



**To the Mayor, Príomh Chomhairleoir and Each Member of Limerick City and County Council
Chairperson's Report of the Meeting of the Economic Development, Enterprise, Tourism, and
Planning Strategic Policy Committee of Monday, 13th October 2025.**

Item 1: Minutes

The Minutes of the Economic Development, Enterprise, Tourism, and Planning SPC Meeting held of 23rd June 2025 were proposed by Cllr. Joe Pond and seconded by Cllr. Ursula Gavin.

Item 2: Draft SME Action Plan for Limerick Update

Mr. Brendan Troy and Mr. Liam Mannix gave members an update on the progress of the Draft SME Action Plan for Limerick. The update included an overview of current progress, next steps, stakeholder engagement, high priority, and medium priority actions and how the implementation of the plan will be led by the SME Expert Group.

The Chair thanked Mr. Troy and Mr. Mannix for their very informative updates. Some questions from members included the addressing of vacancy & dereliction in town and city centres, living over the shop scheme and if these should be classed as a high priority action. Other questions were how much the plan has cost to date, had there been engagement with LECP and if actions will impact on LCCC's budget. The cost of plan to date has been €38,500.00 (which includes LEO Strategy), consultants went through LECP and have worked with two objectives from them, and it is to be determined if actions will be a budgetary matter for LCCC. The final SME Action Plan for Limerick will be presented at the SPC meeting scheduled for 8th December 2025.

Item 3: Presentation on Pathways to Innovate (RDI Hub)

Mr. Denis Barry, Head of Innovate Limerick, gave a presentation on Pathway to Innovate which included who it was for and what it offered. There is an information workshop on the 14th October in the ENGINE, Cecil Street, Limerick and there has been huge interest in the event.

Mr. Barry was thanked for his presentation. The workshop scheduled for the 14th October will be informative for businesses who attend. Cllr. McSweeney acknowledged the good work done by Innovate but raised concerns around Governance. Under the Local Government Code of Governance elected members of local authorities must also have representation on stakeholder bodies such as subsidiary company boards. He invited Mr. White or Mr. Murray to comment. Mr. White responded that LCCC are awaiting a response to a letter sent to the Minister regarding the appointment.

Item 4: Proposed SPC Programme of Works 2025-2029 Workshop

Proposal to have 3-hour workshop in January 2026. Details for this workshop will be announced at next SPC meeting on 8th December.

Item 5: Notice of Motion submitted by Councillor S. Beasley from Meeting of the Plenary Council held on 22nd September 2025 for consideration

"I will move at the next Meeting that Limerick City and County Council adopt a "PAW Policy" for the City and County, promoting dog-friendly businesses by displaying a Council provided paw print symbol and listing them on Limerick.ie. This policy would support pet owners, boost local business, attract pet-friendly tourists, encourage responsible dog ownership, help owners with their mental wellbeing by facilitating activity, and position Limerick as a more inclusive destination. I urge your support for this beneficial initiative."

Proposed by Cllr. S. Beasley and Seconded by Cllr. P Doyle.

Mr. Brendan Troy Head of Trade and Investment Finance, Economic Development and Digital Services, in response to the Notice of Motion as follows: "The Trade and Investment Team will develop and launch a Limerick Pet Friendly Business branded promotional material (e.g. branded window stickers) that will be made available to collect at all Council Offices for any pet-friendly business that wishes to participate."

Item 6: Date of Next Meeting

The next blended SPC meeting will be held Monday, 8th December at 2.15 pm.

Item 7: AOB

Mr. Thompson has been in touch with Barry Henn, Acting Senior Planner, regarding the Taking in Charge Protocol. LCCC are consulting with the Royal Institute of the Architects of Ireland (RIAI) and Engineers Ireland. The RIAI have concerns with the protocol. Mr. Thompson will give an update at the next meeting.

There was some discussion on Wind Energy. Mr. Murray advised members that there is a Wind Energy Workshop scheduled for 20th October at 3.30 pm in the Council Chamber in Dooradoyle.

The Chairperson, Cllr. P Doyle, thanked everyone for attending the SPC meeting.

The business of the meeting concluded at 3.25pm.



Cllr. Peter Doyle, Chairperson**Dated: 10th November 2025**