

**MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS AT ANNUAL MEETING OF THE METROPOLITAN DISTRICT OF LIMERICK  
HELD IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER, MERCHANT'S QUAY AND ONLINE, ON FRIDAY, 28<sup>TH</sup> JUNE, 2024  
AT 12 NOON**

**PRESENT IN THE CHAIR:** Councillor A. Talukder, Cathaoirleach

**MEMBERS PRESENT:**

Councillors Beasley, Benson, Butler, Daly, Donoghue, Doyle, Gavan, Hartigan, Hickey-O'Mara, Kiely, Kilcoyne, Leddin, McSweeney, O'Donovan, O'Hanlon, O'Sullivan, Pond, Secas, Sheehan and Slattery, Mayor Moran.

**OFFICIALS IN ATTENDANCE:**

Director, Environment, Climate Action and Shared Services (Mr. K. Lehane), Meetings Administrator (Mr. M. Leahy), Senior Staff Officer, Corporate Services, Governance and Customer Services (Ms. A. Foley), Assistant Staff Officer, Corporate Services and Governance (Ms. S. Carroll).

The outgoing Cathaoirleach of the Metropolitan District, Councillor Talukder welcomed the Mayor, Members, Officials, Members of the Media and the Public to the Annual Meeting to elect the Cathaoirleach and Leas Cathaoirleach of the Metropolitan District of Limerick. He thanked the Elected Members and Executive for their support during his term as Cathaoirleach, and finished by wishing all Members of the District the best for the year ahead.

**1. To elect a Cathaoirleach of the Metropolitan District of Limerick to hold Office until the next Annual Meeting or until a successor has been elected**

The outgoing Cathaoirleach invited nominations for the Office of Cathaoirleach for the coming year.

Proposed by Councillor Slattery;  
Seconded by Councillor Kilcoyne;

“That Councillor Kieran O’Hanlon be appointed Cathaoirleach of the Metropolitan District of Limerick to hold office until the next Annual Meeting or until a successor has been appointed”.

Proposed by Councillor O’Donovan;  
Seconded by Councillor Donoghue;

“That Councillor Sharon Benson be appointed Cathaoirleach of the Metropolitan District of Limerick to hold office until the next Annual Meeting or until a successor has been appointed”.

As there was more than one nomination, a Roll Call vote was taken which resulted as follows:

**For Councillor O’Hanlon**

Councillors Beasley, Butler, Daly, Doyle, Kiely, Kilcoyne, Leddin, McSweeney, O’Hanlon, O’Sullivan, Pond, Secas, Sheehan, Slattery and Talukder (15)

**For Councillor Benson**

Councillors Benson, Donoghue, Gavan, Hartigan, Hickey-O'Mara and O'Donovan (6)

The outgoing Cathaoirleach declared Councillor Kieran O'Hanlon elected as Cathaoirleach of the Metropolitan District of Limerick and congratulated him on his election.

The newly elected Cathaoirleach, Councillor O'Hanlon, said he was delighted and honoured to be elected as Cathaoirleach of the Metropolitan District of Limerick. He congratulated newly elected Mayor of Limerick, John Moran, on his election and looked forward to working with him in the year ahead for the betterment of Limerick. He also congratulated Councillor Dan McSweeney on his election as Príomh Chomhairleoir. He further congratulated his fellow Councillors on their recent success in the Local Elections.

He extended a special welcome to the newly Elected Members of the Council and wished them every success in their new roles. He referred to the hard work carried out by all Members of the Metropolitan District and paid tribute to those who were unsuccessful in the recent Local Elections, thanking them for their commitment to Limerick during their terms of office.

He thanked his family and supporters for their continued help and support they have given to him and for the sacrifices, they had made over the years to support him in his role as a Councillor.

He outlined how Limerick is now an expanding, modern city and often referred to as the sporting capital of Ireland. He looked forward to the challenge of the All-Ireland Semi-Final against Cork and hopefully further All Ireland success in 2024. He also highlighted the importance of retaining Thomond Park as the home of rugby in Munster.

He pointed out the need to have a greater Garda presence in the city centre. He hoped that, as a Comhaltas member himself that the All Ireland Fleadh Cheoil would be held in Limerick in the coming years, and he also highlighted the importance of Shannon Airport to the region. Councillor O'Hanlon looked forward to working with the Mayor, Members and the Executive over the forthcoming twelve months, and urged everyone to work together to further develop the Metropolitan District of Limerick.

He also referred to the tradition of the wearing of the ceremonial red robe, and use of the mace, for important ceremonial occasions, and stated that this was something that needed to be looked at as part of protocols for such occasions.

Finally, on behalf of all the Members, he condemned the recent sentencing decision in relation to the assault on Natasha O'Brien. He commended Natasha O'Brien for her actions in challenging the decision of the courts and for raising awareness of this issue as a wider problem for society.

**2. To elect a Leas Chathaoirleach of the Metropolitan District of Limerick to hold Office until the next Annual Meeting or until a successor has been elected.**

The Cathaoirleach invited nominations for the Office of Leas Chathaoirleach of the Metropolitan District of Limerick.

Proposed by Councillor Slattery;

Seconded by Councillor Pond;

“That Councillor Fergus Kilcoyne be appointed Leas Cathaoirleach of the Metropolitan District of Limerick to hold office until the next Annual Meeting or until a successor is appointed”.

Proposed by Councillor Gavan;

Seconded by Councillor Hickey-O’Mara;

“That Councillor Elisa O’Donovan be appointed Leas Cathaoirleach of the Metropolitan District of Limerick to hold office until the next Annual Meeting or until a successor is appointed”.

As there was more than one nomination, a Roll Call vote was taken which resulted as follows:

**For Councillor Kilcoyne**

Councillors Beasley, Butler, Doyle, Kiely, Kilcoyne, Leddin, McSweeney, O’Hanlon, O’Sullivan, Pond, Secas, Sheehan, Slattery and Talukder (14)

**For Councillor O’Donovan**

Councillors Benson, Donoghue, Gavan, Hartigan, Hickey-O’Mara and O’Donovan (6)  
Councillor Daly was absent from the Meeting for the vote.

The Cathaoirleach declared Councillor Kilcoyne elected as Leas Cathaoirleach of the Metropolitan District of Limerick.

The Mayor of Limerick, John Moran congratulated Councillors O’Hanlon and Kilcoyne on their election and wished them well in the coming year. He highlighted the importance of the Mayoral Programme over the next five years. He outlined that this programme is a future vision of Limerick and looked forward to working and engaging with every Councillor to prioritise key objectives for each area.

The Director of Environment, Climate Action and Shared Services, on behalf of Management and Staff congratulated Councillor O’Hanlon and Councillor Kilcoyne on their election. He wished Mayor Moran and all Elected Members the very best of luck over the next five years.

This concluded the Meeting.

**SIGNED:** \_\_\_\_\_  
**Cathaoirleach**

**DATE :** \_\_\_\_\_