

MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS AT MONTHLY MEETING OF THE METROPOLITAN DISTRICT OF LIMERICK HELD IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER, MERCHANT'S QUAY, LIMERICK AND ONLINE ON MONDAY 17TH NOVEMBER 2025 AT 9:45 A.M.

PRESENT IN THE CHAIR: Councillor Daniel Butler

MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE:

Councillors Beasley, Benson, Daly, Donoghue, Doyle, Gavan, Hartigan, Hickey-O'Mara, Kiely, Kilcoyne, Leddin, McSweeney, O'Donovan, O'Hanlon, O'Sullivan, Pond, Reale, Secas, Slattery

OFFICIALS IN ATTENDANCE:

Director of Service, Environment, Climate Action and Shared Services (Mr. K. Lehane), Meetings Administrator (Ms. A. Foley), Senior Executive Officer, Metropolitan District (Ms. S. Reidy), Senior Engineer, Environment & Climate Action (Mr. A. Finn), A/Senior Engineer, Active Travel (Mr. S. McGlynn), Senior Planner, Forward Planning & Public Realm (Ms. Maria Woods), Head of Marketing & Communications (Mr. Donn O'Sullivan), Head of Trade & Investment (Mr. B. Troy), Night-Time Economy Advisor, Trade & Investment (Mr. C. Power), A/Administrative Officer, Tourism (Mr. E. Crimmins), A/Senior Executive Engineer, Roads, Traffic and Cleansing (Mr. J. Moylan), Executive Architect, Forward Planning & Public Realm (Ms. A. Martin), Senior Staff Officer, Corporate Services, Governance and Customer Services (Ms. C. Sheehy), Assistant Staff Officer, Corporate Services and Governance (Ms. S. Carroll), Assistant Staff Officer, Corporate Services and Governance (Mr. T. Cronolly)

1. Minutes

Circulated, copy of draft Minutes of the Monthly Meeting of the Metropolitan District of Limerick held on 20th October 2025.

Proposed by Councillor Hickey O'Mara

Seconded by Councillor Kilcoyne

And Resolved:

"That the draft Minutes, as circulated, be taken as read and adopted and signed".

Councillor McSweeney expressed disappointment that there was no opportunity for further discussion on General Municipal Allocation (GMA), noting that it had been deferred from the September Meeting of the Metropolitan District.

2. Declaration of Interest

The Meetings Administrator stated that, in line with Part 15 of the Local Government Act, 2001, as amended, and the Code of Conduct, she was inviting those present to notify the Cathaoirleach of any declaration of interest in any item due for discussion at the Meeting. No such interests were declared.

3. Disposal of Land

Derelict Disposal

- (a) Circulated, Report of the Head of Property Management dated 30th October 2025, setting out proposals for Disposal of Property, acquired compulsorily under the Derelict Sites Act, 1990 at Toll House, Corbally Road, Limerick and the intention to bring a Section 183 Notice to Full Council in this regard, for approval.

The report, as circulated, was noted by Members.

4. Limerick City Centre

(a) Together for Christmas – Programme of festivities for Limerick City

The Head of Trade & Investment, with the aid of a presentation, provided an update to Members on the programme of festivities for Christmas in Limerick City. The theme this year is 'Together for Christmas in Limerick'. The theme reflects families reuniting with loved ones living abroad, community spirit and working together to deliver Limerick's best Christmas experience.

The Programme aims to celebrate unity, kindness, local pride and to drive attendance across all events while promoting Limerick as the go to Christmas destination.

Some of the events outlined include:

- Light up Limerick.
- The Arthur's Quay Ice Rink.
- Toots Christmas Train.
- Children's Artwork Projections.
- Christmas at The Milk Market.
- Events at King John's Castle - Paddy Casey, Mundy & Jerry Fish.
- Santa Paddle on The Shannon.
- Leave a Light on Campaign.

Members thanked the Head of Trade and Investment for his presentation and welcomed programme of festivities for Limerick City. Members emphasised the importance of advertising the schedule of events and queried if there would be a launch of the programme this year. Members also highlighted the lack of events for teenagers. They commended the team for the work involved in delivering a great programme and agreed that it is everyone's responsibility to promote Christmas in Limerick 2025.

The Head of Trade and Investment advised that there is a publicity campaign underway, which includes a daily media campaign. He noted that they will be doing a digital launch of the programme this year and acknowledged the need to consider more activities for teenagers. He agreed to extend the art call to Transition Year students for 2025.

(b) Twilight Thursday in Limerick City

The Night-Time Economy Advisor, with the aid of a presentation, provided an update to Members on the Twilight Thursday initiative. The Members were informed that eight editions of Twilight Thursday have taken place to date, consisting over 400 events.

He advised that a survey had been conducted to get an understanding of when people travel to the city, modes of transport used, the frequency of visits and to get feedback on what the people of Limerick would like to see included in Twilight Thursday events.

Members thanked the Night-Time Economy Advisor for the presentation and acknowledged the fantastic impact Twilight Thursday events have had on the night-time economy in Limerick. Members emphasised the importance of ensuring that people attending these events feel safe in the city.

5. Planning and Place-Making Directorate

Part 8 Procedure – Nicholas Street & Environs Public Realm Plan, Limerick

Circulated, Report of the Director of Service dated 20th October, 2025 and enclosed Mayor's Report dated 12th October, 2025 setting out details in relation to the proposed development which will consist of works to the public realm at Church Street, Castle Street, The Parade, Nicholas Street and St. Augustine Place, King's Island, Limerick. The report had been prepared in accordance with Section 179(3)(a) of the Planning and Development Act 2000 (as amended) and Part 8 of the Planning and Development Regulations, 2001 (as amended).

On the proposal of Councillor S. Hickey-O'Mara and seconded by Councillor Sarah Kiely, the Mayor's Report, as circulated, was approved.

QUESTIONS

6. 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.

REPLY: 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.

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.

7. 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.

8. 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.

9. 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.

REPLY: 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.

10. 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.

11. 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.

REPLY: 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.

12. 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.

REPLY: 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.

13. 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.***

REPLY: 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.

14. 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.

REPLY: 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)

15. 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.

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

NOTICES OF MOTION

16. Notice of Motion submitted by Councillor C. Slattery

I will move at the next Meeting of the Metropolitan District of Limerick that Limerick City and County Council write to the National Transport Authority requesting that a bus service is provided for the Ballysheedy area. There are numerous bus services for parishes in that vicinity, but Ballysheedy is heavily populated with no bus service.

The Notice of Motion was proposed by Councillor Slattery, seconded by Councillor Kiely and agreed.

In proposing the Motion, Councillor Slattery requested that the needs of the elderly be given more consideration by the National Transport Authority.

17. Notice of Motion submitted by Councillor C. Slattery

I will move at the next Meeting of the Metropolitan District of Limerick that Limerick City and County Council review the one way system on the Fairgreen at the junction of St. Patrick's Road, this junction is exceedingly dangerous as it is a blind junction on both sides as you try to exit on to St. Patrick's Road and there are no footpath for pedestrians. There are local sports clubs in the area with youth players who live locally and a footpath is needed from the St. Patrick's Junction to the grotto at the Fairgreen. Children and elderly pedestrians in the area need to be prioritised.

The Notice of Motion was proposed by Councillor Slattery, seconded by Councillor Pond and agreed.

In proposing the Motion, Councillor Slattery expressed concern regarding the junction at St Patrick's Road, highlighting how busy the area is.

REPLY: The one-way system introduced on a section of the Fairgreen has successfully reduced vehicle speeds as intended. The original proposal to extend the one-way system fully to St. Patrick's Road could not be implemented because it would require lorries and buses accessing the Fairview clubhouse to travel unnecessarily through the residential part of the street, which would also demand a much greater road width.

The blind junction highlighted has been improved by widening the footpaths on St. Patrick's Road to enhance sightlines. Additionally, the raised crossing before this junction has helped increase exit times for vehicles leaving the Fairgreen. Unfortunately, the current road width does not allow for the construction of a footpath without acquiring additional land. As an alternative, an anti-skid surface has been installed as a shared space, and the associated markings and signage for this are scheduled to be put in place shortly.

18. Notice of Motion submitted by Councillor S. Kiely

I will move at the next Meeting of the Metropolitan District of Limerick that we write to the Department of Housing and Local Government to ask that this Government seek an immediate derogation on fossil fuel boilers to enable local councils to provide grants for the upgrade/ replacement of boilers.

The Notice of Motion was proposed by Councillor Kiely, seconded by Councillor McSweeney and agreed.

In proposing the Motion, Councillor Kiely noted that boilers are essential for elderly people as they need heating more frequently and highlighted the high cost of replacing a boiler. In welcoming the Motion, Members expressed their disappointment that this Country did not seek a derogation, noting that other Countries sought derogation successfully.

Following discussions, it was proposed by Councillor McSweeney, to write to the Minister of State for Older People and the Minister of State for Housing, and this was agreed.

19. Notice of Motion submitted by Councillor S. Kiely

I will move at the next meeting of the Metropolitan District of Limerick that Limerick City and County Council set up a "Visit Limerick" website and launch a social media campaign with appropriate branding.

The Notice of Motion was proposed by Councillor Kiely, seconded by Councillor McSweeney and agreed.

In proposing the Motion, Councillor Kiely highlighted the need for a dedicated Visit Limerick site that would help streamline and promote Limerick more effectively, emphasising the importance of having all information on activities and events in Limerick available in one place.

REPLY: Limerick already has a well-established, high-performing tourism website in Limerick.ie/Discover, which serves as the official tourism and visitor portal for Limerick City and County.

This section of Limerick.ie has been designed specifically to showcase everything Limerick has to offer to both visitors and locals alike.

Limerick.ie attracts significant traffic, with over 2 million users in 2024, and was recognised internationally as one of the Top 25 Tourism Websites in the World by US-based industry outlet Skift.com.

Within this platform, Limerick.ie/Discover is the dedicated tourism hub. It offers comprehensive listings of accommodation, attractions, events, and itineraries, and last year alone it welcomed over 1 million visitors. The site also provides vital support to local businesses and event organisers, promoting more than 2,500 events annually and featuring over 2,300 businesses, attractions, and activities.

In addition to its strong user base and content ecosystem, Limerick.ie consistently ranks as the number one Google search result for key search terms including "Limerick", "Visit Limerick", "Things to do in Limerick", "What's On in Limerick", and "Where to Stay in Limerick". These rankings are the result of the platform's scale, credibility, and coordinated content management strategy, advantages that a new standalone website would find extremely difficult to replicate.

It's also important to note that, research and consultation indicated that the public wanted a single, integrated platform - not only for visitors, but also for people living in Limerick who want to discover things to do within their own county. The "Discover

Limerick” section successfully fulfils this dual role, catering both to external visitors and local audiences.

While Limerick.ie/Discover remains the strongest and most efficient platform for promoting Limerick as a destination, we are, of course, open to further exploration of the “VisitLimerick.ie” concept - including potential brand, URL, or redirect options. This is something that a current Website Audit being undertaken by Digital Services will no doubt reference. At the time of reply Limerick City and County Council does not own the website URL visitlimerick.ie – It is owned by another entity. We will look at the process around that in 2026.

In terms of social stats, see below the figures from Limerick.ie social channels.

2025 Social Stats to date

Facebook:

- 4,427,419 views
- 685,933 Reach (81% increase from last year)
- 35,748 engagements (60% increase from last year)
- 3,611 new followers

Instagram:

- 2,927,440 views
- 422,485 Reach
- 55,018 engagements (100% increase from last year)
- 8,630 new followers

TikTok:

- 1,350,094 views (10% increase from last year)
- 1,213,175 reach (15% increase from last year)
- 34,246 engagements (102% increase from last year)
- 1,521 new followers

Totals:

- 8,704,953 views
- 125,012 engagements
- 13,762 new followers Year on Year

20. Notice of Motion submitted by Councillor F. Kilcoyne

I will move at the next meeting of the Metropolitan District of Limerick that Limerick City and County Council write to the National Transport Authority, Irish Rail and the Department of Transport for a progress report on the constructing of temporary rail platforms for passengers travelling between Foynes and Limerick for the duration of the 2027 Ryder Cup event at all population centres along the route, such as Adare, Patrickswell and Rosbrien / Dooradoyle following on from my motion that was passed in October 2024 Metropolitan meeting.

The Notice of Motion was proposed by Councillor Kilcoyne, seconded by Councillor Pond and agreed.

In proposing the Motion, Councillor Kilcoyne outlined that it was imperative that an update was sought regarding the position of the temporary rail platforms between Foynes and Limerick.

Following discussions, Councillor Gavan requested to amend the Motion to include asking whether it has been confirmed that the line would be a freight line, passenger line, or both; where the stops will be located along the route; has planning permission been sought, and this was agreed.

21. Notice of Motion submitted by Councillor E. O'Donovan

I will move at the next meeting of the Metropolitan District of Limerick for at least six week intervals for verge cutting in line with local and national biodiversity policies.

The Notice of Motion was proposed by Councillor O'Donovan, seconded by Councillor Hickey O'Mara and agreed.

In proposing the Motion, Councillor O'Donovan outlined the need to promote biodiversity, noting that extending the cutting intervals for verges could play a key role.

REPLY: The Council wishes to advise that road verge cutting in the Metropolitan area is undertaken up to four times per year which is in line with local and national biodiversity policies.

22. Notice of Motion submitted by Councillor E. O'Donovan

I will move at the next meeting of the Metropolitan District of Limerick that we write to Uisce Éireann and the HSE for an update on the high levels of THM in Limerick water supply and ongoing issues with taste and discoloured water throughout the Metropolitan area.

The Notice of Motion was proposed by Councillor O'Donovan, seconded by Councillor Hickey O'Mara and agreed.

23. Notice of Motion submitted by Councillor S. Hickey O'Mara

I will move at the next meeting of the Metropolitan District of Limerick that we write to the Minister for Health to request that a Medically Supervised Injection Centre, akin to the one that has been opened in Dublin, be trialled in Limerick city due to the high number of people in addiction and the proliferation of needles and other drug detritus throughout our city with the express aim of providing a safe, non-judgmental place for those in addiction to inject drugs using sterile equipment under the supervision of a medical professional.

The Notice of Motion was proposed by Councillor Hickey O'Mara, seconded by Councillor O'Donovan and agreed.

In proposing the Motion, Councillor Hickey O'Mara outlined the success of these centres in other locations and emphasised the need for more to be done in Limerick to address issues relating to public injecting.

At the request of Councillor Donoghue, Councillor Hickey O'Mara agreed to amend the Motion to include writing to the HSE requesting that they address both the symptoms and causes of addiction, with a view to breaking the cycle.

24. Notice of Motion submitted by Councillor S. Hickey O'Mara

I will move at the next meeting of the Metropolitan District of Limerick that we seek to secure the necessary funding to provide seating at every bus stop in the city in order to ensure that those taking public transport, particularly our older residents and those with limited mobility, can rest as they await their bus.

The Notice of Motion was proposed by Councillor Hickey O'Mara, seconded by Councillor O'Donovan and agreed.

In proposing the Motion, Councillor Hickey O'Mara expressed his disappointment regarding the lack of seating at bus stops, emphasising that he felt this may discourage people from using public transport.

On the proposal of Councillor Secas, Councillor Hickey-O'Mara agreed to amend the Motion to include writing to the Minister for Transport requesting additional funding.

REPLY: We will engage with the National Transport Authority (NTA) to review whether we can secure the necessary funding to provide seating at suitable bus stop locations.

25. Notice of Motion submitted by Councillor P. Doyle

I will move at the next meeting of the Metropolitan District of Limerick that the conditioned financial contribution under the Development Contribution Scheme for the large scale student development granted permission under Planning Reference 25/60113 on the Groody Road, Castletroy be ring fenced to build a much needed slip road from the Groody Road to the Dublin Road R445.

The Notice of Motion was proposed by Councillor Doyle, seconded by Councillor Kiely and agreed.

In proposing the Motion, Councillor Doyle outlined how Castletroy has significantly grown in recent years, outlining the recent developments in the area. Members welcomed the motion and stressed the need for a traffic management plan in the area.

REPLY: Section 48 of the Planning and Development Act 2000 (as amended) provides that a Planning Authority may, when making a grant of permission include a condition requiring the payment of a contribution in respect of public infrastructure and facilities benefiting development in the functional area of the Planning Authority and that is provided or that it is intended will be provided by or on behalf of a Local Authority. The basis for the determination of the contribution is set out in the adopted Development Contribution Scheme and applies to the administrative area of Limerick. The contributions proposed under Section 48 of the 2000 Act are not specifically linked to works benefiting a particular development and therefore cannot be ring fenced for the slip road as requested.

Improvements to road infrastructure including the specific request relating to a slip road at this location will need to be considered in the context of the overall infrastructure projects to be funded including Bus Connects Implementation due to commence in the coming years.

This concluded the meeting.

Signed: _____
CATHAOIRLEACH

Dated: _____