

Executive Report

Contained within this document are the Mayoral Report and the Director General's Management Report, as mandated by Section 136 of the Local Government Act, 2001, with its subsequent amendments.

It details the execution of executive duties over the past month, encompassing the enactment of policies or other directives issued by the Council as part of its reserved powers, as well as the Council's continued service delivery.



Director General



Mayor of Limerick

August 2024

Limerick City Alive with Activities for August Under Mayoral Programme

Contractor Mobilised for Rapid Build Homes in Moyross

New Adare My Waste Green Hub Promotes Community Approach to Sustainability

Rathkeale Greenway Hub is on the Right Track with New Public Amenities

Contracts Signed for New Southill Play Space

Limerick Hosts 'Stimulating' National Heritage Week Events

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Comhairle Cathrach
& Contae **Luimníog**
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Office of the Mayor

Some highlights for the month of August were:

- Meeting with Brian Leddin, Green Party T.D.
- Meeting with newly elected MEP, Cynthia Ni Mhurchu.
- Reception in Mayor's Office with Visiting Delegation from Savannah.
- Mayor presented to the Board of Iarnród Éireann and held a Reception in the Mayor's Office to mark their visit to Limerick.
- Contract signed for Southill Playspace and Associated Landscape.
- Many Community and Cultural Events held in The Crescent.
- The Mayor attended Meetings and Events in Newcastle West, Adare and Foynes.
- Second Draft of Mayoral Programme issued.
- First Meeting of Limerick Mayoral Advisory Implementation Committee held.

Below is a summary of the Mayor's diary for the month of August.

1st August

- Meeting with Councillor Maria Donoghue, Non-Party.
- Launch of the next phase of the Proof of Concept of Body Worn Cameras.
- Call with PAUL Partnership CEO.

- Meetings in Newcastle West District Office with the following:
 - Regeneration, Sports and Recreation Directorate - Mayoral Programme;
 - Councillor John Sheahan;
 - Councillor Liam Galvin, Cathaoirleach, Municipal District of Newcastle West;
 - Councillor Jerome Scanlan;
 - Shay Riordan, CEO West Limerick Resources.
- Visit to West Limerick Leisure Centre and Running Track.
- Book Launch for Pat McLoughlin 'From Keeper to the Keeper'.

2nd August

- Internal Meeting on Budget.
- Meeting with Environment, Climate Action & Shared Services Directorate - Mayoral Programme.
- Meeting with Councillor Kieran O'Hanlon, Cathaoirleach, Metropolitan District of Limerick.
- Meeting with Brian Leddin, T.D. and Campaign Group, West on Track - Future of Rail Development.
- Transport and Strategy Meeting.
- Work on papers, emails and mayoral orders

3rd August

- Daily morning meeting on the Crescent.
- 2025 February Festival Meeting.

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4th August

- Indian Cultural Event in Cappamore.
- Festival in a Van at the Crescent.

5th August

- Catch-up on correspondence.

6th August

- Meeting with Councillor Seán Hartigan.
- Internal Meetings with Limerick City and County Council Management Team.
- Work on Mayoral Programme with Transportation and Mobility Directorate and Mayoral Staff.
- Work on Implementation Committee Structure.

7th August

- Meeting with Councillor Sarah Beasley, Aontú.
- Morning meeting with Mayoral Office Team.
- Meeting with film producer.
- Meeting with Planning and Place-Making Directorate – Mayoral Programme.
- Meeting with Place-Making Directorate – Arthur's Quay.
- Meeting with Home Building Finance Ireland.
- Meeting with Executive Colleagues, NTA and URDF on Waterfront.
- Viewing of Derelict Sites in Abbeyfeale.
- Public meeting in Abbeyfeale on Public Realm.

8th August

- Meeting with Councillor Catherine Slattery, FF.
- Morning meeting with Mayoral Office Team.
- Mayoral Portrait at Egleston Photography Studio.
- Internal Meeting with Management Team Colleagues.
- Anthony Foley Memorial Golf Event in Adare.
- Retirement Function for Tom Cassidy of Limerick City and County Council
- Tour de Munster Cycling Event for Down Syndrome Limerick.
- Official opening of Visitaire, an art exhibition by Olivia Henchy, Vicki O'Donoghue and Teresa Ellen Fitzgerald, curated by Maurice Quillinan.
- Annual Alumni Week 2024-2026 'Up with People' Event' Reunion and Gathering at University Concert Hall.

9th August

- Call with Chief Executive Officer (CEO), Royal Institute of Architects of Ireland.
- Meeting with Housing Directorate – Mayoral Programme.
- Launch of Mid West Simon Annual Ball and Crescent Event.
- Meeting with Doras Luimní.
- Internal Meetings with Limerick City and County Council Colleagues.
- 'Picnic with the Mayor' at the Crescent.

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10th August

- Catch-up on correspondence and work on Draft Mayoral Programme.

11th August

- Work on Draft Mayoral Programme.

12th August

- Meeting with Chair of Limerick 2030 DAC.
- Meeting of Limerick Mayoral Advisory Implementation Committee.
- Meeting with Economic Development, Enterprise and Tourism Directorate – Mayoral Programme.
- Preparation for Southern Regional Assembly Meeting.
- Official Launch of Limerick Show.

13th August

- Launch of the Adare My Waste Green Business Hub.
- Meeting with Executives of Shannon Foynes Port Company in Foynes.
- Limerick Civic Trust Exhibition Launch and Presentation of Plaque to former Minister, Michael Noonan in the People's Museum of Limerick.
- Meeting on Christmas Events.

14th August

- Meeting with Councillor Joe Leddin.
- Meeting of Community Integration Forum.
- Meeting – Capital Budget.
- Meeting with Rural, Community and Culture Development – Mayoral Programme.

- Meeting with Artists – The Theatre Royal and Manifesto.

- Interview with Laura Roddy, Sunday Times.

- Meeting with representatives of Limerick Island Community Partners.

15th August

- Meeting with Councillor Sharon Benson.
- Meeting with CEO of St. John's Hospital and Brendan Leahy, Bishop of Limerick.
- Reception on the occasion of 78th Independence Day of India.

16th August

- Meeting with Members of Limerick Cycling Campaign.
- Meeting in relation to Curragower Development.
- Meeting in relation to new Veterinary School.
- Meeting with Representatives of Bergerie Trust.
- Official opening of The Classical Association of Ireland (CAI) Summer School.
- Pike Rovers V Treaty United at the Market's Field.

17th August

- Opening of Pressed Flowers Shop by Nell, Crescent Shopping Centre
- Cappamore Agricultural Show.

19th August

- Internal meetings with Limerick City and County Council colleagues (virtually).
- Virtual Meeting with Treaty United FC.

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20th August

- Virtual meeting with Regeneration Directorate – Regeneration Proposals for Moyross.
- Virtual meeting with Support Services Directorate – Mayoral Programme.

21st August

- Virtual meeting with Mayoral Office Team
- Clean Air Limerick Event, on-line
- Tangible Ireland, Ambassador Summer School 2024, attended on-line
- Catch-up on briefings and correspondence.

22nd August

- Work on SMART Homes Proposal.
- Virtual meeting with Councillor Elena Secas
- Virtual meeting with Mayoral Office Team.
- Work on Mayoral Programme.
- Call with Chair, Limerick Civic Trust.

23rd August

- Virtual meeting with Mayoral Office Team.
- Meeting regarding Adare Heritage Centre/DAC/Castle Masterplan (virtual).
- Meeting with Councillor Jerome Scanlan (virtual).
- Party Leader's Meeting (virtual)
- Meeting of Corporate Policy Group (virtual)

24th August

- Catch-up on briefings and correspondence

25th August

- Limerick Show 2024.

26th August

- Internal meetings with Limerick City Council colleagues (virtually).
- Meeting with Cynthia Ni Mhurchu, MEP.
- Preparation Work for Council Meeting.
- Special Meeting of Plenary Council.
- Ordinary Meeting of Plenary Council.
- Post Meeting calls.

27th August

- Work on Mayoral Programme.
- Irish Professional Footballers Association Press Conference to announce Golf Event.
- Meeting with Limerick Treaty Suicide Prevention.
- Reception for Visiting Delegation from Savannah.

28th August

- Regeneration Overview, presentation and strategic review
- Video for Transport Week at Colbert Station.
- Contract Signing for Southill Playspace and Associated Landscape.

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- Walk of Southill with Limerick City and County Council Team.
- Presentation on Limerick Plan to the Board of Iarnród Éireann and reception in the Mayor's Office to mark their visit to Limerick.
- Conradh na Gaeilge Event

29th August

- Internal meeting with Executive colleagues.
- Meet with Board of Iarnród Éireann.
- Meeting with Veterinary School of University of Limerick.
- University of Limerick Autumn Conferring Ceremonies.
- Lunch – University of Limerick, Leas-Phríomh Chomhairleoir Noreen Stokes and AGS Representatives attending
- Photocall for Launch of Culture Night.
- Drop by for Film in Wickham Way.
- Paul Partnership Event at the Crescent

30th August

- Meeting with Mayoral Office Team.
- Meeting with Discover Limerick DAC – International Rugby Experience.
- Ryder Cup Presentation.
- Meeting with Curator, Art Gallery.
- Call on city retail (Owen Silke)
- Event at Crescent (Brazilian Community and Pipe Band)

31st August

- Festival in Van (Crescent)
- Well Fest (Crescent)
- Opera Residents Dinner (Crescent)



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Economic Development, Enterprise and Tourism

1. Trade and Investment

The discount retailer, Lidl, announced it is planning to open the new outlet at Towlerton in Ballysimon by next year in a move which will create 30 permanent new jobs. Lidl's store at Towlerton will be its sixth outlet in Limerick. Up to 100 construction jobs will be supported during the development phase. The contractors, Monami Construction, broke ground to develop the 2,205 sqm retail unit. Lidl is to be a key part of what is to be effectively a new suburb in Limerick.

The Trade and Investment Department hosted a delegation from Savannah, Georgia, US, with a view to developing the economic and cultural relationship between Savannah and Limerick. The delegation included:

- Kay Ford – Chairperson, Savannah Advisory Board Bank South, Chair of Savannah Economic Development Authority (SEDA).
- John Coleman – President, Bonitz of Georgia, Chairman World Trade Centre (WTC) Savannah, Former SEDA Chairman.
- Marty Hogan – CEO, US Intermodal Corporation, WTC Savannah, Secretary/Treasurer.
- Chris Ahearn – Director of Research and Trade Development, WTC Savannah.

Night Time Economy

The following Night Time Economy initiatives have been implemented or commenced as a trial, for evaluation and consideration of longer term implementation/sustainability:

- A series of free late night Pop-Up Cinemas across three different city centre venues in conjunction with the Mayoral Programme for August.

- A series of free, guided history night-walks (three nights per week) in conjunction with the Mayoral Programme for August.
- Support to King John's Castle to trial a late opening in Heritage Week, to consider feasibility and incorporate into the King John's Castle Masterplan if viable.
- Support to a series of nine late night free events at the Hunt Museum in conjunction with the Mayoral Programme for August.
- A series of four Night Markets facilitated by a local hospitality venue, providing entertainment, food and shopping – to enhance activity in the Nicholas Street/Medieval Quarter in conjunction with the Mayoral Programme for August.
- Supported an evening outdoor film screening (Film track) in conjunction with the Mayoral Programme for August.
- Call out for Night Time Economy Innovation Grant – 19 applicants identified as successful to trial new/unique concepts in the city centre with Night Time Economy objectives – to be evaluated for the Action Plan.
- Support and advocacy for various groups including Féile na Gréine Festival (23-25 August) and various cultural and entertainment groups through letters of support and introduction to venues and potential collaboration opportunities.

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2. Digital Services

At the start of August, CAPGOV was rolled out across the organisation. CAPGOV marks a significant milestone in our journey towards enhanced capital project governance. CAPGOV, which has replaced the CORA PPM system, is designed to provide a more intuitive and efficient platform for managing our capital projects. This new system simplifies governance processes, captures high-level project details, and enables robust project and financial oversight.

The transition to CAPGOV has been smooth, with the system now fully operational. Key features include an intuitive user interface, seamless integration with existing systems and comprehensive reporting capabilities. The system's user experience has been enhanced to ensure minimal training requirements, allowing our teams to quickly adapt and utilise the platform effectively and leverages the organisation's existing technology investments to date.

3. Local Enterprise Office (LEO) Limerick

On 17 August, LEO Limerick had an information stand at the Cappamore Show in the Food Marquee where a number of LEO Limerick client companies displayed and sold their fantastic food and drink products to the public attending the show. The weather on the day played a positive role in making the 2024 Cappamore Show a very successful and fun day out for families attending from across Limerick and further afield and it was a great opportunity to promote LEO Limerick clients as well as the service and supports provided by LEO Limerick.

On 25 August, LEO Limerick had a stand at the Limerick Show in Limerick City and County Council Council's Sustainability Marquee, and it was a wonderful opportunity to work with our colleagues from different Departments across the Council in promoting sustainability to those in attendance on the day. LEO Limerick staff were on hand during the day to promote and answer questions from the public, particularly around our Green for Business Programme and our Energy

Efficiency Grant which is worth up to €10,000 in energy efficiency supports for eligible businesses in Limerick.

During August, LEO Limerick delivered nine different training programmes to 163 different business owners and managers across Limerick City and County to assist them in setting up or growing their business. LEO Limerick also provided three Trading Online Voucher grants to businesses who were looking to grow their business by setting up or expanding an e-commerce presence on their website.

4. Tourism

Limerick Greenway

- Limerick Greenway Team opened its new public offering at Rathkeale Greenway Hub on 02 August with a new 29-space car park that includes mobility car spaces; a beautiful limestone paving public realm area that surrounds the Hub building; toilets; electric vehicle charging points; a bicycle repair stand; a water station; a bus stop and picnic benches, all available for the use of the public.
- Limerick Greenway's marketing campaign continued throughout August and included the following:
 - Media Release on 02 August for the opening of the public facilities at Rathkeale Greenway Hub, with subsequent articles reporting same in the Limerick Leader on 05 and 10 August, the Weekly Observer on 07 August and the Vale Star and Mallow Star on 08 August.
 - Familiarisation Trip with Deirdre McArdle, Acting Lifestyle Editor with the Irish Examiner, on 17 August.
 - Limerick Greenway featured on the Examiner Escapes feature in the Irish Examiner Weekend publication on 17 August.
 - Limerick Greenway featured in the Irish Star's short article on the village of Adare on 22 August.

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- Limerick Greenway's social media campaign on Facebook and Instagram included the following:
 - A post highlighting the opening hours of Limerick Greenway carparks for the month of August on 06 August.
 - Business Spotlight Posts for August which included: LiKe Bikes, Adrenalin Sports and Cycles, Locomotion Bike Rental and Marguerite's Bakery and Restaurant.
 - Hub/Town Spotlight Posts for August which included: Knockpatrick Gardens and Newcastle West Playground.
 - A post promoting Limerick Greenway as a must-do for those visiting the city and county this summer.
 - A post promoting the Limerick.ie 'What's On' feature and encouraging the public to do Limerick Greenway while doing other activities in Limerick.
 - A post celebrating World Photo Day 2024 on 19 August, and asking Limerick Greenway users to share any pictures taken on the day of them doing Limerick Greenway their way.
 - A post encouraging Limerick Greenway users to do Limerick Greenway their way and to share their experiences by tagging the Facebook and Instagram pages - and their experiences would be reshared on the pages.
 - A post encouraging Limerick Greenway users to enjoy Limerick Greenway any evening over the summer.
 - A post promoting a family day out on Limerick Greenway and directing viewers to the new Sample Limerick Greenway Itineraries on the Limerick Greenway website.
 - A post directing viewers to Limerick Greenway website to the Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs) tab for answers on any Limerick Greenway questions they may have.

Limerick Greenway Statistics

Social Media Statistics

Statistics for Limerick Greenway socials 01/08/2024 – 31/08/2024

	Facebook	Instagram
Reach	105,743	31,351
Profile Visits	995	747
New Page Followers	42	213

Social Media Ads (Facebook and Instagram advertising statistics combined)

Accounts reached: 110,200
Post Engagements: 1,438
Link clicks to the website: 1,286

Google Ads

01/08/2024 – 31/08/2024

Impressions	16,100
Ad Clicks	2,970

TOURISM INDUSTRY TRADE EVENTS

Staff from the Tourism Department of Limerick City and County Council and Discover Limerick DAC attended and operated a Tourist Information Stand on behalf of Limerick at the Milwaukee Irish Festival held from 15 – 18 August in Milwaukee, USA.

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FESTIVAL AND EVENTS

A Relaxed Music Performance

Facilitated and curated by Nicola Hodgins Webster, the event took place on 20 August at the Commercial Bar in Limerick city. The objective of this music event was to create a safe and comfortable space for an audience with sensory, oversensitivity and social anxieties. The successful event made for an accessible and immersive arts experience for all who attended. The event also offered a link to a live stream to continue watching if one wished to take a break from the main space and a chance to relax in the venue post-performance and socialise with other attendees.

Féile na Gréine

The Féile na Gréine festival took place on the weekend of 23 - 25 August. This is an annual festival showcasing emerging and experimental music in the city of Limerick. This year saw acts from 40Hertz, Crying Loser, Ellie O'Neill, Reeta Cherie and The Nasty Villains and much more. The festival highlights some of Limerick's best venues such as Mother Mac's, Treaty City Brewery, Ormston House and the Record Room. The venues are dispersed around the city and easy to walk between, giving people the opportunity to take in the city atmosphere. All events are free as the Festival Organisers "believe Music should be accessible to anyone curious enough to seek it out."

Mayoral August Activities

Liam O'Brien

A solo performance by one of Limerick's leading entertainers on the closed off Crescent in the heart of the city, to bring people out to enjoy the environs and listen to live music as the weekend kicked off.

City of Limerick Pipe Band

Special performance by the City of Limerick Pipe Band and Uileann Piper, John Hunt Jnr., on the O'Connell Street Crescent.

Dolce Vita - Mark O'Connor

Multilingual folk and easy listening.

Multi-instrumentalist and Limerick Arts Council funding recipient, Mark O'Connor (Piano for Dolores, Radharc na hAbhann concert Saint Mary's Cathedral, Piani Luimní) and Sardinian mezzo soprano, Stefania Bardi (Ancór).

Mini Wellfest

Wellness at the Crescent. Pop-Up Yoga, Food, Pilates, Coffee and Running.

Opera on the Street

Two operatic soloists and an accompanist performing popular arias from well-known operas.

Pop-Up Gaeltacht

Ceol agus Craic na Cathrach. Hosted musicians in 'Seisiúin' format but anyone was free to join in.

Passista Dance Performance

Samba Dancers in traditional costumes performed.

Spacecraft Studios: Pop-Up Craft Table

Meditative painting, cyanotype making and getting crafty with the members of Spacecraft.

Inis -The Limerick Experience

A live music stage show telling the history of the city and people of Limerick.

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Non-Funded

PAUL Partnership: Limerick Communities Dance Fest

A fun evening of community-focused dancing right in the heart of Limerick City. This event celebrated the joy of dance and celebrated its role in building community and connection in our city.

Plein Air Painting Showcase by Art4Limerick Popup (Behind Council Building)

Local artists in action as they captured the beauty of our city! The talented members of Art4Limerick set up their easels for a group plein air painting session right behind City Hall.

5. Innovate Limerick DAC

- **09 August:** The National Digital Research Centre (NDRC) Annual Offsite Meeting held at ENGINE, including participants from Dogpatch Labs, Portershed, Research Development Innovation (RDI) Hub and Republic of Work.
- **28 August:** Visit to ENGINE from Delegation for Savannah, Georgia; Presentation on Innovate Limerick by Head of Innovate.

Film in Limerick

Film Track Showcase Weekend

Run by Innovate Limerick / Film in Limerick with Limerick City and County Council, WiredFM, Limerick and Clare Education and Training Board and the National Talent Academies. Film Track delivered a series of film events in the city from 23 - 25 August, including talks at the ENGINE Collaboration Centre, screenings at the Belltable and Cleeves, a performance at the Record Room and an outdoor screening and BBQ at Merchant's Quay Car Park, by the Castle. The event had over 800 admissions for events over the three days.

Screenability Training at Troy Studios

Film in Limerick, in conjunction with Avista and with support from Crew Academy Munster / National Talent Academies, has developed a new training programme 'Screenability.' This programme introduces skills opportunities for adults with complex support needs. Participants attended an introductory session at Troy Studios on production skills. Participants were taught how to use walkie-talkies, including the language required on a film set, review security cameras and understand the general maintenance and running of a studio.

Crew Academy Courses

Film in Limerick, with the National Talent Academies, ran other several courses, including:

- **EVS (Enhanced Vision System) Sports Video Replay Course** - This course offered training in an outside broadcast unit for sporting events, teaching participants how to search for and replay live sporting action using EVS technology.
- **Introduction to the Production Department** Participants were guided through the setting up of a production office, including financial, legal, Human Resources and logistics.

Production Support and Location Scouts

Production support and locations services were arranged for nine companies in August, including TV shows for BBC, RTE and TG4, scouting for future feature production and TV series, and further support was offered for several television programme features. An episode of the BBC's series 'Who Do You Think You Are' with Mel C of the Spice Girls, was broadcast on BBC1 in August. The episode, filmed in Limerick, received location and logistical support from the film office.

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Promotion

Film in Limerick received press coverage in August in the Limerick Leader and Limerick Post, as well as a live interview with Live95 and online on ilovelimerick.com

Discover Limerick DAC

“Up With People” American alumni event came to Limerick in August and brought with it over 700 delegates visiting the city and wider Limerick region. Based in the University of Limerick, they frequented numerous visitor attractions over the course of their week-long stay, including King John’s Castle, and it gave a welcome boost to our visitor numbers for August.

The **Tour de Munster** charity cyclists arrived at King John’s Castle on 08 August for a pit-stop as they drew close to the end of Day One of their epic four-day 600km cycling challenge, raising vital funds for the Munster branches of Down Syndrome Ireland. The cyclists took a break in the Castle courtyard and were treated to a well-deserved hot drink and snack before continued their route, finishing off the first day of the four-day cycling event.

National Heritage Week took place from 17 – 25 August with the theme for this year being “Connections, Routes and Networks,” inviting people to explore the ways we are connected to each other through physical or cultural connections. All three DAC sites embraced this opportunity to celebrate Ireland’s cultural, built and natural heritage.

King John’s Castle hosted daily workshops and stayed open late for two evenings to facilitate music and poetry sessions. Adare Heritage Centre offered free tours of Desmond Castle, whilst Lough Gur held a variety of events over four days to coincide with National Heritage Week.

Discover Limerick DAC, in conjunction with Limerick City and County Council was privileged to attend **Mikwaukee IrishFest** from 15 - 18 August, engaging in tourism promotion and cultural and diaspora engagement, with over 100,000 attendees at the festival.

Promoting Limerick through the lens of tourism was the goal and the Sales and the Marketing Manager of Discover Limerick DAC used the event as an opportunity to showcase landmark visitor attractions such as King John’s Castle as a key tourism destination point in Limerick City. Feedback from attendees was extremely positive with a major take-away being the importance of flight connectivity, the availability of direct flights from Chicago into Shannon airport being a major deciding factor for prospective visitors.



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Transportation and Mobility

1. Active Travel

Projects on Site

Rósmor, Old Cork Road, Limerick: Works continued to progress on site. Front of school works at Donoughmore National School are completed. Installation of railing at Mount St. Oliver cemetery progressing.

Plassey Park Road, Castletroy, Limerick: Works continued to progress on site. Road and cycle track surface course being laid.

Father Russell Road, Raheen, Limerick: Works continued to progress on site and approaching completion. Final landscaping and snagging works ongoing.

Mill Road, Corbally, Limerick: Works continued to progress on site. Footpath construction in front of Scoil Íde commenced; footpath works in front of Laurelville resumed.

R510 Quinn's Cross to Raheen: Works continued to progress on site. Safe Routes to School works at front of St. Nesson's National School substantially completed in time for return to school.

Other Projects

Wickham Street to Clare Street: Economic Assessment completed.

Park Road, Limerick: In-house design being progressed.

Father Russell Road Quietway, Raheen, Limerick: Section 38 report prepared.

Childers Road (Greenpark to Roxboro Road Roundabout), Limerick: Line marking completed.

Ballysimon Road, Singland, Limerick: Draft Options Report under review.

TUS to City Centre: Progressing with Section 38 for Thomondgate.



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Rural, Community and Culture Development

1. Rural Development

Town Centre First Suite of Supports 2024 – Measure 3: Project Development Measure

- The Department of Rural and Community Development announced the successful applications under the Project Development Measure of the Town Centre First Suite of Supports 2024.
- Limerick City and County Council was successful in securing the maximum funding available of €100,000 for the following two projects:

Abbeyfeale – The project will prepare a programme of works to improve and upgrade the shopfronts local to Main Square, including the appointment of consultants to undertake all preliminary works (design, planning, costings and project management) required to apply for the capital works in the future. Grant Funding Awarded - €50,000

Galbally – The project will undertake a scoping/feasibility study for the redevelopment and upgrade of the Community Centre in the centre of the village to examine the options available to develop a fit-for-purpose community facility and secure the community centre as the hub of the community. Grant Funding Awarded - €50,000

2. Community Development

IPB Pride of Place

- Limerick City and County Council selected four groups that will represent Limerick in this year's IPB Pride of Place Competition. Judging took place on 21 and 22 August when judges visited Dromcollogher and Respite Care Centres and Housing for Older Persons - Age Friendly, Johnsgate Residents' Association – Urban Neighbourhood under 3,000, Rockhill Bruree Community Council - Population under 300 and The Butterfly Club - Inclusive Communities. The results of the competition are awaited.

Public Participation Network (PPN)

- Membership of PPN Limerick continued to grow and currently stands at 228. 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 functions with regular scheduled meetings.
- PPNL continued to have an active presence with its regularly updated website, social media and bi-monthly Newsletter distributed to members.

Healthy Limerick

- Art and Craft workshops took place on Thursdays and Saturdays at the Hunt Museum during the month. This was a very successful collaboration between Healthy Limerick and the Hunt Museum with high numbers of adults and children attending the workshops.

Sláintecare Healthy Communities

- Teddy Bear Picnic:** Held on 26 August in Saint Mary's Park Community Garden, a fun event for families and children.

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- **Healthy Relationships Workshop:** Took place on 26 August at Southhill Hub, focused on educating youths about healthy relationships.
- **Thomondgate Community Planting:** Four planting and gardening events occurred across Thomondgate in August, supported by Limerick Growing Communities and community champion, Sean McIlpatrick.

Integration Supports

- 24 August was the 33rd anniversary of Ukrainian Independence and a number of commemorative events to mark the occasion took place across Limerick City and County. In the City, at the Crescent on O'Connell Avenue, more than 600 people turned out to a family friendly event hosted by Doras Luimní in collaboration with Limerick City and County Council's Integration Team. The bi-lingual formalities included speeches from Ukrainian and Irish dignitaries, Ukrainian musicians and Choir. Councillor Kieran O'Hanlon delivered a speech on behalf of the Mayor of Limerick, John Moran. There was a surprise guest appearance by Ms. Marta Kulay of the Kyiv National Theatre, who entertained the crowd with the performance of a variety of ballads. Children were treated with an Ice Cream Truck, Kiddie Rides, Bouncy Castle, Balloon Artists and a Magician. Limerick Sports Partnership provided a range of games for children and adults alike to try out, and the "Nutty Professor" from Mary Immaculate College demonstrated some very funny experiments for the children to enjoy. The event was concluded with the local Comhaltas Ceoltóirí Éireann Garraí Eoin group from Limerick performing a number of reels and jigs. The event took place from 11am to 2pm, and the weather, although breezy, stayed dry.
- A "Back to School Bash," hosted by the Local Authority Integration Team, took place at Honan's Quay on 29 August, from 6pm to 8pm. Inis Limerick premiered their new show on the History of Limerick through music, song and storytelling. The weather was very kind and the sun shone on the more than 100 attendees. The feedback from the audience was very positive, with many praising casual events of this

nature, and asking that more, similar shows be put on.

- The Local Authority Integration Team is partnering with the Irish Blood Transfusion Service to pilot a project to encourage donors of diverse backgrounds to become regular blood donors. Treatment of disorders such as sickle cell disease require significant quantities of specific blood types, and the blood products most commonly used to treat Sickle Cell are found predominantly in persons of African, Caribbean or mixed backgrounds. Registration is carried out online and a text is then sent to donors in advance of a blood donation clinic taking place locally, encouraging donors to attend and give blood. To become a donor, a person must be between 18 and 65 years of age. Full details can be found at www.giveblood.ie

Age Friendly

- The National Age Friendly Recognition and Achievement Awards 2024 shortlisting process was completed in August. Under the Transportation Award category, Limerick's 'Think before you Park' was one of three successful applications to be shortlisted out of fourteen entries. Martha Potter entered it from Hospital Family Resource Centre. The initiative deals with improper parking in the City and County, which causes obstructions and hazards for vulnerable road and footpath users. It involves fixed penalty notices being placed on illegally parked vehicles by the Garda Síochána and a sticker with a QR code inviting people to watch a video showing how their actions affect people with limited mobility and sight. It is a collaborative project between the Council, the Gardaí and disability groups.

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3. Culture

Libraries, Gallery, Museum and Arts Office

Library

City Library at Barrow House

- A summer Pop-Up Book Club took place on 01 August with 12 participants. This novel event was designed to give the casual reader or prospective book club member a chance to sample a book group discussion before deciding to commit to a club.
- Limerick Mental Health Association held a workshop on Effective Resume Writing and Job Search Strategies on 08 August.
- The University of the Third Age's Irish Language Conversation Group met on 23 August.
- Sahaja Yoga meditation sessions continued every second Tuesday from 6.00pm.
- Student Campus visited on 22 and 27 August with groups of new English language students signing up for library membership following an introduction to the many services available.
- The Children's Library played host to two classes of Meditation and Yoga for Kids on 07 August as part of the ongoing Summer Stars programme of events.
- Author and illustrator, Alan Nolan, visited on 13 August to share his Pirate Ireland Workshop with a full house of young readers who were enthralled by historical tales of pirates and treasure, as featured in his new children's novel, 'Molly Malone and Bram Stoker in Double Trouble at the Dead Zoo.'
- Other children's events included Arts and Crafts workshops on 09 and 14 August and a special Fighting Words workshop 'as Gaeilge' held in conjunction with Foireann Comhluadar Luimních.

- 25 children from the Starting Small, Standing Tall After School Crèche visited on 19 August for a library tour and relaxing reading session.
- Younger readers were also treated to a world of story and song with weekly toddler storytimes on Wednesday mornings.

Kilmallock Library

- Cruinniú, the annual summer exhibition showcasing local artistic talent, continued to show a wonderful selection of painting, print and mixed media.
- The Irish Conversation Circle met on 13 and 27 August at 6.30p.m. welcoming those who are fluent or just have a cúpla focal.
- "Walk and Talk" Group, facilitated by Limerick Sports Partnership, continued to meet at Kilmallock Library each Wednesday morning during August at 11am with an average of 28 participants.
- Weekly Kilmallock Library Craft Group sessions continued on each Thursday morning with an average of 15 crafters at each session.
- On 10 August, Animal Magic brought their mini-zoo to the library for two interactive sessions and introduced a selection of wonderful birds and animals whilst providing a wealth of information about their habitat and care.
- To mark Heritage Week, Kilmallock Library held a gardening talk led by Órla Ahern of Ahern Nurseries and Plant Centre on 20 August at 6.15pm with seed swaps organised by Kilmallock Tidy Towns.
- Our Little Readers inclusive session of storytelling, song, rhymes, books and chat met on 21 August with 32 participants.
- Summer Stars Reading Challenge continued with weekly draws for prizes of family passes to a wealth of Limerick's finest attractions.

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Newcastle West Library

- Youth Book Club for ages 10 to 13 continued to meet in the library on the second Tuesday of the month.
- Ongoing use of Sensory Space.
- Regular visits from The Brothers of Charity and Rathfredagh Cheshire Home residents.
- Headway Ireland meeting every Friday morning 10am to 11am.
- Knitting Club continued every Friday morning from 11am to 1pm.
- Adult Book Club continued on the last Thursday of the month.
- “Her Skies Our Voices” Lady Mary Heath project meeting took place on 01 August.
- “Nature and Living Things”- biodiversity class with Geoff Hunt, took place on 07 August.

Dooradoyle Library

- Dooradoyle Library's new pop-up book club met on 08 August. The Thursday morning book club held their monthly meeting on 22 August.
- On 17 August, 'Animal Magic Wildlife Displays' hosted an interactive information session with a selection of small mammals, raptors and reptiles. Children and adults were given the opportunity to see and handle the animals up close.
- 'Close-Knit Friends' weekly knitting group met on Wednesday mornings throughout the month.
- Crafty Wednesdays: Summer arts and crafts took place on 07 and 21 August for children aged 7-10 years. Children learned how to make model Chinese dragons and finger puppets.

- The annual Summer Stars Reading Programme continued until the end of August. Approx. 850 children registered for the reading challenge in Dooradoyle Library, with hundreds of those having already completed the challenge.
- The weekly evening Himalayan Meditation class met five times throughout the month.
- Regular visits from the Health Service Executive Training Centre and National Learning Network also took place during the month.

Watch House Cross Library

- The Summer Activities Programme continued with a children's movie each Tuesday afternoon, art and craft workshops every Wednesday, free play Lego on Thursday afternoons, and storytime on Wednesday mornings and Thursday afternoons, with over 300 children attending the various activities throughout the month.
- Parent and Toddler Group met each Friday with a total of 60 parents and children enjoying rhymes, and stories and informal play.
- The Limerick and Clare Education and Training Board English Language class continued twice a week in the library for International Protection Applicants from the Knockalisheen Centre in Meelick.
- Our Healthy Ireland Events continued with a talk on 'Introduction to Movement and Wellness after Cancer,' given by Catherine Browne, Chartered Physiotherapist and Pilates Teacher, on 01 August.
- A Wellness Workshop, facilitated by PAUL Partnership, was held in the library on 28 August.
- Thomond Primary Summer Camp visited with 32 children on 14 and 16 August, with the children enjoying an art and craft activity and storytime.

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- Summer Stars Celebration with the presentation of certificates and medals took place on 31 August, with 310 children registered for the programme at Watch House Cross branch.
- Crafty Saturdays proved popular with families with 70 participants during August.
- The Sensory room had 75 bookings with 210 users.

Abbeyfeale Library

- Craft Group continued meeting monthly, on the third Wednesday.
- Weekly family board games, every Saturday, continued as part of Summer Stars.
- A new art piece by local Visual Artist, Joe Bentley, was displayed until 10 August.
- An interactive Biodiversity Workshop with Geoff Hunt for families took place on 07 August.

Local Studies

- 64 onsite visits by researchers to the Local Studies Department in August and 36 remote queries.
- Work on Limerick in the 1920s: A Documentary History, the Department's 'Centenaries' project for 2024, was progressed and a number of new acquisitions were added to stock.

Other Branches

- Rathkeale Library** – An interactive Biodiversity Workshop with Geoff Hunt, for families, took place on 07 August. The branch welcomed pupils from St. Joseph's Boys' School and St. Anne's Primary School on 20 and 21 August as part of the DEIS Summer Camp initiative. The children completed a scavenger hunt in the library, were given a library tour and played board games.

- Adare Library** – on 13 August, children's author and illustrator, Alan Nolan, facilitated an interactive workshop.
- Library staff visited the Live 95 radio studio to talk on the Limerick Today programme about library initiatives to encourage children to read during the summer holidays.

Limerick City Gallery of Art (LCGA)

- Last Act, by Marie Hanlon and Rhona Clarke, a three channel video installation commissioned by LCGA, finished on 25 August. This work presents the climate crisis as something both real and abstract and reflects the human response to a changing earth. On 15 August, both artists were in conversation with Sheena Barrett, Head of Research and Learning at Irish Museum of Modern Art (IMMA), with an audience of forty people. Shell/ter, a collective of five artists: Diana Copperwhite, Niamh McGuinne, Sharon Murphy, Alyson Keehan and Geraldine O'Neill also continued throughout August. An exhibition guide, with a critical essay by Brian Fay, accompanied the exhibition. Both exhibitions were very well received with visitor numbers at 13,320.
- LCGA also facilitated a two-day workshop on 13 and 14 August for Fighting Words lead by El Reid.
- LCGA continued to exhibit a selection of works from the Permanent Collection on a rotation basis expanding the use of separate exhibition galleries within the building. The exhibitions from the Permanent Collection display recent works donated and acquired, as well as works which are popular with local and international visitors. LCGA highlighted the Permanent Collection exhibits within National Heritage Week 2024 from 17 – 25 August.
- Two artists, Gala Tomasso and Diarmuid Heffernan, completed their residency in TEST SPACE on 28 August. Both artists are neuro-divergent and presented a series of workshops for people who are neuro-divergent while also engaging with visitors to the Gallery. They also provided some training with staff members on autism awareness.

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- Two works by Sarah Purser are on loan to the Hugh Lane Gallery for the major exhibition, More Power to You.
- Research and meetings continued with site visits by artists and curators.

Limerick Museum

- On 08 August, the Mayor of Limerick, John Moran, performed the official opening of Visitaire, an art exhibition by Olivia Henchy, Vicki O'Donoghue and Teresa Ellen Fitzgerald, which was curated by Maurice Quillinan. The three artists brought different visions and experience to the exhibition - based in Co. Clare, Olivia Henchy's work is at the intersection between landscape and abstraction; based in Co. Kilkenny, Vicki O'Donoghue is captivated by the essence of the land; Teresa Ellen Fitzgerald is currently based in Dunmore East, Co. Waterford, and thrives on the freedom of expression through abstract art.
- On 22 August, as part of Heritage Week, Councillor Adam Teskey, Cathaoirleach of the Municipal District of Adare-Rathkeale, performed the official opening in Saint Mary's Cathedral, Limerick, of 200 Years of Achievement: The Dunraven Family and Limerick, a Limerick Museum exhibition celebrating the major contribution made by the Dunraven family to the heritage, culture, and public life of Limerick. The exhibition was created by Limerick Museum in partnership with the Dunraven family. It consists of objects from the collections of the Dunraven family and Limerick Museum and is funded by the Department of Tourism, Culture, Arts, Gaeltacht, Sport, and Media under the Regional Museum Exhibition Scheme 2024.
- On 22 August, as part of Heritage Week, the Curator launched the Friends of Lace Limerick redesigned Limerick lace Beginners Kit in the Lumen exhibition space on Roches Street. The new kit is accompanied by a step-by-step video tutorial. The redesign was supported by an Intangible Cultural Heritage grant from the Department of Tourism, Culture, Arts, Gaeltacht, Sport and Media for Heritage Week 2024.
- As part of Heritage Week, a guided walking tour of the medieval streets and lanes of medieval Limerick city, led by a staff member of Limerick Museum, was held on 24 August. This tour, which was attended by 70 people, highlighted the surviving and lost medieval thoroughfares of Englishtown and Irishtown, and featured the many archaeological and historic sites along the old streetscapes.
- As part of the Museum's very successful outreach programme, the Curator took part in the Country House Auction TV programme, broadcast on More4 on 27 August. He was featured purchasing the Florence Vere O'Brien pincushion for Limerick Museum. Florence Vere O'Brien was one of the greatest figures in the history of Limerick lace.
- As part of our very successful collaboration with the Limerick Show Society, Limerick Museum sponsored the Crafts Section of Limerick Show, which was held on 25 August.
- On 01 August, Limerick Museum welcomed a group of Finnish lace-makers who were visiting Limerick. Our partners, Friends of Lace Limerick, presented a lace-making demonstration in the morning and a Limerick lace beginner workshop in the afternoon.
- The pop-up exhibition, Objects of the Revolution in East Limerick, continued in the Museum throughout August.

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Limerick Arts Office

OPEN CALLS

Strategic Fund for Culture and Arts Scheme 2024

Limerick Arts Office manages the 2024 Strategic Fund for Culture and Arts Scheme. The purpose of the scheme is to support maximising the leverage of funding into Limerick from national and international sources, which in turn helps support a vibrant creative culture. In August, five further letters of support were issued.

Call-Out for Artists' Residential Apartments, John's Square, Limerick

Limerick Arts Office's Artists' Apartments recognise cultural practitioners, across all art forms, by providing subsidised residential apartments in John's Square, Limerick. A competitive Open Call was announced for two apartments on 21 August. The Artists' Apartments create conditions for affordable living spaces for individual artists by attracting and keeping artists living and working in Limerick City, and by encouraging living and working within the urban context. The apartments provide subsidised living spaces in recognition that artists and many individuals working in the arts are on modest income levels.

Studios

A competitive Open Call for one studio at James' Street Studios was announced on 21 August. This is one in a complex of eight studios, which is provided by Limerick City and County Council at subsidised rental to professional artists, to support them in their careers and to enable them to work in Limerick City.

Tyrone Guthrie Bursary

Limerick Arts Office announced an Open Call on 21 August for two Bursaries for the Tyrone Guthrie Centre. The Tyrone Guthrie Centre at Annaghmakerrig is a residential workplace and residency programme in Ireland for artists of all disciplines. This Open Call to recognise cultural practitioners, across all art forms, residing within

Limerick City and County, will allow successful applicants undertake a short residency at the Tyrone Guthrie Centre at Annaghmakerrig, the artist's workplace in County Monaghan. These bursaries cover all board and lodging expenses for one week, in addition to the use of a studio if necessary.

Open Call for Drama Facilitator

An Open Call for a drama facilitator to work in Limerick City was announced on 21 August. Limerick Arts Office is seeking a person experienced in script writing, production, stage management and socially engaged practice, who is comfortable working with harder to reach young people.

CREATIVE IRELAND

Síolta Glasá

The Creative Climate Action project, Síolta Glasá (currently being delivered by Creative Ireland Limerick in partnership with Climate Action), supported Griston Bog Family Day. Arts and Craft and a Bug Safari were enjoyed by all ages. Creative, Ciara Moynihan, and representatives of Ballyhoura Heritage and Environment, were on hand to introduce the local community to Síolta Glasá and the Griston Bog creative collaboration.

Creative Ireland - Additional Funding

Creative Ireland Limerick has secured additional Funding of €13,120 from the Creative Ireland Creative Communities 2024 programme. This funding will allow for - youth consultations in preparation for Cruinníu na nÓg; an extension of the Dance Limerick Inclusive Dance Club; and establishment of our Contemporary Cities Shared Island project, with Limerick School of Music and the Hard Rain Soloist Ensemble.

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ARTS COUNCIL

Creative Places

Ballyhoura Development celebrated its Creative Places Research and Development Award from the Arts Council for Kilfinane. Limerick Arts Office is a strategic partner in this project, and is delighted to support Limerick's first Creative Places Awardee.

Castleconnell Autumn Concert Series (2024)

A fully live programme of enchanting and beautiful music and song returned to All Saints Church in Castleconnell. Castleconnell Autumn Concert Series is programmed by Limerick Arts Office, with financial support from the Arts Council and Creative Ireland. The concerts are presented in partnership with Love Castleconnell. The first concert took place on 27 August with Members of the Degani Ensemble, Alan Smale, Ruby Ashley and Rachel Quinn. It was recorded for a future broadcast on RTE Lyric FM, The Full Score Programme with Liz Nolan.

DECADE OF CENTENARIES

Work progressed on the Newcastle West project, which is based on the life of athlete and aviatrix, Lady Mary Heath. Writer and producer, Ella Daly, and Aeronautical Engineer, Ruth Bagnell, commenced work with young women in the Newcastle West area on the creative writing project. Youth consultations were conducted on 30 August, with the support of Foróige at Newcastle West Library.

4. Property Management

Dereliction, Vacancy and Reuse Team	
Site Inspections Completed	113
Department Notices of Inquiry issued	20
Derelict Sites Cases opened	9
Statutory Notices served under the Derelict Sites Act 1990	23
Derelict Sites Cases closed through engagement	8
Properties entered into the Derelict Sites Register	6
Properties proposed for Compulsory Acquisition (Section 15 Notices)	0
Vesting Orders Made for Properties Acquired Compulsorily (Section 17 Notices)	0
Croí Cónaithe – Vacant Property Refurbishment Grant Applications Approved	14



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Regeneration, Sports and Recreation

1. Regeneration and Sports

Regeneration

Economic Regeneration

A number of agencies were successful in securing funding through the Economic and Social Intervention Fund for programmes that assist those most distanced from the labour market.

Social Regeneration

Economic and Social Intervention Fund (ESIF) Update

The first tranche of 2024 Economic and Social Intervention Fund (ESIF) grants were approved by the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage and letters of approval have been sent out to relevant applicants. Grants to the value of €2.262 million have been approved for 124 projects across the city.

Community Activities

King's Island

The King's Island Community Centre continued to support residents throughout the month of August. Activities undertaken included:

- Bingo continued to prove popular with 352 attendees across four events.
- Adult art classes saw 100 attendees across the four sessions.
- Pastor Lovemore held two Baptist services in the community centre with 20 in attendance.
- Dance lessons took place over 12 evenings with upwards of 400 enjoying the practice.

- Four sessions of “Art on the Street” took place with over 100 participants.
- 42 salsa and tango dancers participated in two sessions throughout August.
- Volunteers installed a beehive at the Hunt Museum.

Moyross

- MoyFit, Good2Go and Boxercise programmes were all held weekly, with both Moyross Youth Academy and Moyross Community Enterprise Centre hosting these fitness classes, in conjunction with Limerick Sports Partnership.
- Moyross Community Enterprise Centre hosted the summer work programme which provided summer work for student leaders and summer camp for 82 local children. A total of 15 student leaders, aged 16 to 22, participated on the programme. In this ESIF-funded programme, the students were trained and supported as summer camp leaders.
- The HSE “Living Well” programme was run from Moyross Community Enterprise Centre. 15-20 people took part.
- Bingo returned to Moyross Community Enterprise Centre in August, with 50 people attending each week.

Southill

- On 30 August, the Mayor of Limerick, John Moran, approved the appointment of McSweeney Sports Surfaces as the contractor for a new Southill play space and associated landscaping. Children from the local area met the Mayor and displayed great enthusiasm for the upcoming project.

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- In partnership with ABC Start Right and PAUL Partnership, Tait House hosted a drop-in advice morning for parents with queries about speech and language development.
- The summer activities for the Tait House after-school childcare service continued throughout August. They included a visit to the ESB power station in Ardnacrusha.
- Works progressed on the Turner Vinery restoration, Tait House. This project is supported by the Historic Structures Fund, Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage, Regeneration and the Council.
- Tait House representatives attended the Council's sustainability tent at the Limerick Show to showcase the Relove Paint and Furniture initiatives to the public.

Ballinacurra Weston

- Our Lady of Lourdes advertised for two After School Workers on 29 August. These 16-hours per week contracts are funded by the Economic and Social Intervention Fund.

Physical Regeneration

Housing Developments

- The contractor has mobilised for the 24-unit rapid build housing developments at Carew Park, Southill and at Delmege Park and Hartigan Villas in Moyross.
- Construction works are progressing towards completion of 27 units at Dalgaish Park, Moyross.
- Construction works on the Sheep Street Development, comprising of eight social housing units, are progressing towards completion with snagging in progress.
- Works are continuing at Churchfield, Southill (Phase 2) with Block 1 (11 units) achieving substantial completion.

- Design works progressed towards lodgement of a S179A application for a Cosgrave Park Phase 2 development in Moyross comprising 20 units.

Status of Thermal Upgrade Projects

- Thermal Upgrade Contract No. 121 (47 houses in Moyross) - nearing completion with snagging in progress.
- Thermal Upgrade Contract No. 123 (53 houses in Southill) - progressing on site.
- Thermal Upgrade Contract No. 125 (26 houses in St. Mary's Park) - progressing on site.
- Thermal Upgrade Contract No. 126 (52 houses in Southill) - progressing towards completion on site with snagging in progress.
- Thermal Upgrade Contract No. 127 (12 houses in Ballinacurra Weston) - nearing completion with snagging in progress.
- Thermal Upgrade Contract No. 128 / 129 (25 houses in St. Mary's Park) - progressing on site.

House Refurbishments

Lot 4a Major Refurbishments - Nine Properties

- Lot 4a Scheme 1 (three houses with one complete and two remaining)
 - 1 Collins Avenue - substantially completed in August.
 - 11 Aster Court - significant progress made.
- Lot 4a Scheme 2 and 3 (six houses) - advancing towards completion.

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Lot 4b Major Refurbishments – 11 Properties

- Lot 4b Tender Pack 1 (three houses) achieved Stage 4 approval from the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage - contractor appointment in progress.
- Lot 4b Tender Pack 2 (five houses) achieved Stage 4 approval from the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage - contractor appointment in progress.
- Lot 4b Tender Pack 3 (three houses) - currently awaiting Stage 1 approval from the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage.

Minor Refurbishments

- A total of five properties have contractors onsite, who are nearing completion on approved refurbishment works.
- Contractors have been appointed, awaiting a start date for a further two properties.
- Four properties being tendered for a contractor to undertake the associated refurbishment works.

Infrastructure Projects

- **Southside Connectivity Project**
 - Consultants have been appointed to commence the detailed design with a view to subsequent tender and construction.
- **Southside Boxing Academy**
 - PBC Ltd, the appointed contractor, continued to deliver the improvement works to the building throughout the month with substantial completion issued on 30 August.
- **Thomond Rugby Football Club Extension**
 - Detailed design works continued for this sporting facility in Moyross.

• Colivet Court Apartments

- Q3 Security Group continued works on the existing intercom system at Colivet Court, Carew Park.

• King's Island Community Centre

- Sketch design ongoing in tandem with Working Group consultation.

Environmental Works

- Environmental clean-up works were undertaken in Ballinacurra Weston to enable the grass cutting contractor to increase the areas of ground that could be included in the current contract. A significant volume of waste material was removed to make the green areas more accessible for the community.
- Removal of redundant hard-standing area in Aster Court, O'Malley Park, Southill, was completed.

Limerick Sports Partnership (LSP)

- The 'HER Outdoors Week' was held in August with 21 events across Limerick City and County. Activities included, cycling, archery, clay target shooting, rowing, kayaking, rock climbing, Activator walking, hiking, Dragon Boat racing, outdoor yoga, mountain biking, pitch and putt, running and outdoor fitness classes. Over 470 women of all ages participated.
- Limerick were selected to host a regional one-day festival in O'Brien Park, Clare Street, Limerick. The basketball court, volleyball court, table tennis, Tecque tables and green spaces were all used for this busy event. Over 200 women came to the park, some for the first time, and were delighted with the amenities available.
- The Sports Partnership held a staff recruitment call in August and have appointed an additional Community Sports Development Officer and Youth Sports Officer to the LSP team.
- The Sports Partnership staff supported the Ukrainian Independence Day Festival at the Crescent with interactive games and street games.

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For more information on programmes and activities visit
www.limericksports.ie

Council Sporting Facilities

Limerick Regional Athletics Hub (LRAH)

- The facility recorded 79 individual users on the track for the month of August.
- 11 new users signed up during the calendar month.
- West Limerick Athletics Club 80 Juvenile Members and 60 Adults continued to train weekly.
- St. Mary's Athletics Club 80 Juvenile Members are training weekly.
- A number of athletes who train at the LRAH won medals in the National Senior Athletics Championships in the High Jump, Long Jump and Throw events.

Rathbane Golf Course

- 3,281 rounds of golf were recorded between members and green fees this month.
- Volunteers carried out works such as painting marker stones and raking bunkers, helping to promote a sense of ownership and community.
- 485 individuals participated in 19 competitions during August.
- The Ladies Captain's prize was held in August and the Ladies Committee raised over €500 for their chosen charity, Milford Hospice.

Grove Island Leisure Centre

- A Kick-off meeting was held with Aura, Council and the appointed consultants for the proposed refurbishment works.

2. Askeaton Pool and Leisure Ltd

Askeaton Pool and Leisure

Martins Construction, the appointed contractor, continued to progress the construction contract throughout August.



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Housing

1. Housing Support Services

Housing Waiting List

Approved Housing Applicants	2,899
Approved Tenant Transfer Applicants	419

Closed Housing Applications

	August	Year to Date
Closed Applications	36	465

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 August	Year to Date
Adare-Rathkeale	3	10
Newcastle West	0	16
Metropolitan District	27	182
Cappamore-Kilmallock	6	37
Total	36	245

Refusals

	No. of Units August	Year to Date
Adare-Rathkeale	0	0
Newcastle West	0	0
Metropolitan District	4	21
Cappamore-Kilmallock	0	8
Total	4	29

Approved Housing Body Allocations 2024 (year to date)

Total Nominations	Successful Nominations	Nominations Pending	Unsuccessful Nominations
189	98	81	10

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Rental Accommodation Scheme (RAS)

Private Tenancies	655
Capital Assistance Scheme/Rental Accommodation Scheme Tenancies	579
Part V	0
New Private Tenancies	0
New Voluntary Housing Tenancies	7

Housing Assistance Payments (HAP) Limerick

1,975 active HAP Tenancies monitored, reviewed and maintained.

No. of HAP tenancies set up this month	29
No. of Amendments	575
No. of Cessations	35

Rent Collection

Rent Collection Limerick City and County Council					
Opening Balance	Accrued Income	Total for collection	Receipts	Closing Balance	% Collection
€6,731,013	€14,320,475	€21,051,488	€13,381,132	€7,670,356	64%

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Home Improvement Schemes

August 2024		Adare-Rathkeale	Newcastle West	Metropolitan	Cappamore-Kilmallock	Total
Mobility Aid Grants	No. Approved	2	2	1	1	6
	MAG Expenditure	€2,300.00	€0.00	€5,900.00	€8,300.00	€16,500.00
	No. Paid	1	0	2	2	5
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Housing Adaptation Grants	No. Approved	12	5	16	2	35
	HAG Expenditure	€7,362.50	€44,382.50	€296,567.45	€54,781.08	€403,093.53
	No. Paid	1	6	34	6	47
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Housing Aid for Older People	No. Approved	24	17	13	10	64
	HOP Expenditure	€29,736.50	€54,032.18	€111,130.50	€68,674.50	€263,573.68
	No. Paid	8	14	33	15	70
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Disabled Person's Grant	DPG Expenditure	€0.00	€0.00	€20,430.00	€10,669.00	€31,099.00
	No. Paid	0	0	1	1	2

Total No. Approved	105
Total Monies Paid	€714,266.21
Total No. Paid	124

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Home Improvement Schemes - Year to Date

January - August 2024		Adare-Rathkeale	Newcastle West	Metropolitan	Cappamore-Kilmallock	Total
Mobility Aid Grants	No. Approved	7	5	25	3	40
	MAG Expenditure	€24,879.00	€12,150.00	€66,421.43	€14,106.48	€117,556.91
	No. Paid	8	5	19	4	36
<hr/>						
Housing Adaptation Grants	No. Approved	42	52	158	23	275
	HAG Expenditure	€182,583.87	€294,920.26	€1,422,288.20	€278,054.88	€2,177,847.21
	No. Paid	22	40	148	35	245
<hr/>						
Housing Aid for Older People	No. Approved	83	110	249	69	511
	HOP Expenditure	€214,519.26	€415,189.14	€996,705.61	€243,362.74	€1,869,776.75
	No. Paid	52	97	245	56	450
<hr/>						
Disabled Person's Grant	DPG Expenditure	€12,978.73	€12,581.78	€264,713.57	€52,822.90	€343,096.98
	No. Paid	2	2	16	5	25

YTD Total No. Approved	826
YTD Total Monies Paid	€4,508,277.85
YTD Total No. Paid	756

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Community Sustainment Unit

Tenancy Inductions

	August	Year to Date
No. of Tenancy Inductions	27	211

Repossessions

	August	Year to Date
Repossession of Council properties	6	81

House Visits

	August	Year to Date
No. of House Visits	163	2,162

Garda Checks

	August	Year to Date
Garda Checks processed	110	846

Dynamics CRM (Customer Relationship Management) Cases

	August	Year to Date
Active cases at month-end	370	370
Cases closed during month	82	577

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

Date: 14.08.2024		
Individuals		
Location	Description	Beds Used
McGarry House	Mixed Low threshold accommodation for singles	32
Oak Lodge	Adults without children accommodated in low threshold emergency accommodation	60
Thomond House	Higher threshold accommodation for single females	21
St. Joseph Street	Higher threshold accommodation for single females	6
B&B (no children)	Adults without children accommodated in B&B	57
Temporary Emergency Provision TEP 1 (Edenvilla)	Low threshold, night-by-night (9pm-9am) emergency accommodation. Mixed	14
Phoenix Lodge	Low threshold emergency accommodation for single adults	10
Total		200

Families				
Location	Description	Beds Used		
		Adults	Children	Families
Suaimhneas	Family Emergency accommodation	6	8	6
B&B/Hotel Accommodation	Families	120	127	75
Twin Oaks Family Hub	Family Hub	10	13	9
Totals		136	148	90

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	August	YTD
Tenant Purchase		
Tenant Purchase Applications: No. received	3	53
Tenant Purchase Applications: No. approved	4	36
Local Authority Home Loans		
Loan Applications: No. received	5	50
Loan Applications: No. approved	0	16
Deed of Discharge		
Deed of Discharge Applications: No. Received	18	134
Consent to Sale		
Consent to Sale Applications: No. Received	7	42
Cottage Purchase Annuity		
No. of Cottage Purchase Annuity Applications	2	22
Ground Rent		
No. of Ground Rent applications	5	36
Title		
Title Deeds Received/Requested	11	91
Title Rectifications Received	0	5

Freedom of Information, Data Requests and Ombudsman

Freedom of Information requests	2
Ombudsman Query Cases	2
Data Access Requests	1

2. Housing Welfare and Traveller Accommodation

* Traveller Accommodation

No. of Units offered August	3
Year to Date	15

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

Housing Welfare Referrals/Visits

No. of Referrals / Visits August	22
Year to Date	174

3. Local Authority Housing Construction and Maintenance

Local Authority Housing Construction

House Returns August	
Total	9

House Returns August By Municipal District	
Adare-Rathkeale	0
Cappamore-Kilmallock	0
Newcastle West	1
Metropolitan District	8
Total	9

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During August, the Local Authority Housing Construction Team was notified of 0 houses in the Municipal District of Adare-Rathkeale, 0 in the Municipal District of Cappamore-Kilmallock, one in the Municipal District of Newcastle West and eight in the Metropolitan District of Limerick.

Current Working Programme		
	Completed in August	In Progress
Local Authority Construction Team		
Major Refurbishments	1	67
Tenant in Situ Works	1	35
Local Authority Maintenance Team		
Minor Refurbishments	6	107
Regeneration Team		
Major Refurbishments	1	17
Minor Refurbishments	0	24
Total	9	250
Approved Housing Body stock transfer in process	8	15

In August, work on two properties was completed by the Local Authority Housing Construction Team, work on six properties was completed by the Local Authority Maintenance Team and work on one property was completed by the Regeneration Team.

There are three teams in Limerick City and County Council assigned to refurbish properties. As of August, the Local Authority Construction Team was in the process of completing works on 102 properties, Local Authority Maintenance was working on 107 properties and the Regeneration Team was working on 41 properties. Approved Housing Body stock transfer in process – 15 properties.

Project Updates

- Stage 4 approval received from the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage for refurbishment works at unit in Askeaton and unit in Rathkeale.
- Single Stage approval received from the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage for construction of two units at Crawford Street, Bruff.
- Stage 1 approval received from the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage for construction of eight units at Meat Market Lane, Limerick.
- Stage 1 approval received from the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage for construction of seven units at Upper William Street, Limerick.
- Stage 3 approval received from the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage for construction of 10 Units at O'Connor Park, Ardfagh.
- Contractor appointed for refurbishment works at two properties at Templegreen, Newcastle West, and Dell Manor, Askeaton.
- Contractor appointed for refurbishment works at three properties in Church Street, Askeaton.
- Consultant appointed for site investigation works at site in Mountcollins, Co. Limerick.

Finance

- Applications for funding totalling €596,410 issued to the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage.
- Limerick City and County Council recouped €873,535 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 August

Housing Maintenance Cases - August	Requests/Cases Created	Cases Dealt With/Closed	Balance of Open Cases at 31.08.2024
Metropolitan District of Limerick	687	727	1,367
Municipal District of Adare-Rathkeale	93	17	413
Municipal District of Cappamore-Kilmallock	125	83	409
Municipal District of Newcastle West	89	49	570
TOTAL	994	876	2,759

Grants Inspections

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

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	1	2
HAGs (Housing Adaptation Grant Scheme)	0	26	1	10	37
HOPS (Housing Aid for Older Persons Grant Scheme)	0	19	0	4	23
DPGs (Disabled Persons Grant)	1	3	3	1	8
Total Inspections by Inspection Type	1	49	4	16	70

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

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	4	0	4	8
HOPS (Housing Aid for Older Persons Grant Scheme)	0	12	1	6	19
DPGs (Disabled Persons Grant)	0	1	0	0	1
Total Inspections by Inspection Type	0	17	1	10	28

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

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	2	3
HAGs (Housing Adaptation Grant Scheme)	0	10	0	7	17
HOPS (Housing Aid for Older Persons Grant Scheme)	0	27	0	12	39
DPGs (Disabled Persons Grant)	0	0	0	2	2
Total Inspections by Inspection Type	0	38	0	23	61

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

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	0	2
HAGs (Housing Adaptation Grant Scheme)	0	7	0	10	17
HOPS (Housing Aid for Older Persons Grant Scheme)	0	23	0	14	37
DPGs (Disabled Persons Grant)	0	1	0	0	1
Total Inspections by Inspection Type	0	33	0	24	57

HOUSE INSPECTIONS UNIT

Houses Inspected for Refurbishment Works and Re-Letting - August - Categories	No. of Properties Inspected
Cat 1 – minor repairs needed	0
Cat 2 – moderate repairs needed	2
Cat 3 – substantial repairs needed	3
Cat 4 – major repairs needed	0
TOTAL INSPECTIONS CARRIED OUT	5
No. of Properties Awaiting Inspection	13

DEFECTIVE BLOCKWORK SCHEME APPLICATIONS

Applications Registered August	4
RFI Applications (Request Further Information) August	6
Applications Referred to Housing Agency	3
Applications – Damage Threshold Met	2
Total Applications Registered – Year to Date	31

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4. Strategy & Non-Local Authority Housing Construction

SOCIAL HOUSING – Delivery for 2024

Buy/Build/Lease as of 31.08.2024 is as follows:

As at 31.08.2024 (01.01.2024 – 31.08.2024)	Complete	In Progress	Overall Complete and In Progress	“Housing for All” 2024 Delivery Target
Build	48	323	371	513
Buy *	69	89	158	100
Lease	12	10	22	44
TOTAL	129	422	551	

*Majority under the ‘Buy’ stream are Notice of Termination properties.

Notice of Termination Figures

The following outlines the number of cases received in August and Cumulative to date (CTD) in relation to Notice of Termination properties:

Category	Activity in Aug	CTD
Tenant Notification to Council – where a tenant contacts Limerick City and County Council before the Council engages with the landlord. It moves to ‘Proposal’ stage once the landlord consents to engaging with Limerick City and County Council to purchase	1	4
Proposals being reviewed	11	46
Sale Agreed	4	56
Purchase Completed	6	109
Withdrawn - e.g., main reasons - vendor not accepting offer based on independent valuation or presence of deleterious material in property (e.g., pyrite) or Fire Safety issues		387
Owner Reoccupying - Notice of Termination comes into the Council – however, owner or family member wishes to reside in property	0	45
Income above Social Housing limit (i.e., Cost Rental Tenant in Situ)	1	53
Grand Total	23	700

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Social Housing – Project Submissions and Approvals

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

Delivery Stream	Proposal Updates for August	District
Capital Assistance Scheme (CAS)	Approval for the acquisition of five units at Mallow Street, Limerick.	Metropolitan District of Limerick
Capital Assistance Scheme (CAS)	Stage 4 Construction approval for the delivery of four units at Doon, Co. Limerick.	Municipal District of Cappamore-Kilmallock
Capital Assistance Scheme (CAS)	Stage 2 Construction approval for the delivery of eight units at Feenagh, Co. Limerick.	Municipal District of Newcastle West

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

Delivery Stream	Proposal Updates for August	District
Notice to Quit (NTQ)	Submission for the Acquisition of one unit in Dooradoyle Park, Dooradoyle, Limerick.	Metropolitan District of Limerick
Notice to Quit (NTQ)	Submission for the Acquisition of one unit in Treaty Terrace, Thomondgate, Limerick.	Metropolitan District of Limerick
Notice to Quit (NTQ)	Submission for the Acquisition of one unit on Hartstonge Street, Limerick.	Metropolitan District of Limerick
Part V	Submission for the Acquisition of five units in Croom, Co. Limerick.	Municipal District of Adare-Rathkeale
Social Housing Investment Programme (SHIP) Turnkey	Submission for the Acquisition of two units in Brú na Gruadán, Castletroy, Limerick.	Metropolitan District of Limerick
Social Housing Investment Programme (SHIP) Turnkey	Submission for the Acquisition of one unit in Johnsgate, Limerick.	Metropolitan District of Limerick
Capital Advance Leasing Facility (CALF)	Approved Housing Body CALF Turnkey submission for 13 units at New Link Road, Shanabooly, Caherdavin – Focus Housing Association.	Metropolitan District of Limerick
Capital Advance Leasing Facility (CALF)	Approved Housing Body CALF Construction revised submission for 17 units at Turragh Close, Cappamore – CLÚID Housing Association.	Municipal District of Cappamore-Kilmallock

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Affordable Housing – Delivery for 2023-2026

Scheme	District	Type	No. of Units	Proposal Updates in August
Toppins Field Lands	Metropolitan District of Limerick	Affordable Purchase Affordable Housing Fund	28 (Phase 1)	Alternative layouts for access and tree retention continued.
Toppins Field Lands	Metropolitan District of Limerick	Affordable Purchase Affordable Housing Fund	115 (Phases 2-4)	Site and brief development were advanced throughout August. Additional Bat surveys were carried out for the eastern part of the site.
Guinness Site	Metropolitan District of Limerick	Cost Rental Affordable Housing Fund	255	Land Development Agency currently finalising the Project Charter after input from Limerick City and County Council. This will be appended to the Development Agreement which the Land Development Agency and Limerick City and County Council will enter into.
Clonmacken Lands	Metropolitan District of Limerick	Affordable Purchase Affordable Housing Fund	15	Justification test was advanced throughout August.

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Scheme	District	Type	No. of Units	Proposal Updates in August
Sonny's Lands	Metropolitan District of Limerick	Cost Rental Affordable Housing Fund	19	<p>Start-up and design team meetings held and ongoing.</p> <p>Additional site surveys and planning reports under procurement.</p> <p>Viability study design under review by multidisciplinary design team in pre-planning design phase.</p> <p>Conceptual work for the community functions and public realm for the “Fosse” linear park was advanced.</p> <p>Limerick has been successful in its application for the Environmental Protection Agency’s “Circular Economy Programme” for the Local Authority Funding Call 2024 focusing on a Construction and Demolition theme.</p> <p>In line with the Environmental Protection Agency expression of interest, Limerick City and County Council will now critically evaluate the effectiveness of the guidelines on a live project to document and test resource management and circularity interventions during the design, tendering, and procurement phases of a construction project.</p>
Curragower	Metropolitan District of Limerick	Affordable Purchase Affordable Housing Fund	7	<p>Work continued on the pre-planning design, meetings were held with local stakeholders and inputs being integrated into a planning application. Team reviewing the extent of the public community facilities in the scheme.</p>
Speaker's Corner	Metropolitan District of Limerick	Cost Rental Expression of Interest Site with Approved Housing Body	18	<p>Work continued on the progression of the land transfer during August. Site investigations took place to prepare for construction phase.</p>

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Scheme	District	Type	No. of Units	Proposal Updates in August
New Road, Thomondgate	Metropolitan District of Limerick	Cost Rental Expression of Interest Site with Approved Housing Body	22	Work continued on the progression of the land transfer during August.
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 August. Affordable Housing Fund viability testing underway.
Mungret Site	Metropolitan District of Limerick	Affordable Purchase Local Infrastructure Housing Activation Fund	181	Work continued on the progression of this proposal during August. Limerick City and County Council is waiting for the Affordable Housing Fund subsidy approval from the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage. Meetings held with the Land Development Agency every two weeks.
Adare	Municipal District of Adare-Rathkeale	Affordable Purchase Self-Build Plots	8	Work continued on the progression of this proposal during August.



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Scheme	District	Type	No. of Units	Proposal Updates in August
Advance Purchase Turnkey - Campaign 1	Metropolitan District of Limerick	Affordable Purchase at Brú na Gruadán, Castletroy, Limerick	25	Processing of applications and the issuing of letters of offer continued throughout August for the 25-unit Brú na Gruadán, Castletroy, Affordable Purchase Scheme.
	Municipal District of Newcastle West	Affordable Purchase in Abbeyfeale	10	A proposed 10-unit affordable housing scheme in Abbeyfeale was also progressed during August.
Advance Purchase Turnkey - Campaign 2	Metropolitan District of Limerick	Affordable Purchase at Raheen	145	Work continued on the progression of this proposal during August with Quantity Surveyor costings.
	Municipal District of Adare-Rathkeale	Affordable Purchase at Croom	7	Currently in planning system.
	Municipal District of Newcastle West	Affordable Purchase at Woodfield Manor, Newcastle West	42	Processing of applications and the issuing of letters of offer continued throughout August for Phase 1 and 2 (42 units) of the Woodfield Manor, Newcastle West, Affordable Purchase Scheme.
Advance Purchase Turnkey - Campaign 4	Municipal District of Newcastle West	Affordable Purchase at Rathnaneane Newcastle West	9	Work continued on the progression of this proposal during August.

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Scheme	District	Type	No. of Units	Proposal Updates in August
Advance Purchase Turnkey – Campaign 5	Municipal District of Newcastle West	Affordable Purchase at Castle Place, Newcastle West	57	Work continued on the progression of this proposal during August. Limerick City and County Council is waiting for the Affordable Housing Fund subsidy approval from the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage.
	Municipal District of Newcastle West	Affordable Purchase at Carraig Desmond, Newcastle West	9	Work continued on the progression of this proposal during August with valuations and Quantity Surveyor costings.
Advance Purchase Turnkey – Campaign 7	Municipal District of Cappamore-Killmallock	Affordable Purchase in Knocklong	4	Work continued on the progression of this proposal during August. Limerick City and County Council is waiting for the Affordable Housing Fund subsidy approval from the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage.
	Metropolitan District of Limerick	Affordable Purchase at Newtown Meadows, Castletroy	36	Work continued on the progression of this proposal during August with Quantity Surveyor costings.
Advance Purchase Turnkey – Campaign 8	Municipal District of Cappamore-Killmallock	Affordable Purchase at Castlecourt Kilmallock Co. Limerick	5	Expression of Interest form submitted by the developer. Work continued on the progression of this proposal during August.

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Finance (All funding streams)

- Claims totaling €4,495,527 were sent to the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage in August.
- Claims totaling €3,484,540 were paid by the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage in August.

Conferences and Workshops

- Staff from Housing Delivery attended an online workshop organised by the Housing Agency regarding Introduction to Part Vs.

5. Municipal District Offices

Metropolitan District of Limerick

Meetings

There was no Monthly Meeting of the Metropolitan District of Limerick in August.

Briefings/Workshops

A Workshop was held during August for the Elected Members of the Metropolitan District on:

- Workshop on the Mayoral Programme.

Road Related Upgrade/Refurbishment Works

Description of project: Ashleigh Woods Footpath Scheme

- Location: Ashleigh Woods, Monaleen;
- Cost of project: €75,000;
- Contractor: Direct Labour.

Description of project: Monaleen Pedestrian Crossing

- Location: Monaleen;
- Cost of project: €50,000;
- Contractor: Tally Brooke Civil Engineering and Traffic Solutions Ltd.

Description of project: L10099 Lee Estate Restoration Improvement

- Location: L10099 Lee Estate, King's Island;
- Cost of project: €150,000;
- Contractor: Roadstone.

Description of project: L-10524 Ballinacurra Gardens Restoration Improvement

- Location: L-10524 Ballinacurra Gardens, Ballinacurra;
- Cost of project: €100,000;
- Contractor: Roadstone.

Description of project: L9010 Beverly Heights Restoration Improvement

- Location: L9010 Beverly Heights, Raheen;
- Cost of project: €50,000;
- Contractor: Roadstone.

Description of project: Alphonsus Street and Lower Shelbourne Road Drainage Scheme

- Location: Alphonsus Street and Lower Shelbourne Road;
- Cost of project: €10,000;
- Contractor: English Tar (Maramba).

Description of project: Courtfields Footpath Improvement Scheme

- Location: Raheen;
- Cost of project: €30,000;
- Contractor: Peter Ryan Civil Engineering Ltd.

Description of project: Ballycummin Road Pedestrian Crossing Scheme

- Location: Raheen;
- Cost of project: €40,000;
- Contractor: Tally Brooke Civil Engineering and Traffic Solutions Ltd.

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Description of project: Park Road / Rhebogue Road

Junction New Pedestrian Crossings

- Location: Park Road;
- Cost of project: €40,000;
- Contractor: English Tar (Maramba) and Traffic Solutions Ltd.

Description of project: O'Dwyer Bridge Maintenance

- Location: Athlunkard Street;
- Cost of project: €75,000;
- Contractor: P&D Lydon.

Description of project: City Centre Footpath Pavement Repairs (Catherine Street, Thomas Street and Francis Street) and Painting of Railings and Bollards along the City Quays

- Location: City Centre;
- Cost of project: €10,000;
- Contractor: Limerick City and County Council City Centre Response Team.

Municipal District of Adare-Rathkeale

There was no Municipal District meeting during August.

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

- 95 cases were assigned to the Housing Maintenance Team.
- 72 cases were assigned to the Roads Maintenance Team.

Surface Dressing Works

Surface Dressing Works were completed at the following locations:

- Stoneyman Road, Rathkeale Tiermore Junction to Graveyard Shanagolden, Costello Quarry to Carey's Cross Granagh.

Road Reconstruction Works

Road Reconstruction Works were completed at the following locations:

- Lisready Loghill, Liskennett, Granagh.

Community Involvement Scheme

- Fanningstown North Crecora, Dullas Croom.

Local Improvement Scheme

- Kilscannel Ardagh, Ballycahane Croom, Ardbohill Rathkeale, Knockanes Adare.

Climate Adaptation Drainage Works

- Cahill's Cross to Cahernessy Ballingarry.

Municipal District of Cappamore-Kilmallock

Meetings

There was no Municipal District Meeting in August.

Housing and Road Maintenance

- 122 cases were assigned to the Housing Maintenance Team.
- 81 cases were assigned to the Roads Maintenance Team.

Housing Grants

- 23 Private Housing Grants were paid in August, totalling €131,755.58. 13 Private Housing Grants were approved in August.
- 17 initial inspections, one re-inspection and 10 final inspections were undertaken in relation to Private Housing Grants.
- One Disabled Person's Grant was completed in August.

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Road Works

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

Drainage Grant

- L1124 - Maddaboy, Murroe.
- L1511 - Kilfinane Road.

Low Cost Safety Schemes

- R515 - Emmett Street, Kilmallock.
- R513 - Glenacurrane, Kilbehenny.
- R517 - Kilfinane.

Climate Change and Adaptation Works

- L1508 - Newtown Elton.

Community Involvement Scheme

- L8520 - Knocklong.

Local Improvement Scheme

- David O' Donnell's Ballygillane, Kilmallock

National Transport Authority Scheme

- Knockainey National School

General Municipal Allocation Schemes

- Glenfield Road, Kilmallock Drainage.
- Ashill Estate Footpath, Kilmallock.
- Street Bollards, Kilmallock.
- Ardpatick Community Field Wall.
- Bruree Crèche Car Park Replacement.
- Caherelley Sportsfield Fencing.

Taking in Charge of Estates

- Castlecourt Estate, Kilmallock.
- Cluain Foinse Estate, Hospital.

Municipal District of Newcastle West

Meetings

During the month of August, no Municipal District Meeting was held.

Housing Grants

- 24 grant applications were approved under the Private Housing Grant Schemes during the month. The total value of approvals was €115,509.75.
- Payments of €54,032.18 were made to 14 applicants who completed works under the Housing Aid for Older People Scheme.
- Payments of €44,382.50 were made to six applicants who completed works under the Housing Adaptation Grant Scheme.

Housing Maintenance

- 90 Dynamics CRM (customer relationship management) cases were assigned to the Housing Maintenance Team.

Transportation and Mobility

- 72 Dynamics CRM cases were assigned to the Roads Maintenance Team.

Motor Tax

- During the month, the Motor Tax Section at the Newcastle West Office processed 1,316 routine transactions generating an income of €207,278.



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Planning & Place-Making

1. Forward Planning and Public Realm

Forward Planning

- Work continued on the preparation of the statutory two-year Development Plan Monitoring Report.
- Background research was undertaken for the preparation of a new Development Contribution Scheme.
- Several public consultation events were held to inform the preparation of an integrated urban strategy for the King's Island Walled Town area under the THRIVE funding scheme.

Public Realm

- Work continued on the preparation of shopfront design guidelines.
- Nicholas Street Topographical Survey was completed, which will be used to inform the preparation of a public realm scheme for Nicholas Street.
- An assessment of the emergency park-lets in the city centre was carried out and work commenced on the preparation of guidelines for these areas.
- Under the Living City Initiative, the website was updated, a register from 2016-2024 was created and four applications were processed.

Conservation

- 29 Section 57 Declarations were assessed and completed.
- Digitisation of 24 years of conservation files of Limerick Metropolitan District (approx. 25% of R.P.S. files scanned to date).

- Continued monitoring on the progress of 40 conservation projects receiving grant through Built Heritage Investment Scheme and Historic Structures Fund 2024.

Archaeology

- A contractor was selected for works to the City Wall, Island Road, under the Irish Walled Towns Network Capital Grant Scheme.
- Tenders issued for Phase 1 works to Galbally Church, under Stream 1 of the Community Monuments Fund.
- Kilmallock's Hidden Heritage Project held its third outreach with the community on 13 August in the Deebert House Hotel, Kilmallock.
- As part of National Heritage Week, a tour of 'Kilmallock through the ages' was delivered on 21 August.
- On 24 August, a day-long tour was delivered to the Building Limes Forum (Ire), including conservation projects carried out by Limerick City and County Council, starting in the Tower House, Ballynoe, Bruree and moving to Kilmallock town.
- On 25 August, as part of National Heritage Week and in conjunction with the Environment Section under the URBACT programme, a street festival celebrating the City Walls was held in Irishtown.

Heritage

- Support was provided to three community organisations prior to National Heritage Week in terms of provision of Heritage Council signage and material for events.
- Two Tidy Towns groups were assisted with heritage issues for next year's Tidy Towns applications.

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2. Development Management and Place-Making

Development Management

A total of 87 new planning applications were received as follows:

Type	Amount
Part 8	1
Housing Developments	4
Domestic Developments	62
Agricultural Developments	1
Commercial Developments/Change of Use	7
Sporting/Community and Educational Developments	8
Other Developments	4

The current applications include proposals for:

- Construction of a residential development containing 42 dwelling units at Ash Hill, Kilmallock.
- Demolition of former Olympic Ballroom and the construction of 30 apartments in two blocks at Gortboy, Newcastle West.
- Construction of a five-storey (5,248 square metres) Applied Science and Information Technology (AS & IT) Building. The building will comprise science laboratories and computer rooms, general teaching spaces, lecture theatre, staff accommodation, sanitary facilities, smarter travel changing rooms, ancillary service areas and all ancillary site works at TUS Moylish Campus, Moylish Park, Limerick.

- Demolition of existing single-storey school buildings and the construction of an 8,387 square metre 650 pupil post-primary school at Ardscoil Mhuire, College Park, Corbally.

Place-Making

Limerick Wayfinding and Orientation Signage Project

- P&D Lydon continued to install signage throughout the city.

Cruises Street Meanwhile Uses

- Contract related information being finalised with contractor for the installation and maintenance of lighting on Cruises Street, Todd's Bow and Chapel Street.
- Ground murals painted on both Chapel Street and Cruises Street.

Urban Regeneration and Development Fund (URDF)

58 O'Connell Street and 33 and 34 Thomas Street

- Emergency stabilisation works at 33 and 34 Thomas Street completed.
- Detail design for 33 and 34 Thomas Street redevelopment continued.
- Suitability Assessment Questionnaire for works contractor received and under review.
- Trial pits and investigation works on site completed.

Strand 3 - Pedestrian Bridges and Waterfront Infrastructural Works

- Addendum to Preliminary Business Case submitted to URDF and National Transport Authority.

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Arthur's Quay Area Framework Plan

- Architects, Metropolitan Workshop, are leading a Multi-Disciplinary Team preparing the Arthur's Quay Area Framework Plan. Stakeholder engagement and preparation for Public Consultation continued.

Market Quarter and Cruises Street Public Realm Upgrade

- Purchase Order processed for Project Supervisor Design Process.
- Letter of intent issued for Appropriate Assessment and Environmental Impact Assessment Screening Consultant.
- Archaeological Heritage Impact Assessment and Access Consultant Tender documents developed.
- Preliminary Design of Road Layout Options completed with one concept identified to be taken forward for stakeholder engagement.
- National Transport Authority Framework options investigated for the provision of a Civil – Structural Led Integrated Design Team for Stages 2 (c) to 5 inclusive.
- Stakeholder engagement commenced with many stakeholder meetings taking place during the month.

Capital Projects

O'Connell Street Phase 1

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

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

Castleconnell Flood Relief Scheme

- A steering group meeting was held on 27 August to monitor and assess project progress.
- Archaeological Trial Testing completed.
- Dialogues continued with the landowners impacted by the project, setting the stage for completing the planning design and advancing the scheme.

Adare Flood Relief Scheme

- Meetings with landowners continued, facilitating the completion of the planning design and moving the project forward.
- Progressing Preferred Option to Planning stage.
- A Steering Group meeting was held in Adare on 26 August to monitor and assess the project progress.

Limerick Flood Relief Scheme

- A Site walkover was held in Castletroy on 15 August followed by a Steering Group meeting.
- Ecology surveying has commenced across the scheme area.
- Site investigation work commenced in the City Centre area.
- High level initial design options received for the City Centre area.
- Meeting held with Limerick 2030 to discuss integration of Limerick Flood Relief Scheme with the Cleeves Riverside Quarter project.

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Athea Flood Relief Scheme

- A Steering Group meeting was held on 08 August to monitor and assess project progress.
- A draft copy of the Environmental Impact Assessment Report was received.
- A meeting was held with National Parks and Wildfire Service and Inland Fisheries.
- Final Photomontages were received.

4. Limerick Twenty Thirty (LTT) DAC

Opera Square

Project Update

- One Opera Square – The concrete frame was progressed to the sixth and final floor.
- Remainder of Basement – Basement slab for Contract C and D now largely complete with only the basement slab under Contract E remaining.
- ESB Works on Rutland Street and Patrick Street Phase 1 complete. The Executive engaging with Sisk, Limerick City and County Council and business owners to minimise impact.
- Existing Buildings – Remedial works to the damage in 1 Patrick Street continued.

Project Media Engagement

- **InBusiness:** LTT created an editorial with a focus on sustainability at Opera Square which featured in the Summer 2024 Edition of InBusiness, it featured in print and online and was shared to LTT socials.

- **Savannah Georgia Delegates:** A briefing on Opera Square was provided to a group of delegates accompanying Mayor Van Johnson from Savannah on their visit to Limerick on 28 August.
- **EPA Visit:** The Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) Circular Economy team visited site on 22 August. Diarmuid Hayes, LTT, and Keith Fahy, Atlantic Technological University Masters Student, presented in detail on all Circular Economy initiatives undertaken to date on the project. Images were shared to social media on same.
- **CERI Conference:** Keith Fahy's initial research on the Opera Square project was developed into a conference paper and submitted to the Civil Engineering Research Institute (CERI). This paper was subsequently selected for presentation at Civil Engineering Research Association of Ireland (CERI's) National Conference, which took place on 29 August at the University of Galway.

Cleeves Riverside Quarter

Project Update

Heritage Works

- A kick-off meeting was held with the Design Teams for remedial heritage works to Flaxmill Building on 14 August. Design and preparation of tender pack continued.
- Environmental Impact Assessment – The Executive issued a tender for the role of Environmental Impact Assessment Report Coordinator for the full Cleeves Riverside Quarter site.

Technological University of the Shannon (TUS) Cleeves Riverside Quarter Campus

The Design Team has commenced Stage 1 design in collaboration with TUS on their requirement for 10,000m² education space within the Flaxmill and an adjacent new building

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St. Michael's Rowing Club (SMRC)

- SMRC and LTT are in discussion regarding the impact to the Boat Club during the development.

Other Projects

Progress Update

Askeaton Pool Update

- LTT continued to project manage the construction works on behalf of Limerick City and County Council/ Askeaton Pool and Leisure DAC.

Mungret Housing

Phase 1 – 250 Units

- The Design Team is novated to the Land Development Agency to complete the construction on Mungret Housing development, LTT has no further involvement in the delivery of the scheme.

Expressions of Interest (EOI)

Ballygrennan Phase 1 and Phase 2

- LTT role on this development has concluded and Limerick City and County Council will dispose of the subject site to the development consortium for development.

Thomondgate

- Full planning was received for the Thomondgate Development following an appeal to An Bord Pleanála.

Planning was achieved in all three EOI sites:

- Speakers Corner - 36 residential units.
- Thomondgate - 47 residential units.
- Ballygrennan - 118 residential units, 95 bed nursing home, 100 bed day-hospital.

Department of Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth Emergency Accommodation Project

- In line with LTT's Service Level Agreement with the Department of Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth, LTT continued to project manage the delivery of modular accommodation on state-owned sites, aimed at expeditiously addressing the modular housing needs within the Department of Children, Equality, Disability Integration and Youth for International Protection Accommodation Services (IPAS).





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Environment, Climate Action and Shared Services

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

- There were 54,569 active HAP tenancies nationally, managed by the HAP SSC at the end of August.
- A weekly average of 162 HAP tenancies have been set up during 2024.
- The August landlord payment run was €53.559 million.
- The weekly tenant charge at the end of August was €3.079 million.
- The Debt Management Unit of the HAP SSC collected a total of €105.650 million in differential rent to end of August.
- The HAP tenant rent collection rate at the end of August was 99%.
- The Debt Management Unit issued 10,884 HAP debt reminder letters in August.

2. Fire and Emergency

Statistics

	No. of Fire Related Calls	No. of Non-Fire Related Calls	Total
No. of callouts 01.08.2024 – 31.08.2024	90	63	153
% of calls where on scene in < 10 mins from time of call	59%	49%	
% of calls where on scene between 11 and 20 mins from time of call	37%	38%	
% of calls where on scene in > 20 mins from time of call	4%	13%	

	No. Received/ Assigned	No. Validated/ Acknowledged	No. Invalidated/ Refused	No. Granted	No. Completed
Fire Certificate Applications August	20	17	0	12	17
Disability Access Cert Applications August	14	14	0	6	14
Licensing Applications August	51	51			
Commencement Notice August	40	35	5	0	35
Completion Certificate August	16	15	1		15
Planning Referrals August	20				27

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Fire and Emergency Training Events

- A firefighter completed his QQI Breathing Apparatus Initial Wearers Course.
- A number of new firefighter recruits completed their work-based tests prior to joining the Fire Service.
- On-Station training continued as usual.

Civil Defence attendance at Events

The following activity took place in August:

- Patient Transfer – Limerick residence to Beaumont Hospital, Dublin, and return to residence – 3 days.
- Patient Transfer – Limerick residence to Nenagh Manor Nursing Home, Nenagh, Co. Tipperary – one-way trip – 1 day.
- Patient Transfer – Limerick residence to St. John's Hospital, Limerick, and return to Limerick residence – 1 day.
- Cappamore Show, Cappamore, Co. Limerick – Medical cover - 1 day.
- King's Island Fishing Competition, Limerick City – Medical Cover - 1 day.

Water Safety

No. of Lifebuoy Replacements	January - July	August	Total 2024
Metropolitan District	6	0	6
Municipal Districts	16	0	16

No. of Lifebuoy Sensor Activations	January - July	August	Total 2024
Metropolitan District	38	7	45
Municipal Districts	30	10	40

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3. Environment and Climate Action

Climate Action

Community Climate Action Programme

Contracts were received in August from all 19 Groups recommended for funding under the programme.

Citizen Innovation Lab

A meeting was held on 20 August with representatives of the Schools of Architecture and Product Design on establishing the City Studio to examine the challenge of improving the liveability of the city centre.

Energy Management Team

The Energy Management Team received the Sustainable Energy Authority of Ireland Monitoring and Reporting Review of Energy Performance for 2023. The review indicates that the Council is ahead of the target to achieve a 50% improvement in energy efficiency by 2030 having already achieved an improvement of 41.3% on the 2009 baseline.

Energy audits are ongoing on three buildings at present.

Veterinary Services

In August, the Dog Shelter continued to accept the surrender of dogs of restricted breed without charge.

No. of dogs processed in the Dog Shelter (10 of restricted breed, including 4 XL Bully)	15
No. of horses seized	2
No. of Samples taken	3

Environment Regulation and Enforcement

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

ENVIRONMENT ENFORCEMENT	
Cases received (MS Dynamics)	42
Inspections undertaken (MS Dynamics)	24
Warnings issued	1
Directions of Authorised Officer issued	1
Statutory Notices issued	5
Prosecutions initiated	0
Fines issued	3
Authorisations issued/reviewed	0

DOMESTIC WASTE AND LITTER TEAM	
Cases received (MS Dynamics)	95
Inspections undertaken (MS Dynamics)	286
Warnings issued	5
Directions of Authorised Officer issued	4
Statutory Notices issued	3
Prosecutions initiated	0
Fines issued	3

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CCTV for Waste and Litter Enforcement

In August, the Litter Team sought opening a public consultation on ten CCTV schemes for the sole purpose on enforcing the Waste and Litter Acts. CCTV for waste and litter enforcement will only be used where it is justifiable and proportionate to do so and where there is evidence of persistent illegal dumping. This public consultation provides an opportunity for individuals and businesses to comment on how CCTV Schemes for litter and waste enforcement may affect their lives.

Anti-Dumping Initiative

The following were subject to large-scale clean-ups during the month of August:

- Groody Road, Limerick.
- Cappamore, Co. Limerick.
- Fedamore, Co. Limerick.
- Ballylanders, Co. Limerick.

Parks and Cemeteries

Clare Glens

The contract to replace the two pedestrian bridges was awarded.

Lough Gur

The contract for the installation of waste water holding tanks and other ancillary works has been awarded.

Castleconnell Playground

The Procurement of a consultant for the redevelopment of the playground is at tender award stage. To ensure high standards are maintained at this playground prior to the redevelopment, a new basket swing and frame have been installed.

Newcastle West Playground

The Procurement of a consultant for the redevelopment of the playground is at tender award stage.

Newcastle West Dog Park

A dog park has been completed in the Demesne, Newcastle West. This facility includes 1.8 metre high fencing to accommodate both large and small dogs.

Ballynancy Landscape Project

Tenders have been received.

Shelbourne Playground

A new inclusive wheelchair accessible roundabout has been installed.

Urbact IV GreenPlace

The GreenPlace/URBACT initiative is a collaboration with 10 partners from Europe to introduce greenery as a key factor limiting climate change and to renovate and make unused urban areas available and appealing to residents.

As part of this initiative, Irishtown Heritage Fest took place on 25 August in Old Clare Street, Limerick City. This street party event was attended by approx. 70 residents of the Old Clare Street, Johnsgate, Grattan Court and surrounding areas and celebrated the Medieval City Wall as well as giving the residents an opportunity to meet each other, view plans to improve the area and learn to dance the set-dance 'The Walls of Limerick.'

Cemeteries

Abbeyfeale

Consultants have now been appointed for the restoration of the boundary wall at the ancient graveyard in Abbeyfeale.

New Burial Ground in Ballysimon Electoral Division

A desktop study has been completed to identify a site for a new burial ground in the Ballysimon Electoral Division.

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Columbarium Gardens

Tenders have now been received to appoint consultants for Columbarium Gardens at Kilmurry and Mount Saint Lawrence.

Number of Burials in City Cemeteries during August

Mount St. Lawrence	10
Mount St. Oliver	11
Castlemungret	17
Kilmurry	1

Environmental Awareness

Adare My Waste Green Hub

The Adare My Waste Green Hub was launched in Adare on 13 August in partnership with Adare Tidy Towns, the MyWaste Team, the Adare Business Community and the Environment and Climate Action Department of Limerick City and County Council. The Adare Green Hub is designed to promote a community-driven approach to sustainability, particularly focusing on the circular economy and climate action.

The hub will provide free resources and support to local businesses, including schools and sporting clubs looking to implement more sustainable waste management practices and improve on waste separation using the three-bin waste system. (www.mywaste.ie).

A reusable cup rental scheme has been introduced to Adare Village for 14 coffee outlets to encourage people to move away from single use items.

National Gum Litter Campaign

The Gum Litter Taskforce (GLT) visited Bedford Row and O'Connell Street on 19 August to highlight the impact of incorrectly discarded chewing gum on our streets and to promote their campaign "Chew'n Out – Bin your gum when you're done." The event was attended by the GLT Team, Limerick City Tidy Towns, and staff from Street Cleaning, together with the Environmental Awareness Officer, and there was some fantastic interaction with members of the public of all ages.

[Gum Litter Task Force](#)[Welcome to the GLT Website](#)

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Environment Strategy

Activity Tracker for August

Inspection Type	No. of Inspections	Inspection Details
Farm Re-Inspections	2	Follow-up to see programmed works completed.
Customer Complaints	4	Respond / Follow-Up to complaints from members of public
Invasive Species Site Visits	3	Site visits, inspected site on Dock Road and also met with contractor working on the Loobagh project.
Invasive Species Website	4	Checked website for new reports of invasive species.
Planning Files	12	Review agricultural planning applications and comment back to Planning.
Other Referrals	3	Department of Agriculture Animal Welfare Bathing Water Enquiry Private Well Enquiry
Farm File Reviews	10	Review farm files, Farmyard Management Plans and write out advisory/warning letters accordingly.

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Biodiversity

National Heritage Week Events

This year's National Heritage Week's theme was Connections, Routes, and Networks. Four events were registered as Limerick City and County Council biodiversity events for National Heritage Week:

17 August - The Biodiversity and Environment Awareness Officers had a Stand at the Cappamore Show. They engaged with over 300 people during the day on the topics of biodiversity, circular living (waste management), litter and domestic waste water treatment systems.

20 August - More than 80 people attended the 'Connect with Nature' along the route of the 'Infinity Woodland Path.' St. Mary's Pipe Band welcomed everyone on the evening and this was followed by poetry readings among the 5,000 trees planted by the Little Company of Mary in 2020. The walks and poetry were followed by a gathering over tea and coffee in the local Salesian Parish Centre. This event was a collaboration between Limerick City and County Council, the Little Company of Mary, Milford Care Centre and the 30% to Nature by 2030 Limerick Diocesan Pastoral Group.

24 August - "A super stimulating day" was the description of one Tidy Towns volunteer who attended at the Limerick City and County Council Gardening for Biodiversity and Climate Action Workshop with Aoife Munn. The attendees were treated to lots of simple ways to help biodiversity in their own gardens and when running projects with their communities.

25 August - Limerick City and County Council hosted the Sustainability Tent at the Limerick Show where the Biodiversity Community Climate Action and Environment Awareness Officers, along with staff from Air Pollution Strategy and Domestic Waste and Litter, could reach out and engage with citizens on matters such as Biodiversity, the www.cleanairtogether.ie Limerick project, household food waste and battery recycling, reusable cup use, litter and domestic waste water treatment systems. In addition, the Council hosted Bat Rehabilitation Ireland, The Limerick Bat Group, The Barn Owl Project, Doon Social Farm, The Urban Co-Op, Ballyhoura Development, West Limerick Resources, Tait Community Enterprise and Cairde Enterprises who also engaged with the citizens on the day. Our colleagues in the Local Enterprise Office also joined us in the Sustainability Tent advising on their recently increased Energy Efficiency Grant and Green for Business supports.



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Support Services

1. Finance

Commercial Rates and Loans

Draft Collection Figures

Commercial Rates 2024	
As at 30 August 2024	
Opening Balance - 01 Jan €	4,796,855
Accruals €	64,240,356 **
Vacant Property Adjustment €	324,396
Writes offs/ Waivers €	2,867,503
Total for Collection €	65,845,312
Amount Collected €	51,471,513
Arrears €	14,373,799
Specific Doubtful Arrears €	977,130
% Collected	79.3%

Debtors Loans	
As at 30 August 2024	
Opening Balance - 01 Jan €	295,007
Accruals €	964,554 *
Writes offs €	-
To Collect €	1,259,561
Receipts €	1,435,136
Arrears €	-175,575
% Collected	114%

* Accruals for July and August 2024 not processed

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

Recourse to Overdraft Facility

No. of days in overdraft 0

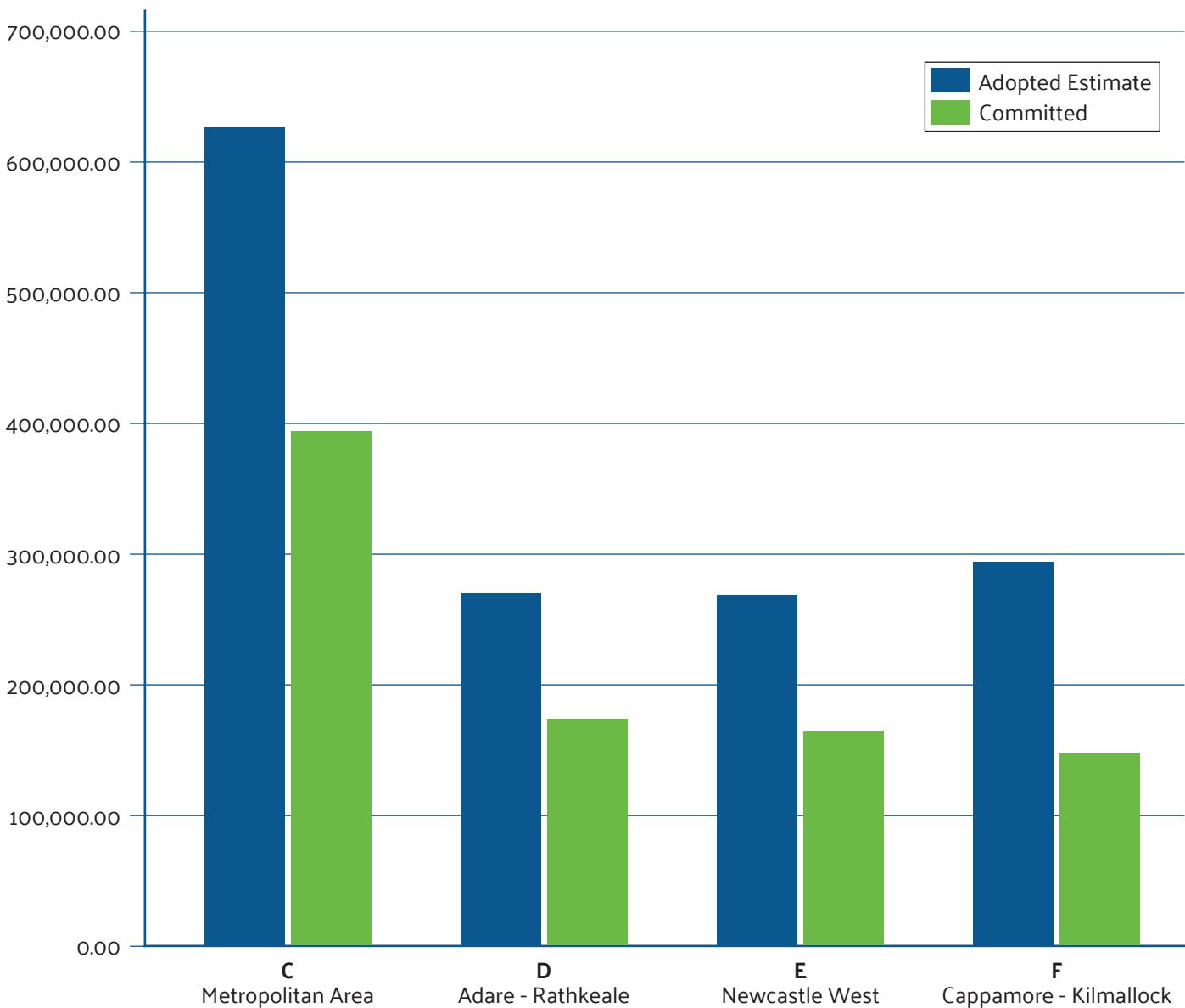
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General Municipal Allocation 2024 Adopted Estimate €1.463 Million

Graph outlining adopted budget and draft committed expenditure up to 30 August 2024



Municip (Code) + (Text)	Value Adopted Estimate (€)	Value Committed (€)
C Metropolitan Area	628,000.00	393,142
D Adare - Rathkeale	269,500.00	172,159
E Newcastle West	270,500.00	165,554
F Cappamore - Kilmallock	295,000.00	148,627
	1,463,000.00	

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2. Business Improvement

- Business Improvement launched “CapGov” – Limerick City and County Council’s new Programme Management system – in conjunction with Digital Services. Training sessions were held with stakeholders. Cora PPM is now fully de-activated.
- A total of 918 active users are now live on the Employee App.
- Services on Service Catalogue = 699
- Limerick City and County Council has been shortlisted in the Chambers Ireland Excellence in Local Government Awards 2024 for six awards. We have also been shortlisted for “Local Authority of the Year.”

3. Corporate, Governance and Customer Services

Corporate Services

Visit of Delegation from Savannah, Georgia, US

A delegation from Savannah, Georgia, US, visited Limerick on 27 and 28 August. During their visit, they had a meeting with the Mayor of Limerick, John Moran, and received Presentations from The Ryder Cup 2027 Co-ordinator, PBC Bio Med, Shannon Foynes Port Co., Innovate Limerick, Limerick Enterprise Office, Limerick 2030 DAC and Shannon Properties.

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 August:

New Procurement References set up	29
Procurement References extended as per signed contract/arrangement	14

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 August:

Month	Approved	Rejected	Total Requisitions Actioned
August	1,172	178	1,350

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 August were identified as follows:

Rejection Reason	August
Memo Requisition not raised in advance – omitted/insufficient detail	54
Quotes – omitted/incorrect copy provided	30
Procurement Reference omitted/incorrect	21
Award Notice - omitted/incorrect copy provided	20
Approved Officers Order - Omitted/ Incorrect copy provided	15

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Register of Electors

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

- Additions to the Electoral Register – 92
- Deletions from the Electoral Register – 12
- Modifications to the Electoral Register – 92

Health and Safety Training

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

Course Name	Numbers Trained
Abrasive Wheels	23
Asbestos Awareness	6
Chemical Awareness	19
Drivers CPCs (Certificates of Professional Competence)	31
First Aid	3
Manual Handling	27
Polesaw	5
Safe Pass	7
Woodchipper/Shredder	10
Total Staff Trained	131

Schedule of Meetings for August

Name of Meeting	Date	Location
Full Council Special Meeting of Limerick City and County Council to consider the amendment of the Schedule of Ordinary Meetings	26/08/2024	Dooradoyle and Online
Ordinary Meeting of Limerick City and County Council to consider the draft Mayoral Programme.	26/08/2024	Dooradoyle and Online
Municipal District of Adare-Rathkeale Special Meeting	23/08/2024	Rathkeale
Corporate Policy Group Meeting	23/08/2024	Merchant's Quay and Online
Party Leaders' Meeting	23/08/2024	Merchant's Quay and Online

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Access to Information

	August	2024 (January to August)
Total Freedom of Information Requests	13	158
Freedom of Information Internal Appeals	2	12
Information Commissioner Appeals	1	3
Total Ombudsman Requests	2	32
Total Access to Information on the Environment (AIE) Requests	0	14

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 August:

- Customer Services Call Centre answered 10,355 calls. This represents an average of 493 per day, with the number of calls reaching as high as 628. A total of 76% of calls were handled at first point of contact.
- A total of 4,019 emails were processed through the Customer Services email platform.
- 2,829 cases were created on Dynamics CRM (customer relationship management), with 793 of these logged on behalf of Public Representatives. 2,395 cases were closed, with 701 of these being cases logged by Public Representatives.

- Of the 2,829 cases created, 70% were logged by the Customer Services Team.
- The logging of cases through the MyLimerick portal continued, with a total of 95 cases being logged. Of these, 77 were submitted by Public Representatives.
- Customer Services continued to support the Housing Maintenance Department in creating service requests, and throughout August, 96% 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 76 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 127 were applied for and 80 issued.
- Customer Services staff welcomed a total of 2,463 customers at the Merchant's Quay and Dooradoyle offices.

4. Marketing & Communications

Marketing

Limerick Student City

- Produced Limerick Student City Map and Guide, highlighting the range of off-campus activities on offer to Limerick's student population.
- Distributed Limerick Student City Map to incoming students in University of Limerick, Mary Immaculate College, TUS, Limerick and Clare Education and Training Board and Griffith College Limerick.
- Display signage updated for campus visits, merchandise designed and procured and on-campus giveaway competition organised.

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- Social content calendar prepared, focusing on affordable, student-friendly experiences and highlighting Limerick's bustling event calendar.

Other Marketing Activity

- Continued collaboration with our colleagues in the Arts Office on the promotion of the upcoming Culture Night, Limerick Twenty Thirty on Opera Square promotion and ongoing collaboration with our Tourism and Festivals and Events Department colleagues in preparation for Halloween in Limerick.
- Collaborated with Tourism on the Milwaukee Irish Fest literature.
- Met with RTE production company regarding the production of a Limerick-based Tracks and Trails episode featuring the Three Bridges Walk and Limerick Greenway.
- Preparing content for The Place Brand Observer Yearbook 2025 publication to showcase Brand Limerick and its development over the last four years.
- Work progressing on the production of an Invest Limerick video platform.

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 seven main social media platforms now as follows:
 - Limerick.ie Facebook: 35,174
 - Limerick.ie X: 21,601
 - Limerick.ie Instagram: 32,389
 - Limerick.ie TikTok: 2,258
 - Limerick City and County Council X: 18,809
 - Limerick City and County Council Instagram: 1,155
 - Limerick City and County Council LinkedIn: 13,205

Limerick.ie

In August, there were 182,411* unique site visits to Limerick.ie, a 9% increase on the same period in 2023. (*Fathom Analytics)

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

1. www.limerick.ie
2. www.limerick.ie/council/services/planning-and-placemaking/search-for-a-planning-application/search-for-a-planning
3. www.limerick.ie/discover/whats-on/browse
4. www.limerick.ie/discover/whats-on
5. www.limerick.ie/council/your-council/jobs

Content Report: 73 articles and 218 events were added to Limerick.ie in August.

Communications

- Issued 21 news releases from the Marketing and Communications Department and researched and wrote 15 speeches for the Office of the Mayor.
- Posted 202 times on Limerick City and County Council's X account, @limerickcouncil, with total followers now 18,809. Our tweets earned 114,100 impressions (number of times users saw our post).
- Handled all media queries, which come into communications@limerick.ie and continued to offer Communication support to all Directorates of Limerick City and County Council.
- Series of social media posts to promote the Mayoral August Programme including creation of a social media highlight video.
- Social media video created with the Mayor for announcement of THRIVE funding for Nicholas Street.
- Social media video created for clean-up on Cecil Street in aftermath of IBAL (Irish Business Against Litter) Report.

Executive Report



Comhairle Cathrach
& Contae **Luimnígh**
Limerick City
& County Council

- Social Media video created to promote recruitment drive for fire fighters.
- Series of posts to promote National Heritage Week.
- Social media video created to promote launch of Green Business Hub in Adare.
- Series of social media posts to promote the work of Active Travel Limerick throughout August.
- Re-sharing social posts from the Environmental Protection Agency to promote the Clean Air Together project for Limerick City.
- Social media video for Mayor signing contract for new playground in Southill.
- Promoting Career Opportunities on X and LinkedIn for: Craft Gardener, Community Safety Administrator, Staff Officer.

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 August
No. of callouts 01.08.2024 – 31.08.2024	1,006	217	99.00	1,223

