

**MEETING OF THE METROPOLITAN DISTRICT OF LIMERICK to be held on Monday, 21<sup>st</sup> October 2024.**

**Notice of Motion submitted by Councillor S. Beasley**

I will move at the next Meeting of the Metropolitan District of Limerick that Limerick City and County Council agree to source more hostel beds for individual homeless people.

**REPLY:**

Limerick City and County Council currently operates a number of hostel facilities in conjunction with our Approved Housing Body partners Novas and Mid West Simon, details around these facilities are elaborated upon in more detail later in the response. It is estimated that Limerick City & County Council will spend €13m in 2024 in the provision of homeless accommodation including hostel accommodation and related supports.

At the outset it is important to note that many individual homeless people who sleep rough, and who are frequent users of emergency hostels and shelters, have complex needs around mental health and addiction and require individualised supports to successfully move from homelessness to a sustainable tenancy. The Housing First approach has been Government policy for a number of years. With Housing First, the priority is to support a person who has experienced homelessness into permanent housing as quickly as possible, without any preconditions around sobriety or mental health treatment and to continue working intensively with them on these issues once they are housed. Housing First recognises that a stable home provides the basis for recovery in other areas. The alignment of housing and health supports means that Housing First is very much a joint initiative of the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage, the Department of Health, the Health Service Executive, the criminal justice sector (the Probation Service and Irish Prison Service), Local Authorities and NGO providers.

Limerick City and County Council has exceeded its target for Housing First Tenancies and there are currently 31 tenancies in place supported by Focus Ireland whose team in conjunction with the HSE team provide the wrap around supports that are required to help manage and sustain these complex tenancies. There are 5 more Housing First Tenancies planned up to year end 2024.

In most instances the Housing First model with the support of the associated wrap around services is the optimal long-term solution for individual homeless persons arising from their complex ongoing needs rather than the provision of additional hostel beds which can lead to cyclical homelessness and may not be the appropriate solution for the individual homeless person.

Every effort is made to prevent homelessness from occurring and The Homeless Action Team have a range of services to help prevent homelessness from occurring including as follows

- Cost Rental Tenant in Situ Scheme
- Tenant in Situ Scheme
- HAP Placefinder
- RAS

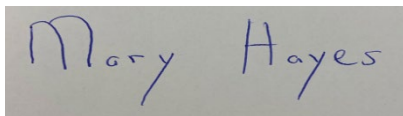
Unfortunately, there is a small group of individuals whom we try to engage with through our Outreach team in Ana Liffey and who for various reasons refuse to access hostel accommodation and other services. The outreach team continue to link in with and engage with these people on a daily basis in an effort to build relationships and trust in the hope that they will engage with and avail of services.

As noted, there are a number of Hostel facilities in Limerick to cater for the needs of clients who present and are eligible for Homeless services. There are a number of supported emergency accommodation for single adults in Limerick City. Oak Lodge is a 68 bed hostel for men and women and is operated by Mid West Simon having increased from a 47 bed provision to a 68 bed provision in recent years. McGarry House which is managed by Novas has a 30 bed service for men and women and is funded through Local Authority and HSE funding. Thomond House provides 24 beds for women only and is operated by Associated Charities Trust. A further number of beds are funded through Section 10 funding for persons experiencing homelessness with addiction issues at Cuan Mhuire, Bruree, who run a 12 or 20 week treatment programme. In addition, Cuan Mhuire operate two transitional houses in Limerick to accommodate homeless persons for 3 to 6 months to prepare for independent living and secure their own accommodation.

Limerick City and County Council has a large array of placement options for people experiencing Homelessness and the Homeless Action Team work collaboratively in conjunction with all stakeholders to ensure no one who is eligible and engages with services

is without a bed. There is also provision for an additional 12 Hostel temporary winter beds which will be active from 28th November 2024 and which can be increased should the demand require.

It is recognised that the diverse needs of individual homeless people is expanding and the Homeless Action Team is committed to providing an enhanced targeted response to meet these needs in conjunction with our HSE partners and other stakeholders. This is under ongoing review.

A rectangular box containing a handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Mary Hayes".

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Mary Hayes  
Senior Executive Officer  
Housing Support Services  
17<sup>th</sup> October, 2024



Comhairle Cathrach  
& Contae **Luimnigh**

**Limerick City**  
& County Council

**Active Travel**  
**Transportation and Mobility Directorate**  
**Limerick City & County Council**  
**2nd Floor Barrow House**  
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## **MEETING OF THE METROPOLITAN DISTRICT OF LIMERICK TO BE HELD ON 21<sup>st</sup> October 2024**

### **Notice of Motion submitted by Councillor E. O'Donovan**

I will move at the next Meeting of the Metropolitan District of Limerick that a green roof be incorporated into bus shelters in Limerick City.

### **REPLY:**

The current suite of bus shelter structures which are provided by the NTA cannot incorporate a green roof. The NTA is currently investigating the potential for a green roof option in future bus shelter structures in urban environments.

**John B. O'Callaghan, E.E.,**  
**Active Travel**  
**Transportation & Mobility Directorate**  
**15<sup>th</sup> October, 2024**

**MEETING OF THE METROPOLITAN DISTRICT OF LIMERICK TO BE HELD ON  
MONDAY 21<sup>ST</sup> OCTOBER 2024**

**Notice of Motion submitted by Councillor F. Kilcoyne**

I will move at the next Meeting of the Metropolitan District of Limerick requesting that the Local Authority liaises with the National Transport Authority, Irish Rail and the Department of Transport to explore the option of constructing temporary rail platforms for passenger travelling between Foynes and Limerick for the duration of the 2027 Ryder Cup event at all population centres along the route, such as Adare, Patrickswell and Rosbrien / Dooradoyle.

**Repy**

The Transport and Mobility Plan for the Ryder Cup 2027 event is in the early stages of development with all the named parties. All transport options, including rail, are currently being considered.



**Elaine O'Connor,**  
**Ryder Cup Co-Ordinator**

**Date: 18<sup>th</sup> October 2024**



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**Limerick City**  
& County Council

Seirbhísí Corparáideacha,  
Comhairle Cathrach agus Contae Luimnigh,  
Ceanncheathrú Chorparáideach,  
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## **METROPOLITAN DISTRICT OF LIMERICK**

**MEETING TO BE HELD ON MONDAY, 21<sup>ST</sup> OCTOBER, 2024**

### **Notice of Motion submitted by Councillor U. Gavan**

I will move at the next Meeting of the Metropolitan District of Limerick that this Council lead the way to Limerick City and County becoming an advocate for a Mental Health Initiative known as the Buddy Bench. This initiative is to highlight existing benches along the river as a breathing space which would incorporate a positive quote placed on the bench with a QR code which provides local helpline numbers to assist anyone potentially in distress.

### **REPLY:**

The Corporate Services Department will liaise with the Marketing & Communications Department, along with the Roads, Traffic & Cleansing Department, to examine the feasibility of developing and installing this information on existing Council owned benches along the general area of the 3 Bridges route in the Limerick City area.

**Kieran Lehane,**  
**Director of Service,**  
**Environment, Climate Action & Shared Services.**

**15<sup>th</sup> October, 2024.**



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## **METROPOLITAN DISTRICT OF LIMERICK**

**MEETING TO BE HELD ON MONDAY, 21<sup>ST</sup> OCTOBER, 2024**

### **Notice of Motion submitted by Councillor C. Sheehan**

I will move at the next Meeting of the Metropolitan District of Limerick that we contact Waterways Ireland and ask them to attend a meeting of the Metropolitan District of Limerick to explain why they have not lodged a promised planning application to put in place a comprehensive maintenance plan for the Guinness Canal.

### **REPLY:**

Waterways Ireland have responsibility for the maintenance of the Park Canal. They recently confirmed that Environmental Reports are in final draft for the maintenance works along the entire Park Canal and that on receipt of the final Environmental reports, that Waterways Ireland intend to schedule a pre-planning meeting with Limerick City and County Council, with the intention of submitting a planning submission, for the Limerick based maintenance works, in the final Quarter of 2024.

Limerick City and County Council recently contacted Waterways Ireland asking them to attend a meeting with the Elected Members of the Metropolitan District so as to update the Members, and we will contact them again in order to finalise arrangements for a meeting.

**Kieran Lehane,**  
**Director of Service,**  
**Environment, Climate Action & Shared Services.**

**15<sup>th</sup> October, 2024.**



Comhairle Cathrach  
& Contae **Luimnigh**

**Limerick** City  
& County Council

## MEETING OF THE METROPOLITAN DISTRICT OF LIMERICK TO BE HELD ON 21<sup>ST</sup> OCTOBER 2024

### Notice of Motion submitted by Councillor S. Hickey-O'Mara

I will move at the next Meeting of the Metropolitan District of Limerick that Limerick Arts Office establish an online directory of Limerick based professional artists from across all artistic disciplines akin to Clare Arts Office's online directory at [clarearts.ie](http://clarearts.ie).

### Reply

Limerick Arts Office recognises the value in establishing an online directory of Limerick based professional artists. In response to consultation with artists earlier this year, a request for additional funding was included in the Arts Council Partnership 2025 funding application to develop and maintain a Limerick artist network website or online directory. If funding is approved, the resulting facility would then be open to all Limerick based professional artists, facilitating connections, introductions and inviting potential collaboration.

Etain McCooey  
Arts Officer | Creative Ireland Coordinator





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& Contae **Luimnigh**

**Limerick City**  
& County Council

## MEETING OF THE METROPOLITAN DISTRICT OF LIMERICK TO BE HELD ON 21<sup>ST</sup> OCTOBER 2024

### Notice of Motion submitted by Councillor S. Hickey-O'Mara

I will move at the next Meeting of the Metropolitan District of Limerick that the Council facilitate temporary pop-up galleries to showcase the work of local artists in Council owned properties and vacant spaces in the city centre in the run up to the Christmas season.

### REPLY:

The proposal for temporary pop-up galleries could be considered in the context of and within planning for Christmas in Limerick. This would involve collaboration between Tourism, Planning & Placemaking, the Arts Office and also with the Development Management & Placemaking section, which is currently working on proposals for vacant shopfronts in the city centre, to include art installations.

There is a need for a lead-in period in order to put in place a scheme which will offer local artists the opportunity of exhibiting in temporary pop-up galleries, to include building identification and assessment in terms of suitability from a planning and health and safety perspective. Accordingly it would be appropriate to develop a programme for delivery in 2025.

The Arts Office would welcome development of such a plan and will work to raise awareness of the scheme once it has been developed and to assist in selecting artists and exhibitors for the identified spaces.

The Mayoral Programme includes an action to *conduct a survey of underutilised public spaces and public buildings for potential for temporary, rotating pop-up shops, providing vibrancy and continual novelty to shopping districts in town and the city* (MP87). This survey when completed may identify suitable vacant spaces in the city centre which could potentially be used to facilitate temporary pop-up galleries to showcase the work of local artists.

Etain McCooey  
Arts Officer | Creative Ireland Coordinator

## **MEETING OF THE METROPOLITAN DISTRICT OF LIMERICK TO BE HELD ON 21<sup>st</sup> October 2024**

### **Notice of Motion submitted by Councillor M. Donoghue**

I will move at the next Meeting of the Metropolitan District of Limerick that Junction 1 of the M20 is revised to include a direct route into the City Centre at Roxborough to help reduce congestion at Greenfields Road and the junction with the Childers Road.

### **REPLY:**

National and Council policy is to protect the capacity of the national road network and associated junctions, having regard to all relevant Government guidance. The primary purpose of the national road network is to provide strategic transport links between main centres of population and employment. The Rossbrien Interchange was constructed as part of the Limerick Southern Ring Road Phase II. The interchange provides free flow interchange between M7 (Dublin), N18 (Galway) M20 (Cork & Tralee) and R526 (Roxboro). The interchange does not facilitate traffic movements from M20 to R526, Childers Road. The provision of such access was considered at the scheme development stage and was ruled out as it would cause congestion backing up onto the ring road network. Access to the city from the M20 is facilitated via N18 Junction 2, Dock Road Interchange and M7 Junction 29, Ballysimon Interchange.

Objective TR O35 of the Limerick Development plan states that it is an objective of the council to explore improved accessibility to Limerick Southside, including the possible provision of a motorway interchange connection from the M20/M7 to Limerick Southside subject to –

- The requirement for a Motorway Order;
- Demonstration of consistency with the criteria in Section 2.7 of the Spatial Planning and National Roads Guidelines for Planning Authorities (2012), including that additional traffic loading can be satisfactorily accommodated at the junction and on the national road network;
- The special requirements of the tolling scheme (N18 and Limerick Tunnel Scheme) and the financial implications for the Exchequer of new road schemes in that context shall be evaluated;
- An assessment of environmental impacts

Continued/.....

The request to redesign Junction 1 of the M20 to include a direct route into the City Centre is under review by Limerick City and County Council in line with Development Plan Objective TR 035. Limerick City and County Council is also exploring other potential route options to improve accessibility and connectivity to Limerick Southside. Please see attached correspondence previously issued by TII with respect to the redesign of the junction at Junction 1, M20.

**Brian Kennedy, D.O.S.**  
**Transportation & Mobility Directorate,**  
**16<sup>th</sup> October, 2024.**



**John Moran**  
**Mayor of Limerick**

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**Metropolitan District of Limerick to be held on Monday, 21st October, 2024**

**Notice of Motion submitted by Councillor S. Kiely**

I will move at the next Meeting of the Metropolitan District of Limerick that an update be provided on the Mary Street Garda Station site and any other projects / schemes that have been delayed due to reviews by the Mayor including but not limited to housing and property disposals.

**REPLY:**

As you are aware, Limerick City and County Council had previously agreed the disposal of the former Mary Street Garda Station site for a private development. The developer no longer wishes to progress with the purchase so the sale will not proceed. This now enables us to assess the new best optimum use for this public building, in line with other developments in the area and the Mayoral Programme objective to improve amenities and public realm across King's Island and encourage the development of new creative hubs and workshops in this most historic part of our city.

LCCC has received funding of approximately €200,000 under THRIVE – the Town Centre First Heritage Revival Scheme - for the King's Island Area of Limerick City.

THRIVE is co-funded by the European Regional Development Fund (ERDF). Funding for this project will be to support the following activities:

- Enhancement of an existing Integrated Urban Strategy – The King's Island Walled Town Framework.
- Identification of projects that promote the conservation and adaptive reuse of our built heritage stock while reducing vacancy and dereliction in town centres.
- Prioritisation, development and specification of project proposals to create a pipeline of investment-ready built heritage refurbishment, renovation and adaptive reuse projects, bringing one of them to a stage of readiness where it can be included in a THRIVE Strand 2 application.

**John Moran,**  
**Mayor of Limerick**  
**17<sup>th</sup> October 2024**