

**MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS AT MONTHLY MEETING OF THE METROPOLITAN DISTRICT OF LIMERICK HELD IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER, DOORADOYLE, LIMERICK AND ONLINE ON MONDAY, 16<sup>TH</sup> OCTOBER, 2023 at 10.00 A.M.**

**PRESENT IN THE CHAIR:** Councillor Azad Talukder, Cathaoirleach

**MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE:**

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

**OFFICIALS IN ATTENDANCE:**

Deputy Chief Executive and Director of Support Services (Mr. S. Coughlan), Director, National and Regional Shared Services Centre (Mr. K. Lehane), Director, Housing (Ms. C. Curley), Director, Regeneration, Sports and Recreation (Mr. J. Delaney), Meetings Administrator (Mr. M. Leahy), Senior Staff Officer, Corporate Services, Governance and Customer Services (Ms. A. Foley), Management Accountant (Ms. I. Griffin), Financial Accountant (Mr. P. Murnane), Administrative Officer, Finance (Mr. S. Calton), Senior Executive Officer, Housing Support Services (Ms. M. Hayes), Head of Property Management Services (Ms. J. Leahy), Senior Executive Engineer, Roads, Traffic and Cleansing (Mr. M. Richardson), A/Senior Engineer, Active Travel (Mr. S. McGlynn), Executive Engineer, Active Travel (Mr. R. Gorey), Communications Officer, Active Travel (Mr. J. Prenderville), A/Senior Executive Engineer, Travel and Transport Strategy (Mr. J. O'Leary), Executive Planner (Ms. K. McDonnell), Senior Executive Planner (Mr. B. Henn), Assistant Staff Officer, Corporate Services and Governance (Ms. S. Carroll).

It was proposed by Councillor O'Hanlon, seconded by Councillor McSweeney and agreed to adjourn the Meeting until 10.35am to complete the Workshop on the Draft Budgetary Plan 2024.

At the recommencement of the Meeting, the Cathaoirleach and Members extended their sympathy and condolences to the family of Joe Drennan, U.L. Journalism Student who died tragically, following an accident in Castletroy during the preceding weekend.

**1. Support Services Directorate**

**Draft Budgetary Plan 2024 – General Municipal Allocation**

Circulated, Report of the Deputy Chief Executive dated 6<sup>th</sup> October, 2023, setting out the background to the General Municipal Allocation (GMA) and noting that the total provisional allocation for the GMA for 2024 was €1,463,000 of which €628,000 had been allocated to the Metropolitan District in the Draft Budgetary Plan 2024.

The Deputy Chief Executive stated that the Draft Budgetary Plan 2024 for the Metropolitan District of Limerick, which had been discussed at a Workshop earlier, if approved by the Members, would be included in the main budget for the Council.

The proposed breakdown was outlined as follows:

<b>Svc</b>	<b>General Municipal Allocation 2024</b>	<b>Metropolitan District</b>
B04	Local Roads / Traffic Management	€235,000
D05	Tourism Development Recreation & Amenity	€88,000
F04	Community Initiatives	€30,000
	Special Projects – LA Infrastructure	€150,000
	Special Projects – LPT	€65,000
	Special GMA Projects – Metro Area	€60,000
<b>Total</b>	<b>General Municipal Allocation</b>	<b>€628,000</b>

Following consideration of the Draft Budgetary Plan 2024, the Members agreed to assign the amount of €65,000 from the Special Project – LPT Category to Category F04, Community Initiatives and the amount of €150,000 from the Special Projects – LA Infrastructure and €60,000 Special GMA Projects to Category D05 Tourism Development Recreation & Amenity.

Proposed by: Councillor O’Hanlon;

Seconded by: Councillor Daly;

And Resolved:

“That the Budgetary Plan 2024 for the Metropolitan District of Limerick in the amount of €628,000, and including the amendment to move the amount of €65,000 from Special Projects – LPT to F04, Community Initiatives and the amount of €150,000 from Special Projects – LA Infrastructure and €60,000 Special GMA Projects-Metro Area to D05 Tourism Development Recreation & Amenity is adopted in accordance with Section 102(4) of the Local Government Act 2001 (as amended)”.

<b>Svc</b>	<b>General Municipal Allocation 2024</b>	<b>Metropolitan District</b>
B04	Local Roads / Traffic Management	€235,000
D05	Tourism Development Recreation & Amenity	€298,000
F04	Community Initiatives	€95,000
	Special Projects – LA Infrastructure	
	Special Projects – LPT	
	Special GMA Projects – Metro Area	
<b>Total</b>	<b>General Municipal Allocation</b>	<b>€628,000</b>

## **2. Adoption of Minutes**

- (a) Circulated, copy of draft Minutes of the Special Meeting of the Metropolitan District of Limerick held on 7<sup>th</sup> September, 2023.

Proposed by Councillor Slattery;

Seconded by Councillor O’Donovan;

And Resolved:

“That the draft Minutes, as circulated, be taken as read and adopted and signed”.

- (b) Circulated, copy of draft Minutes of the Monthly Meeting of the Metropolitan District of Limerick held on 18<sup>th</sup> September, 2023.

Proposed by Councillor Slattery;  
Seconded by Councillor O'Donovan;  
And Resolved:

“That the draft Minutes, as circulated, be taken as read and adopted and signed”.

### **3. Declaration of Interest**

The Meetings Administrator stated that, in line with Part 15 of the Local Government Act, 2001, as amended, and the Code of Conduct, he was inviting those present to notify the Cathaoirleach of any declaration of interest in any item due for discussion at the Meeting. No such interests were declared.

### **4. Disposal of Land**

(a) Circulated, Report of the Senior Staff Officer, Housing Support Services dated 25<sup>th</sup> September, 2023, setting out proposals for disposal of Freehold Interest of premises consisting of a dwelling house situate at 27 Hogan Avenue, Kileely, Limerick and the intention to bring a Section 183 Notice to Full Council in this regard, for approval.

The report, as circulated, was noted by Members.

(b) Circulated, Report of the Director of Service, Housing dated 26<sup>th</sup> September, 2023, setting out proposals for disposal of land at Ballygrennan, Limerick and the intention to bring a Section 183 Notice to Full Council in this regard, for approval.

The report, as circulated, was noted by Members.

(c) Circulated, Report of the Head of Property Management dated 3<sup>rd</sup> October, 2023, setting out proposals for disposal of land at Rosbrien, Limerick and the intention to bring a Section 183 Notice to Full Council in this regard, for approval.

The report, as circulated, was noted by Members.

(d) Circulated, Report of the Head of Property Management dated 6<sup>th</sup> October, 2023, setting out proposals for disposal of Toll Cottages, Verdant Place, Limerick and the intention to bring a Section 183 Notice to Full Council in this regard, for approval.

The report, as circulated, was noted by Members.

(e) Circulated, Report of the Head of Property Management dated 5<sup>th</sup> October, 2023, setting out proposals for disposal of 5.72m<sup>2</sup> of land at Newtown Park, Castletroy, Limerick and the intention to bring a Section 183 Notice to Full Council in this regard, for approval.

The report, as circulated, was noted by Members.

(f) Circulated, Report of the Head of Property Management dated 3<sup>rd</sup> October, 2023, setting out proposals for disposal of 27 Assumpta Park, Limerick, Regeneration House Exchange, and the intention to bring a Section 183 Notice to Full Council in this regard, for approval.

The report, as circulated, was noted by Members.

- (g) Circulated, Report of the Head of Property Management dated 5<sup>th</sup> October, 2023, setting out proposals for disposal of 201 Cliona Park, Moyross (Phase 3), Limerick, Regeneration House Exchange, and the intention to bring a Section 183 Notice to Full Council in this regard, for approval.

The report, as circulated, was noted by Members.

- (h) Circulated, Report of the Head of Property Management dated 5<sup>th</sup> October, 2023, setting out proposals for disposal of 7 O'Dwyer Villas, Thomondgate, Limerick and the intention to bring a Section 183 Notice to Full Council in this regard, for approval.

The report, as circulated, was noted by Members.

- (i) Circulated, Report of the Head of Property Management dated 5<sup>th</sup> October, 2023, setting out proposals for disposal of 2 Ryan's Cottages, Rosbrien Road, Limerick and the intention to bring a Section 183 Notice to Full Council in this regard, for approval.

The report, as circulated, was noted by Members.

- (j) Circulated, Report of the Head of Property Management dated 5<sup>th</sup> October, 2023, setting out proposals for disposal of 53 Clare Street, Limerick and the intention to bring a Section 183 Notice to Full Council in this regard, for approval.

The report, as circulated, was noted by Members.

- (k) Circulated, Report of the Head of Property Management dated 5<sup>th</sup> October, 2023, setting out proposals for disposal of 3 Kileely Villas, New Road, Thomondgate, Limerick and the intention to bring a Section 183 Notice to Full Council in this regard, for approval.

The report, as circulated, was noted by Members.

## **5. Transportation and Mobility Directorate**

### **(a) Part 8 – Corbally Road Safe Routes to School**

Circulated, Report of the Executive Engineer, Active Travel dated 10<sup>th</sup> October, 2023 and enclosed Chief Executive's Report dated 13<sup>th</sup> September, 2023 setting out details in relation to the Corbally Road Safe Routes to School. The report had been prepared in accordance with Section 179(3)(a) of the Planning and Development Act 2000 (as amended) and Part 8 of the Planning and Development Regulations, 2001 (as amended).

The report, as circulated, was noted by the Elected Members.

Members welcomed the proposed development which would introduce improved safety measures to the area and in particular for Scoil Ide. Members thanked the Active Travel Team for their work on the project.

**(b) Taking-in-Charge of Estates - Declaration of Roads to be Public Roads**

Circulated, Report of the Director of Services, Transportation and Mobility Directorate dated 9<sup>th</sup> October, 2023 seeking approval to the taking in charge of an area at Steamboat Quay, Limerick.

Proposed by Councillor O'Donovan;

Seconded by Councillor Daly;

And Resolved:

“That the area at Steamboat Quay, Limerick be taken in charge in accordance with Section 180 of the Planning and Development Act, 2000 (as amended) and Section 11 of the Roads Act, 1993”.

**QUESTIONS**

**6. Question submitted by Councillor D. McSweeney**

*I will ask at the next meeting of the Metropolitan District of Limerick for the following information in relation to Patrickswell Village Renewal Scheme:*

- a) How many car parking spaces were planned for the second phase of Patrickswell Main Street in the original Part 8 planning application as approved in September 2016.*
- b) How many car parking spaces were delivered on the Main Street as part of the second phase*
- c) What plans do Limerick City and County Council have to provide the number of car parking spaces that were removed from the scheme approved by the members.*
- d) As Patrickswell Village Renewal Scheme is now completed it must be noted a commitment was given in the CE report to the members to enhance the lighting around “The Well” to date this has not occurred can it be advised when this will be completed.*
- e) The Active Travel team do not consider the moving and increasing the size of the roundabout and the installation of deflection islands at the Enterprise Centre to be material please advise under law the definition of material changes.*
- f) As part of the scheme a raised junction and two raised crossings were included that were not contained in the original Part 8 drawings, please advise how these were included contrary to what was approved by the members.*
- g) Provide a full list of any further variations that were made by the Active Travel Team contrary to the original Part 8 application.*

**REPLY:** To answer a, b, c above, it is important to also consider the parking provision prior to the scheme being progressed. A sheet detailing the parking available prior to the scheme, that proposed at Preliminary Design/Statutory Approvals stage and those delivered at construction is appended.

The sheet also provides detail on the change in number of parking spaces from the Part 8 drawings and the reason for any reduction in spaces, where applicable. It is considered that the number of spaces provided along with the additional surfacing of the carpark adjacent to Marian Park result in an appropriate number of spaces for the village demand with adequate parking available within a short walking distance of the village core.

**d)** The Well is within Phase 1 of the scheme and outside the remit of the current contract and the Active Travel / NTA funded scheme. However, Active Travel will engage with the Operations / Placemaking Departments to ensure this commitment is acted on.

**e)** There is no legal definition of material changes, it is interpreted on a case-by-case basis. The detailed design and delivery stage of this improvement scheme recommended some changes including the location of the roundabout within the context of the existing public road. The changes were made within the spirit of the overall scheme, for genuine reasons and considered necessary for the safety of all road users.

**f)** A raised crossing at the Marian Park junction was included at Part 8. A raised table has been introduced across the junction in line with current design advice (DMURS Section 4.4.7). The raised table reduces traffic speed at a busy junction within the village core. A pedestrian crossing point close to the Circle K shop was upgraded from an uncontrolled crossing to a raised zebra crossing to provide a safer crossing location within the village. This is the only controlled crossing within the village. A raised crossing was also provided at the west of the roundabout to provide a safer crossing location for pedestrians and also to provide traffic calming on the approach to the roundabout.

**g)** During the detailed design and constructions phases of the project, a number of modifications were made to the Preliminary Design layouts presented at Part 8. These included issues contained in the Part 8 responses but not reflected in the drawings such as the increased road width from 6.0m to 6.5m and provision of disabled parking spaces etc. In addition to these, a number of modifications were made to the design as follows:

- Reduced paving to Belgard Road – paving width was reduced to retain some green space and extent was reduced due to condition of the existing paths.
- Provision of two bus stops and shelters within the village core were included to provide better access to public transport.
- Additional seating, bins, bollards to prevent parking on paving and landscaped areas and improved landscaping designs and installations were provided. More than 50 trees are being provided for in Phase 2

Some additional elements added to the scope of the construction were installation of permeable paving to the community centre plaza area (separate planning), extension of the road upgrades to include access road to the graveyard, surfacing of the existing carpark at Marian Park and adjustments to drainage and paving within previous Phase 1 area

## Patrickswell Phase 2 Parking Review

Location		Prior to Scheme (formal parking)	Part 8 Parking *	Construction Stage#	Change	Reason for Change from Part 8 drawings
Ch 0 - 75	LHS	Hard shoulder - no formal parking area. Limited width and several entrances.	8	8	0	No change
Belgard Grove		6-8 (not marked)	8		0	Outside of Phase 2 works extent - spaces have been provided separately.
Ch 375 - 425	LHS	Wide area of hard shoulder used for parking but multiple entrance / sightline issues.	3	3	0	No change. Note recent planning application at appeal with ABP included removal of these 3 spaces.
Ch 25- 100	RHS	Hard shoulder, used for parking but widths less than required along much of this section (<2.1m)	7	7	0	No change
Ch 100- 150	RHS	Hard shoulder, used for parking. Space for 6 cars at 2.1m width. Sightline requirements for crossing not allowed for.	6	4	-2	A raised crossing has been provided with associated sightline requirement. Due to location of crossing and sightline requirements, 2 spaces were omitted. Also note DMURS preference for breaking up of parking bays to reduce visual impact.
Ch 175- 200	RHS	Hard shoulder, width varies. Parking here would be either part footpath or part on road.	8	9	+1	
Ch 250 - 300	RHS	Hard shoulder, width varies. Parking here would be either part footpath or part on road.	9	7	-2	A bus-stop has been provided at this location and at detailed design the requirements for distance from junction and sightline were addressed. These resulted in design amendments, which reduced parking by 2 spaces.

Ch 350 - 425	RHS	Hard shoulder, width varies. Not sufficient for parking off footpath without parking partly on road.	16	8	-8	There are a number of issues which resulted in amending this parking from perpendicular parking to parallel parking. These include DMURS advice that parallel parking should be provided on regional roads, safety implications of perpendicular parking close to a roundabout exit, reduced width available with road width of 6.5m retained. There is no high retail demand at this end of the village with one house and a public house (with parking available to the rear) immediately adjacent. The parking provided here is considered to be appropriate to the location, adjacent usage and parking demand.
Overall Change					-11	

\* Note: Part 8 drawings were based on 6.0m carriageway with a commitment given in Part 8 responses that 6.5m would be provided to accommodate agricultural and commercial vehicles.

# From Construction Drawings Rev A



**7. Question submitted by Councillor D. McSweeney**

***I will ask at the next meeting of the Metropolitan District of Limerick, following the commitment given by the Director of Planning, Environment and Place-Making in November 2022 to consider a pilot upgrade of a lane way in the City Centre, what progress has been made to date.***

**REPLY:** Place Making Team has prepared a draft report on city centre streets and laneways. This is currently being reviewed by LCCC Transportation and Travel Directorate. In order to access funding, the Council is required to adhere to public spending code. When funding is approved a pilot project can be progressed.

**8. Question submitted by Councillor E. Secas**

***I will ask at the next meeting of the Metropolitan District of Limerick if the Report on the extension of the Castleconnell Playground has been completed and is available yet.***

**REPLY:** It is proposed to extend the existing playground in Castleconnell. This project is progressing in Q4 of this year with the appointment of a Consultant to progress the project.

**9. Question submitted by Councillor E. Secas**

***I will ask at the next meeting of the Metropolitan District of Limerick for an update on the progress made to-date to provide a dog park in Castletroy Park.***

**REPLY:** An area has been identified for a dog park in Castletroy Park. A framework of contractors has been set up to undertake works such as this. A funding source will need to be identified before this project can proceed.

**10. Question submitted by Councillor C. Slattery**

***I will ask at the next Meeting of the Metropolitan District of Limerick, in relation to Lynwood Park Laneways, I have tried on many occasions to get Limerick Council to clean up these lanes but have failed. These lanes are gated lanes but the residents who requested these lanes to be gated are now deceased or elderly and cannot clean up these laneways. The laneways are now overgrown and rat infested etc. Can the Council take these lanes in charge again please. There is a similar lane in Granville Park that also needs to be taken in charge. We need to support our elderly people who no longer can do the upkeep of these lanes.***

**REPLY:** The laneways in Lynwood Park are currently not in council charge and therefore are not in Limerick City and County Council's remit to maintain. Any request to take a private laneway into council charge should be requested through the Planning department. A budget would be required to upgrade the laneway(s) in question to the necessary standards and to also regularly maintain when required.

**11. Question submitted by Councillor C. Slattery**

***I will ask at the next Meeting of the Metropolitan District of Limerick, can the Active Travel Team and the Roads Department consider funding for Knockea National School so a safe route to school can be provided to the children and parents attending the school.***

**REPLY:** The Safe Routes to School Programme was launched in March 2021 and every school in Ireland was invited to submit an expression of interest to participate in the initiative. Knockea National School did not make an application to be part of the programme.

29 schools in Limerick applied to be part of the Safe Routes to School programme. We are currently working with schools in Limerick who are on Round 1 and Round 2 of the programme. Once these schools have been supported, then subsequent schools will be brought onto the programme from the existing waitlist.

The programme is funded by the Department of Transport through the National Transport Authority (NTA) and is supported by the Department of Education. An Taisce's Green-Schools is coordinating the programme. Limerick City and County Council assists on the delivery of this programme through design and delivery of the infrastructure.

If the programme reopens for new applications in the future, the school would be eligible to apply. In the short term we can relay the query to the local area office to determine whether the concerns can be addressed at local level outside the formal Safe Routes to School programme.

#### **12. Question submitted by Councillor C. Slattery**

*I will ask at the next Meeting of the Metropolitan District of Limerick, can the Council put in place a scheme to alleviate flooding under the bridge on the R512 towards Crossagalla, because in the bad weather the area becomes impassable causing traffic chaos in the area. This road is a main thoroughfare into the City and needs to be upgraded.*

**REPLY:** Following reports of flooding on the R512 road carriageway under the existing railway bridge adjacent to the Killmallock roundabout, Limerick City and County Council Roads Department has completed a drainage survey of the stormwater network in the area and recently commenced initial consultation with Irish Rail to determine a solution to this issue. Drainage improvement costs are currently being compiled and a funding source will be examined in due course.

#### **13. Question submitted by Councillor C. Sheehan**

*I will ask at the next Meeting of the Metropolitan District of Limerick how much has been spent in the last five years in St. Mary's Park on contractors cleaning up illegal dumping.*

**REPLY:** LCCC have spent €354,000 on contractors cleaning up illegal dumping in the St. Marys Park area over the period 2019 – 2023.

#### **14. Question submitted by Councillor C. Sheehan**

*I will ask at the next Meeting of the Metropolitan District of Limerick for an update on the local authorities plans to upgrade O'Dwyer Bridge on Athlunkard Street and if a bridge restoration grant has been applied for.*

**REPLY:** Limerick City and County Council Road's Department has recently acquired funding to complete painting and cleaning upgrade works to O'Dwyer Bridge on Athlunkard Street. An Appropriate Assessment screening process is currently underway which will be followed by a tender process to appoint a suitable and competent contractor to complete the works involved.

**15. Question submitted by Councillor C. Sheehan**

*I will ask at the next Meeting of the Metropolitan District of Limerick for the Council to outline their policy in relation to laneways at the rear of houses in urban housing estates to ascertain whose responsibility it is to maintain these laneways.*

**REPLY:** Limerick City and County Council Road's Department are only responsible for maintaining laneways or roadways that are in council charge.

**16. Question submitted by Councillor E. Secas**

*I will ask at the next Meeting of the Metropolitan District of Limerick for the breakdown of consultancy services and the list of projects in Limerick City East for which consultancy was used in the past 5 years in a tabular format as follows: year, consultancy services, project, amount paid.*

It was agreed that a reply would be submitted for the November Meeting of the Metropolitan District of Limerick.

**17. Question submitted by Councillor J. Pond**

*I will ask at the next Meeting of the Metropolitan District of Limerick that Limerick City and County Council write to An Post requesting them to reinstate the post box that was removed from the centre of Castleconnell Village when the Post Office was relocated.*

**REPLY:** Decisions on the location of Post Boxes are operational decisions made by An Post. Limerick City and County Council does not have any involvement in the process where decisions are made on where post boxes are located. However, this request can be forwarded on to An Post for consideration.

**18. Question submitted by Councillor J. Pond**

*I will ask at the next Meeting of the Metropolitan District of Limerick for an update on progress for the delivery of the much-needed proposed Library for the greater Castletroy area.*

**REPLY:** A new public library requires significant planning and resources, both capital and revenue. The first step was to include the need for a library for Castletroy in the City and County Council's 5-year Library strategic plan which was launched in June 2021. Following this, we undertook a process to identify a suitable site to meet the requirements for this rapidly expanding area of Limerick. We have identified two potential sites in Council ownership directly behind the Castletroy Shopping Centre and adjacent to both primary and secondary schools. The identification of a site is a key milestone in advancing this important project.

Further progress will be set in the context of available funding both Local and National, therefore we are not in a position at this stage to have a definite timeline for delivery. In the interim the current mobile library service in Castletroy has been extended to meet current demand.

**19. Question submitted by Councillor E. O'Donovan**

***I will ask at the next Meeting of the Metropolitan District of Limerick for an update on the removal of temporary railings around derelict sites on Parnell Street and Hartstonge Street.***

**REPLY: Dangerous Structure at 10 Hartstonge Street.**

A Local Government (Sanitary Services) Section 3 notice has been served on the alleged Owner in November 2021. Additionally, the Derelict Sites team has issued a Derelict Sites Section 15 notice to compulsory purchase the property. The alleged owner has appealed this order to An Bord Pleanála. We are currently awaiting the outcome of the appeal before we can progress this case.

**Dangerous Structure at Parnell Street.**

Planning permission was granted for the development of this site in May 2022 and it was expected that this would result in activity on the site and removal of the roof structure. Unfortunately, as there was no engagement in relation to the progression of the development, so a further Local Government (Sanitary Services) Section 3 notice has been issued to the owner requiring them to remove the hazardous roof by the 3<sup>rd</sup> of November 2023. This will then allow for the removal of the fencing. Noncompliance with the section 3 notice will result in initiation of legal proceedings.

**20. Question submitted by Councillor E. O'Donovan**

***I will ask at the next Meeting of the Metropolitan District of Limerick on the outcome of capacity audit of Loughmore Canal as requested by this Council in March 2022 and for the results of this capacity audit to be shared.***

**REPLY:** Flow meters at inlet and outlet to Loughmore canal and rain gauge are being installed by Capital Water Ltd on Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> October 2023. This will provide information for assessment of capacity of Loughmore Canal.

**21. Question submitted by Councillor E. O'Donovan**

***I will ask at the next meeting of the Metropolitan District of Limerick of the protocol around collecting debris and branches from tree/hedge cutting and to ask for the debris from recent hedge cutting in Raheen to be removed from footpaths and cycle lanes.***

**REPLY:** Contractors and landowners carrying out tree/hedge cutting should ensure that all debris is removed from footpaths, cycle lanes and carriageways following works. In the Raheen area any cutting carried out by contractors working for the Council normally takes place at night to minimise disruption and the cleaning of debris by the contractor normally takes place in the following days during daylight hours.

The Council's contractor has returned to the Raheen area and has removed the debris

associated with their works. The contractor will be reminded to ensure that debris is removed promptly.

## 22. Question submitted by Councillor S. Novak Uí Chonchúir

*I will ask at the next Meeting of the Metropolitan District of Limerick the number and location of disabled parking bays in Limerick City North.*

**REPLY:** There are 212 disabled parking spaces in Limerick City, the table below outlines all their locations.

Disabled Parking Bays in Limerick City 2023		DISABLED CAR PARKING BAYS
		
Street	Total number of spaces	
ATHLUNKARD ST	1	
AUGUSTINIAN PLACE	1	
BARRINGTON ST	2	
BEDFORD ROW	3	
CABBAGE MARKET	2	
CATHERINE STREET	4	
CECIL STREET	2	
CECIL STREET LR	3	
CHARLOTTE QUAY	2	
CLANCY'S STRAND	5	
CLARE STREET	3	
CLIONA PARK, MOYROSS	1	
CLIONA PARK, MOYROSS	1	
COLLEGE PARK, CORBALLY	1	
CONVENT STREET	1	
CRATLOE ROAD	1	
DOMINIC STREET	1	
DOWNEY STREET	1	
EAST SINGLAND ROAD, GARYOWEN	1	

ELLEN STREET	2
ENNIS ROAD	2
EXCHANGE ST	1
FAIRVIEW CRESCENT	3
GARRYOWEN ROAD	2
GEORGES QUAY	1
GERALD GRIFFIN STREET UPPER	1
GLASGOW PARK	3
GLENTWORTH STREET	3
GLENTWORTH STREET LOWER	2
GREENHILLS ROAD	10
HARTSTONGE ST	1
HENRY STREET	2
HENRY STREET UPPER	1
MOUNT KENNETH PLACE	1
HIGH STREET	2
JOHN'S SQUARE CHEMIST	1
JOHN'S STREET	2
LADY'S LANE	1
LIDDY STREET	1
LORD EDWARD STREET	4
LOWER GERLAD GRIFFIN STREET	2
UPPER GERALD GRIFFIN STREET	2
MALLOW STREET LOWER	1
MALLOW STREET UPPER	5
MERCHANTS QUAY	3
MICHAEL ST	1
MULGRAVE STREET	1
NEWTOWN MAHON	1
NEW STREET	1
NORTH CIRCULAR ROAD	4
O CONNELL STREET	7
O'CONNELL AVENUE	1
O'CALLAGHANS STRAND	4
O'CURRY STREET	1
PARNELL STREET	4
PATRICK STREET	2
PERY SQUARE	7
PERY STREET	2
PETER'S CELL	1
ROCHES STREET	3
SARFIELD STREET	1
SARFIELD COURT	1
SEXTON STREET	2
SEXTON STREET NORTH	1
SIR HARRYS MALL	3

THE BISHOPS QUAY	1
WILLIAM STREET	3
WILLIAM STREET UPPER	1
WOODVIEW PARK	5
VIZES COURT/FIELD	3
MONABRAHER ROAD, BALLANANTY	2
HENNESSY AVENUE, KILEELY	2
NEW ROAD, KILEELY	3
KILEELY COURT, KILEELY	3
BROWN'S QUAY, THOMONDGATE	1
THOMONDGATE	2
HIGH ROAD, THOMONDGATE	1
ISLAND ROAD, ST. MARYS PARK	2
ASUMPTA PARK, ST. MARY'S PARK	3
UPPER CAREYS ROAD	1
FITZGERALD PLACE	2
CAHERDAVIN	1
SARFIELD PARK	7
SARFIELD COURT (LORD EDWARD STREET)	1
BALLYCUMMIN ROAD (RAHEEN CHURCH)	4
ROXBOROUGH AVENUE / WOLFE TONE TERRACE	2
PINEVIEW GARDENS	1
REIDY PARK	1
GRATTAN STREET	3
Flanker Court (Glasgow Park)	1
MOUNT SINGLAND	1
JOHN STREET	1
OAKWOOD RESIDENTIAL ESTATE	1
SHANNON CLOSE	2
CREAGH AVENUE, KILEELY	2
BALLYCLOUGH AVENUE (WESTON)	1
GERALDINE VILLAS	1
CONVENT STREET	1
HUNTSFIELD	1
CLIONA PARK MOYROSS	1
OLD CLARE STREET	1
<b>Total number of spaces</b>	<b>212</b>

**23. Question submitted by Councillor S. Novak Uí Chonchúir**

***I will ask at the next Meeting of the Metropolitan District of Limerick when the Climate Action Plan will be published by Limerick City and County Council.***

**REPLY:** The Climate Action Plan is to be adopted by the Council by 28<sup>th</sup> February 2024. The draft Plan is currently being prepared and is anticipated to be published for public consultation in early November for a period of 6 weeks.

**24. Question submitted by Councillor S. Novak Uí Chonchúir**

*I will ask at the next Meeting of the Metropolitan District of Limerick if there are plans to designate areas for car sharing and enable for and/or install electric charging points in those areas.*

**REPLY:** Following an initial pilot scheme in collaboration with Go Car Ltd., there are car-share options currently available at the following locations in Limerick:

Location	Number of Vehicles
University of Limerick (EV)	1
Parkway Shopping Centre (Go Car reserved spaces), Limerick	2
Europcar - Ennis Road, Limerick	2
Limerick One Shopping Centre	2
Circle K Dock Road (near St Alphonsus St), Limerick	2
Gerald Griffin Street Limerick	1
Barrington Street, Limerick	1
The Bishops Quay	1
Charlotte's Quay Limerick	1
O'Callaghan Strand Limerick	1
Clancy's Strand Limerick	1
Colbert Train Station, Limerick	2
Greenpark Shopping Centre, Limerick	1
Parkway Retail Park (by Homebase, car parked closed 10pm to 6am), Limerick	2
Total	20

The Council is currently preparing to regularise the future control of car-sharing services through the preparation of bye-laws and the formal procurement and award of a service provider contract(s). Proposals for the designation of expanded areas for car-sharing will be reviewed and agreed with the future service provider(s) once appointed.

As part of the on-going Electric Vehicle Charging, Civils Infrastructure: Phase I Project we are reviewing with ESB Networks the feasibility of providing for EV car-sharing facilities at possible city-centre and rural transport hubs such as Colbert Station in advance of procuring a car-share service provider(s). Development of additional EV car-sharing sites may also be carried out in conjunction with an appointed service provider(s) where feasible.

**25. Question submitted by Councillor S. Benson**

*I will ask at the next Meeting of the Metropolitan District of Limerick for an update on the introduction of ASD specific parking as per the adopted resolution of a motion on this topic last year.*

**REPLY:** We are continuing to review the basis for allocation of ASD specific parking in Limerick. We will revert with an update as soon as we have completed a detailed review on whether such a basis can be justified.



**26. Question submitted by Councillor S. Benson**

*I will ask at the next Meeting of the Metropolitan District of Limerick who is responsible for erecting the flood barriers around the quays in and if the Council could explain the mechanism for having these put in place and removed, and if they would provide an explanation around the service level agreement.*

**REPLY:** Limerick City and County Council Road's Department deploys flood barrier defences around the Limerick City Quay area during weather events when required based on information determined from a flooding forecast model. This model is prepared from various forecast information which includes Shannon Dock tide times, OPW's flood surge model, ESB's Shannon Level Forecast and Met Eireann's weather forecasts. This exercise is generally completed prior to and during significant weather events.

Limerick City and County Council Road's Department deploys flood barrier defences around the Limerick City Quay area during weather events when required based on information determined from a flooding forecast model. This model is prepared from various forecast information which includes Shannon Dock tide times, OPW's flood surge model, ESB's Shannon Level Forecast and Met Eireann's weather forecasts. This exercise is generally completed prior to and during significant weather events on the direct instruction of the District Engineers and once the base level defence are installed (normally in October) these base defences remain in place until the summer season unless an event is predicted\occurs.

**27. Question submitted by Councillor S. Benson**

*I will ask at the next Meeting of the Metropolitan District of Limerick, what the budget is for the Disabled Persons Grant for 2023, how much has been spent to date and if the Council could comment on why applicants, who submitted applications in June 2023, are being told that they will have to wait until 2024 for works "due to budget constraints for the DPG programme this year".*

**REPLY:** The Disabled Persons Grants Scheme provides grant aid to people to carry out works on social housing stock to address the needs of older people or people with a disability. Limerick City and County Council was awarded Grant Funding of €710,426.00 in May of 2023 for Disabled Persons Grants. This grant funding will provide for works in 57 social housing units. Limerick City and County Council sought an increase to the awarded grant in June -2023 of €130,475.00 for applications that are currently on hand; this was approved in July 2023. Limerick City and County Council has currently spent €577,199.65 of the awarded grant and works are in progress to ensure the full grant allocation will be spend by year-end. Limerick City and County Council is awarded a full year grant allocation based on a planned and approved programme of works in order to plan, prioritise and implement the programme in a planned way throughout the year. Local Authorities can apply for additional funding from the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage for emergency cases as they arise throughout the year, and this is considered on a case-by-case basis in respect of any new applications received throughout the year. The ability to accommodate additional works will be dependent on the scope and complexity of the works (and the needs of the applicant).

## NOTICES OF MOTION

### **28. Notice of Motion submitted by Councillor E. Secas**

***I will move at the next meeting of the Metropolitan District of Limerick that we write to the OPW to request that a) they identify as a priority a site for a new garda station in Castletroy, as well as give consideration to the existing vacant buildings that might serve the purpose; b) they provide a Garda office in the area meanwhile until the new Garda station is delivered.***

The Notice of Motion was proposed by Councillor Secas, seconded by Councillor Pond and agreed.

In proposing the motion, Councillor Secas welcomed the approval for a Garda Station in the Castletroy area, which was much needed in the growing suburb. She acknowledged that the project would take time to deliver and that providing a Garda Office in an existing vacant building would be a positive measure for the area. The Members supported the motion and agreed that a temporary location was required for the approved Garda Station until the new station was built. Some Members noted that the Garda Station in Castleconnell was also currently providing some Garda cover in the Castletroy area too.

### **29. Notice of Motion submitted by Councillor J. Pond**

***I will move at the next Meeting of the Metropolitan District of Limerick that Limerick City and County Council would urgently engage with the OPW to provide a site for the New Garda Station that Garda Commissioner Drew Harris has sanctioned for the Castletroy / Annacotty area.***

Councillor Pond confirmed that he wished to withdraw this Notice of Motion as it is similar to the Notice of Motion already moved by Councillor Secas.

### **30. Notice of Motion submitted by Councillor E. Secas (to be referred to the Economic Development, Enterprise and Planning Strategic Policy Committee)**

***I will move at the next meeting of the Metropolitan District of Limerick that the Council employ an infrastructure-led approach with any future planning applications in order to ensure we create sustainable communities.***

It was agreed to refer this Notice of Motion to the Economic Development, Enterprise and Planning Strategic Policy Committee.

### **31. Notice of Motion submitted by Councillor C. Slattery**

***I will move at the next Meeting of the Metropolitan District of Limerick that we write to Minister for Justice, Helen McEntee and ask that she remove disbanding community policing from the Garda Commissioners working hours plan.***

The Notice of Motion was proposed by Councillor Slattery, seconded by Councillor Pond and agreed.

In proposing the Motion, Councillor Slattery referred to the importance of the community policing

unit to the city. Members supported the motion and agreed it was essential that the community policing unit is in the Metropolitan District area.

**32. Notice of Motion submitted by Councillor C. Sheehan (to be referred to the Climate Action, Biodiversity and Environment Strategic Policy Committee)**

*I will move at the next Meeting of the Metropolitan District of Limerick that the Council commits to putting in place a multiannual funded plan to implement the recommendations of the comprehensive management plan for the Westfield Wetlands.*

It was agreed to refer this Notice of Motion to the Climate Action, Biodiversity and Environment Strategic Policy Committee.

**33. Notice of Motion submitted by Councillor C. Sheehan**

*I will move at the next Meeting of the Metropolitan District of Limerick that the Council writes to the Minister for Transport to ask him to introduce another round of Safe Routes to School funding to cover schools that have not yet received funding.*

The Notice of Motion was proposed by Councillor Sheehan (C), seconded by Councillor O'Donovan and agreed.

In proposing the Motion, Councillor Sheehan (C) stated that the Safe Routes to School Scheme had been very successful and if further funding was available, it would allow other schools to benefit from the scheme and introduce safety measures.

Members supported the Motion and requested that a Workshop would be arranged with the Active Travel Team on the Safe Routes to School Scheme.

**34. Notice of Motion submitted by Councillor C. Slattery (to be referred to the Local Electoral Area Briefings)**

*I will move at the next Meeting of the Metropolitan District of Limerick that we discuss Mount St. Lawrence Cemetery and the upkeep of the Cemetery with a view to improving the area.*

It was agreed to refer this Notice of Motion to the Local Electoral Area Briefings.

**35. Notice of Motion submitted by Councillor E. O'Donovan (to be referred to the Local Electoral Area Briefings)**

*I will move at the next Meeting of the Metropolitan District of Limerick that the bollards that have been removed on the cycle lane on O'Connell Street be replaced immediately to stop illegal parking and to protect cyclists.*

It was agreed to refer this Notice of Motion to the Local Electoral Area Briefings.

**36. Notice of Motion submitted by Councillor S. Novak Uí Chonchúir (to be referred to the Climate Action, Biodiversity and Environment Strategic Policy Committee)**

*I will move at the next Meeting of the Metropolitan District of Limerick that the Council liaise with Google to introduce Project Air View to Limerick City to establish the status of Limerick's air quality, to evaluate the impacts of air pollution on life and health of the citizens of Limerick, and develop mitigation actions in accordance with the results; similar to the one completed in Dublin in 2023 and in other European cities.*

It was agreed to refer this Notice of Motion to the Climate Action, Biodiversity and Environment Strategic Policy Committee.

**37. Notice of Motion submitted by Councillor S. Novak Uí Chonchúir (to be referred to the Local Electoral Area Briefings)**

*I will move at the next Meeting of the Metropolitan District of Limerick that the Active Travel review the options for safer crossing of Athlunkard Bridge for pedestrians and cyclist to complete the link from Shannon Banks and Westbury to St. Munchin's College and Scoil Ide Safe routes to school scheme, and the Mill Road Scheme.*

It was agreed to refer this Notice of Motion to the Local Electoral Area Briefings.

**38. Notice of Motion submitted by Councillor S. Benson (to be referred to the Home and Social Development Strategic Policy Committee)**

*I will move at the next Meeting of the Metropolitan District of Limerick, that where a homeowner or Council tenant has an identified requirement for a sensory room and space is unavailable within the property, that modular units will be allowed for under the current housing grants, which currently only allow for traditional build units.*

It was agreed to refer this Notice of Motion to the Home and Social Development Strategic Policy Committee.

**39. Correspondence**

Correspondence was noted and taken as read.

This concluded the Meeting.

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_  
CATHAOIRLEACH

Dated: \_\_\_\_\_