

Chief Executive's Report

March 2024

King John's Castle Masterplan Announcement

Limerick Greenway ranked second on a list of Ireland's favourite walking trails

The first of the 2024 Jobs Fairs took place in Moyross Youth Academy on 21 March

Full-size Basketball Court opened at O'Brien Park, Clare Street.

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Economic Development, Enterprise and Tourism Directorate

1. Trade and Investment

CLAYTON Hotel Limerick, part of the Dalata Hotel Group PLC, announced an investment of over €300,000 in their meetings and events space located on the first floor of the hotel on Steamboat Quay.

SYS Mortgages, a mortgage intermediary specialist, officially opened its new Limerick office at 3, The Crescent. Established in 2015, SYS incorporates SYS Financial Planning, SYS Employee Benefit Solutions, SYS Mortgages, SYS Public Sector Advisory, SYS Private and SYS Health Advisory Insurance. 10 jobs will be created at its new Limerick office.

Retail chain, The Works, announced its plans to open a new store on O'Connell Street. 121 O'Connell Street, which has been vacant for almost two years, is to be occupied again. The Works sells a range of books, toys, stationery items, craft materials and gifts. The company already has a number of outlets in Ireland, with two in Cork, one in Gorey, one in Kilkenny, one in Killarney, one in Athlone, and multiple branches over the border in Northern Ireland. 10 jobs are expected to be created in the Limerick store.

2. Local Enterprise Office (LEO) Limerick

The Local Enterprise Office Limerick hosted the annual Student Enterprise Programme County Final on 14 March in the Castletroy Park Hotel. 42 teams from secondary schools across Limerick City and County competed and hosted a display of creativity and determination in setting up their own mini-enterprises. The Head of Enterprise emphasised the significance of the event saying, *"The Student Enterprise County Final is probably the pinnacle of our year's events. The winners will go on to represent Limerick in the All-Ireland Finals, and we have a very good track record in that."* Mini-enterprise winners included awards for Innovation, Best Marketing, Best Business Plan, Sustainability, Best Display and a Teachers Award.

Also during March, LEO Limerick hosted Local Enterprise Week 2024 from 04 to 08 March. A total of 325 people signed up to the 11 different training sessions, networking events and seminars that LEO Limerick delivered throughout the week, both in-person in the Engine as well as online webinars.

3. Tourism

Limerick Greenway

Limerick Greenway's marketing campaign continued throughout March and included the following:

- Announcement of almost €2 million in funding for a Greenway investment programme in Limerick, which includes linking Limerick Greenway to Patrickswell.
- Limerick Greenway, as part of an overall Limerick City and County Tourism piece, featured in an advert and editorial piece in both the Irish Examiner and The Irish Times' *Staycation* pull-out March 2024 Edition.
- As reported by the Limerick Post on 19 March and also by Irish Central on 21 March, Limerick Greenway ranked second on a list of Ireland's favourite walking trails, compiled by Betfair Casino.
- Limerick Greenway recommended as a "must-do" in Limerick over the Easter holidays by Travel Expert, Sarah Slattery, in her interview with Andrea Gilligan on Lunchtime Live on Newstalk on 25 March.
- Limerick Greenway Spring/Easter 2024 Media Photo Story release on 26 March, with print and online articles also in the Limerick Leader, the Limerick Post, the Irish Daily Star, the Mallow Star, the Weekly Observer, the Vale Star, the Irish Independent and The Kerryman, as well as radio coverage on Live 95 hourly news bulletins.

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- Social media posts, encouraging the public to get out on Limerick Greenway this Spring, be it to unwind after work, catch up with a friend or spend time with family were created and published in March.
- Limerick Greenway's social media campaign on Facebook and Instagram included the following:
 - A post on Seachtain na Gaeilge 2024 encouraging Limerick Greenway users to send in photos of their activity on Limerick Greenway and explain what they got up to, in Irish, for the two weeks.
 - A post celebrating International Women's Day 2024 on 08 March.
 - A Happy Mother's Day post from all at Limerick Greenway, which included the promotion of some of the wonderful offers on Mother's Day weekend by businesses along Limerick Greenway.
 - A Happy St. Patrick's Day to all and promotion of all activities planned around Limerick and on Limerick Greenway for St. Patrick's Day.
 - An International Day of Happiness post encouraging all viewers to embrace the happiness around us and to share this with others.
 - Various posts promoting Limerick Mental Health Association's upcoming family 5km fun run/ walk along Limerick Greenway, commencing and finishing at Limerick Greenway Abbeyfeale Hub, with radio coverage on Live 95 Diary.
 - A post promoting the various events available to all for Easter at Barnagh Greenway Hub.

Limerick Greenway Statistics

Social Media Statistics

Statistics for Limerick Greenway Socials 01/03/2024 – 31/03/2024

	Facebook	Instagram
Reach	10,300	8,900
Profile Visits	955	296
New Page Followers	39	59

Social Media Ads (Facebook and Instagram Advertising Statistics combined)

Accounts reached	9,487
Post Engagements	378
Link Clicks	114

Google Ads: 01/03/2024 – 31/03/2024

Impressions	21,600
Ad Clicks	1,880

FESTIVAL AND EVENTS

Limerick St. Patrick's Festival 2024

Over the weekend of 15 to 18 March, the St. Patrick's Festival came to life with the energetic St. Patrick's Day parade and Limerick's unique International Band Championships. There was a great atmosphere throughout the weekend with events such as the Shamrock Street Shows and Music at the Green Stage entertaining onlookers with various street performances and amusements on the streets of Limerick on 16 March.

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On 17 March, pre-parade and post-parade entertainment included dance group, the Mirror Dancers, and the Hit Machine Drummers.

St. Patrick's Day Parade

The Limerick St. Patrick's Parade brought tens of thousands of people to the streets of Limerick City. The theme this year was "Limerick: A different type of energy" to highlight Limerick's creativity and unique vibe. The Grand Marshal was Sean O'Sullivan, winner of the BT Young Scientist of the Year Award 2024. There were over 1,000 participants from 70 groups with a wide range of interests, including Scout Groups, Sports Groups, Community Groups, as well as amazing floats such as the Pirate Ship from aerial performance company, Fidget Feet. Bui Bolg showcased a large-scale snake that wowed spectators, and various vehicles from service vehicles to the rally cars added some trill, all enhanced by the music from multiple marching bands. The Mayor of the City and County of Limerick, Councillor Gerald Mitchell, commented: *"The parade was fun and exciting with great enthusiasm from the crowds and the participants. It was a fantastic show of community spirit and a worthy celebration of our Patron Saint. Limerick City and County Council must be commended for delivering a fantastic festival across this weekend."*

52nd International Band Championships

On 18 March, the 52nd International Band Championships took place. This is a unique event to Limerick. Tens of thousands of viewers lined the streets of Limerick to see the sixteen Marching Bands from Limerick, Ireland and from around the world. The Bands entertained the crowds with their music, choreography and costumes. Niall Carroll (Lyric FM Presenter), Dr. Evelyn Grant (Cork University Lecturer), Norman Rodgers (Former First-Class Warrant Officer and Bandmaster) and Dr. Jonathan Helmick (Director of Bands at Slippery Rock University) judged the competition. There were numerous prizes from Special Judge's Awards to Best uniform. The overall Champions were Lakeville South Marching Cougars from Minnesota. The Band Championship brought a display of exceptional musical talent and explosive energy and a perfect way to end the St. Patrick's Festival weekend.

Other events over the weekend included: Street Show Saturday which saw the City streets come alive with a family fun day of high energy acrobatics, magic and comedy on Bedford Row and Thomas Street; city centre streets were also animated with roving stilt walkers and circus figures and the Limerick City Centre Traders' Association spread the fun with a range of amusements on Cruises Street.

Limerick Early Music Festival

The Festival took place from 20 to 23 March. Early Music is comprised of Medieval and Renaissance music. The Musical Journey began with Sung Compline performed by vocal ensemble, Peregrine. On 22 March, various Limerick musical groups in the beautiful surroundings of St. Mary's Cathedral were performing Bach. Medieval music in costume was performed in the Milk Market the next day and followed up by more medieval compositions in St. John's Church on the subject of travel, pilgrimage and spiritual Journeys. The Finale took place on the night of 23 March and was the music and poetry from the Al-Andalus era, this music is still played to this day in North Africa. The concert consisted of Moroccan Nubas, Gharnati Songs and Andalusian Poems performed by renowned musicians, Vanessa Paloma Elbaz, Zaki Chaabi and Mustafa El Meknassi.

Limerick Lace Symposium 2024

Limerick Lace Festival/Symposium took place on 23 March at the Absolute Hotel. The event celebrated and promoted Limerick Lace and was opened by the Mayor of the City and County of Limerick, Councillor Gerald Mitchell. The morning consisted of talks from the Curator, Limerick Museum, and from Sharon Slater, Randel Hodgkinson and Grania McElligott on the history and legacy of Limerick Lace. Bairbre Guilfoyle gave the keynote talk on lacemaking in Ireland followed by more short talks on Lace projects across Ireland. In the afternoon, there were three Panel Discussions on The Laces of Ireland - An All-Ireland Lace Trail, The precious Lace and the Final Panel Discussion was on Keeping the Craft Alive in the 21st Century.

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4. Innovate Limerick DAC

12 March: Meet-up Mixer at Engine for all colleagues in the Economic Development, Enterprise and Tourism Directorate.

21 March: Head of Innovate attended stakeholder consultations in Dublin at Enterprise Ireland offices, together with The Department of Enterprise, Trade and Employment, to explore the concept of the establishment of a national entrepreneurship/innovation hub.

26 March: Hosted and Sponsored the TUS (Technological University of the Shannon) Business Start-up Awards at Engine.

Film in Limerick

Talk at TUS for Creative Broadcast Students

Regional Film Manager gave a talk, followed by a Question and Answer session, for Final Year Creative Broadcast Students at TUS on finding work in the screen industries after graduation.

Sister Cities Relationship between Austin and Limerick

Regional Film Manager represented Innovate Limerick at the SXSW festival in Austin, Texas, meeting with representatives in the city in relation to the Sister Cities relationship and to develop stronger links with the independent film sector in Austin.

Mid-West Film Education and Training Group and Crew Academy Steering Group

March saw quarterly meetings for both steering groups informing the work of Film in Limerick.

Production Support

Production support and locations services were arranged for four companies in March, scouting for future feature production and TV series, and support was offered for several television programme features.

Passport to Production

12 participants from the region attended Passport to Production training for six days in-person in the Engine building and at Troy Studios, with film professionals from departments such as accounts, costume, locations, props, and Production.

5. Discover Limerick DAC

Saint Patrick's Day Festival

King John's Castle was lit up with a festive theme/ green and white shamrocks in the lead-up to St. Patrick's Day. This initiative was very well received by the public, attracting lots of positive attention on our social media channels.

King John's Castle Masterplan Announcement

Another new chapter is set to be written for King John's Castle with international Design Consultants appointed to prepare a Masterplan that will guide the transformation of the iconic 13th century castle into a world-class visitor attraction. A multi-disciplinary Design Team, headed up by international Design Practice, Galmstrup Architects, has been appointed to create a roadmap for maximising the potential of one of Ireland's foremost cultural and heritage sites.

The Mayor of the City and County of Limerick, Councillor Gerald Mitchell, and the Minister of State for Planning and Local Government, Mr. Kieran O'Donnell, TD, attended the announcement on 12 March, along with the Board members and staff members of Discover Limerick DAC. This announcement attracted widespread coverage when released to the media, making the papers, Limerick Leader and Irish Examiner on 20 March and widespread coverage online via social media channels.

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Industry Events

A Fáilte Ireland-led pre-Meitheal briefing session was held in King John's Castle on 21 March 2024 for the contingent representing Limerick at the upcoming Meitheal trade event taking place in Killarney. Discover Limerick DAC will have representation at this event. Meitheal, the flagship trade event organised by Fáilte Ireland, is the largest and most important event in the Irish tourism calendar where more than 400 Irish tourism providers will pitch their business to 200 international buyers and tour operators from 17 countries.

Easter

There were lots of activities and events planned for the Easter break with Lough Gur leading the way for Discover Limerick DAC, with a Dog Show, Easter Market and Easter Egg Scavenger Hunt all taking place over the Easter weekend. Such was the high demand, all events sold out, demonstrating their popularity with the public and an example of the great initiatives taking place in Lough Gur.



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Transportation and Mobility Directorate

1. Travel and Transport Strategy

The Adare Transport Plan

- The Adare Transport Plan commenced.

Limerick City and County Council Control of Car Clubs Draft Bye-Laws 2024

- At the March Monthly Meeting of the Metropolitan District of Limerick, Councillors approved placing the Limerick City and County Council Control of Car Clubs Draft Bye-Laws, 2024, on public display, in accordance with the requirements of the Section 200 (1) of the Local Government Act 2001 (as amended).

Marchathon Step Challenge

- 22 teams from Limerick City and County Council took part in the Step Challenge.

Approval of Bloodmill Road Extension

- An Bord Pleanála approved the Bloodmill Road Extension Scheme. The aim of the Scheme is to realign the existing Bloodmill Road to link with the recently constructed developer-provided Link Road Section. The road scheme will implement improved Active Travel measures for pedestrians, cyclists and public transport to serve the new secondary school and private hospital on adjacent land. Furthermore, the proposed road extension will open access to surrounding undeveloped zoned lands.

2. Active Travel

Projects on Site

Childers Road (Greenpark to Roxboro Road Roundabout), Limerick: Works continued to progress on site, concentrated at Roxboro Roundabout.

Rósmor, Old Cork Road, Limerick: Mount St. Oliver, cemetery wall blockwork 50% completed, sample railing put in place, retaining wall for roundabout 90% completed.

Plassey Park Road, Castletroy, Limerick: Foundations for a new bus shelter installed and work on a new stone wall at Kilmurry Lodge progressed.

Father Russell Road, Raheen, Limerick: Works continued at Racefield Roundabout; cycle lane segregation kerb works continued.

Mill Road, Corbally, Limerick: Foundation poured in Bishop's Field area.

Our Lady of Lourdes National School, Rosbrien, Limerick: Works began on week of 25 March.

Laurel Hill Avenue, South Circular Road, Limerick: Works began on week of 25 March.

Other Projects

St Paul's Roundabout to Ballykeefe Roundabout, Dooradoyle, Limerick: St. Nesson's Road Section 38 published.

St. Patrick's Road, Singland, Limerick: Section 38 closed on 28 March.

Ballycummin Road, Raheen, Limerick: Traffic Count Survey was commenced.

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South Circular Road, Limerick: Detailed design continued to progress.

Kilmallock Road, Limerick: Detailed design commenced.

Corbally Road, Limerick: Tender assessments continued.

Patrickswell: Road Safety Audit for school design received and under review.

Gotoon Bridge, Kilmallock, and Millennium Bridge, Caherconlish: Draft Options Report for Gotoon Bridge completed, draft Options Report for Millennium Bridge reached final stages.



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Rural, Community and Culture Development Directorate

1. Community Development

Local Community Development Committee

- A meeting of the Local Community Development Committee (LCDC) was held on 05 March in the Council Chamber, Dooradoyle, and Online. Some of the items discussed included SICAP (Social Inclusion and Community Activation Programme) 2023 End-of-Year Review, SICAP 2024 Annual Plans, LCDC Annual Report and the LEADER Rural Development Programme. A Presentation was given to the members on the Local Economic and Community Plan (LECP).

SICAP (Social Inclusion and Community Activation Programme)

- The budget for SICAP in Limerick in 2024 is €2,929,883.00 and training on the new IT system that is used to support the Limerick SICAP workers in delivering the new SICAP Programme 2024-2028 was completed in March.
- The 2023 Annual Performance Reviews of the three Limerick areas were approved at the March meeting of the LCDC as follows:
 - LOT 21-1 Limerick West Rural where West Limerick Resources CLG implements the programme.
 - LOT 21-2 Limerick Urban where the PAUL Partnership Limerick CLG implements the programme.
 - LOT 21-3 Limerick East Rural where Ballyhoura Development CLG implements the programme.

Public Participation Network (PPN)

- Membership of PPN Limerick continued to grow and stands at 219. The membership registration form is on the Limerick PPN [website](#) and eligible groups in Limerick can register at any time.
- The Secretariat continued to fulfil its function with a meeting held in March.
- PPNL continued to have an active presence with its regularly updated website, social media and bi-monthly Newsletter distributed to members.

Integration Supports

INTEgreat - Limerick Migrant Integration Forum

- Limerick Migrant Integration Forum participated in this year's St. Patrick's Day Parade, winning Best Community Award.
- International Anti-Racism Day on 21 March was marked at an event in Limerick in which the Limerick Migrant Integration Forum was officially launched by the Mayor of the City and County Limerick, Councillor Gerald Mitchell. This event, and launch, was run as part of the ongoing Limerick United Against Racism (LUAR) campaign. The campaign is an initiative of the Migrant Integration Steering Group, which is a network of 19 statutory agencies, community and voluntary organisations and migrant representative and support groups and many of them have joined to show their support.

Bin Waiver Scheme

The Household Waste Collection Subsidy Scheme applications continued to be assessed during March. Out of the total of 4,145 applications received, 3,856 have been issued during the Scheme's open period, with a number of applications still in progress.

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Lifelong learning

The 2024 Limerick Lifelong Learning Festival was officially launched on 22 March in the College of Further Education and Training, Mulgrave Street Campus, Limerick, by the Mayor of the City and County of Limerick, Councillor Gerald Mitchell. Two learners from the campus spoke at the launch about their lifelong learning journey and there was music and song entertainment from learners. This year's festival brochure was also unveiled at the launch with a complete listing of events and activities.

Sláintecare Healthy Communities

Community Gardens

Ten groups in Sláintecare Healthy Community areas were awarded funding to establish or enhance community gardens. This initiative aims to enhance access to fresh produce while fostering community engagement.

MoveWell Programmes

Activator Walking for Neuro Conditions: Specialised walking programmes were offered at Southill Hub to support individuals with neurological conditions.

MoveWell

Pilates for Chronic Pain and Arthritis, and Age Well - Falls Prevention and Activator Walking Pilot Programme, were ongoing, providing tailored exercise options for various health conditions.

Venture Out

Singing for Lung Health Group: Weekly Sessions held at Moyross Community Hub utilising singing as therapy for individuals with chronic lung conditions.

Wellbeing through Art' Class

Took place at Limerick City Gallery of Art in Pery Square, aiming to boost confidence and connect participants with local amenities.

Healthy Relationships

The Healthy Relationships Programme commenced at Southill Hub.

A literature review for the project was completed by the Researcher, providing valuable insights for further development of the programme.

2. Culture

Library

City Library at Barrow House

- Irish Astronomy Week was celebrated on 12 March with a lecture entitled "The Search for Extra-Terrestrial Intelligence," delivered by Ben McKeon from the University of Limerick's Mathematics and Statistics Department.
- Also on 12 March, Limerick Mental Health Association held their monthly Women's Group meeting to share experiences, connect with others and create a sense of community in a supportive and welcoming environment.
- Irish and Spanish language conservation groups from the University of the Third Age (U3A), the Writspace Creative Writing Group and a newly formed peer support group for parents of neurodivergent children, held meetings in March.
- World Book Day 2024 was marked with a week of visits from local schools with Scoil Iosagáin (CBS Primary School), St. John the Baptist National School,coil Íde, Presentation Primary School, and Poppins Preschool attending for a celebration of reading and stories.
- A sensory workshop with Simone and Michael from Storygate took place on 15 March. This workshop, funded by Creative Ireland through the Arts Department, was designed to combine sensory input with puppetry and making puppets, which are then used to tell a story. Pupils from the ASD (Autistic Spectrum Disorder) unit of Presentation Primary School attended.

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- Engage in Education, the organisation that helps individual students to realise their potential using the education system, held two workshops for Sixth Class children where they discussed their plans and aspirations for the future, before enjoying a lively Question and Answer session with award-winning children's author, Padraig Kenny.
- There were eight book club meetings in total in March with regulars the First Thursday, Second Wednesday, Phoenix, Spiral and University of the Third Age books clubs all convening during the month, along with the Children's and Young Adult book clubs.
- Weekly toddler storytime sessions took place, along with Róisín Meaney's monthly Saturday morning story telling extravaganza, and a special arts and craft session on 27 March to celebrate all things Easter.
- The branch hosted a photographic exhibition "Objects of the Revolution in East Limerick," part of the Landscapes of Revolution Archaeology Project showcasing artefacts and memorabilia from the War of Independence and Civil War in East Limerick.
- An Easter Music Camp, led by Music Generation, Limerick County, on 26 and 27 March, for 9 to 12 year olds, was filled to capacity.
- Weekly Bridge classes, weekly Yoga Community Education Course, led by Ballyhoura Development CLG, and weekly Kilmallock Library Craft Group sessions, continued.

Newcastle West Library

Kilmallock Library

- 278 pupils from Scoil Mocheallóg, Coláiste Íosaef, Bruff, Kilbehenny, and Knockadea National Schools, visited the branch for World Book Day for song, stories and crafts.
- Music Generation led two music workshops on 12 and 19 March for children with additional needs, accompanied by their parent / carer.
- Seachtain na Gaeilge was marked with a pop-up informal conversation circle on 12 March from 6.30pm - 7.30pm.
- Astronomy Week was marked with a total of 31 Fifth Class pupils from Scoil Mocheallóg attending an informative talk given by Derek O'Keeffe of Astronomy Ireland.
- ALONE representatives held an information morning on 14 March.
- Youth Book Club for ages 10 to 13 continued to meet on the second Tuesday of the month.
- Ongoing use of Sensory Space by classes and individual users.
- Regular visits from The Brothers of Charity and Rathfredagh Cheshire Home residents.
- Regular class visits from local National Schools, including ASD class visits to the Sensory Space.
- Headway Ireland meeting every Friday morning 10am to 11am.
- Knitting Club continued every Friday morning from 11am to 1pm.
- Christopher Bailey, Arts and Health Lead with the World Health Organisation, visited the library on 05 March to speak with women from a Traveller Health project and artist / facilitator, Ella Daly.
- An Easter Storytime was held with children from Senior Infants of Courtenay Boys School.

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Dooradoyle Library

- Dooradoyle Bookclub and the First Thursday Bookclub met during the month.
- St. Paul's National School, Red Hill School and Catherine McAuley School visited.
- On 01 March, Cute and Clever Playschool visited the library for stories, rhymes and arts and crafts. Each child was gifted a bedtime book to take home.
- The ALONE organisation hosted an information stand on 01 March.
- Seedling Nature Schools attended the library for a special story-time and craft session to celebrate World Book Day on 07 March.
- As part of Seachtain na Gaeilge, an Irish language story-time and craft session was held in the library on 09 March. Children enjoyed an interactive mix of scéalta agus rainn.
- Members of Limerick City and County Council Active Retirement Group attended a talk on 'Healthy Living' on 12 March. Limerick Sports Partnership hosted this event.
- On 12 March, a group of Third Year Primary Teaching students from Mary Immaculate College attended the library and were given a presentation on 'Library Services to Primary Schools.'
- 'Himalayan Meditation' continued each Friday throughout the month.
- 'An Introduction to Astronomy' – a Talk by Ben McKeon, took place on 14 March to celebrate Irish Astronomy Week. The event was well attended and included a group from Bruff Scouts Club.
- Approximately 300 pupils from Limerick City East Educate Together Primary School participated in a St. Patrick's Day colouring competition. The winning entries were displayed in the library.
- The annual Easter Egg Hunt took place from 19 - 27 March with over 250 children taking part. Each child received a chocolate egg for their efforts and there was a total of 40 winners in the Easter Egg draw.
- The March Art Exhibition was 'Lockdown and More...', a collection of paintings by James Lyons.

Watch House Cross Library

- Gryffindors, Slytherins, Ravenclaws and Hufflepuffs visited the branch for World Book Day with seventy pupils from Thomond Primary School dressed up as their favourite characters for a Harry Potter Fortune Tellers activity.
- The weekly Thursday afternoon Storytime sessions for young children and the Friday morning Parent/ Caregiver and Toddler Group continued during March.
- The library transformed into a Pop-up Gaeltacht for the day on 14 March to celebrate Seachtain na Gaeilge. Little Gem Puppets entertained 162 pupils from Scoil Mhuire Banríon na hÉireann and Gaelscoil Sáirséal in the morning with An Bradán Feasa – a Bilingual Puppet Show/ Seó na bPuipéad 'as Gaeilge' agus 'as Bearla.' In the afternoon, families were welcomed to a Bilingual Shoebox Theatre Workshop where the children made puppets out of card and lollipop sticks, a tiny theatre out of a shoebox, and got to practice their Irish, narrating their story to each other. Following that, Joanne delighted children with Scéalta agus Rannta as Gaeilge for the occasion. Lá thar a bheith taitneamhach lán de spraoi agus craic sa leabharlann.
- Little Seeds Crèche, and two classes of 3-5 year olds, visited the library - some of them for the first time - for storytime, colouring and games.
- Our Lady of Lourdes School visited the library with their First Class during March for a storytime and sensory room visit.

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- Easter school holidays were celebrated with a huge turnout of 50 children for a morning storytime. Families enjoyed an afternoon Easter family movie. The fun continued on 28 March with a booked-out Arts and Crafts Workshop for 5-10 year olds. For the Workshop, "Where I Live," children collaborated on a 3D map of a community, designing and making buildings, streets and parks from paper and recycled materials.
- Children's Book Clubs met on 27 March to chat about their latest reads. The 7-9 year olds read *Anisha, Accidental Detective*, by Serena Patel, and the 9-12 year olds read *Kensuke's Kingdom*, by Michael Morpurgo.
- 72 children attended Crafty Saturdays free-play art and craft during March.
- Two adult book clubs met in March to discuss *Marzahn Mon Amour* by Katja Oskamp.
- Age Action completed another course of their one-to-one computer and smartphone training workshops in the library, with seven pupils completing this block of classes.
- Age Action's 'Getting Started,' a free digital literacy programme, continued to help older people to get online and use their smart device with confidence.
- Helium Arts Teen Meet-ups Workshops resumed on 23 March. Teen Meet-up Workshops are for 13-16 year olds and activities include printmaking, painting, drawing, sketching, collage, sound art, and photography.
- Sahaja Yoga Meditation class met twice in March.
- The Sensory Room had 230 visitors in 87 sessions during March.

Local Studies

- There were 39 onsite visits by researchers to the Local Studies Department in March.
- A public talk based on *Histories of Protestant Limerick, 1912-1923*, was delivered to the Limerick Historical Society on 12 March.
- Work on the Department's 'Centenaries' project for 2024, *Limerick in the 1920s: A Documentary History*, progressed; as did work on the new Local Studies website.

Other Branches

- Under the Healthy Ireland at Your Library programme, Cappamore, Roxboro and Glin Libraries hosted mindfulness sessions with classes from local schools. Limerick Sports Partnership delivered a nutrition and exercise talk in Foynes Library.
- On 21 March, Roxboro Library hosted a 'Time To Read' event for the pupils from Our Lady Queen of Peace school with the volunteers from Analog Devices as part of the Business in the Community initiative.
- Glin Library hosted its monthly book club, craft club and community singing sessions during March with 104 attendees. Author and poet, Sheila Quealey, facilitated two creative writing workshops attended by 22 library members. Kerry Radio presenter, Connie Broderick, visited the library on 26 March to meet with library users and talk to them about life in the community, including the many activities and services provided by Glin Library. On 21 March, children's author, Pádraig Kenny, was in the branch to meet with pupils from Fifth and Sixth Class, St. Fergus National School.
- Rathkeale Library celebrated World Book Day with a visit by the pupils from Church Street School. They took part in a library quiz and the winners were gifted book tokens. On 19 March, 'Outside World,' an art exhibition by the students from Coláiste Na Trócaire, Fainleog Campus in Rathkeale, was launched. On 28 March, the

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Rathkeale Junior Boys Group from Rathkeale Youth Space visited the library with their Youth Worker for a planned Easter activity.

- Foynes Library hosted a 'Creativity for Wellbeing' workshop facilitated by Mid-West Advancing Recovery in Ireland Education Service (ARIES). There were 12 participants and three facilitators.
- Library staff were invited to talk about Libraries to the junior classes in Cloverfield National School on 12 March to link in with their Aistear/learning theme for the month.

Limerick City Gallery of Art (LCGA)

- The exhibition programme, which includes COSMUS by Irish artist, Brigid McLeer, a collaboration with Crawford Art Gallery to mark the 100th anniversary of the Friends of the National Collections of Ireland (FNCI) and Searching in the Dark, a series of paintings by Eddie Cahill, continued to attract significant visitor numbers in March.
- The Gallery's artist in residence, Michella Perera, was very active throughout the month in identifying participants for a series of free workshops at LCGA. In particular, she has reached out to Mary Immaculate College and PAUL Partnership who have been very responsive and co-operative.
- The Shinnors Scholar, Aoife Doherty, held two workshops for primary school children, which were very successful. Aoife also led two Gallery tours for the University of the Third Age.
- Several community groups continued to use the Gallery for meetings and events. These included the University of the Third Age (U3A) who hold their regular poetry and music meetings in the Gallery.
- The total number of visitors to the Gallery in March was 4,782.

Limerick Museum

- On 13 March, the Mayor of the City and County of Limerick, Councillor Gerald Mitchell, performed the official opening of Girl Unknown, an exhibition of works by Éadaoin Glynn, a painter based in Cork. The exhibition was a series of new paintings by Éadaoin inspired by old glass slides in the Limerick Museum collection. These glass slide negatives were discovered in a basement and donated to the Limerick Museum. They are made of glass and are extremely fragile. It was one of a number of exhibitions in the Museum where the artist has responded to, and been inspired by, objects in the permanent collection. On 23 March, Éadaoin gave a fascinating and well-attended public lecture on her exhibition in the Museum.
- On 13 March, the Mayor of the City and County of Limerick, Councillor Gerald Mitchell, also performed the Official Opening of Pagan Ireland and St. Patrick, an exhibition curated by the Assistant Curator which formed part of Limerick's St. Patrick's Festival for 2024. Using Bronze and Iron Age objects from the permanent collection, the exhibition explored the customs and beliefs that existed in Ireland prior to the arrival of St. Patrick, and how Ireland's Patron Saint converted an already spiritual people to Christianity.
- On 08 March, Limerick Museum marked International Women's Day by hosting what has now become an annual lecture hosted by the Limerick Federation of the Irish Countrywomen's Association. This year, the lecture was on 'All Things Environmental' and was delivered by Limerick City and County Council's Biodiversity Officer and Environmental Awareness Officer.
- The Museum continued its very active outreach programme. The Curator gave tours of the Museum to the Southill Drama Group on 12 March and to a group of trainees from the HSE Training Centre, Theatre Court, Mallow Street, on 14 March and the Assistant Curator gave two tours to the transition year classes from St. Mary's Secondary School, Nenagh, Co. Tipperary, on 13 and 19 March.

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- On 23 March, the Mayor of the City and County of Limerick, Councillor Gerald Mitchell, performed the Official Opening of the Amazing Lace Symposium 2024 in the Absolute Hotel. The event was organised by the Friends of Lace Limerick in partnership with Limerick Museum and funded by the Limerick City and County Council Festivals and Events Grant Scheme 2023/2024 and Limerick Museum. It included lectures, presentations and workshops and was attended by a large number of lace makers, lace enthusiasts, historians, artists, students and members of the public interested in lace.

Limerick Arts Office

Individual Arts Bursary, Theatre Bursary and Dolores O' Riordan Music Bursary Awards Schemes

On 20 March, Limerick Arts Office issued an Open Call for applications from professional artists for the Individual Arts Bursary (up to €4,000), Theatre Bursary (€5,000) and Dolores O'Riordan Music Bursary (€4,000) Awards Schemes. Artists based in Limerick City and County Council's administrative area, or operating substantially within Limerick City and County, can apply for a Bursary in any art form, including Visual Arts, Circus, Dance and Literature, Theatre and Music.

University Hospital Limerick - Artworks Loan Launch

Limerick Arts Office loaned 32 artworks to University Hospital Limerick for display across its corridors to increase access to artworks to those who use the hospital, including patients, visitors, and staff. This exhibition was launched by the Mayor of the City and County of Limerick, Councillor Gerald Mitchell, on 27 March, in University Hospital Limerick.

Limerick Artists - Professional Development

Visual Artists Ireland hosted a networking event for artists based in the Mid-West in Limerick City Art Gallery 14 March. This event was funded by Limerick Arts Office, in partnership with Clare Arts Office and Tipperary Arts Office.

Strategic Fund for Culture and Arts Scheme 2024

Limerick Arts Office manages the 2024 Strategic Fund for Culture and Arts Scheme, which was developed by Limerick City and County Council to facilitate culture and arts organisations and practitioners, in leveraging funds from national and international sources. This, in turn, helps support a vibrant creative culture in Limerick. Nine letters of support were issued in March.

Grants under the Arts Act

Assessment of 52 applications from individual artists or organisations under the 'Grants under the Arts Act' Scheme was completed on 13 March by an independent panel.

Creative Ireland Made in Limerick Grants Open Call

A total of 57 applications were received under the Creative Ireland Made in Limerick Grants Scheme, which closed for applications on 06 March. These grants were open to Limerick-based creative practitioners, organisations and communities of place and interest to submit applications. They were assessed on 27 March by an independent expert panel.

Night Time Economy - Cruinniú na nÓg 2024

The Limerick Creative Ireland Team was successful in its application to the Department of Tourism, Culture, Arts, Gaeltacht, Sport and Media for €8,000 in Night Time Economy funding for Cruinniú na nÓg 2024.

Creative Ireland and the Limerick Arts Office welcomed Christopher Bailey to Limerick

Christopher Bailey, Arts and Health Lead at the World Health Organisation, visited a selection of Creative Ireland funded projects in Limerick on 05 March. This visit was coordinated and facilitated by the Limerick Creative Ireland Team. Mr Bailey was in Ireland to participate in Creative Brain Week at Trinity College, in conjunction with Creative Aging International and the Global Brain Health Institute for Creative Brain Week, at Trinity College Dublin.

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He visited Newcastle West where he met the participants and facilitators of the Travellers' Health Programme. He also visited the community mural at Desmond Complex, and visited one of the projects under the partnership project, 'Musicians on Call.' This programme is funded by Creative Ireland, Limerick City and County Council, Clare County Council and Tipperary County Council.

3. Property Management

Dereliction, Vacancy and Reuse Team	
Site Inspections Completed	114
Department Notices of Inquiry issued	7
Derelict Sites Cases opened	7
Statutory Notices served under the Derelict Sites Act 1990	33
Derelict Sites Cases closed through engagement	7
Properties entered into the Derelict Sites Register	3
Properties proposed for Compulsory Acquisition (Section 15 Notices)	14
Vesting Orders Made for Properties Acquired Compulsorily (Section 17 Notices)	3
Croí Cónaithe – Vacant Property Refurbishment Grant Applications Approved	10



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Regeneration, Sports and Recreation Directorate

1. Regeneration and Sports

Regeneration

Economic Regeneration

Outreach to Employment Programme

Moyross Jobs Fair

The first of the 2024 Jobs Fairs took place in Moyross Youth Academy on 21 March. 25 employers and agencies were present at the event to engage directly with the local community and other attendees in relation to employment, training and further education opportunities. The event was a great success with a large attendance throughout the evening. Feedback from both employers and attendees was extremely positive.

TUS Access to Apprentice Awards

The Access to Apprentice Special Purpose Awards were held in the TUS Moylish Campus on 15 March. 30 Graduates were presented with their scrolls from the President of TUS, Dr. Vincent Cunnane. The Graduates have taken up positions with companies across various disciplines such as electrical, mechanical and plumbing.

Social Regeneration

Economic and Social Intervention Fund (ESIF) Update

The Regeneration Directorate welcomed applications for two separate Calls under the ESIF Fund 2024 during March.

- The Education and Learning Call was launched on MyPoint on 15 March and will close for applications on 26 April.
- The Community Centre Call closed for applications on 29 March.

Community Activities

King's Island

King's Island Community Centre

A community consultation was hosted in the centre to introduce the Integrated Design Team Lead, Paul Keogh Architects, to the Community Centre Working Group and other key stakeholders living and working in the area. The attendees included local residents, community groups and stakeholders who put forward their ideas in terms of the potential uses of the new building and surrounding area, to the Design Team.

Health Check Day

The HSE Primary Care Team facilitated a Health Check Day for the community of St. Mary's Park, King's Island. This event, organised in partnership with PAUL Partnership Empowering Communities, provided residents and locals with the opportunity to avail of health checks in the Community Centre on 29 March. The Primary Care Team was in attendance to provide blood pressure and blood sugar checks. The event coincided with a successful Team Limerick Clean-Up (TLC) Day at the same time.

Moyross

Team Limerick Clean-Up (TLC)

Team Limerick Clean-Up took place in Moyross on 29 March. The community was represented by a large number of volunteers, coming from organisations such as Moyross United, Corpus Christi Primary School and Moyross Community Enterprise Centre.

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Southill

Play Space and Associated Landscape

The Main Contractor tender package for Southill Play Space and Associated Landscape was published on eTenders. This contract provides for the construction of a play space of approximately 1,052m², which will include hard and soft landscaping, the provision and installation of play equipment, for use by the children and young people living within the community.

Easter Events at Southill Hub

The Southill Hub hosted a number of events throughout Easter, including an Easter Bonnet competition on 25 March, and a Teenagers' Easter Disco on 27 March. A Bingo session and an Easter raffle were also held on the same day. The teenage disco was particularly popular, with the organisers confirming it was sold out, well in advance of it taking place.

Team Limerick Clean-Up (TLC) - Southill

Team Limerick Clean Up took place in Southill on 29 March. The community was very well represented with volunteers coming from the Southill Hub, Tait House and the Tidy Towns Committee.

Physical Regeneration

Housing Developments

- A total of 47 units at Cosgrave Park and Dalgaish Park, Moyross, progressed towards projected phased handover in Q2/Q3 2024.
- Construction works on the Sheep Street development, comprising of eight social housing units, continued.
- 37 housing units at Churchfield, Southill (Phase 2) - construction continued to advance on these units.
- Paul Keogh Architects progressed their design review of Cosgrave Park Phase 2 with a view to potential future modifications.

- Preliminary design and follow-up public consultation sessions were undertaken for a new housing project being advanced at Pineview Gardens, Moyross. This infill development will provide up to circa 67 residential units within the area.
- Progress continued with the works on the preparation of a Preliminary Design for a 20-unit housing scheme at Cliona Park, Moyross, Phase 4. It is now being advanced to a Stage 2 submission for Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage to consider. A contractor has been appointed for site investigation works.
- Approval was received from the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage to proceed with appointment of M. Fitzgibbon Contractors Ltd. for 24 infills at Carew Park, in Southill, and Delmege Park and Hartigan Villas in Moyross.

Status of Thermal Upgrade Projects

- 47 units at Moyross, Limerick, were progressed under Thermal Upgrade Contract No. 121, with contractor, Icarus Properties Limited.
- Alan Hart Construction Ltd. progressed Thermal Upgrade Contract No. 123, in Southill, Limerick, which encompasses 53 properties.
- Work on 12 units, under Thermal Upgrade Contract No. 127, in Ballinacurra Weston, Ballinacurra, was continued by the contractor, JoeBren Construction Ltd.
- The detailed design for 55 housing units in Pineview Gardens, Moyross, under Thermal Upgrade Contract No. 130 continued.
- Final certification received in relation to Thermal Upgrade Contract No. 112 which has been closed out.

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House Refurbishments

Lot 4a Major Refurbishments – Nine Properties

- Dolmen Construction progressed with works to three properties.
- Martins Construction Ltd. appointed for the remaining six properties.

Lot 4b Major Refurbishments – 11 Properties

- Preliminary design continued to support a Stage 1 – 3 applications to the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage for the second tender for 5 of 11 houses.

Minor Refurbishments

- Refurbishment works completed on one property.
- Construction works continued with five houses across the four Regeneration areas.
- 19 units were at scoping, tender or pre-construction stage.

Demolitions

- Tender returned for the demolition of 466 and 467 Roseview Drive, O'Malley Park, Southill. Tender assessment ongoing.

Infrastructure Projects

Southside Connectivity Project

- Section 38 application lodged for works on Childers Road and Synge Drive, Rathbane Terrace and Deer Court, John Carew Park.
- Tender for detailed design returned, to be assessed.

Southside Boxing Academy

- Contractor continued improvement works to the building used by Southside Boxing Academy in the Galvone Industrial Estate. This is being supported by the Economic and Social Intervention Fund (ESIF).

Moyross Avenue

- Section 38 application lodged on 21 March for the upgrade of section of the Avenue between the Health Centre and Pineview Gardens, Moyross.

Thomond Rugby Football Club Extension

- Part 8 planning application for extension of Thomond Rugby Football Club facilities towards Moyross Avenue remained open for submissions.
- Public Consultation Event held on 20 March.

Environmental Works

- The removal of redundant hardstanding areas in Salvia Court, Keyes Park, Southill, which was a source of flooding to Rose Court properties in Keyes Park, Southill, continued.

Limerick Sports Partnership

- As part of Women in Sport Week 2024, Limerick Sports Partnership (LSP) in collaboration with local clubs and NGBs (National Governing Bodies), hosted 22 different events. Over the course of the week, 271 women engaged in the many activities including Golf, Gaelic Football, Cycling, Judo and GAA Handball.
- The Limerick Sports Partnership interviewed 310 Transition Year Students for the 2024-2025 Voluntary Inspired Participation (VIP) Programme. Of these, 110 were offered a second interview and 35 candidates for the initiative were selected. More than 20 post-primary schools across the City and County participated.

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- Recent graduates from the Boxing Clever Programme were assessed at QQI Level 5 Community Addiction Studies and Health Related Fitness. Eight graduates were certified following the 24-week programme. This initiative caters for those recovering from addictive behaviours such as drugs, alcohol and gambling issues. Graduates can apply to undertake further education opportunities provided in the University of Limerick, TUS – Technological University of the Shannon, and Maynooth University to advance their skills in personal development and addiction management.
- The 65 Fourth Year Physical Education students, placed by LSP in local community groups, continued working through their eight-week programme. Throughout this period, students help to deliver Physical Activity initiatives. Community Groups that were supported include Youth Services, Older Adult Groups, Mental Health Groups, Desk to 5K Programmes, Inclusion Programmes, and Sports Clubs.
- More than 2,680 participants engaged in the suite of Physical activity programmes and educational initiatives held during March. This included schools, community, and sports Hubs activities.
- A full list of programmes offered by Limerick Sports Partnership is available on <https://limericksports.ie/>

Council Sporting Facilities

The Limerick Regional Athletics Hub facilitated primary and secondary schools from throughout the region to deliver elements of their physical education curriculum, in an outdoor setting. In addition to the schools within the catchment area, local clubs have utilised the resource to ensure the continued delivery of their fitness and skills training sessions. The quality of the surface and the lighting enabled sports organisations including the GAA, Rugby, Ladies Gaelic and Camogie, to book additional sessions, as the weather in March resulted in their own facilities being unavailable for training to be undertaken. Athletics clubs from Limerick and North Cork also travelled to Newcastle West to train within the facility and utilise the athletics equipment that is available on site.



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Housing Directorate

1. Housing Support Services

Housing Waiting List

Approved Housing Applicants	2,728
Approved Tenant Transfer Applicants	391

Closed Housing Applications

	March	Year to Date
Closed Applications	55	190

Applications are returned/closed for the following reasons:

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

Allocations

	No. of Units March	Year to Date
Adare-Rathkeale	0	1
Newcastle West	0	4
Metropolitan District	24	75
Cappamore-Kilmallock	4	10
Total	28	90

Refusals

	No. of Units March	Year to Date
Adare-Rathkeale	0	0
Newcastle West	0	0
Metropolitan District	1	5
Cappamore-Kilmallock	1	4
Total	2	9

Approved Housing Body Allocations 2024 (year to date)

Total Nominations	Successful Nominations	Nominations Pending	Unsuccessful Nominations
75	24	50	1

Rental Accommodation Scheme (RAS)

Private Tenancies	683
Capital Assistance Scheme/Rental Accommodation Scheme Tenancies	561
Part V	0
New Private Tenancies	0
New Voluntary Housing Tenancies	19

Housing Assistance Payments (HAP) Limerick

2,036 active HAP Tenancies monitored, reviewed and maintained.

No. of HAP tenancies set up this month	27
No. of Amendments	309
No. of Cessations	39

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Rent Collection

Rent Collection Limerick City and County Council					
Opening Balance	Accrued Income	Total for collection	Receipts	Closing Balance	% Collection
€6,731,013	€5,563,260	€12,294,273	€4,742,794	€7,551,479	39%

Home Improvement Schemes

March 2024		Adare-Rathkeale	Newcastle West	Metropolitan	Cappamore-Kilmallock	Total
Mobility Aid Grants	No. Approved	1	2	1	0	4
	MAG Expenditure	€0.00	€2,300.00	€7,240.00	€0.00	€9,540.00
	No. Paid	0	1	3	0	4
Housing Adaptation Grants	No. Approved	2	3	7	2	14
	HAG Expenditure	€2,677.50	€30,155.83	€122,729.19	€31,589.88	€187,152.40
	No. Paid	1	3	17	3	24
Housing Aid for Older People	No. Approved	5	8	20	9	42
	HOP Expenditure	€14,972.50	€42,849.50	€106,761.00	€47,813.50	€212,396.50
	No. Paid	5	11	27	12	55
Disabled Person's Grant	DPG Expenditure	€0.00	€0.00	€92,051.34	€0.00	€92,051.34
	No. Paid	0	0	3	0	3

Total No. Approved	60
Total Monies Paid	€501,140.24
Total No. Paid	86

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HOME IMPROVEMENT SCHEMES - Year to Date

January - March 2024		Adare-Rathkeale	Newcastle West	Metropolitan	Cappamore-Kilmallock	Total
Mobility Aid Grants	No. Approved	3	2	8	1	14
	MAG Expenditure	€13,379.00	€7,550.00	€20,755.00	€0.00	€41,684.00
	No. Paid	3	3	6	0	12
Housing Adaptation Grants	No. Approved	8	15	83	9	115
	HAG Expenditure	€46,511.36	€94,454.05	€508,872.70	€119,277.26	€769,115.37
	No. Paid	6	14	43	15	78
Housing Aid for Older People	No. Approved	21	31	145	28	225
	HOP Expenditure	€64,340.00	€150,943.89	€404,563.21	€84,335.74	€704,182.84
	No. Paid	16	36	84	20	156
Disabled Person's Grant	DPG Expenditure	€0.00	€0.00	€92,051.34	€0.00	€92,051.34
	No. Paid	0	0	3	0	3

YTD Total No. Approved	354
YTD Total Monies Paid	€1,607,033.55
YTD Total No. Paid	249

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Community Sustainment Unit

Tenancy Inductions

	March	YTD
No. of Tenancy Inductions	24	91

House Visits

	March	YTD
No. of House Visits	243	842

Sugar CRM (Customer Relationship Management) Cases

	March	YTD
Active cases at month-end	234	234
Cases closed during month	70	249

Repossessions

	March	YTD
Repossession of Council properties	9	38

Garda Checks

	March	YTD
Garda Checks processed	95	296

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

Date: 20.03.2024		
Individuals		
Location	Description	Beds Used
McGarry House	Mixed Low threshold accommodation for singles	25
Oak Lodge	Adults without children accommodated in low threshold emergency accommodation	65
Thomond House	Higher threshold accommodation for single females	23
St. Joseph Street	Higher threshold accommodation for single females	6
B&B (no children)	Adults without children accommodated in B&B	49
Temporary Emergency Provision TEP 1 (Edenvilla)	Low threshold, night-by-night (9pm-9am) emergency accommodation. Mixed	16
Phoenix Lodge	Low threshold emergency accommodation for single adults	10
Total		194

Families				
Location	Description	Beds Used		
		Adults	Children	Families
Suaimhneas	Family Emergency accommodation	6	8	6
B&B/Hotel Accommodation	Families	88	101	56
Twin Oaks Family Hub	Family Hub	14	15	10
Totals		Adults	Children	Families
		108	124	72

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	March	YTD
Tenant Purchase		
Tenant Purchase Applications: No. received	9	29
Tenant Purchase Applications: No. approved	4	15
Local Authority Home Loans		
Loan Applications: No. received	5	17
Loan Applications: No. approved	2	6
Deed of Discharge		
Deed of Discharge Applications: No. Received	21	60
Consent to Sale		
Consent to Sale Applications: No. Received	4	13
Cottage Purchase Annuity		
No. of Cottage Purchase Annuity Applications	5	12
Ground Rent		
No. of Ground Rent applications	11	17
Title		
Title Deeds Received/Requested	10	35
Title Rectifications Received	1	2
Private Rented Inspections		
No. of Inspections	66	1,255

Freedom of Information, Data Requests and Ombudsman

Freedom of Information requests	4
Ombudsman Query Cases	1
Data Access Requests	0

2. Housing Welfare and Traveller Accommodation

* Traveller Accommodation

No. of Units offered March	0
Year to Date	6

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

Housing Welfare Referrals/Visits

No. of Referrals/Visits March	26
Year to Date	65

2. Local Authority Housing Construction and Maintenance

Local Authority Housing Construction

House Returns March	
Total	6

House Returns March By Municipal District	
Adare-Rathkeale	0
Cappamore-Kilmallock	4
Newcastle West	1
Metropolitan District	2
Total	7

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During March, the Local Authority Housing Construction Team was notified of no houses returned in the Municipal District of Adare-Rathkeale, four in the Municipal District of Cappamore-Kilmallock, one in the Municipal District of Newcastle West and two in the Metropolitan District of Limerick.

Current Working Programme		
	Completed in March	In Progress
Local Authority Construction Team – Major Refurbishments	3	82
Local Authority Construction Team – Minor Refurbishments	0	5
Local Authority Maintenance Team	5	102
Approved Housing Body stock transfer in process	0	26
Regeneration Team	2	41
Team to be assigned	N/A	20
Total	10	276

In March, work on three properties was completed by the Local Authority Housing Construction Team, work on five properties was completed by the Local Authority Maintenance Team and work on two Regeneration properties was completed.

There are three teams in Limerick City and County Council assigned to refurbish properties. As of March, the Local Authority Construction Team was in the process of completing works on 87 properties, Local Authority Maintenance was working on 102 properties and the Regeneration Team had 41 properties. Approved Housing Body stock transfer in process - 26 properties. 20 properties were in the process of being assigned to a Team.

Project Updates

- Contractor appointed for refurbishment works at property in Belfry Heights, Abbeyfeale.
- Structural and civil engineering consultant appointed for two new units at Crawford Street, Bruff.
- Contractor appointed for refurbishment works at property in Hyde Avenue, Limerick.
- Contractor appointed for refurbishment works at properties in Cathedral Place and Hyde Road, Limerick.
- Contractor appointed for refurbishment works at property in Greenhill Road, Ballysimon, Limerick.
- Stage 3 application form submitted to Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage for 31 units at Sycamore Crescent, Newcastle West.
- Contractor started on site for construction of 10 units in Kilfinane.
- Capital Appraisal form submitted to Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage for Scout Hall, Bawnmore Road, Limerick, for proposed six-unit development.
- Final account sent to Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage for Rosbrien Court, Limerick.

Finance

- Applications for funding totalling €1,019,628, issued to the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage.
- Limerick City and County Council recouped €588,234 from the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage.

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Local Authority Housing Maintenance

Local Authority Houses: Maintenance Complaints dealt with during March

Housing Maintenance Cases - March	Requests/Cases Created	Cases Dealt With/ Closed	Balance of Open Cases at 31.03.2024
Metropolitan District of Limerick	784	888	1,546
Municipal District of Adare-Rathkeale	71	69	329
Municipal District of Cappamore-Kilmallock	98	118	284
Municipal District of Newcastle West	106	194	540
TOTAL	1,059	1,269	2,699

Grants Inspections

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

Inspection Types	Pre-application	Initial Inspection	Re-inspection	Final Inspections after Works completed	Total Inspections by Grant Type
MAGs (Mobility Adaptation Grant Scheme)	0	2	0	2	4
HAGs (Housing Adaptation Grant Scheme)	1	9	0	13	23
HOPS (Housing Aid for Older Persons Grant Scheme)	0	26	0	2	28
DPGs (Disabled Persons Grant)	1	7	2	3	13
Total Inspections by Inspection Type	2	44	2	20	68

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

Inspection Types	Pre-application	Initial Inspection	Re-inspection	Final Inspections after Works completed	Total Inspections by Grant Type
MAGs (Mobility Adaptation Grant Scheme)	0	0	0	0	0
HAGs (Housing Adaptation Grant Scheme)	0	7	0	1	8
HOPS (Housing Aid for Older Persons Grant Scheme)	0	16	1	9	26
DPGs (Disabled Persons Grant)	0	1	0	0	1
Total Inspections by Inspection Type	0	24	1	10	35

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

Inspection Types	Pre-application	Initial Inspection	Re-inspection	Final Inspections after Works completed	Total Inspections by Grant Type
MAGs (Mobility Adaptation Grant Scheme)	0	0	0	0	0
HAGs (Housing Adaptation Grant Scheme)	0	3	0	1	4
HOPS (Housing Aid for Older Persons Grant Scheme)	0	5	0	1	6
DPGs (Disabled Persons Grant)	0	0	0	0	0
Total Inspections by Inspection Type	0	8	0	2	10

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

Inspection Types	Pre-application	Initial Inspection	Re-inspection	Final Inspections after Works completed	Total Inspections by Grant Type
MAGs (Mobility Adaptation Grant Scheme)	0	1	0	0	1
HAGs (Housing Adaptation Grant Scheme)	0	4	0	5	9
HOPS (Housing Aid for Older Persons Grant Scheme)	0	6	0	9	15
DPGs (Disabled Persons Grant)	0	0	0	0	0
Total Inspections by Inspection Type	0	11	0	14	25

HOUSE INSPECTIONS UNIT

Houses Inspected for Refurbishment Works and Re-Letting – March - Categories	No. of Properties Inspected
Cat 1 – minor repairs needed	1
Cat 2 – moderate repairs needed	3
Cat 3 – substantial repairs needed	3
Cat 4 – major repairs needed	1
TOTAL INSPECTIONS CARRIED OUT	8
No. of Properties Awaiting Inspection	17

DEFECTIVE BLOCKWORK SCHEME APPLICATIONS

Applications Registered March	1
RFI Applications (Request Further Information)	5
Applications Referred to Housing Agency	5
Applications – Damage Threshold Met	0

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4. Strategy & Non-Local Authority Housing Construction

SOCIAL HOUSING – Delivery for 2024

Buy/Build/Lease as of 31.03.2024 is as follows:

As at 31.03.2024 (01.01.2024 - 31.03.2024)	Complete	In Progress	Overall Complete and In Progress	“Housing for All” 2024 Delivery Target
Build	0	432	432	513
Buy	14	179	193	100
Lease	1	26	27	44
TOTAL	15	637	652	

Social Housing – Project Submissions and Approvals

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

Capital Assistance Scheme (CAS)	Stage 4 approval for the Construction of 10 units at Cappamore, Co. Limerick.	Municipal District of Cappamore-Kilmallock
Capital Assistance Scheme (CAS)	Stage 4 approval for the Construction of eight units at Bruree, Co. Limerick.	Municipal District of Cappamore-Kilmallock

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Project Submissions sent to the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage in March

Notice to Quit - Acquisition	Submission for the Acquisition of one unit in Dooradoyle, Limerick.	Metropolitan District of Limerick
Notice to Quit - Acquisition	Submission for the Acquisition one unit in South Circular Road, Limerick.	Metropolitan District of Limerick
Notice to Quit - Acquisition	Submission for the Acquisition one unit in Dooradoyle, Limerick.	Metropolitan District of Limerick
Notice to Quit - Acquisition	Submission for the Acquisition of one unit in Annacotty, Limerick.	Metropolitan District of Limerick
Notice to Quit - Acquisition	Submission for the Acquisition of one unit on Ennis Road, Limerick.	Metropolitan District of Limerick
Notice to Quit - Acquisition	Submission for the Acquisition of one unit in Dooradoyle, Limerick.	Metropolitan District of Limerick
Notice to Quit - Acquisition	Submission for the Acquisition of one unit in Castletroy, Limerick.	Metropolitan District of Limerick
Buy and Renew	Submission for the Acquisition of one unit in Garryowen, Limerick.	Metropolitan District of Limerick
Buy and Renew	Submission for the Acquisition of one unit in Limerick City.	Metropolitan District of Limerick
Capital Assistance Scheme (CAS)	Stage 3 submission for the Construction of 23 units at Doon, Co. Limerick.	Municipal District of Cappamore-Kilmallock
Capital Assistance Scheme (CAS)	Revised Stage 4 submission for the Construction of nine units at Kilfinane, Co. Limerick.	Municipal District of Cappamore-Kilmallock
Capital Assistance Scheme (CAS)	Stage 1 submission for the Construction of five units at Lord Edward Street, Limerick.	Metropolitan District of Limerick
Capital Assistance Scheme (CAS)	Stage 1 submission for the Construction of 32 units at Pennywell, Limerick.	Metropolitan District of Limerick
Capital Assistance Scheme (CAS)	Turnkey submission for the delivery of six units at Thomondgate, Limerick.	Metropolitan District of Limerick
Capital Assistance Scheme (CAS)	Turnkey submission for the delivery of four units at Bruff, Co. Limerick.	Municipal District of Cappamore-Kilmallock

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Affordable Housing – Delivery for 2023-2026

Schemes where key advancements occurred in March are outlined below:

Note: This is not the full affordable delivery pipeline.

Scheme	District	Type	No. of Units	Proposal Updates in March
Toppins Field Lands	Metropolitan District of Limerick	Affordable Purchase Affordable Housing Fund	28 (Phase 1)	<p>The report with options for junction design was circulated to Transport Infrastructure Ireland (TII). Proposal being reviewed by TII.</p> <p>The pre-planning design for the first westerly phase continued during March, with the assessment of plans against new compact settlement guidelines.</p> <p>Reports as follows in draft form and under review:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Stage 1 Flood Risk Assessment. • Ecological Impact Assessment Report. • Appropriate Assessment Screening Report. • Environmental Impact Assessment Screening Report. • Tree Survey and Report. • Site Vegetation Assessment and Management Report. • Road Safety Audit <p>The remaining Ground Investigation Works were carried out in March.</p>
Toppins Field Lands	Metropolitan District of Limerick	Affordable Purchase Affordable Housing Fund	115 (Phases 2-4)	Site investigations for Phase 1 continued during March.
Guinness Site	Metropolitan District of Limerick	Cost Rental Affordable Housing Fund	270	<p>A review of capacity and viability analysis for Carey's Road against Framework infrastructure phasing continued during March with a focus on the taking-in-charge strategy.</p> <p>Site purchase negotiations and work on the procurement of a Design Team continued.</p> <p>Project Working Group monthly meeting was held.</p>

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Scheme	District	Type	No. of Units	Proposal Updates in March
Clonmacken Lands	Metropolitan District of Limerick	Affordable Purchase Affordable Housing Fund	22	A workshop on density and height options for this proposed development was held with the Limerick City and County Council Planning Department. A justification test required due to the update in flood mapping in the area.
Sonny's Lands	Metropolitan District of Limerick	Cost Rental Affordable Housing Fund	19	Stage 2 Tender assessment for the appointment of framework participants for Design Team consultants continued in March. Tender reports were advanced in order to appoint the winning consultants and form the frameworks for all six lots of consultancy types.
Curragower	Metropolitan District of Limerick	Affordable Purchase Affordable Housing Fund	7	Work continued on the pre-planning design, and meetings were held with local stakeholders.
Speaker's Corner	Metropolitan District of Limerick	Cost Rental Expression of Interest Site with Approved Housing Body	18	Work continued on the progression of the land transfer during March.
New Road, Thomondgate	Metropolitan District of Limerick	Cost Rental Expression of Interest Site with Approved Housing Body	22	Project currently with An Bord Pleanála.
Ballygrennan Lands	Metropolitan District of Limerick	Affordable Purchase Expression of Interest Site with Approved Housing Body	73	Work continued on the progression of this proposal during March. Planning received in March 2024.

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Scheme	District	Type	No. of Units	Proposal Updates in March
Mungret Site	Metropolitan District of Limerick	Affordable Purchase Local Infrastructure Housing Activation Fund	181	Work continued on the progression of this proposal during March.
Thomas Street and O'Connell Street, Limerick	Metropolitan District of Limerick	Affordable Purchase Urban Regeneration and Development Fund	21	Work continued on the progression of this proposal during March.
Adare	Municipal District of Adare-Rathkeale	Affordable Purchase Self-Build Plots	8	Work continued on the progression of this proposal during March.
Advance Purchase Turnkey – Campaign 1	Metropolitan District of Limerick	Affordable Purchase at Brú na Gruadán, Castletroy, Limerick City	25	Processing of applications and the issuing of letters of offer continued throughout March for the 25-unit Brú na Gruadán, Castletroy, Affordable Purchase Scheme. A proposed 34-unit Affordable Housing Scheme at Knockhill, Ennis Road, Limerick, and a 10-unit Affordable Housing Scheme in Abbeyfeale were also progressed during March.
	Metropolitan District of Limerick	Affordable Purchase at Knockhill, Limerick City	34	
	Municipal District of Newcastle West	Affordable Purchase in Abbeyfeale	10	

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Scheme	District	Type	No. of Units	Proposal Updates in March
Advance Purchase Turnkey – Campaign 2	Metropolitan District of Limerick	Affordable Purchase at Raheen	145	Processing of applications and the issuing of letters of offer continued throughout March for Phase 1 and 2 (42 units) of the Woodfield Manor, Newcastle West, Affordable Purchase Scheme. Work continued on the progression of the other two proposals during March.
	Municipal District of Adare-Rathkeale	Affordable Purchase at Croom	7	
	Municipal District of Newcastle West	Affordable Purchase at Woodfield Manor, Newcastle West	42	
Advance Purchase Turnkey – Campaign 4	Municipal District of Newcastle West	Affordable Purchase at Rathnaneane in Newcastle West	9	Work continued on the progression of this proposal during March. Awaiting funding decision from Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage.
Advance Purchase Turnkey – Campaign 5	Municipal District of Newcastle West	Affordable Purchase at Castle Place, Newcastle West	57	Discussions continued during March with the developer in order to progress these proposed developments.
Advance Purchase Turnkey – Campaign 6	Municipal District of Adare-Rathkeale	Affordable Purchase in Pallaskenry	30	Work continued on the progression of this proposal during March. The site proposed requires an extension of duration of planning permission. An informal register of interest required to determine the demand for 30 affordable sale units at this location.
Advance Purchase Turnkey – Campaign 7	Municipal District of Cappamore Killmallock	Affordable Purchase in Knocklong	4	Expression of Interest received for four dwellings. Work continued on the progression of this proposal during March with a review of costings proposed.
	Metropolitan District of Limerick	Affordable Purchase at Newtown Meadows, Castletroy	36	Work continued on the progression of this proposal during March, which involves an apartment scheme, and costs being examined to see if it works for Affordable Sale.

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Finance (All Funding Streams)

- Claims totaling €2,192,894 were sent to the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage in March.
- Claims totaling €8,584,748.29 were paid by the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage in March.

Conferences and Workshops

The Affordable Housing Team attended an Affordable Housing Seminar in Dublin on 07 March. The seminar covered Affordable Housing Strategy, Local Authority Affordable Housing Delivery Updates and Part V Affordable Housing.

Notice of Termination Figures

Circular received from the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage which has given Limerick City and County Council a target of 100 units to acquire to assist with Notice of Terminations.

Update as at 22 March 2024 is as follows:

Proposals	97
Sale Agreed	53
Withdrawn	294
Purchase Completed	72
Tenant Notification	5
Owner Reoccupying	40
Income above limit	44
Grand Total	605

5. Municipal District Offices

Metropolitan District of Limerick

Meetings

The March Monthly Meeting of the Metropolitan District of Limerick took place on 20 March.

Briefings/Workshops

Briefings/Workshops were held during March for the Elected Members of the Metropolitan District as follows:

- Workshop on Proposed Schedule of Municipal District Works 2024;
- Briefing on Regeneration Areas.

Operational Area Briefings

Operational Area Briefings were also held for the Elected Members in early March.

Road Related Upgrade/Refurbishment Works

Description of Project: Pery Square Footpath Upgrade

Location: Priors Land, Limerick City Centre;

Cost of project: €30,000;

Contractor: Neville Civil Engineering.

Description of Project: Newcastle Close Drainage Scheme

Location: Newcastle Close, Monaleen Heights;

Cost of project: €30,000;

Contractor: Direct Labour - Limerick City and County Council.

Minor Roads Maintenance Works also included the following:

- Road and Footpath Repairs, Hyde Road (near Colbert Station);
- Various Road Patching across the Metropolitan District;
- Footpath Repairs on Aylesbury, Clonmacken Road;
- Pavement Repairs on Thomas Street, Limerick.

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Municipal District of Adare-Rathkeale

The March Meeting of the Municipal District of Adare-Rathkeale took place on 11 March in Árás Séan Finn, Rathkeale.

The Schedule of Municipal District Works 2024 for the Municipal District of Adare-Rathkeale was adopted at this Meeting.

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

- 73 cases were assigned to the Housing Maintenance Team.
- 173 cases were assigned to the Roads Maintenance Team.

Kilteery Pier

A number of Passing Bays were constructed on the access road to Kilteery Pier with funding secured under the CLÁR Programme.

Footpath Refurbishment Works were carried out at Woodlawn, Loghill.

Macadam Works were also carried out on the R518 Kyletaun, Rathkeale.

Municipal District of Cappamore-Kilmallock

March Municipal District Meeting

The Monthly Meeting of the Municipal District of Cappamore-Kilmallock was held in Árás Mainchín Seoighe, Kilmallock, on 21 March.

Housing and Road Maintenance

- 85 cases were assigned to the Housing Maintenance Team.
- 197 cases were assigned to the Roads Maintenance Team.

Housing Grants

- 11 Private housing grants were paid in March, totalling €60,386. 11 private housing grants were approved in March.
- 24 initial inspections, one re-inspection and 10 final inspections were undertaken in relation to Private Housing Grants.

Road Works

The Following works were undertaken in the Cappamore-Kilmallock Roads Area:

General Municipal Allocation Works

- Nicker - Footpath Works.
- Crawford Street, Bruff - Footpath Works.

Road Drainage Grant

- L8664 - Rawleystown, Lough Gur.
- L8542 - Cullane, Ballylanders.

National Transport Authority Bus Shelters

- Kilfinane Bus Shelter.

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Municipal District of Newcastle West

Meetings

The following Meetings were held in Áras William Smith OBrien, Newcastle West:

- 05 March - Monthly Meeting of the Municipal District of Newcastle West.
- 05 March - Joint Policing Sub-Committee Meeting.

Housing Grants

- 13 grant applications were approved under the Private Housing Grant Schemes during the month. The total value of approvals was €59,123.00.
- Payments of €42,849.50 were made to 11 applicants who completed works under the Housing Aid for Older People Scheme.
- Payments of €30,155.83 were made to three applicants who completed works under the Housing Adaptation Grant Scheme.
- Payments of €2,300 were made to one applicant who completed works under the Mobility Aids Grant Scheme.

Cases

- 1,004 CRM (Customer Relationship Management) cases were assigned to the Housing Maintenance Team.
- 174 CRM cases were assigned to the Roads Maintenance Team.

Motor Tax

- The Motor Tax Section at the Newcastle West Office processed 1,129 routine transactions.



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Planning, Environment & Place-Making Directorate

1. Forward Planning and Public Realm

Forward Planning

- The adopted Adare Local Area Plan 2024-2030, including associated Public Realm Plan and Environment Assessments, was formatted and published.
- The Limerick City Draft Public Realm Plan was received from the Consultants for review by the Forward Planning and Public Realm Team.

Archaeology

- The application under the Irish Walled Towns Network Capital Grant Scheme was successful.

Heritage

- A number of communities were assisted with Community Grants applications to the Heritage Council.
- Initial surveys completed to assist Council Archaeologist in Community Monuments Fund applications.

Conservation

- The Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage announced €188,800 for 37 projects under the Built Heritage Investment Fund across Limerick City and County. Grants range from between €3,000 to €11,000 per project and will assist owners of protected structures to maintain their properties.
- A further grant of €73,000 was allocated to three projects under the Historic Structures Fund. Notification was issued to each successful applicant outlining the terms and conditions of the scheme.

2. Development Management and Place-Making

Development Management

A total of 105 new planning applications were received as follows:

Category	Amount
Part 8	0
Housing Developments	0
Domestic Developments	78
Agricultural Developments	12
Commercial Developments/Change of Use	8
Sporting/Community and Educational Developments	1
Other Developments	6

Place-Making

Limerick Wayfinding and Orientation Signage Project

- P&D Lydon continued to carry out survey work and sign design.

Cruises Street Meanwhile Uses

Continued with Meanwhile Use preparatory works such as:

- Planters and seating ordered.
- Ground Mural and Lighting Contractors appointed.
- Meeting held with Cruises Street Traders to update on progress.

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Urban Regeneration and Development Fund (URDF)

58 O'Connell Street and 33 and 34 Thomas Street

- Emergency stabilisation works under Section 179 (6) (b) continued at 33 Thomas Street following partial collapse of gable wall.
- Suitability Assessment Questionnaires for Contractors uploaded to eTenders.
- Detail design underway.

Strand 3 - Pedestrian Bridges and Waterfront Infrastructural Works

- Draft Preliminary Business Case reviewed.

Arthur's Quay Area Framework Plan

- Architects, Metropolitan Workshop, leading a Multi-Disciplinary Team preparing the Arthur's Quay Area Framework Plan. Final Stage 2 Report on Options continued to be prepared following Limerick City and County Council review.

Milk Market Food Hub

- Continued to wait on Preliminary Business Case response from Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage.

Capital Projects

O'Connell Street Phase 1

- Project progressed through its defects liability period.
- Preparation of the principal contractor's final account continued.

3. Environment and Climate Action

Environmental Awareness

The following events were attended by the Environmental Awareness Officer:

- Launch of the Waste Plan for a Circular Economy at Limerick 2030 Gardens International.
- Presentation to Limerick Irish Countrywomen's Association Federation at Limerick Museum on international Women's Day.
- Public engagement events associated with Team Limerick Clean-Up 9 at Newcastle West, Kilmallock and Dooradoyle. (Waste/Litter/Domestic Waste Water Treatment Systems, Biodiversity/Dog Fouling/Waste Battery Collection).
- Continued liaison with Tait House, Social Enterprise and Mungret Recycling Centre in respect of the Relove Paint project.
- Initial meeting with Sunrise Watershed Management Organisation and Adare Tidy Towns regarding Adare Green Hub, and attendance at Wander Wild Festival in relation to Killarney Coffee Cup project.
- Regional Prevention/Education/Green Business Task Group Quarterly Meeting.

Biodiversity

- **06 March** - 160 people attended an evening event with [Sean Roynane of Irish Wildlife Sounds](#). Limerick City and County Council collaborated with Athea Tidy Towns to host this successful biodiversity event.
- **08 March** - International Women's Day: Presentation on Biodiversity to the Limerick Guild of the Irish Countrywomen's Association at the Limerick Museum in collaboration with the Council's Environment Awareness Officer.

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- **21 March** – Presentation to 12 parishes from the Limerick Diocesan Pastoral Group who are developing a Limerick network to respond to a target set by the [Irish Bishops' Conference of returning 30% of parish grounds to nature by 2030.](#)
- **24 March** - Limerick City and County Council collaborated with Lough Gur Nature Park to host an afternoon event celebrating trees with guest speaker and author, [Eoghan Daltun](#). Over 50 people attended to hear Eoghan's unique and inspirational ideas on nature, trees and forests.

Activity Tracker for March

Inspection Type	Number of Inspections	Inspection Details
Farm Re-Inspections	18	Follow-up to see programmed works completed.
Sugar CRM (Customer Relationship Management) Complaints	9	Respond/follow-up to complaints from members of public.
Invasive Species	4	Follow-up on queries received – Limerick City and County Council's website.
Planning Files	2	Review of agricultural planning applications and comment back to Planning.
Forestry	6	Desktop – review applications received from Forest Service.
Local Catchment Assessments	1	Morningstar River at Ballylanders.
Farm File Reviews	34	Review farm files, Farmyard Management Plans and write out advisory/warning letters accordingly.
Meetings	3	Agricultural Sustainability and Support Advisory Programme (ASSAP) to discuss pesticides. Internal to discuss Silage-Making Press Release. IT to update 2022 LPIS (Land Parcel Identification System) Map Layer.
Cross Reports	3	Reports to Department of Agriculture – breaches of GAP Regulations.

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Parks

O'Brien Park, Clare Street, Limerick

- Installation of Physical Activity Play Equipment, funded by Limerick Sports Partnership Active Cities Initiative Project, of Table Tennis and Teqball Tables, Volleyball Area, and BoxUp equipment locker, stocked with Table Tennis Rackets, Teqball, Soccer Ball, Basketball, dumbbells and skipping ropes.
- A further enhancement to the park includes the installation of a full-size Basketball Court, the only public outdoor basketball court in the city.

URBACT Greenplace Project

- As part of National Tree Week 2024, the URBACT Greenplace project, together with the local community in Johnsgate Village beside the old City Walls, planted a mini-orchard with Limerick Heritage apple trees. 30 residents took part in the community planting day with the children involved in planting the trees.
- Two members of the team attended the Second and Third Core Network Meetings of the Greenplace Project in Spain.

URBACT BiodiverCity Project

As part of National Tree Week 2024, the URBACT BiodiverCity project organised a tree identification walk in Baggot Estate, Ballinacurra, urban forest, planting a number of Limerick heritage apple trees on site as part of the event.

Cemeteries

Number of Burials in City Cemeteries

Mount St. Lawrence	15
Mount St. Oliver	16
Castlemungret	9
Kilmurry	0

Environment Enforcement and Litter Management

(Litter, Waste, Air, Noise, Water/Waste Water and Public Health)

ENVIRONMENT ENFORCEMENT	
SUGAR CRM (Customer Relationship Management) cases received	141
Inspections undertaken CRM	491
Warnings issued	138
Directions of Authorised Officer issued	7
Statutory Notices issued	19
Prosecutions initiated	2
Fines issued	11
Authorisations issued/reviewed	2
DOMESTIC WASTE AND LITTER TEAM	
SUGAR CRM (Customer Relationship Management) cases received	90
Inspections undertaken CRM	533
Warnings issued	112
Directions of Authorised Officer issued	3
Statutory Notices issued	20
Prosecutions initiated	5
Fines issued	24

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Litter Management Plan 2023-2026

The Litter Management Plan 2023-2026 was adopted by the Full Council 25 March, 2024.

Under Section 12 of the Litter Pollution Act, 1997, Local Authorities are required to make and implement a three-year Litter Management Plan. Outlined within the plan are the objectives and actions pertaining to awareness, prevention, control, and enforcement of littering from 2023-2026. A commitment to an annual review, mandated by Section 10(3) of the Litter Pollution Act, 1997, as amended, ensures the plan's adaptability. The Plan:

- Builds on previous initiatives and plans underscoring the Council's dedication to effective litter prevention.
- Sets out objectives, actions and challenges pertaining to the awareness, prevention, control and enforcement of litter management.
- Recognises the persistent challenge litter presents to communities and business.
- Emphasises the essential cooperation of the entire community to amplify awareness around the detrimental effects of Litter.

Climate Action

Climate Action

- Limerick City and County Council's Local Authority Climate Action Plan was adopted by the Council on 25 March at the bi-monthly Council Meeting.

Creative Climate Action Fund

- The Community Climate Action Programme applications closed on 01 March. A total of 46 applications totalling just over €2million were received. The programme has been 150% over-subscribed. The main theme of applications was around Community Energy.

Citizen Innovation Lab

- Minister Niall Collins visited the Citizen Innovation Lab in March for a meeting with Limerick and Shannon Chambers.

Energy Management

- Limerick City and County Council's Energy Officer attended the Sustainable Energy Authority of Ireland Energy Show in Dublin on 20 March.

Veterinary

No. of dogs processed in the Dog Shelter	10
No. of horses seized	9
No. of samples taken	0

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4. CFRAMS (Catchment Flood Risk Assessment and Management Study)

Castleconnell Flood Relief Scheme

- A Steering Group meeting was held on 26 March to monitor and assess project progress.
- Productive dialogues continued with the landowners impacted by the project, setting the stage for completing the planning design and advancing the scheme.
- Review of the draft planning pack continued.

Adare Flood Relief Scheme

- A Steering Group meeting was held on 13 March to assess the project progress.
- Engagement with landowners affected by the scheme continued, facilitating the completion of the planning design and moving the project forward.

Limerick Flood Relief Scheme

- Tenders for two-year detailed ecological studies were received and continued to be under evaluation.
- A Steering Group meeting was held on 27 March to assess the project progress.

King's Island Flood Relief Scheme

The tender notice for the construction of the King's Island Flood Relief Scheme was published on eTenders.gov.ie.

5. Limerick Twenty Thirty (LTT) DAC

Opera Square

Project Update

- John Sisk & Son progressed with works on One Opera Square with the basement and ground floor complete and the first-floor slab works on schedule and visible from beyond the hoarding. The wider development works continued, including the remainder of the basement with the bearing piles for the hospitality, 14 storey, library and 4 Opera complete. Excavation works for the ESB power main upgrade from William Street to Michael Street via little Ellen Street progressed and Limerick Twenty Thirty engaged with Sisk, Limerick City and County Council and business owners to minimise impact.

Project Media Engagement

- On 11 March, Limerick Twenty Thirty released a video outlining one of its core values of sustainability which is being used throughout the development of Opera Square. Limerick Twenty Thirty is collaborating with Atlantic Technological University with a Second Year M.Sc. Masters Student on board working on the Opera Square project. His work will help guide industry best practices on sustainability and the wider sustainability agenda.
- Following a key One Opera Square milestone, Limerick Twenty Thirty issued a further video featuring the Mayor of the City and County of Limerick, Councillor Gerald Mitchell, and the Chief Executive of Limerick City and County Council, providing their views on One Opera Square.
- A Fourth Year Architecture student from the University of Limerick visited Opera Square on 20 March. He was given a tour of the site by Limerick Twenty Thirty to aid the completion of his thesis.

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- The Limerick Twenty Thirty Senior Project Manager gave a presentation on Limerick Twenty Thirty DAC and the Opera Square Development at the CitA Regional Event Limerick.

Cleeves Riverside Quarter

Project Update

- The Design Team and Planning Consultant continued works on the planning application. The Design Brief and Feasibility Study continued to be updated to align with market demand following private developer feedback.
- Limerick Twenty Thirty provided the vacant former secondary school at Fernbank, North Circular Road, to temporarily house Ukrainian families escaping the conflict in their homeland. The Temporary Rest Centre was handed over to the Department of Children, Equality, Disability and Integration and Youth (DCEDIY) on 11 March, with the first guests arriving on 19 March.

Project Media Engagement

- In celebration of St. Patrick's Day, the uplighters on the Chimney Stack at Cleeves Riverside Quarter were illuminated in green.

Gardens International

Project Media Engagement

- Limerick Twenty Thirty hosted the Launch of the 'National Waste Management Plan for a Circular Economy 2024-2030' at Gardens International on 01 March. Limerick Twenty Thirty's ESG (Environmental, Social and Governance) Champion spoke about the Circular Economy initiatives undertaken at Opera Square, which is a Lighthouse Demonstrator Project.
- Limerick School of Art and Design Third Year Ceramics students launched an exhibition titled 'Fired Up' in Gardens International on 11 March. This is Limerick Twenty Thirty's third collaboration with the College.

The exhibition was open to the public from 12 to 15 March and received excellent feedback.

- Bookings were confirmed for several upcoming events in Q2 2024.
- The Vault at Gardens International was promoted for meeting and events bookings. Requests for bookings can be submitted to info@limerick2030.ie or 061-517430.

Other Projects

Progress Update

- The tender process for 'capital works' at Askeaton Pool and Leisure Centre progressed with a contract to be awarded. However, the tender for an 'Operator' for both Askeaton and Grove Island Corbally Pool and Leisure Centres yielded no responses. Consequently, options were being explored to conduct separate 'Expressions of Interest' for the two centres.

Other Media Engagement

- On 21 March, the Chief Executive Officer of Limerick Twenty Thirty joined John Patrick Shaw, Chief Country Executive of Caelon Global Solutions Ireland, to discuss the development and prospects of Limerick City and Limerick Twenty Thirty in a LinkedIn Live Event titled "Limerick – A City on the Rise."
- Limerick Twenty Thirty advertised the recruitment of Project Manager role(s) within the Executive Team with a deadline for applications of 29 March.



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National and Regional Shared Services Centre Directorate

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

- There were 55,781 active HAP tenancies nationally, managed by the HAP SSC, at the end of March.
- A weekly average of 167 HAP tenancies have been set up during 2024.
- The March landlord payment run was €54.022 million.
- The weekly tenant charge at the end of March was €3.066 million.
- The Debt Management Unit of the HAP SSC collected a total of €38.672 million in differential rent to end of March.
- The HAP tenant rent collection rate at the end of March was 99%.
- The Debt Management Unit issued 8,853 HAP debt reminder letters in March.

2. Fire and Emergency

Statistics

	No. of Fire Related Calls	No. of Non-Fire Related Calls	Total
No. of callouts 01.03.2024 – 31.03.2024	71	60	
% of calls where on scene in < 10 mins from time of call	53%	45%	
% of calls where on scene between 11 and 20 mins from time of call	31%	40%	
% of calls where on scene in > 20 mins from time of call	16%	15%	

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	No. Received/ Assigned	No. Validated/ Acknowledged	No. Invalidated/ Refused	No. Granted	No. Completed
Fire Certificate Applications March	12	11	3	23	23
Disability Access Cert Applications March	5	6	0	14	14
Licensing Applications March	3	3			18
Commencement Notice March	83	69	7	0	69
Completion Certificate March	18	17	0	0	17
Planning Referrals March	17				5
Sugar CRM Cases March	5	0	0	0	3

Fire and Emergency Training Events

- Block Training for the City Fire Station continued with 24 Fire Fighters training in:
 - Emergency First Responder
 - Abrasive Wheels
 - Compartment Fire Behaviour Training (CFBT)
 - Positive Pressure Ventilation (PPV)
- 34 Fire Fighters and Officers from the retained Fire Stations completed their Compartment Fire Behaviour Training (CFBT) refresher training in Ballinrobe, Co. Mayo.
- Three Officers attended an Effective Decision-Making course in the Hydra Suite at Clonmel Fire Station, Clonmel, Co. Tipperary.
- An Officer attended a one-week National Pump Operation course in Killarney Fire Station, Killarney, Co. Kerry.
- Three Officers attended the National Building Control Conference in Sligo.
- All personnel completed the Health and Safety Briefing.

Civil Defence attendance at Events

- The following activity took place in March:
 - Patient Transfers - Limerick residences to St. Camillus' Hospital, Shelbourne Road, Limerick, and return journeys - 6 days.
 - Medical cover at American Football Games in University of Limerick, Limerick - 3 days.
 - Long Service Medal Presentation Ceremony in Trinity College, Dublin - 1 day.
 - Medical cover and participation at St. Patrick's Day Parade in O'Connell Street, Limerick City - 1 day.
 - Participation in the St. Patrick's Day Parade in Adare, Co. Limerick - 1 day.
 - Medical cover for the International Band Parade in O'Connell Street, Limerick City - 1 day.

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Water Safety

No. of Lifebuoy Replacements	January - February	March	Total 2024
Metropolitan District	1	0	1
Municipal Districts	5	1	6

No. of Lifebuoy Sensor Activations	January - February	March	Total 2024
Metropolitan District	8	7	15
Municipal Districts	3	2	5



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Support Services Directorate

1. Finance

Commercial Rates and Loans

Draft Collection Figures

Commercial Rates 2024	
As at 31 March 2024	
Opening Balance - 1 Jan €	4,949,138
Accruals €	64,139,402 **
Vacant Property Adjustment €	156,705
Writes offs/ Waivers €	540,612
Total for Collection €	68,391,223
Amount Collected €	19,143,395
Arrears €	49,247,828
Specific Doubtful Arrears €	1,374,811
% Collected	28.6%

** The Date for Making the 2024 Rate was 02 February 2024

Recourse to Overdraft Facility

No. of days in overdraft 0

Debtors Loans	
As at 31 March 2024	
Opening Balance - 1 Jan €	295,007
Accruals €	326,606 ^
Writes offs €	-
To Collect €	621,613
Receipts €	587,410
Arrears €	34,203
% Collected	94%

^ Accruals not updated for loans for March 2024

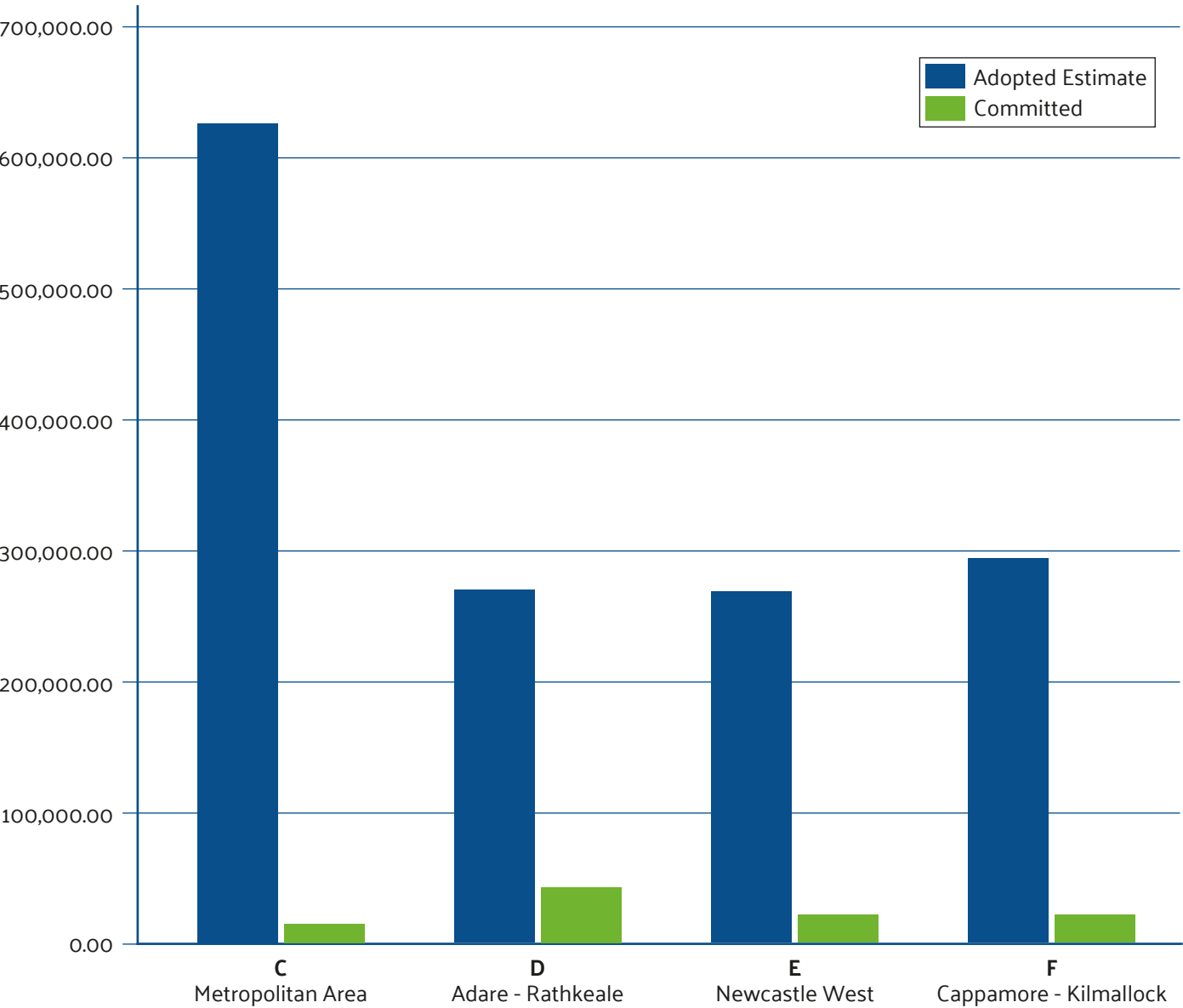
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General Municipal Allocation 2023 Adopted Estimate €1.463 Million

Graph outlining adopted budget and draft committed expenditure up to 31 March 2024



Municip (Code) + (Text)	Value Adopted Estimate (€)	Value Committed (€)
C Metropolitan Area	628,000.00	15,283
D Adare - Rathkeale	269,500.00	49,000
E Newcastle West	270,500.00	20,918
F Cappamore - Kilmallock	295,000.00	20,456
	1,463,000.00	

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2. Business Improvement

- Stakeholder Meeting was held for the CAPGOV system, which will be replacing Cora.
- Staff Liaison Network Meeting was held on 13 March.
- Business Improvement engaged with Regeneration to build two Economic and Social Intervention Fund (ESIF) application forms – “Community Centre Call” and “Education and Learning Call.”
- Business Improvement updated the Performance Development Plan online form to facilitate a Human Resources improvement.
- A total of 929 active users now live on the Employee App.
- Services on Service Catalogue = 694.
- 569 capital projects now managed through Cora, our cloud-based project management system.

3. Corporate, Governance and Customer Services

Mayoral Receptions were held for the following:

- Mungret St. Paul's GAA, in recognition of their highly successful 2023 season, winning several adult county titles in hurling and football and two National Féile titles in football and ladies football.
- Seán O'Sullivan, in recognition of his achievement as Overall Winner, BT Young Scientist & Technologist of the Year, at the 60th BT Young Scientist & Technology Exhibition 2024.
- Coláiste Chiaráin, in recognition of the school's commitment to Science, Technology and STEM education, being awarded the Best School Republic of Ireland Award at the 2024 BT Young Scientist and Technology Competition.

- Ballyneety Golf Club, in recognition and appreciation of the extraordinary vision and community ethos which has been cultivated by the members and staff.

The Office of the Mayor coordinated and arranged for the Mayor to attend the following functions/ events during the month:

- Launch of the National Waste Management Plan for a Circular Economy 2024-2030 at Limerick Twenty Thirty Gardens International, Henry Street, Limerick.
- East Limerick Gaels Awards Ceremony at the Millennium Centre, Caherconlish, Co. Limerick.
- Photoshoot for National Tree Week and Team Limerick Clean-Up in Hospital, Co. Limerick.
- Announcement for the signing of the contract for commencement of construction of ten housing units in Radharc Cillín, Kilfinane, Co. Limerick.
- Celebration of International Women's Day with a coffee morning and art and craft exhibition with Croom Family Resource Centre (FRC) Art Group and Croom Knitting Group at Mague River Room, Croom Mills, Croom, Co. Limerick.
- Focus Ireland, Donor Information Evening.
- Reception to officially mark the occasion of the appointment of Val Cummins as the Honorary Consul of the Netherlands to the counties of Cork, Kerry and Limerick.
- Local Enterprise Office Limerick, Limerick selection for the 2024 National Enterprise Awards at The Engine, Cecil Street, Limerick.
- ADAPT Domestic Abuse Services, Official Launch of their 50-year anniversary celebration at Adapt House, Rosbrien, Limerick.
- Fairview Rangers AFC 'Sponsor a Seat' Fundraising Launch at Club Premises, Fairview Rangers AFC, Fairgreen, Limerick.

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- Mary Immaculate College, Fitzgibbon Cup Celebratory Gala Dinner, following their success in winning the Fitzgibbon Cup for the third time.
- Limerick Musical Society, Press Launch for 'Oliver.'
- Photocall marking the appointment of international Design Consultants to prepare a Masterplan for the transformation of King John's Caste into a world-class visitor attraction at King John's Castle, King's Island, Limerick.
- Official Opening of Italian Kitchen Showroom, Cucine LUBE, at Eastpoint Retail Park, Ballysimon Road, Limerick.
- Launch of St. Patrick's Day Exhibition and Official Opening of 'Girl Unknown,' an exhibition of works by artist, Éadaoin Glynn, at Limerick Museum, Old Franciscan Friary, Henry Street, Limerick.
- St. Patrick's Day Parade in Newcastle West, Co. Limerick.
- 12 Infantry Battalion and Sarsfield Barracks, Limerick, St. Patrick's Day Mass in The Garrison Church, Sarsfield Barracks, Limerick.
- Limerick St. Patrick's Day Parade at the Grandstand on Henry Street, Limerick.
- 52nd Limerick International Band Championship at the Grandstand on Henry Street, followed by presentation of trophies at the Jamboree at Arthur's Quay, Limerick.
- Limerick Divisional Garda Youth Awards.
- Jobs Fair in Moyross.
- Official Launch of Limerick Migrant Integration Forum and Marking International Anti-Racism Day with Limerick United Against Racism Campaign in the Council Chamber, Dooradoyle, Limerick.
- Launch of Limerick Lifelong Learning Festival 2024 in the College of Further Education and Training, Mulgrave Street Campus, Limerick.
- Limerick Early Music Festival, concert 'Journeying with Bach,' at St. Mary's Cathedral, Limerick.
- Opening of Limerick Lace Conference.
- Reception for University of Limerick Men's Soccer, winners of the 2024 Collingwood Cup, in Council Chamber, Dooradoyle, Limerick.
- The Technological University of the Shannon: Midlands Midwest (TUS), TUS Business Start-Up Awards 2024 in Engine Limerick, Upper Cecil Street, Limerick.
- Launch of Limerick City and County Council and University Hospital Limerick (UHL) Art Collection in University Hospital Limerick, Limerick.
- Team Limerick Clean-Up.
- 2024 All Ireland Scholarships Awards Ceremony at University Concert Hall, Limerick.
- Attendance at the Annual Queens County St. Patrick's Day Parade, Rockaway Beach, Queens, New York.
- Attendance at the Annual St. Patrick's Day Parade in New York.
- Attendance at the Annual St. Patrick's Day Parade in Savannah, Georgia, US.

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Procurement Department

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

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

New Procurement References set up	39
Procurement References extended as per signed contract/arrangement	10

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

Requisitions Oversight Unit

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

Month	Approved	Rejected	Total Requisitions Actioned
March	1,364	207	1,571

- Approved requisitions accounted for 87% of the total requisitions actioned for this given month.
- Rejected requisitions accounted for 13% of the total requisitions actioned for this given month.

The Top five requisition rejection reasons for March were identified as follows:

Rejection Reason	March
Memo Requisition not raised in advance – omitted/insufficient detail	42
CAPA (Corrective Action, Preventative Action Form) – omitted/not signed/insufficiently completed	38
Procurement Reference Omitted/Incorrect	35
Documentation uploaded not relevant to Requisition/nothing uploaded	18
Quotes – Omitted/Incorrect copy provided	17

Register of Electors

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

- Additions to the Electoral Register – 436
- Deletions from the Electoral Register – 81
- Modifications to the Electoral Register – 621
- 2,600 requests were received for adding or updating details of electors.

Health and Safety Training

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

Course Name	Numbers Trained
Safe Pass	13
First Aid Response Refresher Training	4
Manual Handling	21
Drivers' CPC (Certificate of Professional Competency)	1
Total Staff Trained	39

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Schedule of Meetings for March

Name of Meeting	Date	Location
Full Council Bi-Monthly Meeting of Limerick City and County Council	25/03/2024	Dooradoyle and Online
Operational Briefings Limerick City East Limerick City North Limerick City West	 05/03/2024 05/03/2024 06/03/2024	 Merchant's Quay and Online Merchant's Quay and Online Merchant's Quay and Online
Municipal District of Newcastle West Monthly Meeting Joint Policing Sub-Committee Meeting Adare-Rathkeale Monthly Meeting Cappamore-Kilmallock Monthly Meeting	 05/03/2024 05/03/2024 11/03/2024 21/03/2024	 Newcastle West and Online Newcastle West and Online Rathkeale Kilmallock
Metropolitan District of Limerick Monthly Meeting	20/03/2024	Merchant's Quay and Online
Joint Policing Committee Meeting	01/03/2024	Dooradoyle and Online
Local Community Development Committee (LCDC) Meeting	05/03/2024	Dooradoyle and Online
Rural Water Monitoring Committee Meeting	12/03/2024	Dooradoyle
Corporate Policy Group Meeting	20/03/2024	Online
Party Leaders' Meeting	22/03/2024	Online
Protocol Committee Meeting	22/03/2024	Online
Audit and Risk Committee Meeting	26/03/2024	Merchant's Quay and Online
Strategic Policy Committee Special Meeting of Economic Development, Enterprise and Planning SPC	28/03/2024	Dooradoyle

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Access to Information

	March	2024 (January to March)
Total Freedom of Information Requests	14	71
Freedom of Information Internal Appeals	0	5
Information Commissioner Appeals	0	0
Total Ombudsman Requests	5	13
Total Access to Information on the Environment (AIE) Requests	1	6

Customer Services

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

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

- Customer Services Call Centre answered 10,044 calls. This represents an average of 528 per day, with the number of calls reaching as high as 652. 72% of calls were handled at first point of contact.
- A total of 3,852 emails were processed through the Customer Services email platform.
- 3,096 cases were created, with 869 of these logged on behalf of Public Representatives. 3,576 cases were closed, with 862 of these being cases logged by Public Representatives.

- Of these 3,096 cases, Customer Services staff logged 68% of same.
- The logging of cases through the MyLimerick portal continued, with a total of 267 cases being logged. Of these, 235 were submitted by Public Representatives.
- Customer Services continued to support the Housing Maintenance Department in creating service requests and, throughout March, 95% of housing maintenance cases for the Limerick Metropolitan District were logged by Customer Services staff in the Dooradoyle and Merchant's Quay Offices.
- A total of 88 out-of-hours cases were created.
- Customer Services continued to provide other frontline services to the general public, such as processing applications for Residential Parking Permits, of which 89 were applied for and 74 issued.
- Customer Services staff welcomed a total of 2,228 customers at both the Merchant's Quay and Dooradoyle Offices.

4. Marketing & Communications

Marketing

Limerick St. Patrick's Festival 2024

- Managed a three-week multimedia marketing campaign ending on 19 March, across social, digital, radio and print media, targeting local and regional audiences.
- Created a print and digital event guide with comprehensive event listings across the festival period, linking back to a Limerick St. Patrick's Festival hub on Limerick.ie. Print copies of the guide were distributed to venues and businesses across the city and county.
- Coordinated three social media competitions to increase awareness, engage audiences and promote local businesses.

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- Provided live social coverage of events across the four-day festival from 15 to 18 March.
- Commissioned festival photography and videography for use in future festival promotion.
- Created three dedicated campaign e-newsletters and a schedule of press releases, circulated to local and national media.
- Partnered with Live 95 on a “Bring them home to Limerick for St. Patrick’s Day” promotional competition, which included daily promos, live mentions, digital and social posts across Live 95 channels etc.
- Commenced campaign development on a summer tourism promotion for launch in Q2, 2024.
- Branded merchandise provided to St. Patrick’s Day delegations.
- Provided support to colleagues in Active Travel in the creation of promotional signage.

Other Marketing Activities

- Secured ORIS (Outdoor Recreation Infrastructure Scheme) funding for the marketing and promotion of three County Limerick rural trails as part of the ongoing ‘Limerick on Foot’ series of promotional initiatives.
- Created a new brand for Riverfest Limerick, which reflects its parent brand, Brand Limerick, whilst also incorporating the various elements that make up the festival itself.
- Commenced campaign development for Riverfest Limerick 2024 ahead of its launch.
- Highlighted the vibrant tourism offering available in Limerick across the Sky range of TV channels during the Players Championship on the PGA Tour, with the new Discover Limerick TV ad.
- Collaborated with Louise Cantillon in the promotion of the newly created Limerick Trad Trail content on social media and Limerick.ie
- Collaborated with the Fitzgerald’s Woodlands House Hotel, Adare, on social media on International Women’s Day to increase engagement and engage audiences.
- Continued progress on the creation of Invest Limerick assets for campaign launch in Q2, 2024.

Social Media

- Management of Marketing and Communications’ 14 social media channels, including Limerick.ie and Limerick City and County Council accounts, to engage with citizens and promote Limerick to locals, visitors, students, and the business community.
- Followers across our five main social media platforms is now as follows:

Limerick.ie Facebook: 34,848

Limerick.ie X: 21,561

Limerick.ie Instagram: 30,000

Limerick.ie TikTok: 1,019

Limerick City and County Council X: 18,464

Limerick City and County Council LinkedIn: 12,041

Limerick.ie

In March, there were 207,809* unique site visits to Limerick.ie, a 5% increase on the same period in 2023.
(*Fathom Analytics)

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

1. www.limerick.ie/stpatricksfestival
2. www.limerick.ie
3. www.limerick.ie/stpatricksfestival/events/limerick-st-patricks-day-parade
4. www.limerick.ie/council/services/planning-and-placemaking/search-for-a-planning-application/search-for-a-planning
5. www.limerick.ie/discover/whats-on/browse

Content Report: 116 articles, 291 events and 49 new Council Services were added to Limerick.ie in March.

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Communications

Issued 19 news releases from the Marketing and Communications Department and researched and wrote 17 speeches for the Office of the Mayor.

Posted 208 times on Limerick City and County Council's [X](#) account, @limerickcouncil, with total followers now 18,464. Our tweets earned 124,700 impressions (number of times users saw our post).

Handled all media queries into communications@limerick.ie and continued to offer Communication support to all Directorates of Limerick City and County Council.

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

	No of Calls mobilised to an emergency incident by MRCC	Other Calls	Average call processing time in minutes and seconds	Total No. of calls in March
No. of callouts 01.03.2024 – 31.03.2024	876	195	93.00	1,071

