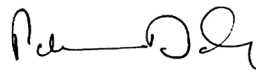


Executive Report

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

December 2024

€31m Coonagh to Knockalisheen Distributor Road Scheme Gets Moving with Contract Signing

Works Commence on King's Island Flood Relief Scheme

Adare By-Pass Design and Construction Contract is Awarded

Limerick and Austin, Texas, Sign Sister City Agreement

First Green Flag for Adare Town Park is Raised by Mayor of Limerick

Christmas in Limerick Delivers Festive Fun for all the Family

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Comhairle Cathrach
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Limerick City
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Office of the Mayor

Some highlights for the month of December were:

- The Mayor signed a formal Sister Cities agreement between Limerick and Austin, Texas
- The Mayor participated in a roundtable discussion hosted by the US Chamber of Commerce in the company of Irish Ambassador to the United States Geraldine Byrne Nason in Washington DC
- The Mayor was a guest speaker at the University College Dublin One Health Conference
- The Mayor attended the official relaunch of Dreamland Centre Limerick in conjunction with the Share A Dream Foundation on the Dublin Road, Limerick
- Mayor Moran hosted his first Mayoral Reception to honour the charitable work done by Tony, Hannah and Siobhan Noonan in County Hall, Dooradoyle, Co. Limerick

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

02 December

- Meeting with representatives from the Limerick Clare Education and Training Board
- Internal meeting with Limerick City and County Council Management Team
- Meeting with internal colleagues regarding the Transport Plan and bus priority measures in the city centre
- Meeting with representatives of NOVAS
- Attended the annual general meeting of Limerick Twenty Thirty Strategic Development DAC (Designated Activity Company)

03 December

- Attended and was speaker at the University College Dublin One Health Conference

04 December

- Attended United States Chamber of Commerce Roundtable with Irish Ambassador to the United States Geraldine Byrne Nason in Washington, America
- Lunch with Irish Ambassador to the United States Geraldine Byrne Nason in the Residence of Ireland, Washington DC, America

05 December

- Limerick Roundtable discussion with Assistant Secretary of State for International Affairs, Austin Council Economic Development Leadership, Opportunity Austin, University of Texas, Tech-Branch, Q-Branch and World Affairs Council in Heritage Title, Austin, Texas, America
- Meeting with Robert Hull, Consul General in the Consulate General of Ireland, Austin, Texas, America
- Attended the Sister City Agreement Signing Ceremony in City Hall, Austin, Texas, America
- Attended an Irish Business Network Gathering in Kellys Irish Pub, Austin, Texas, America

06 December

- Participated in a Fireside chat at Q-Branch Accelerator, Austin, Texas, America
- Visited Butler Brick Memorial window at Zilker Park, Austin, Texas, America
- Visited The Lyndon Baines Johnson Presidential Library and Museum in Austin, Texas, America

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Limerick City
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11 December 2024

- Attended the Limerick City and County Council Staff Liaison Network to present the Mayoral Programme to staff
- Meeting with internal staff to discuss O'Connell Street Bus Lane

12 December

- Attended senior staff Mayoral Programme Workshop in Newcastle West
- Attended a special meeting of the Local Strategic Advisory and Monitoring Group

13 December

- Attended the Southern Regional Assembly Ordinary Meeting

14 December

- Attended the official relaunch of Dreamland Centre Limerick in conjunction with the Share A Dream Foundation on the Dublin Road, Limerick
- Attended a Christmas Concert in aid of Limerick Suicide Watch in Saint Michael's Church, Denmark Street, Limerick

16 December

- Meeting with representatives of the Shannon Region Conference and Sports Bureau
- Internal Meeting with Limerick City and County Council Management Team
- Attended a photoshoot for the formal opening of the Limerick School of Art and Design Display in Debenhams
- Meeting with the Land Development Agency, Irish Rail and CIÉ (Córás Iompair Éireann)

- Meeting with Special Advisor and senior team member
- Meeting with the Director General
- Signing of Mayoral Orders

17 December

- Attended the official raising of the first Green Flag awarded to Adare Town Park, Adare, Co. Limerick
- Meeting with Mayoral Programme Manager
- Signing of Contract meeting
- Attended a photoshoot for a Winter Campaign Launch 'Show Me I.D.' at the Locke Bar, Limerick
- Hosted a Mayoral Reception for Tony, Hannah and Siobhan Noonan in County Hall, Dooradoyle, Co. Limerick

18 December

- Meeting with Limerick Sports Partnership
- Attended the Christmas Prayer Service in Istabraq Hall, Merchant's Quay, Limerick
- Meeting with Director of Service, Regeneration, Sports and Recreation
- Attended the Colbert Quarter Steering Oversight Group meeting
- Meeting with representatives of the Wild Atlantic Way Gateway

19 December

- Attended the special meeting of Limerick City and County Council
- Attended the reception for the inauguration of the Polish Consulate

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- Meeting with the Polish Ambassador
- Meeting with Irish Rail regarding a Limerick Commuter Rail Network Plan
- Meeting regarding Preliminary Business Case for SMART Homes.

20 December

- Meeting with Director of Service, Housing
- Meeting with representatives from the Office of Public Works and Limerick 2030
- Meeting with representatives of Hisco Housing Infrastructure Services Company
- Meeting with representatives from Discover Limerick Designated Activity Company (DAC)

22 December

- Attended Christmas events at The Crescent, O'Connell Street
- Attended a Civic Carol Service at Saint Mary's Cathedral, Limerick

21 December

- Meeting with representative from Ei Electronics

24 December

- Visited Saint Munchins' Community Centre

25 December

- Visited Limerick Fire Station, Mulgrave Street, Limerick



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Limerick City
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Finance, Economic Development and Digital Services

1. Finance

Commercial Rates and Loans

Draft Collection Figures

Commercial Rates 2024	
As at 31 December 2024	
Opening Balance - 1 Jan €	4,796,855
Accruals €	64,154,752 **
Vacant Property Adjustment €	923,332
Writes offs/ Waivers €	3,372,302
Total for Collection €	64,655,973
Amount Collected €	60,710,540
Arrears €	3,945,433 ***
Specific Doubtful Arrears €	677,143
% Collected	94.9%

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

*** Subject to finalisation of Annual Financial Statement 2024

Recourse to Overdraft Facility

No. of days in overdraft 0

Debtors Loans	
As at 31 December 2024	
Opening Balance - 1 Jan €	295,007
Accruals €	1,773,391 *
Writes offs €	-
To Collect €	2,068,398
Receipts €	1,961,726
Arrears €	106,672 ***
% Collected	95%

* Accruals for December 2024 not processed

*** Subject to finalisation of Annual Financial Statement 2024

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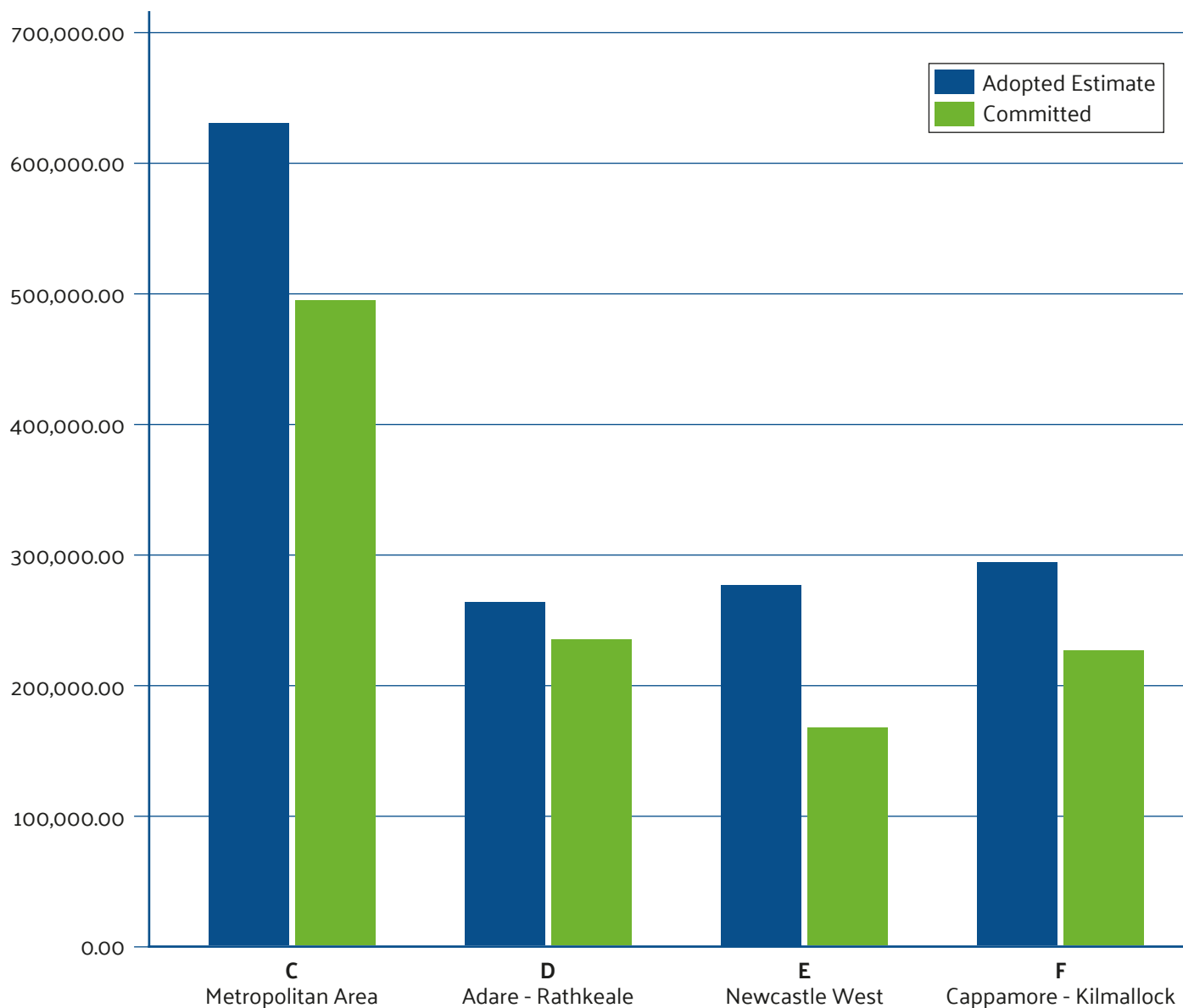


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General Municipal Allocation 2024 Adopted Estimate €1.463 Million

Graph outlining adopted budget and draft committed expenditure up to 31 December 2024
(subject to finalisation of Annual Financial Statement 2024)



Municip (Code) + (Text)

Value Adopted Estimate (€)

Value Committed (€)

C Metropolitan Area

628,000.00

496,727

D Adare - Rathkeale

269,500.00

235,970

E Newcastle West

270,500.00

168,452

F Cappamore - Kilmallock

295,000.00

222,957

1,463,000.00

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2. Trade and Investment

Limerick Gift Card

The new Limerick Gift Card provided a substantial boost for the local economy with €118,000 spent on the card in December as part of efforts to support local businesses by locking in spending and attracting new spending to the county. The Gift Card is backed by Limerick City and County Council and Limerick Chamber, the Gift Card is available as either a physical gift card or an e-card that can be added to digital wallets. Cards can be spent in the city and surrounding towns, including Newcastle West, Adare, Abbeyfeale, Kilmallock and Rathkeale. Over 177 businesses, including independent businesses and well-known Irish brands, accept the new Limerick Gift Card.

Austin Sister City Agreement

Trade and Investment facilitated and accompanied the Mayor of Limerick, John Moran, on an international visit where the Mayor signed a Sister Cities Agreement with Austin, Texas, one of the most culturally and industrially thriving cities in the US.

The Agreement, outlining mutual commitments to collaborate in areas such as business development, science and technology, the creative economy, education, tourism, and urban development, was formalised at a ceremony attended by the Mayor of Limerick, John Moran, and Austin Mayor, Kirk Watson, on 05 December.

The new Agreement also establishes a framework for maintaining direct communication between the two cities through annual meetings and exchanges of ideas and best practices.

The ceremony also featured the unveiling of the Limerick Sister City sign outside Austin City Hall in the Texan city with a population of almost one million people.

Debenhams

Trade and Investment facilitated the temporary opening of the Debenhams building on O'Connell Street in December for the Limerick School of Art and Design Christmas Showcase. The festive showcase had the works of more than 100 talented local artists on display.

Night Time Economy (NTE)

- Finalised draft Action Plan framework in preparation for review by Steering Committee.
- NTE Advisor met with the University of Limerick Safety Research Project coordinators to discuss recent research and data collection which may be able to be accessed in due course to assist with the safety component of NTE development.
- Meeting held with internal teams about development of a new music festival proposal 'Soundwaves' for Limerick and next steps considered to progress the proposal.
- NTE Advisor attended an event in Dublin which involved a NTE presentation and discussion with a South Korean NTE delegation. This was in conjunction with other NTE Advisors and an additional meeting was held separately by the Advisors to discuss future collaborative objectives and priorities for consideration by the Department.

3. Digital Services

In December, the Digital Services Team continued to enhance the digital infrastructure and services provided to Council operations. These projects included the development of the following:

Mayoral Programme Reporting Tool: Following an inception meeting, an intensive development programme began to develop a robust Reporting Tool to enable Limerick City and County Council identify the 491 Statements of Intent within the Mayoral Programme 2024-2029, assign owners to those statements, record

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alignment with other strategies and plans, record budgetary and geographical information and record progress over the next five years. The Reporting Tool allows for infinite tasks and associated data to be created under each Statement of Intent, acknowledging the complexity and interdepartmental / interagency collaborations required to achieve progress on each Statement of Intent. By recording this information, reporting and interrogating progress will be possible.

4. Local Enterprise Office (LEO) Limerick

- LEO Limerick ran four Training and Mentoring programmes for Limerick-based businesses, which were attended by 45 business owners from across the City and County.
- LEO Limerick approved:
 - Three Green for Business supports to help Limerick business understanding their energy usage and carbon footprint.
 - Two Energy Efficiency grants to provide funding for business to adopt energy efficiency measures.
 - Nine Trading Online Vouchers to assist Limerick companies who want to trade online.
 - Three Technical Assistance for Micro Exporters grants to assist Limerick businesses with their exporting strategy.
- On 31 December, the Trading Online Voucher and the Technical Assistance for Micro Exporters' grants were discontinued in LEO Limerick and across the LEO network. New supports for Digitalisation and Exporting have been launched called the Grow Digital Grant and the Market Explorer Grant and more details on these new grants can be found on the LEO website at or by contacting the LEO Limerick team.

5. Innovate Limerick Designated Activity Company (DAC)

The following Events and Meetings took place in December:

- 18 December - Christmas Meet up Event for all Business within ENGINE – over 80 people from Vitalograph, Maverick, Accounting Pro, Local Enterprise Office, Discover Limerick DAC, Innovate Limerick attended.
- 01-14 December - Film Production - One Night Only. The production took place in the Royal Theatre located on Cecil Street. Over 100 film crew members and extras used the building on a daily basis. The crew had access to the building 24x7, event space and meeting room. The ENGINE building was used for film rehearsals, make-up, meetings etc.
- 05-07 December – Romanian Elections Voting Station.
- 04 December - Film in Limerick Meetings.
- 03, 09, 10 December - Local Enterprise Office Limerick used the meeting space for multiple client and staff meetings.
- 03 December - A.I.B. Senior Management Event.
- 10, 11 and 12 December - Vitelograph meetings.
- 13 December – Meeting with Accounting Pro.
- 16 December - Maverick, small company meeting.



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Transportation and Mobility

1. Travel and Transport Strategy

Limerick City and County Council announced the award of the €31 million construction contract for the Coonagh to Knockalisheen Distributor Road Scheme to Wills Bros. Ltd.

The project is a key part of the Limerick Regeneration Framework Implementation Plan and will resume after construction was previously halted following the receivership of the former contractor.

This critical infrastructure project will deliver improved connectivity, support future economic development, and enhance the quality of life for communities in Moyross and the surrounding areas.

Adare Transport Plan

On 10 December, a briefing was held with the Members of the Municipal District of Adare-Rathkeale to discuss the Adare Transport Plan.

Limerick City Centre Transport Plan

A presentation was given to Members of the Metropolitan District of Limerick providing an update on the preparation of the Limerick City Centre Transport Plan. The presentation included an overview of the recent shopper survey which was carried out in the city centre.

2. Active Travel

Projects on Site

Mill Road, Corbally, Limerick: Surfacing of the carriageway between Laurelville and Brookhaven Walk completed and road markings applied. Carriageway surfaced from the rear entrance of St. Munchins College to the Bishop's Field gate. Construction of the boundary wall continued.

R510 Quinn's Cross to Raheen, Limerick: Installation of surface water drainage north of the pedestrian crossing at St. Nesson's National School completed. Laying of kerbs and construction of subbase and placing concrete to footpaths continued.

St Patrick's Road: Works continued to progress on site.

Caherconlish National School: Road marking continued.

Other Projects

TUS to City Centre, Moylish, Limerick: Tender review currently in standstill period.

Childers Road (Greenpark to Roxboro Road Roundabout): Snagging to cycle ramp at Roxboro Roundabout continued.

Plassey Park Road, Castletroy, Limerick: Cycle signal heads and options for same being reviewed.

Rósmor, Old Cork Road, Limerick: Road Safety Audit recommendations being reviewed.

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

Cappamore and Doon Public Realm: Part 8 for Cappamore and Doon Public Realm Plans public consultation finished and submissions closed.

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3. Mid West National Road Design Office

Foynes to Limerick Road Scheme (including Adare By-Pass)

On 16 December, Limerick City and County Council announced that the joint venture of John Sisk & Son (Holdings) Ltd. and Sorensen Civil Engineering Ltd., known as the Sisk Sorensen Joint Venture, had been awarded the Adare By-Pass design and construction contract.



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Limerick City
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Rural, Culture, Community and Tourism Development

1. Culture

Library

City Library at Barrow House

- Weekly Digital Skills training sessions by Age Action completed on 03 December.
- A public consultation on the Draft Limerick Biodiversity Action Plan 2025-2030 was held at the Library on 02 December.
- There were six book club meetings across December for all ages.
- The University of the Third Age's Spanish Language Conversation and Crafting Groups both held their regular meetings on 05, 12 and 18 of the month.
- The Writepace creative writers' group held two meetings during the month - on 07 and 14 December.
- Áine Ní Fhlatharta from An Taisce visited the City Library on 10 December to provide free workshops for pupils from three local primary schools. The workshops showed the students fun ways to reduce energy consumption while taking part in some exciting science experiments.
- A Leaving Certificate class from Limerick Youth Service visited on 02 December for a library tour while the Fifth Year History class from Gaelcholáiste Luimnigh enjoyed an introduction to the history resources available through their local libraries on 06 December.
- Two groups of English language students from Doras Luimní visited on 04 December and a group of beginner English Language students from Student Campus called on 06 December to become library members and receive a tour and introduction to the Library.
- Róisín Meaney regaled a rapt audience with festive stories, rhymes and songs at her monthly story time on 14 December, while the library's own weekly story times continued to draw big crowds every Wednesday morning.
- The Library also welcomed children from several schools, including Autism Spectrum Disorder classes from St. John the Baptist, St. Patrick's Boys and Bohermore National Schools. A number of classes from St. Michael's National School and Scoil Iosagáin also visited this month.

Kilmallock Library

- On 10 December, the newly formed Kilmallock Community Choir completed a pilot programme and performed a festive selection of songs in the library. The choir was facilitated by Music Therapist, Sara Dopazo, and supported by Kilmallock and District Mental Health Association in conjunction with the Health Service Executive.
- The Hiroshima-Nagasaki Atomic Bomb Photo exhibition, produced by the Hiroshima Peace Memorial Museum, continued. The exhibition material is supplied courtesy of the Embassy of Japan in Ireland.
- Little Readers met on 11 December for a fun-filled session of Christmas themed stories, songs and craft.
- Ongoing visits throughout December from St. Joseph's Foundation to the Magic Table under the Happiness Programme.
- Yoga Classes recommenced on Friday mornings throughout December supported by Ballyhoura Development Company.
- Kilmallock Library's Irish Conversation Circle met on 10 and 19 December.
- "Walk and Talk" group, facilitated by Limerick Sports

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Partnership, continued to meet at Kilmallock Library each Wednesday morning during December at 11am with an average of 20 participants.

- Weekly Kilmallock Library Craft Group sessions continued on each Thursday morning.
- Bridge classes continued on each Wednesday of December with an average of 10 participants at each session.
- Poet, Michael Dooley, read from his debut collection, *In Spring we Turned to Water* at the Open Mic Night. The evening was hosted by poet and seanchaí, John Carew, and featured a talented array of writers who travelled from near and far to share their work.
- On 20 December, local cello player, Tadhg O'Brien, performed a selection of festive tunes for all to enjoy with refreshments available.

Newcastle West Library

- Youth Book Club for ages 10 to 13 continued to meet 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 from 10am to 11am.
- Knitting Club continued every Friday morning from 11am to 1pm.
- Adult Book Club continued on the last Thursday of the month.
- On 04 December, the library hosted a public consultation on the Draft Limerick Biodiversity Action Plan 2025-2030.

- On 05 December, staff were delighted to welcome classes from the Autism Spectrum Disorder Unit in Courtenay Boys National School for a Sensory Story time and sock puppet workshop with Simone and Michael.
- In addition, Festive Folktales with Simone were very much enjoyed by the boys from Third Class in the Courtenay Boys' National School.

Dooradoyle Library

- "Christmas Tales by the Fireside" Storyteller and musician, David (Daithí) Collopy, visited Dooradoyle, Adare and Watch House Cross branches to recount stories of Christmas traditions gone by, including the Hunting of the Wren, Thomond Bridge on Christmas Eve, the Bells of St. Mary's Cathedral, the Winter Solstice and Nollaig na mBan! Participating families also enjoyed seasonal crafts with library staff.
- Health Service Executive Limerick Training Services Annual Christmas Exhibition included painting, craft and two giant penguins. The show was opened by former rugby union referee, Joy Neville, on 11 December with a large audience in attendance.
- On 06 December, the children from St Anthony's Montessori, Mungret, attended for a morning of festive themed song, story, and crafts. On 13 December, Second Class pupils from St. Paul's National School marked National Irish Sign language Day when they learned to sign some Christmas songs and rhymes.
- The weekly knitting group 'Close Knit Friends' continued and, as a special project, they presented the library with a book-themed knitted wall-hanging. On 17 December, they concluded their year with a wreath-making workshop.
- Helium Arts completed a six-week series of workshops entitled 'Winter Saturdays' on 07 December. The aim of these free creative art workshops is to help children with lifelong physical health conditions live life to the full.

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- The annual Christmas Colouring and Drawing Competition concluded with a prize-giving ceremony on 14 December. Over 190 prizes were awarded, and the wonderful artwork was on display throughout the month of December.
- A series of Baby Massage classes concluded on 16 December.
- Dooradoyle Book Club held their meeting on the last Thursday of the month.
- The weekly Himalayan meditation sessions concluded for the year on 06 December.
- On 06 December, the library hosted a monthly information stand from Southill Family Resource Centre.
- The Multiple Sclerosis Support Group held its monthly meeting on 06 December.
- Class visits continued throughout the month of December and included students from St. Paul's National School and Crescent College Comprehensive Secondary School.

Watch House Cross

- On 10 December, children from Limerick Community Special School, Mungret, visited the library for the first time to avail of the Sensory Room.
- The weekly Parent and Toddler Group continued to meet on Friday mornings during the month with a special visit from Santa Claus on 13 December.
- The Friday morning book club held their monthly meeting on 13 December.
- Storyteller and musician, Daithi Collopy, hosted 'Christmas Tales with Daithi' on 14 December. The event focused on tales of Christmas traditions gone by and concluded with a singalong for children.

- During December, the library welcomed Senior Infants from Corpus Christi National School and a pre-school class from Northside Family Resource Centre for story-time and colouring.
- The sensory room had 194 visitors during December with 51 bookings.
- Weekly activities including Crafty Saturdays and story-time continued.

Local Studies

- There were 36 onsite visits to Local Studies, comprising research on the newspaper archives, databases, and materials from the Local Studies collection. There were 26 remote queries.
- Distribution of the Department's Centenaries publication for 2024, Limerick After the Civil War, 1923-1930: A Documentary History, continued and a number of new acquisitions were added to stock.

Abbeyfeale

- On 06 December, Second Class students from Scoil Mháthair Dé and their families visited the library to decorate the Christmas tree and officially turn on the Christmas lights. All of the decorations on the Library Tree were handmade by the students of Scoil Mháthair Dé. They also treated everyone to a Christmas Sing Song.
- Craft Group has continued to meet monthly, on the third Wednesday.

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Adare

- St. Nicholas School, Junior and Senior Infants, enjoyed Christmas Storytime with arts and craft in the library on 13 December.
- Family Time at Your Library – Christmas Tales by the Limerick Fireside, on 14 December, was open to all.
- The 2020 Book Club convened for its monthly meeting to discuss the latest book selections and share insights.
- The Parent, Baby, and Toddler Group met weekly. The month started with a special Christmas-themed arts and craft session, followed by regular meetings with songs, rhymes, and stories.

Other Branches

- Family Time At Your Library, a Right to Read initiative, which takes place in December, was supported by events in many branches.
- Arran Towers gave two performances of his 'Tallest Smallest Circus' show in Cappamore Library on 10 December with 49 pupils from Scoil Chaitríona.

Glin Library welcomed the local Community Singing Group on 09 and 17 December and hosted an information session on the rights and entitlements of retired citizens, facilitated by West Limerick Resources.

Roxboro Library welcomed class visits from Gaelscoil Sheoirse Clancy, Le Cheile National School, and Our Lady Queen of Peace Autism Spectrum Disorder Unit during the month. On 19 December, the pupils from Our Lady Queen of Peace enjoyed a Christmas storytime and craft session in the library.

Library staff appeared on the Limerick Today show on Live 95 on 19 December to talk about the best books of 2024, and to share some reading recommendations for the Christmas Holidays.

Limerick City Gallery of Art (LCGA)

- The exhibition, CLAY LINES: 50 Years of Ceramics, at Limerick School of Art and Design, continued throughout December. This extraordinary exhibition marks the first ever public display of an historic collection of final year student works from the renowned ceramics programme at Limerick School of Art and Design. Spanning five decades, the exhibition offers an invaluable record of the ceramic programme's creative legacy and an inspiration for future generations of ceramicists.
- Limerick Printmakers opened an exhibition, Risk/Reward, to mark the 25th anniversary of the founding of this important resource for printmakers in Limerick and surrounding areas. This exhibition continued during December.
- A selection of works from the Permanent Collection also continued utilising all areas in the Gallery and highlighting recent acquisitions with older firm favourites.
- Meetings and workshops took place with U3A (University of the Third Age) throughout December.
- LCGA hosted an event in conjunction with Age and Opportunity and Réalta, for artists interested in working with older people.
- A series of three events were put on in December in collaboration with Limerick Arts Office.
- LCGA continued to loan two works by Sarah Purser from the Permanent Collections to the Hugh Lane Gallery.
- A call for expressions of interest went out for the Shinnors Scholar position in December.

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Limerick Museum

- On 05 December, Limerick Museum hosted the official opening of Embodied Space, an exhibition on Doonass House, Co. Clare, by Kathleen Bartlett. Kathleen Bartlett has been a member of Contact Studios, Limerick, since 2013. She currently works from her studio at Clonlara, Co. Clare. Her work explores the phenomenology of 'other' spaces through practice-based fine art. A graduate of Limerick School of Art and Design Research Institute, her studio practice comprises primarily painting, as well as model-making, photography, video and sculptural work. The subject matter of her current work is the exploration of ruins and their intersection with the phenomenology of other spaces.
- On 11 December, Kathleen showed a short film on the same topic to an invited audience in the Museum, which was followed by a very interesting discussion. Both the film and the exhibition are part of her PhD project on Doonass House in Co. Clare: a landed estate Georgian House now standing in ruins. During her ongoing research into our paradoxical response to the visibility/invisibility of ruins in the Irish countryside, Kathleen has explored archives and interviewed local people who had interacted with the house and its inhabitants throughout the years. Drawing on these, she has continued to make work that includes film, paintings, photography and sculpture, as well as a visual timeline that pulls together stories attached to the space from 1780 to when it was burned down in 2009.
- On 11 December, the Curator appeared on the RTE 6.01 News, broadcast on RTE One Television. He was interviewed by Cathy Halloran, RTE's Mid-Western Correspondent, as part of a package on a collection of vintage toys that Randel Hodgkinson and Dr. Paul O'Brien had put on display in the former Billy Higgins' Shop near Limerick Museum.
- The pop-up exhibition, Objects of the Revolution in East Limerick, continued in the Museum throughout December.

Limerick Arts Office

Arts Office and Creative Ireland Programmes

The Vanbrugh Quartet in Abbeyfeale

The Vanbrugh Quartet, and guest musicians, supported by Creative Communities Limerick, played a free concert in the Glórach Theatre, Abbeyfeale, on 06 December. Founded in 1986, the Vanbrugh Quartet has become one of Ireland's leading chamber ensembles, performing internationally and receiving critical acclaim for its diverse repertoire. This concert offered a rare opportunity to hear two iconic works performed by world-class musicians.

Winter Warmer

On 08 December, Dance Limerick hosted and presented 'Winter Warmer,' a showcase of international dance in Limerick, in partnership with Creative Communities Limerick. 'Winter Warmer' consisted of an afternoon of dance from a selection of the diverse communities that make up the city. This initiative featured 15 dance artists and had an audience of 100.

Sing Cois Feile, Abbeyfeale

Plans to establish a community singing group in Abbeyfeale progressed in December, following the final 'taster' workshop in St. Ita's Community Hall under musician, Fiona Walshe. This project is being funded by the Creative Ireland Creative Communities Programme, and is supported by West Limerick Resources and Limerick Arts Office.

Arts in Healthcare Settings

Realta, the national Arts and Health Body, held a daylong workshop and training experience for artists (all disciplines) on 05 December. Limerick participants were supported by the Arts Office under its programme of professional development for artists.

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Helium Arts

The final is a series of a six-week programme of Winter Workshops for children aged 9-12 years was completed at end December.

Theatre for All – King’s Island Youth Drama Pilot Project

Workshops completed in December, with young people from different clubs in the Nicholas Street Youth Space and their work was shared in The GAFF on 14 December. This project is being funded through the Creative Ireland Creative Communities programme.

Arts in Homeless Services

A visual arts project commenced in Oak Lodge Homeless Services provision in December, under the Arts Office Creative Communities Programme. This pilot project is being run in partnership with Mid-West Simon.

Limerick Bands Perform on City Streets

A number of performances took place across the city from Limerick Bands during December; CBS Pipe Band, City of Limerick Pipe Band, and Boherbuoy Brass and Reed Band, supported through Limerick Arts Office Christmas Band Support Grants.

PAUL Partnership Arts in Deis Schools

The Arts Office commenced facilitation of a programme, Arts in Deis Schools, in King’s Island, in partnership with the PAUL Partnership. Dance and Paint Punch classes commenced. Paint Punch is an innovative activity connecting painting and boxing.

Arts Industries in Schools Pilot

Projects to introduce transition year students to arts industries continued in December. Projects underway included costume design and costume making for film and theatre in Scoil Iosaef in Kilmallock and Mask and Prop Making by Lumen Street Theatre in Sexton Street. A programme of aerial and circus skills including talks by an artist, a rigger and director was completed in the Irish

Aerial Creation Centre. An eight-week project in music production, performance, song writing and stagecraft culminated on 12 December with a collaborative performance in Desmond College, Newcastle West, between Liam Ó Maonlaí of the Hot House Flowers and transition year students. Other artists involved in the project included local songwriter, Abbey Butler, and operatic tenor, Brian Hartnett.

This pilot scheme is being supported by Limerick City and County Council and the Arts Council Partnership funding framework.

Lunchtime Events at City Gallery of Art

Limerick Arts Office presented three lunchtime arts events on 06, 12 and 19 December in partnership with Limerick City Gallery of Art (LCGA). An exhibition, walk and talk, celebrating 50 years of student ceramic art at Limerick School of Art and Design, by Mike Byrne, Siobhan O’Reilly and Mike Fitzpatrick; The Shannon Collective: Students of the MA in Irish Traditional Music Performance at the Irish World Academy, University of Limerick and Members of the Limerick Jazz Society, Joe O Callaghan, Peter Hanagan and John Daly performed new works.

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2. Property Management Services

Dereliction, Vacancy and Reuse Team	
Site Inspections Completed	154
Department Notices of Inquiry issued	7
Derelict Sites Cases opened	6
Statutory Notices served under the Derelict Sites Act 1990	26
Derelict Sites Cases closed through engagement	16
Properties entered into the Derelict Sites Register	4
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	11

Special consideration will be given but not limited to Graveyard Committees, Community Youth Groups and projects to improve disability access. The Local Enhancement Programme 2025 opened for applications on 18 December.

SICAP (Social Inclusion and Community Activation Programme)

The Annual Plans for 2025 were submitted by the three Limerick LOTS for review and approval.

Funding for SICAP in 2025 was announced as follows:

Lot Area	SICAP Budget 2025	New Arrivals Budget 2025	Total
LOT 21-1 Limerick West Rural	€642,136.00	€50,642.00	€692,778.00
LOT 21-2 Limerick Urban	€1,519,859.00	€204,100.00	€1,723,959.00
LOT 21-3 Limerick East Rural	€548,140.00	€50,951.00	€599,091.00
TOTAL	€2,710,135.00	€305,693.00	€3,015,828.00

3. Community Development

Local Community Development Committee

- The Local Community Development Committee meeting and workshop was held on 03 December in The Limerick Strand Hotel, Limerick. Members were presented with a position paper on the Local Enhancement Programme 2025, which was agreed by the members and is open for application.
- The Local Enhancement Programme 2025 is funded by the Department of Rural and Community Development and administered by the Local Community Development Committees (LCDCs). Limerick has received an allocation of €264,712 for projects under the Scheme to assist community groups across the county. This support is available to Parish Halls, Community Centres, Local Development Associations, Social Clubs, ICA Groups, Senior Citizen Groups, Men's Sheds, Women's Sheds and more.

The SICAP allocation is based on an overall budget increase of €1.5m for the programme in 2025, representing 3.15% of an increase for each Lot/Contract Area. The New Arrivals allocation is primarily based on the data of the number of International Protection Applicants and Ukrainians per SICAP Lot/Contract Area as of November provided by the Central Statistics Office and the Department of Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth. Where there has been a reduction in the numbers of New Arrivals for a Lot/Contract Area, the Department of Rural and Community Development has decided not to apply the reduction, and these Lots/Contract Areas will receive the same level of funding as was issued for 2024.

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Public Participation Network (PPN)

- Membership of PPN Limerick continued to grow and stands at 231. The membership registration form is on the Limerick PPN [website](#) and eligible groups in Limerick can register at any time.
- The Secretariat continued to fulfil its functions, delivering a Plenary Meeting on 12 December.
- At the Plenary Meeting, the nominees from Members in the Community/Voluntary, Social Inclusion and Environmental Sector for the 24 available Representative Seats on the five Limerick City and County Council Strategic Policy Committees were accessed, with two elections held at the meeting. These 13 nominees were ratified by the Plenary, with a report submitted for the Special Council Meeting held on 19 December. Nominees were appointed to their committees at this meeting.
- PPN Limerick continued to have an active presence with its regularly updated website, social media and bi-monthly Newsletter distributed to members.

Sláintecare Healthy Communities

- The Sláintecare Healthy Communities Programme in Limerick City and County delivered a range of activities throughout December. The focus remained on improving health outcomes, addressing health inequalities, and supporting community engagement through distinct programmes and projects.

MoveWell Programme

• Breathe Well

Weekly sessions took place at Ballynanty Community Hall every Thursday in December, supporting individuals managing stable asthma and Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease (COPD).

• Move Steady

Weekly sessions were delivered at Moyross Community Centre every Friday, focusing on improving strength, balance, and fall prevention among older participants.

Venture Out Programme

COPD SingStrong Groups

Moyross:	Weekly sessions continued with 11 participants.
King's Island:	Weekly sessions supported seven participants.
Ballinacurra Weston:	Sessions were attended by seven participants.

A citywide Christmas gathering was held for all Venture Out participants, providing an opportunity for groups to connect and celebrate the festive season together.

Limerick Growing Communities

On 03 December, Klaus Laitenberger facilitated a session focusing on practical approaches to sustainable garden planning.

Gardening Geodome at St. John the Baptist Boys' School

The first working group meeting took place in December. An implementation plan has been developed.

Ballynanty Enhancement Project

Work commenced on the enhancement project with the holding of a community consultation at Ballynanty Community Centre, engaging local residents and gathering feedback for the development process.

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Garryowen Citizen Research Café

The first Community Connect Café was hosted at the Garryowen Community Development Project (CDP), promoting dialogue and collaboration among residents as part of the citizen research work.

ADAPT Wellbeing Cabin

The ADAPT Wellbeing Cabin was successfully erected in December. This dedicated space will support gardening, wellbeing activities, and community engagement.

Midwest Simon Community

Wellbeing sessions, including Reiki and hands-free healing, were delivered to residents in December.

Healthy Relationships Team

The team presented to the Health and Wellbeing Subcommittee in December. Updates included ongoing progress in educational workshops, resource development, and engagement activities.

Healthy Limerick

Limerick Food Partnership: Ongoing research entitled, “What are the key factors contributing to food poverty in Limerick City and County, with a focusing on access, awareness and supply,” is on track with an interim report submitted to Healthy Limerick. Research is looking at how effective are current food poverty and insecurity policies, programmes and services and what strategies could be implemented to enhance their impact on vulnerable populations in the region.

Social Health and Education Project (SHEP): SHEP is a voluntary organisation/training and development organisation working to support mental health in Cork, Kerry, Limerick, Clare and Tipperary regions, as well as part of the South East.

Programmes and workshops running across the Autumn/Winter have concluded for 2024; programmes included “Managing Stress in Our Everyday Lives,” “Caring for Our Wellbeing,” and “Personal Development.” Workshops

such as “Supporting Yourself as a Parent,” “Managing Stress” and “Let’s Talks about Transition to Secondary School” concluded, as well as “Seasons for Growth” tutor training. Demand for these programmes remains strong in Limerick.

Age Friendly

On 09 December, Age Friendly Limerick held the Annual General Meeting of the Older Persons’ Executive. The event marked a significant milestone, bidding farewell to three long-serving and deeply committed members whose dedication and distinguished service will leave a lasting impact on the organisation. Their contributions were honoured with Certificates of Appreciation and bespoke glass pieces, which were given as a token of the organisation’s heartfelt gratitude; their commitment and efforts were instrumental in driving the success of Age Friendly Limerick.

4. Ukrainian Accommodation Response Team

Integration, Health and Wellbeing Supports

The Ukrainian Accommodation Team continued to administer the “Offer A Home Programme” across Limerick City and County.

Properties	December 2024	To Date 31/12/2024
Offered	6	228
Inspected	5	228
Allocated /People Housed	4 / 7	150 / 472
Allocation in Progress	1	1
To be inspected	0	0
Not suitable/withdrawn	2	74
Not yet Ready	1	1
To be matched	0	2

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The LAIT (Local Authority Integration Team) continued to meet with clients on both a one-to-one basis, and in group settings. Regular visits were made to the 22 Beneficiaries of Temporary Protection Accommodations and Seven International Protection accommodations across the city and county. The role of the LAIT is to work closely with state agencies, the non-government organisation (NGO) and Community and Voluntary Sectors to ensure the needs are met in a coordinated and timely manner.

5. Tourism

Limerick Tourism, Festivals and Events Department

Limerick Greenway

- Limerick Greenway's marketing campaign continued throughout December and included the following:
 - Santa's Greenway Fancy Dress Cycle on 08 December between Ardagh Greenway Hub and Newcastle West Greenway Carpark, which included refreshments, spot prizes, goodie bags, photographs with Santa, music and broadcast with Live95 and a surprise arrival of Santa by Fire Engine.
 - Articles in The Irish Independent and Limerick Leader on 12 Ways to enjoy Limerick Greenway over the Christmas period.
- Limerick Greenway's social media campaign on Facebook and Instagram included the following:
 - 12 posts on The 12 Wonders of Limerick Greenway, commencing on 03 December and finishing on 20 December.
 - Christmas Social Media Competition post on 06 December, with the comprehensive package prize provided by the three businesses at Barnagh Greenway Hub.

- A post on 16 December to confirm the Social Media Competition closed and the winner was picked using an automated competition picker and contacted directly to arrange collection of their prize.
- A post on 11 December promoting the Twilight Market at Barnagh Greenway Hub on 20 December.
- A Happy Christmas To All post from Limerick Greenway on 25 December.

Statistics for Limerick Greenway socials 01 to 31 December:

Facebook

Reach: 25,195

Profile Visits: 1,762

New Page Followers: 122

Instagram

Reach: 9,728

Profile Visits: 892

New Page Followers: 367

Social Media Ads (Facebook and Instagram advertising statistics combined)

Accounts reached: 9,157

Post Engagements: 1,336

Link clicks (to the website): 415

Google Ads

Clicks: 1,010

Impressions: 16,600

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TOURISM INDUSTRY TRADE EVENTS

- Ireland's Hidden Heartlands Tourism Officers Networking event was held on 04 December in Athlone, Co. Westmeath, and was attended by staff of the Tourism Department of Limerick City and County Council.

FESTIVALS AND EVENTS

The month of December was filled with events across Limerick. Cruises Street was animated with activities for families every Saturday and Sunday, with stilt walkers face-painting, balloon modelling and kid's discos. The music generation stage had performances from various acts in the City Centre, which all added to the wonderful festive atmosphere.

Christmas Procession

LUXE Christmas Procession took place on 01 December and kicked off the Christmas festivities. The parade was full of lights, costumed characters and magical figures that floated through the Georgian Quarter of Limerick City creating a beautiful and enthralling atmosphere across the City and bringing Christmas to life.

Festive Workshops at Fab Lab

On 07 and 14 December, three classes each day were put on for young kids aged between eight to 12 years old. The kids were in Fab Lab's fully functional digital fabrication laboratory where they created Christmas decorations using their laser cutting equipment and 3D printer.

The Treaty City Markets

The Treaty City Market, which took place on 14 December on Nicholas Street, allowed people to wander along the beautiful historical street and support local vendors while listening to local DJs such as DJ, Michelle Walsh. They also had a festive spin to their food offering with The Christmas Dinner Burger followed by mince pies

Carols and Arias at Christmas

This event took place on 22 December. The Limerick Opera Festival put on a festive operatic performance where people could listen to arias and overtures in the heart of the City Centre.

Christmas Tales by the Limerick Fireside

Limerick Tales was held across Limerick over the month. Storyteller David Collopy recounted stories of Christmas traditions gone by, specific to Limerick, such as Thomond Bridge on Christmas Eve and on the Bells of Saint Mary's Cathedral, which provided a heart-warming experience for all families.

A Limerick Georgian Christmas

Took place on 22 December at O'Connell Crescent. This event was presented by the local neighbourhood of The Georgian Quarter and the Mayor of Limerick, John Moran. The Georgian Quarter had street theatre performances, panto choirs, sacred Latin recitals and jazzy melodies transforming the area into an immersive Christmas experience while also providing the opportunity to take a picture with Santa Paws and Henri.

Festival in a Van

After Festival in a Van's success in O'Connell Crescent, they returned to Thomas Street for the three Sundays leading up to Christmas. The Van, which turns into a stage, created a festive soundtrack for the City Centre. The van showcased local talent such as Evangeline O'Neill, Paddy Dennehy, David Hope, Michelle Grimes, and jaYne.

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6. Discover Limerick Designated Activity Company (DAC)

King John's Castle lit up in red at night time to coincide with the annual Christmas in Limerick marketing campaign being run by Limerick City and County Council.

The annual Christmas "Giving Tree Toy Appeal" initiative was run again in December, with all donations being presented to staff members of the Children's Ark Unit in University Hospital Limerick. Discover Limerick DAC was delighted to lend its support to this worthy cause again this year.

In conjunction with Limerick City and County Council, King John's Castle hosted a fashion show "Couture at the Castle" with Limerick's own Celia Holeman Lee on 07 December. Showcasing the best of Limerick's top boutiques and designers, bringing them together for an amazing fashion show, shining a spotlight on the incredible talent our city has to offer. Feedback on this event was very positive, hosting it in such a unique venue – with the Castle courtyard as the scenic backdrop; it really was a festive treat for all those who attended on the day.

Adare Heritage Centre's Dovecote restaurant ramps up into Christmas mode every December and this year was no different, with the home catering menu attracting a loyal customer base annually, people ordered their usual favourites and this year the restaurant offered a new service to complement its regular menu in the restaurant. It offered a "traditional festive turkey and ham lunch" daily to cater for any local businesses that wanted to treat their staff to a Christmas lunch. This was promoted online via the centre's social media channels and supported by an email marketing campaign.

Adare Heritage Centre re-development plans – Part 8 planning was up for decision by Councillors of the Municipal District of Adare-Rathkeale at a meeting held on 10 December. This motion was passed.



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Regeneration, Sports and Recreation

1. Regeneration, Sports and Recreation

Economic Regeneration

Part 2 of the Junior Careers Fair took place on 04 December. This is provided for under the Outreach to Employment Programme, which is led by Limerick City and County Council. Children and parents from Corpus Christi Primary School, Moyross, visited Analog Devices International Campus located in Raheen Business Park, Raheen, and Irish Rail's operations at Colbert Station, Limerick.

Sixth Class students and their parents got an opportunity to learn about the history and geography of Analog Devices International and interact with technology that is developed onsite. A second Sixth Class group and their parents visited Iarnród Éireann's Colbert Station, Limerick.

Bus Éireann provided special "North Pole" buses and overall the day showcased the potential opportunities available to the children and their parents as they pursue their future pathways into Education and Employment.

Social Regeneration

The Directorate of Regeneration, Sports and Recreation has welcomed applications for the 2025 Economic and Social Intervention Fund (ESIF). Applications have been invited across all five themes of the fund: Community; Education and Learning; Health, Wellbeing and Ageing Well; Employability and Work; and Families and Youth at Risk. The call was launched on 02 December, and applications will be accepted on MyPoint until 12 Noon on 13 January. All applications received will be evaluated by the relevant ESIF Sub-Committees and recommendations made for funding allocations under the criteria for each theme.

Community Activities

King's Island

- Weekly events including Crafty Mondays, Family Learning, Lego Club and Bingo continued in King's Island Community Centre.
- Art on the Street, dance lessons and drumming classes continued to provide an enjoyable educational opportunity for members of the community.
- Limerick Island Community Partners delivered over 1,500 meals-on-wheels to residents.
- A Christmas concert, performed by the Irish Youth Chamber Orchestra, was held on 06 December, at King's Island Community Centre.
- Santa's Grotto was held on 13 December, with 150 children meeting Santa Claus.

Moyross

- Boxercise, Functional Fitness and Activator Walking were a part of a suite of weekly programmes delivered in Moyross Youth Academy and Moyross Community Enterprise Centre (MCEC), in conjunction with Limerick Local Sports Partnership.
- A Social Walking Group, for older adults, continued their Monday walks around the community, while Functional Fitness, held at MCEC, also caters for this age cohort.
- Men's Social Soccer continued at the astro turf in Moyross, and is proving extremely popular.

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Southill

- Southill Hub hosted a wonderful Christmas dinner for those living and working in Southill on 17 December. Organised by Limerick Social Service Council CLG, friends and neighbours gathered to get into the Christmas spirit, enjoying chat and music along with a top-class meal.
- The six-week barbering course held at Southill Hub came to an end. Delivered by the experienced Chris Meade, participants greatly improved their barbering skills and employability.
- Tait House hosted the first session of the current cohort of Project ECCO. This programme is aimed at building capacity within communities to address climate challenges through the development and delivery of circular economy initiatives.
- At Tait House, the community education programme continued with classes in wreath-making. The products were sold at the Christmas craft fair held in Merchant's Quay.
- A visit to the Turner Vinery project by students of the Limerick and Clare Education and Training Board Blacksmith Programme took place on 03 December.
- The annual Santa's Grotto event had approximately 100 children from the Tait House Child Care Service visiting and meeting with Santa.
- The Early Years Service (EYS) at Our Lady of Lourdes collaborated with Community Companions to host the magical Santa's Grotto. A total of 79 families joined in the festive fun, making it a joyful and memorable day for everyone involved. Families enjoyed meeting Santa and embracing the spirit of the season.
- In partnership with Limerick and Clare Education and Training Board, the Community Companions organised a special three-day flower arrangement workshop during December. This targeted initiative aimed to combat loneliness by providing a creative and social outlet. Participants crafted beautiful floral arrangements for their homes, gravesides, and the local grotto.
- The targeted After Schools Programme has successfully completed its first term. This initiative, the first of its kind at OLOL, was led by two dedicated community leaders (guided by senior staff within OLOL) who worked tirelessly to bring the programme to life.
- OLOL teamed up with the Red Cross to bring its "Light Up Limerick" initiative and fundraising to Ballinacurra Weston. The café opened its doors to 130 children and families for festive celebrations and treats ahead of the Sunday night event. The Red Cross light show added Ballinacurra Weston to their route in 2024.

Ballinacurra Weston

- Our Lady of Lourdes Community Services Group (OLOL) hosted its annual Seniors' Christmas Dinner Party, bringing together 80 attendees for an evening of festive joy. Guests enjoyed a warm meal, music and Christmas-themed activities that created a wonderful sense of community.

Physical Regeneration

Housing Developments

- Works progressed on the 24-unit infill housing scheme at Carew Park and Delmege Park/Hartigan Villas in Moyross.
- Construction on the public realm and traffic calming elements of the Moyross Avenue upgrade works continued throughout December.
- Blocks 3 and 5 at Churchfield (Phase 2) Southill construction works continued with snagging of the units having commenced.

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- Design works and the preparation of Part 8 Planning application for the Cosgrave Park Phase 2 development in Moyross (22 units) continued during the month.

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 house in St. Mary's Park) progressing on site.
- Thermal Upgrade Contract No. 126 (52 houses in Southill) nearing completion with snagging in progress.
- 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.
- Scoping for Thermal Upgrade Contract No. 131B (16 houses in St. Mary's Park / Moyross) currently with the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage for Stage 3 approval.

House Refurbishments

Lot 4a Major Refurbishments

- Lot 4a: Scheme 2 and 3 – the remaining six houses in Lot 4a progressing towards substantial completion.

Lot 4b Major Refurbishments

- Lot 4b Tender Pack 1 (three houses) progressing on site.
- Lot 4b Tender Pack 2 (five houses) progressing on site.

- Lot 4b Tender Pack 3 (three houses) has received Stage 1 approval from the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage for a proposed relocation of Barnardos from Bishop Street to 15/17/19 St. Ita's Street, St. Mary's Park. Initial consultation with the King's Island Community Group has taken place.

Minor Refurbishments

- Contractors completed the refurbishment of three properties during December, one property in St. Mary's Park and two in Donoughmore Crescent.
- Departmental approval has been sought for three properties in St. Mary's Park and further three properties in O'Malley Park.
- Scoping continued for a number of other properties in Regeneration areas.

Infrastructure Projects

Southside Connectivity Project

- Consultants continued their activities in relation to the preparation of a detailed design of the scheme.

Colivet Court Apartments

- Pedestrian lift within the apartment block was commissioned and is now operational.

King's Island Community Centre

- The Design Team, in conjunction with the Working Group, progressing the detailed design of the King's Island Community Centre.

Limerick Sports Partnership (LSP)

- Limerick Sports Partnership awarded 72 Limerick Sports Clubs through their Club Small Grant Scheme a total of €55,000 across 22 different sports codes. The scheme had four pillars for grant provision: Social Inclusion, Youth Leadership, Coach Education and Equipment.

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- Limerick LSP was awarded €661,297 from Sports Ireland for core activities, education and Programming.
- Limerick LSP recruited a Regional Communications Officer. This post was funded by Sport Ireland. This role will see the Officer working for Limerick Sports Partnership two days each week and the remaining three days will be with the LSP Network, for the benefit of all 29 LSPs throughout the country. Two additional Communications Officers will support the Network, one is based in Meath and other is in Kilkenny.
- The LSP Team delivered over 80 different programmes, initiatives and education opportunities to over 1,100 registered participants throughout the city and county. Programmes continued up to 20 December. For more information on programmes and activities visit www.limericksports.ie
- There were 923 rounds of golf played during December, with 28% of these coming from green fee rounds.
- The Biodiverse Woodland Project continued towards its completion. This will see over 10,000 trees planted after grant funding was received through the Community Climate Action Fund.
- The course operator, Mack Trading, won the All-Ireland Business Federation All Star Business award for Public Golf Course of the Year. This focused on three pillars: Trust, Centricity and Customer Satisfaction. This is the fifth year in a row that the operator has achieved this recognition.

Grove Island Leisure Centre

- Works on the new gym area nearing completion.
- There were more than 1,100 Pay-As-You-Go uses of the facility during the month. This includes the pool, gym, fitness classes and exercise classes.
- During the same period, more than 7,000 uses were recorded by current members of the facility.
- Twelve local primary schools and one secondary school took part in swimming lessons at the Leisure Centre.
- Five local swimming clubs used the amenity training sessions throughout December.
- Aura Leisure and Limerick City and County Council engaged in discussions around tendering for works for the refurbishment of the existing changing village.

Council Sporting Facilities

Limerick Regional Athletics Hub

- Limerick Regional Athletics Hub had 37 new users sign up to the online system to book the track during December.
- A total of 203 individual users undertook physical activity on the track.
- Training for local clubs, St. Mary's Athletics Club and West Limerick Athletics Club continued weekly. Approximately 80 juvenile members and 140 adults attended these training sessions.

Rathbane Golf Course

- A substantial amount of work has been completed in relation to the Energy Upgrade Works and improvements to the accessible WC in the Clubhouse. Elements included the installation of new windows, fire safety doors in the male and female dressing rooms, attic insulation and painting of one of the ground floor rooms.

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2. Askeaton Pool and Leisure Ltd.

Civil works for the Flood Relief and Mechanical and Electrical Upgrade works continued throughout December. A site visit with several of the Councillors for the Municipal District of Adare-Rathkeale took place on 09 December



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Housing

1. Housing Support Services

Housing Waiting List

Approved Housing Applicants	2,794
Approved Tenant Transfer Applicants	434

Closed Housing Applications

	December	Year to Date
Closed Applications	69	959

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 December	Year to Date
Adare-Rathkeale	3	19
Newcastle West	3	33
Metropolitan District	54	340
Cappamore-Kilmallock	2	46
Total	62	438

Refusals

	No. of Units December	Year to Date
Adare-Rathkeale	0	0
Newcastle West	0	0
Metropolitan District	6	39
Cappamore-Kilmallock	0	8
Total	6	47

Approved Housing Body Allocations 2024 (year to date)

Total Nominations	Successful Nominations	Nominations Pending	Unsuccessful Nominations
294	187	78	29

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Rental Accommodation Scheme (RAS)

Private Tenancies	622
Capital Assistance Scheme/Rental Accommodation Scheme Tenancies	615
Part V	0
New Private Tenancies	0
New Voluntary Housing Tenancies	17

Housing Assistance Payments (HAP) Limerick

1,915 active HAP Tenancies monitored, reviewed and maintained.

No. of HAP tenancies set up this month	10
No. of Amendments	126
No. of Cessations	20

Rent Collection

Rent Collection Limerick City and County Council					
Opening Balance	Accrued Income	Total for collection	Receipts	Closing Balance	% Collection
€6,731,013	€22,514,034	€29,245,047	€20,594,650	€8,650,397	71%

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Home Improvement Schemes

December 2024		Adare-Rathkeale	Newcastle West	Metropolitan	Cappamore-Kilmallock	Total
Mobility Aid Grants	No. Approved	0	2	4	0	6
	MAG Expenditure	€0.00	€0.00	€11,500.00	€4,266.75	€15,766.75
	No. Paid	0	0	2	1	3
Housing Adaptation Grants	No. Approved	1	3	20	0	24
	HAG Expenditure	€0.00	€0.00	€50,555.46	€27,966.33	€78,521.79
	No. Paid	0	0	5	3	8
Housing Aid for Older People	No. Approved	5	14	39	8	66
	HOP Expenditure	€0.00	€0.00	€35,780.00	€37,116.00	€72,896.00
	No. Paid	0	0	12	7	19
Disabled Person's Grant	DPG Expenditure	€0.00	€0.00	€0.00	€9,931.25	€9,931.25
	No. Paid	0	0	0	1	1

Total No. Approved	96
Total Monies Paid	€177,115.79
Total No. Paid	31

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Home Improvement Schemes - Year to Date

January - December 2024		Adare-Rathkeale	Newcastle West	Metropolitan	Cappamore-Kilmallock	Total
Mobility Aid Grants	No. Approved	8	9	40	5	62
	MAG Expenditure	€24,879.00	€16,750.00	€138,371.43	€18,373.23	€198,373.66
	No. Paid	8	7	35	5	55
Housing Adaptation Grants	No. Approved	50	73	233	37	393
	HAG Expenditure	€345,194.31	€491,156.49	€1,869,926.11	€368,757.29	€3,075,034.20
	No. Paid	44	71	204	46	365
Housing Aid for Older People	No. Approved	116	176	421	101	814
	HOP Expenditure	€372,098.51	€673,568.94	€1,420,586.37	€397,152.39	€2,863,406.21
	No. Paid	94	152	352	89	687
Disabled Person's Grant	DPG Expenditure	€39,537.73	€62,521.78	€676,515.26	€128,506.41	€907,081.18
	No. Paid	5	3	43	13	64

YTD Total No. Approved	1,269
YTD Total Monies Paid	€7,043,895.25
YTD Total No. Paid	1,171

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Community Sustainment Unit

Tenancy Inductions

	December	Year to Date
No. of Tenancy Inductions	55	395

House Visits

	December	Year to Date
No. of House Visits	177	3,128

Microsoft Dynamics Cases

	December	Year to Date
Active cases at month-end	292	292
Cases closed during month	92	1,060

Repossessions

	December	Year to Date
Repossession of Council properties	8	125

Garda Checks

	December	Year to Date
Garda Checks processed	63	1,246

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

Date: 10.12.2024		
Individuals		
Location	Description	Beds Used
McGarry House	Mixed Low threshold accommodation for singles	37
Oak Lodge	Adults without children accommodated in low threshold emergency accommodation	77
Thomond House	Higher threshold accommodation for single females	23
St. Joseph Street	Higher threshold accommodation for single females	8
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	17
Phoenix Lodge	Low threshold emergency accommodation for single adults	10
Total		238

Families				
Location	Description	Beds Used		
		Adults	Children	Families
Suaimhneas	Family Emergency accommodation	5	7	5
B&B/Hotel Accommodation	Families	129	142	82
Twin Oaks Family Hub	Family Hub	11	16	10
Totals		Adults	Children	Families
		145	165	97

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	December	YTD
Tenant Purchase		
Tenant Purchase Applications: No. received	0	71
Tenant Purchase Applications: No. approved	2	46
Local Authority Home Loans		
Loan Applications: No. received	2	59
Loan Applications: No. approved	1	20
Deed of Discharge		
Deed of Discharge Applications: No. Received	19	203
Consent to Sale		
Consent to Sale Applications: No. Received	3	61
Cottage Purchase Annuity		
No. of Cottage Purchase Annuity Applications	3	39
Ground Rent		
No. of Ground Rent applications	2	45
Title		
Title Deeds Received/ Requested	14	161
Title Rectifications Received	0	10
Private Rented Inspections		
No. of Inspections	100	3,433

Freedom of Information, Data Requests and Ombudsman

Freedom of Information requests	1
Ombudsman Query Cases	0
Data Access Requests	0

2. Housing Welfare and Traveller Accommodation

* Traveller Accommodation

No. of Units offered December	5
Year to Date	24

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

Housing Welfare Referrals/Visits

No. of Referrals/Visits December	18
Year to Date	261

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3. Local Authority Housing Construction and Maintenance

Local Authority Housing Construction

House Returns December	
Total	6

House Returns December By Municipal District	
Adare-Rathkeale	0
Cappamore-Kilmallock	2
Newcastle West	0
Metropolitan District	4
Total	6

During December, the Local Authority Housing Construction Team was notified of two houses returned in the Municipal District of Cappamore-Kilmallock, none in the Municipal District of Adare-Rathkeale, none in the Municipal District of Newcastle West and four in the Metropolitan District of Limerick.

Current Working Programme		
	Completed in December	In Progress
Local Authority Construction Team		
Major Refurbishments	49	58
Minor Refurbishments	0	51
Local Authority Maintenance Team		
Minor Refurbishments	9	67
Major Refurbishments	3	45
Regeneration Team		
Minor Refurbishments	2	21
Major Refurbishments	0	22
Total	63	264
Approved Housing Body stock transfer in process	0	15

- In December, work on 49 properties was completed by the Local Authority Housing Construction Team, work on 12 properties was completed by the Local Authority Maintenance Team and Work on two properties was completed by the Regeneration Team.
- There are three teams in Limerick City and County Council assigned to refurbish properties. As of December, the Local Authority Construction Team was in the process of completing works on 109 properties, Local Authority Maintenance was working on 112 properties and the Regeneration Team was working on 43 properties.
- Approved Housing Body stock transfer in process - 15 properties.

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Project Updates

- Stage 4 application submitted to Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage for nine units at Church Glen, Ballylanders.
- Stage 1 approval received from the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage for nine units at Quarry Road, Thomondgate Park.
- Contractor appointed for refurbishment works at property in Lenihan Avenue, Prospect.
- Consultant appointed for fire safety and disabled access consultancy services for a 30-unit development at Mary Street, Limerick.
- Official signing of contracts took place with the Mayor of Limerick, John Moran, the Director General, Project Manager, Senior Engineer and Michael Fitzgibbon of M. Fitzgibbon Contractors, for construction of 11 residential units in Cluain Dara, Broadford.

Finance

- Applications for funding totalling €2,694,639 issued to the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage.
- Limerick City and County Council recouped €283,371 from the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage.

Local Authority Housing Maintenance

Local Authority Houses: Maintenance Requests dealt with during December

Housing Maintenance Cases – December	Requests/Cases Created	Cases Dealt With/Closed	Balance of Open Cases at 31.12.2024
Metropolitan District of Limerick	713	652	1,245
Municipal District of Adare-Rathkeale	82	56	469
Municipal District of Cappamore-Kilmallock	113	173	416
Municipal District of Newcastle West	124	102	690
TOTAL	1,032	983	2,820

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Grants Inspections

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

Inspection Types	Pre-application	Initial Inspection	Re-inspection	Final Inspections after Works completed	Total Inspections by Grant Type
MAGs (Mobility Adaptation Grant Scheme)	0	2	0	0	2
HAGs (Housing Adaptation Grant Scheme)	1	5	1	10	17
HOPS (Housing Aid for Older Persons Grant Scheme)	0	19	1	1	21
DPGs (Disabled Persons Grant)	1	0	2	2	5
Total Inspections by Inspection Type	2	26	4	13	45

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

Inspection Types	Pre-application	Initial Inspection	Re-inspection	Final Inspections after Works completed	Total Inspections by Grant Type
MAGs (Mobility Adaptation Grant Scheme)	0	2	0	0	2
HAGs (Housing Adaptation Grant Scheme)	0	4	0	2	6
HOPS (Housing Aid for Older Persons Grant Scheme)	0	6	0	6	12
DPGs (Disabled Persons Grant)	0	0	0	1	1
Total Inspections by Inspection Type	0	12	0	9	21

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

Inspection Types	Pre-application	Initial Inspection	Re-inspection	Final Inspections after Works completed	Total Inspections by Grant Type
MAGs (Mobility Adaptation Grant Scheme)	0	0	0	0	0
HAGs (Housing Adaptation Grant Scheme)	0	1	0	1	2
HOPS (Housing Aid for Older Persons Grant Scheme)	0	11	0	6	17
DPGs (Disabled Persons Grant)	0	0	0	0	0
Total Inspections by Inspection Type	0	12	1	7	19

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

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	0	1
HAGs (Housing Adaptation Grant Scheme)	0	3	0	0	3
HOPS (Housing Aid for Older Persons Grant Scheme)	0	12	0	0	12
DPGs (Disabled Persons Grant)	0	0	0	0	0
Total Inspections by Inspection Type	0	16	0	0	16

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HOUSE INSPECTIONS UNIT

Houses Inspected for Refurbishment Works and Re-Letting - December - Categories	No. of Properties Inspected
Cat 1 – minor repairs needed	4
Cat 2 – moderate repairs needed	2
Cat 3 – substantial repairs needed	2
Cat 4 – major repairs needed	0
TOTAL INSPECTIONS CARRIED OUT	8
No. of Properties Awaiting Inspection	5

Housing Maintenance Communal Areas Projects Ongoing – December	
1	Oak Lodge Roof Repairs
2	Painting and Gutter Cleaning of Convent Street Apartments, Limerick.
3	Painting and Gutter Cleaning of Pairc Luachra Apartments, Abbeyfeale.
4	Roof Repairs and New Smoke Ventilation Systems in Vizes Court, Limerick.
5	Contract awarded for painting and guttering cleaning for Thomond Court

DEFECTIVE BLOCKWORK SCHEME APPLICATIONS

Applications Registered December	1
RFI Applications (Request Further Information) December	2
Applications Referred to Housing Agency	1
Applications – Damage Threshold Met	2
Remediation Option Grant Approved	0
Remediation Option Grant Refused	0
Total Applications Registered – Year to Date	44

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4. Strategy and Non-Local Authority Housing Construction

SOCIAL HOUSING – Delivery for 2024

Buy/Build/Lease as of 31.12.2024 is as follows:

As at 31.12.2024 (01.01.2024 – 31.12.2024)	Complete	In Progress	Overall Complete and In Progress	“Housing for All” 2024 Delivery Target
Build	362	1	363	513
Buy *	104	0	104	100
Lease	13	0	13	13
TOTAL	479	1	480	

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

Notice of Termination Figures

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

Category	Activity in December	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	4	11
Proposals being reviewed	1	56
Sale Agreed	0	21
Purchase Completed	2	148
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	6	424
Owner Reoccupying - Notice of Termination comes into the Council – however, owner or family member wishes to reside in property	1	52
Income above social housing limit (i.e., Cost Rental Tenant in Situ)	2	63
Grand Total	16	775

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Social Housing – Project Submissions and Approvals

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

Social Housing Capital Expenditure Programme - Mortgage to Rent	Approval for the leasing of one unit in Keyes Park, Limerick.	Metropolitan District of Limerick
Social Housing Capital Expenditure Programme - Long Term Leasing	Approval for the leasing of one unit in Fr. Russell Road, Limerick.	Metropolitan District of Limerick

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

Social Housing Capital Expenditure Programme - Long Term Leasing	Submission for the leasing of one unit in Ballycummin Village, Raheen, Limerick.	Metropolitan District of Limerick
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Affordable Housing – Delivery for 2023-2026

Scheme	District	Type	No. of Units	Proposal Updates in December
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.
Toppins Field Lands	Metropolitan District of Limerick	Affordable Purchase Affordable Housing Fund	116 (Phases 2-4)	Project meeting held with National Development Finance Agency team and Lot 7 Private Public Partnership Social housing participants. Design Team procurement continued with tenders under evaluation. Site Investigation tender was advanced and under evaluation.
Guinness Site	Metropolitan District of Limerick	Cost Rental Affordable Housing Fund	255	Working Group meeting was held and latest design iterations under review.

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Scheme	District	Type	No. of Units	Proposal Updates in December
Clonmacken Lands	Metropolitan District of Limerick	Affordable Purchase Affordable Housing Fund	15	Justification test Tender was advanced throughout December.
Sonny's Lands	Metropolitan District of Limerick	Cost Rental Affordable Housing Fund	19	<p>Design Team meetings held and ongoing.</p> <p>Project Workshop was held with the Members of the Metropolitan District of Limerick on 09 December.</p> <p>Archaeological lab testing approved and underway.</p> <p>Site investigation procurement completed and winning tenderer appointed.</p> <p>Pre-planning design ongoing. Conceptual work for the community functions and public realm for the "Fosse" linear park was advanced.</p> <p>3D model and materiality were advanced.</p> <p>Ongoing liaison with Limerick City and County Council Archaeologist on design evolution.</p> <p>Meetings held regarding possible EU funding sources for the Fosse Linear SUDS (Sustainable Drainage Systems) Park – Interreg North West Europe Call 5 proposal with Amsterdam City Council was advanced.</p>
Curragower	Metropolitan District of Limerick	Affordable Purchase Affordable Housing Fund	6	Work continued on the pre-planning design. An optimal design solution has been recommended for the continued design to planning. Fire and access strategy preplanning meeting with Limerick City and County Council Fire Officer was held.
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 December. Site investigations took place to prepare for the construction phase. Starting on site shortly.

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Scheme	District	Type	No. of Units	Proposal Updates in December
New Road, Thomondgate	Metropolitan District of Limerick	Cost Rental Expression of Interest Site with Approved Housing Body	23	Judicial Review in progress. Project on hold.
Ballygrennan Lands	Metropolitan District of Limerick	Affordable Purchase and Cost Rental Expression of Interest Site with Approved Housing Body	73	Work continued on the progression of this proposal during December. Affordable Housing Fund viability testing underway.
Mungret Site	Metropolitan District of Limerick	Affordable Purchase Local Infrastructure Housing Activation Fund	181	Work continued on the progression of this proposal during December. Meetings held with the Land Development Agency and Clúid every two weeks.
The Mills, Castletroy	Metropolitan District of Limerick	Affordable Cost Rental with Approved Housing Body	19	Units completed and ready for allocation.
The Mills, Castletroy	Metropolitan District of Limerick	Affordable Cost Rental with Land Development Agency	81	Units completed and ready for allocation. Press Release issued by the Land Development Agency on 23 December.
Knockhill, Ennis Road	Metropolitan District of Limerick	Affordable Cost Rental	12	Work continued on the progression of this proposal during December.
Cloncanane	Metropolitan District of Limerick	Affordable Cost Rental	38	Work continued on the progression of this proposal during December.

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Scheme	District	Type	No. of Units	Proposal Updates in December
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 December 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 December with Quantity Surveyor costings.
	Municipal District of Adare-Rathkeale	Affordable Purchase at Croom	7	Planning granted on 09 December. Work continued on the progression of this proposal during December with Quantity Surveyor costings.
	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 December 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	Online application portal for Phase 1 opened on 16 December.
	Municipal District of Newcastle West	Affordable Purchase at Carraig Desmond, Newcastle West	9	Work continued on the progression of this proposal during December. Limerick City and County Council is waiting for the Affordable Housing Fund subsidy approval from the Department.
Advance Purchase Turnkey – Campaign 7	Metropolitan District of Limerick	Affordable Purchase at Newtown Meadows, Castletroy	36	Work continued on the progression of this proposal during December with Quantity Surveyor costings.

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Scheme	District	Type	No. of Units	Proposal Updates in December
Advance Purchase Turnkey – Campaign 8	Municipal District of Cappamore-Killmallock	Affordable Purchase at Castlecourt Killmallock Co. Limerick	5	Expression of Interest form submitted by the developer. Work continued on the progression of this proposal during December.
	Municipal District of Cappamore-Killmallock	Affordable Purchase at Glenfield Road, Killmallock Co. Limerick	28	Expression of Interest form submitted by the developer. Work continued on the progression of this proposal during December.
	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 December.
	Metropolitan District of Limerick	Affordable Purchase at Knockhill, Ennis Rd, Limerick	6	Expression of Interest form submitted by the developer. Work continued on the progression of this proposal during December.
SMART Housing Programme	Metropolitan District of Limerick	Affordable Cost Rental		<p>Working Group meetings with the Department of Housing Local Government and Heritage held and ongoing.</p> <p>Market Soundings Testing launched on eTenders.</p> <p>Site investigations tender for Civils/Structural/Ecologist launched on eTenders.</p> <p>Appointment of Town Planning Consultant for specific advice regarding the SMART Housing Programme and provision of an Affordability Assessment.</p> <p>Appointment of Consultant for the provision of services for preparation of a Preliminary Business Case.</p> <p>Market research meetings held and ongoing.</p>

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Finance (All funding streams)

- Claims totaling €6,703,093 were sent to the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage in December.
- Claims totaling €14,367,128 were paid by the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage in December.

New Housing Schemes launched by Strategy and Non Local Authority Construction Team

- **New Build Tenant Incremental Purchase Scheme at Baker Place, Bridge Street, Knocklong, Co. Limerick**

Limerick City and County Council launched its fourth initiative under the New Build Tenant Incremental Purchase Scheme at Baker Place, Bridge Street, Knocklong, Co. Limerick, on 16 December with a closing date of 10 January 2025. This scheme is open to existing working Local Authority and Approved Housing Body tenants and households on HAP/RAS. It offers them the chance to transition from rented accommodation into home-ownership. The properties are available to purchase at a discounted market price, ranging from €112,000 to €210,000, depending on income. There are three three-bed houses and one four-bed house available in this scheme.

- **Affordable Housing Scheme at Castle Place, Newcastle West, Co. Limerick**

Limerick City and County Council, in partnership with Eureka Developments C Ltd., launched Phase 1 of the Affordable Housing Scheme at Castle Place, Newcastle West, Co. Limerick, on 16 December with a closing date of 03 February 2025. Phase 1 consists of seven four-bedroom affordable homes, and they are expected to be substantially completed in Q1 2025. The properties are available to purchase at affordable prices, ranging from €361,337 to €381,337, depending on income.

5. Municipal District Offices

Metropolitan District of Limerick

Meetings

The December Monthly Meeting of the Metropolitan District of Limerick took place on 16 December.

Operational Area Briefings

Operational Area Briefings were also held for the Elected Members in early December.

Road Related Upgrade/Refurbishment Works

- **Description of Project: Drombanna Footpath and Drainage Scheme**
Location: Drombanna.
Contractor: Tallybrooke Civil Engineering Ltd.
- **Description of Project: Annacotty to Ballysimon Traffic Calming Preliminary Design**
Location: Annacotty / Ballysimon.
Contractor: Punch Consulting Engineers.

Municipal District of Adare-Rathkeale

The December Meeting of the Municipal District of Adare-Rathkeale took place on 10 December in the Civic Trust Offices, Askeaton, Co. Limerick.

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

- 83 cases were assigned to the Housing Maintenance Team.
- 63 cases were assigned to the Roads Maintenance Team.

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Drainage Schemes

- Drainage Works at Ballymacreese, Ballyneety.

Active Travel Schemes

- Active Travel Permeability Works completed at St. Senan's Terrace, Croom.

Municipal District of Cappamore-Kilmallock

December Municipal District Meeting

The December Meeting of the Municipal District of Cappamore-Kilmallock was held on 11 December at 3pm in Áras Mainchín Seoighe, Kilmallock. The agenda included a Quarterly Housing Delivery Update.

Home Improvement Schemes

Inspections and Recommendations for Home Improvement Schemes/Disability Adaptations

No. of Inspections

- Mobility Adaptation Grant Scheme – 0
- Housing Adaptation Grant Scheme – 2
- Housing Aid for Older Person Grant Scheme – 14
- Disabled Persons Grant – 2

Housing and Road Maintenance

- 82 cases were assigned to the Housing Maintenance Team.
- 57 cases were assigned to the Roads Maintenance Team.

Housing Grants

Mobility Aid Grants

- Paid – 1

Housing Adaptation Grants

- Paid – 3

Housing Aid for Older People

- Paid – 7
- Approved – 8

Disabled Person's Grants

- Completed – 1

Total Housing Grants Paid December

- €69,349.08

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Municipal District of Newcastle West

Meetings and Briefings

- 06 December - Monthly Meeting of the Municipal District of Newcastle West.
- 11 December - Workshop Clúid Housing.

Housing Grants

- 19 grant applications were approved under the Private Housing Grant Schemes during the month. The total value of approvals was €69,455.40.
- No payments were made during the month

Housing Maintenance

- 124 Dynamics cases were assigned to the Housing Maintenance Team.

Transportation and Mobility

- 74 Dynamics cases were assigned to the Roads Maintenance Team.

Motor Tax

- During the month of December, the Motor Tax Section at the Newcastle West Office processed 930 routine transactions generating an income of €149,930.



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Planning and Place-Making

1. Forward Planning and Public Realm

Forward Planning

- In accordance with the provisions of Section 19 (1) (d) of the Planning and Development Act 2000 (as amended), Limerick City and County Council, at a meeting of the Municipal District of Adare-Rathkeale held on 10 December, 2024, resolved to extend the duration of the Croom Local Area Plan 2020-2026 for a further four years.
- The Judicial Review Hearing relating to the Limerick Development Plan 2022-2028 was heard in the High Court.

Conservation

- Three Section 57 Declarations were issued and these are up to date.
- 35-39 Nicholas Street was proposed for addition to the Records of Protected Structures with notifications issued to prescribed bodies and commencement of public display.
- Tenders were issued for architectural conservation consultancy services in relation to conservation and repair of historic monuments within the city.

Archaeology

- A lunchtime lecture to St. Mary's Adult Education Centre, as part of the outreach from the Irish Walled Towns Network Capital Works on the City Wall on Island Road, was held.
- Continued to monitor ongoing consolidation works to Ballynoe Tower House and Galbally Church.

2. Development Management and Place-Making

A total of 124 new planning applications were received as follows:

Type	Amount
Part 8	0
Housing Developments	2
Domestic Developments	89
Agricultural Developments	3
Commercial Developments/Change of Use	14
Sporting/Community and Educational Developments	3
Other Developments	13

The current applications include proposals for:

- Construction of a Large-Scale Residential Development (LRD) for the provision of a total of 139 residential units comprising 79 dwellings and 60 apartments/duplex units along with the provision of a crèche at Rathmale, Mungret, Co. Limerick. A Natura Impact Statement (NIS) has been prepared and accompanies this planning application.

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Place Making

Cruises Street Urban Enhancements

- Todd's Bow Archway mural completed.

Urban Regeneration and Development Fund (URDF)

58 O'Connell Street and 33 & 34 Thomas Street

- Tender period ongoing for 33 and 34 Thomas Street project.
- Responses issued to queries from tendering contractors.

Strand 3 - Pedestrian Bridges and Waterfront Infrastructural Works

- An update to the Preliminary Business Case is with the Urban Regeneration and Development Fund and National Transport Authority.

Arthurs Quay Area Framework Plan

- Architects, Metropolitan Workshop, are leading a Multi-Disciplinary Team preparing the Arthur's Quay Area Framework Plan. Draft Report on the Non-statutory Public Consultation on an Options Report prepared.

Market Quarter and Cruises Street Public Realm Enhancement

- Tender Documents being developed for Intergrated Design Team.
- Technical Working Group Meeting No. 5 took place on 03 December.
- Stakeholder Meetings continued.
- Developed Design stage continued.
- Stage 1 Road Safety Audit procured.

Food Hub at the Milk Market

- Submission made to the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage Urban Regeneration and Development Fund Unit as a part of a Final Business Case for the purchase of four Milk Market units.

Georgian Laneways

- Background information being collated for Limerick Lane.

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

- Eight tenders returned for pre-qualification of suitable contractors and work continued on assessing these.

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

King's Island Flood Relief Scheme

The contractor, Ward and Burke, commenced works.

- **Area A2 St. Ita's Road**
 - Stripping topsoil and stoning access road.
- **Area A6 Athlunkard Boat Club and Lee Estate**
 - Erection of site fencing.
 - Demolition of existing boundary wall to Athlunkard Boat Club in advance of piling works.

Castleconnell Flood Relief Scheme

- The Planning application is with An Bord Pleanála. Confirmation received in December regarding decision due date. The period for submissions and observations presently open.

Adare Flood Relief Scheme

- A Steering Group meeting was held in Adare on 17 December to monitor and assess the project progress.
- Draft photomontages were received.
- Commenced the preparation of the Marine Area Consent Application.
- The 2024 Invasive Species Treatment report was received on 04 December.
- Geophysical Archaeology surveys commenced.

Limerick Flood Relief Scheme

- A Steering Group meeting was held on 02 December to assess and monitor the project's progress.
- Optioneering continued 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.
- Rescoping of geotechnical investigations to align with emerging options continued.
- The draft Hydraulic Report continued to be reviewed, following input from Limerick City and County Council and Office of Public Works.
- Ecology surveys continued and will support the environmental assessments.

Athea Flood Relief Scheme

- The review of the draft Environmental Impact Assessment Report and Cost Benefit Analysis continued.
- Following Storm Bert, works to prepare a Flood Event Report were undertaken.
- The first draft of the Options Report was under review.

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4. Limerick Twenty Thirty (LTT) Designated Activity Company (DAC)

Opera Square

Project Update

- The Basement Vent Shaft has been constructed to Roof Level within the footprint of Parcel 4.
- Mechanical and Electrical fitout works have progressed in One Opera Square.
- Remainder of Basement – The basement beneath Contract D (14 storey) and the attenuation tanks on Bank Place now complete.
- 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.
- One Opera Square - Facade installation ongoing on Floors 1 – 3, with glazing largely installed on Floors 4 and 5.

Project Media Engagement

- The Christmas lights on the cranes at Opera Square were illuminated for the Festive Season with a post shared across social media platforms.
- A video recapping the work to date in 2024 on Opera Square was shared across social media platforms.

Cleeves Riverside Quarter

Project Update

Heritage Works

- Surveys and investigations progressed to inform designs. Stage 2A1 Outline Designs completed and outline cost plan completed.
- **Phase 1-Public Realm and Residential Zones:** Stage 2A1 Outline Designs completed and outline cost plan completed. Specialist consultants appointed for a Home Performance Index Assessment, including daylight sunlight assessments etc. Stakeholder engagements progressing. Meetings held with Limerick City and County Council (Planning and Traffic etc.)
- **Environmental Assessment:** Specialists appointed to carry out environmental studies (Archaeologist, Ecologist, Traffic Surveys etc.).

TUS CRQ City Campus

- Options Appraisal progressed. Second user group workshop held. Memorandum of Understanding signed.

Project Media Engagement

- **Fossett's Christmas Circus:** Fossett's returned to Cleeves Riverside Quarter on 12 December. LTT shared posts to all social media platforms.
- **TUS at Cleeves Riverside Quarter:** A Memorandum of Understanding was agreed by the Technological University of the Shannon: Midlands Midwest (TUS), and LTT, in December and a joint press announcement was issued.

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Other Projects

Progress Update

Gardens International

- To showcase the events held in Gardens International in 2024, a post recapping events was shared across social media platforms.
- A Christmas Mingle was held for all tenants of Gardens International in December

Askeaton Pool Update

- Limerick Twenty Thirty is project managing and monitoring progress on the construction stage of the works on behalf of Limerick City and County Council/Askeaton Pool and Leisure DAC.
- A visit took place by Councillors on 10 December to view the progress.

Mungret Housing

- Phase 1 – 250 Units: The Design Team is novated to the Land Development Agency to complete the construction on Mungret Housing development. LTT has no further involvement in the delivery of the scheme.

Expressions of Interest Sites

Thomondgate

- Full planning was received for the Thomondgate development following an appeal to An Bord Pleanála, but currently in a Judicial Review process.

Department of Children Equality Disability Integration and Youth (DCEDIY) Emergency Accommodation Project

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



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Environment, Climate Action and Shared Services

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

- There were 53,734 active HAP tenancies nationally, managed by the HAP SCC at the end of December.
- A weekly average of 156 HAP tenancies have been set up during 2024.
- The December landlord payment run was €53.412 million.
- The weekly tenant charge at the end of December was €3.095 million.
- The Debt Management Unit of the HAP SCC collected a total of €157.165 million in differential rent to end of December.
- The HAP tenant rent collection rate at the end of December was 99%.
- The Debt Management Unit issued 3,316 HAP debt reminder letters in December.

2. Fire and Emergency

Statistics

	No. Received/ Assigned	No. Validated/ Acknowledged	No. Invalidated/ Refused	No. Granted	No. Completed
Fire Certificate Applications December	14	14	0	19	
Disability Access Cert Applications December	8	8	0	8	
Licensing Applications December	7	5			
Commencement Notice December	64	62	2		
Completion Certificate December	25	22	3		
Planning Referrals December	19				13

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Fire and Emergency Training Events

The following activity took place in December:

- An officer from Foynes Fire Station attended Fire Service Management 1 course in Clonmel Fire Station, Clonmel, Co. Tipperary.
- Four fire fighters completed a one-week Managing Fire Services Incidents Course (Module 1) which was delivered by Clare Fire Service in Shannon Fire Station, Shannon, Co. Clare.
- A fire fighter from Newcastle West Fire Station successfully completed a Compartment Fire Behaviour Training Course in Tubbercurry, Co. Sligo.
- Two fire fighters attended a five-day Emergency Services Driving Standard training course.
- All staff from Limerick City Fire Station were re-trained in Manual Handling.
- Two new Wholetime Recruit Firefighters due to be appointed to Limerick City Fire Station, continued their training with Dublin Fire Brigade throughout the month of December.

Civil Defence attendance at Events

The following activity took place in December:

- An Garda Síochána Senior Citizen's Christmas Party Claughaun GAA Club, Limerick.
- Rough Sleeper Count, Limerick City.
- Santa's Greenway Fancy Dress Cycle, Limerick Greenway, Limerick.
- Light Up Limerick Time, Limerick City.

Water Safety

No. of Lifebuoy Replacements	January - November	December	Total 2024
Metropolitan District	13	1	14
Municipal Districts	17	0	17

No. of Lifebuoy Sensor Activations	January - November	December	Total 2024
Metropolitan District	70	5	75
Municipal Districts	52	1	53

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3. Environment and Climate Action

Climate Action

Climate Action Team

- As part of the Junior Achievement Programme, the Climate Action Officer and the Community Climate Action Officer delivered a 'Climate Action and You' programme to two classes of Fifth Class students from the Salesians Primary School, Fernbank. Students learned about Climate Change, their carbon footprint, circular economy and little changes that they can make in their own lives and classrooms to save energy.
- The Climate Action Team attended the CARO (Climate Action Regional Office) Atlantic Seaboard South Regional Steering Group meeting in Killarney, Co. Kerry, on 11 December.
- The Climate Action Team attended (online) the annual meeting for Effective Members of the European Network of Living Labs to discuss future funding and training initiatives.
- The Climate Action Team met (online) with a representative of Derry and Strabane Council to discuss the +CityxChange European Union Project.
- As part of the Technical Support Initiative, the Climate Action Team met with representatives of the Bulgarian Energy Efficiency Fund to discuss its operation and business model.
- The Climate Action Team has participated in a number of meetings with potential projects for Interreg North West Europe and Horizon Europe project proposals.

Community Climate Action Programme

Works have continued on delivering the Community Climate Action Programme with several projects having started and some finished:

- St. Mary's Rugby Club has finished installing its solar panels on the club roof.
- Ballyneety Golf Club and Men's Shed have installed a number of raised beds and have started planting their mini-forest.
- Kileedy Eco Park installed nine solar panels on its eco cabin, in time to light up the park for Christmas.
- Askeaton/Ballysteen Natural Heritage Group continued work on its Parklet.

Veterinary Services

No. of dogs processed in the Dog Shelter	10
No. of horses seized	3
No. of food samples taken	4

A Workshop on Dog Control and the XL Bully Ban was held for all Elected Members. The Members were given a detailed presentation on Dog Control Services. The Workshop included a visit to the Limerick Dog Shelter.

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Environment Regulation and Enforcement

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

ENVIRONMENT ENFORCEMENT	
Cases received (Microsoft (MS) Dynamics)	36
Inspections undertaken (MS Dynamics)	40
Warnings issued	14
Directions of Authorised Officer issued	2
Statutory Notices issued	0
Prosecutions initiated	1
Fines issued	0
Authorisations issued/reviewed	3
DOMESTIC WASTE AND LITTER TEAM	
Cases received (Microsoft (MS) Dynamics)	96
Inspections undertaken (MS Dynamics)	448
Warnings issued	13
Directions of Authorised Officer issued	4
Statutory Notices issued	3
Prosecutions initiated	6
Fines issued	22

Parks

Works Undertaken

Location	Description of Works
Baggot Estate Dog Park	Construction of a new dog park at this location has been completed.
Lough Gur	Works to ensure that the set-down/picnic area is fully accessible now complete. Works commenced to replace the wastewater storage holding tanks.
Shelbourne Playground	Sensory play panel installed.

Other Highlights

On 17 December, the Mayor of Limerick, John Moran, raised the first Green Flag in Adare Town Park. The Green Flag for Parks Award Scheme is an international standard for excellence in management of public parks and green spaces and is operated by An Taisce in Ireland. This accolade was achieved not only through the dedication and hard work of the Parks staff, but also through the interest and assistance of the Members of the Municipal District of Adare-Rathkeale, volunteers and community groups.

Cemeteries

Number of Burials in City Cemeteries

Mount St. Lawrence	17
Mount St. Oliver	13
Castlemungret	9
Kilmurry	1

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Environment Strategy

Inspection Type	No. of Inspections	Inspection Details
Farm Re-Inspections	9	Follow-up to see programmed works completed.
Microsoft Dynamics Complaints	4	Respond / Follow-up to Complaints from members of public
Invasive Species website	4	Checked website for new reports of invasive species.
Planning Files	8	Review agricultural planning applications and comment back to Planning.
Farm File Reviews	33	Review farm files, Farmyard Management Plans and write out advisory/warning letters accordingly.
Forestry Referrals	4	Assessment of forestry applications referred from Forestry Service.
Training	1	Manual Handling
Court Case	1	Adjourned
National Agricultural Inspection Programme (NAIP) Inspections	17	NAIP Inspections carried out
Meeting with External Agency	1	Meeting with Uisce Éireann, Cork County Council, Kerry County Council in relation to Ammonia Spikes in Feale/Deel Catchments

Environment Strategy tested and installed meteorological and air quality sensors at three schools in Limerick City (Castletroy College, St. Clement's College and Thomond Community College) as part of a GLOBE pilot project, in partnership with An Taisce and the Environmental Protection Agency.

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Biodiversity

Four Face-to-Face public consultations took place on the Draft Limerick Biodiversity Action Plan 2025-2030. One in each of the following libraries: Rathkeale, Kilmallock, Newcastle West and Limerick City were undertaken in December, along with two online sessions, (lunchtime and evening).

The Fox Mural on the corner of Island Road and Athlunkard Street is the first in a series of the National Parks and Wildlife Service and Limerick City and County Council funded Wildlife Walls Project. This project is a collaboration with Limerick Based Draw Out.

Environmental Awareness

Christmas Waste Management Arrangements

Christmas Waste Prevention and Recycling information was circulated in newspapers, online and to Councillors and Staff before Christmas, and with the assistance of the Council Communications Team during and after the Christmas period.

Limerick Going for Gold Grant Scheme

Final payments were arranged for Limerick Going for Gold Service Level Agreements to Social Enterprises located in the Limerick Regeneration areas and Community Groups. Ongoing reporting on activities undertaken.



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Corporate Services, Human Resources and Organisational Development

1. Business Improvement

- A total of 918 active users now live on the Council Connect Employee App.
- Services on Service Catalogue = 714
- Staff Liaison Network Meeting was held in the Council Chamber in Dooradoyle on 11 December.
- Business Improvement partnered with Regeneration to create their Economic and Social Intervention Fund 2025 application form on MyPoint.
- Business Improvement worked with Community Development to launch their Local Enhancement Programme 2025 application form on MyPoint.

2. 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 December:

New Procurement References set up	28
Procurement References extended as per signed contract/arrangement	8

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 December:

- Approved requisitions accounted for 85% of the total requisitions actioned for this given month.
- Rejected requisitions accounted for 15% of the total requisitions actioned for this given month.

Month	Approved	Rejected	Total Requisitions Actioned
December	1,346	244	1,590

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

Rejection Reason	December
Memo Requisition not raised in advance - omitted/insufficient detail	51
Award Notice - omitted/incorrect copy provided	33
Justification for Supplier Selection	32
Approved Officer's Order omitted/incorrect	31
Procurement Reference omitted/incorrect	27

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Register of Electors

Staff from the Register of Electors team processed the following during the month of December:

- Additions to the Electoral Register - 23
- Deletions from the Electoral Register – 426
- Modifications to the Electoral Register – 53

Health and Safety Training

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

Course Name	Numbers Trained
Drivers' CPCs (Certificates of Professional Competence)	4
Fire Warden	6
First Aid	1
Manual Handling	65
Safe Pass	12
Safe Use of Pesticides and Herbicides	9
Total Staff Trained	97

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Schedule of Meetings for December

Name of Meeting	Date	Location
Full Council Special Meeting of Limerick City and County Council	19/12/2024	Dooradoyle and Online
Operational Briefings Limerick City East Limerick City North Limerick City West	 03/12/2024 03/12/2024 04/12/2024	 Merchant's Quay and Online Merchant's Quay and Online Merchant's Quay and Online
Municipal District of Newcastle West Monthly Meeting	 06/12/2024	 Newcastle West
Adare-Rathkeale Monthly Meeting	10/12/2024	Askeaton Civic Trust Office
Cappamore-Kilmallock Monthly Meeting	11/12/2024	Kilmallock and Online
Metropolitan District of Limerick Monthly Meeting	16/12/2024	Merchant's Quay and Online
Local Community Development Committee (LCDC) Meeting	03/12/2024	The Strand Hotel Limerick
Audit and Risk Committee Meeting	10/12/2024	Merchant's Quay and Online
Discover Limerick DAC Meeting	10/12/2024	ENGINE - Cecil Street

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Access to Information

	December	2024 (January to December)
Total Freedom of Information Requests	19	237
Freedom of Information Internal Appeals	3	20
Information Commissioner Appeals	1	7
Total Ombudsman Requests	4	55
Total Access to Information on the Environment (AIE) Requests	0	25
AIE Internal Appeals	3	3

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 December:

- Customer Services Call Centre answered 9,251 calls. This represents an average of 513 per day, with the number of calls reaching as high as 1213. A total of 75% of calls were handled at first point of contact.
- A total of 3,202 emails were processed through the Customer Services email platform.
- 2,565 cases were created on Dynamics CRM, with 475 of these logged on behalf of Public Representatives. 2,815 cases were closed, with 665 of these being cases logged by Public Representatives.

- Of the 2,565 cases created, 66% were logged by the Customer Services team.
- The logging of cases through the MyLimerick portal continued, with a total of 110 cases being logged. Of these, 101 were submitted by Public Representatives.
- Customer Services continued to support the Housing Maintenance Department in creating service requests and, throughout December, 96% of Housing Maintenance cases for the Limerick Metropolitan District were logged by Customer Services staff in the Dooradoyle and Merchant's Quay offices.
- A total of 165 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 76 were applied for and 62 issued.
- Customer Services staff welcomed a total of 2,079 customers at the Merchant's Quay and Dooradoyle offices.

3. Marketing and Communications

Marketing

Christmas in Limerick

- Concluded a six-week, multi-channel campaign promoting Christmas in Limerick events to local, regional and national audiences across digital, print, Out-of-Home, radio and TV.
- Created a dedicated Christmas in Limerick 2024 promotional video, which launched the campaign across digital channels. This was also translated to Irish and shown on TG4 during the month of December.
- Created and promoted dedicated video and still photography content, celebrating the festive season in Limerick across digital channels.

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- Ran four competitions across Christmas in Limerick social media, featuring themed and festive prizes to increase followers and engagement with audiences.
- Partnered with Live 95 in the sponsorship of a Christmas in Limerick 'Christmas Cracker' competition, which ran over a three-week period on air and across the station's digital channels.
- Partnered with Celia Holman Lee in the sponsorship of a festive shopping segment on RTE's Today Show, to highlight local creators and retailers.
- Created a comprehensive Christmas in Limerick event guide in digital format, highlighting the range of events taking place across the festive period. Point of sale displays were also created and distributed to businesses across the city and county directing visitors and customers to the dedicated campaign hub: [Limerick.ie/Christmas](https://limerick.ie/christmas)
- Produced and erected Christmas in Limerick flags around the city.
- Distributed weekly-dedicated campaign e-newsletters.
- Negotiated advertising packages with each of our media partners: Live 95, Spin Southwest, Limerick Leader and the Limerick Post, as well as Clare FM.
- Promoted Limerick Gift Card messaging, parking initiatives and Mayoral community events across Christmas in Limerick channels.

Other Marketing Activities

- Promotion of our Limerick Tourism video asset to local and national audiences, during the month of December on TG4 (Irish version).
- Continued collaboration with our Tertiary Education sector partners regarding the promotion of Limerick as a destination of choice for study, including an end-of-year meeting to discuss the Limerick Student City brand.

- Continued development of Brand Limerick's new positioning platform and creation of social assets to attract increased investment to Limerick.
- Continued content preparation and asset creation for the award winning annual 'Limerick on Foot' campaign, including photography and videography shoots to capture new trail assets.

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 six main social media platforms is now as follows:
 - **Limerick.ie Facebook:** 35,694
 - **Limerick.ie X:** 21,390
 - **Limerick.ie Instagram:** 34,888
 - **Limerick.ie TikTok:** 2,998
 - **Limerick City and County Council X:** 18,771
 - **Limerick City and County Council LinkedIn:** 14,395
 - **Limerick City and County Council Instagram:** 2,023

Limerick.ie

In December, there were 174,921* unique site visits to Limerick.ie, a 9% increase on the same period in 2023. (*Fathom Analytics)

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

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

Content Report: 90 articles, 252 events and 23 new Council Services were added to Limerick.ie in December.

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Communications

- Issued 28 news releases from the Marketing and Communications Department and researched and wrote 14 speeches for the Office of the Mayor.
- Posted 310 times on Limerick City and County Council's three core social media accounts, our posts earned 651,088 impressions (number of times users saw our post).
- Handled all media queries, which come into communications@limerick.ie and continued to offer Communication support to all Directorates of Limerick City and County Council.
- Limerick and Austin Sister Cities Agreement.
- Limerick Gift Card – LinkedIn and Instagram advertisements for same – also organised an influencer collaboration with Sinead O'Brien.
- Video to promote the Limerick School of Art and Design Christmas showcase in Debenhams.
- Storm Darragh.
- Draft Town Centre First Plan for Rathkeale.
- Active Travel Updates.
- Christmas in Limerick Events.
- Video for New Bins at the Market Quarter.
- Video for end-of-year round-up.
- Updates from Uisce Éireann.
- Road and public notices.

Social Media Campaigns for:

- The Limerick Fire Department's Safety Advent Calendar in the run up to Christmas.
- The Christmas in Limerick Merry and Bright Challenge.
- The Limerick Regional Athletics Hub.

