineteenth-century Limerick.
- The Friends of Lace held their usual monthly meeting in the Museum on 24 June.
- As part of the Museum's new partnership with Askeaton Civic Trust, the Curator attended the events celebrating the 500th anniversary of the signing of the Desmond-Valois Treaty in 1523 in Askeaton. On 23 June, he attended a special illustrated lecture by Dr. Declan M. Downey in Askeaton Community Hall, and on 25 June, he attended the Ó Riada Mass in St. Mary's Church, Askeaton, followed by a Heraldic Pageant Procession from the Church to the Castle, a commemoration ceremony and a dramatic re-enactment of the Treaty by En-Garde.
- As part of an Irish Research Council-funded project on the archaeology of the Irish revolutionary period in East Limerick, Dr. Joanna Bruck, Professor of Archaeology in UCD, and Aidan Harte of Munster Archaeology, visited the Museum where the Assistant Curator showed them a large number of relevant objects from the Museum's permanent collection.

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## 2. Community Development

### Age Friendly Limerick

- Age Friendly Limerick attended the launch of the Limerick Women's Shed at Mungret St. Paul's GAA Club. Positive exposure was generated for the Limerick Age Friendly programme through the distribution of Age Friendly branded goodie bags and information packs on the local Age Friendly and Healthy Age Friendly Homes, to the event attendees.
- The Limerick Older People's Executive (OPE) met in Dooradoyle and a progress report was delivered by the Limerick Age Friendly Programme Manager on the ongoing work on the draft Limerick Age Friendly Strategy 2023-2028. The OPE members were also made aware of the positive publicity raised by the recent Limerick Post newspaper article.
- The team at Age Friendly Limerick marked World Elder Abuse Day by holding an event at St. Munchin's Community Centre. The Community Gardaí from Mayorstone Garda Station, members of the HSE Community Healthcare team, ALONE and Sláintecare Healthy Communities Team also attended. The Council Headquarters at Merchant's Quay was lit up purple in recognition of World Elder Abuse Awareness Day.
- Age Friendly Limerick, in collaboration with the Tourism promotion Section, arranged a familiarisation trip to the Limerick Greenway to ascertain insights and views of the OPE members on making the Greenway age friendly.

### Health and Wellbeing

- In June, Art and Craft classes continued every Thursday and Saturday at the Hunt Museum. Attendance has been steady with 57 children and 48 adults attending the family classes and 44 adults attending adult workshops. An overnight residential trip for 20 migrant young people took place in collaboration with Limerick Youth Services and Healthy Limerick.

- A migrant Women's Health and Wellbeing Fair took place at the Clayton Hotel in June. This project was a collaboration between Healthy Limerick, INTEgreat and PAUL Partnership. 22 different health related services attended, including screening services, and over 90 women attended.
- The Healthy Ireland Coordinator took part in an information exchange visit to the Hohenlohe region of Germany to hear about the approach there to migrant health and wellbeing and to visit migrant accommodation centres in the region.
- The completion of the Community Garden in Saint Mary's Park has successfully provided a vibrant space where people can come together, foster community cohesion and promote environmental awareness.
- In June the revival of the community fishing competition in the King's Island area was supported. This event has proven to be an effective means of engaging the local community with their natural environment and fostering a sense of pride and ownership.
- In collaboration with the Thomondgate Residents' Association, The Housing Community Sustainment Team and Healthy Communities supported a mural project in Thomondgate.

### Integration

On 19 June, the Mayor of the City and County of Limerick, Councillor Francis Foley, launched the "Limerick United against Racism" campaign.

An InteGreat EU project mid-term conference took place in Gothenburg, Sweden, at the beginning of June and a presentation was given on the multi-agency strategic approach undertaken in Limerick. This was viewed as an example of good practice.

On 21 June, a meeting with members of the migrant community was held to consider the establishment of a Migrant Forum in Limerick. It was agreed that such a Forum would be very positive and will be explored further.

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## Outdoor Recreation Infrastructure Scheme

- The 2023 Outdoor Recreation Infrastructure Scheme (ORIS) launched and is expected to provide funding of €16 million for the development of new outdoor recreational infrastructure and the necessary repair, enhancement or promotion of existing outdoor recreational infrastructure in countryside areas. The type of activities supported by the Scheme include trails, cycleways, Blueways, bridleways, as well as outdoor amenities located near rivers, lakes, beaches and on upland areas. *'Embracing Ireland's Outdoors'* sets out the future of outdoor recreation over the next five years.
- On 16 June, Community Development invited Expressions of Interest (EOI), through My Point under all Measures of the Scheme as follows: Project Development Measure: Development Costs for Strategic Large Scale Projects – Grant up €50,000; Measure 1: Small Scale Repair/Development/Promotion and Marketing - Grant up €30,000, Measures 2: Medium Scale Repair/Upgrade and New Trail/Amenity Development – Grant up to €200,000 and Measure 3: Strategic Large Scale Repair/Upgrade and New Strategic Trail/Amenity Development – Grant up to €500,000.

## Public Participation Network (PPN) Limerick

- Membership of PPN Limerick continues to grow and stands at 190. The membership registration form is on the Limerick PPN [website](#) and eligible groups in Limerick can register at any time.
- Two Linkage group meetings were held in June: Home and Social Development Meeting and Economic Development, Enterprise and Planning.
- PPN Limerick completed and submitted its annual report to the Department of Rural and Community Development.
- The Secretariat hosted a meeting for the Representatives to discuss issues they may be

experiencing and supports they would benefit from.

- Two nominations were received following the closing date for the vacant community/voluntary Strategic Policy Committee seats. These nominations were for one seat on the Climate Action, Biodiversity and Environment Strategic Policy Committee and the other for the Community, Leisure and Culture Strategic Policy Committee.

## Environmental Awareness

- On 16 June, the annual Going for Gold competition was launched by the Mayor of the City and County of Limerick, Councillor Francis Foley, and the JP McManus Charitable Foundation, on the banks of the River Shannon in Castleconnell. The overall aim of the competition is to make Limerick a cleaner, brighter place to work, live and visit.
- Over €50,000 in grant assistance has been distributed to communities so far this year to assist groups prepare for the annual competition. The funding is applied for under the Limerick Going for Gold Environment Improvement Grant Scheme, jointly funded by Limerick City and County Council and the by JP McManus Charitable Foundation.
- This year, the competition element of Going for Gold is expected to have over €60,000 in prizes to be distributed across a number of categories including: Tidy Towns Category, Limerick Bee Friendly in Bloom, Residential Areas, Judges Award, Reuse Award and Best Front Garden Category.

## Your Council Day

To mark "Your Council Day," the team participated in this Social Media Campaign across a number of platforms highlighting our programmes.

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## 3. Property Management

Dereliction, Vacancy and Reuse Team	
Site Inspections Completed	207
Department Notices of Inquiry issued	31
Derelict Sites Cases opened	17
Statutory Notices served under the Derelict Sites Act 1990	47
Derelict Sites Cases closed through engagement	10
Properties entered into the Derelict Sites Register	11
Properties proposed for Compulsory Acquisition (Section 15 Notices)	0
Vesting Orders Made for Properties Acquired Compulsorily (Section 17 Notices)	12
Croí Cónaithe Applications Approved	12



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## Regeneration, Sports and Recreation Directorate

### 1. Regeneration and Sports

#### Regeneration

The Council has appointed KPMG to prepare a status update of the Limerick Regeneration Framework Implementation Plan (LRFIP 2014-2023). KPMG met with the relevant key stakeholders to discuss the draft findings and recommendations for the four communities. The Limerick Regeneration Status Update will assess the current position and make recommendations for the future strategic direction of Limerick's Regeneration Programme to 2030 including across social, economic and physical objectives. Feedback sessions took place in June with the regeneration committees and local residents on the Limerick Regeneration Status Update Report. A draft is being finalised for submission to the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage.

#### Economic Regeneration

##### Outreach to Employment Programme

A review of the programme in June showed that significant progress is being made with both the employer and the engagement from the communities:

- 16 new employers engaged for 2023.
- 85 Participants are currently engaged across the four Regeneration areas in the Outreach to Employment Programme.
- Employment Meetings were established in Ballinacurra Weston and Southill in June. Monthly employment meetings continued in St. Mary's Park and Moyross throughout the month engaging with the relevant stakeholders in the training and employment field.
- New employers have also been recruited for the next Jobs Fair.

Any enquiries can be made to [outreachtoemployment@limerick.ie](mailto:outreachtoemployment@limerick.ie)

#### Social Regeneration

##### Economic and Social Intervention Fund (ESIF) Update

Following the approval of additional submissions under the Economic and Social Intervention Fund 2023, the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage has now approved over 190 ESIF projects to the value of €3,983,264. The recent tranche of approvals included funding to support the development of a Multi-Use Games Area in St. Mary's Park and funding to support Southill Afterschool's Club CLG.

The Directorate continues to support organisations with their drawdown of the Economic and Social Intervention Fund (ESIF) Grants 2023. Ongoing evaluation and coordination work continues with the ESIF recipients.

18 site visits to fund recipients were conducted throughout the month of June, which served to highlight the scale and breadth of work that the Economic and Social Intervention Fund currently supports in the city.

A meeting of one of the Local Strategic Advisory Monitoring Group's sub-committees, Families and Youth at Risk, was held during the month of June. At this meeting, organisations and funding streams were discussed.

Visits from the Tipperary Town Revitalisation Taskforce and Queens University were also facilitated during the month of June. Site visits were conducted in all four Regeneration areas and provided the Directorate with a wonderful opportunity to showcase the social and economic initiatives happening in the communities.

Visits by Councillors and members of the Oireachtas to several ESIF projects were also convened during the month of June and served to highlight the Fund's critical role in the ongoing evolution of the Regeneration communities.

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## Community Activities

### Southside

Dr. Niall Muldoon, the Ombudsman for Children, visited Childworld Crèche in Our Lady of Lourdes Parish to celebrate its newly launched Early Years Family Guide. The Ombudsman was joined by children, parents, staff, the manager, Yvonne Galvin, and the Chair of the Board, Senator Maria Byrne. Mr. Muldoon was most impressed by the vibrancy of the setting and the innovation of the staff in co-producing the album booklet with parents.

Turnout was high at the Southill Community Health Information Day. Services on offer included health screening, information stands, healthy eating advice, mental health advice, yoga workshop and complimentary breakfast. The event was organised by Southill Family Resource Centre and supported by Tusla. Another great example of Southill Stronger Together Collaboration.

Southill wildflower projects took place in the estates, as well as expanding into neighbouring schools, as part of the All-Ireland 2021-2025 pollinator plan. Southill Residents' Association and the Tidy Towns group supplied the topsoil and wildflower seeds to the Southill Hub, Southill After-School Club, Southill Allotments Group, O'Malley Park Grotto and the Le Chéile and Our Lady Queen of Peace Schools. A new flowerbed has been installed on the Old Lilac Store site and wildflowers have been added and are currently in bloom.

Limerick crest painting - Southill Tidy Towns and Residents' Group have proudly painted an ESB substation with the Limerick crest using paint from Relove Paint, a Tait House enterprise which re-uses donated water-based paint from Mungret Recycling Centre and upcycles it into premium quality paint.

### Northside

Strengthening Communities initiative meeting was hosted by St. Mary's Park for the Regeneration communities. The project is being well received.

Care and Repair Scheme saw another 10 new clients identified in St. Mary's Park.

Dissemination of a Useful Contacts leaflet was done in Nicholas Street, Athlunkard Street and the Abbey River area.

## Physical Regeneration

### Housing Developments

- Roof works to Colivet Court in Southill are ongoing.
- Construction of the new eight-unit social housing development at Sheep Street / Athlunkard Street on King's Island continued.
- Construction of the new 57-unit social housing development at Cosgrave Park and Dalgaish Park, Moyross continued.
- Construction of the new 37-unit social housing development at Churchfield (Phase 2) Southill continued.
- Construction of the new 18-unit social housing development at Cliona Park (Phase 3), Moyross continued.
- Construction of the 14 units by the Peter McVerry Trust in Delmege Park, Moyross, is complete and now in the process of being occupied.
- Preparations are currently being completed for the 27-Unit Orchard Site King's Island. An advance archaeological excavation is being prepared ahead of the main development works.
- An Architect-led Integrated Design Team was appointed for the design of the proposed 20-unit Cliona Park Phase 4 social housing development in Moyross.

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- The status of the thermal upgrade projects is as follows:
  - Thermal Upgrade Contract No. 122, St. Mary's Park - construction works are completing.
  - Thermal Upgrade Contract No. 126, Southill (50 units) - Phase 4 of works is nearing completion.
  - Thermal Upgrade Contract No. 127, Ballinacurra Weston (12 units) - is starting on site.
  - Thermal Upgrade Contract No. 130 - scoping in Pineview Gardens completed and currently compiling information for the Stage 3 submission to the Department

Preparation works are ongoing for the following contracts:

- Thermal Upgrade Contract No. 121, Moyross (47 units).
- Thermal Upgrade Contract No. 121A, Moyross (18 units).
- Thermal Upgrade Contract No. 123, Southill (53 units).
- Thermal Upgrade Contract No. 125A, St. Mary's Park (26 units).
- Thermal Upgrade Contract No. 128/129, St. Mary's Park (25 units).

## House Refurbishments

- Following Department approval, Consultant appointed to scope nine major refurbishment properties (Lot4a).
- Following Department approval, Consultant appointed to scope 11 major refurbishment properties (Lot 4b).

## Community Facilities

Southill Play Area and Associated Landscaping. The Part 8 planning permission submission for the play space and associated landscaping for Castle Oaks View Road was lodged on 26 June for six weeks public consultation. This submission is currently on display in Merchant's Quay and Dooradoyle, as well as being available online.

## Sports Partnership

- Local Sports Partnership (LSP) secured €35,000 under the energy scheme to assist Clubs and Community Groups, who own their facilities, with their energy costs.
- The LSP allocated €63,000 under their Club/Community Group Grant Scheme in June to 80 groups delivering sport and physical activity across the county.
- The LSP has a suite of Physical Activity Programmes in-person across the City and County. In total 1,100 participants engaged. Programmes include:
  - Men on the Move
  - Women in Sport
  - Youth Leadership
  - Cool Movers and Inclusion Club
  - Engaging Youths from Disadvantaged Communities
  - Community Leadership Education courses
  - Older Adult Good2Go Hubs at eight sites
- Community Sports Hub Activities in Garryowen and Moyross are engaging numbers across all target groups. Sláintecare Healthy Communities programmes are ongoing in CHN8 (HSE Community Health Network No. 8).
- The LSP Physical Activity for Health Officer has started delivering programmes supporting those with Chronic Condition.

For more information on programmes and activities, visit [www.limericksports.ie](http://www.limericksports.ie)

## 2. Askeaton Pool and Leisure Ltd

A scoping exercise for the works required at Askeaton Pool and Leisure Centre has been completed and tender documents are being prepared for publication shortly to establish the cost of the works with a view to re-opening the facility at the earliest possible time.

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## Housing Directorate

### 1. Housing Support Services

#### Housing Waiting List

Approved Housing Applicants	2,485
Approved Tenant Transfer Applicants	357

#### Closed Housing Applications

	June	Year to Date
Closed Applications	33	282

Applications are returned/closed for the following reasons:

- Failure to satisfy the eligibility criteria for social housing support as set out in legislation.
- Failure to submit a complete application and/or further information required.
- Applicants who have been housed by Limerick City and County Council or an Approved Housing Body.
- Applicants who wish to apply to another local authority or are no longer interested in social housing support.

#### Allocations

	No. of Units June	Year to Date
Adare-Rathkeale	1	6
Newcastle West	1	11
Metropolitan District	14	106
Cappamore-Kilmallock	4	18
<b>Total</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>141</b>

#### Refusals

	No. of Units June	Year to Date
Adare-Rathkeale	0	1
Newcastle West	0	1
Metropolitan District	2	14
Cappamore-Kilmallock	1	2
<b>Total</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>18</b>

#### Approved Housing Body Allocations 2023 (year to date)

Total Nominations	Successful Nominations	Nominations Pending	Unsuccessful Nominations
125	60	49	16

#### Rental Accommodation Scheme (RAS)

Private Tenancies	710
Capital Assistance Scheme/Rental Accommodation Scheme Tenancies	527
Part V	1
New Private Tenancies	3
New Voluntary Housing Tenancies	0

#### Housing Assistance Payments Limerick (HAP)

2,148 active HAP Tenancies monitored, reviewed and maintained.

No. of HAP tenancies set up this month	15
No. of Amendments	395
No. of Cessations	32

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## RENT COLLECTION

Rent Collection Limerick City and County Council					
Opening Balance	Accrued Income	Total for collection	Receipts	Closing Balance	% Collection
€5,916,167	€9,765,982	€15,682,149	€9,256,218	€6,425,931	60%

## HOME IMPROVEMENT SCHEMES

June 2023		Adare-Rathkeale	Newcastle West	Metropolitan	Cappamore-Kilmallock	Total
Mobility Aid Grants	No. Approved	0	0	7	2	9
	MAG Expenditure	€0.00	€15,867.53	€17,150.00	€9,730.00	<b>€42,747.53</b>
	No. Paid	0	3	3	2	8
<hr/>						
Housing Adaptation Grants	No. Approved	1	3	22	4	30
	HAG Expenditure	€9,652.84	€74,052.45	€101,617.30	€20,311.50	<b>€205,634.09</b>
	No. Paid	1	8	17	4	30
<hr/>						
Housing Aid for Older People	No. Approved	6	10	9	4	29
	HOP Expenditure	€10,052.50	€41,946.10	€99,223.95	€19,867.75	<b>€171,090.30</b>
	No. Paid	4	9	25	4	42
<hr/>						
Disabled Person's Grant	DPG Expenditure	€0.00	€0.00	€0.00	€0.00	<b>€0.00</b>
	No. Paid	0	0	0	0	0

Total No. Approved	68
Total Monies Paid	<b>€419,471.92</b>
Total No. Paid	80

# Chief Executive's Report



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**Limerick** City  
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## HOME IMPROVEMENT SCHEMES - Year to Date

Jan - June 2023		Adare-Rathkeale	Newcastle West	Metropolitan	Cappamore-Kilmallock	Total
Mobility Aid Grants	No. Approved	6	5	29	6	<b>46</b>
	MAG Expenditure	€16,345.00	€34,417.03	€91,469.00	€18,855.00	<b>€161,086.03</b>
	No. Paid	4	7	18	4	<b>33</b>
<hr/>						
Housing Adaptation Grants	No. Approved	24	33	86	37	<b>180</b>
	HAG Expenditure	€118,553.80	€283,270.45	€660,898.37	€257,923.50	<b>€1,320,646.12</b>
	No. Paid	19	27	97	29	<b>172</b>
<hr/>						
Housing Aid for Older People	No. Approved	52	54	113	45	<b>264</b>
	HOP Expenditure	€143,315.48	€234,011.10	€565,434.57	€128,851.75	<b>€1,071,612.90</b>
	No. Paid	34	49	118	29	<b>230</b>
<hr/>						
Disabled Person's Grant	DPG Expenditure	€2,150.83	€2,434.58	€38,249.50	€25,332.00	<b>€68,166.91</b>
	No. Paid	1	1	1	4	<b>7</b>

YTD Total No. Approved	<b>490</b>
YTD Total Monies Paid	<b>€2,621,511.96</b>
YTD Total No. Paid	<b>442</b>

# Chief Executive's Report



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## Community Sustainment Unit

### Tenancy Inductions

No. of Tenancy Inductions	28
---------------------------	----

### House Visits

No. of House Visits	365
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### Sugar CRM (Customer Relationship Management) Cases

Active cases at month-end	299
Cases closed during month	62

### Limerick Homeless Action Team – Pathway Accommodation and Support System (PASS) Data

Date: 15 June 2023		
Individuals		
Location	Description	Beds Used
McGarry House	Mixed Low threshold accommodation for singles	38
Oak Lodge	Adults without children accommodated in low threshold emergency accommodation	59
Thomond House	Higher threshold accommodation for single females	24
St. Joseph Street	Higher threshold accommodation for single females	6
B&B (no children)	Adults without children accommodated in B&B	21
Temporary Emergency Provision TEP 1 (Edenvilla)	Low threshold, night-by-night (9pm-9am) emergency accommodation. Mixed	17
Phoenix Lodge	Low threshold emergency accommodation for single adults	9
<b>Total</b>		<b>174</b>

# Chief Executive's Report



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Families					
Location	Description	Beds Used			Families
		Adults	Children		
Suaimhneas	Family Emergency accommodation	5	7		5
B&B/Hotel Accommodation	Families	76	91		56
Twin Oaks Family Hub	Family Hub	14	13		10
<b>Totals</b>		<b>Adults</b>	<b>Children</b>	<b> </b>	<b>71</b>
		95	111		

## Tenant Purchase/Ground Rent/Deed of Discharge/ Consent to Sale/Cottage Purchase Annuity details:

<b>Tenant Purchase</b>	
Tenant Purchase Applications: No. received	4
Tenant Purchase Applications: No. approved	6
<b>Local Authority Home Loans</b>	
Loan Applications: No. received	6
Loan Applications: No. approved	6
<b>Deed of Discharge</b>	
Deed of Discharge Applications: No. Received	21
<b>Consent to Sale</b>	
Consent to Sale Applications: No. Received	6
<b>Cottage Purchase Annuity</b>	
No. of Cottage Purchase Annuity Applications	5
<b>Ground Rent</b>	
No. of Ground Rent applications	4
<b>Title</b>	
Title Deeds Received/Requested	2
Title Rectification Received	0
<b>Private Rented Inspections</b>	
No. of Inspections	230 and one mortgage rent inspection

## Freedom of Information, Data Requests and Ombudsman

<b>Freedom of Information requests</b>	2
<b>Ombudsman Query Cases</b>	3
<b>Data Access Requests</b>	3

## 2. Housing Welfare and Traveller Accommodation

### \* Traveller Accommodation

<b>No. of Units offered June</b>	2
<b>Year to Date</b>	15

These figures are included in Allocations Figures and Approved Housing Body Allocations\*

### Housing Welfare Visits

<b>No. of Visits June</b>	25
<b>Year to Date</b>	166

# Chief Executive's Report



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## 3. Local Authority Housing Construction and Maintenance

### Local Authority Housing Construction

House Returns June	
Total	4

House Returns June By Municipal District	
Adare-Rathkeale	1
Cappamore-Kilmallock	0
Newcastle West	1
Metropolitan District	2
<b>Total</b>	<b>4</b>

During June, Local Authority Housing Construction Team was notified of one house returned in the Municipal District of Adare-Rathkeale, 0 in the Municipal District of Cappamore-Kilmallock, one in the Municipal District of Newcastle West and two in the Metropolitan District of Limerick.

Current Working Programme		
	Completed in June	In Progress
Local Authority Construction Team	5	96
Local Authority Maintenance Team	7	101
Approved Housing Body stock transfer in process	0	26
Regeneration Team	0	40
Team to be assigned	N/A	6
<b>Total</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>269</b>

In June, works on seven properties were completed by Local Authority Maintenance and works on five properties were completed by Local Authority Construction.

There are three teams in Limerick City and County Council assigned to refurbish properties. As of June, the Local Authority Construction Team was in the process of completing works in 96 properties, Local Authority Maintenance was working on 101 properties and the Regeneration Team had 40 properties. Approved Housing Body stock transfer in process - 26 properties. Six properties were in the process of being assigned to a team.

### Project Updates

- Contractor appointed for refurbishment works at property in Caherdavin, Limerick.
- Appointment of contractor for archaeological impact assessment at site in Ardagh.
- Contractor appointed for refurbishment works at property in Askeaton and property in Rathkeale.
- Mechanical and Electrical Consultant appointed for housing development in Patrickswell.
- Contractor appointed for refurbishment works at property in Garryowen, Limerick.
- Contractor appointed for refurbishment works at property in Cappamore and property in Kilteely.
- Appointment of Architects and Quantity Surveyor at site on Convent Street, Limerick.
- Two houses have been completely refurbished and keys handed to allocations - one house in Kennedy Park, Limerick, and one house in Lower Carey's Road, Limerick.

# Chief Executive's Report



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## Finance

- Applications for funding totaling €1,296,651.70, issued to the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage.
- The Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage paid €767,883.00 in claims made.

## Local Authority Maintenance

Local Authority Houses: Maintenance Complaints dealt with during June

Housing Maintenance Cases - June	Requests/Cases Created	Cases Dealt With/Closed	Balance of Open Cases at 30.06.2023
Metropolitan District of Limerick	629	605	1,511
Municipal District of Adare-Rathkeale	78	97	268
Municipal District of Cappamore-Kilmallock	127	138	186
Municipal District of Newcastle West	92	87	675
<b>Total</b>	<b>926</b>	<b>927</b>	<b>2,640</b>

# Chief Executive's Report



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## Grants Inspections

### Metropolitan District of Limerick – Inspections and Recommendations for Home Improvement Schemes/Disability Adaptations – June

Inspection Types	Pre-application	Initial Inspection	Re-inspection	Final Inspections after Works completed	Total Inspections by Grant Type
MAGs (Mobility Adaptation Grant Scheme)	0	5	0	1	6
HAGs (Housing Adaptation Grant Scheme)	1	17	0	13	31
HOPS (Housing Aid for Older Persons Grant Scheme)	0	20	0	21	41
DPGs (Disabled Persons Grant)	1	6	2	5	14
<b>Total Inspections by Inspection Type</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>48</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>40</b>	<b>92</b>

### Municipal District of Cappamore-Kilmallock – Inspections and Recommendations for Home Improvement Schemes/Disability Adaptations – June

Inspection Types	Pre-application	Initial Inspection	Re-inspection	Final Inspections after Works completed	Total Inspections by Grant Type
MAGs (Mobility Adaptation Grant Scheme)	0	1	0	2	3
HAGs (Housing Adaptation Grant Scheme)	0	5	2	1	8
HOPS (Housing Aid for Older Persons Grant Scheme)	0	8	1	8	17
DPGs (Disabled Persons Grant)	0	0	0	0	0
<b>Total Inspections by Inspection Type</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>28</b>

# Chief Executive's Report



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## Municipal District of Adare-Rathkeale - Inspections and Recommendations for Home Improvement Schemes/Disability Adaptations – June

Inspection Types	Pre-application	Initial Inspection	Re-inspection	Final Inspections after Works completed	Total Inspections by Grant Type
MAGs (Mobility Adaptation Grant Scheme)	0	0	0	1	1
HAGs (Housing Adaptation Grant Scheme)	0	0	0	5	5
HOPS (Housing Aid for Older Persons Grant Scheme)	0	7	0	9	16
DPGs (Disabled Persons Grant)	0	0	0	0	0
<b>Total Inspections by Inspection Type</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>22</b>

## Municipal District of Newcastle West - Inspections and Recommendations for Home Improvement Schemes/Disability Adaptations – June

Inspection Types	Pre-application	Initial Inspection	Re-inspection	Final Inspections after Works completed	Total Inspections by Grant Type
MAGs (Mobility Adaptation Grant Scheme)	0	0	0	1	1
HAGs (Housing Adaptation Grant Scheme)	0	4	0	2	6
HOPS (Housing Aid for Older Persons Grant Scheme)	0	11	0	9	20
DPGs (Disabled Persons Grant)	0	0	0	0	0
<b>Total Inspections by Inspection Type</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>27</b>

# Chief Executive's Report



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## HOUSE INSPECTIONS UNIT

Houses Inspected for Refurbishment Works and Re-Letting – June - Categories	No. of Properties Inspected
Cat 1 – minor repairs needed	1
Cat 2 – moderate repairs needed	2
Cat 3 – substantial repairs needed	1
Cat 4 – major repairs required.	1
<b>TOTAL INSPECTIONS CARRIED OUT</b>	<b>5</b>
No. of Properties Awaiting Inspection	3

## 4. Strategy & Non-Local Authority Housing Construction

### Social Housing - Delivery for 2023

Buy/Build/Lease as of 30.06.2023 is as follows:

As at 30.06.2023 (01.01.2023 – 30.06.2023)	Complete	In Progress	Overall Complete and In Progress	“Housing for All” 2023 Delivery Target
Build	4	429	433	502
Buy	18	247	265	75
Lease	2	101	103	27
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>777</b>	<b>801</b>	

\*Please note the majority of units in progress under the ‘Buy’ Stream are Notices to Quit

# Chief Executive's Report



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## Social Housing - Project Submissions and Approvals

Project Approvals received from the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage in June

Scheme	Project Details	District
Capital Advance Leasing Facility (CALF)	Approval for 17 units at Turagh Crescent, Cappamore, Co. Limerick.	Municipal District of Cappamore-Kilmallock
Social Housing Capital Expenditure Programme - Long Term Leasing	Approval for the leasing of six units in various locations in Limerick.	Metropolitan District of Limerick
Social Housing Capital Expenditure Programme - Long Term Leasing	Approval for the leasing of seven units in various locations in Limerick.	Metropolitan District of Limerick
Social Housing Capital Expenditure Programme - Short Term Leasing	Approval for the leasing of one unit in Limerick City Centre.	Metropolitan District of Limerick
Social Housing Capital Expenditure Programme Mortgage to Rent (MTR)	Approval for the acquisition by Home for Life for one unit at Church View, Askeaton, Co. Limerick.	Municipal District of Adare-Rathkeale
Social Housing Investment Programme (SHIP)	Approval for the acquisition of one unit at Churchfield, St. Patrick's Road.	Metropolitan District of Limerick
Buy and Renew	Approval for the acquisition of one unit at Barrack Hill, Wolfe Tone Street, Limerick.	Metropolitan District of Limerick
Capital Assistance Scheme (CAS)	Revised approval for the acquisition of one unit at Raheen, Limerick.	Metropolitan District of Limerick
Capital Assistance Scheme (CAS)	Revised approval for the acquisition of one unit at Fr. Russell Road, Dooradoyle, Limerick.	Metropolitan District of Limerick
Capital Assistance Scheme (CAS)	Revised approval for the acquisition of one unit at Fr. Russell Road, Dooradoyle, Limerick (not duplicate of above).	Metropolitan District of Limerick
Capital Assistance Scheme (CAS)	Approval for the turnkey acquisition of one unit at Garryowen, Limerick.	Metropolitan District of Limerick
Capital Assistance Scheme (CAS)	Stage 3 approval for Construction of eight units at Bruree, Co. Limerick.	Municipal District of Cappamore-Kilmallock
Capital Assistance Scheme (CAS)	Approval for the acquisition of one unit at Fr. Russell Road, Dooradoyle, Limerick.	Metropolitan District of Limerick

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Scheme	Project Details	District
Capital Assistance Scheme (CAS)	Approval for the acquisition of one unit at Murroe, Co. Limerick.	Municipal District of Cappamore-Kilmallock
Capital Assistance Scheme (CAS)	Approval for the acquisition of one unit at John Carew Park, Limerick.	Metropolitan District of Limerick
Capital Assistance Scheme (CAS)	Approval for the acquisition of one unit at Old Clare Street, Limerick.	Metropolitan District of Limerick
Capital Assistance Scheme (CAS)	Approval for the acquisition of one unit at Newcastle West, Co. Limerick.	Municipal District of Newcastle West
Capital Assistance Scheme (CAS)	Approval for the acquisition of one unit at Broad Street, Limerick.	Metropolitan District of Limerick
Capital Assistance Scheme (CAS)	Approval for the acquisition of one unit at Ardagh, Co. Limerick.	Municipal District of Newcastle West
Capital Assistance Scheme (CAS)	Approval for the acquisition of one unit at Bengal Terrace, Limerick.	Metropolitan District of Limerick
Capital Assistance Scheme (CAS)	Approval for the acquisition of one unit at Bengal Terrace, Limerick (not duplicate of above).	Metropolitan District of Limerick
Capital Assistance Scheme (CAS)	Approval for the acquisition of one unit at Newcastle West, Co. Limerick.	Municipal District of Newcastle West
Capital Assistance Scheme (CAS)	Delegated Sanction approval for the acquisition of one unit at Newcastle West, Co. Limerick.	Municipal District of Newcastle West
Capital Assistance Scheme (CAS)	Delegated Sanction approval for the acquisition of one unit at Dooradoyle, Limerick.	Metropolitan District of Limerick
Capital Assistance Scheme (CAS)	Delegated Sanction approval for the acquisition of one unit at Newcastle West, Co. Limerick.	Municipal District of Newcastle West
Capital Assistance Scheme (CAS)	Delegated Sanction approval for the acquisition of one unit at Corbally, Limerick.	Metropolitan District of Limerick
Capital Assistance Scheme (CAS)	Delegated Sanction approval for the acquisition of one unit at Dooradoyle, Limerick.	Metropolitan District of Limerick
Capital Assistance Scheme (CAS)	Delegated Sanction approval for the acquisition of one unit at John Carew Park, Limerick.	Metropolitan District of Limerick

# Chief Executive's Report



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## Project Submissions to the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage in June

Scheme	Project Details	District
Capital Advance Leasing Facility (CALF)	Submission for six units in various locations in Limerick City.	Metropolitan District of Limerick
Capital Advance Leasing Facility (CALF)	Submission for one unit in Carrowkeel, Woodhaven, Castletroy, Co. Limerick.	Metropolitan District of Limerick
Social Housing Capital Expenditure Programme - Long Term Leasing	Submission for the leasing of seven units in various locations in Limerick.	Metropolitan District of Limerick
Social Housing Capital Expenditure Programme - Short Term Leasing	Submission for the leasing of one unit in Limerick City Centre.	Metropolitan District of Limerick
Social Housing Capital Expenditure Programme - Long Term Leasing	Submission for the leasing of four units in various locations in Limerick.	Metropolitan District of Limerick
Social Housing Investment Programme (SHIP)	Submission for the acquisition of one unit at Churchfield, St. Patrick's Road.	Metropolitan District of Limerick
Social Housing Investment Programme (SHIP)	Submission for the turnkey acquisition of three units at Castletroy, Limerick.	Metropolitan District of Limerick
Capital Assistance Scheme (CAS)	Submission for the acquisition of one unit at Brennans Row, Limerick.	Metropolitan District of Limerick
Capital Assistance Scheme (CAS)	Submission for the acquisition of one unit at Broad Street, Limerick.	Metropolitan District of Limerick
Capital Assistance Scheme (CAS)	Submission for the acquisition of one unit at Adare, Co. Limerick.	Municipal District of Adare-Rathkeale
Capital Assistance Scheme (CAS)	Stage 1/2/3 submission for the CAS Renewal of five units at Doon, Co. Limerick.	Municipal District of Cappamore-Kilmallock
Capital Assistance Scheme (CAS)	Stage 3 submission for the Construction of four units at St. Joseph's Street, Limerick.	Metropolitan District of Limerick

# Chief Executive's Report



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## Affordable Housing - Delivery for 2023-2026

Status of Affordable Housing Scheme proposals as of 30.06.23 is as follows:

Scheme	District	Type	No. of Units	Status
Curragower	Metropolitan District of Limerick	Affordable Purchase Affordable Housing Fund	7	Affordable Housing Fund application approved. Design Team appointed and work continuing on preplanning design. Engagement with neighbours and site investigation procured and under way.
Sonny's Lands	Metropolitan District of Limerick	Cost Rental Affordable Housing Fund	19	Affordable Housing Fund application has been submitted and is awaiting approval. Serviced Sites Funding approval in principle has already been received. Development and finance strategy now agreed. Framework for Design Team consultants is being procured.
Toppins Field Lands	Metropolitan District of Limerick	Affordable Purchase Affordable Housing Fund	28 (Phase 1)	Affordable Housing Fund application submitted. Traffic and transportation assessment complete. Design team procured and in place.
Guinness Site	Metropolitan District of Limerick	Cost Rental Affordable Housing Fund	270	Memorandum of understanding signed with Land Development Agency. Design Team appointed and initial capacity analysis complete and under review. Strategy to deliver up to 300 units with the majority of units earmarked for cost-rental.
Clonmacken Lands	Metropolitan District of Limerick	Cost Rental Affordable Housing Fund	22	Awaiting completion of social housing scheme. Serviced Site Fund approved for this site. A new application under Affordable Housing Fund will be required.
Speaker's Corner	Metropolitan District of Limerick	Cost Rental Expression of Interest Site with Approved Housing Body	18	Part 8 process for 36 residential units has concluded and the tender/detailed design stage is underway.
New Road, Thomondgate	Metropolitan District of Limerick	Cost Rental Expression of Interest Site with Approved Housing Body	23	Planning application has been submitted.

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Scheme	District	Type	No. of Units	Status
Ballygrennan Lands	Metropolitan District of Limerick	Affordable Purchase Expression of Interest Site with Approved Housing Body	65	Part of a wider strategy to deliver a hospital, commercial units, and a nursing home in addition to residential units.
Munret Site	Metropolitan District of Limerick	Affordable Purchase Local Infrastructure Housing Activation Fund	50	252 residential units with Part 8 adopted of which 50 units are earmarked for affordable. Plans for the site are currently being reviewed to determine if more units can be assigned to Affordable Purchase.
Thomas Street and O'Connell Street	Metropolitan District of Limerick	Affordable Purchase Urban Regeneration and Development Fund	11	Part 8 concluded for 21 residential units in total. The Affordable Purchase model is being considered with a funding application to be made to the Affordable Housing Fund.
Adare	Municipal District of Adare-Rathkeale	Affordable Purchase Self-build plots	8	Plots identified for affordable purchase. Awaiting servicing to be provided to social housing site.
Advance Purchase Turnkey – Campaign 1	Metropolitan District of Limerick	Affordable Purchase	91	Campaign 1 resulted in five submissions from private developers, of which two have withdrawn from the process. An Affordable Housing Fund application was approved for a proposed scheme of 25 units in Brú na Grudán, Castletroy and the online application portal for this scheme opened for applications on 20 June 2023. An Affordable Housing Fund application has been submitted for a proposed development of 10 units in Abbeyfeale and is awaiting approval. Remaining application is being progressed.
	Municipal District of Newcastle West	Affordable Purchase	10	

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Scheme	District	Type	No. of Units	Status
Advance Purchase Turnkey - Campaign 2	Metropolitan District of Limerick	Affordable Purchase	145	Campaign 2 resulted in six submissions from private developers, of which three have withdrawn from the process. Affordable Housing Fund applications have been approved for a proposed development of 11 units in Croom, and also for a proposed development of 42 units in Newcastle West. The remaining application is being progressed.
	Municipal District of Adare-Rathkeale	Affordable Purchase	11	
	Municipal District of Newcastle West	Affordable Purchase	42	
Advance Purchase Turnkey - Campaign 3	Metropolitan District of Limerick	Affordable Purchase	98	Campaign 3 resulted in two submissions from private developers. An Affordable Housing Fund application has been submitted for 98 units in Patrickswell and is awaiting approval. Remaining application is being progressed.
	Municipal District of Newcastle West	Affordable Purchase	33	
Advance Purchase Turnkey - Campaign 4	Municipal District of Newcastle West	Affordable Purchase	9	Campaign 4 resulted in one submission from a private developer and this application is being progressed.
Large Scale Residential Sites	Metropolitan District of Limerick	Cost Rental	132	In discussions to deliver up to 50% affordable on large scale residential sites.

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## Affordable Housing - Project Submissions and Approvals

Affordable Housing Fund (AHF)	Application submitted for 98 units of affordable housing in Patrickswell, Co. Limerick.	Metropolitan District of Limerick
Affordable Housing Fund (AHF)	Application submitted for 10 units of affordable housing in Abbeyfeale, Co. Limerick.	Municipal District of Newcastle West
Affordable Housing Fund (AHF)	Approval received for 42 units of affordable housing in Newcastle West, Co. Limerick.	Municipal District of Newcastle West

## Finance

Claims totalling €1,398,309 were sent to the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage in June.

Claims totalling €3,300,490 were paid by the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage in June.

## Conferences and Workshops

The Capital Advance Leasing Facility Unit of the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage held an online webinar on 21 June to offer guidance on completing the new Capital Advance Leasing Facility application.

The Housing Agency held an Affordable Housing Practitioners' Seminar for Local Authority teams involved in the delivery of affordable homes on 29 June in Athlone. The seminar focused on delivery and the tools available to assist Affordable Housing delivery.

On 20 June, staff attended an information session on the Central Credit Register (CCR) held by the Local Government Management Agency with presentations by the Central Bank of Ireland.

# Chief Executive's Report



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## 5. Municipal District Offices

### Metropolitan District of Limerick

#### Metropolitan District Meetings

##### Monthly Meeting

The Monthly Meeting of the Metropolitan District of Limerick took place on 19 June in the Council Offices, Dooradoyle, and Online.

The Annual Meeting followed this, where Councillor Azad Talukder was elected Cathaoirleach of the Metropolitan District of Limerick, and Councillor Joe Pond was elected as Leas-Chathaoirleach.

#### Workshop/Briefings

The following Workshop/Briefings took place for the Elected Members of the Metropolitan District:

- Workshop on Property Disposals;
- Briefing on Works on O'Connell Street, Limerick;
- Briefing on Regeneration Areas;
- Briefing on Arthur's Quay Framework Plan.

#### Operational Area Briefings

Operational Area Briefings were held in early June for Limerick City North, Limerick City East and Limerick City West Local Electoral Areas.

#### Road Related Upgrade/Refurbishment Works

##### Description of project: Rhebogue Avenue Reconstruction;

Location: Irish Estates, Corbally;  
Cost of project: €55,000;  
Contractor: Roadstone /Peter Ryan.

##### Description of project: Glencairn-Greenview Close to Ashgrove Local Roads Reconstruction;

Location: Rosmór, Glencairn;  
Cost of project: €132,000;  
Contractor: Roadstone.

##### Description of project: Abbeycourt Local Roads Reconstruction;

Location: Gouldavoher;  
Cost of project: €85,000;  
Contractor: Roadstone /Tallybrooke.

##### Description of project: Scart (Killonan end) Surface Dressing;

Location: Scart, Ballysimon;  
Cost of project: €36,000;  
Contractor: Limerick City and County Council Direct labour.

##### Description of project: Scart (Sandylane end) Surface Dressing;

Location: Scart, Ballysimon;  
Cost of project: €29,000;  
Contractor: Limerick City and County Council Direct labour.

##### Description of project: Kishiquirk Surface Dressing;

Location: Kishiquirk, Ballysimon;  
Cost of project: €5,000;  
Contractor: Limerick City and County Council Direct labour.

##### Description of project: Widen and Upgrade Cycle Way Clare Street to UL Boat Club (Lock Quay area) - Active Travel Scheme;

Location: Canal Bank, Limerick  
Cost of project: €45,000;  
Contractor: Maramba Construction.

##### Description of project: Speed Cushions and Surfacing Upgrade Shannonvale;

Location: Shannonvale, Old Cratloe Road;  
Cost of project: €22,000;  
Contractor: Tarstone.

#### Municipal District of Adare-Rathkeale

The Monthly Meeting of the Municipal District of Adare-Rathkeale took place on 13 June in Rathkeale Municipal District Office, Rathkeale.

The Annual Meeting of the Municipal District of Adare-Rathkeale took place on 19 June in the Rathkeale Municipal District Office, Rathkeale.

# Chief Executive's Report



Comhairle Cathrach  
& Contae **Luimnigh**

**Limerick** City  
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Councillor Adam Teskey was elected Cathaoirleach of the District and Councillor Stephen Keary was elected Leas-Chathaoirleach of the District for the year 2023/2024.

Essential repairs to social houses and public roads were undertaken by the Housing Maintenance and Roads Maintenance Teams:

- 75 cases were assigned to the Housing Maintenance Team.
- 60 cases were assigned to the Roads Maintenance Team.

## Active Travel

Active Travel works at Castlematrix, Rathkeale town and Main Street, Fedamore, under construction.

## Schedule of Municipal District Works

**Road Reconstruction was completed at the following locations:**

- Cois Deel, Rathkeale.
- Kileen, Patrickswell.
- Croagh GAA Complex.
- Knockdromin to Lisamuck.
- Rintulla Road.
- Shanpallas to Ballydoole, Pallaskenry.
- Kilaculla Road to N69.

Surface Dressing works were completed at the following locations:

- Dromard, Rathkeale.
- Coffeys Cross towards Clonshire.
- Ballynamona to Bansha.
- Ballyegny.
- Rincullia.
- Wallaces Cross to Ballyengland.
- Kerry Hill, Shanagolden.

## Treaty of Askeaton

A wonderful commemoration of the 500<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Treaty of Askeaton, the very first Treaty ever signed between an Irish political figure and France, was held at Askeaton Desmond Castle, organised by Askeaton Civic Trust, on 25 June.

## Municipal District of Cappamore-Kilmallock

### Municipal District Meetings

The Monthly Meeting of the Municipal District of Cappamore-Kilmallock was held on 22 June in Áras Mainchín Seoighe, Kilmallock.

The Annual Meeting of the Municipal District of Cappamore-Kilmallock was also held on 22 June in Áras Mainchín Seoighe, Kilmallock. At this meeting, Councillor Michael Donegan was elected Cathaoirleach of the District and Councillor Martin Ryan was elected Leas-Chathaoirleach of the District for the year 2023/2024.

### Housing and Road Maintenance

- 127 cases were assigned to the Housing Maintenance Team.
- 118 cases were assigned to the Roads Maintenance Team.

### Housing Grants

10 Private housing grants were paid out, totalling €49,909.25, and 10 grants were also approved.

14 initial inspections, three re-inspections and 11 final inspections were undertaken in relation to Private Housing Grants.

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## Road Works

The following works were completed:

### Road Improvement Works

- R505 Brittas, Welcome Inn.
- R506 Madaboy, Murroe.
- 

### Road Maintenance Works

- L1123 Five Cross Roads towards Newport.
- L5072 / L5065 Caherline to Basket-Hill.
- 

### Local Improvement Scheme

- 2271012, Bilboa Court.

## Municipal District of Newcastle West

### Meetings and Workshops

- The Monthly Meeting of the Municipal District of Newcastle West took place on 22 June in Áras William Smith O'Brien, Newcastle West.
- The Annual Meeting of the Municipal District of Newcastle West took place on 22 June in Áras William Smith O'Brien, Newcastle West.
- Councillor Tom Ruddle was elected Cathaoirleach of the Municipal District of Newcastle West and Councillor John Sheahan was elected Leas-Chathaoirleach.
- A Briefing on the Newcastle West Local Area Plan took place on 16 June in Áras William Smith O'Brien, Newcastle West.
- A Briefing with the Limerick Crime Prevention Officer was held on 22 June in Áras William Smith O'Brien, Newcastle West.

## Housing Grants

- 13 grant applications were approved under the Private Housing Grant Schemes during the month. The total value of approvals was €75,477.15.
- Payments of €41,946.10 were made to nine applicants who completed works under the Housing Aid for Older People Scheme.
- Payments of €74,052.45 were made to eight applicants who completed works under the Housing Adaptation Grant Scheme.
- Payments of €15,867.53 were made to three applicants who completed works under the Mobility Aids Housing Grant.

## Housing Maintenance

- 92 CRM (customer relationship management) cases were assigned to the Housing Maintenance Team.

## Transportation and Mobility

86 CRM cases were assigned to the Roads Maintenance Team.

## Motor Tax

The Motor Tax Section at the Newcastle West Office processed 1,367 routine transactions.



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## Planning, Environment & Place-Making Directorate

### 1. Forward Planning and Public Realm

#### Forward Planning

- The Chief Executive's Report on the submissions received during the public display period for the Draft Newcastle West Local Area Plan 2023-2029 was prepared and issued to the Elected Members for their consideration.
- Work progressed on the preparation of the Draft Adare Local Area Plan and Public Realm Plan.
- Work progressed on the preparation of the Draft Patrickswell Local Area Plan.

### 2. Development Management and Place-Making

#### Development Management

A total of 115 new planning applications were received as follows:

Category	Amount
Part 8	3
Housing Developments	0
Domestic Developments	78
Agricultural Developments	11
Commercial Developments/Change of Use	6
Sporting/Community and Educational Developments	3
Other Developments	14

The current applications include proposals for:

- Part 8 for a new off-road shared pedestrian/cycle path with an average width of 3.5 metres connecting Mill Road to Corbally Road between Scoil Íde and Sunnyside Montessori. Redeveloped path with an average width of 3.5 metres along the northern side of Corbally Road from Scoil Íde to the primary road entrance to St. Munchin's College. Widening and resurfacing of an existing path along southern side of Corbally Road from Lanahrone Avenue junction to Shannon Drive junction. Three new raised pedestrian crossings along Corbally Road, new junction tightening measures at Roseville Gardens junction, Lanahrone Avenue junction and St. Munchin's College junction to reduce vehicle speeds and increase safety for vulnerable road users. Widening of St. Munchin's Gates to facilitate two-way traffic and new low-level planting and soft landscaping features at Corbally Road, R463, Limerick City.
- Part 8 for the construction of a new play area, including all necessary site works, associated boundary treatment and provision of drainage and lighting. The works will include preparation of the site, installation of a range of play equipment, a protective perimeter, safety surfacing, tree and shrub planting, site furniture and the construction of a new uncontrolled pedestrian crossing at Castle Oaks View, Southill, Limerick.

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## Place-Making

### Limerick Wayfinding and Orientation Signage Project

- Work progressed on the preparation of a Part 8 Planning Application.

### Decluttering Project

- Consultation progressed on signs to be removed.

### Urban Regeneration and Development Fund (URDF)

#### Urban Regeneration and Development Fund - Strand 3 - Pedestrian Bridges and Waterfront Infrastructural Works

- Tender evaluation was completed to procure a multi-disciplinary team to prepare a Preliminary Business Case under the Public Spending Code.

#### Arthur's Quay Area Framework Plan

- Architects, Metropolitan Workshop, are leading a multi-disciplinary team preparing the Arthur's Quay Area Framework Plan. A very successful Public Engagement Day was held at the Citizen Innovation Lab on 23 June and the views of users of Arthur's Quay Park were sought in the park on 24 June.

#### Urban Regeneration and Development Fund - 33 and 34 Thomas Street

- Assessment completed of received Tenders to provide Preliminary Business Case.
- Fire Safety Certificate Applications and Disability Access Certificate Applications lodged through the Building Control Management System.

#### Urban Regeneration and Development Fund - 58 O'Connell Street

- Assessment is completed of received Tenders to provide Preliminary Business Case.

- Online lodgement of the Fire Safety Certificate Applications and Disability Access Certificate Applications through the Building Control Management System is in progress.

## Capital Projects

### King's Island Flood Relief Scheme

Magee Conservation Ltd. is undertaking lime mortar mix trials for pointing and grouting of quay walls at Merchant's Quay and George's Quay.

### Newcastle West Athletics Hub

The laying of the final track surface progressed well during June.

## 3. Environment and Climate Action

### Environment Strategy

#### EU funded projects

Environment Strategy and Parks have been successful in two calls under URBACT 4 with acceptance on to the BiodiverCity and GreenPlace Action Planning Networks. Both projects will promote greening and biodiversity in the City environs with knowledge sharing and learning with other cities and institutions throughout Europe. Limerick City and County Council is the only Local Authority in Ireland to be successful in two calls, again highlighting Limerick's positive embracing of international cooperation.

**National Biodiversity Week 2023** was promoted with a staff plant swap which encouraged staff to exchange plants with each other and increase the diversity of each other's gardens.

**Local Biodiversity Action Fund 2023** - Environment Strategy has received funding for two projects. Tenders were advertised for both projects:

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- (i) The River Loobagh Hogweed removal.
- (ii) Hedgerow survey (an action under the Limerick City and Environs Green and Blue Infrastructure Strategy).

**Strategic Noise Action Plan.** Strategic noise mapping has been completed in June for major roads (vehicle passages greater than three million vehicles per year) in County Limerick. The strategic noise maps for the County and for the Agglomeration of Limerick are available at:

<https://www.limerick.ie/council/services/environment/environmental-control/strategic-noise-mapping-and-noise-action-plans>

**Air Monitoring.** Air monitoring was undertaken at several location in the City and environs. Monitoring reports and up-to-date data can be accessed on the Limerick.ie website at the following link:

<https://www.limerick.ie/council/services/environment/environmental-control/air-quality#Reports>

**The Water Framework Directive/Farms Team** continues with river basin management plan and farm inspections. In June, 26 farms were inspected. All inspections are risk-based in relation to water vulnerability and farm intensity. As well as the planned inspections, two farm related pollution complaints were responded to.

A further six field days were spent undertaking biological assessment of small streams in priority catchments.

## Parks

### Refurbishment of The People's Park Playground

On 26 June, Limerick City and County Council commenced works on the new People's Park Playground. This will be the first fully inclusive and fully accessible playground in Limerick City.

The combination of equipment provides a wide-ranging design full of accessible, inclusive equipment, offering sliding, swinging, climbing, bouncing, spinning, balancing,

socialising and imaginative play opportunities to be enjoyed by all.

### Ice Cream in The Park

Limerick City and County Council introduced Ice Cream Mobile Vans into Mungret and Shelbourne Parks for the Summer months.

### Adare Park

The fruit bush area and seating for Adare Park is completed. Residents will make jam from the fruit and are looking after the plants themselves with advice from our horticultural staff.

### Castletroy Park

The raised beds in Castletroy Community Park are all completed and 20 planters are now in place on the bandstand steps.

### Cemeteries

Number of Burials in City Cemeteries

Mount St. Lawrence	19
Mount St. Oliver	9
Castlemungret	15
Kilmurry	3

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## Environment Enforcement and Litter Management

SUGAR CRM cases received	288
Inspections undertaken	579
Warnings issued	93
Directions of Authorised Officer issued	5
Statutory Notices issued	15
Prosecutions initiated	1
Fines issued	21
Authorisations issued/reviewed	3

## Farm Plastics Collection Points ([www.farmplastics.ie](http://www.farmplastics.ie))

The annual programme of collection points authorised by Limerick City and County Council continued during June with very successful One and Two-Day events arranged at the following locations.

- Gortadroma Landfill Site
- Golden Vale Mart, Dromcollogher
- Pallaskenry GAA field.

A range of farm plastics was collected for recycling, including Farm Film, Twine/Netting and Plastic Drums (triple rinsed to ensure non-hazardous).

## Landfill

The following waste types were accepted at the Civic Amenity Site located at Gortadroma Landfill site during June. This material was subsequently transferred off-site by Clean Ireland Waste & Recycling.

Waste Type	Tonnes
Mixed Municipal Waste	19.34
Bulky Waste	14.50

## Climate Action

### New Appointments

The Community Climate Action Officer and the Climate Coordinator were both appointed to Limerick City and County Council's Climate Action Team this month.

### +CityxChange

The +CityxChange project and Citizen Innovation Lab were presented at "Where Science Meets the Regions" Conference in TUS Athlone Campus.

### Citizen Innovation Lab

This month in the Citizen Innovation Lab:

- Limerick "Grow it Yourself" held a monthly meeting of its members.
- The Hospice Foundation of Ireland commenced a weekly Compassionate Community meeting running every Tuesday for two months.
- A Lego stop motion workshop was held on 10 June as part of the Cruinníú na nÓg Festival.
- Limerick City and County Council's Placemaking Team held a public consultation on the Arthur's Quay development on 22 June.
- Limerick Cycling Campaign held a meeting of its members.

## Veterinary

Number of horses seized	7
Number of dogs processed in Dog Shelter	26
Food Samples submitted for analysis under the National Residues and Microbiological Sampling Programme	5

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## 4. Limerick Twenty Thirty (LTT) DAC

### Opera Square

#### Progress Update

- Contract B: Basement and One Opera Square – John Sisk & Son progressed well with the Basement contract in June. Three piling rigs mobilised onsite with piling for the perimeter wall of the basement now 88% complete.
- Bulk excavation works are well underway with 20% of the bulk dig completed in June.

#### Project Communications Update

- In June, Limerick Twenty Thirty and Limerick City and County Council released a video highlighting their hoarding project collaboration at Opera Square. The artwork celebrates Brand Limerick: 'Atlantic Edge European Embrace' and shows the dynamic spirit of Limerick and its incredible people and places. The artwork spans the length of Ellen Street.
- The Office of the Planning Regulator Group visited Opera Square site on 26 June. The Group was provided with a presentation on the progress of the project thus far and a walking tour of the site.

### Cleeves Riverside Quarter

#### Progress Update

- Masterplan – A workshop was held on 12 June to discuss the Masterplan following engagement with Key Stakeholders, Public consultations and Observations submitted.
- Expression of Interest - A Report on options for engaging with the market and development partners for the Development Zones at Cleeves Riverside Quarter has been prepared and was also discussed at the Workshop on 12 June.

- Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) - A MoU has been agreed and signed between LTT and TUS, initially their requirement is for 10,000 sq. m. (107,000 sq. ft.).

#### Project Communications Update

- The Chimney at Cleeves Riverside Quarter displayed rainbow lighting on 24 June in celebration of Pride's worldwide day. 24 June this year also marks the 30th anniversary of the decriminalisation of homosexual acts in Ireland.

#### General LTT Communications Update

- Forbes Under 30 Forum visited Gardens International on 26 June. The group explored LTT's award-winning Gardens International development. LTT teamed up with one of our anchor tenants, Transact, to brief them on the Region's commercial and innovative opportunities.
- LTT featured in this year's Limerick Post Mid-West Industry special, released in June. The feature showcases the thriving Region and LTT's editorial highlighted the progress being made to date this year.
- The LTT website was updated in June to include LTT's Environmental Social Governance (ESG) page. The page focuses on sustainable development, encompassing social, environmental, and economic objectives in Limerick. The page highlights the social engagement LTT undertakes with the public, along with local educational bodies.
- Carelon (previously Legato) held an event spanning several areas of Gardens International for an event on 09 June.
- The Vault at Gardens International was promoted in June for meeting and events bookings and featured in the Limerick Chamber Newsletter June issue. Requests can be submitted to [gardens@limerick2030.ie](mailto:gardens@limerick2030.ie) or 061517430.

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## National and Regional Shared Services Centre Directorate

### 1. Housing Assistance Payment (HAP) Shared Services Centre (SSC)

- There were 58,234 active HAP tenancies nationally, managed by the HAP SSC at the end of June.
- A weekly average of 161 HAP tenancies have been set up during 2023.
- The June landlord payment run was €55.5 million.
- The weekly tenant charge at the end of June was €3.1 million.
- The Debt Management Unit of the HAP SSC collected a total of €78.7 million in differential rent to end of June.
- The HAP tenant rent collection rate at the end of June was 99%.
- The Debt Management Unit issued 11,561 HAP debt reminder letters in June.

### 2. Fire and Emergency

#### Statistics

	No. of Fire Related Calls	No. of Non-Fire Related Calls	Total
No. of call-outs 01.06.2023 – 30.06.2023	88	35	123
% of calls where on scene in < 10 mins from time of call	67%	41%	
% of calls where on scene between 11 and 20 mins from time of call	25%	41%	
% of calls where on scene in > 20 mins from time of call	8%	18%	

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	No. Received / Assigned	No. Validated	No. Invalidated / Refused	No. Granted	No. Completed
Fire Certificate Applications June	21	17	2	9	11
Disability Access Cert Applications June	13	11	1	8	9
Licensing Applications June	2	3	0	0	0
Commencement Notice June	46	40	5	0	40
Completion Certificate June	5	5	0	0	5
Planning Referrals June	16	13	0	0	13
Sugar CRM Cases June	2	0	0	0	1 resolved 1 closed

## Fire and Emergency Training Events

During the month, three whole-time fire fighters completed a Category B ESDS (Emergency Services Driving Standards) Assessment.

## Civil Defence attendance at Events

The following activity took place in June:

- National Radiation Monitoring Exercise, samples were collected in Limerick and brought to a central location in Nenagh, Co. Tipperary, and then delivered to the Environmental Protection Agency in Dublin.
- Patient Transfer – Limerick residence to St. Gabriel's and returned to residence.
- Annual Training Camp in Athlone.
- Patient Transfer – Limerick residence to ICPOP (Integrated Care Programme for Older Persons), St. Camillus' Hospital, and returned to residence.

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## Water Safety

No. of Lifebuoy Replacements	January - May	June	Total 2023
Metropolitan District	6	0	6
Municipal District	11	2	13

No. of Lifebuoy Sensor Activations	Total February - May	June	Total 2023
Metropolitan District	43	4	47
Municipal District	14	11	25



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## Support Services Directorate

### 1. Finance

#### Commercial Rates and Loans

##### Draft Collection Figures

Commercial Rates 2023	
As at 30 June 2023	
Opening Balance - 01 Jan €	5,888,292
Accruals €	64,094,996 **
Vacant Property Adjustment €	332,490
Writes offs/ Waivers €	1,581,770
Total for Collection €	68,069,028
Amount Collected €	36,188,978
Arrears €	31,880,050
Specific Doubtful Arrears €	1,298,455
% Collected	54%

Debtors Loans	
As at 30 June 2023	
Opening Balance - 01 Jan €	300,639
Accruals €	772,121 ^
Writes offs €	-
To Collect €	1,072,760
Receipts €	987,470
Arrears €	85,290
% Collected	92%

^ Accruals not updated for loans for June 2023

\*\* The Date for Making the 2023 Rate was 02 February 2023

#### Recourse to Overdraft Facility

No. of days in overdraft 0

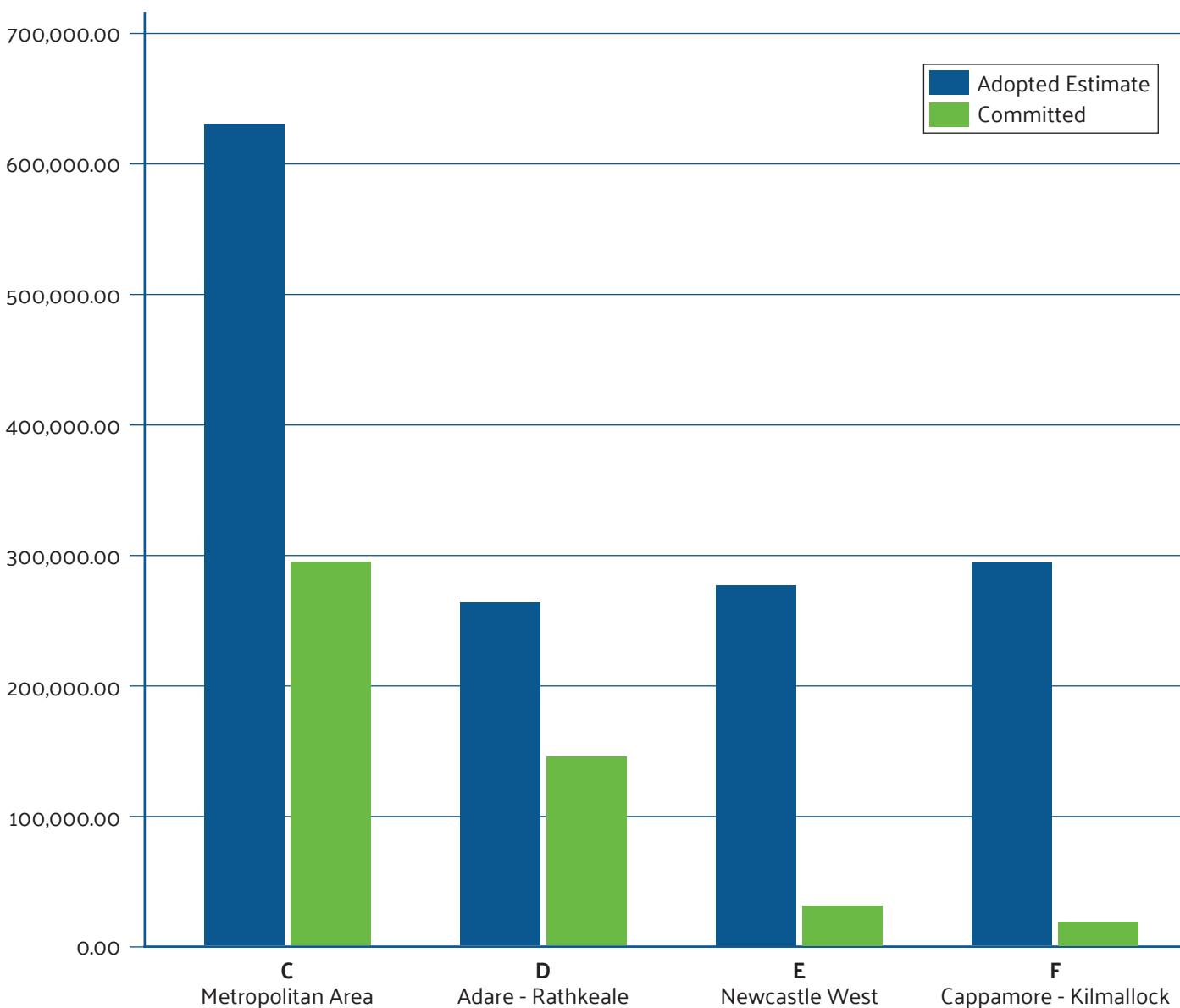
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## General Municipal Allocation 2023 Adopted Estimate €1.463 Million

Graph outlining adopted budget and draft committed expenditure up to 30 June 2023



Municip (Code) + (Text)	Value Adopted Estimate (€)	Value Committed (€)
C Metropolitan Area	628,000.00	295,453
D Adare - Rathkeale	269,500.00	147,135
E Newcastle West	270,500.00	31,615
F Cappamore - Kilmallock	295,000.00	19,043

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## 2. Business Improvement

- Staff Liaison Network Meeting was held in Council Chamber, Dooradoyle, on 27 June.
- Business Improvement collaborated extensively with Local Authority Housing Construction and Maintenance to deliver their “Brú na Gruadán Affordable Housing” application form on MyPoint.
- Business Improvement assisted Festivals and Events to launch their “Christmas in Limerick 2023” survey on MyPoint.
- Business Improvement helped Community Development to roll out its “Outdoor Recreation Infrastructure Scheme 2023 - Project Development Measure Expression of Interest Form” application form on MyPoint.
- Business Improvement attended the Shared Service Conference in Dublin.
- A total of 918 active users are now live on the Employee App.
- Services on Service Catalogue = 703.
- There are 418 capital projects now managed through Cora, our cloud-based project management system.

## 3. Corporate, Governance and Customer Services

### Election of Mayor

Councillor Gerald Mitchell was elected Mayor of the City and County of Limerick at the Annual Meeting of the Council on 30 June.

Councillor Dan McSweeney was elected Deputy Mayor of the City and County of Limerick at the Annual Meeting of the Council also.

### Mayoral Receptions were held for the following:

- Louise, Michael and Michelle Mulcahy, in recognition of their outstanding contribution to Irish traditional music.
- Organisation of National Ex-Service Personnel – ONE, and Irish United Nations Veterans’ Association (IUNVA), in recognition of their contribution and commitment throughout their military service for the Irish Defence Forces.
- Pike Rovers A.F.C. U12’s Soccer Team, in recognition of their achievement in winning the Schoolboys/ Girls Football Association of Ireland (SFAI) National Cup Championship 2021-2022 and in being the first Limerick club to do so at this age grade.
- Abbeyfeale Community Council, in recognition and appreciation of their outstanding achievements and successful collaboration with local, regional, and national organisations, for the ongoing betterment of the town and wider community of Abbeyfeale.
- Athea Community Council, in recognition and appreciation of the work carried out by the Community Council for the betterment of the local community.
- Glin Development Association, in recognition and appreciation of the work carried out by the Development Association for the betterment of the local community.
- Mountcollins Community Council, in recognition and appreciation of the work carried out by the Community Council for the betterment of the local community.
- Templeglantine Community Council and Templeglantine Development Association, in recognition and appreciation of the magnificent work carried out by past and present members for the betterment of the parish and its community.

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- Tounafulla Community Council, in recognition and appreciation of the work of local volunteers, who continuously strive to enhance the lives of those living in, working in and visiting Tounafulla, guided by the leadership and vision of Tounafulla Community Council.
- Castleconnell Boat Club, in recognition of their achievements in rowing nationally this year and their continued contribution to sport and their local community.

**The Mayor hosted the following in Corporate Headquarters in June:**

- Met group of secondary students from Guadalajara, Mexico, who attended a summer programme in Mary Immaculate College to study global citizenship, migration, intercultural studies and sustainability - in the Council Chamber, Merchant's Quay.

**The Office of the Mayor co-ordinated and arranged for the Mayor to attend the following functions/events during month of June:**

- Africa Day 2023, showcase and celebration of Africans' contribution to education, knowledge, arts and culture at Mary Immaculate College, Limerick.
- Press launch for Limerick Pride at the Hunt Museum, Limerick, and the raising of the Pride Flag at Merchant's Quay.
- Closing Ceremony for an art exhibition, Then and Now, Response to the Limerick Lace Collected by Elizabeth Kinsella, at the Limerick Museum, Henry Street, Limerick.
- Photoshoot to launch Mid-West Simon Community Annual Charity Ball at Limerick Strand Hotel, Ennis Road, Limerick.
- Official Launch of Women's Shed Limerick by Ray D'Arcy RTE Radio One Show, at Munget GAA Hall, Munget, Co. Limerick.

- Order of Malta Ambulance Corps Limerick, celebration of 75 years of service to the people of Limerick, Thanksgiving Mass and Presentation at St. John's Cathedral, Limerick.
- Ballyhahill/Loughill, Seán Finn Centenary, Open Air Mass at Ballyroe, the spot where he fell, and unveiling of a plaque in Seán Finn's honour.
- Official Launch of the Discover Limerick Pass at King John's Castle, Nicholas Street, Limerick.
- Photoshoot to launch Horse Show in Newcastle West at Desmond Castle, Newcastle West, Co. Limerick.
- Visit to St. Ita's Day Care Centre, Abbeyfeale, Co. Limerick.
- Public information night on getting support to expand West Limerick Sports Complex to Regional Sports Complex for Newcastle West, at the Desmond Complex, Newcastle West, Co. Limerick.
- Visited the following national schools:-
  - Mahoonagh National School, Main Street, Castlemahon, Co. Limerick.
  - Courtenay National School, Gortboy, Newcastle West, Co. Limerick.
  - Scoil lósaf, Knockane Road, Newcastle West, Co. Limerick.
  - Gaelscoil Ó Doghair, Bóthar An Stáisiúin, Caisleán Nua Thiar, Co. Luimnigh.
  - Ballyguiltenane National School, Ballyguiltenane Upper, Glin, Co. Limerick.
  - St. Fergus' National School, Glin, Co. Limerick.
  - Kilmeedy National School, Kilmeedy, Co. Limerick.
  - Scoil Íde Naofa, Raheenagh, Ballagh, Co. Limerick.
- Press Photocall for Cruinníu na nÓg at St. Mary's Boys National School, Abbeyfeale, Co. Limerick.
- Photoshoot to launch Focus Ireland's 'On The Move' Cycle on the Limerick Greenway.

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- University Concert Hall and the Limerick Sings International Choral Festival, The King's Singers in Concert, at the University Concert Hall, Castletroy, Limerick.
- Munster Senior Hurling Championship Final, Limerick v Clare, at TUS Gaelic Grounds, Ennis Road, Limerick.
- Photoshoot for Limerick Opera Festival at St. Mary's Cathedral, Limerick.
- University of Limerick Summer Conferring Ceremonies at University Concert Hall (UCH), University of Limerick, Limerick.
- Official Opening of N24 Beary's Cross Road Improvement Scheme.
- West Limerick Independent Living, celebration of 25 years of service and the official opening of its newly renovated offices at Sheehan's Road, Newcastle West, Co. Limerick.
- Raheen Active Retired Group at Millennium Centre, Raheen, Limerick.
- Opening of 'Riband' an Art Exhibition by Pauline Flynn at Limerick Museum, Henry Street, Limerick
- Launch of the 2023 Limerick Going for Gold Competition at the Castle Oaks House Hotel, Castleconnell, Co. Limerick.
- Launch of Diversity is Strength campaign under the Limerick United Against Racism banner at Merchant's Quay, Limerick.
- Official Opening of Oola National School Garden at Oola, Co. Limerick.
- Kirby Group Engineering, Official Unveiling of Sculpture by Paul Harrison in The Hunt Museum's 'Museum in a Garden.'
- Forbes Under 30 Forum Event at Limerick Strand Hotel, Limerick.
- Official Launch for Ireland's Strongest Man and Ireland's Strongest Women at Markets Field Stadium, Limerick.
- Joint initiative with Cathaoirleach of Kerry County Council, Councillor Jim Finucane, to promote The Kingdom of Kerry Greenways and Limerick Greenway, which connect in Abbeyfeale.
- Official Opening of Abbeyfeale Tourist Office and Abbeyfeale Biodiversity Park.
- Croom Family Resource Centre, annual summer BBQ at Croom Mills, Church Road, Croom, Co. Limerick.
- Launch of the Newcastle West Golf Club PGA Pro-Am at Clubhouse, Newcastle West Golf Club, Newcastle West, Co. Limerick.
- Official Opening of Croom Orthopaedic Hospital Pain Management Centre, New Theatre Suite and Maigue Unit, at Croom Orthopaedic Hospital, Croom, Co. Limerick.
- The Mayor and Deputy Mayor travelled to Spokane, Washington State, from 20 – 24 June on the occasion of the 33<sup>rd</sup> Anniversary of the Sister City twinning between Limerick and Spokane.

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## Procurement Department

Staff in the Procurement Department are responsible for setting up and extending existing procurement references on request from all Departments within the Council.

The following shows the number of Procurement References dealt with during the month of June:

New Procurement References set up	34
Procurement References extended as per signed contract/arrangement	7

The Unit continues to work with staff of all Departments to ensure procurement to pay cycle is adhered to within the Council through the validation of all requisitions for approval or rejection via the Requisitions Oversight Unit.

## Requisitions Oversight Unit

The Requisitions Oversight Unit staff validate all requisitions raised across the entire Council and the Unit provides a segregation of duties to avoid any potential conflict of interest. The following statistics apply for June:

- Approved requisitions account for 90% of the total requisitions actioned for this given month.
- Rejected requisitions account for 10% of the total requisitions actioned for this given month.

Month	Approved	Rejected	Total Requisitions Actioned
June	1,429	164	1,593

The Top five requisition rejection reasons for June are identified as follows:

Rejection Reason	June
Memo – Requisition not raised in advance	43
Procurement Reference omitted/incorrect	30
Quotes – omitted/incorrect copy provided	20
Quotation Form omitted/incomplete	16
Signature required – omitted/incorrect	15

## Register of Electors

Staff from the Register of Electors Team processed the following during the month:

- Additions to the Electoral Register - 82
- Deletions from the Electoral Register - 253
- Modifications to the Electoral Register - 80
- 257 requests were received through the updated [checktheegister.ie](http://checktheegister.ie) website for updating details of electors.
- The Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage launched a national campaign on 21 June to encourage everyone to go to [checktherregister.ie](http://checktherregister.ie) and either confirm or update their details.

# Chief Executive's Report



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## Health and Safety Training

The Health and Safety Training Team organised the following courses during the month:

Course Name	Numbers Trained
Safe Pass	32
First Aid Response	9
Certificate of Professional Competency Training	16
Construction Skills Certificate Scheme – Locating Underground Services	3
Fire Warden	18
Manual Handling	41
Safety Rep	1
ESB Awareness	24
Dealing with Aggressive Customers	19
IOSH (The Institution of Occupational Safety and Health) Safety, Health & Environment for Construction Site Training	2
Safe Use of Pesticides and Herbicides	6
Confined Space – Medium Risk	4
<b>Total Staff Trained</b>	<b>175</b>

# Chief Executive's Report



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## Schedule of Meetings for June

Name of Meeting	Date	Location
<b>Full Council</b> Annual Meeting - Election of Mayor and Deputy Mayor	30/06/2023	Dooradoyle and Online
<b>Operational Briefings</b>		
Limerick City East	06/06/2023	Merchant's Quay and Online
Limerick City North	06/06/2023	Merchant's Quay and Online
Limerick City West	07/06/2023	Merchant's Quay and Online
<b>Municipal District of</b>		
<b>Adare-Rathkeale</b>		
Monthly Meeting	13/06/2023	Rathkeale
Annual Meeting	19/06/2023	Rathkeale
<b>Newcastle West</b>		
Monthly Meeting	22/06/2023	Newcastle West
Annual Meeting	22/06/2023	Newcastle West
<b>Cappamore-Kilmallock</b>		
Monthly Meeting	22/06/2023	Kilmallock
Annual Meeting	22/06/2023	Kilmallock
<b>Metropolitan District of Limerick</b>		
Monthly Meeting	19/06/2023	Dooradoyle and Online
Annual Meeting	19/06/2023	Dooradoyle and Online
<b>Strategic Policy Committee Meetings</b>		
Home and Social Development	08/06/2023	Dooradoyle and Online
Community, Leisure and Culture	12/06/2023	Dooradoyle and Online
Climate Action, Biodiversity and Environment	13/06/2023	Dooradoyle and Online
Travel and Transportation	20/06/2023	Dooradoyle and Online
Joint Policing Committee Meeting	02/06/2023	Dooradoyle and Online
Local Community Development Committee (LCDC) Meeting	06/06/2023	Dooradoyle and Online
Innovate Limerick DAC Meeting	20/06/2023	Engine Collaboration Centre, Cecil Street, and Online
Discover Limerick DAC Meeting	28/06/2023	Dooradoyle

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## Access to Information

	June	2023 (January to June)
Total Freedom of Information Requests	22	132
Freedom of Information Internal Appeals	1	6
Information Commissioner Appeals	0	2
Total Ombudsman Requests	5	30
Total Access to Information on the Environment (AIE) Requests	1	13
OEIC Appeals (Office Environment Information Commissioner)	1	1

## Customer Services

The Customer Services Team continued to support customers and Public Representatives at first point of contact by answering queries via telephone, email, MyLimerick and social media. Case creation, payments processing and generally facilitating applications for all Council services also continued throughout the month.

The following figures highlight the activity within the Contact Centre throughout the month of June:

- Customer Services Call Centre answered 10,023 calls. This represents an average of 477 per day, with the number of calls reaching as high as 571. A total of 70% of calls were handled at first point of contact.

- A total of 3,234 emails were processed through the Customer Services email platform.
- 2,770 cases were created on Sugar CRM (customer relationship management), with 704 of these logged on behalf of Public Representatives. 2,845 cases were closed, with 578 of these being cases logged by Public Representatives.
- Of the 2,770 cases created, 68% were logged by the Customer Services Team.
- The logging of cases through the MyLimerick portal continued, with a total of 219 cases being logged. Of these, 191 were submitted by Public Representatives.
- Customer Services continued to support the Housing Maintenance Department in creating service requests, and throughout the month, 75% of Housing Maintenance cases for the Limerick Metropolitan District were logged by Customer Services staff in the Dooradoyle and Merchant's Quay offices.
- A total of 90 out-of-hours cases were created.
- Customer Services continued to provide other frontline services to the general public, such as processing applications for Residential Parking Permits, of which 115 were applied for and 77 issued.
- Customer Services staff welcomed a total of 2,073 customers at the Merchant's Quay and Dooradoyle Offices.

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## 4. Marketing & Communications

### Marketing

#### Limerick Student City - CAO Change of Mind Campaign

- In the run-in to CAO (Central Applications Office) Change of Mind deadline date, Marketing and Communications implemented a social media campaign utilising campaign-specific assets, including our 'There's no Place Like Limerick' video, reels and social cutdowns to highlight and promote Limerick's offering as a complete college experience – from cutting edge institutions to Ireland's most vibrant social scene.
- Platforms utilised included LinkedIn, Facebook, TikTok and Instagram.

#### Forbes Under 30 Forum, Limerick

- Co-ordination of the Forbes Under 30 Forum event at the Limerick Strand Hotel, which highlighted the entrepreneurial ecosystem of the city and the region, its industrial innovation, as well as its investment potential. The event brought together local entrepreneurs, students and Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) from throughout the Region, as well as Forbes 30 Under 30 honourees, to spotlight the rich business landscape of Limerick through various panel discussions, as well as offering local tours of several of the city's landmarks and a closing event at House Limerick.
- In collaboration with Teneo, Marketing and Communications created and syndicated video content throughout the daylong event. Marketing and Communications also produced event specific collateral, displays and merchandise.

#### The Place Race Event, Dublin

- The Place Race conference brought together place professionals working in place branding and marketing, place-making, place management and economic development. Limerick City and County Council participated in panel discussions showcasing Brand Limerick as a case study in excellence in place branding, as well as addressing the importance of transformational projects, collaboration for success and the interplay between the place-making and branding disciplines.

#### Other Activity

- Continuing collaboration with stakeholders across Limerick city and county in the provision of branded What's On desktop signage and branded flags for display.
- New co-branded (Limerick City and County Council x Brand Limerick) display signage produced.
- Marketing support via merchandise and itinerary planning provided to the TUS RUN EU programme, Shannon Region Conference and Sports Bureau and support to Film in Limerick in the creation of Cineposium Limerick branding.

#### Social Media

- Management of Marketing & Communications' 14 social media channels, including Limerick.ie and Limerick City and County Council accounts, to engage with citizens and promote Limerick to locals, visitors, students, and the business community.
- Followers across our five main social media platforms are now as follows:
  - Limerick.ie Facebook: 33,382
  - Limerick.ie Twitter: 21,516
  - Limerick.ie Instagram: 27,999
  - Limerick City and County Council Twitter: 18,190
  - Limerick City and County Council LinkedIn: 10,797

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We also created and distributed three Limerick.ie e-newsletters

- The @LimerickCouncil Twitter account took part in #YourCouncilDay on 23 June. Our Twitter page ranked as the second highest author in the Top 10 Twitter authors on the day, tweeting 89 times and reaching 1,617,107 users. A special recognition was also given to Limerick City Library, whose 'Wes Anderson' style video was the 'Top piece of Engagement' out of all of the national library accounts on the day. This video received over 6,500 views!

## Limerick.ie

In June, there were 167,300\* unique site visits to Limerick.ie, a 1.07 % decrease on the same period in 2022. (\*Fathom Analytics)

The most popular pages on Limerick.ie in June were:

1. [limerick.ie/](http://limerick.ie/)
2. [limerick.ie/council/services/planning-and-property/apply-or-search-planning-application/search-planning](http://limerick.ie/council/services/planning-and-property/apply-or-search-planning-application/search-planning)
3. [limerick.ie/greenway](http://limerick.ie/greenway)
4. [limerick.ie/discover/whats-on/browse](http://limerick.ie/discover/whats-on/browse)
5. [limerick.ie/greenway/sections](http://limerick.ie/greenway/sections)

**Content Report:** 93 articles, 207 events and 20 amenities were added to Limerick.ie in June.

## Communications

- Issued 32 news releases from the Marketing and Communications Department and researched and wrote 16 speeches for the Office of the Mayor.
- Responded to media queries from local, national and international outlets.

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## 5. National Mobilisation and Communication System/Munster Regional Communications Centre (NMAC/MRCC)

	No of Calls mobilised to an emergency incident by MRCC	Other Calls	Average call processing time in minutes and seconds	Total No. of calls in June
No. of call-outs 01.06.2023 – 30.06.2023	960	299	110	1,259

