



Comhairle Cathrach
& Contae **Luimnigh**

Limerick City
& County Council

Stiúrthóireacht na Forbartha Tithíochta
Comhairle Cathrach agus Contae Luimnigh
Ceanncheathrú Chorporáideach
Cé na gCeannaithe
Luimneach

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13th March 2025

To the Mayor and Each Member of Limerick City and County Council

Chairperson's Report for the Home and Social Development Strategic Policy Committee
Meeting on the 13th March 2025.

A Chomhairleoir, a chara,

Summary Report/Main Issues

Cllr. Stephen Keary opened the meeting and welcomed all members to the March SPC meeting.

Item 1: Confirm minutes from meeting held on 30th May 2024.

Proposed: Cllr. Adam Teskey **Seconded:** Cllr. Catherine Slattery

Item 2: Matters arising from the Minutes

No matters arising from previous minutes.

Item 3: Role of the SPC

Mr. Brian Kennedy, Director of Service gave a presentation on the Role of the SPC.

The presentation was well received by the committee.

Item 4: Changes in the various Grant Schemes i.e. Housing Adaptation Grants.

Mr. Gerard McNamara, Senior Staff Officer, Housing, gave a presentation on the Changes in the various Grant Schemes.

The presentation was well received by the committee.

On the proposal of Cllr. Francis Foley seconded by Cllr. Noreen Stokes it was agreed that under the present scheme, a recommendation be sent to the DHLGH to accommodate the installation of New Fossil Fuel Boilers.

Item 5: Update on Tenant Purchase Properties

Ms. Mary Hayes, Senior Executive Officer, Housing, gave a presentation on Update on Tenant Purchase Properties.

The presentation was well received by the committee.

Item 6: Update on Traveller Accommodation Programme

Ms. Patricia Phillips, A/Head of Unit for Housing Welfare & Traveller Accommodation, Housing, gave an overview update

Item 7: Notice of Motions

Notice of Motion submitted by Councillor S. Beasley - 26th July 2024

I will move at the next Meeting of the Metropolitan District of Limerick that Limerick City and County Council consider including Bin Charges as part of the Rent Structure fees for social housing tenants (unless on a waiver program).

Cllr. Beasley gave more clarity on the motion, she advised that dumping around the city is more pronounced. She queried how do we confirm that households who have been in social housing for years have bin collection at present and can there be a review of same. Ms. Mary Hayes, Senior Executive Officer, Housing, gave a response to the original motion and advised that they can link in with Community Sustainment to carry out an audit in problematic areas.

Proposed: Cllr. Sarah Beasley **Seconded:** Cllr. Elisa O'Donovan

Notice of Motion submitted by Councillor S. Benson (to be referred to the Home and Social Development Strategic Policy Committee) - 17th September 2024

I will move at the next Meeting of the Metropolitan District of Limerick that this Council establish a working group to further progress the work and recommendations of the Autism Friendly Limerick group, but specifically in the area of housing. It is envisaged that this group will work with stakeholders including the disability network providers, HSE, and advocacy groups to explore how LCCC can better address the housing needs of people with ASD and neurodivergence.

On the proposal of Cllr. Sharon Benson seconded by Cllr. Elisa O'Donovan it was agreed that members of the SPC would establish a working group to further progress the work of the Autism Friendly Limerick group.

Notice of Motions submitted by Councillor M. Donoghue (to be referred to Home and Social Development Strategic Policy Committee) - 10th October 2024

I will move at the next Plenary Meeting of Limerick City and County Council that future disposals of vacant residential properties are focused on first-time buyers, owner- occupiers, older persons or households with changes in circumstances.

Ms. Sarah Newell, Senior Executive Officer, Housing, gave a response. Ms. Tina Knox, gave further clarification on the reply to members.

The future disposal of vacant/derelict residential properties is currently under review. A number of cross-directorate meetings (between Housing and Property Management) have taken place regarding such properties. Due to increased resources in the Housing Directorate and an evidential housing need, it has been proposed that many more properties from this source will be taken by the Housing Directorate to be made available under various schemes.

Notice of Motion submitted by Councillor S. Beasley – 31st January 2025

I will move at the next Meeting of the Metropolitan District of Limerick that there should be no more undignified 'open mic' discussions at the Homeless Action Teams facility in Limerick.

Ms Mary Hayes advised that the Homeless Action Team will look how calls are managed and if it is feasible for clinics to be arranged.

Notice of Motion submitted by Councillor J. Leddin – 20th January 2025 (to be referred to the Home and Social Development Strategic Policy Committee)

I will move at the next Meeting of the Metropolitan District of Limerick that the Council invite the Land Development Agency to a meeting to receive an update on what funding was secured for LDA sites in Limerick from the national budget and to provide an update on each site and timeframe for planning applications.

Ms. Kathy O'Grady, Administrative Officer, Housing, gave an update to members.

Item 8: SPC Programme of Work 2024 & 2025

Ms. Kathy O'Grady, Administrative Officer, Housing gave a further update on the SPC Programme of work.

Item 9: For Noting

Ms. Kathy O'Grady, Administrative Officer, Housing, gave an update that the Reporting to Housing Disability Group and Pipeline figures have been circulated.

Item 10: AOB

Cllr. Keary queried commencement on new builds to Mr. Kidney on housing schemes in Adare and Pallaskenry. Ms. Newell in reply added that the development in Pallaskenry is going through final checks with the Housing Finance Agency. Ms Newell clarified, Will keep members updated. It's due to legal due diligence.

Mr. Kidney in reply to query regarding Adare – that they are currently gathering tender documents.

April SPC meeting date Thursday, 24th April 2025.

An Cathaoirleach, Cllr. Stephen Keary thanked everyone who attended the SPC meeting.

END OF MEETING

Is mise le meas,



**Cllr. Stephen Keary, Chairperson
Home and Social Development Strategic Policy Committee**