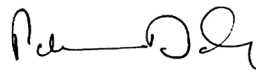


Executive Report

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

January 2025

Limerick City and County Council respond to extreme weather conditions throughout January

€20.5 million in funding allocated to Limerick City and County Council's Active Travel Team for 2025

Stepping into a healthier Limerick with the launch of Limerick on Foot Campaign

Part 8 Process for Design and Innovation Hub on Nicholas Street

A More Fun Limerick announced as Theme for St. Patrick's Festival 2025

New Default Speed Limit of 60 km/h for All Rural Local Roads in Limerick

Executive Report



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Limerick City
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Office of the Mayor

Some highlights for the month of January were:

- We hosted our fourth meeting of the Limerick Mayoral Advisory and Implementation Committee in January, bringing a renewed focus on the delivery of the Mayoral Programme. The meeting heard contributions from all its members and was briefed by Economist, Doctor Stephen Kinsella, Professor of Economics at the University of Limerick
- I officially opened two new classrooms at Banogue National School
- I delivered a speech at the launch of a report of “Participatory Action Research on Limerick Traveller Children Education” at Mary Immaculate College, Limerick
- I hosted two Mayoral Receptions for the Summer 2024 Sports heroes
- I hosted the fourth meeting of the Limerick Mayoral Advisory and Implementation Committee
- I attended the Launch of Inclusive Sustainable Cycling in the University of Limerick City Centre Campus, Sarsfield Street, Limerick
- I signed the contract with Willis Brothers Limited for the Coonagh to Knockalisheen Distributor Road Scheme
- I delivered a speech at the launch event for the Regeneron Great Limerick Run at the Strand Hotel, Limerick
- I delivered a speech at the Launch of the Centre for Implementation Research at the University of Limerick
- I delivered a speech at Cliona’s Foundation’s networking breakfast ‘Resilience and Resolve’ at the Strand Hotel, Limerick

Below is a summary of The Mayor’s Diary for the month of January:

06 January

- Meeting about the Mayoral Programme

08 January

- Review of management of severe weather event
- Meeting with Councillor Liam Galvin
- Meeting with Councillor Maria Donoghue
- Work related to the Advisory and Implementation Committee

09 January

- Meeting with representatives from Studio Saol

10 January

- I attended the Southern Regional Assembly meeting in Waterford
- I attended a meeting with the Office of Public Works

11 January 2024

- Meeting with representative from the Savannah World Trade Centre

13 January

- Internal Meeting with Limerick City and County Council Management Team
- Meeting with the Director General
- Meeting with the Mayoral Programme Manager

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- I chaired a meeting regarding Toppins Field
- Pre-meeting gathering and presentation for the Mayoral Advisory and Implementation Committee

14 January

- I hosted the fourth meeting of the Limerick Mayoral Advisory and Implementation Committee

15 January

- Meeting with Pinnacle Public Affairs
- Meeting with the Royal Institute of Architects Ireland
- Recorded a video for Team Limerick Cleanup 10
- Meeting with representatives of KPMG
- Met with representatives from Mary Immaculate College, Limerick
- I signed the contract with Willis Brothers Limited for the Coonagh to Knockalisheen Distributor Road Scheme
- I hosted the Mayoral Reception for the Summer 2024 Sports Heroes

16 January

- Meeting with representatives of Studio Saol
- Meeting with the Mayor of West Yorkshire
- Meeting regarding Mayoral Programme
- Meeting with Human Resources

17 January

- Meeting with representatives of Limerick Mental Health Association

- Meeting with the Director General
- Attended the Annual General Meeting of Innovate Limerick
- Visited the new Eli Lilly Office, Raheen, Limerick
- Attended and delivered a speech at the Limerick District Schoolchildren Soccer Awards

19 January

- I delivered a speech at the official opening of the new two classroom extension at Banogue National School
- I officially switched off the Christmas Lights for Tony Noonan in Templeglantine and presented a cheque for his chosen charity

20 January

- Meeting with Limerick City and County Council Management Team
- Meeting with Programme Manager
- Meeting with Head of Human Resources
- Meeting with Head of Marketing and Communications
- Attended Corporate Policy Group Meeting

21 January

- Meeting with the Director General
- Catch up on correspondence
- Meeting with Councillor Seán Hartigan
- Attended the launch of the Atlantic Youth Touch Cup at University of Limerick Arena
- Attended SMART Homes meeting with internal colleagues

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- Meeting with Head of Housing, Welfare and Traveller Accommodation
- Meeting with Head of Trade and Investment
- Meeting regarding Corporate Plan
- Review correspondence

22 January

- I attended the launch of Inclusive Sustainable Cycling in University of Limerick City Centre Campus, Sarsfield Street, Limerick
- Meeting with Senator Maria Byrne
- Meeting with representatives from Studio Saol
- Meeting with Limerick City and County Council Senior Architect
- Meeting in the Strand Hotel regarding the Mayor's Ball

23 January

- Meeting with representatives of Mary Immaculate College, Limerick
- I delivered a speech at the launch of a report "Participatory Action Research on Limerick Traveller Children Education" at Mary Immaculate College, Limerick
- Meeting with Director of Service, Corporate Services, Human Resources and Organisational Development
- I attended the Party Leaders' Meeting and Protocol Committee Meeting
- I delivered a speech at the 2025 Live Launch at the Docklands Festival and Dolan's 30-year milestone.
- Attended the relaunch event at the Samaritans, Barrington Street, Limerick

24 January

- Attended the Limerick Twenty Thirty Board Meeting
- Attended a workshop on Toppins Field
- Attended a meeting with Limerick City and County Council engineers regarding the city centre

25 January

- Attended and delivered a speech at the Robert Burns Night in Dolan's, Limerick
- Attended a tasting event at GUJI Limerick, O'Connell Street

26 January

- Attended the 33rd Polish Scouts Grand Finale of the Great Orchestra of Christmas Charity in Dolan's, Limerick.

27 January

- Internal Meeting with Limerick City and County Council Management Team
- I delivered a speech at the launch event of the Regeneron Great Limerick Run at the Strand Hotel, Limerick
- Attended the January Meeting of the Council

28 January

- Meeting with the Director General
- Meeting with Limerick City and County Council Ryder Cup Coordinator
- Meeting with representatives from Bowel Cancer: Limerick Focus

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- Meeting with Director of Service, Finance, Economic Development and Digital Services and Head of Trade and Investment
- Meeting with Director of Service, Planning and Place Making
- Attended the Local Community Development Committee meeting
- Meeting with the Local Action Group

29 January

- I participated in the Road User Safety Forum with representatives from the Road Safety Authority and the Department of Transport
- Meeting with Limerick City and County Council Senior Planner
- Met with the Director General and the Ryder Cup Europe Team
- I delivered a speech at the Launch of the Centre for Implementation Research at the University of Limerick
- Attended a workshop on Toppins Field
- Phone meeting with Limerick 2030 board member
- I hosted the Mayoral Reception for the Summer 2024 Sports Heroes

30 January

- I delivered a speech at Cliona's Foundation's networking breakfast 'Resilience and Resolve' at the Strand Hotel, Limerick
- Meeting with Land Development Agency and Limerick City and County Council Strategy and non-Local Authority Construction team
- Meeting with the Director General
- Attended the Phoenix Creative Psychotherapy Centre Tribute to Sister Mary Carmel O'Donoghue in the Absolute Hotel, Limerick
- Meeting with Head of Marketing and Communications

31 January

- Attended a full day meeting with Limerick City and County Council Management Team
- Interview with Live 95
- Attended the 'All We Have are Days Festival' in Saint Mary's Cathedral



Executive Report



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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 2025	
As at 31 January 2025*	
Opening Balance - 1 Jan €	3,568,755 *
Accruals €	66,173,038 **
Vacant Property Adjustment €	-
Writes offs/ Waivers €	-
Total for Collection €	69,741,793
Amount Collected €	392,677
Arrears €	69,349,116
Specific Doubtful Arrears €	1,339,103
% Collected	0.6%

Debtors Loans	
As at 31 January 2025*	
Opening Balance - 1 Jan €	268,699 *
Accruals €	- ^
Writes offs €	-
To Collect €	268,699
Receipts €	167,772
Arrears €	100,927
% Collected	62%

* Subject to finalisation of year end accounts for 2024

^ Accruals not updated for loans for January 2025

* Subject to finalisation of year end accounts for 2024

** The Date for Making the 2025 Rate was 28th January 2025

Recourse to Overdraft Facility

No. of days in overdraft 0

Executive Report

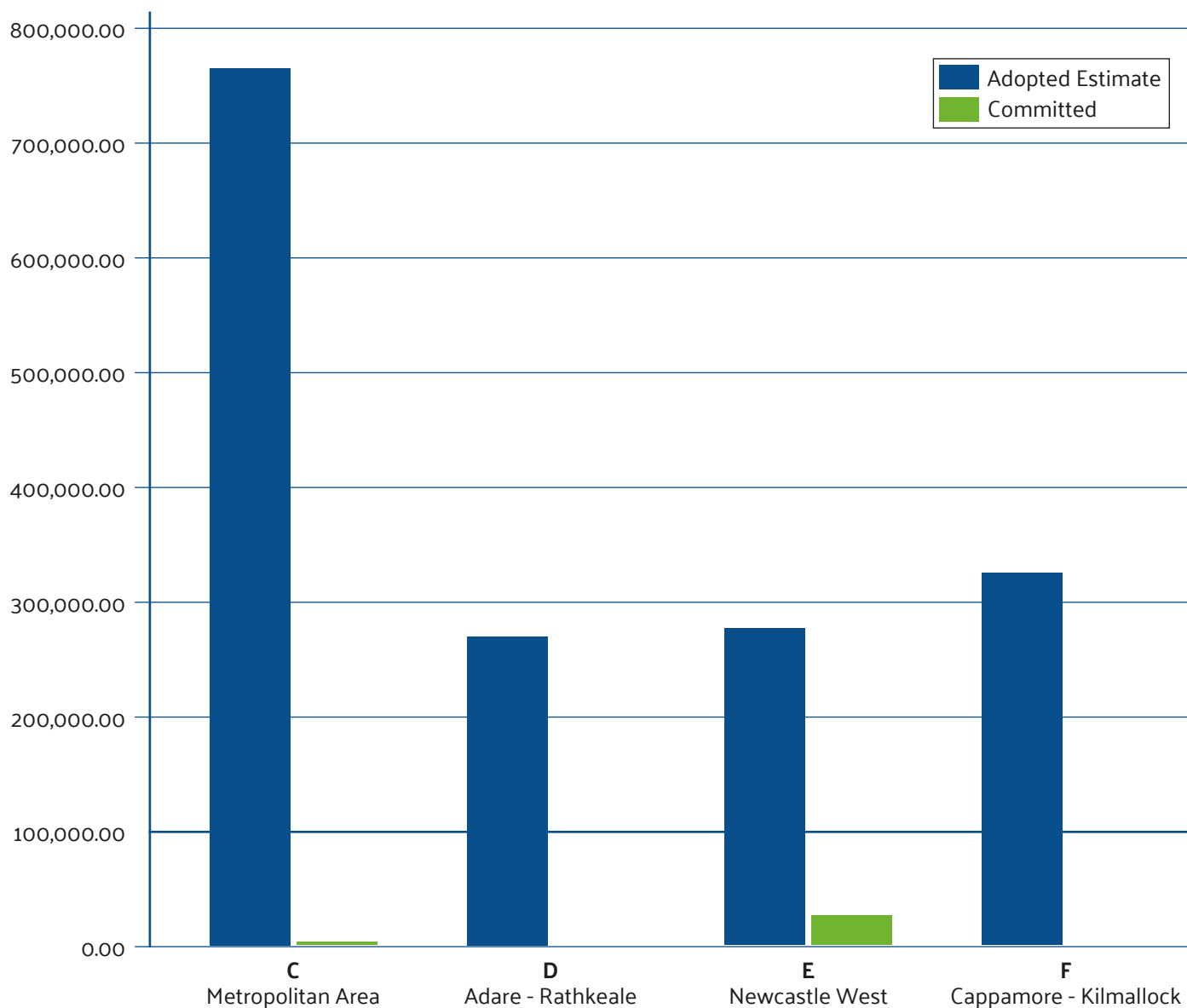


Comhairle Cathrach
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Limerick City
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General Municipal Allocation 2025 Adopted Estimate €1.6395 Million

Graph outlining adopted budget and draft committed expenditure up to 31 January 2025



Municip (Code) + (Text)

Value Adopted Estimate (€)

Value Committed (€)

C Metropolitan Area

763,300.00

212

D Adare - Rathkeale

270,000.00

0

E Newcastle West

278,600.00

23,736

F Cappamore - Kilmallock

327,600.00

0

1,639,500.00

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2. Local Enterprise Office (LEO) Limerick

- LEO Limerick ran six Training programmes and Business Advice Clinics during January for Limerick-based businesses, which were attended by 65 businesses owners from across the City and County.
- LEO Limerick approved:
 - Six Digital for Business supports to help Limerick business incorporate digitalisation strategies into their business models.
 - 13 Trading Online Vouchers to assist Limerick companies who want to trade online.
 - One Market Explorer Grant to assist Limerick businesses with their exporting strategy.
 - 33 One-to-One Mentoring Sessions with LEO Limerick Business Consultants.
- During January, LEO Limerick also launched the Training and Events Schedule for Local Enterprise Week 2025 which can be viewed and booked at [Local Enterprise Week - LEO Limerick events - Local Enterprise Office - Limerick](#)

3. Innovate Limerick Designated Activity Company (DAC)

Enterprise Infrastructure

- No disruption to Enterprise Spaces operations during Orange and Red Weather Warnings.
- Engine, Engine Collaboration Space, N21 Enterprise Centre Rathkeale and The Old Bank Abbeyfeale remained open and fully functioning for over 200 tenants during the extreme weather conditions under sever snow-ice warnings and, where safe, during the Red weather Storm Warning.
- The spaces were also used by business and individuals when their workplace and/or homes were impacted as a result of the weather.
- Engine Collaboration Space, Engine and N21 Rathkeale remain at 100% occupancy, with Abbeyfeale at 95% occupancy.

Enterprise Collaboration, Networking, and Education

Enterprise Events

In January, the Engine Collaboration Centre hosted over 110 attendees at more than 18 events, workshops and meetings in the event space. The events covered a wide range of areas, including start-ups, film, business networking, and enterprise growth, offering valuable opportunities for businesses to collaborate, share ideas, and expand their reach.

Notable Events Hosted

- Ireland's Foreign Direct Investment Agency (IDA) Familiarisation event – over 50 attendees – 15 January.
- Mid-West Regional Skills Workshop – over 30 attendees – 22 January.
- Fresh Film – over 12 attendees – 28 and 31 January.
- Creative Producing Course - 25 January.
- Local Enterprise Office Workshops - 13 and 15 January; Three workshops on 20 January; further workshops on 22, 23 and 29 January.
- Various meetings for Discover Limerick – 21 January.
- Various meetings for Land Development Agency - 08 and 28 January.
- Various meetings for Innovate Limerick – 17 January.
- Sportstech Ireland – 03 January.

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Partnership and Collaboration

Innovate Limerick partnered with government agencies and policymakers, to help develop Limerick enterprise ecosystem:

- **Enterprise Ireland** hosted “Meet The Business” sessions, offering essential support for start-ups and business growth.
- **IDA – Familiarisation Event** – Innovate Limerick provided a briefing on the enterprise ecosystem in the Midwest, supports available, and possible collaborations.
- **Axis BIC** used the collaboration space to meet business and guide on venture capital and business growth strategies, helping businesses secure funding and scale.
- **Local Enterprise Office (LEO)** held workshops and met with business on site to provide mentoring, training, and organise events to support local businesses.

- **Ballyhoura Heritage**, Limerick
- **Doon**, Limerick
- **Ballybrown/Clarina Community Centre**, Limerick
- **The Phoenix**, Tralee, Kerry

Social Media Campaign

Engine Hubs social media campaign on Facebook, Instagram and LinkedIn continued, including:

- Hub Spotlight on each of the Hubs.
- Notice that the Engine Hubs were open during the bad weather.
- Local community information in relation to Hub locations.

Engine Hubs

Three new Hubs joined the Engine Hubs Network - Ballybrown/Clarina Community Centre, Limerick , Doon Social Hub, Limerick, and The Phoenix in Tralee.

The brings the total number of Hubs in the network to 19 –

- **Spark Hub**, Roxboro, Limerick
- **Bruree Food Units**, Limerick
- **Croom Enterprise Centre**, Limerick
- **The Boat Club**, Limerick
- **The Pavilion**, Adare, Limerick
- **The Yard**, Newcastle West, Limerick
- **Engine**, Limerick
- **Engine Collaboration Centre**, Limerick
- **Broadford Enterprise Centre**, Limerick
- **Engine Tipperary Digital Hub**, Tipperary Town
- **Kantoher Enterprise Centre**, Limerick
- **Rathkeale Enterprise Centre**, Limerick
- **The Old Bank Abbeyfeale**, Limerick
- **HQ Tralee**, Kerry
- **ACM Castleconnell**, Limerick



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Limerick City
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Transportation and Mobility

1. Travel and Transport Strategy

• Cappamore Road Junction Improvement Scheme

Following the completion of the planning and procurement phases of the Cappamore Road Junction Improvement Scheme, P&D Lydon Ltd. were appointed as Main Contractor for the works construction stage.

• Lees Cross Junction Improvement Works

The Compulsory Purchase Order process for the Lees Cross Junction Improvement Works was advertised in January. A copy of the Order and Map were made available for inspection at Limerick City and County Council offices and online at MyPoint.Limerick.ie

• Coonagh to Knockalisheen Distributor Road

Limerick City and County Council officially signed the €31 million construction contract with Wills Brothers Ltd. for the Coonagh to Knockalisheen Distributor Road Scheme.

This transformative project is set to unlock significant economic and social opportunities for Moyross and the wider area.

The signing of the contracts took place at Moyross Community Centre on 15 January.

The works will include the construction of a 2.1 km new urban dual carriageway, major improvements to existing roads, and the development of pedestrian and cyclist facilities compliant with the Design Manual for Urban Roads and Streets (DMURS) standards. The project also involves significant associated works such as the diversion of live services, new sewer systems, and landscaping.

2. Active Travel

Projects on Site

Mill Road, Corbally, Limerick: Works continued to progress on site. Upgrade of footpath opposite Scoil Íde continued. Drainage at the cul-de-sac opposite the Bishop's Field ongoing, along with boundary wall construction adjacent to private properties.

R510 Quinn's Cross to Raheen, Limerick: Works continued to progress on site. Laying of kerbs and landscaping works continued from North of St. Nessan's National School to Mungret Gate junction. Site clearance and surface water drainage works continued from north of Mungret Gate junction to Quinn's Cross Roundabout.

Caherconlish National School: Works continued to progress on site in the form of road markings and coloured circles.

Other Projects

TUS to City Centre, Moylish, Limerick: Discussions with landowners ongoing before contractor appointment.

Plassey Park Road, Castletroy, Limerick: Cycle signal heads and options continuing to be reviewed.

Holland Road, Castletroy, Limerick (National Technology Park): Part 8 design progressed on foot of non-statutory public consultation process.

Corbally Road Safe Routes to School, Corbally, Limerick: Design meetings with consultants ongoing.

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Rural, Culture, Community and Tourism Development

1. Culture

Library

City Library at Barrow House

- Weekly digital skills training sessions began on 14 January with support from Age Action Ireland.
- There were eight book club meetings with University of the Third Age, Second Wednesday, Phoenix, Spiral, Teenage and Children's groups.
- The University of the Third Age's Irish Language Conversation and Crafting Groups both held their monthly meetings on 10 and 15 January.
- Film editing sessions were provided by members of the Emerging Limerick Filmmakers Group on 16 and 27 January.
- Áine Ní Fhlatharta from An Taisce visited on 31 January inviting three local primary schools to attend some free workshops on how to reduce energy consumption.
- Students from Rightword Language School visited on 23 January.
- Class visits included children from St. John the Baptist, St. Patrick's Boys and Bohermore.
- A group of pre-school children from Nursery Times called on the morning of 16 January for a special library visit and story time.
- The Wednesday morning toddler story time continued.

Kilmallock Library

- Ongoing visits throughout January from St. Joseph's Foundation to the Magic Table under the Happiness Programme.

- Yoga Classes continued on Friday mornings supported by Ballyhoura Development Ltd.
- "Walk and Talk" Group, facilitated by Limerick Sports Partnership, met each Wednesday.
- Weekly Kilmallock Library Craft Group sessions took place each Thursday morning.
- Bridge classes recommenced on each Wednesday from 15 January.
- Little Readers met on 29 January.

Newcastle West Library

- Youth Book Club for ages 10 to 13 continued to meet in the library on the second Tuesday of the month.
- Ongoing use of Sensory Space.
- Regular visits from The Brothers of Charity and Rathfredagh Cheshire Home residents.
- Headway Ireland meeting every Friday morning 10am to 11am.
- Knitting Club continued every Friday morning from 11am to 1pm.
- Adult Book Club continued on the last Thursday of the month.
- Storytime with pupils from Courtenay Boys' National School on 29 January.

Dooradoyle Library

- The library hosted a photo exhibition of The Hiroshima-Nagasaki Atomic Bomb photo exhibition, 'Sadako and the Paper Cranes.' Produced by the Hiroshima Peace Memorial Museum and supplied courtesy of the Embassy of Japan in Ireland.

Executive Report



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- Dooradoyle/Raheen Men's Shed exhibition of photography, painting and craft, titled 'Working Together' was opened to the local community on 23 January.
- Dooradoyle knitting group 'Close Knit Friends' continued weekly.
- Two Book Clubs continued their regular meetings.
- The Himalayan meditation sessions recommenced on 17 January.
- Class visits included students from Crescent Comprehensive Secondary School, St. Clements Secondary School, Salesian Secondary College and Red Hill School.

Watch House Cross

- Age Action returned in January with free digital literacy classes for over 55s. The learners and volunteers met weekly on Thursday mornings.
- Áine Ni Fhlatharta delivered a series of Energy workshops to local primary school children on 29 January in conjunction with the Sustainable Energy Authority of Ireland and An Taisce. The workshops were interactive and focused on science experiments about energy consumption.
- The weekly Parent and Toddler group continued to meet on Friday mornings during the month.
- The library welcomed class visits from Corpus Christi National School, Thomond Primary School and Northside Family Resource Centre.
- Weekly activities, including story-time and Crafty Saturdays, continued.
- The Sensory Room had a total of 54 bookings during January and 175 visitors.

Local Studies

- There were 29 onsite visits to Local Studies, comprising research on the newspaper archives, databases, and materials from the Local Studies collection. There were 41 remote queries.
- Distribution of the department's Centenaries publication for 2024, Limerick After the Civil War, 1923-1930: A Documentary History, concluded and a number of new acquisitions were added to stock.

Abbeyfeale

- Craft group met on 22 January.

Adare

- The Parent, Baby and Toddler Group continued weekly.
- To mark St. Brigid's Day, the Branch organised four craft sessions on 21 and 22 January with children from Scoil Naomh Iosaf and Our Lady's Abbey National School to make St. Brigid's crosses.
- The 2020 Book Club continued on the last Thursday of January.
- Junior Infants and Senior Infants from Scoil Naomh Iosaf attended a storytime and colouring session on 31 January.
- Storyteller and musician, Daithi Collopy, hosted a St. Brigid's Storytelling Performance on 31 January.

Other Branches

- Foynes – had six class visits from St. Senan's National School during the month.
- Glin – the Community Singing Group, Craft Circle and two Book Clubs resumed their regular meetings throughout January.

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- Rathkeale – had two visits from Church Street National School with a total of 24 pupils and five adults. Church Street National School afterschool also visited twice during the month with 14 pupils and two adults.
- On 29 January, as part of Limerick Library's ongoing partnership with Healthy Limerick, library staff attended the official launch in Mary Immaculate College of their participation in the "We're Breastfeeding Friendly Limerick" initiative.

Limerick City Gallery of Art (LCGA)

- Two new exhibitions opened on 23 January:
 - BOULDER MILT: Seán Cotter.
 - Culchie boy, I love you /Grá mo chroí thú, mo chábóigín féin Songs From the Leeward Slope: Kian Benson-Bailes.
- A curated selection of works from the Permanent Collection continued.
- 3,800 visits were recorded for the month of January.
- LCGA continued to collaborate and facilitate meetings and workshops with U3A (University of the Third Age) throughout January.
- The position of the Shinnors Scholar was filled in January.
- The artist in residence in the Test Space area was appointed on 20 January. This role allows the artists to develop their own practice and run a number of workshops with children and young people from DEIS (Delivering Equality of Opportunity in Schools) schools.
- CLAY LINES: 50 Years of Ceramics at Limerick School of Art and Design, and Limerick Printmakers' exhibition, Risk/Reward both closed on 12 January.

Limerick Museum

- Limerick Museum hosted a group exhibition named Spring Forward. The art works were created by Sian Costello, Gerry O'Mahony, Trudi Van Der Elsen, Robert Ryan, Diane Henshaw, Ralph Gelbert, Maurice Quillinan, P.J. O'Connell, Olivia Henchy and Tom Fitzgerald.
- On 03 January, the Curator was interviewed by Joe Duffy on the RTE Radio One show, Liveline, about the incidence of cannibalism in 1835 aboard the Limerick ship, the Francis Spaight, which floundered in the freezing North Atlantic on a return journey to Ireland from Canada.
- The Museum's longstanding collaboration with the annual Robert Burns Night in Dolans continued, when the Curator gave a short talk on the many connections between Limerick and Scotland.
- The pop-up exhibition, Objects of the Revolution in East Limerick, continued in the Museum throughout January.

Limerick Arts Office

Strategic Fund for Culture and Arts Scheme 2025

Limerick Arts Office manages the 2025 Strategic Fund for Culture and Arts Scheme. The purpose of the scheme is to support the maximising of the leveraging of funding into Limerick from national and international sources and to support a vibrant creative culture.

- In January, three letters of support were issued.
- Funding to three applicants was approved by the Council in January. The total award of €4,370 facilitated leveraging of €55,000 of funding into Limerick City and County.

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Funding and Grants Briefing Sessions

The Arts Office, with Creative Limerick, facilitated two briefing and advice sessions for prospective grantees. On 13 January, the Arts Office presented to the Belltable Connect Group, with 20 attendees. A lunchtime online session was held on 21 January, fifteen people in attendance.

Opportunities for Artists

Creative Limerick, with the Arts Office, launched an RFQ (Request for Quotation) for an Artistic Facilitator to work on a Creative Communities partnership project with Creative Limerick and CAMHS (Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services). The closing date for submissions was 29 January.

Arts Council

Sliabh Luachra Musician in Residence, Aidan Connolly, held a Sliabh Luachra Music Trail event in Ashford, Co. Limerick, on 18 January. Participants enjoyed free taster sessions for fiddle with workshops for beginners, a workshop for all instruments, and participants learnt songs from the Sliabh Luachra repertoire. This was followed by an evening concert with over 24 musicians performing music from Sliabh Luachra.

Creative Ireland

The Limerick Culture and Creativity Team met at Limerick City Art Gallery on 15 January. The meeting was addressed by representatives of Creative Ireland and M-CO, a multi-disciplinary strategic design and project management consultancy, who gave an overview of the current national evaluation of the Creative Communities Programme. Additionally, they presented data indicating how the Limerick Creative Communities programme aligned with the Limerick Culture and Creativity Strategy 2023-2027.

2. Property Management Services

Dereliction, Vacancy and Reuse Team	
Site Inspections Completed	168
Department Notices of Inquiry issued	13
Derelict Sites Cases opened	6
Statutory Notices served under the Derelict Sites Act 1990	248
Derelict Sites Cases closed through engagement	9
Properties entered into the Derelict Sites Register	0
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	12

3. Community Development

Local Community Development Committee

- Meetings of the Local Community Development Committee (LCDC) and Local Action Group (LAG) were held on 28 January.

Sláintecare Healthy Communities

- The Sláintecare Healthy Communities Programme in Limerick City and County delivered a range of activities throughout January. The focus remained on the following:
 - Improving health outcomes.
 - Addressing health inequalities.
 - Supporting community engagement through distinct programmes and projects.

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Seed Fund 2024

MoveWell Programme

Pilates for Chronic Pain and Arthritis

- Weekly sessions began on 16 January in the Tait Community Centre.
- These sessions support individuals managing chronic pain and arthritis.

Limerick Growing Communities

'Getting Started in the Garden 2025,' a Webinar with Michael Kelly, was held on the evening of 28 January. This session provided practical guidance for planning vegetable patches and sustainable gardening, followed by a Question and Answer session.

St. John the Baptist Geodome Project

Biodiversity sessions conducted for St. John the Baptist Boys' National School as part of the Geodome project, continuing to promote environmental awareness and engagement in the community.

ADAPT Wellbeing Garden Project

- Structural work on the Wellbeing Garden Room was completed.

Ballynanty Enhancement Project

- Hard landscaping work was completed in January.

Midwest Simon Community

- Work continued on the Midwest Simon Oak Lodge Community Kitchen.
- Twelve staff members completed the Healthy Food Made Easy training.
- Installation of three new storage units was provided for the residents.

- Seven residents participated in wellness sessions, reporting very positive responses to their overall wellbeing.

Citizen Research and Community Engagement

- Mental Health Ireland, in partnership with Garryowen Community Development Project, facilitated discussions with various groups, including schools and student councils, to gather valuable feedback.

Period Equity Programme

- An education workshop took place on 21 January at Presentation Comprehensive School, Limerick.
- Christine Lane of Mojo Matters delivered the workshop to promote awareness and support for the 'Period Equity' programme.

Healthy Limerick

Healthy Limerick/Sláintecare Healthy Communities Joint Project

- Both community health and wellbeing programmes supported a Menstrual Health Education Programme with students from Crescent Comprehensive on 21 and 22 January. Mojo Matters under the Period Equity Fund provided workshops. The programme with Crescent Comprehensive is the first of a series of planned workshops with community groups and schools in the city and county.

Healthy Limerick

- Mary Immaculate College (MIC) has become the latest organisation to join the 'We're Breastfeeding Friendly Limerick' (WBFL) campaign, on 29 January. It marks a significant milestone in promoting breastfeeding-friendly environments across Limerick. MIC is paving the way as a breastfeeding-friendly workplace in the Third Level education sector. Breastfeeding Friendly rooms are now available on campus at MIC Limerick and MIC Thurles.

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- The Healthy Limerick Coordinator attended a “Resilience and Resolve” networking breakfast organised by Cliona’s Foundation on 30 January in the Limerick Strand Hotel. Cliona’s Foundation is a national charity, with their office in Limerick, that provides financial assistance directly to parents of children with life-limiting or chronic complex care needs.

Integration Supports

Ongoing Visits to Accommodation Centres

The Integration Support Team continued to regularly visit accommodation centres to meet with residents, offering information support clinics to address their queries and provide guidance on accessing services and resources.

- 22 visits were made to the accommodation centres.
- 79 information sessions were held with residents.
- 115 residents were supported with different issues in all of the centres.

Assessment of Needs

- The Integration Team continued to conduct initial and ongoing assessments to determine the needs of the residents during weekly visits to International Protection Applicants and Beneficiaries of Temporary Protection accommodation centres in Limerick.

Referral to Services

- Work continued to connect and signpost clients and migrant residents in Limerick with key relevant services such as housing authorities, healthcare providers, schools, social welfare services, NGOs (non-governmental organisations) etc.

Community Engagement

- Work continued to encourage and support migrants in the participation of the local community activities in Limerick City and County in order to accelerate their integration and reduce isolation.

Ongoing Case Management

- Work continued to maintain regular contacts with clients and migrant residents, especially those living in International Protection Applicants and Beneficiaries of Temporary Protection accommodation centres, in order to monitor their progress, address new issues and challenges, and adjust appropriate supports as necessary.

Collaboration with Stakeholders

- Working closely with government agencies, NGOs and local communities to coordinate support services. The Integration Team has recently assisted PAUL Partnership in providing Manual Handling Training free-of-charge to a number of Beneficiaries of Temporary Protection and International Protection Applicants in Limerick city and county.

The Integration Team has designed a Weekly Newsletter

- This newsletter is issued and shared with managers and staff at the Beneficiaries of Temporary Protection and International Protection Applicants accommodation centres and all the residents. The newsletter is written in both English and Ukrainian languages and contains key services, courses, training, employment opportunities, and English language classes taking place in Limerick city and county.

Documentation and Reporting

- The Integration Team continued to maintain accurate records of interactions with clients, attendance of meetings with different stakeholders and services and support provided to migrant residents to ensure proper case management.

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Public Participation Network (PPN) Limerick

- Membership of PPN Limerick continued to grow and stands at 237. The membership registration form is on the Limerick PPN [website](#) and eligible groups in Limerick can register at any time. The Secretariat continued to fulfil its functions, with a Secretariat Meeting held on 28 January.
- An election was held at PPNL Plenary Meeting for a vacant Social Inclusion seat on the Local Community Development Committee (LCDC). The successful nominee was ratified by the plenary, with a report submitted to a Meeting of Limerick City and County Council held on 27 January where the nominee was appointed to the Committee.
- PPNL continued to have an active presence with its regularly updated website, social media and bi-monthly newsletter distributed to members.

Bin Waivers Scheme

- The Household Waste Collection Subsidy Scheme closed to applications on 31 January.
- Out of 3,997 applications received, 3,467 have been processed during the scheme's open period with a number of applications still in progress.

4. Ukrainian Accommodation Response Team

Integration, Health and Wellbeing Supports

The Ukrainian Accommodation Response Team continued to administer the "Offer a Home Programme" across Limerick City and County. Below are figures for the period to the end of January:

Properties	January 2025	To Date
Offered	5	233
Inspected	5	233
Allocated /People Housed	4 / 15	154 / 487
Allocation in Progress	0	0
To be inspected	0	0
Not suitable/withdrawn	1	75
Not yet Ready	1	1
To be matched	0	0

Humanitarian Response to Snow and Weather Event (Storm Éowyn)

The Community Team led the humanitarian response following two very severe weather events which occurred in January. Supports were provided in a coordinated manner with other agencies and Community Groups to ensure those who sought assistance got support. In addition to this, a Local Coordination Group was established, which met on a daily basis and included the ESB and Uisce Éireann. The work of the Group assisted in the planning and delivery of supports to those in need, especially the most vulnerable.

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5. Tourism

Tourism General

A series of interviews with Radio, TV and Podcast Presenter, Ed Finn, featured on The Sunday Show on Sunshine Radio on both Sundays, 12 and 19 January, promoting the Ireland's Hidden Heartlands section of Limerick; including Ballyhoura Mountain Biking, Ballyhoura Apple Farm, Deebert House Kilmallock, Thomas Fitzgerald Centre Bruff, Lough Gur Pottery and Lough Gur Lakeshore Park and Visitor Centre. Ed also spoke to Claire Byrne on RTÉ Radio 1 and Trina Mara on Classic Hits Radio about his trip to South-East Limerick.

Limerick Greenway

- Limerick Greenway's marketing campaign continued throughout January and included the following:
 - Featured Article in the Irish Farmers Journal on 11 January by journalist, Deirdre Verney, following her trip to Limerick Greenway and the nearby towns and villages.
 - Feature in Woman's Way on 27 January on Limerick Greenway as an activity that some readers had been getting up to.
- Limerick Greenway's social media campaign on Facebook and Instagram included the following:
 - A Happy New Year and thank you for 2024 post, on 01 January.
 - A post highlighting the opening hours of Limerick Greenway carparks for the month of January, on 02 January.
 - A post promoting the use of the two Audio U-turn Units at Barnagh Viewing Point and Tullig Wood, on 07 January.

- Posts encouraging those making New Year's Resolutions to include using Limerick Greenway in any capacity in 2025 as one of those resolutions and to share their experiences by tagging the Facebook and Instagram pages, with their experiences being shared on the pages.
- Town Spotlight Posts for January, which included Adare Franciscan Friary and the Medieval Town of Askeaton.
- A post on the local biodiversity to look out for along Limerick Greenway, on 28 January.

Statistics for Limerick Greenway socials 01 to 31 January:

Facebook

Reach: 43,987
Profile Visits: 1,196
New Page Followers: 65

Instagram

Reach: 6,294
Profile Visits: 239
New Page Followers: 72

Social Media Ads (Facebook and Instagram advertising statistics combined)

Accounts reached: 37,054
Post Engagements: 1,866
Link clicks (to the website): 355

Google Ads

Clicks: 1,240
Impressions: 16,846

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FESTIVALS AND EVENTS

New Year's Festive Entertainment

The Christmas festival continued into January with a mix of on-street entertainment on 04 and 05 January. Centred on Cruises Street, there were festive-themed activities such as stilt walkers, face-painting and balloon modelling. The music generation stage had performances from local acts, which ended the festive season.

6. Discover Limerick Designated Activity Company (DAC)

- King John's Castle, Adare Heritage Centre and Lough Gur were all affected by adverse weather conditions, which resulted in closures. Adare closed for five days, Lough Gur closed for a week and King John's Castle closed for one day to maintain the safety of staff and customers in these conditions.
- Lough Gur remained closed every Monday throughout January.
- The Darkness – Live at The Castle, was announced bringing the total number of concerts confirmed so far to six.
- On 14 January, the Limerick entrant, NIYL, filmed at King John's Castle for this year's RTÉ Late Late Show Eurosong Special, to use as their 'postcard.'
- Jesús Guerrero Chacón, a journalist with HQ Magazine, visited the Castle on 21 January, in advance of a travel piece he is writing on Limerick, Cork, and Kerry.
- Discover Limerick DAC launched its Visitor Services Supervisor Trainee Programme.
- Brian Collopy, Historian, Lough Gur, was interviewed on Sunshine Radio, the Sunday Show, with Ed Finn.

Industry Events

- The Chief Executive Officer and The Marketing Executive, Discover Limerick DAC, attended the Tourism Ireland Marketing Plans 2025 briefing day in Dublin on 16 January.
- Brian Collopy, Lough Gur, attended 'Climate Action, Community and Collaboration,' this year's Inspiring Sustainable Tourism Conference, which took place in the Armada Hotel in Co. Clare on 23 January.
- Discover Limerick DAC was represented at the Holiday World Show in Dublin on the 24 and 25 January by Limerick City and County Council Tourism Department.



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Regeneration, Sports and Recreation

1. Regeneration, Sports and Recreation

Economic Regeneration

The Outreach to Employment Project groups in all four Regeneration areas met in January to devise the strategic plan for the 2025 programme.

The Community Employment Mentor continued to work with clients throughout the Regeneration communities to assist them to identify and participate in Education, Employment or Training Programmes. The aim of this bespoke programme is to ensure young people are supported to actively secure opportunities that will lead to future employment.

Social Regeneration

The Economic and Social Intervention Fund call closed on 15 January. In total, 141 applications, for a variety of projects, were received across the five themes: Community; Education and Learning; Health, Wellbeing, and Ageing Well; Families and Youth at Risk; Employability and Work. Review and assessment of applications commenced.

Community Activities

King's Island

- Crafty Mondays, Drumming and Family Learning programmes recommenced after the Christmas break. These weekly programmes took place at the King's Island Community Centre.
- Nollaig na mBan festivities were hosted at King's Island Community Centre on 14 January.
- Bingo, Adult Art Classes and Art of the Street all resumed throughout the month.

- Limerick Island Community Partners provided extra assistance, via Meals-on-Wheels, to members of the community during January's snow and storms.

Moyross

- Limerick Sports Partnership delivered a number of programmes which took place in Moyross Youth Academy and Moyross Community Enterprise Centre.
- These activities included a Social Walking Group, Men's Social Soccer, as well as Buggy Buddies and weekly Boxercise and Good2Go classes. These programmes are an excellent example of the variety in the fitness and movement activities available to both Moyross residents and the surrounding areas.
- Moyross Community Enterprise Centre provided meeting spaces to various groups during January, including PAUL Partnership, Extern, Limerick City and County Council-Regeneration, ABC Start right, to name just a few.
- Moyross Community Enterprise Centre hosted the official signing of contracts for the civil works element of the Northern Distributor Road. This is a significant historic moment for the community and its surrounding communities.

Southill

- The Driving Forward programme, in conjunction with Tait House and Southill Family Resource Centre, took place in January. This programme supports young people to attain a full category C driving licence. The capacity to hold a full driving licence assists them improve their employment prospects and enables them to seek work outside of their communities.

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- The Family Talk Programme, which is designed to help young people and their parents foster stronger relationships, was delivered in the family resource centre. Its primary aim is to ensure robust mental health outcomes for all of the participants.
- The Southill Sunny Babies group met and continued to support parents, encourage appropriate development and establish links to ongoing services.
- On 27 January, reflexology sessions were delivered by the Body Tree Clinic to provide opportunities for residents to avail of alternative therapies to optimise their health and wellbeing.

Ballinacurra Weston

- The Early Years' Service at Our Lady of Lourdes launched its Post-Natal Support Hub. Running in partnership with the Health Service Executive Health and Wellbeing Unit, this programme began on 22 January, running every Wednesday from 10am-12 Noon.
- The Afterschool Programme, held at Our Lady of Lourdes Community Centre, continued to be a valuable support to 10 local children. This initiative has become an essential part of the centre's services.
- The Community Companion classes and clinics continued, providing vital opportunities for skills development, social engagement, and community outreach. These initiatives have made a significant impact, fostering a strong sense of connection amongst the participants.
- A new community-led group has been established with local residents playing a key role in informing the new committee's structure and terms of reference. A number of meetings were held in January, aimed at promoting grassroots engagement.

Physical Regeneration

Housing Developments

- Works progressed on the 24-unit infill housing scheme at Carew Park and Delmege Park/Hartigan Villas in Moyross.
- Snagging works on the completed public realm and traffic calming elements of the Moyross Avenue upgrade continued.
- Blocks 3 and 5 at Churchfield (Phase 2), Southill, construction works continued with snagging of the units ongoing.
- Design works and the preparation of the Part 8 planning application for the Cosgrave Park Phase 2 development, Moyross (22 units) also continued.

Status of Thermal Upgrade Projects

- Thermal Upgrade Contract No. 121 (47 houses in Moyross) nearing completion with snagging in progress.
- Thermal Upgrade Contract No. 123 (53 houses in Southill) progressing on site.
- Thermal Upgrade Contract No. 125 (26 houses in St. Mary's Park) progressing on site.
- Thermal Upgrade Contract No. 126 (52 houses in Southill) nearing completion with snagging in progress.
- 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) awaiting a decision in relation to Stage 3 approval from the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage.

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- Stage 3 submission of Thermal Upgrade Contract No. 131B (16 houses in St. Mary's Park / Moyross) currently being assessed by the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage.

House Refurbishments

Lot 4a Major Refurbishments

- Lot 4a: Scheme 2 and 3 – the remaining six houses in Lot 4a progressing towards substantial completion in early 2025.

Lot 4b Major Refurbishments

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

Minor Refurbishments

- A total of 12 properties awaiting Departmental approval. This includes six properties in St. Mary's Park, one in Moyross and a further five properties in O'Malley Park.
- Scoping for other properties in Regeneration areas continued throughout January.

Infrastructure Projects

- Southside Connectivity Project
 - Consultants continued their activities in relation to the preparation of a detailed design of the scheme.
 - Arboricultural Impact Assessment commenced to the south of Childers Road, in an area adjacent to the Galvone Industrial Estate.
- King's Island Community consultation event took place on 29 January in relation to the renovation and extension of the existing King's Island Community Centre.

- Stage 2 submission being prepared for approval from the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage in respect of the 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.

Limerick Local Sports Partnership (LSP)

- Limerick Local Sports Partnership programmes Move Well: Pilates, Cool Moves and Men on the Move were among several LSP programmes that commenced during January. These take place in venues in the city and county and show a portion of the wide range of activities available each month from the Limerick Local Sports Partnership.
- For more information on programmes and activities visit www.limericksports.ie

Council Sporting Facilities

Limerick Regional Athletics Hub

- Limerick Regional Athletics Hub was hampered by the snow and storms during January. It resulted in temporary closures due to health and safety concerns.
- West Limerick Athletics Club and St. Mary's Athletics Club recommenced their club training sessions. There was an estimated 80 juvenile and 60 adult members training weekly with West Limerick, while 60 adults were training with St. Mary's.
- 203 individual users were recorded to have used the track during January.
- The perimeter walking track continued to be used by members of the public, as the electric lighting enables the area to be used during the dark winter evenings.

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Rathbane Golf Course

- Snagging works continued on the completed Energy Upgrade Works and improvements to the accessible WC in the Clubhouse.
- A total of 587 rounds of golf were played in January, while 177 people signed up to become members for 2025.
- Due to poor weather, including snow early in January and Storm Éowyn later in the month, the course had to close for 16 of 31 days.

Grove Island Leisure Centre

- Works on the new gym area were completed with the new facility opening on week ending 10 January.
- The deadline for the return of tenders for the refurbishment of the pool, health suite and changing areas was extended.
- A total of 1,041 Pay-as-You-Go visits were recorded for Pool, Gym, Fitness classes and Aqua classes. Pool visits accounted for over 70% of these casual visits to the Leisure Centre.
- Members accounted for 4,983 visits during the month, the gym having 3,117 of these uses.
- The membership at the end of the month was 1,135.
- A dozen local primary schools availed of the swimming academy lessons, with the nearby secondary school, Ard Scoil Mhuire, also visiting the pool.

2. Askeaton Pool and Leisure Ltd.

- Civil works for the Flood Relief and Mechanical and Electrical Upgrade works continued and are nearing substantial completion.



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Housing

1. Housing Support Services

Housing Waiting List

Approved Housing Applicants	2,825
Approved Tenant Transfer Applicants	448

Closed Housing Applications

	January	Year to Date
Closed Applications	52	52

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 January	Year to Date
Adare-Rathkeale	1	1
Newcastle West	2	2
Metropolitan District	15	15
Cappamore-Kilmallock	0	0
Total	18	18

Refusals

	No. of Units January	Year to Date
Adare-Rathkeale	0	0
Newcastle West	0	0
Metropolitan District	4	4
Cappamore-Kilmallock	0	0
Total	4	4

Approved Housing Body Allocations 2025 (year to date)

Total Nominations	Successful Nominations	Nominations Pending	Unsuccessful Nominations
34	0	29	5

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Rental Accommodation Scheme (RAS)

Private Tenancies	621
Capital Assistance Scheme/Rental Accommodation Scheme Tenancies	620
Part V	0
New Private Tenancies	0
New Voluntary Housing Tenancies	8

Housing Assistance Payments (HAP) Limerick

1,892 active HAP Tenancies monitored, reviewed and maintained.

No. of HAP tenancies set up this month	18
No. of Amendments	286
No. of Cessations	22

Rent Collection

Rent Collection Limerick City and County Council					
Opening Balance	Accrued Income	Total for collection	Receipts	Closing Balance	% Collection
€8,650,397	€2,325,158	€10,975,555	€2,037,742	€8,937,813	19 %

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Home Improvement Schemes

January 2025		Adare-Rathkeale	Newcastle West	Metropolitan	Cappamore-Kilmallock	Total
Mobility Aid Grants	No. Approved	5	0	1	1	7
	MAG Expenditure	€2,282.00	€0.00	€3,030.00	€5,750.00	€11,062.00
	No. Paid	1	0	2	1	4
Housing Adaptation Grants	No. Approved	5	4	9	3	21
	HAG Expenditure	€70,437.50	€14,725.00	€208,242.08	€18,009.47	€311,414.05
	No. Paid	6	2	23	3	34
Housing Aid for Older People	No. Approved	20	11	14	3	48
	HOP Expenditure	€76,557.00	€26,019.20	€116,771.60	€38,332.50	€257,680.30
	No. Paid	19	6	34	14	73
Disabled Person's Grant	DPG Expenditure	€0.00	€0.00	€10,215.00	€0.00	€10,215.00
	No. Paid	0	0	1	0	1

Total No. Approved	76
Total Monies Paid	€590,371.35
Total No. Paid	112

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Community Sustainment Unit

Tenancy Inductions

	January	Year to Date
No. of Tenancy Inductions	38	38

House Visits

	January	Year to Date
No. of House Visits	163	163

Microsoft Dynamics Cases

	January	Year to Date
Active cases at month-end	263	263
Cases closed during month	140	140

Repossessions

	January	Year to Date
Repossession of Council properties	15	15

Garda Checks

	January	Year to Date
Garda Checks processed	77	77

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

Date: 17.01.25		
Individuals		
Location	Description	Beds Used
McGarry House	Mixed Low threshold accommodation for singles	34
Oak Lodge	Adults without children accommodated in low threshold emergency accommodation	70
Thomond House	Higher threshold accommodation for single females	22
St. Joseph Street	Higher threshold accommodation for single females	7
B&B (no children)	Adults without children accommodated in B&B	64
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		224

Families				
Location	Description	Beds Used		
		Adults	Children	Families
Suaimhneas	Family Emergency accommodation	6	8	6
B&B/Hotel Accommodation	Families	126	133	81
Twin Oaks Family Hub	Family Hub	11	16	10
Totals		Adults	Children	Families
		143	157	97

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	January	YTD
Tenant Purchase Applications: No. Received	1	1
Tenant Purchase Applications: No. approved	1	1
Loan Applications: No. Received	9	9
Loan Applications: No. Approved	0	0
Deed of Discharge Applications: No. Received	9	9
Consent to Sale Applications: No. Received	1	1
No. of Cottage Purchase Annuity Applications	2	2
No. of Ground Rent Applications	6	6
Title		
Title Deeds Received/ Requested	24	24
Title Rectifications Received	2	2
Private Rented Inspections		
No. of Inspections	287	287

Freedom of Information, Data Requests and Ombudsman

Freedom of Information requests	1
Ombudsman Query Cases	2
Data Access Requests	0

2. Housing Welfare and Traveller Accommodation

* Traveller Accommodation

No. of Units offered January	1
Year to Date	1

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

Housing Welfare Referrals/Visits

No. of Referrals/Visits January	15
Year to Date	15

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3. Local Authority Housing Construction and Maintenance

Local Authority Housing Construction

House Returns January	
Total	14

House Returns January By Municipal District	
Adare-Rathkeale	0
Cappamore-Kilmallock	3
Newcastle West	0
Metropolitan District	11
Total	14

During January, the Local Authority Housing Construction Team was notified of three 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 11 in the Metropolitan District of Limerick.

Current Working Programme		
	Completed in January	In Progress
Local Authority Construction Team		
Minor Refurbishments	2	52
Major Refurbishments	0	55
Local Authority Maintenance Team		
Minor Refurbishments	1	74
Major Refurbishments	0	46
Regeneration Team		
Minor Refurbishments	1	24
Major Refurbishments	0	15
Total	4	266
Approved Housing Body stock transfer in process	0	17

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

There are three teams in Limerick City and County Council assigned to refurbish properties. As of January, the Local Authority Construction Team was in the process of completing works on 107 properties, Local Authority Maintenance was working on 120 properties and the Regeneration Team was working on 39 properties.

Approved Housing Body stock transfer in process - 17 properties.

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Project Updates:

- Contractor appointed for refurbishment works at property in Michael Hartnett Close, Newcastle West.
- Appointment of Consultants for (a) Quantity Surveyor (b) Mechanical and Electrical Consultant and (c) Civil and Structural Consultant for development at Scout Hall, Kennedy Park, Limerick.
- Stage 4 approval received from the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage for construction of nine units at Church Glen, Ballylanders, and currently in the process of appointing a contractor.
- Stage 4 application submitted to the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage for refurbishment works at two properties in Askeaton.
- Stage 1 approval received from the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage for construction of 30 units at Mary Street, Limerick.
- Six Stage 4 approvals received from the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage for refurbishment works at five properties in Kilmallock, Bruff, Oola, Croom and Newcastle West and one property in Kennedy Park, Limerick.

Finance

- Applications for funding totalling €613,773 issued to the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage.

Local Authority Housing Maintenance

Local Authority Houses: Maintenance Requests dealt with during January

Housing Maintenance Cases – January	Requests/Cases Created	Cases Dealt With/Closed	Balance of Open Cases at 31.01.2025
Metropolitan District of Limerick	1,215	981	1,614
Municipal District of Adare-Rathkeale	157	77	551
Municipal District of Cappamore-Kilmallock	221	104	549
Municipal District of Newcastle West	204	133	768
TOTAL	1,797	1,295	3,482

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Grants Inspections

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

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	11	0	12	23
HOPS (Housing Aid for Older Persons Grant Scheme)	0	11	0	5	16
DPGs (Disabled Persons Grant)	0	0	3	0	3
Total Inspections by Inspection Type	0	23	3	17	43

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

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	2	4
HAGs (Housing Adaptation Grant Scheme)	0	6	0	9	15
HOPS (Housing Aid for Older Persons Grant Scheme)	0	7	0	19	26
DPGs (Disabled Persons Grant)	0	0	1	0	1
Total Inspections by Inspection Type	0	15	1	30	46

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

Inspection Types	Pre-application	Initial Inspection	Re-inspection	Final Inspections after Works completed	Total Inspections by Grant Type
MAGs (Mobility Adaptation Grant Scheme)	0	4	0	2	6
HAGs (Housing Adaptation Grant Scheme)	0	7	0	8	15
HOPS (Housing Aid for Older Persons Grant Scheme)	0	20	0	14	34
DPGs (Disabled Persons Grant)	0	0	0	0	0
Total Inspections by Inspection Type	0	31	0	24	55

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

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	5	0	3	8
HOPS (Housing Aid for Older Persons Grant Scheme)	0	14	0	7	21
DPGs (Disabled Persons Grant)	0	0	0	0	0
Total Inspections by Inspection Type	0	19	0	10	29

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HOUSE INSPECTIONS UNIT

Houses Inspected for Refurbishment Works and Re-Letting - January - Categories	No. of Properties Inspected
Cat 1 – minor repairs needed	10
Cat 2 – moderate repairs needed	1
Cat 3 – substantial repairs needed	0
Cat 4 – major repairs needed	0
TOTAL INSPECTIONS CARRIED OUT	11
No. of Properties Awaiting Inspection	3

Housing Maintenance Communal Areas Projects Ongoing – January	
1	Request for Tender issued out for power washing and gutter cleaning of Park View, Hassett's Cross.

DEFECTIVE BLOCKWORK SCHEME APPLICATIONS

Applications Registered January	3
RFI Applications (Request Further Information) January	6
Applications Referred to Housing Agency	0
Applications – Damage Threshold Met	2
Remediation Option Grant Approved	0
Remediation Option Grant Refused	0
Total Applications Registered – Year to Date	3

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4. Strategy and Non-Local Authority Housing Construction

SOCIAL HOUSING – Delivery for 2025

Buy/Build/Lease as of 31.01.2025 is as follows:

As at 31.01.2025 (01.01.2025 – 31.01.2025)	Complete	In Progress	Overall Complete and In Progress	“Housing for All” 2025 Delivery Target
Build	0	315	315	551
Buy *	1	104	105	Not yet assigned
Lease	0	36	36	Not yet assigned
TOTAL	1	455	456	

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

Notice of Termination Figures

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

Category	Activity in January	CTD
Tenant Notification to Council – where a tenant contacts Limerick City and County Council before the Council engages with the landlord. It moves to ‘Proposal’ stage once the landlord consents to engaging with Limerick City and County Council to purchase	6	17
Proposals being reviewed	0	55
Sale Agreed	0	19
Purchase Completed	1	149
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	16	440
Owner Reoccupying - Notice of Termination comes into the Council – however, owner or family member wishes to reside in property	1	53
Income above social housing limit (i.e., Cost Rental Tenant in Situ)	1	64
Grand Total	25	797

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Social Housing – Project Submissions and Approvals

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

SHIP Part V	Approval for the Acquisition of two units in Oak Avenue, Adare, Co Limerick	Municipal District of Adare-Rathkeale
SHIP Part V	Approval for the Acquisition of 13 units in Radharc Fhlannain, Cois na Coille, Mungret, Limerick	Metropolitan District of Limerick
Social Housing Capital Expenditure Programme - Long Term Leasing	Approval for the leasing of two units in Mary Street, Limerick	Metropolitan District of Limerick
Social Housing Capital Expenditure Programme - Mortgage to Rent	Approval for the leasing of one unit in Gardenfield, Bruree, Co. Limerick	Municipal District of Cappamore-Kilmallock
Capital Assistance Scheme (CAS)	Stage 1 approval for the Construction delivery of six units at Cecil Street, Limerick	Metropolitan District of Limerick
Capital Assistance Scheme (CAS)	Stage 1 approval for the Construction delivery of one unit at Kilmeedy, Co. Limerick	Municipal District of Newcastle West
Capital Assistance Scheme (CAS)	Communal Facilities Grant funding in relation to a nine-unit Construction Scheme at Kilfinane, Co. Limerick	Municipal District of Cappamore-Kilmallock

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

Notice to Quit (NTQ)	Approval for the Acquisition of one unit in Coolbawn Meadows, Castleconnell, Co. Limerick	Metropolitan District of Limerick
Social Housing Capital Expenditure Programme - Long Term Leasing	Submission for the leasing of two units in Mary Street, Limerick	Metropolitan District of Limerick
Social Housing Capital Expenditure Programme - Long Term Leasing	Submission for the leasing of one unit in Cornmarket Row, Limerick	Metropolitan District of Limerick
Capital Assistance Scheme (CAS)	Submission for the acquisition of 18 units at Castleconnell, Limerick	Metropolitan District of Limerick

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Affordable Housing – Delivery for 2023-2026

Scheme	District	Type	No. of Units	Proposal Updates in January
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. This was adapted to form the brief for the Stage 2 Design Team
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. Design brief strategy was developed.
Guinness Site	Metropolitan District of Limerick	Cost Rental Affordable Housing Fund	255	Working group meeting was held and latest design iterations under review.
Clonmacken Lands	Metropolitan District of Limerick	Affordable Purchase Affordable Housing Fund	15	Justification test Tender was advanced throughout January.
Sonny's Lands	Metropolitan District of Limerick	Cost Rental Affordable Housing Fund	19	<p>Design Team meetings held and ongoing.</p> <p>Archaeological lab testing approved and underway. Site investigation started on site.</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>Interreg North West Europe Call 5 proposal with Amsterdam City Council was submitted.</p> <p>Meetings held with local stakeholders.</p>

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Scheme	District	Type	No. of Units	Proposal Updates in January
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. Meetings held with local stakeholders and pre-planning meeting held.
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.
Speaker's Corner	Metropolitan District of Limerick	Cost Rental Expression of Interest Site with Approved Housing Body	18	Work continued on the progression of land transfer during January. Site investigations took place in preparation of going on site shortly.
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 January. 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 January. Meetings held with the Land Development Agency and Clúid every two weeks.

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Scheme	District	Type	No. of Units	Proposal Updates in January
The Mills, Castletroy	Metropolitan District of Limerick	Affordable Cost Rental with Approved Housing Body	19	Units completed and have been allocated.
The Mills, Castletroy	Metropolitan District of Limerick	Affordable Cost Rental with Land Development Agency	81	Units completed and were allocated during January.
Knockhill, Ennis Road	Metropolitan District of Limerick	Affordable Cost Rental	6	Work continued on the progression of this proposal during January.
Cloncanane	Metropolitan District of Limerick	Affordable Cost Rental	38	Work continued on the progression of this proposal during January.
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 January 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 January with Quantity Surveyor costings.
	Municipal District of Adare-Rathkeale	Affordable Purchase at Croom	7	Work continued on the progression of this proposal during January 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 January for Phase 1 of the Woodfield Manor, Newcastle West Affordable Purchase Scheme.

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Scheme	District	Type	No. of Units	Proposal Updates in January
Advance Purchase Turnkey – Campaign 5	Municipal District of Newcastle West	Affordable Purchase at Castle Place, Newcastle West	51	Assessment of applications ongoing.
	Municipal District of Newcastle West	Affordable Purchase at Carraig Desmond, Newcastle West	9	Work continued on the progression of this proposal during January. Limerick City and County Council is waiting for the Affordable Housing Fund subsidy approval from the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage.
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 January with Quantity Surveyor costings.
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 January.
	Municipal District of Cappamore-Killmallock	Affordable Purchase at Glenfield Road, Killmallock Co. Limerick	14	Expression of Interest form submitted by the developer. Work continued on the progression of this proposal during January.
	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 January.
	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 January.

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Scheme	District	Type	No. of Units	Proposal Updates in January
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 was completed and submissions under review.</p> <p>Meetings held with Town Planning Consultant for specific advice regarding the SMART Housing Programme and provision of an Affordability Assessment.</p> <p>Meetings held with Consultant for the provision of services for preparation of a Preliminary Business Case.</p> <p>Site investigations tender for Civils/Structural/ Ecologist completed and Consultant appointed. Site investigations ongoing.</p>

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Finance (All funding streams)

- Claims totaling €5,019,803.31 were sent to the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage.
- Claims totaling €6,368,572.98 were paid by the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage.

6. New Housing Schemes Launched by Strategy and Non LA Construction Team

New Build Tenant Incremental Purchase Scheme at Dalgaish Park, Moyross, Limerick

Limerick City and County Council re-launched the last remaining property under the New Build Tenant Incremental Purchase Scheme at Dalgaish Park, Moyross, Limerick on 17 January with a closing date of 07 February, 2025. This scheme is open to existing working Local Authority and Approved Housing Body tenants and households on the Housing Assistance Payment (HAP) / Rental Accommodation Scheme (RAS). It offers them the chance to transition from rented accommodation into homeownership. The property is available to purchase at a discounted market price, ranging from €131,459 to €197,188, depending on income. The last remaining property has three bedrooms.

5. Municipal District Offices

Metropolitan District of Limerick

Meeting

The January Monthly Meeting of the Metropolitan District of Limerick took place on 20 January in the Council Chamber, Merchant's Quay, and Online.

General Road winter maintenance such as road silting, pothole repairs, gully cleaning, street cleaning, emergency road repairs, and monitoring flood defences throughout the Metropolitan District were carried out during the month.

Significant clean-up and additional road winter maintenance works were completed following the heavy snow and Storm Éowyn events in January.

Installation of signage for the new 60 km/h default speed limits for rural local roads across the region in advance of the introduction of these new speed limits.

Municipal District of Adare-Rathkeale

The January meeting of the Municipal District of Adare-Rathkeale took place on 14 January in Áras Seán Finn, New Line, Rathkeale, Co. Limerick.

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

- 157 cases were assigned to the Housing Maintenance Team.
- 164 cases were assigned to the Roads Maintenance Team.

Office of Public Works Minor Improvement Works

Office of Public Works Minor Improvement Works at Killorath, Meanus.

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Signage

New Signs and Poles erected for Implementation of new 60 km/h Speed Limits for Rural Local Roads in advance of implementation date.

Severe Weather Events

Roads/Housing Crews deployed during Severe Weather Events – January Snow Event and in clearing fallen trees/debris after Storm Éowyn.

Municipal District of Cappamore-Kilmallock

January Municipal District Meeting

The January Meeting of the Municipal District of Cappamore-Kilmallock was held on 16 January at 3pm in Áras Mainchín Seoighe, Kilmallock. The Agenda included a Deputation from Kiltelly/Dromkeen Burial Ground Committee.

Home Improvement Schemes

Inspections and Recommendations for Home Improvement Schemes/Disability Adaptations:

- **No. of Inspections**
 - Mobility Adaptation Grant Scheme – two initial and two final.
 - Housing Adaptation Grant Scheme – six initial and nine final.
 - Housing Aid for Older Person Grant Scheme – seven initial and 19 final.
 - Disabled Persons Grant: one re-inspection.

Housing and Road Maintenance

- 223 cases were assigned to the Housing Maintenance Team.
- 188 cases were assigned to the Roads Maintenance Team.

Housing Grants

Mobility Aid Grants

- Paid: €5,750

Housing Adaptation Grants

- Paid : €13,950
- Approved: One

Housing Aid for Older People

- Paid : €20,657.50
- Approved: Six

Total Housing Grants Paid

- €40,357.50

Roads

New Speed Limits

- Erection of roundels on new poles.

General Municipal Allocation Works

- Installation of two speed ramps on the R517 at Forrest View Estate, Kilfinane.
- Installation of two speed ramps and road markings on the R513 in Hospital.
- Installation of new Litter Bins in Hospital.

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- Footpath extension and surface improvement works at Knockainey Junction.

The Municipal District of Cappamore-Kilmallock has also been working on general maintenance, clearing gullies and inlets and dealing with drainage issues.

Municipal District of Newcastle West

Meetings and Briefings

- 15 January - Monthly Meeting of the Municipal District of Newcastle West.
- 29 January - Workshop for Elected Members on the Corporate Plan 2024-2029.

Housing Grants

- 15 grant applications were approved under the Private Housing Grant Schemes during the month. The total value of approvals was €99,947.48.
- Payments of €26,019.20 were made to six applicants who completed works under the Housing Aid for Older People Scheme.
- Payments of €14,725.00 were made to two applicants who completed works under the Housing Adaptation Grant Scheme.

Housing Maintenance

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

Transportation and Mobility

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

Motor Tax

During the month of January, the Motor Tax Section at the Newcastle West Office processed 1,177 routine transactions, generating an income of €190,841.



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Planning and Place-Making

1. Forward Planning and Public Realm

Forward Planning

- A Part 8 proposal was submitted for the development of a Design and Innovation Hub at 35-39 Nicholas Street, Limerick, including the historic Fireplace Site. The project encompasses the construction of a new building within the medieval walls of the Fireplace Site, the renovation and restoration of No. 35, and the creation of a café along St. Peter's Street.
- Limerick City and County Council has published an annual Draft Residential Zoned Land Tax (RZLT) Map of the land considered to be in scope for the RZLT - including 1,832ha. of land across 16 settlements.

Conservation

- The public display period for the proposed addition of the Fireplace Site, Nicholas Street, to the Record of Protected Structures, ended.
- Two Section 57 Declarations were issued.
- A funding application was submitted to the Heritage Council under the Heritage Stewardship Fund for funding to run a five-part lecture series on built heritage.
- Under Built Heritage Investment Scheme (BHIS) 2025, additional funding of €71,803 has been provided to Limerick City and County Council by the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage, bringing the total allocation to €309,806. 42 applications have been received under this scheme, and the assessments of the applications have been completed.

- Under the Built Heritage Investment Scheme – Historic Thatched Buildings 2025, Limerick City and County Council has received a total allocation of €45,081.55 and assessment of the eighteen applications received has taken place.
- Under the Historic Structures Fund (HSF) 2025, assessment of the fifteen applications received under this funding scheme took place.
- Three Section 57 Declarations have been issued, and these are up to date.
- 35-39 Nicholas Street was proposed for addition to the Record 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

- The Preliminary Archaeological Impact Assessment for Nos. 36-39 Nicholas Street for the PART 8 process was completed.
- Limerick City and County Council's archaeologist gave a presentation to the URBACT Local Group on the results of the ongoing research project on the social history of the City Wall Area of Irishtown.

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2. Development Management and Place-Making

Development Management

A total of 73 new planning applications were received as follows:

Type	Amount
Part 8	2
Housing Developments	4
Domestic Developments	49
Agricultural Developments	1
Commercial Developments/Change of Use	8
Sporting/Community and Educational Developments	4
Other Developments	5

The current applications include proposals for:

- Part 8 for a design and innovation hub to comprise artist studios, workspaces, retail area, exhibition space and café/restaurant and associated outdoor area, a single-storey workshop unit at 35-39 Nicholas Street, Limerick.

Place Making

Cruises Street Urban Enhancements

- Festoon lighting installed to Cruises Street, Chapel Street and Todd's Bow and spot lighting installed to Todd's Bow Archway.

Urban Regeneration and Development Fund (URDF)

58 O'Connell Street and 33 and 34 Thomas Street

- Tenders returned for 33 and 34 Thomas Street project and assessment continued.

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.

Arthur's 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 continued to be developed for Integrated Design Team.
- Technical Working Group Meeting No. 6 took place on 29 January.
- Stakeholder Meetings continued.
- Developed Design continued.
- Stage 1 Road Safety Audit feedback received.

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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 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

- Tender assessment of pre-qualification for suitable contractors.
- Surfacing and fencing works at Colbert Terrace.
- Railings and cappings at O'Riordan's pub site.

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

- A total of €2,541,767 was drawn down from the Office of Public Works in respect of expenditure across the five flood relief schemes.

King's Island Flood Relief Scheme

- **Area A2 St. Ita's Road**
Stripping topsoil, stoning access road and erection of site fencing.
- **Area A6 Athlunkard Boat Club and Lee Estate**
Laying of foul sewer
- **Area B3 Merchant's Quay**
Erection of hoarding.
Relocation of monuments.
Commenced archaeological excavation.

Castleconnell Flood Relief Scheme (FRS)

- The Planning application is with An Bord Pleanála. The period for submissions and observations closed on 31 January.

Adare Flood Relief Scheme

- A Steering Group meeting was held in Adare on 16 January to monitor and assess the project progress.
- Work continued the Marine Area Consent Application.
- Geophysical Archaeology surveys ongoing.

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Limerick Flood Relief Scheme

- A Steering Group meeting was held on 13 January 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

- A Steering Group meeting was held on 21 January to assess and monitor the project's progress.
- The review of the draft Environmental Impact Assessment Report (EIAR) and Cost Benefit Analysis continued.
- The first draft of the Options Report was under review.

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

Opera Square

Project Update

- The Basement Vent Shaft was constructed to Roof Level within the footprint of Parcel 4.
- Mechanical and Electrical fit-out works progressed in One Opera Square.
- Tiling and finishes fit-out commenced within the basement and ground floor of One Opera Square.
- Remainder of Basement – The basement beneath Contract D (14 storey) and the attenuation tanks on Bank Place were completed. The basement slab beneath Contract E (Hotel) is now complete.
- ESB ducting works on Rutland Street and Patrick Street completed.
- The Main Contractor handed over the ESB Substation rooms to the ESB in advance of energisation. The ESB installed the substation.
- Existing Buildings – Remedial works to the damage in 1 Patrick Street progressed well and are 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 formulation of the annual communications plan for Opera Square was advanced during the month.

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Cleeves Riverside Quarter

Projects Update

Heritage works

- Surveys and investigations completed to inform designs. Stage 2A2 Developed Designs completed and Developed Cost Plan completed.

Phase 1-Public Realm and Residential Zones

- Value Engineering Workshop completed to inform optimum approach for developed design and improve commercial viability.
- CCTV surveys completed.
- Site Investigations Contractor appointed.

Environmental Assessment

- Tendering for Environmental Impact Assessment Report (EIAR) Chapters completed.

TUS Cleeves Riverside Quarter City Campus

- Options Appraisal completed and Preferred Option identified.
- Stage 1 Definitive Project Brief commenced

Financial Modelling

- Financial Model updated to track commercial viability for residential zones.

The Urban Regeneration and Development Fund (URDF)

- Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage URDF Team was updated on progress with Cleeves.

Project Media Engagement

The formulation of the annual communications plan for Cleeves Riverside Quarter was advanced during the month.

Other Projects

Progress Update

Gardens International

- Comprehensive event planning and coordination got underway to organise the 2025 event diary. A diverse array of planned events and exhibitions was discussed, including partnerships with Educational and Cultural bodies.
- The LTT website review commenced.

Askeaton Pool Update

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

Expressions of Interest Sites

Thomondgate

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

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

- In line with Limerick Twenty Thirty's Service Level Agreement with the Department of Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth Emergency Accommodation Project, LTT continued to project manage the delivery of modular accommodation on State-owned sites, aimed at expeditiously addressing the modular housing needs within the Department of Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth Emergency Accommodation Project 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 53,322 active HAP tenancies nationally, managed by the HAP SCC at the end of January.
- A weekly average of 107 HAP tenancies have been set up during 2025.
- The January landlord payment run was €53.033 million.
- The weekly tenant charge at the end of January was €3.107 million.
- The Debt Management Unit of the HAP SCC collected a total of €14.514 million in differential rent to end of January.
- The HAP tenant rent collection rate at the end of January was 99%.
- The Debt Management Unit issued 15,333 HAP debt reminder letters in January.

2. Fire and Emergency

Statistics

	No. Received/ Assigned	No. Validated/ Acknowledged	No. Invalidated/ Refused	No. Granted	No. Completed
Fire Certificate Applications January	13	8	0	19	
Disability Access Cert Applications January	11	8	0	19	
Licensing Applications January	2	3			
Commencement Notice January	29	23	2		
Completion Certificate January	12	8	0		
Planning Referrals January	29				33

January was an exceptionally busy period for all operational staff within the Fire Service. The cold period at the start of the month generated a large volume of calls and this was followed by the unprecedented number of calls caused by Storm Éowyn. Storm Éowyn required the setup of a dedicated command centre to allow for the management of the emergency calls. As well as all of this, the regular level of emergency calls was exceptional for this time of the year.

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Fire and Emergency Training Events

The following activity took place in January:

- All boat operators completed a two-day refresher course, including skills on night-time rescues.
- Six members of staff attended a two-day Effective Decision-Making course in Clonmel, Co. Tipperary.

Civil Defence attendance at Events

The following activity took place in January:

- Total No. of Health Service Executive Tasking: 30
- Total No. of Milford Care Centre Tasking: 4
- Total No. of An Garda Síochána Tasking: 3
- Total No. of Croom Hospital Tasking: 5
- Total No. of Limerick City and County Council Tasking: 1
- Patient Transfer Limerick to Beaumont Hospital, Dublin, and return - 1 day
- Four Volunteers assisted Mayo Civil Defence with Storm Éowyn - 1 day

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Water Safety

No. of Lifebuoy Replacements	January
Metropolitan District	4
Municipal Districts	2

No. of Lifebuoy Sensor Activations	January
Metropolitan District	8
Municipal Districts	1

- The Climate Action Team submitted its annual return to the Local Government Management Agency (LGMA) on Climate Action.
- The Climate Action Team attended the launch of the Nett Zero Twin City Initiative.

Veterinary Services

No. of dogs processed in the Dog Shelter	18
No. of horses seized	5
No. of samples tested	1

3. Environment and Climate Action

Climate Action

Climate Action Team

- The Community Climate Action Officer attended the Climate Change Communications and Engagement Training in Dublin.
- Ballyneety Golf Club completed the Community Climate Action project on the development of a mini-forest.
- University of Limerick's ISCycle 2 project was launched in the Citizen Innovation Lab. The project is an innovative new research project examining how e-bikes can change transport behaviours to improve health and protect the environment.
- The Climate Action Team presented at Historic Building Retrofitting Training Course development as part of the Technical Support Instrument Initiative. The course is targeted at public servants and was held in Dublin Castle with over 300 people attending online and in-person.

XL Bully Ban

To the end of January, 41 applications for a Certificate of Exemption for XL Bully ownership had been received, 26 approved and certificate issued, with a number of applications pending awaiting additional information.

Food Safety

Formal responsibility for the Food Safety Authority of Ireland food safety checks moved from Local Authorities to the Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine.

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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)	34
Inspections undertaken (MS Dynamics) and Domestic Waste Water Treatment Systems (DWWTS)	31
Warnings issued	7
Directions of Authorised Officer issued	6
Statutory Notices issued	4 ¹
Prosecutions initiated	4
Fines issued	0
Authorisations issued/reviewed	1
DOMESTIC WASTE AND LITTER TEAM	
Cases received (Microsoft (MS) Dynamics)	135
Inspections undertaken (MS Dynamics)	736
Warnings issued	4
Directions of Authorised Officer issued	6
Statutory Notices issued	5
Prosecutions initiated	0
Fines issued	20

¹ Two Notices of Compliance with Advisory Notices issued for DWWTS inspections

Clean Ups: Anti-Dumping Initiative

One large clean-up of illegal dumping was completed in Bunlicky, Co Limerick.

IBAL (Irish Business Against Litter) Report

The IBAL report from June 2024 to December 2024 was released in January. This study is conducted by An Taisce on behalf of IBAL, and ranked a total of 40 towns and cities across Ireland.

The report showed an improvement in litter in overall ratings compared to 2023. Some improvements were noted in Limerick City Centre at Laneway between Thomondgate and High Road, entrances to Charlotte Quay Car Park, Cruises Street Car Park, Henry Street Car Park at Mount Kenneth Place. Top rankings sites were at Hyde Road and Bus Éireann, O'Connell Street, Honan's Quay and Harvey's Quay. The report found that litter blackspots were located at waste ground on the corner of Smyth's Lane and Cathedral Place and the steps leading to the river at King John's Castle.

The report showed for Limerick City South/Galvone that the Recycle Facility, Roxboro Shopping Centre, had greatly improved, as well as the Weigh Station (Childers Road). The Report found litter blackspots in the areas of O'Malley Park and Galvone Business Park, which continue to be an issue.

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Parks

It was a busy month for planned tree surgery works and emergency tree works as a result of storm damage. The Clare Glens Woodland and Loop Walks amenity was particularly affected with 16 large trees falling across pathways. A tree surgeon was engaged and following a week of closure to ensure the public’s safety, this amenity was assessed as safe and re-opened. Some of the fallen trees at this location and at other locations will remain at their locations to encourage increased biodiversity and a number of fallen trees have been put through a chipper to make bark chip for use in flowerbeds and at roundabouts. Branches are being put through a mulcher to make compost for use by the horticulture team and are available at some of the Civic Amenity Sites for the public to take and use free-of-charge.

Cemeteries

Number of Burials in City Cemeteries

Mount St. Lawrence	15
Mount St. Oliver	25
Castlemungret	20
Kilmurry	4

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Environment Strategy

Inspection Type	Number of Inspections	Inspection Details
National Agricultural Inspection Programme (NAIP) Inspections	3	NAIP inspections carried out
Farm Re-Inspections	27	Follow-up Inspections to verify programmed works completed
NAIP Letters	30	Letters to Farmers where National Agricultural Inspections have taken place
Farm File Reviews	44	Review of open farm files
Cross Reports	2	Cross Report to the Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine
Poultry Books	2	Recording of Poultry Litter Movements
Microsoft Dynamics Complaints	10	Respond and/or Follow-up to Complaints from members of Public
Invasive Species website	4	Checked website for new reports of invasive species
Planning Files	5	Review of agricultural planning applications and comment back to Planning.
Forestry Referrals	2	Assessment of forestry applications referred from Forestry Service.
Court case	1	Adjourned
Media Releases – Social Media	1	Media release regarding the reopening of the closed period for the spreading of organic fertiliser
Internal Meetings	1	Environment Strategy
Meeting with External Agency	1	Meeting with LAWPRO (Local Authority Waters Programme)

As part of an An Taisce and Environmental Protection Agency GLOBE pilot air quality project being rolled out in partnership with the Council, the Environment Section gave presentations on its work to three schools in Limerick City (Castletroy College, St. Clement's College and Thomond Community College) as part of workshops on data literacy.

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Biodiversity

- The URBACT local group (ULG) meeting for the BiodiverCity URBACT IV project took place on 14 January in St. John's Hospital. The group discussed recent activities and upcoming events for the year.
- A new wildflower ID swatch for Limerick was designed and printed. This swatch details the features and life cycle of 25 of the native wildflower species found in Corbally Meadow. It was created as part of the URBACT BiodiverCity IV project and can be used by groups to record species found in their area.

Environmental Awareness

Green Schools

Green School assessment season is upon us and four primary schools had support visits during the month, including two schools preparing for their first Green Flag - Litter and Waste, and the remaining two schools preparing for their Biodiversity and Global Citizenship Litter and Waste flags.



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Corporate Services, Human Resources and Organisational Development

1. Business Improvement

- A total of 922 active users now live on the Council Connect Employee App.
- Services on Service Catalogue = 714.
- Business Improvement demonstrated CAPGOV's "Risks and Issues" reporting suite to Management Board at its January meeting.
- Business Improvement and the Mayoral Programme Department collaborated to launch the Mayor's Programme Reporting Tool.
- Limerick City and County Council has been shortlisted for four awards at the All-Ireland Community and Council - Local Authority Members' Association (LAMA) - Awards.

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 January:

New Procurement References set up	42
Procurement References extended as per signed contract/arrangement	60

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 January:

- Approved requisitions accounted for 90% of the total requisitions actioned for this given month.
- Rejected requisitions accounted for 10% of the total requisitions actioned for this given month.

Month	Approved	Rejected	Total Requisitions Actioned
January	1,235	143	1,378

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

Rejection Reason	January
Memo Requisition not raised in advance – omitted/insufficient detail	38
Procurement Reference omitted/incorrect	27
Quotes – omitted/incorrect copy provided	16
Request for Quotes - omitted	15
Award Notice – omitted/incorrect copy provided	13

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Register of Electors

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

- Additions to the Electoral Register - 560
- Deletions from the Electoral Register - 95
- Modifications to the Electoral Register - 520

On 22 January, Team members attended a meeting in Dublin in relation to the Modernisation of the Register. This project was led by Dublin City Council.

Health and Safety Training

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

Course Name	Numbers Trained
CSCS (Construction Skills Certification Scheme) – Site Dumper training	2
Drivers' CPCs (Certificates of Professional Competence)	4
First Aid	3
Manual Handling	46
Pole Saw Training	6
Safe Pass	7
Total Staff Trained	68

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Schedule of Meetings for January

Name of Meeting	Date	Location
Full Council Special Meeting of Limerick City and County Council to pass a Vote of Sympathy on the passing of former Mayor of Limerick, Ger Fahy, RIP	03/01/2025	Dooradoyle and Online
Bi-Monthly Meeting of Limerick City and County Council	27/01/2025	Dooradoyle and Online
Municipal District of		
Adare-Rathkeale Monthly Meeting	14/01/2025	Rathkeale and Online
Newcastle West Monthly Meeting	15/01/2025	Newcastle West and Online
Cappamore-Kilmallock Monthly Meeting	16/01/2025	Kilmallock
Metropolitan District of Limerick Monthly Meeting	20/01/2025	Merchant's Quay and Online
Discover Limerick DAC Audit and Risk Committee Meeting	14/01/2025	ENGINE - Cecil Street
Corporate Policy Group Meeting	20/01/2025	Online
Party Leaders' Meeting	23/01/2025	Online
Protocol Committee Meeting	23/01/2025	Online
Local Community Development Committee (LCDC) Meeting	28/01/2025	Dooradoyle and Online
Local Action Group (LEADER) Meeting	28/01/2025	Dooradoyle and Online
Discover Limerick DAC Meeting	29/01/2025	Online

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Access to Information

	January
Total Freedom of Information Requests	18
Freedom of Information Internal Appeals	1
Information Commissioner Appeals	0
Total Ombudsman Requests	5
Total Access to Information on the Environment (AIE) Requests	4
AIE Internal Appeals	0

Customer Services

The Customer Services Team continued to provide ongoing support to customers and Public Representatives as their 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. In the month of January, Limerick was hit by two extreme weather events.

The first week of the New Year brought an arctic blast which saw most of the county covered in a blanket of snow. Customer Services supported the Roads Department by logging cases.

On the night of "Storm Éowyn," extremely powerful and destructive winds were forecast to hit Ireland resulting in widespread power outages and unsafe travelling conditions. Customer Services set up a storm response team in the Command Centre in Mulgrave Street to take calls during the night.

The following figures highlight the activity within the Contact Centre throughout the month of January:

- Customer Services Call Centre answered 12,490 calls. This represents an average of 568 per day, with the number of daily calls exceeding 600 on several occasions and reaching as high as 897. 80% of calls were handled at first point of contact.
- A total of 3,988 emails were processed through the Customer Services email platform.
- 4,102 cases were created with 756 of these logged on behalf of Public Representatives. A total of 3,305 cases were closed, with 710 of these being cases logged by Public Representatives.
- Of these 4,102 cases, Customer Services staff logged 65%.
- The logging of cases through the MyLimerick portal continued, with a total of 175 cases being logged in January. Of these, 147 were submitted by Public Representatives.
- Customer Services continued to support the Housing Maintenance Department in creating service requests and, throughout the month, 97% 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 185 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 119 were applied for and 63 issued.
- Throughout the month, Customer Services staff welcomed a total of 2,576 customers at both the Merchant's Quay and Dooradoyle Offices.

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3. Marketing and Communications

Marketing

Limerick on Foot

- Launched a three-week multi-platform campaign to encourage locals and visitors to Limerick to experience Limerick's tracks and trails, with a special (Outdoor Recreation Infrastructure Scheme supported) 2025 spotlight on three rural Co. Limerick trails: The Knight's Walk (Glin), An Gleann Beag (Broadford) and Slievareagh (Kilfinane).
- The campaign is promoted across social, digital, Public Relations (PR), print and in-person events. Branded merchandise, branded display items and print promotional materials (along with digital download versions) produced.
- These include, a comprehensive Run it, Walk it, Love it route map and guide, updated Limerick City Loop and Three Bridges Loop Maps and a brand new Activity Sheet for kids.
- This activity is underpinned with dedicated social content, an enhanced hub on Limerick.ie and weekly e-newsletters.
- Compelling new collateral, produced in the form of static imagery and video, as well as social cutdowns for each of three highlighted routes.
- The campaign also engaged high profile social media influencers to further reach and engagement; including: Trisha Lewis, Tadhg O'Brien and Michelle McNulty.
- This year the Marketing Team promoted the campaign to a busy and highly engaged audience at the Crescent Shopping Centre, Limerick.

Other Marketing Activities

- Provided support to our Trade and Investment colleagues in securing and producing an advert in the upcoming fDi Intelligence publication.
- Content for a Brand Limerick focused article approved for The Place Brand Observer Yearbook 2025.
- PR and new social and digital content produced for a Valentines in Limerick promotion.
- Prepared and submitted an application for Marketing and Promotion funding under the Outdoor Recreation Infrastructure Scheme 2024/2025.
- Limerick tourism video asset along with social cutdowns updated.
- Branded merchandise and new branded backdrops for use by Council Departments designed and procured.
- Content being prepared for the Marketing Strategy 2025 -2028.

Social Media

- Management of Marketing and Communications' 14 social media channels including Limerick.ie and Limerick City and County Council accounts, to engage with citizens and promote Limerick to locals, visitors, students, and the business community.
- Followers across our seven main social media platforms is now as follows:
 - **Limerick.ie Facebook:** 35,822
 - **Limerick.ie X:** 21,279
 - **Limerick.ie Instagram:** 36,049
 - **Limerick.ie TikTok:** 3,141
 - **Limerick City and County Council X:** 19,075
 - **Limerick City and County Council Instagram:** 2,823
 - **Limerick City and County Council LinkedIn:** 14,700

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Limerick.ie

In January, 168,425* people visited Limerick.ie, a 9% increase on the same period in 2024. (*Fathom Analytics)

The most popular pages on Limerick.ie were:

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

Content Report: 85 articles, 287 events, 21 new amenities and 10 new Council Services were added to Limerick.ie in January.

Council service information added or updated in January included: Historic Structures Fund (HSF) 2025, Limerick Local Economic and Community Plan 2023-2028, Affordable Home Purchase Scheme, Household Waste Collection Subsidy Scheme (Bin Waiver), Starter New Home Purchase – Knocklong, Castletroy Urban Greenway to National Technology Park Active Travel Scheme, Starter New Home Purchase - Dalgaish Park, Community Monuments Fund 2025, Mayor of Limerick, Storm Éowyn Updates. Local Enhancement Programme, Wickham Street to Clare Street Active Travel Scheme, Limerick Road Safety Plan, Residential Zoned Land Tax (RZLT), Updated Strategic Policy Committees.

Communications

- Issued 25 news releases from the Marketing and Communications Department and researched and wrote 19 speeches for the Office of the Mayor.
- Posted 379 times on the three Limerick City and County Council's social media accounts, total followers across these accounts is now 36,598.

- Handled all media queries, which came into communications@limerick.ie and continued to offer Communication support to all Directorates of Limerick City and County Council.
- Issued a series of social media posts for the following throughout the month of January:
- Heavy snow throughout Limerick from 04 -08 January (55 posts).
- Public Consultations for the Draft Rathkeale Town Centre First Plan.
- Incremental Purchase Scheme at Bridge Street, Knocklong.
- Affordable Housing Scheme at Castle Place, Newcastle West.
- Series of posts for the Active Travel Department.
- Expressions of Interest for the Outdoor Recreation Infrastructure Scheme.
- Reminders to apply for exemption Certificates for XL Bullies.
- Seeking applications for the 2025 Community Monuments Fund.
- Series of posts with information before, during and after Storm Éowyn (43 posts).

