



20th November 2024

EIRCODE V94 EH90

To: The Príomh Chomhairleoir and Each Member of Limerick City and County Council

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Re: Update on Limerick City and County Council Corporate Plan 2024 – 2029

A Chomhairleoir, A Chara,

Background

Preparation of multi-annual Corporate Plans and implementation of associated monitoring and review arrangements are required under statute. The five year Corporate Plan is developed as the Local Authority's Strategic Framework along with the associated monitoring and review arrangements (Appendix 1).

Reserved Function

The adopting of the Corporate Plan is a reserved function.

Preparation of the Corporate Plan

Section 134 of the Local Government Act 2001 (as amended) states

(2) Within the specified period and in accordance with this section, every local authority shall prepare a statement of strategy for the local authority.

(3) The Mayor shall—

(a) prepare the Corporate Plan in consultation with the policy group,

(b) fix a schedule of meetings for that purpose, and

(c) provide such assistance (including assistance by way of consultancy or otherwise) as may be practicable to assist in the preparation of the Corporate Plan and in its consideration by the policy group.

The legislation outlines the extensive consultation that should be taken with internal and external stakeholders including elected members, staff, external bodies and citizens and specifies that the Corporate Plan shall be submitted to the Council for adoption within 6 months of the Annual Meeting of the Council:

(4)(a) It is the responsibility and the duty of the policy group and of the Mayor to take all such steps as are necessary to ensure that the corporate plan is submitted to the elected council for approval within the specified period.

(b) Where the corporate plan is not submitted in accordance with *paragraph (a)*—

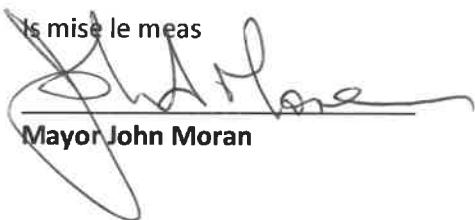
(i) the Príomh Chomhairleoir shall convene a special meeting within 14 days of the expiration of such period, and

(ii) the Príomh Chomhairleoir and the Mayor shall make a joint submission to the elected council at the special meeting outlining the steps to be taken to ensure its completion and when it is proposed to submit the corporate plan to the elected council.

Update

The Act does allow that where the Corporate Plan is not submitted in accordance with the six month timescale a special meeting should be held to outline the steps and timescale for completion and submission to the Council.

Given the requirements under the guidelines, the volume of information and policies to be collated (Appendix 2) and the Limerick's unique position it is unrealistic to deliver the Corporate Plan within the outlined timescale. Therefore, work will be undertaken in conjunction with the Corporate Policy Group and the Management Team to clarify and outline the next steps for meaningful engagement with all stakeholders to develop the Corporate Plan in early 2025 to present to a special meeting of the Council. Following agreement of the steps the Corporate Plan will be developed for adoption to support the Annual Delivery Plan in the first quarter of 2025.

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Mayor John Moran

Appendix 1

(6) The Corporate Plan shall be prepared on the basis of an organisational wide strategic approach encompassing the various activities of the local authority concerned, [including activities relating to functions of Municipal District members for each Municipal District,] and shall include—

- (a) a statement of the principal activities of the local authority,
- (b) the objectives and priorities for each of the principal activities and strategies for achieving those objectives,
- (c) the manner in which the authority proposes to assess its performance in respect of each such activity, taking account of relevant service indicators and of the need to work towards best practice in service delivery and in the general operation of the local authority,
- (d) human resources activities (including training and development) to be undertaken for the staff of the local authority and, where appropriate for the elected council,
- (e) the organisational structure of the local authority, both elected council and staff, including corporate support and information technology and the improvements proposed to promote efficiency of operation and customer service and in general to support the corporate plan, the policy of the local authority in relation to its functions, services and priorities for expenditure, in so far as is not otherwise set out in any other plan, statement, strategy or other document referred to in subsection (7),
- (f) such other matters as may be set out in guidelines issued under subsection (10) for the purposes of this section.

Appendix 2

Contents of the Corporate Plan as outlined in the Guidelines 2024

- Baseline Data
- Flexibility to adapt and change
- Governance
- Risk, risk management & contingencies
- Service Level Agreements
- Annual Service Delivery Plan
- Monitoring and reporting on progress
- NOAC reports and reviews
- Policy developments
- Digitisation
- National Implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development
- Climate Action
- Age Friendly Principles and Guidelines
- Public Sector Human Rights Duty