

MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS AT MONTHLY MEETING OF THE METROPOLITAN DISTRICT OF LIMERICK HELD IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER, DOORADOYLE, LIMERICK AND ONLINE ON MONDAY, 11TH DECEMBER, 2023 at 9.45 A.M.

PRESENT IN THE CHAIR: Councillor Azad Talukder, Cathaoirleach

MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE:

Councillors Benson, Butler, Collins, 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:

A/Director of Service, National and Regional Shared Services Centre (Ms. S. Reidy), Director, Economic Development, Enterprise and Tourism (Mr. G. Daly), Meetings Administrator (Mr. M. Leahy), Senior Staff Officer, Corporate Services, Governance and Customer Services (Ms. A. Foley), A/Administrative Officer, Tourism (Mr. E. Crimmins), Head of Property Management Services (Ms. J. Leahy), Administrative Officer, Property Management Services (Ms. T. Knox), Senior Engineer, Roads, Traffic and Cleansing (Mr. J. Gannon), Senior Executive Engineers, Roads, Traffic and Cleansing (Mr. M. Richardson and Mr. L. Browne), Senior Engineer, Travel and Transport Strategy (Mr. H. McGrath), Senior Executive Officer, Housing Support Services (Ms. M. Hayes), Senior Executive Officer, Housing (Ms. S. Newell), Senior Staff Officer, Housing Support Services (Mr. J. McDonald), Assistant Staff Officer, Corporate Services and Governance (Ms. S. Carroll).

1. Adoption of Minutes

Circulated, copy of draft Minutes of the Monthly Meeting of the Metropolitan District of Limerick held on 20th November, 2023.

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

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

The Director, Economic Development, Enterprise and Tourism gave an overview to the Elected Members on the content of the programme of Christmas related activities and events being carried out in the Metropolitan District for Christmas 2023. He also confirmed that a Workshop in relation to preparation for Christmas in Limerick in 2024 would be arranged in early 2024. He stated that feedback from interested stakeholders, arts and culture groups and businesses would be sought as part of the Workshop process.

Members welcomed the presentation from the Director and noted the many events being arranged for Christmas 2023 and welcomed the proposed Workshop in early 2024 to discuss Christmas in Limerick 2024. They noted, however, that a Workshop had taken place in early 2023 to discuss Christmas in Limerick 2023 where several good suggestions were made in relation to expanding the offering, and Members expressed disappointment that these had not been acted on.

They referred to Christmas events in other cities in Ireland and agreed that Limerick needed to increase its offering for Christmas 2024 to ensure that it continued to be an attractive destination for people to visit over the Christmas period. They agreed the importance of increasing the Budget funding if possible and of identifying and booking creative talent early in 2024 to ensure availability for Christmas 2024. They noted that the potential of commercial sponsorship could also be explored, as well as looking at having a formal turning on ceremony for Christmas lights. The Director agreed that all these suggestions could be discussed as part of the Workshop to be arranged with the Members in early 2024.

Members also welcomed the announcement that morning of 400 new jobs for Limerick by Verizon, which would be located in the city centre.

2. 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.

3. Disposal of Land

(a) Circulated, Report of the Senior Staff Officer, Housing Support Services dated 10th November, 2023, setting out proposals for disposal of Freehold Interest of premises consisting of a dwelling house situate at 7 McDermott Avenue, Janesboro, 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 Senior Staff Officer, Housing Support Services dated 17th November, 2023, setting out proposals for disposal of Freehold Interest of premises consisting of a dwelling house situate at 26 Pearse Avenue, Janesboro, 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 Senior Staff Officer, Housing Support Services dated 21st November, 2023, setting out proposals for disposal of Freehold Interest of premises consisting of a dwelling house situate at 7 Rossa Avenue, 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 Senior Staff Officer, Housing Support Services dated 28th November, 2023, setting out proposals for disposal of Freehold Interest of premises consisting of a dwelling house situate at 19 Cregan 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.

(e) Circulated, Report of the Senior Executive Officer and Director of Service, Housing dated 24th November, 2023, setting out proposals for disposal of 1.0529 hectares of land at Munget, 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 28th November, 2023, setting out proposals for disposal of 0.004 acres (0.0017 hectares) of land at 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.

(g) Circulated, Report of the Head of Property Management dated 28th November, 2023, setting out proposals for disposal of 7.2m² of land at Main Street, Patrickswell, Co. 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.

QUESTIONS

4. Question submitted by Councillor J. Pond

I will ask at the next Meeting of the Metropolitan District of Limerick, there are 131 Derelict Properties registered to Limerick City and County Council on the Derelict Site Register;

(a) How many of these properties do Limerick City and County Council pay a levy on;
(b) Levies that are collected on derelict properties are used for what purpose.

REPLY: Limerick City and County Council continues to identify vacant homes and derelict sites by regular surveys completed throughout the local authority's administrative area. Public representatives, members of the public and local community groups also bring such unproductive properties to the attention of the Council.

A full copy of the Derelict Sites Register maintained by the Council pursuant to section 8 of the Derelict Sites Act, 1990 (as amended), is available for inspection during office hours at the Property Management Department, Merchants Quay, Limerick, or may be downloaded in summary from www.limerick.ie/council

a) The Council currently has the particulars of land in 439 no. cases entered in the Register. Of these, there are 131 no. cases where the land is currently in the ownership of LCCC. These cases include properties which are:

- available for sale on the private market
- at sale agreed stage between LCCC and new owners pending legal completion
- in a renovation programme for social housing
- retained for community/tourism or other uses.
- held by LCCC pending an arbitration process

It is the intention to dispose of the majority of the acquired sites to new owners, or they are included in a Council-led development programme.

- b) The Council charges a Levy on properties that are entered in the Register and for which a market valuation has been determined. The Levy is charged annually and is equal to 7% of the market value determined. The Levy continues to be charged until the site ceases to be 'derelict' within the meaning of section 3 to the Derelict Sites Act, 1990. All levies collected are used in connection with running the derelict sites process from initial inspection through to acquisition and de-risking, to selling to new owners. Entitled parties will also lodge claims for compensation due the acquisition of their sites and these must be paid by the Council.

5. Question submitted by Councillor J. Pond

I will ask at the next Meeting of the Metropolitan District of Limerick if Limerick City and County Council has considered or has plans to install a Pedestrian Crossing near Monaleen GAA Pitch on Schoolhouse Road that would allow children and adults safe access to the grounds while crossing this extremely busy road.

REPLY: Limerick City and County Council Road's Department will examine potential funding avenues for a possible pedestrian crossing scheme near Monaleen GAA Pitch on Schoolhouse Road, possibly through a Low-Cost Safety or Active Travel scheme. If a funding application is successful a suitable design and delivery will take place, which will possibly be subject to a Section 38 public consultation and a road safety audit.

6. Question submitted by Councillor C. Slattery

I will ask at the next Meeting of the Metropolitan District of Limerick if Limerick City and County Council has considered or has plans for a traffic safety scheme at Bengal Terrace, Old Cork Road.

REPLY: Limerick City and County Council Road's Department has discussed this matter with the Active Travel team who are currently examining active travel options along Ballysimon Road. Possible junction improvements at Bengal Terrace will be considered as part of the project.

7. Question submitted by Councillor C. Slattery

I will ask at the next Meeting of the Metropolitan District of Limerick if St Bridget's School, Singland is included in the Safe Routes to School scheme and if not, can St Bridget's School be included in same.

REPLY: St Bridget's School, Singland is included in the Safe Routes to School programme and is currently on the list of schools awaiting works.

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.

8. Question submitted by Councillor E. O'Donovan

I will ask at the next Meeting of the Metropolitan District of Limerick as to what plans have Limerick City and County Council in place for speed reducing measures for the Ballinacurra Road.

REPLY: Limerick City and County Council Roads Department currently does not have plans to introduce new speed reducing measures for the Ballinacurra Road. A traffic survey and assessment on the Ballinacurra Road was completed in February 2023. No significant speed violations were identified; however the Roads Department will keep this area under review. It is important to also recognise the Council has installed driver feedback signage on this road and speed vans have regularly been assigned by the Gardaí to this particular area.

9. Question submitted by Councillor E. O'Donovan

I will ask at the next Meeting of the Metropolitan District of Limerick if Limerick City and County Council has any plans to widen footpaths near the ESB Networks Offices at Rosbrien approaching the junction of the Rosbrien Road and Punches Cross.

REPLY: Limerick City and County Council Roads Department currently does not have plans to widen footpaths on the R858 Rosbrien road from the ESB Networks offices to the Punches cross junction. This road currently accommodates two-way traffic and footpath widths are restricted due to the close proximity of the front of existing residential properties to the edge of the road carriageway. Due to the existing topography and front properties layouts in this location, it is not currently possible to widen footpaths in this particular area without setting back property boundaries which would be subject to land purchase agreements, planning and funding availability.

10. 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 establishing of the community liaison committee for the Mungret / Raheen / Dooradoyle area as stipulated in the planning conditions in respect to Irish Cement.

REPLY: An Bord Pleanala in granting permission to Irish Cement Ltd. for the development for the use of alternative fuels and alternative raw materials at the Limerick Cement Factory, included conditions requiring the establishment of a Community Liaison Committee with the responsibility to administer a community gain fund to support facilities and services in the general catchment area.

The Committee as set out in An Bord Pleanala's conditions is advised to comprise of seven members having an independent chairperson, two local community representatives, two elected members of the planning authority, one official of the planning authority and one representative from the operator of the cement works.

Irish Cement Ltd. has made a compliance submission and is engaging with the Council on these conditions. The Council is reviewing best practice on models of governance and will be seeking the establishment of the Committee in 2024.

11. Question submitted by Councillor F. Kilcoyne

I will ask at the next Meeting of the Metropolitan District of Limerick for Limerick City and County

Council to clarify why foliage from gardens, etc., including grass, is not being accepted from small contractors who are bringing same to Munget Recycling Centre.

REPLY: We regret that currently only domestic green waste can be accepted at our Recycling facilities at Munget, Newcastle West and Kilmallock. Unfortunately, commercial green waste cannot be accepted at our facilities at this time due to capacity issues at the Parks depot in Munget where the green waste is processed. This situation will remain under continual review. We apologise for any inconvenience this may cause to our commercial customers.

12. Question submitted by Councillor O. O'Sullivan

I will ask at the next Meeting of the Metropolitan District of Limerick for an update on the Options Report prepared following the close out of the Condell Road Section 38 Process which was to examine the Clonmacken and Coonagh roundabouts to include the active travel infrastructure committed in 2020 for the section of road between these two roundabouts which currently does not even have a footpath.

REPLY: A Needs Assessment Report to determine project goals was issued to the National Transport Authority (NTA) in February of 2023 and did not progress to “Options Selection” Phase. However, the section of Condell Road between the Clonmacken and Coonagh roundabouts is included in the Limerick Shannon Metropolitan Area Transport Strategy (LSMATS) as a secondary cycle route and would be a long-term goal for the Active Travel Department for provision of a cycle and pedestrian link.

13. Question submitted by Councillor O. O'Sullivan

I will ask at the next Meeting of the Metropolitan District of Limerick for a Housing Development Residential Pipeline of estimated delivery in Limerick City North to include all state-funded development, and private development, other than one off developments, where Commencement Notices have been issued.

REPLY:

Housing Development Residential Pipeline in Limerick City North	
Granted & Commenced	310 units *

* This excludes 169 dwelling units recently completed and occupied as per Geodirectory (Q4 2023)

There are 310 units currently under construction in Limerick City North. This figure includes live planning permissions with Commencement Notices but not classified as complete and occupied by Geodirectory.

14. Question submitted by Councillor O. O'Sullivan

I will ask at the next Meeting of the Metropolitan District of Limerick for an update on the Night Time Economy Advisor position within Limerick City and County Council as advertised in May 2023, following Limerick's selection as one of nine locations across the country to pilot a new

scheme to support the night-time economy, and an update on the Night Time Economy focused work to date.

REPLY: Limerick City and County Council is in the final stages of making an appointment to the position of Nighttime Economy Advisor and it is anticipated that the successful candidate will commence employment in early 2024.

15. Question submitted by Councillor S. Kiely

I will ask at the next Meeting of the Metropolitan District of Limerick what is the processing time for approval for Housing Adaptation Grants, Mobility Aids Grants and Housing Aid for Older People Grants in each Electoral Area in Limerick City and County Council.

REPLY: Housing Adaptation Grants, Mobility Aids Grants and Housing Aid for Older People Grants are administered by the 4 Metropolitan/Municipal Districts for their respective administrative area.

There is a common application form for all the above referenced grants, however a Doctor's Certificate is required for both the Housing Adaptation Grant and Mobility Aid Grant, a certificate can also be provided for a Housing Aid for Older People Grant if it is required for an urgent medical condition. This certification allows for the application/works to be prioritised as Priority 1,2 or 3. The priorities are outlined hereunder: -

Priority 1:

- The person is terminally ill or fully/mainly dependent on family or a carer; **or**
- Adaptations to the home would help them leave hospital/residential care.

Priority 2:

- The person is mobile, but they need help to access washing, toilet facilities, bedroom, and so on; **or**
- The person's ability to function independently would be harder **without** the adaptations.

Priority 3:

- The person is independent, but they need special facilities to improve their quality of life such as a separate bedroom or living space.

Priority 1 works given their urgency are processed immediately and are typically processed within a 2-to-3-week timeframe; however, in some cases Priority 1 works can be processed within days if there is an urgency to the application i.e. terminal illness.

All other grant applications (Priority 2 & 3) are typically processed within a 6-to-8-week timeframe, where we receive complete application forms. However, some applications require the input of Occupational Therapists reports or may be missing particular details regarding the applicant in respect of household income, Local Property Tax compliance etc;

this can extend the processing time beyond 6 to 8 weeks.

Due to the increased volume of applications, Limerick City and County Council notes in its correspondence to applicants that the process can take up to 14 weeks; this is an indicative timeframe and generally does not reflect what happens in practice when we receive fully completed application forms. The timeframe noted in correspondence is purposely conservative in order to allow the Council focus its resources on Priority 1 & 2 applications and deal with any issues that may arise.

Limerick City & County Council administers a significant volume of grant applications annually. In 2022, the Council approved 842 applications in total; in 2023 the Council has approved a total of 945 applications up to the end of November 2023 and we envisage this no. will exceed 1,000 by the end of the year. The 2023 grant approvals to date represents a 12% increase on the full year approval figure for 2022.

The increased approval numbers accommodated in 2023 was supported by a request from Limerick City and County Council for additional funding beyond our approved budget of €3.8m. The additional budget request was approved by the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage and has provided Limerick City and County Council with an overall budget in excess of €5m for 2023 which the Council provided increased match funding towards from its own resources.

NOTICES OF MOTION

16. Notice of Motion submitted by Councillor S. Benson

I will move at the next Meeting of the Metropolitan District of Limerick that this Council writes to the National Transport Authority asking them to encourage the greater use of the taxi bay on Sarsfield Street in the city centre, and that Limerick City and County Council and An Garda Síochána also be requested to monitor and enforce any illegal parking in this bay.

The Notice of Motion was proposed by Councillor Benson, seconded by Councillor O'Donovan and agreed.

In proposing the Motion, Councillor Benson stated that the taxi bay on Sarsfield Street provided easier access to the northside of the city and should be monitored for illegal parking to ensure it can fully operate as a taxi bay.

REPLY: The NTA's role is limited to offering advice, guidelines and funding to the local authorities. They do not direct or encourage taxi operators to use particular taxi ranks.

The Council will liaise with An Garda Síochána to request that they monitor and enforce illegal parking in this taxi rank.

Limerick City and County Council's Traffic Wardens regularly monitor this taxi rank and frequently issue fixed penalty notices to illegally parked vehicles.

17. Notice of Motion submitted by Councillor S. Benson

I will move at the next Meeting of the Metropolitan District of Limerick that this Council write to Shannon Foynes Port Company and encourage them to apply for funding through the Historic Structure Fund, for the renovation of the clock tower in Limerick Docks.

The Notice of Motion was proposed by Councillor Benson, seconded by Councillor Collopy and agreed.

In proposing the Motion, Councillor Benson stated that the clock tower was in a poor state of disrepair and was an important part of Limerick's history and culture.

18. Notice of Motion submitted by Councillor J. Pond

I will move at the next Meeting of the Metropolitan District of Limerick that with ongoing issues of antisocial behaviour both on Castletroy Greenway and adjoining estates, that Limerick City and County Council would close the Greenway during nighttime hours.

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

In proposing the Motion, Councillor Pond stated that the Castletroy Greenway was an excellent amenity and consideration should be given to closing the Greenway at the same time as closing Parks to try and assist in eliminating anti-social behaviour. Some Members noted that the Greenway was used in the evening times by cyclists and walkers and that the Gardai had agreed to introduce cycle patrols in the Metropolitan District so these patrols, along with possible CCTV measures, could address any issues.

REPLY: Public enforcement is a matter for An Garda Síochána. Limerick City & County Council will engage with all relevant stakeholders to seek amicable solutions.

19. Notice of Motion submitted by Councillor C. Slattery

I will move at the next Meeting of the Metropolitan District of Limerick that Limerick City and County Council make a submission for funding under the Historic Structures Fund Grant from the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage for the church at Mount St Lawrence Cemetery, which is a protected structure.

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

In proposing the Motion, Councillor Slattery referred to the dilapidated condition of the Church, and the need to restore it, as it was an important part of Limerick's history.

REPLY: The Council are arranging for a funding application to be submitted to the Historic Structure Funds Grant for works to the Chapel at Mount Saint Lawrence cemetery. The funding application will be submitted by the end of January 2024.

20. Notice of Motion submitted by Councillor E. O'Donovan

I will move at the next Meeting of the Metropolitan District of Limerick that Limerick City and County Council consider providing additional funding to grit city centre footpaths and make salt available to city centre residents association for their safety during cold weather.

The Notice of Motion was proposed by Councillor O'Donovan, seconded by Councillor Benson and agreed.

In proposing the Motion, Councillor O'Donovan referred to the lack of funding for gritting footpaths and the importance of ensuring that footpaths are accessible, for children, the disabled and older people.

REPLY: With approximately 4,000 kms of roadway in County Limerick, it is not possible to treat all roads as part of the normal winter maintenance programme. Priority is given to the National Route and strategic regional route system, which carries the most intensive volumes of commuter traffic. The winter maintenance programme for 2023/2024 sets out the priority treatment routes, when resources are available and what additional treatments can be carried out in exceptional circumstances.

It is not possible to include the provision of salt in such areas but in exceptional circumstances, such as prolonged events or specific warnings it may be possible to carry out surface treatment on the basis of need and the availability of resources.

The Senior Engineer, Roads, Traffic and Cleansing stated that a Workshop could be arranged in the New Year to consider possible additional measures to address the issues raised.

21. Notice of Motion submitted by Councillor E. O'Donovan

I will move at the next Meeting of the Metropolitan District of Limerick that this Council write to Bus Eireann and driving schools that operate bus, articulated truck and HGV driving lessons in the city that they do not operate or drive through roads that have weight restrictions and use main roads and bus corridors.

The Notice of Motion was proposed by Councillor O'Donovan, seconded by Councillor Benson and agreed.

In proposing the Motion, Councillor O'Donovan referred to residential areas in the city which had very narrow roads and were not suitable for buses and trucks, and that these roads were being damaged in some areas by heavier vehicles.

22. Notice of Motion submitted by Councillor F. Kilcoyne

I will move at the next Meeting of the Metropolitan District of Limerick that hi-vis jackets/vests and lights be made compulsory for all cyclists on bikes and scooters in Ireland. I ask that Limerick City and County Council write to the relevant departments in Government, to request this be made law.

The Notice of Motion was proposed by Councillor Kilcoyne and seconded by Councillor Slattery.

In proposing the Motion, Councillor Kilcoyne highlighted the need for cyclists to be visible on the roads, particularly during Wintertime.

23. Notice of Motion submitted by Councillor O. O'Sullivan (to be referred to the Community, Leisure and Culture Strategic Policy Committee)

I will move at the next Meeting of the Metropolitan District of Limerick that Limerick City and County Council develops a Busking Policy for Limerick City.

It was agreed to refer this Notice of Motion to the Community, Leisure and Culture Strategic Policy Committee.

24. Notice of Motion submitted by Councillor S. Kiely

I will move at the next Meeting of the Metropolitan District of Limerick that we write to Bus Eireann locally and the NTA to ask why drivers are not stopping at marked bus stops and taking alternative routes on the city service.

The Notice of Motion was proposed by Councillor Kiely, seconded by Councillor Butler and agreed.

In proposing the Motion, Councillor Kiely highlighted the importance of a reliable bus service, particularly for elderly people that use the service.

25. Notice of Motion submitted by Councillor S. Kiely

I will move at the next Meeting of the Metropolitan District of Limerick that consideration be given to the provision of additional resources to address the processing time for Housing Adaptation Grants, Mobility Aids Grants and Housing Aid for Older People Grants in the Metropolitan District area.

The Notice of Motion was proposed by Councillor Kiely, seconded by Councillor McSweeney and agreed.

In proposing the Motion, Councillor Kiely referred to the importance of processing grants in a timely manner across all the Districts in the local authority area to ensure that people could avail of grant assistance without undue delays.

REPLY: Limerick City & County Council receives an annual budget for private grants from the Department of Housing Local Government and Heritage. This grant award generally remains consistent with previous years and Limerick City & County Council has in recent years received an initial grant award of €3.8m i.e. exchequer funding of €3,052,350 and Limerick City and County Council match funding of 20% in the amount of €763,088.

Should the Council receive a significantly higher volume of applications a request can then be made for additional funding to the Department. This was the case in both 2022 and 2023.

In 2022, the Council approved 842 applications in total; in 2023 the Council has approved a total of 945 applications up to the end of November 2023 and we envisage this no. will exceed 1,000 by the end of the year. The 2023 grant approvals to date represents a 12%

increase on the full year approval figure for 2022.

The Council has experienced an upward trajectory in the volume of grant applications we are receiving and we are grateful for the increased budget allocation that we are in receipt of from the Department of Housing Local Government and Heritage to support the increased no. of approvals we are able to process.

We are consistently reviewing our work practices to ensure that we are achieving efficiencies in processing times and using our resources effectively to ensure grant applications are turned around as quickly as possible. We have recently introduced a number of measures to reduce the no. of pre and post visits that are required by our inspections team in order to ensure we can meet the increased capacity, these measures include as follows:-

- 1) we have introduced a self-certification post works process for certain grant types
- 2) we have requested that any applications for new windows and doors would be accompanied by photographs which will allow for a quicker turnaround
- 3) The introduction of an online application form for private grants this year will also improve our efficiencies in this area and will allow for quicker processing times for private grants

We will continue to monitor the number of applications we are processing, this is reported to Members monthly in the Chief Executive reports and if there is any significant change to the processing times, we will review our available resources that we have allocated to this Department.

26. Notice of Motion submitted by Councillor S. Hartigan

I will move at the next Meeting of the Metropolitan District of Limerick that Limerick City and County Council consider the introduction of a multi-location Parking Permit for certain approved organisations operating within the City Centre area, so as to enable them to park their vehicle at various locations throughout the city in order to deliver essential and important services to people in the City Centre area.

The Notice of Motion was proposed by Councillor Hartigan, seconded by Councillor Novak Úi Chonchúir and agreed.

In proposing the Motion, Councillor Hartigan highlighted the need for a multi-location parking permit for approved organisations that park their vehicles throughout the city to allow flexibility for a very limited number of organisations to operate in the city centre.

REPLY: The existing provisions for permit parking in Limerick City are restricted to those for:

- 1) Disabled persons parking Card\Permit (& EU Parking Card for People with Disabilities).
- 2) Residential Parking Permits, on proof of residency.

Currently there are no other regulatory provisions in place in Limerick for requests that fall outside of these criteria.

It is also important to consider the amenity and economic value of street space. Any decisions that might reduce availability of our street space need to align with economic and mobility objectives as set out in the Limerick Development Plan 2022-2028 and Limerick Shannon Metropolitan Area Study (LSMATS).

Members supported the Motion and agreed that it should be referred to the Travel and Transportation Strategic Policy Committee for further discussion.

27. Correspondence

Correspondence was noted and taken as read.

Any Other Business

The Cathaoirleach wished everyone a happy, healthy and peaceful Christmas and New Year.

This concluded the Meeting.

Signed: _____
CATHAOIRLEACH

Dated: _____