



Comhairle Cathrach
& Contae Luimnígh

Limerick City
& County Council

Stiurthóireacht Iompair agus Soghluaiseachta
Comhairle Cathrach agus Contae Luimnígh.
Ce na gCeannaithe,
Luimneach, V94 EH90.

Transportation and Mobility Directorate,
Limerick City and County Council,
Merchants Quay,
Limerick, V94 EH90.

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COUNCIL MEETING TO BE HELD ON MONDAY 24th NOVEMBER 2025

Question submitted by Councillor L. Galvin

I will ask at the next Meeting of Limerick City and County Council for a detailed report as to what action this Council has taken in the event of a big freeze or snow storm like last winter; (a) what preparations have been made; (b) have we a special emergency number set up specific to extreme weather conditions; (c) have we engaged with Uisce Éireann, the IFA, ESB; and (d) has the ESB been encouraged to cut back all trees from overhead power lines.

Reply:

Limerick City and County Council plans are as follows: -

Winter Maintenance Plan has been compiled and submitted to the Department of Transport. I confirm that Limerick City and County Council has sufficient stocks of salt and equipment including gritting trucks fitted with snow ploughs to initially keep the priority routes open.

- Priority gritting on national and key regional roads.
- Snow ploughs and salt stocks ready.
- City Centre footpaths treated where possible.
- Parks (Mungret & Castletroy), playgrounds, and boardwalk along River Shannon are closed if unsafe during severe weather warnings.
- Limerick City & County Council has procurements in place to access the following essential equipment Loading shovels, Tractors with ploughs. Furthermore, hotel spaces have been procured to ensure drivers are available to carry out essential gritting as required.

Emergency numbers are below.

- Office Hours: 061 556000
- Out of Hours: 061 417833
- National Emergency: 999 / 112
- ESB Networks: 1800 372 999 (fallen wires)
- Uisce Éireann: 1800 278 278 (24/7 water issues)
- Homeless Services: out of hours contact 1800 606060 or 061 557051

Continued/....

Stakeholder Engagement

- Uisce Éireann: Works with Local Coordination Group (LCG) to manage water outages and frozen pipes. The Local Co-ordination group includes Uisce Eirean, ESB, Gardai, HSE, and other agencies. UE work closely with closely with the Council during severe weather.
- ESB Networks: Part of LCG; prioritizes power restoration during outages. Note during the big freeze in Jan 2025 the Council, UE and ESB worked closely in the restoration of power to Water Treatment plants in West Limerick. The LCCC role being the creation of access to these facilities for the works to be carried out.

ESB Engagement:

The ESB operates a tree and vegetation trimming program on a cyclical basis to reduce outages and hazards. Landowners should not plant fast growing trees beneath power lines. If trees are within 6m of power lines, the ESB offers a free tree cutting assessment via its online portal.

- Since Storm Eowyn, farming groups have called for local tree cutting partnerships with the ESB to speed up vegetation management citing delays and backlogs.
- The Government is reviewing regulations to improve resilience including mandatory clearance zones (e.g. 30-5m near power lines).
- Note the biggest issue for the ESB is powerlines within wooded areas as these lines have been in place since the 1950's when the trees were smaller but now, they are mature and causing potential faults.



Patricia Liddy,
Director of Services,
Transportation & Mobility Directorate.

18th November 2025



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Limerick City
& County Council

Forbairt Tuaíthe, Cultúir, Pobail agus Turasóireachta
Comhairle Cathrach & Contae Luimnígh
Ceanncheathrú Chorparáideach
Cé na gCeannaithe
Luimneach
V94 EH90

Rural, Culture, Community & Tourism Development
Limerick City and County Council
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Meeting of Limerick City and County Council held on Monday 24 November 2025

Question submitted by Councillor S. Hickey-O'Mara

I will ask at the next Meeting of Limerick City and County Council for the results of the sustainability audit carried out on Riverfest 2025 to be immediately shared with this Council.

Limerick City and County Council have sought additional information from the sustainability auditor. As soon as the addition information is received the results of the audit will be shared with the Elected Members.

Brendan Troy
Head of Trade and Investment
Finance, Economic Development, Digital Services and ICT Directorate



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& County Council

Athnuachana Luimnigh
Comhairle Cathrach agus Contae Luimnigh
Maigh Rois | Baile an Róstigh
Luimneach

Limerick Regeneration
Limerick City and County Council
Moyross | Roxboro
Limerick

EIRCODE: V94 EH90

**MEETING OF THE FULL COUNCIL OF LIMERICK
TO BE HELD ON 24TH NOVEMBER 2025**

Question by Cllr. J. Scanlon

I will ask at the next Meeting of Limerick City and County Council a) when Askeaton Swimming Pool closed and b) when is it expected to resume a full service, c) the number of maintenance staff employed full time through the closed period, in terms of Council Staff and that of outside support, d) what our Authority's total outlay on the facility totalled in 2023, 2024 and in the current year to date, f) what was the total spend to date on the renewal project, g) what is the time period of Swim Irelands Ireland's contract to manage the facility, and h) what subsidy is expected to be paid annually to the latter and if so, for what purpose.

REPLY:

As part of Limerick City and County Council's ongoing commitment to providing high-quality, accessible leisure and wellbeing facilities across the city and county - reflecting our wider organisational focus on supporting sustainable communities - significant investment has been undertaken in the enhancement, maintenance and operation of Askeaton Swimming Pool.

Over the last three years, Limerick City and County Council has made a substantial capital and maintenance commitment to the Askeaton facility – supported by funding from the Department of Culture, Communications and Sport - to ensure its long-term sustainability, usage and service quality for the communities, sports groups, visitors and residents of Askeaton and across the hinterland.

In response to the specific queries:

- A. Askeaton Pool & Leisure Centre closed on 16th March 2023.
- B. As part of a phased approach to the re-opening of the pool to enable testing of various systems and processes, the operator of the facility, Swim Ireland, reopened the pool for school lessons on 12th November whilst working towards full operational hours for the public. It is anticipated to be the first week of December when full service will be restored.
- C. Maintenance staff were not employed during the closure period. There was selected contracted services utilised in this period, for example, security.
- D. The Local Authority's total outlay was by way of subvention paid to APL DAC 2023 – €140,000, 2024 – €190,000 and current year to date – €150,000



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- E. The newly renovated Askeaton Pool & Leisure Centre reopens following extensive works to improve flood resilience, upgrade facilities, and enhance energy efficiency, delivering a modern, sustainable amenity for the local community. Total spend to date on the renewal project – €2,599,093.
- F. Swim Ireland's contract is for 3-year pilot programme.
- G. The facility has been closed for over 2 and a half years and will need to re-establish itself again in terms of a public service. Notwithstanding, we envisage that the annual subvention will be in line with previous years and as indicated above.

Signed: Declan White,
 A/Senior Executive Officer,
 Regeneration, Sports & Recreation Directorate

Date: 19th November 2025



Meeting of Limerick City and County Council held on Monday 24 November 2025

Question submitted by Councillor S. Hickey-O'Mara

I will ask at the next Meeting of Limerick City and County Council that we are provided with an update on the strategy and research recently submitted to Limerick City and County Council in regard to a possible Multi Disciplinary Arts (MDA) Festival for Limerick.

Reply

In line with the objectives of LCCC's Festival and Event Strategy 2024-2028, LCCC Festivals and Event commissioned an independent consultant to look at the potential to establish a Multi-Disciplinary Arts Festival of scale for Limerick. A Draft report was received on 29 September 2025. We are currently finalising the Draft and have asked key stakeholders for feedback. Once stakeholder feedback has been received and incorporated it is intended to present the report/findings to the Community, Leisure, Arts, Heritage and Culture SPC for consideration.

Brendan Troy
Head of Trade and Investment
Finance, Economic Development, Digital Services and ICT Directorate



MEETING OF LIMERICK CITY AND COUNTY COUNCIL TO BE HELD ON MONDAY

24th November 2025

Question submitted by Councillor D. McSweeney

I will ask at the next meeting of Limerick City and County Council for an update on the rollout of insurance cover for Local Authority backed Tidy Towns Groups which was announced earlier this year by IPB and in particular guidance for Tidy Towns groups to ensure they are covered under this scheme.

Response

The Local Authority Tidy Towns Insurance Scheme came into effect on the 1st of April 2025.

The Scheme offers insurance coverage to Tidy Towns groups whose work keeps our towns clean and attractive for residents and visitors at no cost.

To be eligible for the scheme, any voluntary group must meet the following 3 criteria:

1. The primary activity and purpose is to improve and enhance the appearance and sustainability of the public realm of a community.
2. Be located within the catchment area of the Local Authority.
3. Be registered as a member of the Public Participation Network (PPN Group).

IPB confirmed that the scheme does not apply to Resident's Associations, Community Councils, Men / Women's sheds or Development Associations, etc.

Once the eligibility of the group in question is confirmed by IPB Insurance, Local Authority issues insurance cover documents and information pack via email and original documents are also posted to the group.

23 Tidy Towns groups within Limerick's jurisdiction applied so far this year and have availed of the insurance cover.

Current insurance cover is up to the end of December 2025 (31st of December 2025).

IPB Insurances confirmed that the scheme will also be administered via the local authorities in 2026 and terms and relevant cover notes are to be issued by IPB soon. Local Authorities will forward the guidance and the Tidy Towns Insurance Brochure via email to groups as requested.

The IPB Insurances website offers detailed information regarding the Tidy Towns Insurance Scheme and can be found at <https://ipb.ie/tidytowns/>.



Aidan Finn
Senior Engineer
Environment and Climate Action
18th November 2025