



Comhairle Cathrach  
& Contae Luimnigh

Limerick City  
& County Council

Stiúrthóireacht na Forbartha Pobail,  
Comhairle Cathrach agus Contae Luimnigh  
Ceanncheathrú Chorparáideach,  
Cé na gCeannaithe,  
Luimneach.

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**To the Mayor and Each Member of Limerick City and County Council**

## **Chairperson's Report for the Community, Leisure and Culture Strategic Policy Committee**

**A Chomhairleoir, A Chara,**

The Community, Leisure and Culture Committee meeting was held on 2<sup>nd</sup> October 2023. The minutes of the previous meeting held on 12<sup>th</sup> June 2023 were adopted.

### **Notice of Motion from Councillor Joe Leddin (referred to the Community, Leisure and Culture Strategic Policy Committee)**

**"I will move at the next Meeting of the Metropolitan District of Limerick that the Council identify suitable land in the Dooradoyle area to facilitate the construction of a new children's playground to meet the growing needs of the local community."**

Cllr. Leddin advised that there are 20,000 people living in Dooradoyle/Raheen. This area is served by a playground in Mungret which is extremely busy and a playground in Dooradoyle beside the Crescent Shopping Centre which is not adequate for the existing demand in the area.

The Chairperson Cllr. M. Donegan thanked Cllr. Leddin and expressed his support for the Motion.

Seamus O'Connor, Limerick City and County Council, advised that the Council would explore the matter and liaise with the Limerick City West Elected Members on the issue.

### **Draft Public Arts Policy 2024-2028**

A presentation was given to the members on the Draft Public Art Policy 2024-2028 by Art Consultant Vincent O'Shea.

Cllr. E. O'Donovan asked if Limerick City and County Council have a policy or Guidelines regarding Public Art. She advised that the Council had given the go ahead for a Public Art installation in O'Connell Street in association with the infrastructural works and no installation has taken place. She stated that the Council have been gifted public art in Barrington's Pier and public consultation did not take place in this instance and asked that something be included in the plan in relation to art work that is gifted to the Council.

Cllr. O. O'Sullivan asked what year the Per Cent for Art Scheme came into place. She stated that the Council need to look at more innovative approaches to street art to ensure good quality artwork. She advised that she would not be happy to stand over poor quality artwork and asked how to include this in the commissioning process.

Cllr. O. O'Sullivan asked if there is an inventory of street art and agreed with Cllr. E. O'Donovan that there should be a policy regarding gifting art. Cllr. O. O'Sullivan advised that she had received positive feedback from residents regarding the art work that was gifted to the council in Barrington's Pier and she also would like to see child friendly art.

Mr. O'Shea advised that Limerick City and County Council does not have a policy in place currently regarding public art. He stated that the gifting of artwork is addressed in the policy, and will be a part of the duties of the Advisory Group.

He advised that national Per Cent for Art Policy has been in place since 1978. He informed the members that quality can be difficult to assess and the process around the Advisory Group will promote quality. He advised that a lot of work has been done with children at a local level and a lot of artists have worked with children in local schools.

Cllr. T. Ruddle asked if money would be available for statues and fountains in Newcastle West. Vincent advised that there is a statue of Michael Hartnett in Newcastle West.

Cllr. G. Mitchell thanked Vincent for the Presentation. He advised that there is a project in Hospital under the remit of the Office of Public Works who have their own funding and asked how can we determine who are the experts.

Vincent advised that the policy will revert to the SPC in December. He advised that the Public Art Advisory Group are an overview Board which look at Projects.

P. Moles thanked Vincent for the presentation and commented that he believes that there is a big problem in Limerick regarding Artistic infrastructure having spoken to artists and asked if resourcing for Arts infrastructure can be included in the policy.

Consultation would take place on the Plan in the next two weeks. It is intended that the plan will go back to the December SPC and will be presented to the Council in January 2024.

The Chairperson Cllr. M. Donegan thanked Mr. O'Shea for the presentation and requested that a written reply could be given from the Council as to why the funding earmarked for Public Art in O'Connell Street had not proceeded.

#### Abbeyfeale Town Centre First Plan

A presentation was given by Karen Burke, Town Centre First Officer on the Abbeyfeale Town Centre First Plan.

Abbeyfeale was selected as the pilot town for Limerick under the Government initiative launched in 2022. A town team was established comprising of local residents, business operators and elected members and extensive consultation has taken place. The Draft Plan is on display until October 16<sup>th</sup> 2023 and it is anticipated that the Plan will be finalised in November 2023.

Cllr. F. Foley, Cllr. L Galvin and Cllr. J. Sheehan were all members of this team. A total of 10 Priority Actions are included in the Plan. The Plan also outlines the different Funding Opportunities that are available, to deliver the key ambitions set out in the plan.

### Meeting Schedule

The Members were advised that the following meeting schedule for the Community, Leisure and Culture SPC has been approved at the Full Meeting of Limerick City and County Council on Monday 17<sup>th</sup> July 2023.

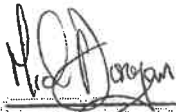
04/12/2023

12/02/2024

01/04/2024

The meeting date agreed of 01/04/2024 will need to be amended as this is Easter Monday which is a Public Holiday.

The Meeting ended at 4.20 p.m.



**Cllr Michael Donegan**

**Chairperson**

**Community, Leisure and Culture SPC**

**15/11/2023**