



Meeting of Metropolitan District of Limerick to be held on Monday 17th November, 2025.

Question submitted by Councillor S. Kiely

I will ask at the next meeting of the Metropolitan District of Limerick what funding was provided to replace the "Mayors Coal" scheme and subsequently the "market hampers" scheme last year at Christmas. What organisations benefited (amounts and names in tabular format) and what is the plan this year for the scheme or similar scheme.

Response:

I replied to a similar question last year, and the position has not changed.

The Mayor's Christmas Coal tradition, once a gesture of goodwill, involved distributing a bag of coal to the needy in Limerick City. This was an unadvertised gesture, offering assistance to the very needy of Limerick city.

Over time, due to environmental concerns, the tradition was adapted, and the coal was replaced by a food hamper, but the scheme remained unadvertised, restricted to Limerick City, and without any clear process for the Mayor to identify the most needy citizens, or for them to apply.

I understand that funds to purchase the coal, and more recently hampers sourced at the Milk Market, came mostly from donations by the business community in Limerick City given to the Mayor to operate the scheme.

Currently, funds allocated by the exchequer to the Directly Elected Mayor are subject to strict public sector spending rules. These rules prohibit implementing such a scheme without a fair and transparent process, as this would risk creating a perception of patronage, given that the Mayor is directly elected and the beneficiaries, who are also voters, might appear to receive benefits solely through the Mayor's arbitrary discretion.

Furthermore, it would be deemed inappropriate for a directly elected Mayor to solicit donations from the business community to fund the distribution of hampers to a group of people selected based on unadvertised criteria, while excluding those residing in the County.



Comhairle Cathrach
& Contae Luimnígh

Limerick City
& County Council

John Moran - Mayor of Limerick

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I nonetheless recognise the value of the tradition, and would be happy in my role as Mayor to lend nonfinancial support to an initiative to continue the tradition in some more appropriate form — perhaps led by the Príomh Chomhairleoir or the Chair of the Metropolitan District or any group of Councillors. If so, I would suggest that the Councillors wishing to maintain the tradition come up with rigorous and fair criteria for choosing the recipients and funding the scheme.

In any case, I would advise anyone in need of support during the festive period to contact Citizens Information or other charities supported by Council funds for sources of assistance

John Moran,
Mayor of Limerick.



MEETING OF THE METROPOLITAN DISTRICT OF LIMERICK TO BE HELD ON Monday the 17th November, 2025

Question submitted by Councillor U. Gavan

I will ask at the next meeting of the Metropolitan District of Limerick can Limerick City and County Council bring clarity to the Park and Ride facility at the Mackey Roundabout in light of the temporary announcement from Limerick City and County Council regarding same. Why are lands which were bought for a Park and Ride only having a temporary one in time for the Ryder Cup and then been returned to its original state.

Reply:

The intention of the Temporary Park and Ride facility at Mackey will be to provide parking across the entire site to facilitate attendees to the Ryder Cup (Approx 4000+ spaces). This proposed temp Park and Ride will likely be made up by removable tracks and parking will for the most part be on the grass. The aim is to have minimal impact on the lands as they currently stand. We are endeavouring to make use of lands we already have access to and as the Mackey lands are owned by LCCC the lands are well suited.

Limerick City and County Council is committed to the provision of the permanent Park and Ride solution at Mackey and is continuing to work with the various stakeholders to progress this scheme. It should be noted that the permanent Strategic Park and Ride will likely provide for a few hundred permanent spaces.

A critical aspect of the Permanent Park and Ride will be the range of permanent multi mobility solutions and the permanent approach to the site will need to be developed with this in mind. This is likely to include consideration for high frequency city bus service, Active Travel, EV Charging, e-mobility, Park and Share, Intercity & rural bus services as well as airport services.

We envisage that it will be more of a strategic multi-mode mobility interchange than merely parking and bus provision.

**Hugh McGrath,
Senior Engineer,
Transportation & Mobility Directorate.
11th November 2025.**



**MEETING OF THE METROPOLITAN DISTRICT OF LIMERICK TO BE HELD ON
Monday the 17th November, 2025**

Question submitted by Councillor U. Gavan

I will ask at the next meeting of the Metropolitan District of Limerick that following recent requests by Councillors in Limerick City East has there been any movement on lane alteration requests (left lane for BloodMill and Dunnes) improvements to Childers Road and the Murroe Junction to Annacotty village in light of increasing traffic congestion in these areas.

Reply:

I am aware of the recent requests regarding lane alterations at Bloodmill and Dunnes, improvements to Childers Road, and the Murroe Junction to Annacotty village. These are important issues given the growing traffic congestion in these areas. Several departments are currently working on plans for these locations. I will confirm the latest updates with the relevant design and traffic teams before providing a detailed response. A comprehensive update will be prepared and shared once finalised.

**James Moylan, A/S.E.E.,
Roads, Traffic & Cleansing,
Transportation & Mobility Directorate,
13th November 2025**

**Metropolitan District of Limerick
Meeting to be held on Monday, 17th November, 2025**

Question submitted by Councillor E. O'Donovan

I will ask at the next Meeting of the Metropolitan District of Limerick for an update on the current tenancy and occupants in Gardens International, and the total occupancy in percent excluding Babylon.

Response:

Dear Councillor O'Donovan,

Thank you for your query regarding Gardens International.

1. Current Tenancy and Occupants:

Gardens International is at 85% occupancy at present, tenants include:

- DM Financial
- North
- Whoop
- Reddy Architects
- Nordic Aviation Capital
- Transact Campus
- Limerick Twenty Thirty
- Babylon Coffeehouse

Heads of Terms have been signed with a new tenant for the remaining 15% of space at Gardens International. Lease negotiations are advancing, and occupation is anticipated before year end, which will bring the building to full occupancy.

Should you require any further clarification or additional details, please let me know. Regards,

**Enda Power,
Interim CEO,
Limerick Twenty Thirty.**



Meeting of the Metropolitan District of Limerick to be held on

Monday, 17th November, 2025

Question submitted by Councillor E. O'Donovan

I will ask at the next Meeting of the Metropolitan District of Limerick for the date of Health and Safety inspections carried out on all parklets installed during covid in Limerick city during the last year and a summary of the Health and Safety issues reported on each parklet.

Reply

The primary inspections of the temporary parklets took place on 13th May 2025. Note that this inspection did not involve any opening up and was a visual inspection only. Arising from same the following was the recommendation for each parklet:

Café Rose	The planting shelf has deteriorated and fallen in places. Parklet roadside walls are dirty and weeds are growing at the base. Considerable levels of dirt and run-off from the road surface is present at either side of the parklet, particularly between the parklet and the rubber kerbing. Due to the low level of the kerb, the floor level of the parklet has minimal support structure beneath. The floor is slightly spongy underfoot and is slippery when wet. The flooring presents an elevated risk to public safety.
Canteen	The floor surface is dirty and slippery under foot and presents an elevated risk to public safety.. Large amounts of cigarette butts and other detritus is present on the floor and inside the planters. Evidence of the consumption of alcohol is present on the floor and in the planters. Road side face of the parklet is dirty.

Charlie Malones	Parklet is in declining condition since last inspected. Planting has not been maintained. The floor surface is slippery and dirty. Excessive green mould present. The business owner has closed off the access. Litter and detritus in the planters and on the decking. Very dirty on roadside face of parklet. The flooring presents an elevated risk to public safety.
Cornstore	Parklet has structurally deteriorated since last inspection. Significant movement in the parklet walls and the surface is spongy when walked on. Planting shelves are gone. Parklet is dirty and slippery when wet. Evidence of recent damage through a potential vehicular contact. This needs immediate attention. The flooring presents an elevated risk to public safety.
Crew Brewing Company	Parklet has been painted blue. Parklet has had works undertaken by the business owner. An overhead structure is now in place and lighting has been installed. Parklet has been braced using the uprights for the overhead structure. The planter shelf timber is rotting and is compromising the top row of the parklet. Floor is solid but slippery when wet and presents an elevated risk to public safety.. Planting is not maintained. Water ingress still apparent on many of the timber panels.
Gleeson's Newsagents	Parklet is well maintained and appears to be in good condition. Planting in good condition. The walls have been painted. The parklet is locked up at night. The floor is clean. Unable to ascertain the condition of the support structure, however there is a build up of dirt and loose material at either end of the parklet. This has presented rotting timbers in other parklets of the same construction. Can be assumed that these are also compromised.
Sexton's Bar	The parklet was not open to the public at time of inspection. Planting was in good condition in planter boxes. The planting shelf had collapsed entirely. The outside of the parklet was green at the lower parts and needs cleaning. Spongy in places underfoot. Large amounts of dirt and grime on around either side of each base. There is drug paraphernalia present in the planters. Large amounts of rubbish also present in the planters.
Sodalicious	The floor is spongy in places and appears to have come away from the floor joists below. Unable to verify if this was due to the additional structure added by the business owner or if the substructure has degraded. The floor timber is dirty but has been

	swept. There is a roof structure of steel and plastic corrugated panels on timber joists supported by a steel frame from the ground. The timber floorboards hide the end of the steel columns and it is not possible to identify the connections made.
The Commercial Hotel	Parklet is being used as a smoking area primarily. Cigarette butts are present on the ground and in the planting. The parklet is dirty with green and black mould. There is minor movement in the walls. The floor is solid but presents an elevated risk to public safety. There is a buildup of dirt and loose material at either side of the parklet and what is visible of the underside of the parklet appears damp even in dry weather. Business owner has installed barrels connected to the floor timbers. Potential drug paraphernalia seen in the planting.
The Grove Veggie Kitchen	The external walls are dirty. Timber shows signs of deep damp. The planting shelf has collapsed in parts and needs to be replaced throughout. Litter and potential drug paraphernalia have been left inside the walls. Business owner has installed caution signs regarding slippery surface in wet and icy conditions. The flooring presents an elevated risk to public safety.
The White House	Planting in good condition, planting shelf is degraded. Floor is solid but dirty. Has been repainted in last 12 months. Floor is slippery and presents an elevated risk to public safety.. Wheelie bins are being stored beside the parklet in contravention of local bye-laws. Cigarette butts are present in number.

Once the parklets identified for removal commenced, it became clear that the timber supports under the decking surface and part of the wall connections were failing and a decision was taken to remove all of the temporary timber parklets by the end of 2025 in the interests of safety.

At the time of writing, three parklets are still in place – The Grove, The White House and Sodalicious.

Kieran Lehane

Director of Service for the Metropolitan District of Limerick

14th November 2025



**Meeting of the Metropolitan District of Limerick
to be held on Monday 17th November 2025**

Question submitted by Councillor E O'Donovan

I will ask at the next meeting of the Metropolitan District of Limerick for a report on the future plans for Vartry Park in the short, medium and long term.

Response

The Council has no immediate plans for Vartry Park. It is currently used for sports and is a very local community park where any additions should be agreed with residents living in the area. There may be an opportunity for an allotment space in the Park, but this would have to be led by the residents to ensure ongoing operation and future maintenance.

Aidan Finn
Senior Engineer
Environment and Climate Action
12th November 2025



**Meeting of the Metropolitan District of Limerick
to be held on Monday 17th November 2025**

Question submitted by Councillor S Hickey O'Mara

I will ask at the next Meeting of the Metropolitan District of Limerick if this Council utilizes the Capital Asset Value for Amenity Trees (CAVAT) method for valuing trees as public assets, assigning monetary value to trees, and calculating compensation for damage or loss. If this method is not utilised, what method is used by this local authority for calculating same.

Response

The Council wishes to advise that the Capital Asset Value for Amenity Trees has been provided for in our Tree Policy 2024-2030, Policy 41 and is being used for calculating the value of trees on Council lands as needed.

Aidan Finn
Senior Engineer
Environment and Climate Action
12th November 2025



**Meeting of the Metropolitan District of Limerick
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Question submitted by Councillor S Hickey O'Mara

I will ask at the next Meeting of the Metropolitan District of Limerick for an update on plans to secure a site for the proposed Caherdavin Playground.

- Has a location been identified and secured;
- If so, what is the projected timeframe for the proposed works.

Response

The Council would like to advise that several sites were considered for a playground for Caherdavin. The Parish field is a site that has been under consideration in recent times, and the Council would now like to advise that there is an agreement in principle between the Council and the Parish to locate a new playground for Caherdavin in the Parish field. The field is located adjacent to the local schools where several meetings have been held to discuss the location for the playground within the field.

It is not possible for the Council to provide a timeline for the playground until discussions and negotiations are completed.

Aidan Finn
Senior Engineer
Environment and Climate Action
12th November 2025



**Meeting of the Metropolitan District of Limerick
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Question submitted by Councillor S Hickey O'Mara

I will ask at the next Meeting of the Metropolitan District of Limerick for a breakdown of the number of trees that have been purposefully felled in the Metropolitan District by this local authority over the past five years and for an explanation to be provided as to why each tree was felled.

Response

The Council would like to advise that any trees felled over the last five years were for health and safety reasons. These trees would have been identified as either dead trees or trees in serious decline showing structural weakness. In addition, trees would be removed that would have fallen as a result of a storm.

The following is a list of areas where trees have been removed over the last five years:

- 40no Brookhaven, Castleconnell (Storm damage)
- 7no. Sarsfield Park (Storm damage)
- 3no. Sheelan Road, Caherdavin (dead)
- 5no. Mervil Drive, Mayorstone (dead)
- 1no. Baggot Estate (structural damage)
- 1no. Lifford Ave. (Storm Damage)
- 5no. NCW, Demesne (dead)
- 5no. Athea (storm damage)
- 3no. Castleconnell (storm damage & structural damage)
- 1no. Ted Russell Park (storm damage)
- 1no. Greystones (storm damage)
- 2no. Park Canal (storm damage)
- Ash Woodland Baggot Estate (Ash Dieback)

Aidan Finn
Senior Engineer
Environment and Climate Action
12th November 2025



Reply to Question

Meeting of the Metropolitan District of Limerick to be held on Monday 17th November 2025

Question submitted by Councillor D. Butler

I will ask at the next Meeting of the Metropolitan District of Limerick for an update on the preparation of the Limerick City Public Realm Strategy and the expected date for the publication of a Draft Strategy for public consultation.

Response:

The Public Realm team are currently working on the Draft Public Ream Plan for the City, which is nearing completion. Publication of the Draft Plan is expected early 2026.

Maria Woods
Senior Planner