

# 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

October 2024

One Opera Square Hits New Height with Topping Out Ceremony

Decade of Public Participation Network is Marked at Limerick Conference

Limerick City and County Council's Rathbane Golf Course Wins All Ireland Business Foundation Award

Limerick Libraries' New Local Studies Website is a Repository of Limerick Culture and History

Limerick's Royal Cinema Gets Set for Feature Film Production

Patrickswell Crowned Limerick Going for Gold Champions 2024

# Executive Report



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

## Contents by Directorate

### Office of the Mayor

### Economic Development, Enterprise and Tourism

1. Trade and Investment	9
2. Local Enterprise Office (LEO) Limerick	10
3. Tourism	10
4. Innovate Limerick Designated Activity Company (DAC)	13
5. Discover Limerick Designated Activity Company (DAC)	14

### Transportation and Mobility

1. Travel and Transport Strategy	15
2. Active Travel	15

### Rural, Community and Culture Development

1. Rural	17
2. Community Development	17
3. Culture	19
4. Property Management	26

### Regeneration, Sports and Recreation

1. Regeneration and Sports	27
2. Askeaton Pool and Leisure Designated Activity Company (DAC)	31

### Housing

1. Housing Support Services	32
2. Housing Welfare and Traveller Accommodation	38
3. Local Authority Housing Construction and Maintenance	39
4. Strategy & Non-Local Authority Housing Construction	44
5. Municipal District Offices	50

### Planning & Place-Making

1. Development Management and Place-Making	55
2. CFRAMS (Catchment Flood Risk Assessment and Management Study)	57
3. Limerick Twenty Thirty (LTT) Designated Activity Company (DAC)	58

### Environment, Climate Action and Shared Services

1. Housing Assistance Payment Shared Services Centre (HAP SCC)	60
2. Fire and Emergency	60
3. Environment and Climate Action	62

### Support Services

1. Finance	68
2. Business Improvement	70
3. Corporate, Governance and Customer Services	70
4. Marketing & Communications	73
5. National Mobilisation and Communication System / Munster Regional Communications Centre (NMACS/MRCC)	76

# Executive Report



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

## Office of the Mayor

### Some highlights for the month of October were:

- Photo call to launch the Library Age Friendly Tablet in association with Vodafone Foundation and launch of the newly redesigned Local Studies Website at the City Library
- Attended the official opening of the Éigse Michael Hartnett Literary and Arts Festival in Newcastle West
- Attended the LabCon 2024, National Conference for the medical scientists of Ireland
- Attended the Oglaithe Náisiúnta na hÉireann (ONE) Annual Wreath Laying Ceremony and Mass
- Attended the An Garda Síochána Launch of (CAST) Community Access Support Team in Gardens International, Henry Street, Limerick
- Attended the Royal Institute of Architects of Ireland Conference 2024 in Dublin
- Attended the book Launch 'Cannocks, A Social and Economic History of the Limerick Company 1840-1939' by Frances Twomey
- Attended Villiers School Annual Prize Day Ceremony
- Attended the official opening of Saint Ita's Community Hall in Abbeyfeale
- Attended the Awards Ceremony for the Bangladeshi Community Football Team and for students who sat their Leaving Certificate at the Greenhills Hotel, Ennis Road, Limerick

### Below is a summary of The Mayor's Diary for the month of October:

#### 01 October

- Reviewing schedule and documentation for the day ahead
- Internal Meeting with Limerick City and County Council Management Team
- Work relating to the budget submission
- Meeting with the Palestinian Ambassador
- Signing of Mayoral Orders
- Preparing for the budget and Local Community Development Committee meeting
- Attended the Local Community Development Committee meeting
- Review of budget and briefings
- Work relating to the 101 Actions

#### 02 October

- Review of work ahead
- Meeting relating to the Mayoral Programme
- Phone call interview with Limerick Post journalist Bernie English
- Meeting with Director of Services, Support Services
- Work on 101 Actions
- Work relating to the Mayoral Programme

# Executive Report



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

- Phone call with Honorary Consul Loic Guyon in relation to the new French Ambassador's visit and reception to honor individuals with a French government award
- Attended the Fintech Awards in Dublin

## 03 October

- Meeting with internal communications team
- Press conference relating to the 101 Actions
- Work related to the Mayoral Programme
- Interview with Irish Independent journalist Jasmine Griffin
- Photo call to launch the Library Age Friendly Tablet in association with Vodafone Foundation and launch of the newly redesigned Local Studies Website at the City Library
- Meeting with internal colleague from the Director General's Office
- Attended the official opening of the Éigse Michael Hartnett Literary and Arts Festival in Newcastle West
- Recorded video content for THRIVE -The Town Centre First Heritage Revival Scheme as part of the Newcastle West Integrated Urban Strategy

## 04 October

- Attended Live 95 studios for an interview
- Meetings with internal Limerick City and County Council colleagues
- Meeting with Director of Services, Regeneration, Sports and Recreation regarding University Avenue
- Internal Meeting with Limerick City and County Council Management Team

- Meeting with Limerick City and County Council finance team regarding the General Municipal Allocation funding
- Attended the ordinary meeting of Limerick City and County Council
- Attended the LabCon 2024, National Conference for the medical scientists of Ireland

## 05 October

- Reviewing speeches in advance of event
- Attended the Mid-Western Cancer Foundation Butterfly Ball

## 06 October

- Attended the Ogláigh Náisiúnta na hÉireann (ONE) Annual Wreath Laying Ceremony and Mass

## 07 October

- Attended the Technological University of the Shannon: Midlands Midwest launch of the Regional University Network – European University Immersive Research Institute
- Internal Meeting with Limerick City and County Council Management Team
- Internal meeting in relation to department staffing
- Attended the An Garda Síochána Launch of (CAST) Community Access Support Team in Gardens International, Henry Street, Limerick
- Attended the Limerick Mental Health Association Mental Health Week press launch at the International Rugby Experience
- Meeting of the Limerick Mayoral Advisory and Implementation Committee
- Meeting with Councillor Tommy Hartigan

# Executive Report



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

- Meeting regarding the Mayor's diary for the week ahead
- Reviewing briefing papers and email correspondence

## 08 October

- Meeting with the organiser of the Richard Harris International Film Festival
- Meeting with the Festival and Events team regarding the Christmas Season
- Internal meeting with the working group on short-term modular affordable rental transition (SMART) housing
- Attended a presentation on the Galway 2070 Vision – City Plan and Approach
- Meeting with Ivan Owen, Art Installation Artist
- Meeting with John O'Loughlin, Head of Trade and Investment, Welsh Government, Ireland Office, British Embassy Dublin
- Meeting with Director of Services, Economic Development, Enterprise and Tourism regarding the Mayoral Programme

## 09 October

- Attended the Royal Institute of Architects of Ireland Conference 2024 in Dublin
- Meeting regarding the Limerick Transport Plan
- Internal budget meeting
- Meeting regarding the Mayoral Programme

## 10 October

- Attended the American Chamber of Commerce Ireland Mid-West Regional Conference
- Attended the launch of NOVAS 2023 Annual Report in the Savoy Hotel

- Attended the launch of the Active Travel completed project on The Father Russell Road at St. Paul's National School
- Meeting with James Lawless, Minister of State from the Department of Transport
- Meeting regarding the Mayoral Programme
- Attended the book Launch 'Cannocks, A Social and Economic History of the Limerick Company 1840-1939' by Frances Twomey
- Attended Music for Mental Health event at Dolan's Warehouse

## 11 October

- Meeting with Gerald Hurley, Chief Executive Officer of Waterford Chamber at Assembly House, Waterford
- Meeting with Councillor Jason Murphy, Mayor of Waterford City and County and the Chief Executive at City Hall, The Mall, Waterford

## 14 October

- Attended a meeting with the Moyross Partners Group to discuss the Pineview Gardens development
- Internal Meeting with Limerick City and County Council Management Team
- Meeting with Director of Services, Rural, Community and Culture Development
- Video Shoot for the Limerick Chamber Regional Business Awards 2024 'Best Emerging Business' Award 2024
- Briefing regarding Sonny's Corner, King's Island, Affordable Housing Fund Scheme Project
- Internal meeting regarding the Transport Plan
- Guest appearance on the Katie Hannon show on RTE Television

# Executive Report



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

## 15 October

- Workday based in Rathkeale Area Office
- Attended 'Rathkeale Together' run by West Limerick Resources, 2nd Annual Seminar focusing on 'Wellness in the Community'
- Attended the Limerick Chamber Strategic Partners Dinner

## 16 October

- Attended Villiers School Annual Prize Day Ceremony
- Meeting with Barry O'Sullivan and Tomás Kilroy from Treaty Stone Partnership
- Preparation work for the presentation at the Chambers Ireland Excellence in Local Government Awards 2024
- Meeting with Patrick Chesser, Rob Henderson and Andy Tallon to discuss potential projects in Limerick
- Meeting with Director of Services, Planning and Place-Making regarding Limerick Twenty Thirty Designated Activity Company (DAC)
- Internal staff meeting regarding The Arthur's Quay Framework Consultation
- Attended a budget meeting
- Photography session with Limerick Leader
- Attended an open night on the farm of Seamus Leahy from Newcastle West. Winner of "Other Enterprises" category at the 2024 FBD 'Young Farmer of the Year' awards held in association with Macra na Feirme

## 17 October

- Meeting with Councillor Sharon Benson
- Attended the opening of the 2024 Public Participation Network (PPN) Ireland National Conference

- Meeting with Dee Ryan, Fianna Fail General Election candidate
- Meeting regarding diary commitments
- Attended a dinner hosted by the British Ambassador in Dublin

## 18 October

- Meeting with Director of Services, Regeneration, Sports and Recreation
- Meeting with Niall O'Callaghan, Chief Executive Officer Limerick Enterprise Development Partnership
- Meeting with Director of Services, Economic Development, Enterprise and Tourism
- Attended the Garryowen Football Club Business and Leadership Lunch
- Attended the official opening of Saint Ita's Community Hall in Abbeyfeale

## 19 October

- Attended the Limerick City Gallery of Art for the Helium Arts Family Day

## 21 October

- Meeting with Councillor Sarah Beasley
- Internal Meeting with Limerick City and County Council Management Team
- Meeting regarding the Opera Site with Kieran O'Donnell, Minister of State with responsibility for the Office of Public Works
- Meet and Greet and photoshoot with The Age Friendly Older Persons Executive
- Calls with the Director General and Special Advisor

# Executive Report



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

- Meeting with Ivana Bacik TD, Leader of the Labour Party, Councillor Conor Sheehan and Councillor Elena Secas
- Attended the Corporate Policy Group Meeting
- Attended the Management Board Meeting
- Meeting with internal staff regarding the Traveller Accommodation Programme
- Meeting regarding the Mayoral Programme
- Phone call with the Special Advisor
- Attended the Press Launch of College Players upcoming production of Arthur Millar's 'All My Sons'

## 22 October

- Attended the photo call for the announcement of 'One Night Only' a feature film filming in Limerick at The Theatre Royal, Cecil Street, Limerick
- Meeting regarding the Mayoral Programme
- Attended Limerick Twenty Thirty Designated Activity Company (DAC) 'Topping Out Ceremony' for One Opera Square. A time honoured construction site tradition. The ceremony marks the placement of a building's highest structural element
- Attended the Direct Route (Limerick) Limited board meeting
- Phone call with Derek Butler, Group Chief Executive Officer of GRID Finance
- Meeting regarding diary commitments

## 23 October

- Attended the Limerick Community Education Network (LCEN) 30 Year Celebration and officially launch the LCEN Impact Review

- Director of Service Economic Development, Enterprise and Tourism briefing
- Attended a workshop for Elected Members
- Attended a working group meeting on Standing Orders
- Attended a 'Waterways to Wellness' event organised by Limerick City and County Council in partnership with Inland Fisheries, Enable Ireland, Avista CLG (company limited by guarantee) and Limerick Sports Partnership event, hosting an accessible fishing and environment education event for people with intellectual and physical disabilities
- Signing of Mayoral Orders
- Attended the Limerick Going for Gold Competition final

## 24 October

- Presentation preparation for the Chambers Ireland Excellence in Local Government Awards 2024, Local Authority of the Year Award 2024 in Dublin
- Presented at the Chambers Ireland Excellence in Local Government Awards 2024, Local Authority of the Year Award 2024 in Dublin
- Attended conference dinner for the International Centre for Local and Regional Development in Belfast

## 25 October

- Delivered speech at the International Centre for Local and Regional Development in Belfast
- Delivered a speech and took part in a 'Questions and Answers' session at Queen's University Belfast
- Attended a dinner with the Mayor of Belfast

# Executive Report



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

## 29 October

- Internal Meeting with Limerick City and County Council Management Team
- Interview with Irish Examiner journalist Jonathan de Burca Butler regarding World Cities Day
- Attended the official opening of the newly constructed dog park in Newcastle West
- Attended and gave a speech at the official opening of the newly renovated Colbert Station with Eamon Ryan, Minister for Environment, Climate and Communications
- Attended a Special Meeting of the Council
- Attended the Awards Ceremony for the Bangladeshi Community Football Team and for students who sat their Leaving Certificate at the Greenhills Hotel, Ennis Road, Limerick

## 30 October

- Meeting with Michael McNamara, Member of the European Parliament
- Meeting regarding diary commitments
- Attended the opening of Down Syndrome Limerick's newly decorated building after Regeneron staff painted and decorated the building as part of their 'Days for Doing Good' initiative in Castletroy
- Interview with Virgin Media Television
- Meeting with Senior Executive Officer Trade and Investment Department
- Meeting with colleagues from Finance Department
- Meeting with Human Resources

## 31 October

- Meeting with Director of Services, Environment, Climate Action and Shared Services to discuss the Mayor's Ball
- Meeting with Bus Eireann representatives
- Meeting with Senior Executive Officer, Strategy and Non-Local Authority Housing Construction
- Accompanied Director of Services, Regeneration, Sports and Recreation to Our Lady of Lourdes Community Centre, Ballinacurra Weston, Limerick
- Attended Party Leaders' Meeting
- Meeting with the Director General regarding housing projects



# Executive Report



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

## Economic Development, Enterprise and Tourism

### 1. Trade and Investment

#### Industry Events

##### Trade and Investment attended:

- The Limerick Chamber Budget 2025 Breakfast Briefing - an update on what measures in the national budget mean for business.
- Reconnecting Shannon Foynes Port - An Irish Exporters' Association Event on Unlocking New Export Potential with Rail Freight through Shannon Foynes Port.
- The Night-Time Culture Forum - The Arts Council, in partnership with the Department of Tourism, Culture, Arts, Gaeltacht, Sport & Media and Cork City Council, hosted a Night-Time Culture Forum on 21 October in Millennium Hall, Cork City. This forum offered promoters, artists, venue managers and other contributors an opportunity to discuss, network and engage.

#### Night-Time Economy Action Plan

Roundtable discussions on 14 and 15 October in The ENGINE building on Cecil Street. These sessions promoted a robust exchange of ideas, strategies and solutions aimed at enhancing the marketing and visibility of Limerick's night-time offerings.

#### Limerick Gift Card

A press release was issued announcing the Limerick Gift Card Initiative, a partnership between the Council and Limerick Chamber. The aim of the gift card is to increase footfall and spending in businesses across Limerick.

#### FDI Cities and Regions of the Future 2025

An application was submitted to this competition which analyses the most recent foreign direct investment (FDI) promotion across Europe. The competition is run by the Financial Times FDI Intelligence Magazine.

#### Forge Design Factory

Trade and Investment participated as part of a team led by Limerick School of Art and Design. The application was to secure priming funding to investigate design infrastructure and the creation of a central hub, based on an International Design Factory Model. It would have a focus on digitalisation and digital transformation, green transformation for enterprise, innovation diffusion, international collaboration on research, development and innovation, and improving the national/regional enterprise research and innovation systems. The application for €200,000 was successful.

# Executive Report



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

## 2. Local Enterprise Office (LEO) Limerick

- This Year's LEO Midwest Region (Limerick, Clare, Tipperary) National Women's Enterprise Day was held in Dromoland Castle, Co. Clare. The Keynote Speaker was Aimee Connolly of Sculpted by Aimee, with a panel of guest speakers including Nell Stritch, a Limerick Entrepreneur and owner of Pressed Flowers by Nell.
- The focus of the full-day programme was on female entrepreneurship. 155 attendees networked, engaged with leading industry experts and acquired valuable knowledge about the extensive range of supports available from LEO. The team at the Limerick Local Enterprise Office was delighted to be able to provide a platform of this scale to enable the Female Entrepreneurs of the Limerick Region to engage with others in the Midwest, enhancing their business relations and knowledge. It was also revealed that so far this year, 64% of those who availed of training by the Local Enterprise Offices were women and that 61% of the participants in the Local Enterprise Offices 'Start Your Own Business' programme in 2024 have been female.
- LEO Limerick ran eight Training and Development programmes during October for Limerick based businesses, which were attended by 152 people from across the City and County. Our Autumn/Winter LEAN for Business programme also commenced with 17 businesses participating.
- Maximising Sales for Q4 Seminar, aimed at the Limerick retail industry and hosted by Miriam Simon, was held on 14 October and took place in the ENGINE building. There were 21 business owners in attendance.
- LEO Limerick also approved Green and Energy Efficiency supports for four businesses during the month of October, as well as five Trading Online Vouchers to assist Limerick companies wishing to trade online, and two TAME (Technical Assistance for Micro Exporters) grants to assist Limerick businesses with their exporting strategy.

## 3. Tourism

### Tourism General

- In preparation for the formation of a new Tourism Strategy for Limerick, a Business Tourism Survey went live on 14 October asking Limerick business owners a series of questions and providing an opportunity for any commentary/feedback in order to help shape the future of Limerick's Tourism offering. A Media Release was sent out on the survey on 14 October, with information and reminders posted on Limerick City and County Council's social media channels.
- Familiarisation Trip with Saoirse Hanley, Journalist from the Sunday World, from 27 to 29 October. This trip included visits to Wickham Way, Curraghchase Forest Park and Limerick Greenway.

### Limerick Greenway

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

- Joint Familiarisation Trip, on Limerick Greenway and Kingdom of Kerry Greenways, with Deirdre Verney, Deputy Editor and Senior Features Writer of the Irish Country Living supplement in the Irish Farmers' Journal, and Joan Scales, Producer and Presenter of Destination Anywhere on Dublin South FM and Founding Editor of travel2ireland, on 04, 05 and 06 October. This trip included attendance at events for Éigse Michael Hartnett Literary and Arts Festival 2024 in Newcastle West.
- Trick or Treat Hunt at Barnagh Greenway Hub from 27 to 31 October inclusive, from 11:00 to 12:00 each day.
- Limerick Greenway featured on Joe.ie's *Enhance your Wild Atlantic Way road trip with these free attractions* article on 30 October.

# Executive Report



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

Limerick Greenway's social media campaign on Facebook and Instagram included the following:

- Posts highlighting the two new recently erected local culture and heritage installations at Barnagh Viewing Point and Tullig Wood, which are dial-up (U-Turn) audio boxes that play traditional local music and provide facts about local heritage and biodiversity, as well as Irish Sign Language (ISL) interpretation videos of the music and narratives.
- Limerick Greenway Social Media Competition Closed notice posted on 03 October.
- Business Spotlight Posts for October which included: Wild Encounters Mini Zoo, The Painted Pot and Rathkeale House Hotel.
- Town Spotlight Post for October which included: Broadford Ashford Walking Trails.
- A post highlighting the opening hours of Limerick Greenway carparks for the month of October on 08 October.
- A post reminding Limerick Greenway cyclists to ring their bicycle bells when approaching other Limerick Greenway users and overtaking pedestrians.
- A post on 10 October for World Mental Health Day 2024, encouraging the public to prioritise their mental health as well as their physical health.
- A post encouraging Limerick Greenway users to do Limerick Greenway their way and to share their experiences of same by tagging the Facebook and Instagram pages, with their experiences being reshared on the pages.
- A video post encouraging the public to do Limerick Greenway their own way this Autumn and Winter and to #EmbracetheUnexpected.
- A post highlighting the many entry points along

Limerick Greenway, allowing users to travel the full length or to do it in stages.

- A Bank Holiday Weekend post on 24 October promoting Limerick Greenway and its connection with the Kingdom of Kerry Greenways and encouraging the public to visit Limerick Greenway over the weekend to meet all the various points and people of interest.
- Organic Posts and re-sharing of posts highlighting the Halloween activities of numerous businesses located on or near Limerick Greenway.
- A bilingual Happy Halloween post from all at Limerick Greenway on 31 October.

## Limerick Greenway Statistics

### Social Media Statistics

Statistics for Limerick Greenway Socials 01/10/2024 – 31/10/2024

	Facebook	Instagram
Reach	53,942	12,713
Profile Visits	831	233
New Page Followers	22	205

Social Media Ads (Facebook and Instagram advertising statistics combined)

Accounts reached: 47,624  
Post Engagements: 24,625  
Link clicks to the website: 964

### Google Ads

01/10/2024 - 31/10/2024

Impressions	26,200
Ad Clicks	1,570

# Executive Report



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

- Staff from the Tourism Department of Limerick City and County Council attended the Fáilte Ireland hosted Clare and Limerick Tourism Industry Networking Event in Dromoland Castle Hotel on 08 October. The structured 1:1 networking meetings were timed at four minutes long, allowing two minutes for each person to speak about their area of work, the attraction they were promoting, etc. Attendees were encouraged to network with as many other attendees as possible at the event, regardless of sector, to introduce their attraction or business, to discuss their target markets, and to establish support networks among business owners in the Clare and Limerick region. Additionally, a talk took place from special guest, Dr. Eoghan Staunton, on the following topic: The Exciting Future of Tourism in an AI (Artificial Intelligence) World. More than 50 businesses took part with half of those attending being from Limerick.
- Staff from the Tourism Department of Limerick City and County Council attended the Supporting Recruitment and Retention in Tourism and Hospitality event in the Limerick Strand Hotel on 16 October.
- Staff of the Tourism Department of Limerick City and County Council attended the Limerick Champions Programme - Wild Atlantic Way workshop in the Limerick Strand Hotel on 23 October.

## FESTIVALS AND EVENTS

The Bualadh Bos Childrens Festival celebrated its tenth year in 2024 and ran from 02 to 12 October. There was an array of offerings for families and schools to enjoy over the festival. The diverse range of shows had something for everyone; the shows were aimed at different age groups and interests. The Family Day on 12 October saw a masterclass for aspiring artists at the Limerick City Gallery of Art, Moving Words, a dance performance at Dance Limerick, Wandering Stories workshop at The Belltable, with a finale screening of the Muppets Take Manhattan. The festival gave the opportunity to children to be creative in fun ways. The Pay It Forward Fundraising Campaign continued giving opportunities to families, who may not normally afford it, to attend.

The Ballyhoura Walking Festival, now in its 28th year, took place from 04 to 06 October. The festival took in a three-day series of walking related activities. Events included a moonlight walk off Carrighenry, a dawn chorus sunrise walk, half marathon via Highest Peaks, charity walk and Mitchelstown food and heritage tour. On the last day, activities included a yoga walk experience, Kilmallock medieval town walk and History of Ardpatick Hill tour.

On 06 October, the Cook Medical Women's Mini Marathon took place at the University of Limerick Sports Arena. The event saw all ages run the 5 or 10 km courses. The participants each ran for their individual charities. The marathon has raised over €200,000 for various charities since its commencement.

This year's Castleconnell Halloween Frightfest hosted events over the month of October. Between 04 and 16 October, there was the Children's Historical Treasure Hunt, and from 11 to 22 October, a Children's Halloween School outreach programme was run. A talk on the History of Castleconnell was held on 23 October. The main event took place on 27 October and was a Scary Trail suitable for adults and kids providing a chilling adventure by the river.

## Samhain: Limerick Halloween Festival

The Samhain Festival ran from 24 to 27 October. The festival got under way on 24 October with Eddie Lenihan and his folktales at Roches Street, and Tall Tales at Treaty City Brewery. 25 October was Death Café at Jack Monday's Café and a Spirits of Samhain historical walk with Paul O'Brien. On 26 October, the Samhain swim was held and the Irish Chamber Orchestra Schools had their live performance from 4pm to 5pm in St. Mary's Cathedral showcasing popular and classical music.

Lumen Street Theatre, in partnership with Fáilte Ireland and Limerick City and County Council, presented the Lumen Street Theatre's Fire and Shadows Parade on 26 October. The parade celebrated the Irish origins of Halloween with illuminated unnatural beings walking the streets of Limerick. Many other events happened throughout the weekend celebrating Samhain in Limerick.

# Executive Report



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

## 4. Innovate Limerick Designated Activity Company (DAC)

- Skillnet Innovation Exchange, the initiative that connects large business facing innovation challenges with small and medium enterprises (SMEs) that can fast track the solutions, has expanded its services into Limerick. Research Development Innovate (RDI) Hub and Innovate Limerick are joining forces to bring the benefits of Skillnet Innovation Exchange to businesses in Limerick City and County. The partnership will offer ambitious and innovative SMEs the opportunity to get connected with large businesses looking to access digital transformation solutions.
- The ENGINE Collaboration Centre is running at 100% capacity as Limerick's only city centre collaborative workspace and co-working venue. Vitalograph remains an anchor tenant. Businesses also located in the centre are MDS Global, Maverick, Accounting Pro, Ministry of Brands, Local Enterprise Office, Land Development Agency, Axis BIC. There are in excess of 150 staff currently working on site.

## Film in Limerick

### Feature Film ‘One Night Only’ begins Production in Limerick

Film in Limerick has been working with the producers of new feature film ‘One Night Only’ to bring the project to Limerick. The project stars Colin Morgan (Dead and Buried, The Fall, The Boy That Never Was) as the manager of a small-town cinema who struggles to keep the peace on a chaotic Friday night at the pictures.

The project has been in pre-production since early October, based at the ENGINE Building on Cecil Street, and at the old Royal Cinema and offices on O’Connell Street. The production’s art department has been busy transforming the former cinema and building sets at the venue to prepare for filming.

### RTE Drama - Did You Hear About Erskine Fogarty?

Film in Limerick worked with the producers of the new Storyland ‘Did You Hear About Erskine Fogarty?’ Film in Limerick supported the production of this new drama which took place in Limerick in October. Starring Robert Sheehan, and based on a short story by Blind Boy, Sheehan plays Limerick man Erskine who lost everything after moving to Dublin – except for his double white American fridge/freezer.

### Crew Academy Courses

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

- **Wireless Sound Recording Course**

14 participants took part in this training course, held at the ENGINE Collaboration Centre. The course taught participants to better understand the radio spectrum, different types of wireless systems used on film sets, causes of interference, and how to best a professional shoot.

- **Set Etiquette for Film and Television**

This hybrid course held online and in-person at the ENGINE Collaboration Centre provided 22 participants with the knowledge required to work on a screen production and to be ‘set-ready’.

# Executive Report



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

## 5. Discover Limerick Designated Activity Company (DAC)

### Industry Events

The Fáilte Ireland-led Clare/Limerick networking event took place in Dromoland Castle on 08 October and Discover Limerick DAC employees met with stakeholders across the hotel, visitor attractions and local authority sector in a productive networking setting, maximising cross-selling opportunities across the offerings of both counties.

The Association of Visitor Experiences and Attractions (AVEA) annual conference took place in Kilkenny on 14 and 15 October and Discover Limerick DAC was represented at this event. Attendees were invited on Learning Journeys hosted by local attractions in Kilkenny City before the conference commenced with a stellar line-up of guest speakers and a gala dinner in St. Canice's Cathedral on the Monday night, followed by more notable guest speakers on the Tuesday, sharing insights and tips on key topics trending in the tourism sector currently.

The Failte Ireland Wild Atlantic Way Roadshow took place in Sligo on 16 October and the Sales and Marketing Manager representing Discover Limerick DAC met with over 20 domestic tour operators, promoting the DAC sites to existing and potential new customers. Meetings were positive and feedback from the trade was that there is an appetite to look beyond the key tourism hotspots such as Dublin, Galway and Killarney and look to develop new itineraries in areas such as Limerick.

### Adare Heritage Centre

The centre had a special visitor on 28 October when Irish golfing legend, Paul McGinley, along with the Ryder Cup trophy, made a surprise appearance at the centre. Part of a promotional campaign by Adare Manor to highlight the Ryder Cup 2027 – the cup was on display in the centre and locals and visitors to the centre were delighted to get to see the cup up-close and speak with Paul McGinley in person.

### Lough Gur

Now in its third year, the Rose Fitzgerald Kennedy Autumn School event took place over the October Bank Holiday weekend and the Lough Gur Visitor Centre featured in the mix, hosting the "Inspirations" Art Exhibition that launched on 26 October. Exhibiting the work of 16 local artists, craftspeople, photographers and writers, the visitor centre opened its doors to showcase local artists, giving them a platform to exhibit their talents.



# Executive Report



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

## Transportation and Mobility

### 1. Travel and Transport Strategy

#### Transport Infrastructure Ireland (TII) Roads Conference

Members of the team attended the TII National Roads and Greenways Conference in October. A number of key themes were covered at the conference, including Enhanced Regional and Rural Connectivity, Mobility of People and Goods in Urban Areas, Greenways and the National Cycle Network, and Decarbonisation.

#### Limerick Road Safety Working Together Group Quarterly Meeting

The Quarterly Meeting of the Limerick Road Safety Working Together Group took place on 08 October. The Road Safety Working Together Group is led and chaired by Limerick City and County Council and has representatives from An Garda Síochána, Transport Infrastructure Ireland, Health Service Executive – Ambulance Service, Limerick City and County Council – Fire and Emergency Services, Limerick Cycling Campaign and Limerick Pedestrian Network.

#### Draft Limerick City and County Council Control of Stationless On-Street Shared E-Scooter Hire Services Bye-Laws 2024

At the October Monthly Meeting of the Metropolitan District of Limerick, Councillors approved placing the Limerick City and County Council Control of Stationless On-Street Shared E-Scooter Hire Services Draft Bye-Laws, 2024, on public display, in accordance with the requirements of the Section 200 (1) of the Local Government Act 2001 (as amended).

### 2. Active Travel

#### Projects on Site

**Rósmor, Old Cork Road, Limerick:** Works continued to progress on site. Snagging and landscaping works continued.

**Plassey Park Road, Castletroy, Limerick:** Works continued to progress on site. Snagging works continued.

**Father Russell Road, Raheen, Limerick:** Official launch of project took place at St Paul's National School, Dooradoyle. Snagging and landscaping works continued.

**R510 Quinn's Cross to Raheen, Limerick:** Works continued to progress on site. Drainage, public lighting and kerbing work took place from Raheen Roundabout to the Grange entrance.

**Mill Road, Corbally, Limerick:** Works continued to progress on site. Ducting and kerbing work from Spring Grove junction progressed; boundary walls at entrance to St. Munchin's College progressed; drainage work opposite the Bishop's Field progressed.

# Executive Report



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

## Other Projects:

**Roxboro Road, Limerick:** Part 8 documents being prepared.

**Ballycummin Road and Church Hill Meadows:** Review of preliminary design completed.

**Cappamore and Doon Public Realm:** Part 8 plans published.

**TUS to City Centre, Moylish, Limerick:** Tender return date was 18 October with review and assessment ongoing.

**Castletroy Urban Greenway to National Technology Park (Holland Road):** Non-statutory consultation process deadline passed on 25 October.



# Executive Report



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

## Rural, Community and Culture Development

### 1. Rural

#### Rural Development

- On 07 October, the Department of Rural and Community Development awarded €532,722 in funding to Limerick, for a range of projects to be delivered through the CLÁR 2024 Programme. Twelve projects in total were successful, five sports clubs - Galtee Gaels GAA, Glenroe GAA, Mountcollins GAA, Athea GAA, Ballylanders GAA, five community groups - Killeedy Eco Park Group, Cappamore Development Association, Anglesboro Community Centre, Ashford Hall Group and Kilfinane Community Projects, and two national schools - Glengurt National School and Kilbehenny National School. Some of this year's projects include car park enhancements, upgrading of playing and club facilities, installation of shower and toilet facilities and the provision of multipurpose equipment and a sensory room, in sports facilities.
- On 17 October, the Department of Rural and Community Development issued a call for projects, under the Outdoor Recreation Infrastructure Scheme (ORIS), which provides funding for the development of new outdoor recreational infrastructure. It also provides support for the necessary repair, maintenance, enhancement and promotion of existing outdoor recreational infrastructure in rural areas across Ireland. The Rural Development Section will work with local communities and stakeholders to identify projects for submission across all of the funding measures.

### 2. Community Development

#### Pride of Place

- On 16 October, the Mayor of Limerick, John Moran, received a visit in Corporate Headquarters from the four groups representing Limerick at this year's IPB Pride of Place Competition. The groups and respective categories are:
  - Urban Neighbourhood under 3000 - Johnsgate Residents' Association
  - Population 300 to 1000 - Rockhill/Bruree Community Council
  - Age Friendly - Dromcollogher and District Respite Care Centres and Housing for Older Persons
  - Inclusive Communities - The Butterfly Club

#### Local Community Development Committee

- Meetings of the Local Community Development Committee (LCDC) and Local Action Group (LAG) were held on 01 October.

#### Public Participation Network

- Public Participation Network Limerick (PPNL) hosted the Sixth National Public Participation Network Conference at the Strand Hotel in Limerick on 17 and 18 October. This year's event was particularly special as it marked the 10-year anniversary of the establishment of PPNS across Ireland.
- The conference brought together 160 delegates representing community and voluntary groups, social inclusion and environmental organisations from across the country, alongside local authority officials, elected representatives, and other supporters of the PPNS' work.

# Executive Report



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

- The theme for this year's conference, "Collaboration for Resilient Communities," highlighted the essential partnerships required for the effective delivery of government programmes at both national and local levels. The PPNs play a crucial role in facilitating these collaborations by providing representatives on committees and steering groups, sharing information, building capacity and offering support.
- The conference programme featured a series of presentations and workshops showcasing various structures, processes, community work, and policy developments from across the PPN spectrum. A highlight of the event was the excursions to PPN Limerick member groups' projects, including Kilmurry Arts and Heritage Centre in Castletroy, Northside Family Resource Centre, and excursions put together by Limerick Civic Trust.
- A range of workshops on projects and initiatives by local groups in Limerick were held including the Limerick Community Education Network, GOSHH (Gender, Orientation, Sexual Health, HIV), Killeedy Bio Park, Tait House Community Enterprise, the Step Forward Disability Group and University of Limerick Engage team.
- Membership of PPN Limerick continues to grow and stands at 228. The membership registration form is on the Limerick PPN [website](#) and eligible groups in Limerick can register at any time.

## Healthy Communities

October's activities under Sláintecare Healthy Communities offered diverse opportunities for health, inclusion, and engagement, enhancing community wellbeing and addressing health inequalities through accessible, community-based events.

- Aqua Move for Breast Cancer took place weekly on 05, 12, 19 and 24 October at St. Gabriel's Hydrotherapy Pool, providing supportive aquatic sessions to aid physical recovery and community integration for breast cancer patients.

- Aqua Move for Chronic Pain and Arthritis was held on 05, 12, 19 and 24 October at St. Gabriel's Hydrotherapy Pool, delivering adapted aquatic activities to improve mobility and social connection for individuals managing chronic pain and arthritis.
- Pilates for Chronic Pain and Arthritis ran weekly on 04, 11, 18 and 25 October at Tait Community Centre, supporting physical health and wellbeing through Pilates sessions that promote mobility and group engagement.
- Limerick Growing Communities Harvest Celebration was hosted by Croker's Farm on 13 October where there were seed swaps, guest speakers, garden tours, tastings of African, Asian and local fruits and vegetables and an opportunity to meet other Community Gardeners and Growing Enthusiasts.
- Putting the Garden to Bed Webinar took place on 17 October, led by Limerick Growing Communities, educating participants on winter garden preparation to support sustainable practices within the community.
- Waterways to Wellness: An Inclusive Fishing Adventure, took place on 23 October at Merchant's Quay, Limerick, in partnership with Inland Fisheries, Enable Ireland, Avista CLG, and Limerick Sports Partnership. This accessible fishing event provided interactive experiences like virtual reality boating and simulated fishing. The event promoted inclusivity and wellbeing, connecting people with disabilities to Limerick's natural environment.
- Garden Planning for 2025 Workshop took place on 29 October at Ballynancy Allotments by Limerick Growing Communities, guiding participants on sustainable gardening strategies for the upcoming year, fostering health and resilience.
- Halloween Fun in King's Island took place on 31 October at King's Island Community Allotments and Community Centre, offering family-friendly pumpkin carving and a disco, encouraging community connection and wellbeing.

# Executive Report



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

## Healthy Limerick

- Healthy Limerick led a promotional campaign across the first week of October to raise awareness of Limerick City and County Council's We're Breastfeeding Friendly Limerick campaign. New digital assets were created by Healthy Limerick and partners and shared on Limerick City and County Council's social media platforms, receiving almost 11,000 views.
- The Healthy Limerick Co-ordinator attended and participated in a Breastfeeding Symposium organised by the University of Limerick.
- The Healthy Limerick Co-ordinator attended a Helium Arts event in Limerick City Gallery of Art. This event formed part of a broader Showcase Exhibition held in the Gallery from 16 to 25 October. The Showcase is a celebration of participants' art, made by children and young people. Helium Arts improves the wellbeing of children and teenagers with lifelong physical health conditions through artist and youth-led workshops. Healthy Ireland and Creative Ireland nationally supported a project currently running in the Mid-West Region.

## 3. Culture

### Library

Limerick Libraries' new local studies website was officially launched by the Mayor of Limerick, John Moran, at the City Library on 03 October. The Mayor described the website as an 'incredible resource' for students, historians, and for anybody interested in Limerick's culture and history. Content of the site includes fully digitised books and journals, immense database tables of information, projects that were undertaken during the Decade of Centenaries, and 'then and now' photographs of the city and county, as well as video links to talks on various aspects of Limerick history. The website can be accessed at [limericklocalstudies.ie](http://limericklocalstudies.ie)

## City Library at Barrow House

- The City Library was delighted to host the Mayor of Limerick, John Moran, on 03 October to launch the new Local Studies website and a digital device lending programme for older adults, in partnership with Vodafone Foundation Ireland and ALONE.
- Limerick Mental Health Week was celebrated with a series of workshops in partnership with Limerick Mental Health Association. On 08 October a workshop was held on Managing Workplace Stress and Building Resilience. Across the rest of the week, the Library hosted a series of pop-up clinics from Body Tree featuring massage, reflexology and Indian head massage, a session of auricular acupuncture for destress and detox, and hand reflexology.
- The University of the Third Age's Irish and Spanish Language Conversation Groups and Crafting Group met at the branch during the month.
- The Limerick Branch of the Irish Wildlife Trust held meetings on 24 October and the Writepace Writers' Group on 12 October.
- There were 10 book club meetings in October and a Pop-Up Book Club for Halloween discussing Stephen King's terrifying classic 'The Shining' on 29 October.
- English Language students from Limerick and Clare Education and Training Board Student Campus and Limerick City College visited and joined the Library during the month.
- Children's Book Festival is synonymous with public libraries in the autumn months and the City Library celebrated the enjoyment of reading throughout October with a special programme of events:
  - Author Judi Curtin visited on 01 October and met with students from fourth class of Presentation Primary School.
  - Padraig Kenny had two classes from Scoil Iosagáin enthralled on 07 October when he spoke about his best-selling novels.

# Executive Report



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

- Award winning Helena Close lent her talents to some Creative Writing workshops with students from Scoil Íde on 11 October.
- Róisín Meaney, in addition to her regular monthly story time on 19 October, met with two classes from Monaleen National School for a fun, interactive story session on 22 October.
- And a special spooky-themed arts and craft workshop took place during mid-term with a full house of young artists in attendance on 30 October.
- Also for children in October, the City Library was delighted to host some Fighting Words workshops with classes from Limerick School Project and St. Mary's National School.
- The Library welcomed children from several schools during the month, including Autism Spectrum Disorder classes from Scoil Iosagáin, St. John the Baptist and Bohermore National School.
- Younger readers enjoyed stories and songs with weekly toddler story times.
- Biodiversity expert and author, Shane Casey, gave a talk on wildlife to classes from St. Patrick's Girls and St. Michael's National Schools on 15 October. This event was supported by Limerick City and County Council Biodiversity Office.

## Kilmallock Library

- For Bualadh Bos Children's Festival, pupils from Scoil Mocheallóg, Kilmallock National School, visited the library on 04 October for two performances of the beautiful "Goodnight Egg" with Dublin-based Bombinate Theatre Company.
- As part of Kilmallock Library's outreach programme, staff delivered a Little Readers session at Glenroe National School on 05 October with Glenroe Parent and Toddler Group. 32 children participated.

- Students from Kilbehenny National School visited on 22 October for a special Halloween morning full of scary stories, riddles, crafting and more as part of the Children's Book festival.
- Little Readers met on 20 October for a fun-filled session of Halloween-themed stories, songs and craft. 17 children participated.
- Kilmallock Library's Irish Conversation Circle met on 08 and 22 October.
- "Walk and Talk" group, facilitated by Limerick Sports Partnership, continued to meet at Kilmallock Library each Wednesday morning during October.
- Weekly Kilmallock Library Craft Group sessions continued on each Thursday morning.
- Bridge classes continued on each Wednesday in October.

## 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.
- Newcastle West Library hosted the Éigse Michael Hartnett Opening night on 03 October.
- Storytime with Carmel on 08 October marking Limerick Mental Health Week.

# Executive Report



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

- The library welcomed author, Helena Close, for a Creative Writing workshop on 10 October.
- Room on the Broom storytime with Liam on 24 October.

## Dooradoyle Library

- A number of events for Children's Book Festival took place throughout the month, including author visits, creative writing workshops and an interactive medieval history show. These events were attended by children from local primary and secondary schools.
- Comhlúadar Luimnígh held an Irish language comic book workshop for children on the first Saturday in October.
- On 10 October, the library welcomed Seán Ronayne, ornithologist and wildlife sound-recordist, for an illustrated talk on 'Irish Wildlife Sounds.' Seán has recorded the call of a huge number of bird species in Ireland and has won awards for his documentary film 'Birdsong.' This event was supported by Limerick City and County Council Biodiversity Office.
- Dooradoyle Library's latest exhibition, 'Local Heroes, Local Landscapes,' is an exhibition of art quilts by the Mid West Branch of the Irish Patchwork Society. The exhibition was officially opened on 11 October and ran for the month of October.
- On 12 October, the library held a special story-time for Limerick Mental Health Week.
- On 16 October, the Limerick branch of the Irish Countrywomen's Association (ICA) held its monthly meeting.
- To celebrate Bioeconomy Week, which ran from 14 – 20 October, the Marine Institute facilitated a workshop on Bioeconomy and the Ocean for third class pupils from St. Paul's National School.

- Halloween events included a spooky story-time and arts and crafts session for children. On 31 October, the library hosted 'Tales by the Fireside with Daithí,' which focussed on the celtic origins of Samhain and concluded with a singalong for children.
- Dooradoyle Book Club held its monthly meeting on the last Thursday of the month.
- Weekly Himalayan meditation sessions continued on Friday evenings.

## Watch House Cross Library

- Children's Book Festival opened with a visit from local children's author, Judi Curtin, with forty pupils from Mary Queen of Ireland Primary School, Caherdavin. The festival continued with Shane Casey, Biodiversity expert and author, who focused on the importance of seeing nature in everyday things with Sixth class from Corpus Christi Primary School.
- Staff at Watch House Cross were delighted to be part of Samhain Festival in collaboration with Lumen Street Theatre hosting two mask-making workshops with Fifth Class Thomond Primary School, and with Sixth Class from Corpus Christi Primary School.
- There were two Fighting Words creative writing workshops with Scoil Chriost Rí.
- Limerick writer, Helena Close, held two creative writing events with classes from Mary Queen of Ireland Caherdavin and Gaelscoil Sáirséal.
- A five-week perinatal mental health programme started in the library on 02 October. This programme provides support for the mental health needs of women during the antenatal period and up to one year after birth.
- Age Action continued to provide digital learning programmes for Adults with one-to-one tuition on a variety of devices.

# Executive Report



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

- Classes continuing throughout the month included Limerick and Clare Education and Training Board, English Language Class, Literacy through Computers, and Driver Theory.
- The Northside Family Resource Centre facilitated three felting classes on 17 October.
- The Friday adult book club met for a lively discussion of Michelle Gallen's, *The Factory Girls*.
- Thomond Community College Leaving Cert Applied visited the branch with 20 students interested in seeing the local studies collection to complete one of their course modules.
- Our Lady of Lourdes Autism Spectrum Disorder class visited to avail of the facilities in the sensory room and browse in the children's library. Gaelscoil Sáirseáil Sixth class and Thomond Primary Sixth class also came to browse and borrow.
- Little Seeds Childcare visited weekly with both of the pre-school year groups and the Northside Family Resource Centre pre-school group also visiting the library.
- The programme of events for mid-term break included the spooky film, *Transylvania Hotel*, Samhain Stories and Songs with Seanachaí Daithí, Halloween craft with storytime and a pop-up Lego Club. The Children's Book Festival events had 460 attendees.
- Crafty Saturday continued to be popular with a total of 90 participants over the month.
- Parent and Toddler Group storytime continued weekly.
- The Sensory Room had 70 bookings with 265 users.

## Local Studies

- There were 56 onsite visits to Local Studies, comprising research on the newspaper archives, databases, and local studies' holdings. There were 38 remote queries. The Department's Decade of Centenaries publication for 2024, *Limerick After the Civil War, 1923-1930* went to press. There was one class visit and a number of new acquisitions were added to stock.

## Abbeyfeale

- Craft Group continued to meet monthly, on the third Wednesday.

## Adare

- As part of the Children's Book Festival, Adare Library held a number of events including: Halloween Storytime and Arts and Craft Session, with 22 pupils from Manister National School, two workshops with author, Roisin Meaney, attended by 28 girls from Our Lady's Abbey and 25 pupils from St. Nicholas National School, and two events featuring Gabriel Fitzmaurice attended by over 40 boys from Scoil Naomh Iosaf.
- Concluding the month in the Halloween spirit, the branch held a Samhain storytelling event open to all. The event attracted nearly 60 children and adults. Daithí Collopy captivated the audience with engaging tales that celebrated the traditions of Samhain.
- Thirty-six children participated in a Halloween colouring competition, the 2020 Book Club held its monthly meeting and The Parent, Baby, and Toddler Group continued to meet every Thursday fostering a welcoming environment for parents and their children.

## Other Branches

- Limerick Mental Health Week 07 to 13 October, was celebrated with a series of themed storytimes in Newcastle West, Adare, Watch House Cross, Dooradoyle and City Library.

# Executive Report



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

- Children's Book Festival takes place throughout the month of October each year and this year Foynes, Roxboro, Rathkeale and Cappamore libraries welcomed 140 pupils from local primary schools and creches for special storytimes.
- Glin Library Book Club welcomed Donal Ryan on 18 October for a chat about life as an author and his most recent novel 'Heart, Be At Peace,' which the Book Club read for their October meeting. 58 people attended the weekly singing group, 10 the fortnightly craft group, and the branch welcomed 12 pupils from Second Class in the local primary school. The weekly family board games afternoon continued.
- Rathkeale: On 30 October, the branch welcomed thirty children who were participating in the West Limerick Resources led Halloween camp for a morning of crafts and stories.
- Children's author, Judi Curtin, visited Roxboro Library on 02 October as part of our programme of events for Childrens' Book Festival. The pupils from Fourth Class in Our lady Queen of Peace attended.

## Limerick City Gallery of Art (LCGA)

- The exhibition, *Spontaneous Self*, by Vivienne Bogan, continued through October. This is Bogan's first major institutional show in Limerick. A graduate of Limerick School of Art and Design, Bogan has had an illustrious career with work in several public and private collections nationally and internationally. The launch of a publication for Vivienne Bogan's exhibition took place on 31 October at 2pm.
- *Odysseys of Self*, an exhibition by Tina O'Connell, recipient of LCGA's Graduate Exhibition Award 2024, ended on 06 October. This is an annual award to a graduate of Limerick School of Art and Design who demonstrates ambition and dedication to their practice. The exhibition was very well received.
- *Patching Femininity* by Polish artist, Olga Anacka, explored and challenged visual representations of femininity and the female body in western culture. The exhibition ran until 25 October and was part of the Polish Arts Festival programme for 2024.
- LCGA continued to exhibit a selection of works from the Permanent Collections on a rotation basis using separate exhibition galleries within the building. The exhibitions display recent works donated and acquired, as well as works which are firm favourites, to local and international visitors.
- Visitor numbers for the month of October exceeded 6,000.
- On 08 October, LCGA facilitated a workshop with the Irish World Academy of Music and Dance, University of Limerick, where the students spent the day at LCGA composing music in response to the current exhibitions. This is the fourth year of this innovative collaboration.
- LCGA continued to collaborate and facilitate workshops with Helium Arts and hosted an event for the family participants on 19 October and the launch of their exhibition on 23 October.
- LCGA continued to facilitate meetings for the University of the Third Age (U3A).
- LCGA continued to host visiting primary, secondary and third level students coming to view the exhibitions on display.
- Two works by Sarah Purser from LCGA Permanent Collections are on loan to the Hugh Lane Gallery for the major exhibition, *More Power to You*.
- LCGA continued to prepare for Museums Standard Programme for Ireland (MSPI) accreditation with the Heritage Council.

# Executive Report



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

## Limerick Museum

- On 08 October, in Limerick Museum, Councillor Maria Donoghue, acting on behalf of the Mayor of Limerick, John Moran, performed the official opening of To Jack, an exhibition by Clare Lyons, curated by Catriona Osborne. Clare Lyons is a visual artist and photographer from Dublin, currently based between Bath and Bristol. She holds an MFA in Photography from the Belfast School of Art in Ulster University. Clare's practice finds its concern in the tactile nature of the photographic image. To Jack, derived from the Lyons family archive, was a deeply personal exhibition that intertwined the narrative of Clare Lyons and her father, Jack Lyons, into the fabric of societal history. The exhibition was on display until the end of October.
- On 10 October, the Príomh Chomhairleoir of Limerick City and County Council, Councillor Dan McSweeney, performed the official opening of Remembering Krups 25 Years Later, an exhibition by Limerick Museum and Limerick Enterprise Development Partnership (LEDP), celebrating the impact of Krups Engineering in Limerick between 1963 and 1999. The official opening was held in the LEDP Campus, Roxboro Road, in the presence of His Excellency, Mr David Gill, German Ambassador Designate to Ireland. Curated by Limerick Museum, and in collaboration with University of Limerick's Centre for Irish-German Studies, the exhibition consisted of a collection of artefacts, photographs and memorabilia representing the rich history of the factory and was on display in the LEDP Campus for three weeks.
- On 01 October, as part of the successful outreach programme, the Museum held a lecture on the 200 Years of Achievement: The Dunraven Family and Limerick, exhibition for the Limerick 922 Probus Club.
- On 05 October, the fifth and sixth class students from Caherelly National School, Ballybricken, Grange, Kilmallock, visited the Museum and were given a guided tour.

- The Limerick Museum exhibition 200 Years of Achievement: The Dunraven Family and Limerick, continued in Saint Mary's Cathedral throughout October.
- The pop-up exhibition, Objects of the Revolution in East Limerick, continued in the Museum throughout October.

## Limerick Arts Office

### Arts Office and Creative Ireland Programmes

#### Decade of Centenaries

"Her Skies, Our Voices" was launched on 31 October in Newcastle West library. This was a collaborative creative writing project between playwright and producer, Ella Daly, aviation expert, Ruth Bagnell, and young women from Newcastle West, centred on the life of Sophie Peirce-Evans, also known as Lady Mary Heath. The project explored creative writing in the creative non-fiction genre and included research into the subject's life, including a visit to Weston Airport to see and sit in an open cockpit aircraft, the likes of which she would have flown.

The website is now available [www.ladymaryheath.ie](http://www.ladymaryheath.ie) and contains the creative writings, biographical information, photos and videos pertaining to Sophie Peirce-Evans, all in one place. This project aims to be the start of a digital resource on Lady Mary Heath and will further her legacy into the future. The project was supported by the community of Newcastle West and the aviation sector. The project was supported through Decade of Centenaries Funding with subsequent private sponsorship from Aero Inspection International and Atlantic Flight Training Academy.

# Executive Report



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

## Contemporary Cities Project

Work commenced in October under a new partnership between Limerick Arts Office and Hard Rain Soloist Ensemble, Belfast. Founded in 2013, Hard Rain is a world class group of musicians dedicated to the performance of modern and contemporary music. The new 'Contemporary Cities' project aims to create partnership music projects between Limerick and Belfast.

On 21 October, the ensemble delivered workshops on contemporary music score reading, performance and composition to students and teachers in Limerick School of Music. The ensemble performed in Castleconnell on 22 October, performing contemporary music which shows a connection between the composers in Belfast and the West of Ireland, plus present music which is both beautifully atmospheric and with a strong narrative behind it to entice listeners.

This was the third concert of the Castleconnell Autumn Concert Series, which 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 at All Saints Church and are recorded for a future broadcast on RTE Lyric FM, The Full Score Programme with Liz Nolan.

Children and young people from two Abbeyfeale national schools, and Foróige, participated in a morning of interactive contemporary music with Hard Rain in Glorach Theatre on 23 October. The workshop included demonstration of classical instruments and music, techniques, sounds and interactive conducting and song. This project was funded by Creative Ireland.

## Síolta Glasá

The Creative Climate Action project, Síolta Glasá, currently being delivered by Creative Ireland Limerick in partnership with Climate Action, held the second of their storytelling workshops for participating creatives and communities on 29 October. The workshop was facilitated by Dr. Fergal Quinn and the UL School of English, Irish and Communication.

## Artists' Studios, Apartments, and Tyrone Guthrie

An invited panel of three external professionals met on 08 October to assess applications and make recommendations on allocation of two single-occupancy artists' apartments, one artist studio, and three Tyrone Guthrie Bursaries.

## Artists Professional Development Programme - Visual Artists Ireland

A presentation, led by Fiona Byrne, on Artist in Schools programmes, was delivered in partnership with Visual Artists Ireland. This workshop was free to Limerick-based artists as part of the Limerick Arts Office professional development supports in the region.

## Éigse Michael Hartnett

Éigse Micheal Hartnett opened on 03 October, with events, readings, talks, exhibitions and music presented in Newcastle West. The literary and arts festival continued until 06 October. This festival is part of Limerick Arts Office rural excellence strand and is funded in part through Arts Council partnership funding and by Limerick City and County Council funding.

The Michael Hartnett Poetry Award, which is funded by Limerick Arts Office and the Municipal District of Newcastle West, was presented to poet, Tara Bergin, by the Mayor of Limerick, John Moran, on 03 October.

**Newcastle West Music Café** (pilot project) commenced in October, with meet-ups being held each week. Developed in partnership with West Limerick Resources and funded under the Limerick Creative Communities programme, the project aims to create connections, share stories, songs and music.

**King's Island/St. Mary's Youth Drama** also commenced in October. This is a pilot project to develop possibilities in community theatre, in cooperation with the Limerick Youth Diversion project, and is funded under the Limerick Creative Communities Programme.

# Executive Report



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

## 4. Property Management

Dereliction, Vacancy and Reuse Team	
Site Inspections Completed	108
Department Notices of Inquiry issued	9
Derelict Sites Cases opened	10
Statutory Notices served under the Derelict Sites Act 1990	22
Derelict Sites Cases closed through engagement	8
Properties entered into the Derelict Sites Register	5
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



# Executive Report



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

## Regeneration, Sports and Recreation

### 1. Regeneration and Sports

#### Regeneration

##### Economic Regeneration

- Limerick City and County Council, in partnership with TUS Midwest and the Limerick and Clare Education and Training Board (LCETB), held a Jobs Fair in St. Mary's Park on 10 October. Over 20 employers, educational and training partners were there to discuss a wide range of opportunities available to the community. Over 140 people attended the Jobs Fair which forms part of the strategy for the Outreach to Employment Programme.
- The Outreach to Employment Co-ordinator facilitated a site visit to the National Learning Network (NLN) centre in Raheen Technological Park on 17 October for the Community Mentors and met with the NLN Employment Co-ordinator to discuss opportunities available to people from age 16 who wish to be supported into education or employment and training.
- The Outreach to Employment Co-ordinator also facilitated a site visit to the LCETB College of Further Education and Training, O'Connell Avenue Campus, on 23 October for the Community Mentors to discuss access to a range of courses available across the LCETB campuses.
- The Employment Project Group met in Southill Hub on 15 October to plan for the final Jobs Fair for 2024 in Southill Hub.
- On 07 October, an online meet-and-greet took place for staff from the Regeneration Directorate and staff of Verizon Limerick who were briefed on the Outreach to Employment Programme.

#### Social Regeneration

##### Community Activities

###### King's Island

- Weekly events such as Crafty Mondays, Family Learnings, Lego Club and Bingo continued in King's Island Community Centre.
- Local children participated in the Samhain Parade, organised by Lumen Street Theatre, held on 26 October, which travelled through the city.
- A Pumpkin Patch event was held on 25 October in St. Mary's Park Allotments which was well attended by both children and adults from the community. This event was led by PAUL Partnership and community residents of St. Mary's Park.

###### Moyross

- Boxercise, Functional Fitness and Activator Walking were among a number of weekly programmes run in Moyross Youth Academy and Moyross Community Enterprise Centre, in conjunction with Limerick Local Sports Partnership.
- A Halloween Event for children took place in Moyross Community Enterprise Centre on 31 October.

###### Southill

- Students of Architecture at the University of Limerick were given a detailed presentation on the ongoing restoration works at Turner's Vinery on the grounds of Tait House. Local Councillors and Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage staff were also in attendance, as the contractor and other stakeholders explained the restoration process.
- Delivery of community education classes in gardening and crafts continued in Tait House.

# Executive Report



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- Tait House co-ordinated the delivery of a digital literacy training programme to clients of Mid-West Simon Community.
- Limerick Growing Communities events continued during October - in partnership with Sláintecare Healthy Communities Programme and PAUL Partnership.
- The annual Halloween Pumpkin Patch event saw more than 100 local children enjoy this activity, during their mid-term break.

## Ballinacurra Weston

- Our Lady of Lourdes National School celebrated the first anniversary of the HAPPEE Project (Health Alliance for Practice-based Professional Education and Engagement), on 21 October. The celebrations included a choir performance by pupils, in addition to the sharing of key insights from stakeholders as to the importance of the project and the benefits for the participants. It is part-funded by Limerick City and County Council, and is currently delivered in six local primary schools, in partnership with the University of Limerick and St. Gabriel's Foundation.
- The four recently introduced Community Companions supported the local community to restore the grotto at Clarina Avenue/Crecora Avenue. Over 40 community members were involved in the clean-up and restoration works. This was funded under the Health, Wellbeing and Ageing Well Call of the Economic and Social Intervention Fund (ESIF).
- Our Lady of Lourdes (OLOL) Community Services Group hosted a townhall-style community consultation, supported by the Regeneration Education call, to explore a bespoke funding model for the centre. With 34 attendees, the event brought together diverse voices from across the community. Maria O'Dwyer joined as a researcher, gathering insights to help shape this tailored model.
- Two local after-school practitioners were hired this month. This is to help with an after-school club for 15 Junior Infants who attend Our Lady of Lourdes

National School. This is held within the OLOL Community Centre and provides a safe and supportive environment for 5-7 year-old children. This was funded via the Education and Learning Call, through ESIF.

## Physical Regeneration

### Housing Developments

- Works progressed on the infill housing at Carew Park and in Moyross. The works are for a total of 24 rapid build units at Carew Park, Southill and Delmege Park/ Hartigan Villas in Moyross.
- Construction works moved towards completion on the Dalgaish Park and Cosgrave Park development at Moyross.
- The Sheep Street Development, comprising of eight social housing units, reached Substantial Completion in early October.
- Construction works progressed on Blocks 3 and 5 at Churchfield, Southill (Phase 2).
- Design works progressed towards lodgement of a Section 179A application for the 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) - nearing completion with snagging in progress.

# Executive Report



Comhairle Cathrach  
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& County Council

- Thermal Upgrade Contract No. 128 / 129 (25 houses in St. Mary's Park) - progressing on site.
- Thermal Upgrade Contract No. 131A (29 houses in Southill / Ballinacurra Weston) - currently with the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage for Stage 3 approval.
- Stage 3 approval submitted to the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage for the final 29 houses in Southill and Ballinacurra Weston, which will conclude the Thermal Upgrade programme of work on the Southside.

## House Refurbishments

### Lot 4a Major Refurbishments - Nine Properties

- Lot 4a Scheme 1 (three houses) - now complete with the final house, 11 Aster Court, reaching Substantial Completion in October.
- Lot 4a Scheme 2 and 3 (six houses) - work in October saw two properties closer to completion.

### Lot 4b Major Refurbishments - 11 Properties

- Lot 4b Tender Pack 1 (three houses) - progressing on site.
- Lot 4b Tender Pack 2 (five houses) - contract awarded to Dolmen Contracting Ltd. during October.
- Lot 4b Tender Pack 3 (three houses) - Stage 1 approval received from the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage with work progressing towards the submission of the next stage.

## Minor Refurbishments

- Contactors currently on site at four properties that are at various stages of refurbishment works.
- Contractors have been appointed for 31 St. Brendan's Street, St. Mary's Park, 85 St. Ita's Street, 246 Valley View, O'Malley Park.
- The tendering process continued for refurbishment works on four additional properties.

## Infrastructure Projects

### Southside Connectivity Project

- Part 8 planning application approved at the October Metropolitan District Meeting.
- Consultants continued the detailed design of the scheme.

### Thomond Rugby Football Club Extension

- Detailed design works continued for enhancements to the boundary of this sporting facility in Moyross.

### Colivet Court Apartments

- Q3 Security Group have completed the upgrade to the vehicle and pedestrian access gates. Substantial progress was made with the upgrade of intercom system.
- Lift now fitted to accommodate access to a select number of first floor apartments. Currently awaiting connection of the lift infrastructure to the internal monitoring system before fully commissioning their use by residents.

# Executive Report



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## King's Island Community Centre

- The appointed Integrated Design Team, led by Paul Keogh Architects, in consultation with the Working Group, continuing to advance design proposals for the King's Island Community Centre.

## Limerick Sports Partnership (LSP)

- LSP secured €138,750 under the National Participation Nation Sports Infrastructure and Biodiversity Supports Fund. This funding is for the development of a six lane Lawn Bowls Court. It will be the first of its kind in the Mid-West. Initial discussions were held with additional funders and partners, with a view to getting this project completed in 2025.
- 15 Sports Club Officers across the city and county have commenced our 12-week LEVEL 6 Sports Administration course. This programme is delivered in partnership with TUS and will help the identified sports clubs to develop best practice at club level and create a development plan to support on and off field activities.
- Funding was secured to recruit a Network Communications Officer to support Limerick LSP two days a week and the network of LSPs for three days a week. This role will be a great addition to the LSP team and will enhance the communication footprint.
- Limerick LSP was a host site for the EU Erasmus Youth Sport Network tour. Limerick staff met Youth Sport Officers from eight EU countries to share and discuss best practice in supporting sport and physical activity opportunities for youths from marginalised and disadvantaged communities. The developments in O'Brien Park and the Sports Hubs in Garryowen and Moyross Enterprise Centre were highlighted as key examples of best practice.

- Limerick LSP Active Cities staff attended the PACTE+ Project (Promoting Active Cities Throughout Europe) in Angers, France. The Active mobility pillar was the theme for the workshop, and LSP had the opportunity to share good examples from Limerick City.
- For more information on programmes and activities visit [www.limericksports.ie](http://www.limericksports.ie)

## Council Sporting Facilities

### Limerick Regional Athletics Hub (LRAH)

- During October, 268 people used the track.
- A total of 65 signed up as new users during October.
- Local Club, West Limerick Athletics Club, had 80 juvenile members and 60 adults training weekly during this month.
- St. Mary's Athletics Club had 80 juvenile members training weekly.
- West Limerick Athletics Club began a Couch to 5K event. This had the maximum allowed 100 attendees weekly throughout the month.

### Rathbane Golf Course

- 2,283 rounds of golf were played by members during October.
- Several nine-hole and eighteen-hole competitions were held during the month, for male and female members, with a total of 98 competition rounds.
- Green fees accounted for 687 rounds of golf, with 29% (197) students, while 22% (151) were Juniors.
- PBC Ltd. have commenced Energy Upgrade works to the clubhouse with a total investment of €97,550.98 (inclusive of VAT). This project is funded by the Sports Capital Programme and Limerick City and County Council.

# Executive Report



Comhairle Cathrach  
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& County Council

- It was announced that the course was awarded Public Golf Course of the year by the All-Ireland Business Foundation. This is the fifth year in a row that the award has been won by Rathbane.

## Grove Island Leisure Centre

- The most recent monthly figures for pay-as-you-go customers show 1,391 users of the Pool, Gym, Fitness Classes and Aqua Classes.
- Members used the Pool, Gym, Fitness and Aqua Classes a combined 6,336 times during the same period. The Leisure Centre has 1,086 members.
- 13 Schools (12 primary and one secondary), mainly from the local area, engaged with swimming lessons.
- There are five local swimming clubs who continued to use the facility during October.

## Other Sporting Facilities

- Improvement works to the perimeter of the handball alley in St. Mary's Park were completed.

## 2. Askeaton Pool and Leisure Designated Activity Company (DAC)

### Askeaton Pool and Leisure

Martins Construction Ltd. continued to advance the civil engineering and mechanical works at Askeaton Pool and Leisure Centre, Askeaton.



# Executive Report



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## Housing

### 1. Housing Support Services

#### Housing Waiting List

Approved Housing Applicants	2,724
Approved Tenant Transfer Applicants	428

#### Closed Housing Applications

	October	Year to Date
Closed Applications	284	826

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 October	Year to Date
Adare-Rathkeale	3	14
Newcastle West	3	27
Metropolitan District	49	258
Cappamore-Kilmallock	2	40
<b>Total</b>	<b>57</b>	<b>339</b>

#### Refusals

	No. of Units October	Year to Date
Adare-Rathkeale	0	0
Newcastle West	0	0
Metropolitan District	7	29
Cappamore-Kilmallock	0	8
<b>Total</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>37</b>

#### Approved Housing Body Allocations 2024 (year to date)

Total Nominations	Successful Nominations	Nominations Pending	Unsuccessful Nominations
244	133	93	18

# Executive Report



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## Rental Accommodation Scheme (RAS)

Private Tenancies	638
Capital Assistance Scheme/Rental Accommodation Scheme Tenancies	604
Part V	0
New Private Tenancies	0
New Voluntary Housing Tenancies	15

## Housing Assistance Payments (HAP) Limerick

1,937 active HAP Tenancies monitored, reviewed and maintained.

No. of HAP tenancies set up this month	9
No. of Amendments	403
No. of Cessations	30

## Rent Collection

Rent Collection Limerick City and County Council					
Opening Balance	Accrued Income	Total for collection	Receipts	Closing Balance	% Collection
€6,731,013	€18,400,054	€25,131,067	€16,946,334	€8,184,733	68%

# Executive Report



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**& County Council**

## Home Improvement Schemes

October 2024		Adare-Rathkeale	Newcastle West	Metropolitan	Cappamore-Kilmallock	Total
Mobility Aid Grants	No. Approved	0	2	1	0	<b>3</b>
	MAG Expenditure	€0.00	€2,300.00	€18,600.00	€0.00	<b>€20,900.00</b>
	No. Paid	0	1	5	0	<b>6</b>
Housing Adaptation Grants	No. Approved	0	10	35	8	<b>53</b>
	HAG Expenditure	€6,587.50	€76,729.94	€193,416.20	€46,037.58	<b>€322,771.22</b>
	No. Paid	1	11	26	5	<b>43</b>
Housing Aid for Older People	No. Approved	1	24	46	17	<b>88</b>
	HOP Expenditure	€22,326.25	€62,483.10	€211,026.13	€41,930.25	<b>€337,765.73</b>
	No. Paid	7	14	43	11	<b>75</b>
Disabled Person's Grant	DPG Expenditure	€0.00	€0.00	€64,498.61	€33,578.98	<b>€98,077.59</b>
	No. Paid	0	0	4	4	<b>8</b>

<b>Total No. Approved</b>	<b>144</b>
<b>Total Monies Paid</b>	<b>€779,514.54</b>
<b>Total No. Paid</b>	<b>132</b>

# Executive Report



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## Home Improvement Schemes - Year to Date

January - October 2024		Adare-Rathkeale	Newcastle West	Metropolitan	Cappamore-Kilmallock	Total
Mobility Aid Grants	No. Approved	7	7	32	3	<b>49</b>
	MAG Expenditure	€24,879.00	€16,750.00	€118,821.43	€14,106.48	<b>€174,556.91</b>
	No. Paid	8	7	31	4	<b>50</b>
Housing Adaptation Grants	No. Approved	46	65	197	35	<b>343</b>
	HAG Expenditure	€231,197.87	€431,839.20	€1,654,696.87	€340,790.96	<b>€2,658,524.90</b>
	No. Paid	30	60	181	43	<b>314</b>
Housing Aid for Older People	No. Approved	104	149	299	90	<b>642</b>
	HOP Expenditure	€283,783.76	€528,839.14	€1,307,854.70	€315,141.39	<b>€2,435,618.99</b>
	No. Paid	71	122	317	72	<b>582</b>
Disabled Person's Grant	DPG Expenditure	€19,334.73	€12,581.78	€388,873.46	€97,566.31	<b>€518,356.28</b>
	No. Paid	3	2	23	10	<b>38</b>

YTD Total No. Approved	<b>1,034</b>
YTD Total Monies Paid	<b>€5,787,057.08</b>
YTD Total No. Paid	<b>984</b>

# Executive Report



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## Community Sustainment Unit

### Tenancy Inductions

	October	Year to Date
No. of Tenancy Inductions	46	293

### Repossessions

	October	Year to Date
Repossession of Council properties	14	106

### House Visits

	October	Year to Date
No. of House Visits	289	2,744

### Garda Checks

	October	Year to Date
Garda Checks processed	151	1,092

### Microsoft Dynamics Cases

	October	Year to Date
Active cases at month-end	386	386
Cases closed during month	111	782

# Executive Report



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

Date: 14.10.2024		
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	62
Thomond House	Higher threshold accommodation for single females	22
St. Joseph Street	Higher threshold accommodation for single females	6
B&B (no children)	Adults without children accommodated in B&B	66
Temporary Emergency Provision TEP 1 (Edenvilla)	Low threshold, night-by-night (9pm-9am) emergency accommodation. Mixed	13
Phoenix Lodge	Low threshold emergency accommodation for single adults	10
<b>Total</b>		<b>211</b>

Families				
Location	Description	Beds Used		
		Adults	Children	Families
Suaimhneas	Family Emergency accommodation	6	8	6
B&B/Hotel Accommodation	Families	137	153	85
Twin Oaks Family Hub	Family Hub	11	16	10
<b>Totals</b>		<b>Adults</b>	<b>Children</b>	<b>Families</b>
		<b>154</b>	<b>177</b>	<b>101</b>

# Executive Report



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	October	YTD
<b>Tenant Purchase</b>		
Tenant Purchase Applications: No. received	3	66
Tenant Purchase Applications: No. approved	1	37
<b>Local Authority Home Loans</b>		
Loan Applications: No. received	2	54
Loan Applications: No. approved	2	19
<b>Deed of Discharge</b>		
Deed of Discharge Applications: No. Received	13	166
<b>Consent to Sale</b>		
Consent to Sale Applications: No. Received	6	53
<b>Cottage Purchase Annuity</b>		
No. of Cottage Purchase Annuity Applications	3	33
<b>Ground Rent</b>		
No. of Ground Rent applications	2	41
<b>Title</b>		
Title Deeds Received/Requested	30	136
Title Rectifications Received	1	8
<b>Private Rented Inspections</b>		
No. of Inspections	153	3,215

## Freedom of Information, Data Requests and Ombudsman

<b>Freedom of Information requests</b>	7
<b>Ombudsman Query Cases</b>	4
<b>Data Access Requests</b>	1

## 2. Housing Welfare and Traveller Accommodation

### \* Traveller Accommodation

<b>No. of Units offered October</b>	1
<b>Year to Date</b>	19

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

### Housing Welfare Referrals/Visits

<b>No. of Referrals/Visits October</b>	20
<b>Year to Date</b>	214

# Executive Report



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& County Council

## 3. Local Authority Housing Construction and Maintenance

### Local Authority Housing Construction

House Returns October	
<b>Total</b>	<b>15</b>

House Returns October By Municipal District	
Adare-Rathkeale	1
Cappamore-Kilmallock	1
Newcastle West	4
Metropolitan District	9
<b>Total</b>	<b>15</b>

During October, the Local Authority Housing Construction Team was notified of one house returned in the Municipal District of Adare-Rathkeale, one in the Municipal District of Cappamore-Kilmallock, four in the Municipal District of Newcastle West and nine in the Metropolitan District of Limerick.

Current Working Programme		
	Completed in October	In Progress
<b>Local Authority Construction Team</b>		
Major Refurbishments	5	66
Tenant in Situ Works	9	41
<b>Local Authority Maintenance Team</b>		
Minor Refurbishments	5	76
Major Refurbishments	4	43
<b>Regeneration Team</b>		
Major Refurbishments	9	27
Minor Refurbishments	0	16
<b>Total</b>	<b>32</b>	<b>269</b>
Approved Housing Body stock transfer in process	0	15

- In October, work on 14 properties was completed by the Local Authority Housing Construction Team, work on nine properties was completed by the Local Authority Maintenance Team and work on nine properties was completed by the Regeneration Team.
- There are three teams in Limerick City and County Council assigned to refurbish properties. As of October, the Local Authority Construction Team was in the process of completing works on 107 properties, Local Authority Maintenance was working on 119 properties and the Regeneration Team was working on 43 properties.
- Approved Housing Body stock transfer in process 15 properties.

# Executive Report



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## Project Updates

- Stage 4 application submitted to the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage for refurbishment works at three properties in Croom, Oola and Bruff.
- Stage 3 application submitted to the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage for construction of four housing units in Radharc an Gleann, Mountcollins.
- Stage 4 application submitted to the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage for refurbishment works at property in Kennedy Park, Limerick.
- Stage 4 application submitted to the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage for refurbishment works at property in Deebert, Kilmallock.
- Stage 4 application submitted to the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage for construction of 11 housing units in Cluain Dara, Broadford.
- Stage 1 approval received from Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage for construction of three housing units at Wolfe Tone Street, Kilmallock.
- Contractor appointed for refurbishment works at properties in The Paddocks, Newcastle West and Millmount, Kilmallock.
- Mechanical and Electrical Engineering Consultant appointed for services at 35 properties in City and County.
- Consultant appointed for provision of Project Supervisor Design Process services at five projects in City and County.
- Part 8 application submitted for 20 housing units in Ballycummin, Raheen.
- Design Consultant appointed for housing project at Ros Mor, Kilmallock Road.
- Tender competition gone out for Design Consultants at seven units in William Street, Limerick.

## Finance

- Applications for funding totalling €2,248,670.62 issued to the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage.
- Limerick City and County Council recouped €1,845,719.00 from the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage.

# Executive Report



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## Local Authority Housing Maintenance

### Local Authority Houses: Maintenance Complaints dealt with during October

Housing Maintenance Cases - October	Requests/Cases Created	Cases Dealt With/Closed	Balance of Open Cases at 31.10.2024
Metropolitan District of Limerick	953	1,117	1,140
Municipal District of Adare-Rathkeale	95	57	442
Municipal District of Cappamore-Kilmallock	136	89	457
Municipal District of Newcastle West	132	98	648
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>1,316</b>	<b>1,361</b>	<b>2,687</b>

## Grants Inspections

### Metropolitan District of Limerick - Inspections and Recommendations for Home Improvement Schemes/Disability Adaptations - October

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)	1	11	1	10	23
HOPS (Housing Aid for Older Persons Grant Scheme)	1	23	0	2	26
DPGs (Disabled Persons Grant)	0	0	3	5	8
<b>Total Inspections by Inspection Type</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>35</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>59</b>

# Executive Report



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**& County Council**

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

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	1	1
HAGs (Housing Adaptation Grant Scheme)	0	7	0	6	13
HOPS (Housing Aid for Older Persons Grant Scheme)	0	24	1	8	33
DPGs (Disabled Persons Grant)	0	1	0	2	3
<b>Total Inspections by Inspection Type</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>32</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>50</b>

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

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	1	1
HAGs (Housing Adaptation Grant Scheme)	0	2	0	11	13
HOPS (Housing Aid for Older Persons Grant Scheme)	0	2	0	14	16
DPGs (Disabled Persons Grant)	0	1	0	2	3
<b>Total Inspections by Inspection Type</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>33</b>

# Executive Report



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

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	9	0	11	20
HOPS (Housing Aid for Older Persons Grant Scheme)	0	25	0	14	39
DPGs (Disabled Persons Grant)	0	0	0	1	1
<b>Total Inspections by Inspection Type</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>35</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>62</b>

## HOUSE INSPECTIONS UNIT

Houses Inspected for Refurbishment Works and Re-Letting - October - Categories	No. of Properties Inspected
Cat 1 – minor repairs needed	0
Cat 2 – moderate repairs needed	8
Cat 3 – substantial repairs needed	4
Cat 4 – major repairs needed	0
<b>TOTAL INSPECTIONS CARRIED OUT</b>	<b>12</b>
No. of Properties Awaiting Inspection	16

## DEFECTIVE BLOCKWORK SCHEME APPLICATIONS

Applications Registered October	3
RFI Applications (Request Further Information) October	2
Applications Referred to Housing Agency	2
Applications – Damage Threshold Met	3
Remediation Option Grant Approved	10
Remediation Option Grant Refused	0
<b>Total Applications Registered – Year to Date</b>	<b>38</b>

# Executive Report



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## 4. Strategy & Non-Local Authority Housing Construction

### SOCIAL HOUSING – Delivery for 2024

Buy/Build/Lease as of 31.10.2024 is as follows:

As at 31.10.2024 (01.01.2024 – 31.10.2024)	Complete	In Progress	Overall Complete and In Progress	“Housing for All” 2024 Delivery Target
Build	77	291	368	513
Buy *	100	30	130	100
Lease	12	8	20	44
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>189</b>	<b>329</b>	<b>518</b>	

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

### Notice of Termination Figures

The following outlines the number of cases received in October and Cumulative to date (CTD) since March 2023 in relation to Notice of Termination properties:

Category	Activity in October	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	6	8
Proposals being reviewed	8	55
Sale Agreed	3	38
Purchase Completed	17	134
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	11	403
Owner Reoccupying - Notice of Termination comes into the Council – however, owner or family member wishes to reside in property	5	51
Income above social housing limit (i.e., Cost Rental Tenant in Situ)	5	60
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>55</b>	<b>749</b>

# Executive Report



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## Social Housing – Project Submissions and Approvals

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

Social Housing Capital Expenditure Programme - Mortgage to Rent	Approval for the leasing of one unit in Foynes, Co. Limerick	Municipal District of Adare-Rathkeale
Notice to Quit (NTQ)	Approval for the acquisition of one unit in Patrickswell, Co. Limerick	Metropolitan District of Limerick
Capital Assistance Scheme (CAS)	Approval for the Turnkey delivery of one unit in Garryowen, Limerick	Metropolitan District of Limerick
Capital Assistance Scheme (CAS)	Approval for the Turnkey delivery of 10 units in Clare Street, Limerick	Metropolitan District of Limerick
Capital Assistance Scheme (CAS)	Stage 1 approval for the Construction of seven units in Lord Edward Street, Limerick	Metropolitan District of Limerick
Capital Assistance Scheme (CAS)	Approval for the Turnkey delivery of nine units in Bourke Avenue, Limerick	Metropolitan District of Limerick
Capital Assistance Scheme (CAS)	Approval for the acquisition of five units in Cecil Street, Limerick	Metropolitan District of Limerick

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

Capital Advance Leasing Facility (CALF)	Approved Housing Body CALF Turnkey submission for 32 units at Knockhill, Ennis Road- Clúid Housing Association	Metropolitan District of Limerick
Social Housing Investment Programme (SHIP) Turnkey	Approval for the Acquisition of one unit in Bridge Street, Knocklong, Co. Limerick	Municipal District of Cappamore-Kilmallock
Social Housing Capital Expenditure Programme - Long Term Leasing	Submission for the leasing of one unit in Clonmacken Court, Clonmacken, Limerick	Metropolitan District of Limerick



# Executive Report

## Affordable Housing – Delivery for 2023-2026

Scheme	District	Type	No. of Units	Proposal Updates in October
Toppins Field Lands	Metropolitan District of Limerick	Affordable Purchase Affordable Housing Fund	28 (Phase 1)	Alternative layouts for access and tree retention continued. A draft masterplan for the second phase was further developed to show the impact of tree retention. Meetings held with Limerick City and County Council Active Travel on the east-west link funding possibilities.
Toppins Field Lands	Metropolitan District of Limerick	Affordable Purchase Affordable Housing Fund	116 (Phases 2-4)	The National Development Finance Agency issued the tender for Design Consultants for Lot 7 of the social Public Private Partnership Scheme, to include for the wider masterplan at Toppins Field.
Guinness Site	Metropolitan District of Limerick	Cost Rental Affordable Housing Fund	255	Working Group meeting was held and latest design iterations under review.
Clonmacken Lands	Metropolitan District of Limerick	Affordable Purchase Affordable Housing Fund	15	Justification test Tender was advanced throughout October.
Sonny's Lands	Metropolitan District of Limerick	Cost Rental Affordable Housing Fund	19	Design Team meetings held and ongoing.  Additional site surveys were procured to include extended Fosse area.  Archaeological report complete and under review.  Site investigation procurement under evaluation to appoint winning tender.  Viability Study design under review by multi-disciplinary design team in pre-planning design phase and briefing meeting held with Mayor.  Conceptual work for the community functions and public realm for the “Fosse” linear park was advanced. Further meetings held regarding possible EU funding sources.

# Executive Report



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Scheme	District	Type	No. of Units	Proposal Updates in October
Curragower	Metropolitan District of Limerick	Affordable Purchase Affordable Housing Fund	6	Work continued on the pre-planning design. Team reviewing the extent of the public community facilities in the scheme with the possibility of extending to public roofscape. Fire and access strategy under review.
Speaker's Corner	Metropolitan District of Limerick	Cost Rental Expression of Interest Site with Approved Housing Body	18	Work continued on the progression of the land transfer during October. Site investigations took place to prepare for the construction phase.
New Road, Thomondgate	Metropolitan District of Limerick	Cost Rental Expression of Interest Site with Approved Housing Body	22	Judicial Review in progress. Project on hold.
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 October. Affordable Housing Fund viability testing underway.
Munget Site	Metropolitan District of Limerick	Affordable Purchase Local Infrastructure Housing Activation Fund	181	Work continued on the progression of this proposal during October. Limerick City and County Council awaiting the Affordable Housing Fund subsidy approval from the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage. Meetings held with the Land Development Agency and Clúid every two weeks.
The Mills, Castletroy	Metropolitan District of Limerick	Affordable Cost Rental	100	Work continued on the progression of this proposal during October.

# Executive Report



Comhairle Cathrach  
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**& County Council**

Scheme	District	Type	No. of Units	Proposal Updates in October
Knockhill, Ennis Road	Metropolitan District of Limerick	Affordable Cost Rental	12	Work continued on the progression of this proposal during October.
Cloncanane	Metropolitan District of Limerick	Affordable Cost Rental	38	Work continued on the progression of this proposal during October.
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 October for the 25-unit Brú na Gruadán, Castletroy Affordable Purchase Scheme.
Advance Purchase Turnkey – Campaign 2	Metropolitan District of Limerick	Affordable Purchase at Raheen	145	Work continued on the progression of this proposal during October with Quantity Surveyor costings.
	Municipal District of Adare-Rathkeale	Affordable Purchase at Croom	7	Currently in planning system at Further Information Stage.
	Municipal District of Newcastle West	Affordable Purchase at Woodfield Manor, Newcastle West	21	Processing of applications and the issuing of letters of offer continued throughout October for Phase 1 of the Woodfield Manor, Newcastle West, Affordable Purchase Scheme.
Advance Purchase Turnkey – Campaign 5	Municipal District of Newcastle West	Affordable Purchase at Castle Place, Newcastle West	51	Work continued on the progression of this proposal during October. Limerick City and County Council awaiting 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 October with valuations and Quantity Surveyor costings.



# Executive Report

Scheme	District	Type	No. of Units	Proposal Updates in October
Advance Purchase Turnkey - Campaign 7	Municipal District of Cappamore-Killmallock	Affordable Purchase in Knocklong	3	Work continued on the progression of this proposal during October. Limerick City and County Council awaiting 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 October 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 October.
	Municipal District of Cappamore-Killmallock	Affordable Purchase at Glenfield Road, Kilmallock, Co. Limerick	28	Expression of Interest form submitted by the developer. Work continued on the progression of this proposal during October. Expression of Interest currently live.
	Municipal District of Cappamore-Killmallock	Affordable Purchase in Knocklong	6	Expression of Interest form submitted by the developer. Work continued on the progression of this proposal during October.

# Executive Report



Comhairle Cathrach  
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& County Council

## Finance (All funding streams)

- Claims totaling €3,234,837.00 were sent to the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage in October.
- Claims totaling €1,893,556.74 were paid by the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage in October.

## Conferences and Workshops

- On 22 October, staff attended a roadshow on Project Dion - the new Housing system under development. The session was hosted by the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage and included demonstration to show how the system will work.
- Limerick City and County Council Affordable Housing Team representatives attended a workshop in Dublin on 10 October run by the Local Government Management Agency (LGMA), which focused on learnings from multiple Local authorities in competitive dialogue procedures for delivering affordable and social housing schemes.

## 5. Municipal District Offices

### Metropolitan District of Limerick

#### Meetings

A Monthly Meeting of the Metropolitan District of Limerick was held on 21 October.

#### Briefings/Workshops

Workshops were held during October for the Elected Members of the Metropolitan District as follows:

- Workshop on proposed property disposals.
- Workshop on General Municipal Allocation Draft Budgetary Plan 2025.

### Road Related Upgrade/Refurbishment Works

- Description of project: R527 Roches Street Restoration Improvement**
  - Location: City Centre / Prior's Land
  - Cost of project: €211,000
  - Contractor: Roadstone
- Description of project: R526 O'Connell Street Restoration Improvement**
  - Location: City Centre / Prior's Land
  - Cost of project: €225,000
  - Contractor: Roadstone
- Description of project: L1105 Castle Street Restoration Improvement**
  - Location: Castleconnell
  - Cost of project: €157,500
  - Contractor: Lynkeo
- Description of project: Castletroy View Estate Restoration Improvement**
  - Location: Singland
  - Cost of project: €157,500
  - Contractor: Lynkeo

# Executive Report



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

- **Description of project: Glenbrook / Glendale Estate Restoration Improvement**
  - Location: Singland
  - Cost of project: €103,000
  - Contractor: Lynkeo
- **Description of project: Glenview Drive / The Fairways Estate Restoration Improvement**
  - Location: Monaleen
  - Cost of project: €129,000
  - Contractor: Lynkeo
- **Description of project: L-10449 Byrne Ave Restoration Improvement**
  - Location: Prospect
  - Cost of project: €145,000
  - Contractor: Roadstone
- **Description of project: L-10381 Denmark Street Upper Restoration Improvement**
  - Location: City Centre / Prior's Land
  - Cost of project: €60,000
  - Contractor: Roadstone
- **Description of project: Skehan's Cross Junction Safety Improvement Scheme**
  - Location: Castleconnell
  - Cost of project: €30,000
  - Contractor: Lynkeo
- **Description of project: Active Travel Footpath Improvement Scheme - Walnut Drive**
  - Location: Walnut Drive, Caherdavin
  - Cost of project: €90,000
  - Contractor: Peter Ryan Civil Engineering Ltd.
- **Description of project: Active Travel New Footpath Scheme Scoil an Spioraid Naoimh**
  - Location: R511 Roxborough
  - Cost of project: €125,000
  - Contractor: Peter Ryan Civil Engineering Ltd.
- **Description of project: Active Travel Footpath Improvement Scheme - Ashleigh Wood**
  - Location: Newtown
  - Cost of project: €75,000
  - Contractor: Limerick City and County Council Road Operations Team
- **Description of project: Castleconnell River Steps Outdoor Recreation Infrastructure Scheme**
  - Location: Castleconnell Playground
  - Cost of project: €30,000
  - Contractor: William Enright and Bill Enright Ltd.
- **Description of project: Norwood Park Footpath Improvement Scheme**
  - Location: Ballysimon
  - Cost of project: €25,000
  - Contractor: Lynkeo
- **Description of project: City Centre Footpath Pavement Repairs and Maintenance**
  - Location: City Centre
  - Cost of project: €10,000
  - Contractor: Limerick City and County Council City Centre Response Team
- **Description of project: Arthur's Quay Park Railings Upgrade**
  - Location: Arthur's Quay City Centre
  - Cost of project: €15,000
  - Contractor: English Tar (Maramba)

# Executive Report



Comhairle Cathrach  
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& County Council

## Municipal District of Adare-Rathkeale

The October Meeting of the Municipal District of Adare-Rathkeale took place on 08 October in Áras Seán Finn, Rathkeale.

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

- 96 cases were assigned to the Housing Maintenance Team.
- 89 cases were assigned to the Roads Maintenance Team.

## Local Improvement Schemes

- Local Improvement Scheme Works completed at Knockaderry, Crecora and Ballingarry.

## Drainage Schemes

- Drainage Works completed at Loghill and Croom.

## Low Cost Safety Improvement Schemes

- Low Cost Safety Improvement Works completed at Pallaskenry.

## Office of Public Works Minor Improvement Works

- Office of Public Works Minor Improvement Works completed at Lisbane, Shanagolden.

## Municipal District of Cappamore-Kilmallock

### October Municipal District Meeting

The October Meeting of the Municipal District of Cappamore-Kilmallock was held on 17 October at 3pm in Áras Mainchín Seoighe, Kilmallock. Items on the agenda included the Draft Budgetary Plan and General Municipal Allocation for 2025 and a presentation on the Derelict Sites process.

A Workshop for the Elected Members on the Draft Budgetary Plan was also held on 17 October at 2pm.

## Housing and Road Maintenance

- 96 cases were assigned to the Housing Maintenance Team.
- 56 cases were assigned to the Roads Maintenance Team.

## Housing Grants

- 16 Private housing grants were paid totalling €87,967.83. 25 private housing grants were approved.
- 32 initial inspections, one re-inspection and 17 final inspections were undertaken in relation to Private Housing Grants.
- Four Disabled Persons Grants were completed.

## Road Works

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

- **Outdoor Recreational Infrastructure Scheme**  
Riverside Park, Kilmallock.
- **Transport Infrastructure Ireland Geo App Works**  
N20 Creggane Tree Surgery Works

# Executive Report



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& County Council

## • Community Involvement Schemes

R513	Kilfrush, Knocklong.
L1506	Gormanstown, Bulgaden.
L1511	Ballyanna, Kilfinane.
L151101	Ballinvreena, Kilfinane.
L8507	Kilballyowen, Bruff.
L86101	Clogher West, Bruree.
L85132	Ballygrennan, Bruff.
L51204	Bohernagore, Kilbehenny.
L1510	Ballinahinch, Elton.
R515	Bresheen South, Kilmallock.
L50303	Reenavanna, Doon.

## • Local Improvement Schemes

George Mullin's Passage, Dromin.

## • National Transport Authority Schemes

Knocklong Bus Shelter  
Ballylanders Bus Shelter  
R505 Doon Bus Shelter

## • General Municipal Allocation Schemes

Knockainey Footpath Works  
L1162 Antiskid on New Bridge Pallsgreen

## • Taking-in-Charge of Estates

Castlecourt Estate, Kilmallock.  
Cluain Foinse Estate, Hospital.

## • Restoration Improvement

L1507	Knockainey Village.
R512	Uregare, Bruff.
L1535	Kilmihill, Kilmallock.
R507	Gortnakisteen, Oola.
L5089	Nettown Hill, Caherconlish.
L5032	Monastery Road, Doon.

## Municipal District of Newcastle West

### Meetings and Briefings

- 02 October - Monthly Meeting of the Municipal District of Newcastle West.
- 02 October - Briefing - Clúid Housing Update.
- 02 October - Briefing - General Municipal allocation Application Process.
- 02 October - Briefing - to discuss policing in the District.
- 02 October - Briefing - Mayoral Programme.

### Housing Grants

- 36 grant applications were approved under the Private Housing Grant Schemes during the month. The total value of approvals was €165,034.90.
- Payments of €62,483.10 were made to 14 applicants who completed works under the Housing Aid for Older People Scheme.
- Payments of €76,729.94 were made to 11 applicants who completed works under the Housing Adaptation Grant Scheme.
- Payment of €2,300 were made to one applicant who completed works under the Mobility Aids Housing Grant Scheme.

### Housing Maintenance

- 60 Microsoft Dynamics cases were assigned to the Housing Maintenance Team.

# Executive Report



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

## Transportation and Mobility

- 30 Microsoft Dynamics cases were assigned to the Roads Maintenance Team.

## Motor Tax

- During the month of October, the Motor Tax Section at the Newcastle West Office processed 1,240 routine transactions generating an income of €187,004.



# Executive Report



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## Planning & Place-Making

### 1. Development Management and Place-Making

#### Development Management

A total of 120 new planning applications were received as follows:

Type	Amount
Part 8	3
Housing Developments	3
Domestic Developments	84
Agricultural Developments	4
Commercial Developments/Change of Use	10
Sporting/Community and Educational Developments	6
Other Developments	10

The current applications include proposals for:

- Part 8 for the construction of a three to five storey building to include 20 residential units at Ballycummin Road, Raheen, Co. Limerick.
- Construction of a residential development comprising 62 residential units, new entrance onto the existing R526 road and all ancillary site development works on lands. The planning application is accompanied by a Natura Impact Statement (NIS) at Barnakyle, Patrickswell, Co. Limerick.

#### Place Making

##### Limerick Wayfinding and Orientation Signage Project

- P&D Lydon completed the installation of signage throughout the city. The Substantial Completion Certificate was issued to them.

##### Cruises Street Urban Enhancements

- Todd's Bow Archway mural commenced.

##### Urban Regeneration and Development Fund (URDF)

##### 58 O'Connell Street and 33 and 34 Thomas Street

- Approval Gate 2 (AG2) Pre-Tender Submission for the Living Limerick City Centre Initiative, Living Georgian City Programme for 33 and 34 Thomas Street project, sent to the URDF.
- 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.

##### Strand 3 - Pedestrian Bridges and Waterfront Infrastructural Works

- An update to the Preliminary Business Case with the URDF and National Transport Authority.

# Executive Report



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& County Council

## Arthur's Quay Area Framework Plan

- Architects, Metropolitan Workshop, are leading a Multi-Disciplinary Team preparing the Arthur's Quay Area Framework Plan. Non-statutory Public Consultation on an Options Report was held from 04 October for four weeks with a drop-in event open to all on 17 October.

## Market Quarter and Cruises Street Public Realm Enhancement

- The Non-Statutory Public Consultation closed on 09 October. Review of Feedback commenced.
- Stakeholder meetings continued with groups in the Market Quarter area.
- Kick-off meeting held with Appropriate Assessment and Environmental Impact Assessment Screening Consultant.
- Topographic and Ground Penetrating Radar Surveys completed.
- Developed Design stage commenced.
- Access Consultant Request for Quote issued and Letter of Intent issued.
- Architectural Heritage Impact Assessment Consultant Request for Quote issued and Letter of Intent issued.
- Eight Air Quality Monitors erected in Market Quarter Area for month of October.

## Capital Projects

### O'Connell Street Phase 1

- Project progressed through its defects liability period.
- Principal contractor's final account report issued.

## Abbeyfeale Public Realm Scheme Phase 1

- The tender for Abbeyfeale Public Realm Scheme Phase 1 was published on eTenders on 17 October. This is the first part of a two-stage tender process for the pre-qualification of suitable contractors who will be invited to tender in a Restricted Procedure.
- The Abbeyfeale Public Realm Scheme Phase 1 consists of upgrading 440 metres on Killarney Road N21; construction of 100 metre new Link Road at O'Riordan's and upgrading of Grove Crescent car park and the construction of 90 metre temporary traffic diversion route from St. Ita's Terrace to Killarney Road N21. The scheme involves laying surface water sewers, box culvert, watermains, foul sewers, ducting, undergrounding of overhead ESB and telecom wires with new services connections to private properties, construction of utility chambers and pillars, public lighting, road reconstruction, surfacing, limestone kerbing, granite slabs, exposed aggregate concrete footpaths, pedestrian crossings, backfilling of basement, installation of electric vehicle chargers, landscaping and associated works.
- The Abbeyfeale Public Realm Scheme Phase 1 is designed to deliver a high-quality public realm scheme to enhance the built environment, improve pedestrian safety for residents and shoppers and increase the level of business in the town of Abbeyfeale. A priority of the scheme is to have the construction works carried out with minimal disruption to residents, shoppers and businesses with an emphasis on pedestrian safety, minimising supply outages, traffic delays and traffic disruption.

# Executive Report



Comhairle Cathrach  
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& County Council

## 2. CFRAMS (Catchment Flood Risk Assessment and Management Study)

### King's Island Flood Relief Scheme

- Several licence applications were prepared and submitted in advance of construction commencement.

### Castleconnell Flood Relief Scheme

- A steering group meeting was held on 29 October to monitor and assess project progress.
- A submission was issued to the Office of Public Works seeking approval to proceed to planning for the scheme.
- Negotiations with affected landowners underway.
- Detailed Site investigation work underway.

### Adare Flood Relief Scheme

- A Steering Group meeting was held in Adare on 23 October to monitor and assess the project progress.
- The final flood defence option was selected and the Environmental Impact Assessment Report advanced.

### Limerick Flood Relief Scheme

- A Steering Group meeting was held on 07 October to assess and monitor the project's progress. This was followed by a site walkover in the Corbally and Shannon Banks area.
- Optioneering has commenced for key areas, including the City Centre (both Northern and Southern sides of the Shannon), University of Limerick/Castletroy and Dock Road focusing on flood defences and public realm enhancements.

- A Public Realm Optioneering workshop all-day event was held on 09 October in the Absolute Hotel. It was attended by staff from various Departments across the Local Authority. The Consultants on the Scheme, RPS, presented the initial design options for the City Centre area. The feedback and insights gathered on the day were hugely beneficial and will inform further design development on the emerging preferred option.
- Ground investigation works continued. This work will ensure a thorough understanding of site conditions for details design stage.
- Geophysical surveys across the scheme area progressing, providing crucial data for optioneering.
- The draft Hydraulic Report still under review, following input from Limerick City and County Council and the Office of Public Works.
- Ecology surveys progressed well to support the environmental assessments.

### Athea Flood Relief Scheme

- The draft Environmental Impact Assessment Report and Cost Benefit Analysis were received and being reviewed.
- The first draft of the Options Report also still under review.

# Executive Report



Comhairle Cathrach  
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**Limerick City**  
& County Council

## 3. Limerick Twenty Thirty (LTT) Designated Activity Company (DAC)

### Opera Square

#### Project Update

- One Opera Square – Topping out has been completed on One Opera Square.
- Mechanical and Electrical fit-out works have progressed up to third floor in One Opera Square.
- Remainder of Basement – The podium for the 14-storey building is now complete. Basement works under Library and Four Opera Square progressing.
- ESB ducting works on Rutland Street and Patrick Street complete.
- Existing Buildings – remedial works to the damage in 1 Patrick Street progressed well and largely complete.

#### Project Media Engagement

- **One Opera Square Topping Out Ceremony:** The ceremony was held on 22 October in the Granary Boardroom with approximately 50 key stakeholders, including Treaty Stone Partnership, Limerick Twenty Thirty, Limerick City and County Council, Irish Strategic Investment Fund, John Sisk & Son and the project management Team. A joint press release by all stakeholders was issued, with videos and photography including across LTT social media platforms.
- **Opera Square:** LTT shared a post announcing that Opera Square has been shortlisted for the Excellence in Sustainability category at the Irish Construction Industry Awards 2024.

### Cleeves Riverside Quarter (CRQ)

#### Project Update

#### Heritage Works

- The Project Team progressed with designs and investigations for the major repair and stabilisation works.
- **Environmental Impact Assessment** – The Executive issued a tender for the role of Environmental Impact Assessment Report Coordinator for the full site.

### Technological University of the Shannon (TUS) CRQ Campus

- The first User Workshop with TUS academics was held on 04 October. This was attended by eight senior staff members from TUS, including the Head of Capital Development and three Heads of Department (Digital Arts and Media, Marketing, Enterprise and Digital Communications, Business and Financial Services). The purpose of the workshop was to engage the users in an interactive mapping exercise to understand how the spaces will be used, relate to each other and function as part of each Department and allow the Project Team to refine the strategic brief and develop a shortlist of options

#### St. Michael's Rowing Club (SMRC)

- SMRC and LTT in discussions regarding the Boat Club during the development of CRQ.

#### Project Media Engagement

- **Wired Scored CRQ:** Cleeves Riverside Quarter is now aligned with WiredScore. This initiative demonstrates the dedication to providing state-of-the-art digital infrastructure, ensuring that future residents and businesses enjoy the highest standards of connectivity. A post was shared across all LTT social media platforms.

# Executive Report



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

- **Cleeves Chimney:** The chimney at Cleeves Riverside Quarter was illuminated green on 10 October to highlight World Mental Health Day, a post was shared to LTT social media platforms to mark the day.
- **Scare Factory:** The Scare factory at Cleeves Riverside Quarter returned for October with details shared across LTT social media.

## Other Projects

### Progress Update

#### Gardens International

- **CAST:** The launch of CAST was held in the foyer space on 07 October. The Community Access Support Team (CAST) is a pilot initiative launched in Limerick by An Garda Síochána and the HSE, aimed at assisting individuals experiencing situational trauma or a mental health crisis. Details of the speakers and the event were shared across the LTT social media platforms.
- **Garryowen Football Club:** Garryowen Football Club held a large-scale Leadership Lunch in the Foyer, seating over 220 guests, on the afternoon of 18 October. The event was a fundraiser for Garryowen Football Club, with a Questions and Answers session on Leadership with Martin Johnson and Keith Wood, with Dermot Whelan as MC.
- **Novas:** Novas held its annual Charitable Event hosting 150 people in the foyer on 25 October. The conference focused on Trauma-Informed Practice, including a keynote speech by Katriona O'Sullivan, a Questions and Answers session, and several other presentations.

### Project Media Engagement

**Bisnow Conference:** LTT shared a post to social media with the link to purchase tickets to the upcoming Bisnow conference 'Ireland's Residential Investment and Development.'

- **CITA:** A post was shared across LTT social media platforms where the Chief Executive Officer welcomed guests at the CitA Ltd. Tech Live Event held in Limerick on 09 October.

### Askeaton Pool Update

- Limerick Twenty Thirty continued to project manage and monitor progress of the construction stage of works on behalf of Limerick City and County Council/ Askeaton Pool and Leisure DAC (Designated Activity Company).

### Mungret Housing

#### Phase 1 – 250 Units

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

### Expressions of Interest (EOI)

#### Thomondgate

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

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

- In line with Limerick Twenty Thirty'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.

# Executive Report



Comhairle Cathrach  
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& County Council

## Environment, Climate Action and Shared Services

### 1. Housing Assistance Payment Shared Services Centre (HAP SCC)

- There were 54,237 active HAP tenancies nationally, managed by the HAP SSC at the end of October.
- A weekly average of 161 HAP tenancies have been set up during 2024.
- The October landlord payment run was €53.455 million.
- The weekly tenant charge at the end of October was €3.092 million.
- The Debt Management Unit of the HAP SSC collected a total of €132.19 million in differential rent to end of October.
- The HAP tenant rent collection rate at the end of October was 99%.
- The Debt Management Unit issued 10,647 HAP debt reminder letters in October.

### 2. Fire and Emergency

#### Statistics

	No. of Fire Related Calls	No. of Non-Fire Related Calls	Total
No. of callouts 01.10. 2024 – 31.10.2024	64	65	<b>129</b>
% of calls where on scene in < 10 mins from time of call	70%	54%	
% of calls where on scene between 11 and 20 mins from time of call	22%	32%	
% of calls where on scene in > 20 mins from time of call	8%	14%	

	No. Received/ Assigned	No. Validated/ Acknowledged	No. Invalidated/ Refused	No. Granted	No. Completed
Fire Certificate Applications October	18	7	3	26	7
Disability Access Cert Applications October	9	5	0	19	5
Licensing Applications October	3	3			
Commencement Notice October	40	30	5	0	30
Completion Certificate October	18	13	0	0	13
Planning Referrals October	22	15			

# Executive Report



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**Limerick** City  
& County Council

## Fire and Emergency Training Events

The following activity took place in October:

- Two new fire fighter recruits for Limerick City Fire Station commenced 18 weeks of training with Dublin Fire Brigade.
- A fire fighter from Cappamore underwent a two-week QQI Breathing Apparatus Initial Wearers course in Dundalk, Co. Louth.
- 16 fire fighters completed Emergency Chainsaw Operator training.
- Six fire fighters successfully completed an eight-day Emergency Chainsaw Operator Course to ensure all stations have sufficient cover for assisting with storm events in the future.
- Two fire fighters from Limerick City have been trained as Bronto Aerial Appliance operators.
- Crews undertaking online Climate Action Awareness training.

## Civil Defence attendance at Events

The following activity took place in October:

- Two Patient Transfers from residence to University Hospital Limerick and return.
- Wreath Laying Ceremony for La na bhFiann, Pery Square, Limerick.
- Search for missing persons in Castleconnell, Limerick.
- Search for missing persons, River Shannon.
- Samhain Limerick's Halloween Festival, Limerick City.

## Water Safety

No. of Lifebuoy Replacements	January - September	October	Total 2024
Metropolitan District	6	0	6
Municipal Districts	17	0	17

No. of Lifebuoy Sensor Activations	January - September	October	Total 2024
Metropolitan District	53	11	64
Municipal Districts	49	2	51

# Executive Report



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

## 3. Environment and Climate Action

### Climate Action

#### Citizen Innovation Lab

The Citizen Innovation Lab had another busy month this October hosting more than 50 events including the Public Consultation for Arthur's Quay Framework, a Sustainable Practice Conference for the Technological University of the Shannon, Event Management students and Disability and Equality training hosted by our Active Travel team.

#### Síolta Glasá

The Climate Action Team, in partnership with Limerick Arts Office and the University of Limerick, hosted the second Storytelling Workshop of the project on 29 October. The purpose of these workshops is to help the community groups and creative partners to share and amplify their stories, inspire other communities, create content that can be used to amplify their projects locally, nationally and internationally and to build capacity for communities, creatives and project stakeholders with a focus on grabbing attention and communicating the project and mediating appropriately and effectively.

#### Climate Action Team

- The Climate Action Officer attended an immersive workshop examining opportunities in aspects of the Natural Environment with Roscommon County Council.
- The Climate Action Team attended decarbonisation workshops on Community Activation, the bio-economy and biodiversity.
- The Climate Action Team attended a meeting of the Energy Performance Officers held in Tullamore.
- A Home Energy Workshop was delivered to residents of Moyross in conjunction with PAUL Partnership and Ballyhoura Development.

### Veterinary Services

In October, new signage on responsible Dog Ownership was erected in the parks in the city. The Dog Wardens, accompanied by local Gardaí, carried out several patrols in parks and green areas to highlight the responsibilities of dog owners, particularly around the Regulations on restricted breeds. The ban on XL Bully Dogs came into effect on 01 October, it is now illegal to sell, breed or rehome an XL Bully Dog. Owners are required to apply to the Council to exempt their dog. Information regarding exempting your dog is now available on [XL Bully Ban Limerick.ie](http://XL Bully Ban Limerick.ie)

Number of dogs processed in the Dog Shelter	14
Number of horses seized	6
Food Safety Authority of Ireland Samples tested	1

### Environment Regulation and Enforcement

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

ENVIRONMENT ENFORCEMENT	
Cases received (Microsoft Dynamics)	40
Inspections undertaken (Microsoft Dynamics)	29
Warnings issued	1
Directions of Authorised Officer issued	6
Statutory Notices issued	3
Prosecutions initiated	2
Fines issued	0
Authorisations issued/reviewed	3

# Executive Report



Comhairle Cathrach  
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**Limerick City**  
& County Council

DOMESTIC WASTE AND LITTER TEAM	
Cases received (Microsoft Dynamics)	93
Inspections undertaken (Microsoft Dynamics)	541
Warnings issued	8
Directions of Authorised Officer issued	4
Statutory Notices issued	12
Prosecutions initiated	7
Fines issued	22

## Anti-Dumping Initiative

As part of the National Anti-Dumping Initiative, Limerick City and County Council offered a free Bulky Waste Collection Service to all households in the St. Mary's Park, Hyde Road and Ballinacurra Weston areas of Limerick City in the run-up to Halloween from 21 October to 25 October. The service was limited to a maximum of four bulky items per household and collections were made at an agreed time with the service provider. Detailed information on how to access the service was distributed to all households in the areas. All items were left out on the kerbside on the day of collection, one hour before the agreed collection time. Over 170 households benefitted from this free service which seeks to mitigate against illegal dumping and 'man in a van' operators in the city.

## Parks

### Works Undertaken in October

Location	Description of Works
The Ferry Playground, Castleconnell	Painting of playground equipment to maintain standards until a major planned upgrade takes place.
Clare Glens	The main contractor, Triur Construction, has completed the replacement of the two pedestrian bridges and additional works nearing completion which include replacement of the stone path from the top entrance of Clare Glens (barrier entrance) to the access steps of the upper bridge, replacement of access steps to lower bridges, necessary repair to abutment wall and access steps to upper bridge.
Westfields Wetlands	Bulrush removal has commenced at this location - this is being undertaken to open up the water surface for visual amenity and wildlife value as well as reducing the overall nutrient content of the water body.

# Executive Report



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

## Contracts progressed in October

Location	
The Ferry Playground, Castleconnell and the Demesne Playground, Newcastle West	Consultants are in the process of being appointed to design upgrades and extensions regarding these two playgrounds to cater for the increasing numbers of users and to add inclusive play equipment.
Ballynatty Landscape Projects	The landscape contractor has now been appointed regarding Monabrahern Road site and regarding Ballygrendan Road site.
Lough Gur, Grange	Contractor has been appointed to complete civil and masonry works for a wheelchair set-down area. Contractor has been appointed to replace the wastewater storage holding tanks and complete associated works.

## Other Highlights of October

Date	
22/10/2024	An in-person information evening was held in the Community Centre, Caherdavin, to give residents and all interested parties an opportunity to find out more about the plans for development of a playground at Caherdavin. A Questionnaire allowed the approximate 50 attendees to outline their requirements, expectations and priorities for this playground.
29/10/2024	The newly constructed dog park within the Demesne, Newcastle West, was officially opened by the Mayor of Limerick, John Moran. This dog park has 1.8 metre high fencing to cater for all sizes of dogs.

## Urbact IV GreenPlace

A core network meeting in Nitra, Slovakia, was attended by two staff members from the Department.

## Cemeteries

### Works Completed in October

Location	
Reilig Mhuire, Askeaton	A burial ground extension has been completed as the existing burial ground is nearing capacity.

### Number of Burials in City Cemeteries in October

Mount St. Lawrence	14
Mount St. Oliver	5
Castlemungret	15
Kilmurry	2

# Executive Report



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

## Environment Strategy

Inspection Type	No. of Inspections	Inspection Details
Farm Re-Inspections	14	Follow-up to see programmed works completed.
Microsoft Dynamics Complaints	2	Respond / Follow-up to complaints from members of public
Invasive Species website	4	Checked website for new reports of invasive species.
Planning Files	6	Review agricultural planning applications and comment back to planning.
Farm File Reviews	18	Review farm files, Farmyard Management Plans and write out advisory/warning letters accordingly.
Forestry Referrals	13	Assessment of forestry applications referred from Forestry Service.
Local Catchment Assessment	1	River monitoring and inspection.
Training	5	Project Management, An Feirm Ground, National Agriculture Inspection Programme (NAIP)
NAIP Farm Inspection Risk assessment.	60	Desktop review of farms to prioritise high risk farms for inclusion in NAIP inspections.
NAIP Letters sent	70	Letter sent to farmers selected for NAIP inspections.
NAIP Inspections	13	NAIP inspections carried out.
Meeting with External Agency	5	Water European Innovation Partnership, Annacotty Weir, South West Regional Committee for the Local Authority Water Programme (SWROC), Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) regarding Hydrometric Stations

# Executive Report



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

## Biodiversity

### 08 October - Fourth Meeting of the Limerick Biodiversity Forum

**Biodiversity Forum** - The Limerick Biodiversity Forum continued with its robust facilitated process to give final consideration to the draft Limerick Biodiversity Action Plan 2025-2030 before the document is considered by Elected Members at a dedicated workshop prior to going for Public Consultation. This process is a continuation of sectoral engagement that has been ongoing since the initiation of the process of drafting a Limerick specific Biodiversity Plan.

**14 October** - Biodiversity Officer, evening discussion with members of the Doon Men's Shed Project at one of their regular meetings on the Doon Social Farm.

**19 October** - There was a terrific turnout at the Limerick City and County Council and Hedgerows Ireland 'Managing Hedgerows for Nature Event' on Gearoid Maher's farm in Cappamore. Gearoid, a commercial dairy farmer and farming for Nature ambassador, opened his farm as a demonstration site for the event. Participants were treated to presentations from Dr. Aine Lynch, National Parks and Wildlife Service, Dr. Catherine Keena, Teagasc, Katie Smirnova, Hedgerows Ireland and the Council's Biodiversity Officer. In addition, there were 'A'- shape trimming and hedge laying demonstrations. The host and Farming for Nature Ambassador, Gearóid Maher, also shared how he keeps a productive dairy farm while reducing inputs and making space for biodiversity. Hedgerows may sequester between 0.66 and 3.3 t CO<sub>2</sub> per hectare per year (EPA, 2014). They provide food, nest sites, hibernation sites and a corridor for safe passage through the landscape for wildlife. Hedgerows benefit agriculture by providing windbreaks, shelter and or shade for livestock. During heavy rainfall, they help prevent flooding by slowing water movement and allowing excess water to soak into the soil. This also helps improve our freshwater quality by trapping sediments and nutrients and blocking their entry into rivers and lakes (Holden et al., 2019).

## Environmental Awareness

### Limerick Going for Gold - Environmental Improvement Grant and Competition

The grand final award ceremony was held in the Limerick Strand Hotel on 23 October with a large attendance, including representatives from the McManus Charitable Foundation, Sponsors/project partners - Limerick Live 95, The Limerick Leader, The Limerick Post, I Love Limerick and Southern Marketing Media and Design. It was a very enjoyable occasion with 36 groups representing localities across Limerick City and County in receipt of prize money and certificates. The perpetual trophies for the overall winner of the Tidy Towns Category and the Limerick Bee Friendly in Bloom Category were also awarded.

Photos of the night and press release are available at the following Links.

[Limerick Going For Gold 2024](#)

[Patrickswell Tidy Towns crowned Limerick Going For Gold overall champions for 2024 | Limerick.ie](#)

Tidy Towns Category	
Patrickswell	€10,000
Kilmeedy	€7,000
Ballysteen	€5,000
Glin	€3,000
Kilteely	€2,000
Highly Commended	
Castleconnell	€1,500
Glenroe	€1,500
Askeaton	€1,500
Athea	€1,500
Garrienderk	€1,500
Kilmallock	€1,500

# Executive Report



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

Commended	
Broadford	€1,000
Feenagh	€1,000
Rathkeale	€1,000
Rockhill/Bruree	€1,000
Limerick Bee Friendly in Bloom	
Hospital	€5,000
Mountcollins	€3,000
Gouldavoher	€2,000
Highly Commended	
Caherdavin	€1,000
Residential Areas	
Thomondgate	€2,000
Meadowbrook, Corbally	€1,500
Nicker	€1,250
Highly Commended	
Slugáire	€1,000
Gurteen/Southville Gardens	€1,000
Woodhaven	€1,000
Greater King's Island Residents' Assoc.	€1,000
Commended	
Forest View, Kilfinane	€600
Cois Má, Croom	€600
Woodlawn Park, Ballysimon	€600

Endeavour Award	
Caherconlish	€1,000
ReUse Award	
Kilcornan Tidy Towns	€1,000
Elton Tidy Towns	€1,000
Judges' Request Award	
Newcastle West	€1,000
Ballingarry	€1,000
Tournafulla	€1,000
Oola	€1,000
Garrienderk	€1,000

## Grange Irish Countrywomen's Association (ICA) - Community Group Visit

The Environment Awareness Officer visited Grange Old School house on 07 October to address a meeting of Grange ICA. Advice was given as to how to best manage waste into the three bin waste system- Food/Dry Recycling and Landfill. Discussions undertaken included inventive repair/reuse initiatives within households and general waste prevention together with the critical importance of social inclusion.

# Executive Report



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

## Support Services

### 1. Finance

#### Commercial Rates and Loans

##### Draft Collection Figures

Commercial Rates 2024	
As at 31 October 2024	
Opening Balance - 1 Jan €	4,796,855
Accruals €	64,155,483 **
Vacant Property Adjustment €	611,808
Writes offs/ Waivers €	3,148,657
Total for Collection €	65,191,873
Amount Collected €	56,393,176
Arrears €	8,798,697
Specific Doubtful Arrears €	893,314
% Collected	87.7%

Debtors Loans	
As at 31 October 2024	
Opening Balance - 1 Jan €	295,007
Accruals €	1,448,255 *
Writes offs €	-
To Collect €	1,743,262
Receipts €	1,629,520
Arrears €	113,742
% Collected	93%

\* Accruals for October 2024 not processed

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

#### Recourse to Overdraft Facility

No. of days in overdraft 0

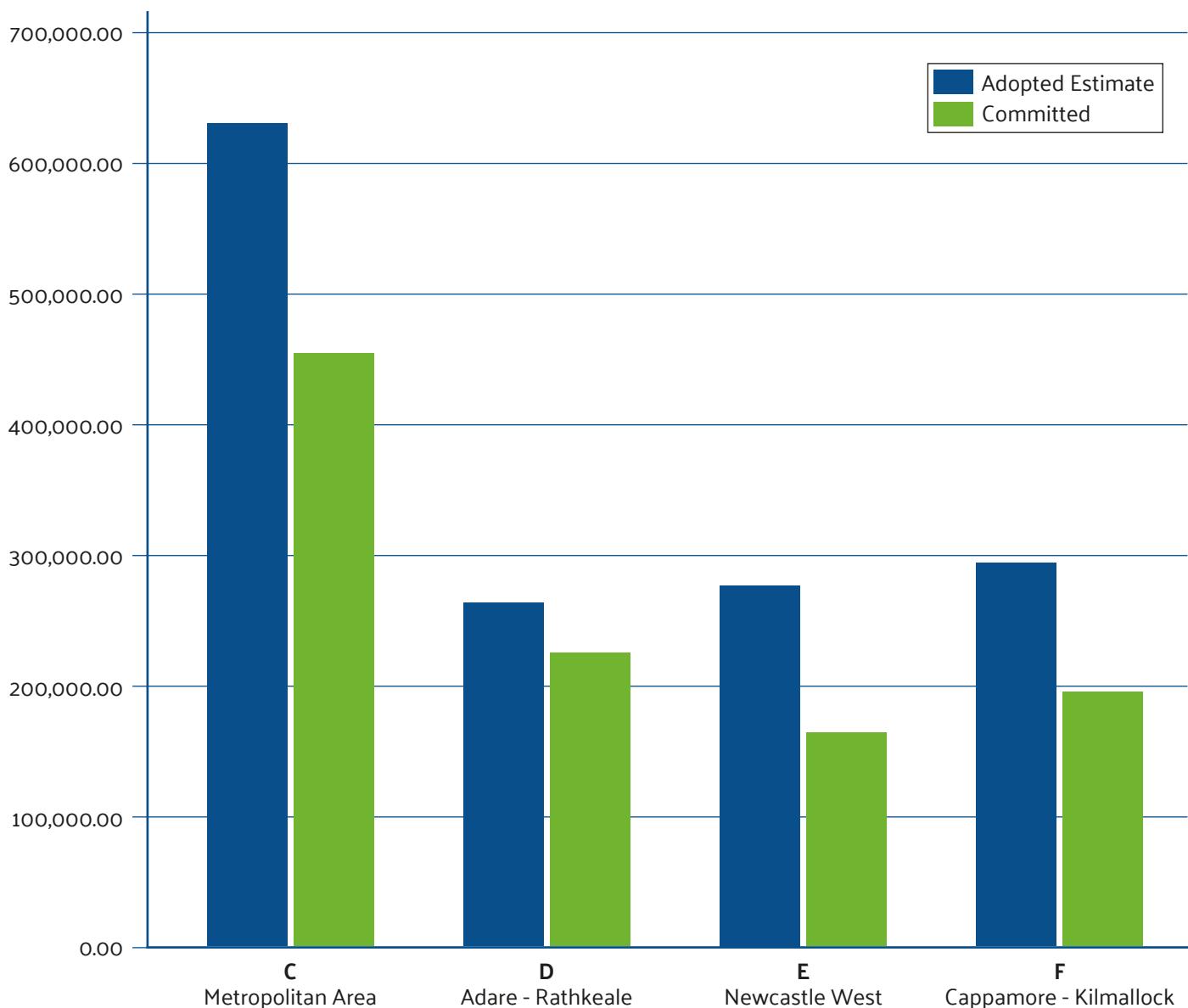
# Executive Report



Comhairle Cathrach  
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& County Council

## General Municipal Allocation 2024 Adopted Estimate €1.463 Million

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



### Municip (Code) + (Text)

- C** Metropolitan Area
- D** Adare - Rathkeale
- E** Newcastle West
- F** Cappamore - Kilmallock

### Value Adopted Estimate (€)

- 628,000.00
- 269,500.00
- 270,500.00
- 295,000.00
- 1,463,000.00**

### Value Committed (€)

- 456,429
- 228,970
- 168,452
- 196,330

# Executive Report



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

## 2. Business Improvement

- Innovation Workshops were held for all staff to attend.
- Business Improvement worked with Rural Development to launch the “Limerick County Outdoor Recreation Plan” consultation on MyPoint.
- Business Improvement assisted Corporate Services to develop the “Strategic Policy Committees (SPC) Draft SPC Scheme 2024 – 2029” consultation on MyPoint.
- Business Improvement assisted Development Management and Place-Making in a Non-Statutory Public Consultation report for the Arthur’s Quay Framework on My Point.
- Business Improvement worked with Rural Development to launch both the “Newcastle West Town Centre Survey” and “Rathkeale Town Centre First - Business Survey” on MyPoint.
- 16 staff members received MyPoint Consultation and Survey training.
- A total of 916 active users now live on the Council Connect Employee App.
- Services on Service Catalogue = 714

## 3. Corporate, Governance and Customer Services

### 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 October:

New Procurement References set up	40
Procurement References extended as per signed contract/arrangement	12

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 October:

Month	Approved	Rejected	Total Requisitions Actioned
October	1,621	257	1,878

- Approved requisitions accounted for 86% of the total requisitions actioned for this given month.
- Rejected requisitions accounted for 14% of the total requisitions actioned for this given month.

# Executive Report



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

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

Rejection Reason	October
Memo Requisition not raised in advance – Omitted/Insufficient detail	74
Procurement Reference Omitted/ Incorrect	39
Quotes - Omitted/Incorrect copy provided	30
Request for Quotes - omitted/incorrect copy provided	27
CAPA (Corrective Action, Preventative Action) form – omitted/not signed/insufficiently completed	26

## Register of Electors

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

- Additions to the Electoral Register – 560
- Deletions from the Electoral Register – 285
- Modifications to the Electoral Register – 398

## Health and Safety Training

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

Course Name	Numbers Trained
CSCS (Construction Skills Certification Scheme) – Health and Safety at Roadworks	10
CSCS – Telescopic Handler	2
Dealing with Aggressive and Violent behaviour	33
Drivers CPCs (Certificates of Professional Competence)	21
First Aid	2
Manual Handling	20
Safe Pass	8
Sharps Removal and Biological Biohazards Training	27
Winter Service Operators' Training	25
<b>Total Staff Trained</b>	<b>148</b>

# Executive Report



Comhairle Cathrach  
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**Limerick City**  
& County Council

## Schedule of Meetings for October

Name of Meeting	Date	Location
<b>Full Council</b> Adjourned Ordinary Meeting of Limerick City and County Council	04/10/2024	Dooradoyle and Online
Special Meeting of Limerick City and County Council to agree the conferring of a Civic Reception	29/10/2024	Dooradoyle and Online
<b>Operational Briefings</b>		
Limerick City East	01/10/2024	Merchant's Quay and Online
Limerick City North	01/10/2024	Merchant's Quay and Online
Limerick City West	02/10/2024	Merchant's Quay and Online
<b>Municipal District of</b>		
<b>Newcastle West</b> Monthly Meeting	02/10/2024	Newcastle West and Online
<b>Adare-Rathkeale</b> Monthly Meeting	08/10/2024	Rathkeale and Online
<b>Cappamore-Kilmallock</b> Monthly Meeting	17/10/2024	Kilmallock and Online
<b>Metropolitan District of Limerick</b> Monthly Meeting	21/10/2024	Merchant's Quay and Online
<b>Local Community Development Committee (LCDC) Meeting</b>	01/10/2024	Dooradoyle and Online
<b>Audit and Risk Committee Meeting</b>	10/10/2024	Merchant's Quay and Online
<b>Corporate Policy Group Meeting</b>	21/10/2024	Online
<b>Innovate Limerick DAC Meeting</b>	23/10/2024	Engine - Cecil Street
<b>Discover Limerick DAC Meeting</b>	25/10/2024	Engine - Cecil Street
<b>Party Leaders' Meeting</b>	31/10/2024	Online

# Executive Report



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

## Access to Information

	October	2024 (January to October)
Total Freedom of Information Requests	27	201
Freedom of Information Internal Appeals	2	17
Information Commissioner Appeals	0	5
Total Ombudsman Requests	11	46
Total Access to Information on the Environment (AIE) Requests	8	24

## 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 October:

- Customer Services Call Centre answered 11,850 calls. This represents an average of 538 per day, with the number of calls reaching as high as 675. A total of 77% of calls were handled at first point of contact.
- A total of 3,999 emails were processed through the Customer Services email platform.
- 3,449 cases were created on Microsoft Dynamics, with 761 of these logged on behalf of Public Representatives. 3,425 cases were closed, with 903 of these being cases logged by Public Representatives.

- Of the 3,449 cases created, 69% were logged by the Customer Services team.
- The logging of cases through the MyLimerick portal continued, with a total of 211 cases being logged. Of these, 196 were submitted by Public Representatives.
- Customer Services continued to support the Housing Maintenance Department in creating service requests and, throughout the month, 96% of Housing Maintenance cases for the Metropolitan District of Limerick were logged by Customer Services staff in the Dooradoyle and Merchant's Quay offices.
- A total of 170 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 122 were applied for and 73 issued.
- Customer Services staff welcomed a total of 2,742 customers at the Merchant's Quay and Dooradoyle offices.

## 4. Marketing & Communications

### Marketing

#### Halloween in Limerick Marketing Campaign

- Acknowledging that Halloween continues to resonate with family audiences and as the Halloween period coincides with school mid-term break, there is even greater opportunity to attract family audiences and keep them in Limerick for longer, we launched a four-week #HalloweenInLimerick marketing campaign ending on 04 November.
- In collaboration with Fáilte Ireland, Marketing and Communications this year also managed the promotion of Lumen Theatre's Fire and Shadows Parade as part of the overall Halloween in Limerick promotional campaign.

# Executive Report



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

- Created a comprehensive event guide in digital and print formats, which were circulated to businesses throughout the city and county.
- This year, the campaign also included a range of out of home promotion to broaden awareness locally. These measures included bus advertising (side and rear panels), bus shelters, digital displays and flags across Limerick.
- Ran radio advertising in Irish and English languages across Live 95 and Spin South West.
- Created dedicated Halloween in Limerick social media content across each of our social platforms, including a competition featuring an overnight stay at the Absolute Hotel on the evening of the Samhain Parade.
- Created a dedicated hub of online activity on [Limerick.ie/Halloween](http://Limerick.ie/Halloween) promoting festivals, events and activities.

## Limerick Student City

- Concluded Limerick Student City marketing campaign, which welcomed Freshers, as well as existing students, to Limerick and encouraged them to engage with all Limerick has to offer, off-campus.
- The campaign, which used the hashtag #LimerickStudentCity, employed captivating content including reels on Instagram and TikTok, static imagery and campaign specific graphics to engage our target audience.
- The campaign launched the [Limerick Student City map and guide](#) aimed at students who may be new to the city.
- Campus visits took place at TUS Moylish, Limerick School of Art and Design, Mary Immaculate College and the University of Limerick to meet with students in-person and create engagement with Limerick.ie and our social channels via an iPad competition giveaway.

- Pillar specific merchandise was also created and distributed at these events.
- Marketing also attended the Limerick Open Days on the University of Limerick Campus to engage with potential students, their guardians, teachers and guidance counsellors.

## Other Marketing Activity

- Continued preparation for Christmas in Limerick 2024 marketing and communications campaign and in-person launch.
- Continued preparation for Limerick on Foot marketing and communications campaign and Invest Limerick campaign.
- Marketing support provided to colleagues in Regeneration, Libraries etc. and to visiting groups including those from the PGA.

## 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: 35,465
  - Limerick.ie X: 21,591
  - Limerick.ie Instagram: 34,484
  - Limerick.ie TikTok: 2,969
  - Limerick City and County Council X: 18,841
  - Limerick City and County Council Instagram: 1,428
  - Limerick City and County Council LinkedIn: 13,759

# Executive Report



Comhairle Cathrach  
& Contae **Luimníog**  
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& County Council

## Limerick.ie

In October, there were 189,460 unique site visits to Limerick.ie, a 4% increase on the same period in 2023. (\*Fathom Analytics)

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

1. [www.limerick.ie/halloween](http://www.limerick.ie/halloween)
2. [www.limerick.ie](http://www.limerick.ie)
3. [www.limerick.ie/council/services/planning-and-placemaking/search-for-a-planning-application/search-for-a-planning](http://www.limerick.ie/council/services/planning-and-placemaking/search-for-a-planning-application/search-for-a-planning)
4. [www.limerick.ie/discover/whats-on/festivals/samhain-limericks-halloween-festival](http://www.limerick.ie/discover/whats-on/festivals/samhain-limericks-halloween-festival)
5. [www.limerick.ie/discover/whats-on/kids-family-fun/lumen-street-theatres-fire-and-shadows-parade](http://www.limerick.ie/discover/whats-on/kids-family-fun/lumen-street-theatres-fire-and-shadows-parade)

**Content Report:** 226 articles, 230 events and 16 new amenities were added to Limerick.ie in October.

## Communications

- Issued 32 news releases from the Marketing and Communications Department and researched and wrote 36 speeches for the Office of the Mayor.
- Produced a video for the Newcastle West Integrated Urban Strategy survey and website.
- Posted 173 times on Limerick City and County Council's X account, @limerickcouncil, with total followers now 18,841. Our tweets earned 190,104 impressions (number of times users saw our post).

- Social posts to promote:
  - the Power Up Grant for the Rates Department
  - the N24 Cahir to Limerick Junction Project
  - posts and Social Ads to promote the latest Tourism Survey
  - posts scheduled weekly to promote the Newcastle West Regional Athletics Hub
  - the Arthur's Quay Framework Plan Public Consultation
  - the online survey for the Outdoor Recreation Plan
  - the Newcastle West Town Centre survey and plans
  - the 'We're Breastfeeding Friendly Limerick' campaign
  - dozens of road notices tweeted
  - dozens of water notices re-tweeted
  - several career opportunity posts for recruitment
  - several social posts for the Active Travel Department
- Handled all media queries, which come into [communications@limerick.ie](mailto:communications@limerick.ie) and continued to offer Communication support to all Directorates of Limerick City and County Council.

# Executive Report



Comhairle Cathrach  
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& County Council

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

	No of Calls mobilised to an emergency incident by MRCC	Other Calls	Average call processing time in minutes and seconds	Total No. of calls in October
No. of callouts 01.10.2024 – 31.10.2024	1,280	277	105.72	1,557