

**LIMERICK CITY AND COUNTY COUNCIL MUNICIPAL DISTRICT  
OF ADARE RATHKEALE MEETING TO BE HELD ON Tuesday  
11<sup>th</sup> MARCH 2025**

**To: The Chairman and Each Member of the Municipal District of Adare-Rathkeale Re: Draft Schedule of Municipal District Works - (SMDW)**

Dear Councillor,

I wish to refer to previous discussions regarding the requirement to prepare a Schedule of Municipal District Works.

Section 58 of the Local Government Reform Act 2014 inserts a new section 103A in the Local Government Act 2001 providing that, following the adoption of the annual budget, a schedule of proposed works of maintenance and repair to be carried out during the financial year in each municipal district shall be prepared, for adoption by the municipal district members.

The SMDW is, in effect, a plan of works that prioritises and apportions the use, within each municipal district, of funding provided in the overall local authority revenue budget for particular purposes

The SMDW in respect of the Municipal District should be formulated on the basis of the amount of funding provided for maintenance and repair in the annual budget in respect of each relevant service division (e.g. housing, roads, amenities, street cleaning, drainage work, burial ground maintenance, etc.

Classification of items in the budget should largely determine what works and related expenditure are included in the SMDW but insofar as it may be necessary to make judgements in particular instances, it is considered that the term "maintenance" can include not only maintenance of the physical condition or fabric of items, but also more operational type matters such as grass cutting or tree pruning.

Within the level of funding available, details of the SMDW should be prepared on the basis of identified needs (taking account of relevant factors, for example, in the case of housing, age profile of stock) and priorities throughout the local authority area and taking due account of requirements in relation to standards and frequency of maintenance work. This should be informed by details of relevant requirements which were considered in the formulation of the overall local authority budget. It will also be relevant to have regard to the pattern of works and expenditure in previous years.

It is emphasised that adoption of the SMDW per se cannot involve revision of the adopted budget.

It is essential to maximise return on investment by avoiding dilution of expenditure which could result from spreading allocations too thinly across the Municipal District each year. This could be minimised by taking a multi-annual approach where possible in the preparation of the SMDW.

Maximising value for money, overall effectiveness, and return from investment should also be a key objective in prioritising works and allocating available funding within each municipal district, along with the need to ensure appropriate balance in the allocation of resources as between urban and rural areas in the district.

Apportionment of funding on a thematic basis within the district over the life of the council could help to this end. For example, specific housing estate(s) in one location could be prioritised for refurbishment in year one, with a commitment to undertake works in another area in subsequent years. Similarly, where an overall local authority maintenance programme is drawn up for a particular purpose (say windows and doors in local authority dwellings) which might need to extend over a number of years, the required works would be reflected in relevant annual SMDWs.

Any maintenance type functions, for example, grass cutting, planting or other maintenance of open spaces, that are carried out by means of specific purpose grants for such purposes to community groups such as tidy towns committees can be provided for, as appropriate, through the SMDW.

The GMA, which is a budgetary element providing funding for discretionary expenditure at municipal district level to be decided by the elected members in respect of each municipal district, is separate from the “strategic” budgetary funding for maintenance and repair, the utilisation of which is to be determined in the SMDW.

The Draft Schedule of Municipal District Works for the Municipal District of Adare Rathkeale is set out at appendix 1 attached.

The approval of the Members is sought for the Draft Schedule as presented.

**Vincent Murray,  
Director of Services.**

## Appendix 1

<b>ADARE RATHKEALE MUNICIPAL DISTRICT Road Works Scheme 2025</b>	
<b>Work Category</b>	<b>€</b>
Restoration Improvement (RI) -Road Reconstruction	€2,514,000
Restoration Maintenance (RM) –Surface Dressing	€378,300
Supplementary Restoration Maintenance (SRM – Surface Dressing	€330,200
Drainage Grant	€180,000
General Maintenance (GM)	€954,611
Tar Patching (TP)	€369,950
Low Cost Safety Improvement Works (LCSI)	€106,000
General Municipal Allocation (GMA)	€ 270,000
Bridge Rehabilitation	€35,000
Climate Change Adaption and Resilience Works	€240,000
Specific Improvement Grants	€200,000
Sustainable Travel Measures Grant ( Active Travel)	€750,000
TII Major Scheme Foynes - Limerick	tbc
TII Major Scheme M20 Limerick- Cork	tbc
<b>Total Defined MD Spending</b>	<b>€ 6,284,061</b>

- Winter Maintenance (WM) **€728,774** Total City & County.
- Community Improvement Schemes (CIS) – Limerick City & County Council are currently identifying schemes that will be included in the 2025 programme. An allocation of **€452,050** has been made to Limerick City and County for 2025
- Local Improvement Schemes (LIS) – The Department for Rural and Community Development (DRCD) introduced ring fenced funding for LIS in 2020. The 2025 allocation for Limerick City and County Council is **€709,694**
- Public Lighting **€ 4,006,961** Total City & County.
- Former National Road Grant – **€755,000** – In accordance with Circular RW 1/2021, **€755,000** has been made available for the upkeep of declassified national roads.

<b>Regional Roads</b> <b>Road Reconstruction</b> <b>Allocation €660,000</b>			
<b>Road No.</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Length (m)</b>	<b>Total Cost €</b>
R519	Cahills Cross to Ballingarry	1460	€660,000
	<b>Total</b>	<b>1460</b>	<b>€660,000</b>

<b>Local Roads</b> <b>Road Reconstruction</b> <b>Allocation €1,854,000</b>			
<b>Road No.</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Length (m)</b>	<b>Total Cost €</b>
L1408	Croom Hospital Road	380	€400,000
L1222	Hogans Quarry Entrance Creeves	100	€63,000
L69003	Kilteery Pier Road	550	€117,000
L6113	Knocknabooly West Foynes	294	€52,000
L6115	Knocknabooly Middle Loghill	1320	€142,000
L6116	Bog Line Mountdavid	400	€40,000
L6130	Basket Road, Shanagolden	101	€11,000
L6070	Dunmoylan Shanagolden	490	€80,000
L8039	Mellan Kildimo	1206	€132,000
L6004	N69 to Ballynort Askeaton	348	€34,000
L6005	Ballynort Askeaton	464	€51,000
L6014	Kilbreedy, Kildimo	220	€27,000
L6014	Blossomhill,Kilcornan	170	€21,000
L1215	Ballyallinan Junction, Rathkeale	337	€43,000
L6147	Ballyallinan to Loghill Knockaderry	800	€92,000

L1141	Inch to Mollys Bar Ballyneety	365	€44,000
L1545	Ballinleeny to Kilmore Granagh	810	€139,000
L52307	Enniscouch Road Rathkeale	760	€84,000
L5085	Green Cross Northern approach Ballybricken	150	€33,000
L50781	Enaghroe Fedamore	550	€55,000
L6028	Ballinaguile Kilfinny	350	€31,000
L1207	Kilmacow to Kilfinny	1000	€163,000
<b>Total</b>		<b>11,165</b>	<b>€1,854,000</b>

<b>Regional Roads Surface Dressing Allocation €70,000</b>			
<b>Road No.</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Length (m)</b>	<b>Total Cost €</b>
R519	Beabus towards Nevilles Cross	800	€31,000
R523	Killaheen to Ardnaveagh	1000	€39,000
<b>Total</b>		<b>1800</b>	<b>€70,000</b>

<b>Local Roads Surface Dressing Allocation €391,500</b>			
<b>Road No.</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Length (m)</b>	<b>Total Cost €</b>
L6130	Basket Road Shanagolden	1172	€35,000
L6113	Cloonty Shanagolden	224	€8,000
L6113	Knocknabooly West Foynes	450	€13,500

L6004	N69 to Ballynort Askeaton	1976	€56,000
L6087	Shanid Upper Shanagolden	1549	€46,500
L6121	Bonds Cross to Jobbers Cross	2186	€65,500
L6117	Leahys to Mountdavid Foynes	3029	€100,000
L1203	Curraghchase back gates towards Cappagh	1938	€67,000
<b>Total</b>		<b>12,524</b>	<b>€391,500</b>

<b>Supplementary Restoration Maintenance</b> <b>Local Roads</b> <b>Surface Dressing</b> <b>Allocation €247,000</b>			
<b>Road No.</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Length (m)</b>	<b>Total Cost €</b>
L1209	Chawkes Cross towards Knockfierna	600	€16,000
L1544/L8658	Ballinlena towards Bruff Line	1900	€55,000
L1203	Cappagh to Rosemount	1500	€45,000
L1215	Wilton Cross to Ballywinterourke	1500	€45,000
L1427	N21 to Mount Earl Bridge	800	€29,000
L8017	Banogue towards Morenane	1000	€29,000
L8054	Mount Earl to Liskilly	1000	€28,000
<b>Total</b>		<b>8300</b>	<b>€247,000</b>

<b>Drainage Works</b> <b>Allocation € 180,000</b>		
<b>Road No.</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Total Cost €</b>
R519	Ballingarry to Cahills Phase 2	€90,000
L8042	Ballyvareen Kildimo	€20,000
L1227	Finnoo Ballyhahill	€10,000
L6070	Carrons, Shanagolden	€60,000
<b>Total</b>		<b>€180,000</b>

<b>Bridges</b> <b>Allocation €35,000</b>			
<b>Road No.</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Length (m)</b>	<b>Total Cost €</b>
L8039	Faha, Kildimo		€35,000
<b>Total</b>			<b>€35,000</b>

<b>Low Cost Safety</b> <b>Improvement Schemes (LCSI)</b> <b>Allocation €</b>			
<b>Road No.</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Length (m)</b>	<b>Total Cost €</b>
L1227	Vehicle Restraint System, Ballyhahill Eastern approach		€50,000
L1210	Chawkes Cross		€50,000
R516	Croom NS		€6,000
<b>Total</b>			<b>€106,000</b>

<b>Climate Change Adaption &amp; Resilience Works</b> <b>Allocation €240,000</b>			
<b>Road No.</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Length (m)</b>	<b>Total Cost €</b>
L1416	Banogue GAA- Phase 1		€140,000
L1227	Ballyhahill- Eastern Approach		€100,000
<b>Total</b>			€240,000

<b>Specific Improvement Grants</b> <b>Allocation €200,000</b>			
<b>Road No.</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Length (m)</b>	<b>Total Cost €</b>
R518/520	Lees Cross		€200,000
<b>Total</b>			<b>€200,000</b>
<b>Active Travel Measures</b> <b>Allocation € 750,000</b>			
<b>Road No.</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Length (m)</b>	<b>Total Cost €</b>
	Towns & Villages Rathkeale/Askeaton/Loghill		€750,000.00
<b>Total</b>			<b>€750,000.00</b>

**Brief summary of the above Work Categories and Allocations for the Adare Rathkeale Municipal District:**

**Restoration Improvement (RI)** € 2,514,000

This is a specific allocation under the Restoration Improvement Grant (RI). This grant is for the road strengthening programme and caters for surface restoration, pavement overlay works and complete road rehabilitation works where existing pavements are structurally defective.

**Restoration Maintenance (RM)** € 378,300

This is a specific allocation under the Restoration Maintenance Grant (RM) for Surface Dressing Works only. This allocation will extend the life of the pavement and delay the development of potholes, thus protecting the investment in roads.

**Supplementary Restoration Maintenance (SRM)** € 330,200

This is a specific allocation in 2025 under the Supplementary Restoration Maintenance Grant (SRM) for surface dressing works only. This allocation will extend the life of the pavement and delay the development of potholes, thus protecting the investment in roads.

**Drainage Grant** € 180,000

This grant may be used for the alleviation of road drainage problems either through new works or remedial measures. Minor works are planned at a number of sites in the Adare/Rathkeale District in 2025.

**General Maintenance** € 954,611

General maintenance covers a wide range of works such as verges and drainage, cleaning water channels, street cleaning, opening inlets, signage, elimination of localised flooding, junction maintenance, dealing with accidents, oil spillages, storms, emergencies and general repairs to roads and footpaths.

**General Maintenance Safety** €tbc

A proportion of the general maintenance allocation is allocated to general maintenance safety. General maintenance safety funding will be used to cover a wide range of works such as road markings, road studs, road signs and general upkeep of roads in the city and county which will improve road safety.

**Tar Patching (TP)** €369,950

Regular tar patching is necessary to prevent the deterioration of the road surface and substructure and in the interest of road safety.

**Bridge Rehabilitation - Structures (STR) € 35,000**

The 2025 allocation provides funding to enable improvement works on bridge structures on regional and local roads. A specific grant allocation is made to Limerick City and County Council to undertake works on a defined list of structures. There is one scheme at Faha Kildimo under this heading in the district for 2025.

**Low Cost Safety Improvement Works (LCSI) € 106,000**

The 2025 allocation provides funding to enable low cost safety improvement works on non-national roads to be carried out. The criteria for approval and grant allocation are based on accident data along with inspection of sites and discussions between the local authority and the Regional Road Safety Engineer. There is currently 3 schemes in the Adare/Rathkeale District.

**General Municipal Allocation (GMA) € 270,000.00**

This allocation has been agreed at Municipal District level.

## **Items for which expenditure is provided on a City and County at large basis**

**Public Lighting (PL) € 4,006,961**

This covers the operation, repair and maintenance of Public Lighting. The supply of energy is purchased through the National Procurement Service (NPS). The repair, replacement and maintenance of public lights are tendered separately. The above figure pertains to the whole City and County area.

**Road Safety: Engineering, Promotion, Education (RS) € 979,687**

This includes for school wardens, road safety plan, road safety education and training. The above figure pertains to the whole City and County area.

**General Maintenance of National Roads tbc**

General maintenance of National Roads covers a wide range of works for which this allocation will be used. € is the allocation for Limerick City & County for 2025.

**Capital Maintenance TII Roads € TBC**

Capital maintenance of National Roads is used for pavement schemes with values between €50,000 and €200,000. Applications are made through the pavement defects survey app. Awaiting TII funding allocation / instruction.

**Winter Maintenance (WM) € 728,774**

This provision is for the treatment of roads in severe weather in accordance with the Winter Services Plan and pertains to the whole City and County area.

**Community Improvement schemes €452,050**

A Grant of €452,050 has been allocated to Limerick City and County Council. Limerick City and County Council is currently identifying schemes to be undertaken in 2025.

<b>Local Improvement Schemes (LIS)</b>	<b>€709,694</b>
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The Department for Rural and Community Development (DRCD) introduced ringfenced funding for LIS in 2020 and proposes to continue to operate this scheme in 2025. The 2025 allocation for Limerick City & County Council is €709,694

<b>Overheads (OH)</b>	<b>€ 1,818,000</b>
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This includes for insurances (EL/PL), Health and Safety training and equipment, sick pay, holiday pay, legal costs, office expenses, etc. The above figure pertains to the whole City and County area.

<b>Former National Road Grant (FNR)</b>	<b>€ 755,000</b>
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Arising from the 2018 regional road pavement condition survey findings, the Department introduced a grant in 2019 to assist local authorities with the rehabilitation of sections of former national roads with a poor condition rating.

## **Housing Maintenance**

Limerick City & County Council (LCCC) manages an expanding social housing portfolio, which currently amounts to 6,188 properties (31<sup>st</sup> December 2024). This amount includes leases, Mortgage to Rents and Vacant housing stock. The range of properties is extensive, which is emphasised by the fact that over half the Council's housing stock was built before 1985.

66% of the entire housing stock is located within the Metropolitan District. The remaining 34% of housing stock is located between the Newcastle West (11%), Adare-Rathkeale (9%) and Cappamore-Kilmallock (14%) Districts.

In each municipal district area, direct labour crews respond to the needs of tenants. All requests are added to the Dynamics CRM System and assigned to the area maintenance team for action.

Total Dynamic (CRM) requests for Housing Maintenance during 2024 was 14,165 cases (an increase of 4.6% from the previous year), with

- 70.9% of all cases received in the Metropolitan area
- 10.1% of all cases received in Newcastle West area
- 7.4% of all cases received cases received in the Adare-Rathkeale area
- 11.6% of all cases received in the Cappamore Kilmallock area

Housing repairs are carried out based on need and budgetary constraints. Repairs are categorised into emergency, urgent and routine. Examples of each are listed below and please refer to the Tenant's Handbook for additional details.

### **Emergency Repairs (within 24 Hours)**

Fire	Water Leaks	No Electricity	No Mains Water
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### **Urgent Repairs (within 1-5 Days)**

Blocked Flue in Open Fire	Blocked Foul Drains	No Hot Water	No Heating
Faulty Sockets	Faulty Switches	Faulty Storage Heater	Faulty Door Entry System
Banister or Hand Rail Loose or Detached	Storm Damage	Partial Loss of Water Supply	Unsafe Floor Boards or Stair Treads

### **Routine Repairs (within 1-6 Weeks)**

Other Electrical Works	Other Joinery Works	Plaster Works	Other Plumbing Works
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## Budget Allocation 2025

### Adare-Rathkeale Municipal District 558 Properties (9% of housing stock)

Works Budget (non-pay)	2025
Maintenance	€333,690.40
Re-lettings	€147,547.00
	€481,237.40

## Housing Maintenance - Planned Works

### Planned Maintenance / Heating Systems Replacement – city and countywide

Many of our tenants have heating systems that are outdated and highly inefficient by current standards. A budget of €472,000 has been allocated for the replacement of heating systems and other works of a planned nature on a countywide basis of 1,897 dwellings. The scheme operates on a priority needs basis and is managed by the Response Maintenance Team.

In 2024 Limerick City & County Council commenced an extensive boiler servicing and upgrade programme under Planned Maintenance. In 2024 1,897 dwellings had their heating system serviced, and repaired where necessary, at a cost of €472,000.

This project is being managed by the Housing Refurbishment Team.

Planned Maintenance works were completed on 27 units under the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage (DoHLGH) 2024 Planned Maintenance Programme, along with 27 Stock Condition Surveys. The nature of the works included providing new chimneys, windows, doors and roof repairs. This resulted in funding allocations of €198,504.

A budget of €386,186 has been allocated for Limerick City and County Council for Planned maintenance in 2025 as per Department Circular 04 of 2025.

### Voids/Pre-lettings – city and countywide

Voids and Pre-lettings continue to be undertaken in each municipal district area as vacancies arise. Each Housing Area Engineer and Area Foreman manages these refurbishment works. The units are delivered via a mix of direct labour crews and contractors, to ensure units are returned to Allocations section in an efficient manner.

A total of 73 void units were completed in 2024, which resulted in funding allocations of €803,000.00 from the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage (DoHLGH). A budget of €803,000 for 73 properties has been allocated for Limerick City and County Council for Voids in 2025 as per Department Circular 04 of 2025 issued on the 29<sup>th</sup> of January 2025.

A total of 16 Pre-lettings were completed in 2024 funded from own resources.

#### Energy Efficiency Retrofit Project – city and countywide

The Energy Efficiency Retrofit Programme (EERP) 2024 provides for the deep retrofit of existing social housing stock and is funded through the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage. The dwellings are retrofitted to achieve a minimum BER rating of B2 where the fabric of the building is upgraded, and energy efficient heating system is installed. Works were completed to retrofit 6 occupied housing units with €59,980 being recouped from the Department; 30 units are currently at contract stage while an additional 50 units are at design/tender stage. The units are spread across the four Municipal Districts.

#### **Private Housing Grants**

The following private housing grants are available again in 2024

Housing Adaptation Grant Scheme – HAGS Mobility Aids Grants Scheme – MAGS  
Housing Aid Older People – HOPS

## **Parks & Landscaping**

### **General**

The Council manages twenty six play amenities which include Playgrounds, Multi-Use-Games Areas and Skate Parks, nineteen Public Parks, eleven Outdoor Gym & Fitness sites and nine Walking Amenities that are managed directly by Limerick City and County Council.

The Parks & Landscaping Team carries out a wide range of functions in relation to parks and open spaces. These works include tree pruning, grass cutting, hedge trimming and maintenance and landscaping works. Grass cutting takes place between March and October with cuts on a two weekly cycle. During the Autumn and Winter period, works are concentrated on tree pruning and planned and responsive works.

The 2025 allocation for Parks and Landscaping for the Adare Rathkeale District is €15,879. A separate budget of €70,126 is provided for the grass cutting contract, providing up to 16 cuts in excess of 20 hectares. Of this budget, a grant of €6,000 is provided to the local CE scheme for grass cutting in Askeaton. The Council have identified some grass cutting areas which will be maintained in accordance with the All Ireland Pollinator Plan within an area and contain signage. The Parks Team manage response & reactive maintenance to the district's housing estates taken in charge which include small landscaping and tree surgery works.

### **Parks**

There are three Parks in the Adare Rathkeale District, Adare Park which are managed by the Council Parks Team, Rathkeale and Croom Parks are managed by the community.

#### **Proposed works to Adare Park**

- The continued upkeep and maintenance of Adare Park to a high standard by direct labour
- Maintain Green Flag Status
- Upgrade to gazebo
- Tree surgery and maintenance.

### **Playgrounds**

There are eight playgrounds in the district, the majority of which are community playgrounds, the Parks Team manage Askeaton Leisure Centre Playground and Rathkeale Multi-Use-Games-Area. Inspections are carried out quarterly and repairs carried out as required.

An application for funding has been sent to the Department of Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth for upgrade works to Askeaton Playground to make it more inclusive. Total grant available is €20,000

### Tree maintenance

- Abbey Feale Hill view Dr
- Abbey Feale Clyde view Manor
- Shanagolden
- Abbeyville, Adare
- The Garden, Ballingarry

### Tree Planting - Mayoral Program

- Plant 90no. Trees (18-20 girth): Adare Park, Croom Park, Askeaton Park, Rathkeale Park, Deel Manor
- Plant 1000no. Woodland Trees (Feathered): on open green spaces in consultation with community groups, tidy towns groups and Elected Members.

### Cemeteries

There are 267 cemeteries in Limerick, approximately one third of these are used for the purchase of new burial plots. There are 78 cemeteries in the Adare Rathkeale District including closed burial grounds.

Municipal District	No. of Burial Grounds
Metro	40
Adare/Rathkeale	78
Newcastle West	47
Cappamore/Kilmallock	102

The 2025 revenue budget allocation for the Adare Rathkeale district is €49,000. This funding will be utilised to provide the following works:

Approximately 25% of the €49,000 is expended on Refuse Collection & Water Charges within Cemeteries, leaving an approximate budget of €36,750.

St. Peter & Pauls Graveyard, Crecora	Repair Boundary Walls & Footpaths
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St. Joseph's Cemetery, Rathkeale	Instillation of CCTV
Ballylanders (OID0 Graveyard	Tree Surgery Works
Beagh Cemetery	Installation of Disabled Persons Ramp & Entrance.

There is an annual budget of €45,000, provided as grant aiding to community groups across Limerick who wish to develop a new burial ground in accordance with the adopted burial ground strategy. Technical assistance is provided to any community that expresses an interest. The decision on grant aiding is made in accordance with the findings in the Burial Ground Strategy.

### **Recycling Facilities**

#### **Bring Banks**

There are 65 no bring banks in the City and County. The 2025 budget for the operation of the bring bank contract is €210,277. The budget provides for collection and cleaning around all sites.

#### **Civic Amenity Sites**

There are three Civic Amenity Sites in Limerick, Mungrat, Newcastle West and Kilmallock. The three sites are operated by a Contractor. The 2025 budget for the operation of the three Civic Amenity Sites is €426,000.

### **Other Environmental Schemes**

#### **Limerick Going for Gold Environmental Improvement Grant & Competition 2025**

Limerick City & County Council again invites applications for the Limerick Going for Gold Environmental Improvement Grant & Competition 2025

This grant scheme aims to assist with Environmental Improvement works undertaken by non profit making organisations working within Limerick City and County areas.

The Limerick Going for Gold Environmental Improvement Grant is 50% funded by the JP McManus Charitable Foundation. The Limerick Going for Gold Competition prize fund is 100% funded by JP McManus Charitable Foundation.

## **Grant Scheme for Maintenance of Open Spaces in Housing Developments for 2025**

Limerick City and County Council will again invite applications for the Grant Scheme for Maintenance of Open Spaces in Housing Developments for 2025. This Scheme is designed to assist residents in the maintenance of open spaces in their estates by providing funding towards grass cutting.