

**LIMERICK CITY AND COUNTY COUNCIL MUNICIPAL DISTRICT
OF ADARE RATHKEALE MEETING TO BE HELD ON Monday 11th
MARCH 2024**

**To: The Chairman and Each Member of the Municipal District of Adare-
Rathkeale Re: Draft Schedule of Municipal District Works - (SMDW)**

Dear Councillor,

I wish to refer to previous discussions regarding the requirement to prepare a Schedule of Municipal District Works.

Section 58 of the Local Government Reform Act 2014 inserts a new section 103A in the Local Government Act 2001 providing that, following the adoption of the annual budget, a schedule of proposed works of maintenance and repair to be carried out during the financial year in each municipal district shall be prepared, for adoption by the municipal district members.

The SMDW is, in effect, a plan of works that prioritises and apportions the use, within each municipal district, of funding provided in the overall local authority revenue budget for particular purposes

The SMDW in respect of the Municipal District should be formulated on the basis of the amount of funding provided for maintenance and repair in the annual budget in respect of each relevant service division (e.g. housing, roads, amenities, street cleaning, drainage work, burial ground maintenance, etc.

Classification of items in the budget should largely determine what works and related expenditure are included in the SMDW but insofar as it may be necessary to make judgements in particular instances, it is considered that the term “maintenance” can include not only maintenance of the physical condition or fabric of items, but also more operational type matters such as grass cutting or tree pruning.

Within the level of funding available, details of the SMDW should be prepared on the basis of identified needs (taking account of relevant factors, for example, in the case of housing, age profile of stock) and priorities throughout the local authority area and taking due account of requirements in relation to standards and frequency of maintenance work. This should be informed by details of relevant requirements which were considered in the formulation of the overall local authority budget. It will also be relevant to have regard to the pattern of works and expenditure in previous years.

It is emphasised that adoption of the SMDW per se cannot involve revision of the adopted budget.

It is essential to maximise return on investment by avoiding dilution of expenditure which could result from spreading allocations too thinly across the Municipal District each year. This could be minimised by taking a multi-annual approach where possible in the preparation of the SMDW.

Maximising value for money, overall effectiveness, and return from investment should also be a key objective in prioritising works and allocating available funding within each municipal district, along with the need to ensure appropriate balance in the allocation of resources as between urban and rural areas in the district.

Apportionment of funding on a thematic basis within the district over the life of the council could help to this end. For example, specific housing estate(s) in one location could be prioritised for refurbishment in year one, with a commitment to undertake works in another area in subsequent years. Similarly, where an overall local authority maintenance programme is drawn up for a particular purpose (say windows and doors in local authority dwellings) which might need to extend over a number of years, the required works would be reflected in relevant annual SMDWs.

Any maintenance type functions, for example, grass cutting, planting or other maintenance of open spaces, that are carried out by means of specific purpose grants for such purposes to community groups such as tidy towns committees can be provided for, as appropriate, through the SMDW.

The GMA, which is a budgetary element providing funding for discretionary expenditure at municipal district level to be decided by the elected members in respect of each municipal district, is separate from the “strategic” budgetary funding for maintenance and repair, the utilisation of which is to be determined in the SMDW.

The Draft Schedule of Municipal District Works for the Municipal District of Adare Rathkeale is set out at appendix 1 attached.

The approval of the Members is sought for the Draft Schedule as presented.

Stephane Duclot,
Director of Services.

Appendix 1

<i>ADARE RATHKEALE MUNICIPAL DISTRICT Road Works Scheme 2024</i>	
Work Category	€
Restoration Improvement (RI) -Road Reconstruction	€2,287,000
Restoration Maintenance (RM) –Surface Dressing	€378,300
Supplementary Restoration Maintenance (SRM – Surface Dressing	€330,200
Drainage Grant	€180,000
General Maintenance (GM)	€954,611
Tar Patching (TP)	€369,950
Low Cost Safety Improvement Works (LCSI)	€76,000
General Municipal Allocation (GMA)	€ 270,000
Bridge Rehabilitation	€177,360
Climate Change Adaption and Resilience Works	€165,000
Specific Improvement Grants	€130,000
Sustainable Travel Measures Grant (Active Travel)	€750,000
TII National Primary Minor Works HD15/17 N21 Murphys Cross	€70,000
TII Major Scheme Foynes - Limerick	€24,000,000
TII Major Scheme M20 Limerick- Cork	€4,040,000
Total Defined MD Spending	€ 34,178,421

- Winter Maintenance (WM) **€558,954** Total City & County.
- Community Improvement Schemes (CIS) – Limerick City & County Council are currently identifying schemes that will be included in the 2024 programme. An allocation of **€584,100** has been made to Limerick City and County for 2024
- Local Improvement Schemes (LIS) – The Department for Rural and Community Development (DRCD) introduced ring fenced funding for LIS in 2020. The 2024 allocation for Limerick City and County Council tbc
- Public Lighting **€ 3,540,087** Total City & County.
- Former National Road Grant – €880,000 – In accordance with Circular RW 1/2021, €880,000 has been made available for the upkeep of declassified national roads.

Regional Roads Road Reconstruction Allocation €882,000			
Road No.	Description	Length (m)	Total Cost €
R512	Grange to Skoolhill,Fedamore	1370	€475,000
R518	Bog Garden,Rathkeale	650	€407,000
Total		2020	€882,000

Local Roads Road Reconstruction Allocation €1,405,000			
Road No.	Description	Length (m)	Total Cost €
L8039	Court Cross to Ballyculhane Kildimo	680	€81,500
L8042	Carheeney to Kildimo	535	€53,500
L8038	Bog Road Kildimo	1,030	€113,500
L6065	Cheps Cross to Lurriga,Cappagh,	245	€22,000
L1203	Cappagh Cross to Ballyhibbin	705	€77,500
L6117	Leahys,Foynes	35	€3,500
L6112	Loghill to Lisready	140	€34,000
L1222	Hogans Quarry Entrance,Creeves	50	€52,000
L1219	Gortroe,Coolcappagh	1235	€79,500
L1201	Summerville,Pallaskenry	1450	€178,000
L1242	Tallyhoe,Rathkeale	295	€26,500
L6116	Basket Road to 5 cross roads, Shanagolden	400	€36,000
L8025	Knockdromin to Graigue,Croagh	940	€75,000
L8021	Carrigeen towards Dunaman,Croom	845	€93,000

L8606	Gormans shop to Liskennett,Granagh	1550	€81,500
L8022	Beabus –East from R519,Adare	1500	€165,000
L8008	Caherguillamore,Meanus	1700	€142,000
L1209	Knockfierna village	410	€41,000
L1209	Chawkes to Granagh	500	€50,000
Total		14245	€1,405,000

Regional Roads Surface Dressing Allocation €95,500			
Road No.	Description	Length (m)	Total Cost €
R523	Roches to 5 Cross Roads,Rathkeale	1300	€49,000
R518	Whites to Ballywilliam,Rathkeale	1340	€46,500
Total		2640	€95,500

Local Roads Surface Dressing Allocation €289,500			
Road No.	Description	Length (m)	Total Cost €
L8039	Court Cross to Ballyculhane,Kildimo	1535	€50,500
L8042	Carheeney to Kildimo	1010	€28,500
L1242	Ardnaveagh to N21,Rathkeale	645	€18,000
L1203	Cappagh Cross to Ballyhibbin	635	€19,000
L6058	Stoneyman road,Newbridge	835	€20,500
L6065	Cheps Cross to Lurriga,Cappagh	760	€19,000

L6006	Morenane to Washpool Cross,Askeaton	2440	€67,000
L6060	Conigar Askeaton	2800	€67,000
Total		10,660	€289,500

Supplementary Restoration Maintenance Local Roads Surface Dressing Allocation €323,500			
Road No.	Description	Length (m)	Total Cost €
L1223	Tiermore Junction to Graveyard,Creeves	1060	€29,000
L1242	Tallyhoe,Rathkeale	1840	€50,500
L6117	Leahys,Foynes	115	€3,000
L6112	Loghill to Lisready road	855	€23,500
L1408	Honeypound Cross to Croom	1145	€33,000
L8002	Shanaclough to Jockeyhall,Crecora	1090	€30,000
L1410	Rathmore to Mainister	1400	€38,500
L8606	Chawkes Cross to Ballygrennan	1200	€36,500
L1149	Brufea to Mollys Bar,Inch St. Lawrence	910	€25,000
L1545	Costello Quarries to Careys Cross, Granagh	1870	€54,500
Total		11,485	€323,500

Drainage Works Allocation € 180,000		
Road No.	Description	Total Cost €
L6114	Loghill Reservoir Road	€40,000
L6112	Loghill to Lisready	€25,000
L1227	Killeaney Drainage Works	€25,000
L8054	Lighthouse Cross Drainage	€20,000
L1141	Ballymacreese Drainage Works	€30,000
L8071	St Senans Terrace Croom	€30,000
L1421	Knochdromin Drainage Works	€10,000
Total		€180,000

Bridges Allocation € 177,360			
Road No.	Description	Length (m)	Total Cost €
R511	Glenogra Bridge,Meanus		€47,380
L6023	Dohyle,Cappagh		€82,630
L8039	Faha,Kildimo		€47,350
Total			€177,360

Low Cost Safety Improvement Schemes (LCSI) Allocation € 76,000			
Road No.	Description	Length (m)	Total Cost €
R518	Top of the Town Junction,Askeaton Junction Buildout/Drainage/Warning signage/Lining- Circular RW15 DOT Regional Road Safety Analysis		€15,000

L1227	Ballyhahill National School- Driver Feedback sign		€6,000
L1226/L6083	Gortadroma Junction-Sightlines improvement including boundary setback		€55,000
Total			€76,000

Climate Change Adaption & Resilience Works Allocation €165,000			
Road No.	Description	Length (m)	Total Cost €
L1416	Rosstemple Banogue GAA Culvert		€15,000
R518	Lissamota to Cahernessy,Ballingarry		€150,000
Total			€165,000

Specific Improvement Grants Allocation €130,000			
Road No.	Description	Length (m)	Total Cost €
	Lees Cross		€130,000
Total			€130,000
Active Travel Measures Allocation € 750,000			
Road No.	Description	Length (m)	Total Cost €
	Towns & Villages		€750,000.00
Total			€750,000.00

Brief summary of the above Work Categories and Allocations for the Adare Rathkeale Municipal District:

Restoration Improvement (RI) € 2,287,000

This is a specific allocation under the Restoration Improvement Grant (RI). This grant is for the road strengthening programme and caters for surface restoration, pavement overlay works and complete road rehabilitation works where existing pavements are structurally defective.

Restoration Maintenance (RM) € 378,300

This is a specific allocation under the Restoration Maintenance Grant (RM) for Surface Dressing Works only. This allocation will extend the life of the pavement and delay the development of potholes, thus protecting the investment in roads.

Supplementary Restoration Maintenance (SRM) € 330,200

This is a specific allocation in 2024 under the Supplementary Restoration Maintenance Grant (SRM) for surface dressing works only. This allocation will extend the life of the pavement and delay the development of potholes, thus protecting the investment in roads.

Drainage Grant € 180,000

This grant may be used for the alleviation of road drainage problems either through new works or remedial measures. Minor works are planned at a number of sites in the Adare/Rathkeale District in 2024.

General Maintenance € 954,611

General maintenance covers a wide range of works such as verges and drainage, cleaning water channels, street cleaning, opening inlets, signage, elimination of localised flooding, junction maintenance, dealing with accidents, oil spillages, storms, emergencies and general repairs to roads and footpaths.

General Maintenance Safety €tbc

A proportion of the general maintenance allocation is allocated to general maintenance safety. General maintenance safety funding will be used to cover a wide range of works such as road markings, road studs, road signs and general upkeep of roads in the city and county which will improve road safety.

Tar Patching (TP)**€369,950**

Regular tar patching is necessary to prevent the deterioration of the road surface and substructure and in the interest of road safety.

Bridge Rehabilitation - Structures (STR)**€ 177,360**

The 2024 allocation provides funding to enable improvement works on bridge structures on regional and local roads. A specific grant allocation is made to Limerick City and County Council to undertake works on a defined list of structures. There are three schemes under this heading in the district for 2024.

Low Cost Safety Improvement Works (LCSI)**€ 76,000**

The 2024 allocation provides funding to enable low cost safety improvement works on non-national roads to be carried out. The criteria for approval and grant allocation are based on accident data along with inspection of sites and discussions between the local authority and the Regional Road Safety Engineer. There is currently 3 schemes in the Adare/Rathkeale District.

General Municipal Allocation (GMA)**€ 270,000.00**

This allocation has been agreed at Municipal District level.

Items for which expenditure is provided on a City and County at large basis

Public Lighting (PL) € 3,540,087

This covers the operation, repair and maintenance of Public Lighting. The supply of energy is purchased through the National Procurement Service (NPS). The repair, replacement and maintenance of public lights are tendered separately. The above figure pertains to the whole City and County area.

Road Safety: Engineering, Promotion, Education (RS) € 979,687

This includes for school wardens, road safety plan, road safety education and training. The above figure pertains to the whole City and County area.

General Maintenance of National Roads € 641,467

General maintenance of National Roads covers a wide range of works for which this allocation will be used. € 680,901 is the allocation for Limerick City & County for 2024.

Capital Maintenance TII Roads € TBC

Capital maintenance of National Roads is used for pavement schemes with values between €50,000 and €200,000. Applications are made through the pavement defects survey app. Awaiting TII funding allocation / instruction.

Winter Maintenance (WM) € 558,954

This provision is for the treatment of roads in severe weather in accordance with the Winter Services Plan and pertains to the whole City and County area.

Community Improvement schemes €584,100

A Grant of €584,100 has been allocated to Limerick City and County Council. Limerick City and County Council is currently identifying schemes to be undertaken in 2024.

Local Improvement Schemes (LIS)**tbc**

The Department for Rural and Community Development (DRCD) introduced ringfenced funding for LIS in 2020 and proposes to continue to operate this scheme in 2024. The 2023 allocation for Limerick City & County Council is tbc

Overheads (OH)**€ 1,818,000**

This includes for insurances (EL/PL), Health and Safety training and equipment, sick pay, holiday pay, legal costs, office expenses, etc. The above figure pertains to the whole City and County area.

Former National Road Grant (FNR)**€ 880,000**

Arising from the 2018 regional road pavement condition survey findings, the Department introduced a grant in 2019 to assist local authorities with the rehabilitation of sections of former national roads with a poor condition rating.

Housing Maintenance

Limerick City & County Council (LCCC) manages an expanding social housing portfolio, which currently amounts to 5,919 properties (Jan 2024). The range of properties is extensive, which is emphasised by the fact that over half the Council's housing stock was built before 1985.

64% of the entire housing stock is located within the Metropolitan District. The remaining 36% of housing stock is located between the Newcastle West (12%), Adare-Rathkeale (9%) and Cappamore-Kilmallock (15%) Districts.

In each municipal district area, direct labour crews respond to the needs of tenants. All requests are added to the Customer Relationship Management System (Sugar) and assigned to the area maintenance team for action.

Total Sugar (CRM) requests for Housing Maintenance during 2023 was 13,836 cases, with

- 72.4% of all cases received in the Metropolitan area
- 9.9% of all cases received in Newcastle West area
- 7.2% of all cases received cases received in the Adare-Rathkeale area
- 10.5% of all cases received in the Cappamore Kilmallock area

Housing repairs are carried out based on need and budgetary constraints. Repairs are categorised into emergency, urgent and routine. Examples of each are listed below and please refer to the Tenant's Handbook for additional details.

Emergency Repairs (within 24 Hours)

Fire	Water Leaks	No Electricity	No Mains Water
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Urgent Repairs (within 1-5 Days)

Blocked Flue in Open Fire	Blocked Foul Drains	No Hot Water	No Heating
Faulty Sockets	Faulty Switches	Faulty Storage Heater	Faulty Door Entry System
Banister or Hand Rail Loose or Detached	Storm Damage	Partial Loss of Water Supply	Unsafe Floor Boards or Stair Treads

Routine Repairs (within 1-6 Weeks)

Other Electrical Works	Other Joinery Works	Plaster Works	Other Plumbing Works
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Budget Allocation 2024

Adare-Rathkeale Municipal District 541 Properties (9% of housing stock)

Works Budget (non-pay)	2024
Maintenance	€193,916.00
Re-lettings	€83,595.00
	€277,511.00

Housing Maintenance - Planned Works

Planned Maintenance / Heating Systems Replacement – city and countywide

Many of our tenants have heating systems that are outdated and highly inefficient by current standards. A budget of €326,324 has been allocated for the replacement of heating systems and other works of a planned nature on a countywide basis. The scheme operates on a priority needs basis and is managed by the Response Maintenance Team.

A contract has been awarded for annual gas boiler inspection, servicing and related maintenance of boilers in Council owned properties. It is to be noted that the majority of the gas boilers are located in the Metropolitan area and the project has commenced in this area. This project is being managed by the Housing Refurbishment Team.

Planned Maintenance works were completed on 15 units under the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage (DoHLGH) 2023 Planned Maintenance Programme. This resulted in funding allocations of €186,000. No department circular or allocation for Planned Maintenance 2024 has been received to-date.

Voids/Pre-lettings – city and countywide

Voids and Pre-lettings continue to be undertaken in each municipal district area as vacancies arise. Each Housing Area Engineer and Area Foreman manages these refurbishment works. The units are delivered via a mix of direct labour crews and contractors, to ensure units are returned to Allocations section in an efficient manner.

A total of 73 void units were completed in 2023, which resulted in funding allocations of €1,862,711.00 from the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage (DoHLGH). No department circular or allocation for Voids 2024 has been received to-date.

A total of 15 Pre-lettings were completed in 2023 funded from own resources.

Energy Efficiency Retrofit Project – city and countywide

The Energy Retrofit Project for 2022/2023 was completed with a total of 54 properties upgraded, which resulted in funding allocations of €1,950,000.00 from the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage (DoHLGH). No Department circular has been received for a 2024 thermal upgrade as yet.

Private Housing Grants

The following private housing grants are available again in 2024

Housing Adaptation Grant Scheme – HAGS Mobility Aids Grants Scheme – MAGS
Housing Aid Older People – HOPS

The grant circular has not yet been received for 2024, however, it is expected that the amounts will be similar to those in 2023. The Council is required to provide 20% towards the cost of such grants with the DoHPLG meeting 80%.

Parks & Landscaping

General

The Council manages twenty six play amenities which include Playgrounds, Multi-Use-Games Areas and Skate Parks, nineteen Public Parks, eleven Outdoor Gym & Fitness sites and nine Walking Amenities that are managed directly by Limerick City and County Council.

The Parks & Landscaping Team carries out a wide range of functions in relation to parks and open spaces. These works include tree pruning, grass cutting, hedge trimming and maintenance and landscaping works. Grass cutting takes place between March and October with cuts on a two weekly cycle. During the Autumn and Winter period, works are concentrated on tree pruning and planned and responsive works.

The 2024 allocation for Parks and Landscaping for the Adare Rathkeale District is €32,319. A separate budget of €70,126 is provided for the grass cutting contract, providing up to 15 cuts in excess of 20 hectares. The Council have identified some grass cutting areas which will be maintained in accordance with the All Ireland Pollinator Plan within an area and contain signage. The Parks Team manage response & reactive maintenance to the district's housing estates taken in charge which include small landscaping and tree surgery works.

Parks

There are three Parks in the Adare Rathkeale District, Adare Park which is managed by the Council Parks Team, Rathkeale and Croom Parks are managed by the community. There are two play amentities which include Askeaton Leisure Centre Playground and Rathkeale Multi-Use-Games-Area, both managed by the Council Parks Team.

Proposed works to Adare Park

- The continued upkeep and maintenance of Adare Park to a high standard by direct labour.
- Upgrade to gazebo
- Tree surgery and maintenance.

Playgrounds

There are eight playgrounds in the district, the majority of which are community playgrounds, the Parks Team manage Askeaton Leisure Centre Playground and Rathkeale Multi-Use-Games-Area. Inspections are carried out quarterly and repairs carried out as required. Repair works are proposed for Askeaton Playground to ensure the playground complies with ROSPA standards. Repairs to be made as required.

Cemeteries

There are 267 cemeteries in Limerick, approximately one third of these are used for the purchase of new burial plots. There are 78 cemeteries in the Adare Rathkeale District including closed burial grounds.

Municipal District	No. of Burial Grounds
Metro	40
Adare/Rathkeale	78
Newcastle West	47
Cappamore/Kilmallock	102

The 2024 revenue budget allocation for the Adare Rathkeale district is €49,000. This funding will be utilised to provide the following works:

Askeaton Friary	Repair Stone Boundary Walls
Glenogra	Repair Stone Boundary Walls

Clonshire	Repair Stone Boundary Walls
Tuogh	Repair Stone Boundary Walls
Clonagh	Repair Stone Boundary Walls

Askeaton Burial Ground-An extension to Askeaton cemetery will be constructed this year.

There is an annual budget of €45,000, provided as grant aiding to community groups across Limerick who wish to develop a new burial ground in accordance with the adopted burial ground strategy. Technical assistance is provided to any community that expresses an interest. The decision on grant aiding is made in accordance with the findings in the Burial Ground Strategy.

Under the Community Monuments Fund 2024 an application to carry out advance works to Glenogra Church has been submitted to the National Monuments Service, if successful the advance works will facilitate an application in 2024 for capital works to consolidate the church ruins.

Recycling Facilities

Bring Banks

There are 65 no bring banks in the City and County. The 2024 budget for the operation of the bring bank contract is €210,277. The budget provides for collection and cleaning around all sites.

Civic Amenity Sites

There are three Civic Amenity Sites in Limerick, Mungret, Newcastle West and Kilmallock. The three sites are operated by a Contractor. The 2024 budget for the operation of the three Civic Amenity Sites is €426,000.

Other Environmental Schemes

Limerick Going for Gold Environmental Improvement Grant & Competition 2024

Limerick City & County Council again invites applications for the Limerick Going for Gold Environmental Improvement Grant & Competition 2023

This grant scheme aims to assist with Environmental Improvement works undertaken by non profit making organisations working within Limerick City and County areas.

The Limerick Going for Gold Environmental Improvement Grant is 50% funded by the JP McManus Charitable Foundation. The Limerick Going for Gold Competition prize fund is 100% funded by JP McManus Charitable Foundation.

Grant Scheme for Maintenance of Open Spaces in Housing Developments for 2024

Limerick City and County Council will again invite applications for the Grant Scheme for Maintenance of Open Spaces in Housing Developments for 2023. This Scheme is designed to assist residents in the maintenance of open spaces in their estates by providing funding towards grass cutting.