

Mayoral Fund Update September 2025

Mayor of Limerick, John Moran



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

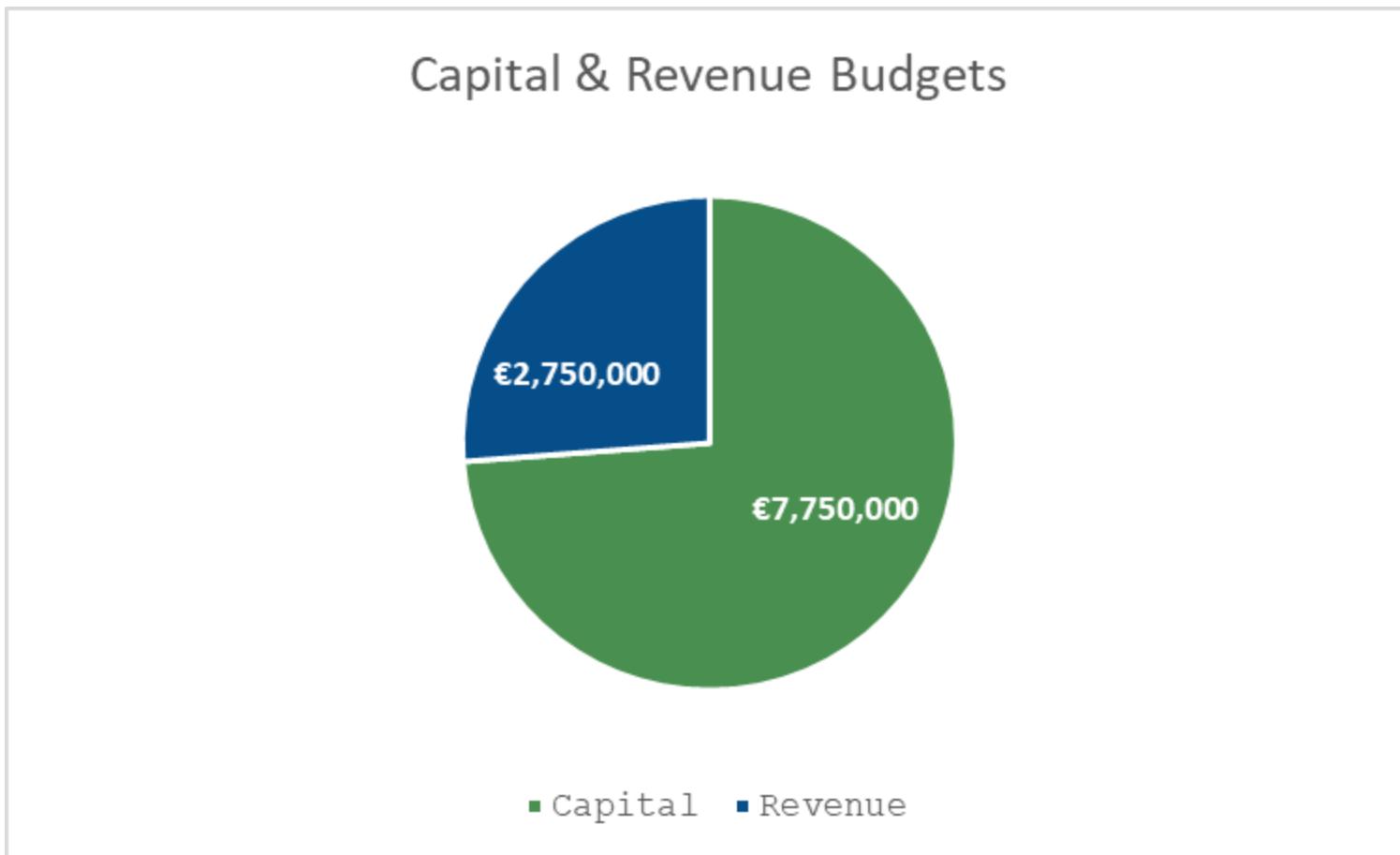
Some Context

Funding is provided on an annual basis, recouped based on vouched expenditure. Funds totaling €10.5 million were allocated to be expended by November 2025.

The Mayor has discretion in the use of the Mayoral Fund. However, as this is Exchequer funding, this discretion is balanced with the need to comply with all existing financial public spending codes and principles, as well as adherence to the policy and legislation for national and local government.

- As it was explained by Minister of State, Kieran O'Donnell (Seanad 8 February, 2024):-
"The Mayor's budget relates to their Mayoral Programme, developed by them from the manifesto they put before the people of Limerick. It is something that the successful candidate will have put to the people about how they will spend the specific allocation and is part of their mandate." He went on later in the context of the programme – "I return to the fundamental principle that it is based on a democratic process and what the people will have voted on to elect them to the mayoral office."
- The allocation from the Exchequer to the Mayoral Fund is agreed as part of the annual Estimates process and national budget. The funds are intended to specifically support the functions of the Mayor and to progress priorities in their Mayoral Programme.

Allocation of Mayoral Fund in 2025



Capital Part 1

Aim:	Mayor Fund budget assigned	Claimed H1	Plans to Spend by Nov 25	Balance
Detailed design, greening and public works for laneways and streets of NewTown Pery	600,000	-	270,000	330,000
Garryowen Green - advance works	200,000	-	200,000	-
Dog Parks (Castletroy Park, Ted Russell Park, Kennedy	130,000	-	97,500	32,500
Athea Playground	100,000	-	100,000	-
Pocket Park Parnell Street	50,000	-	50,000	-
Lighting up and improving the laneways/streets in city centre	50,000	-	50,000	-
Feasibility Study for new Waste Management in City Centre and Key Towns	40,000	-	25,000	15,000
SMART Housing – Funding of build or site activation co-funding.	1,000,000	-	250,000	750,000
Fund to purchase, repair and rent housing in Abbeyfeale	400,000	-	400,000	-
Feasability Study and Research for Student Housing	100,000	-	-	100,000
Initial design works for bridge in City Centre	300,000	-	300,000	-
Assessment of Sarsfield Bridge Restoration Costs and Repairs to 1916 Monument	150,000	-	150,000	-
Public Realm Design Upgrade Newcastle West Square	100,000	-	100,000	-
Identification and funding for TOD sites in Limerick City	50,000	-		50,000

Capital Part 2

Aim:	Mayor Fund budget assigned	Claimed H1	Plans to Spend by Nov 25	Balance
Paint Scheme/Shop Front Scheme All three Municipal Districts	45,000	-	10,000	35,000
The purchase of land to facilitate housing	1,400,000	-	4,000,000	- 2,600,000
Preliminary Design work for Colbert Sports Facility	240,000	-	150,000	90,000
Dereliction - Mary Street Garda Station, & Nicolas Street	500,000	27,094	200,000	300,000
Heritage Building Works - including Medieval House in Kilmallock, and UNESCO application	300,000	-	300,000	-
Dereliction -58 O'Connell Street, Limerick City: urgent roof works and repairs	150,000	-	150,000	-
Repairs work on D O'Connell and P. Sarsfield Monuments	110,000	-	25,000	85,000
Matching Funds for applications for Bruff, Rathkeale, Kilfinane or	65,000	-	65,000	-
Seed-Funding to develop a food festival offering for Limerick over 3 years including marketing and promotion	50,000	-	50,000	-
Purchase/Repair of Lights (Xmas) for City Centre/Kilmallock	50,000	-	50,000	-
Arts Acquisition Fund	20,000	1,600	20,000	-
Funds to Innovate Limerick for purchase/repair of Theatre Royal/Music Gen or New Engine Works	1,000,000	-	185,000	815,000
City Centre Retail Units Purchase or Rental and Facades	300,000	-		300,000
Welcome to Limerick Office	250,000	-		250,000
Total Mayoral Fund	7,750,000	28,694	7,197,500	552,500

Revenue Part 1

Aim:	Mayor Fund budget assigned	Claimed H1	Plans to Spend by Nov 25	Balance
2024 Community Grants	65,000	33,681	65,000	-
Animation of City Festivals and Events	74,003	74,003	74,003	-
Mayoral Supports, Attending Meetings and Events	5,000	-	540	4,460
Improvement Works IBAL	18,603	18,603	18,603	-
Moyross RIAI design contracts	120,000	-	120,000	-
Short Term Modular Affordable Rental Transition Housing -	300,000	101,874	300,000	-
Public Realm Upgrade Sonnys Corner	75,000	-	75,000	-
Christmas Festival - additional provision	125,000	-	125,000	-
New Music Festival	50,000	50,000	50,000	-
Game Cube	75,000	-	-	75,000
Enhance amenities identified in the Mayoral Programme (More Liveable Limerick / More Healthy Limerick)	60,000	-	-	60,000
Creative Sector Initiatives (More Prosperous Limerick)	50,000	1,250	1,250	48,750
Retail Sector Initiatives (More Prosperous Limerick)	100,000	-	20,000	80,000
Regeneration Planning	100,000	-	-	100,000
Commence planning consents for apartment development on state owned lands	100,000	-	-	100,000
Procure advice for refurbishment of derelict buildings for residential use	75,000	-	-	75,000
Repair works at former tourist office, Arthurs Quay	100,000	-	100,000	-
Contribute to the restoration of derelict sites within walled town	200,000	-	-	200,000
Initiatives for combatting health disadvantages	75,000	-	75,000	-

Revenue Part 2

Aim:	Mayor Fund budget assigned	Claimed H1	Plans to Spend by Nov 25	Balance
Royal Cinema Business Plan	100,000	-		100,000
Safer Community Initiatives (More Liveable Limerick)	64,394	-	40,000	24,394
Resources to Support More Liveable	100,000	-	-	100,000
Resources to Support More Prosperous	100,000	-	-	100,000
Resources to Support More Healthy	100,000	-	50,000	50,000
Resources in Planning	75,000	-	35,000	40,000
Resources in Trade & investment - SME & Retail Champion	75,000	-	35,000	40,000
Resources in Business Improvement/Digital Strategy	75,000	-	75,000	-
Resources/Equipment in Marketing /Communication	50,000	30,443	50,000	-
Mayoral Supports, Attending Meetings and Events	50,000	1,194	50,000	-
Welcome to Limerick Research	25,000	-	-	25,000
Animation of City Festivals and Events	150,000	1,220	150,000	
Improvement Works IBAL - 2025	18,000	-	18,000	
Total Mayoral Fund	2,750,000	312,268	1,527,396	1,222,604

Mayoral Fund Summary

Allocation: €10,500,000

Spend as of 9th
September: €696,675

Expected Spend by Year End:
€8,631,790



Principles in Allocating 2025

- For 2025, projects from the #MoreforLimerick programme were identified and prioritised. Other projects were to come in later years when more funding is available.
- Priority was given to transformative pilots to show why the solution Limerick needs may need to be a new innovative approach and not just a One Size Fits All nationally applicable policy. If successful, these pilots were to help unlock greater funding in later years.

SMART Housing – Pilot Delivered

- A priority objective of the programme in 2025 has been to pilot a new modular solution to provide housing on state lands
- €550,000 of spending is projected by year end to advance the feasibility of the SMART housing initiative



An aerial photograph of a residential area, likely Moyross, showing a dense cluster of houses, several green fields, and a large industrial building with a red brick base and a white roof in the foreground. The area is surrounded by a mix of green fields and more residential developments.

Housing Projects

€120,000 to fund the RIAI analysis and design review for state owned lands in Moyross to free up internal resources to do a similar exercise for lands in the Southside

Housing Projects

- €4,000,000 has been allocated to fund the purchase of new lands in Patrickswell.
- €400,000 is targeted towards a purchase and repair fund for rural town housing. For example deploying Limerick 2030 to play a much greater role in the delivery of housing in areas not covered by the Land Development Agency – especially our county towns.



Better Quality City/Town Urban Spaces



Glentworth St. Upper – Before Project



Glentworth St. Upper – After Project

- Further enhancing our City Centre and urban spaces will require investment of very significant amounts far in excess of the mayoral fund.
- For 2025, funds are being allocated for trial pilot initiatives in the Georgian quarter and key county towns.
 - €270,000 toward capital works on greening and other works on the public realm of Newtown Pery.
 - €50,000 to enhance lighting and conditions of laneways
 - €27,500 for grants to encourage improvements of historic shop fronts in the three metropolitan districts - 'Paint Scheme'

City Centre Infrastructure and Amenities

There is agreement that our City Centre needs to be improved to encourage greater numbers of people to live, work, visit and invest in Limerick.

A number of specific projects have been allocated funds to progress them:

- €300,000 is allocated to secure additional URDF funding for the design work on the new city centre pedestrian bridge across the Shannon to Cleeves
- €185,000 to support the development of the Royal Cinema



Activities & Festivals



Many of the festivals and activities across the county are part funded by the regular budgets. The mayoral funding is focused on initiatives which can enhance our existing offering.

- €150,000 will be spent on animation of city festivals and events.
- €50,000 was allocated to the new “All We Have Are Days” which debuted over the February Bank Holiday weekend in Limerick City and Newcastle West and Kilmallock.
- €125,000 is for Christmas in the City Centre .
- €50,000 for Christmas Lights 2024 and 2025 .
- €50,000 for the Food Festival.

Revitalising the City Centre

Building on the work done last year to tidy up our streets and public realm, in 2025 we have pushed forward programme activities.

- 'Welcome to Limerick' office - €100,000 has been allocated to repair works on the former tourist office at Arthur's Quay Park.
- €64,394 will be spent to support Safer Community Initiatives
- €50,000 has been allocated to upgrade the pocket park at the junction of Sexton Street and Parnell Street





Kings Island - Focus

- A further €75,000 has been allocated to support public realm at Sonny's Corner.

"This project represents a significant step forward in enhancing our school's surroundings and contributing to the ecological health of our community. The fosse will not only beautify the area but also serve as a vital ecological asset that will also provide vital educational opportunities for our school and local community." Principal, St Mary's National School.

- Work began last year to remove unsightly hoarding around the derelict St Mary's Garda station which will become the home of the long talked about Fashion Museum and Incubator. €200,000 will be spent this year to stabilise the building and prevent further deterioration and begin the preparation of a business case to secure funding to save the building and realise the rest of the project.

Kilmallock and Other County Heritage Assets

- €200,000 will be spent for heritage works including the Medieval House in Kilmallock and to begin initial work on a UNESCO application for the Georgian City Centre. A priority has been to use the funds to facilitate and co-fund much larger funding applications for restoration for Kilmallock Medieval Mansion and the former bank in Rathkeale.
- €65,000 to progress or provide in part match funding applications for other programme priorities such as those in Bruff, Rathkeale, Kilfinane and Herbertstown.



Other Amenity Projects

- €200,000 will be spent on works on green spaces in Garryowen including St Patrick's Well



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23 Well Field

19

Garryowen

Challenges:

- Adjustment to the new local government model for Limerick and to plan appropriately for the delivery of the Mayoral Programme and Fund.
- Capital type projects require a longer lead in time for development.
- Challenge of staff time given the number of pre-existing projects.
- Time required for procurement and engagement processes.
- Supports for the More Liveable and More Prosperous are currently out to tender. Grant Thornton have recently commenced to support the More Healthy pillar

Thank You