

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 15TH DECEMBER 2025 AT 9:45 A.M.

PRESENT IN THE CHAIR: Councillor Daniel Butler

MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE:

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

OFFICIALS IN ATTENDANCE:

Director of Service, Environment, Climate Action & Fire (Mr. K. Lehane), Meetings Administrator (Ms. C. Sheehy), Senior Executive Officer, Metropolitan District, Parks & Cleansing (Ms. S. Reidy), Director of Service, Housing (Mr. V. Murray), Senior Engineer, Environment, Rural Water & Climate Action (Mr. A. Finn), Senior Engineer, Transportation, Public Realm & Place-Making (Mr. H. McGrath), A/Senior Engineer, Active Travel (Mr. S. McGlynn), Senior Executive Officer, Strategy & Non-LA Housing Construction (Ms. S. Newell), Senior Executive Officer, Housing Support Services (Ms. M. Hayes), A/Senior Executive Officer, Regeneration & Sports Infrastructure (Mr. D. White), Senior Executive Engineer, Central Services, Traffic & Roads (Mr. J. Sheehan), Senior Executive Engineer, Environment, Rural Water & Climate Action (Ms. A. Mellett), Senior Executive Architect, LA Housing Construction & Maintenance (Ms. A. Donegan), Executive Architect, LA Housing Construction & Maintenance (Ms. A. Becker O'Meara), Administrative Officer, Property Services (Ms. T. Knox), Assistant Staff Officer, Corporate Services (Ms. S. Carroll), Assistant Staff Officer, Corporate Services (Mr. T. Cronolly).

1. Minutes

Circulated, copy of draft Minutes of the Monthly Meeting of the Metropolitan District of Limerick held on 17th November 2025.

Proposed by Councillor Kiely
Seconded by Councillor McSweeney
And Resolved:

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

The Members commended staff on the success of Christmas in Limerick 2025 and acknowledged the significant effort involved in planning this programme.

The Members also welcomed the additional allocation for the General Municipal Allocation (GMA) for 2026.

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.

Councillors Reale and O'Sullivan declared that they had an interest in Item 4 on the agenda (Global Active Cities), as they were both employed by Limerick Sports Partnership.

3. Disposal of Land

General Disposal

- (a) Circulated, Report of the Head of Property Services dated 1st December 2025, setting out proposals for Disposal of 71A Delmege Park, Moyross, Limerick in exchange for 2 Delmege Park, Moyross, 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) Global Active Cities

Representatives from Limerick Sports Partnership with the aid of a presentation, provided an update to Members on the Global Active Cities Programme. The vision of Active Cities is to engage, maintain and increase the number of citizens, regardless of age and ability, participating in sport and physical activity in their city.

Sport Ireland's Active Cities project is based on the World Health Organisation's GAPPA framework, which is focused on getting those who are least active, active.

Stakeholders involved include LCCC Parks Department, Mary Immaculate College, EU Projects Office, HSE Health Promotion, Limerick Sports Partnership, Healthy Ireland, Public Participation Network, Sláintecare Healthy Communities, Limerick City Partnership, Active Travel, University of Limerick and Local Community Groups.

An example of the work Active Cities has carried out in Limerick can be seen at O'Brien Park, Clare Street, where a collaborative development to revamp the Park took place. Since 2024, it has had over 1,450 individual users, 275 uses per month on average, over 3,500 hours of activity and over 35,000 people active in the park.

Members acknowledged and commended the work of the Limerick Sports Partnership, highlighting the vital role of physical activity in promoting health and wellbeing.

5. Housing Directorate

Part 8 Procedure – Scouthall, Bawnmore Road, Kennedy Park, Limerick

Circulated, Report of the Director of Service dated 26th November 2025, and enclosed Mayor's Report dated 14th November 2025 setting out details in relation to the proposed development which will consist of the demolition of the existing vacant scout hall building and the construction of 5 no. housing units at Scouthall, Bawnmore Road, 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 Kiely and seconded by Councillor Secas, the Mayor's Report, as circulated, was approved.

Prior to the next item, a five-minute recess was called to deal with an IT issue.

6. Regeneration, Community, Sport & Rural Development Directorate

Part 8 Procedure – Cosgrave Park Phase 2, Moyross, Limerick

Circulated, Report of the A/Senior Executive Officer dated 10th December 2025, and enclosed Mayor's Report dated 14th November 2025 setting out details in relation to the proposed development which will consist of 22 no. dwelling units and associated public realm improvement works at Cosgrave Park, Moyross, 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 Benson and seconded by Councillor O'Sullivan, the Mayor's Report, as circulated, was approved.

QUESTIONS

7. Question submitted by Councillor E. Secas

I will ask at the next meeting of the Metropolitan District of Limerick if any progress has been made for the provision of a library in the Castletroy area, and if an update on same can be provided.

REPLY: A new public library requires significant planning and resources, both capital and revenue.

We have identified two potential sites in Council ownership directly behind the Castletroy shopping centre and adjacent to both primary and secondary schools.

Further progress is set in the context of available funding both local and national, therefore we are not in a position at this stage to have a definite timeline for delivery.

In the interim the Mobile Library Service in Castletroy will continue to meet current demand.

8. Question submitted by Councillor E. Secas

I will ask at the next meeting of the Metropolitan District of Limerick if any progress has been made for the provision of a community centre in the Castletroy area, and if an update on same can be provided.

REPLY: While no specific update is available with regard to Castletroy at this time, the new Regeneration, Community, Sport and Rural Development Directorate is working with colleagues in other directorates to identify sites across Limerick City and County that could be considered suitable locations for community facilities that would service communities across both city and county.

9. Question submitted by Councillor E. Secas

I will ask at the next meeting of the Metropolitan District of Limerick for an update on the progress being made by Limerick City and County Council to ensure that all outstanding hedges are cut and trees checked in the Metropolitan District, to prevent road traffic accidents.

REPLY: Under the Roads Act 1993, Section 70, landowners/ occupiers must keep trees, hedges and other vegetation from obstructing roads, footpaths and signage. It is permitted to cut hedgerow between the dates 1st September and 28/29th February when they are dormant and during that period Limerick City and County Council write to landowners reminding them of their responsibilities under the Roads Act. The Councils Technical and Supervisory staff are monitoring representations received via Dynamics CRM system from Councillors, public and their own observations regarding the cutting of hedgerow and trees. To date in 2025 the co-operation from landowners has been acceptable.

10. Question submitted by Councillor S. Kiely

I will ask at the next meeting of the Metropolitan District of Limerick how much in total has been spent from Council own funds, National Transport Authority funding and any other sources, to convert Boro Field into a Park. Please provide response in tabular format.

REPLY: The Council has spent the following on developing the Park in the Boro Field -

General Municipal Allocation	€52,352.44
NTA funding	€90,815.85

There was also drainage maintenance on the former pitch area undertaken 18 months after the opening of the Park at a cost of €29,283.

11. Question submitted by Councillor S. Beasley

I will ask at the next meeting of the Metropolitan District of Limerick for an update on whether the Safety Audit of the Parkway Roundabout, I requested through my Motion in March, has been conducted and if so, what the progress or results are.

REPLY: The Active Travel Department is currently in the process of assessing potential improvements that can be made to the Parkway Roundabout in conjunction with Operations & Maintenance and Strategy.

It is intention of Active Travel to apply for NTA funding and if granted, will seek a Road Safety Audit of the proposed improvements at the roundabout.

12. Question submitted by Councillor S. Kiely

I will ask at the next meeting of the Metropolitan District of Limerick how many industrial or commercial properties Limerick City and County Council own in the Metropolitan area. Of those, how many are vacant or derelict and how many are occupied.

REPLY: In response to your enquiry regarding the Councils' industrial and commercial properties in the Metropolitan Area, the following sets out the number of properties and their current occupancy status:

Property	Status
1. Industrial Unit Galvone	For sale, vacant and in need of extensive refurbishment work.
2. Former Rigid Building	Occupied and subject to Licence Agreement.
3. 29 Cecil Street	In process of Grant Application for development by Innovate
4. 26 Cecil Street (Former Red Cross Building)	Vacant and in need to extensive refurbishment work.
5. Tourist Office, Arthur's Quay	Vacant – refurbishment work ongoing.
6. Fisheries Building and Weir, Thomondgate	Vacant and in need of extensive refurbishment work.
7. 19 Nicholas Street	In process of Grant Application for redevelopment
8. 29 Nicholas Street	Vacant and in need of extensive refurbishment work.
9. Unit at Grover Island (850 sq. ft)	Vacant (limited use allowed under terms of acquisition).
10. Small Unit at Lord Edward Street	Rented.
11. 273 Hyde Road (Ground Floor)	Vacant and in need of extensive refurbishment work.
12. 33.34 Ballygrennan (Ground Floor)	Vacant and in plans to convert to residential.

13. Question submitted by Councillor S. Benson

I will ask at the next meeting of the Metropolitan District of Limerick for an update regarding current emergency accommodation capacity in the Metropolitan District and what plans are there to provide additional capacity this winter.

REPLY: Limerick City and County Council Homeless Action Team held a winter planning meeting on the 26th September inviting service providers to discuss and agree to the winter response for Limerick.

As a result of this meeting additional extra capacity was agreed to cater for 25 extra clients across our hostels in the City.

These beds have been available from the 1st of December, and the client lists are reviewed daily by the Homeless Action Team to ensure they are used and if not, a bed may be re-allocated if a client has not availed of the bed.

The outreach team in Ana Liffey are in daily contact with the Homeless Action Team if they encounter clients who need accommodation.

In the event of a red weather warning Limerick City and County Council will ask the service providers to increase capacity, if necessary, to ensure anyone who presents is catered for.

14. Question submitted by Councillor S. Benson

I will ask at the next meeting of the Metropolitan District of Limerick for an update on the ESIF funding and if any progress has been made in sourcing alternative funding streams for vital social supports for 2026.

REPLY: The Limerick Regeneration Framework Implementation Plan (LRFIP) was launched in 2013, which was a ten-year programme to deliver on social, economic and physical objectives. Post-2023, the Regeneration, Rural & Community Development, Sport & Recreation Directorate has continued to deliver on the objectives outlined within the Plan with the continued support of the Department of Housing, Local Government, and Heritage (DHLGH).

On 9 May 2025, the Department advised Limerick City and County Council that the Economic and Social Intervention Fund (ESIF) would be phased out, with a final tranche of funding due in 2028. While this reflects a national shift towards mainstreaming local social-support initiatives, the Council continues to emphasise strongly to the Department the critical importance of sustained investment in the social dimension of regeneration.

In the years 2019-2025, 19 ESIF-funded projects or staff roles were mainstreamed into statutory funding or sustainable self-funding.

In 2025, four ESIF-funded projects were awarded significant statutory funding. However, all of these grants are of a limited duration:

- Moyross Community Enterprise Centre – Moyross Summer Youth Employment & Leadership Programme 2025-2026: €150,000 from the Community Safety Fund
- Our Lady of Lourdes CSG – The Beston Model: €135,877 from the Community Safety Fund
- Engage in Education – The Compass Programme: €133,000 from the Community Safety Fund
- University of Limerick - The Health Alliance for Practice-based Professional Education and Engagement (HAPPEE) Project: €130,000 from the Dormant Accounts Fund 2026

Many ESIF-funded programmes continue to play a vital role in promoting social inclusion, strengthening community capacity, and supporting pathways to education, training and employment in the regeneration areas. In that regard, Limerick City and County Council remains firmly committed to supporting community organisations through this transition period.

Accordingly, the Directorate of Regeneration, Rural & Community Development, Sport & Recreation is actively assisting all organisations currently in receipt of ESIF support to identify and secure alternative, sustainable funding streams, including opportunities across other Government Departments and agencies, philanthropic sources, and targeted national programmes. This work will continue throughout 2026 and beyond to ensure that the progress achieved through regeneration to date is protected and built upon.

15. Question submitted by Councillor C. Slattery

I will ask at the next meeting of the Metropolitan District of Limerick can Limerick City and County Council advise how many vape, candy or phone shops are allowed in one main street in Limerick and also is there measures being taken as to what is being sold in these shops. Also on our main streets in the City is there any rules for signage such as illuminous signage not being allowed etc.

REPLY: There are no restrictions on the number of vape, candy or phone shops allowed in one main street in Limerick. Limerick City and County Council is not aware of any measures being taken as to what is being sold in these shops. However, it is worth noting that the Rates Incentive Scheme for Vacant Properties, adopted at the Council Budget meeting in November, excludes vape and mobile phone shops.

In relation to signage there are recommended standards in the Limerick Development Plan 2022-2028 that are applied when planning permission is sought. Limerick City and County Council also published the Shopfront Design Guide in July 2025, which provides guidance on appropriate shop fronts including signage.

16. Question submitted by Councillor C. Slattery

I will ask at the next meeting of the Metropolitan District of Limerick can Limerick City and County Council advise why they have changed the type of bulbs they use in street lights. There are areas in the City that have a lot of elderly people living in the estates such as Granville Park, Norwood Park, Woodlawn and since the new bulb changed they do not have the same effect.

REPLY: The Government has set a national target for Ireland to improve energy efficiency under Ireland's National Energy Efficiency Plan and one measure to meet this, is to replace the existing SON/SOX lighting with energy efficient LED lighting. The National Public Lighting Energy Efficiency Project (PLEEP) which is being delivered through Cork County Council as the lead authority for the South West Region is currently progressing through Limerick City. All public lighting upgrades delivered through this PLEEP project are implemented to designed public lighting standards.

17. Question submitted by Councillor M. Donoghue

I will ask at the next meeting of the Metropolitan District of Limerick what the future plans are for 43 Joseph Street, formerly known as 'Eric's Bar', that is under the ownership of an Approved Housing Body, including timelines where available.

REPLY: The property at 42 St Joseph Street, Limerick (formerly Eric's Bar) is currently in the ownership of the Peter McVerry Trust (PMVT). However, legal work is ongoing in relation to the transfer of the property from PMVT to an alternative Approved Housing Body (AHB) in accordance with a direction from Department of Housing, Planning & Local Government (DHLGH).

Focus Housing Association have been identified as the alternative AHB. Pre-contract enquiries are being undertaken by all legal parties involved, and the transfer is at an advanced stage.

Limerick City & County Council (LCCC) expect this transfer to complete in Q1, 2026. This process has taken an extraordinary length of time and the team in Limerick City and County Council have been pressing all parties involved for regular updates.

At present, the project holds Stage 3 approval from the DHLGH under the Capital Assistance Scheme (CAS) i.e., approval to proceed to Contractor tendering. Once the ownership of the property transfers to Focus Housing Association, they will be completing the renovation of this building that will provide 4 no. units of elderly accommodation (over 55s).

Until the legal transfer of ownership is complete LCCC cannot confirm a timeline for project completion, but LCCC have been assured by Focus Housing Association that the project will be prioritised for delivery.

18. Question submitted by Councillor M. Donoghue

I will ask at the next meeting of the Metropolitan District of Limerick for a detailed and itemised breakdown of the costs associated with running the recent 'Home of Hallowe'en' Festival and very brief description of procurement routes followed for each item.

REPLY: Halloween programming by Limerick City and County Council for 2025 consisted of 'Home of Halloween Limerick, which took place over a 4 week period throughout the city and county and the City Centre Fire and Shadows Samhain procession which took place on the evening of Saturday 25th October and was presented by Lumen Street Theatre.

Home of Halloween

Limerick's 'Home of Halloween' 2025 was hugely successful, with sell out events throughout the city and county. Independent research conducted by IPSOS B&A placed Limerick as one of the highest rated 'Home of Halloween' destinations with an overall satisfaction rating of 83%. Headline satisfaction ratings included

- 96% for Upbeat & energetic atmosphere
- 96% for Location
- 95% Environmental & Sustainability Practices
- 91% Festival Uniqueness
- 91% for Safety and security

Limerick Home of Halloween activations featured the following programming over a 4-week period:

Programming:	Cost
'Big Shots' Film Screening at the Belltable	€1,000
'Morbid and Sons' street theatre show	€5,085
'Tales by the Fireside'	€1,600
Milk Market Halloween including a new Harvest Festival & pumpkin patch	€15,000
Hunt Museum Halloween programme of activities and bespoke tours	€9,400
Civic Trust Haunted House Tours	€800
Halloween at King Johns Castle, including 'Con Mór'	€54,500
Halloween nighttime kayak tours	€500
Treaty City Brewery Halloween activations	€1,060
Wickham Way Carnival and Halloween activations	€15,000
Halloween at the Greenway – Barnagh Tunnel activations	€8,000
Foynes Aviation Museum themed Irish Coffee celebration	€300
Halloween at Lough Gur visitor centre	€3,500
Halloween programme at Desmond Castle and Newcastle West	€12,872
Misc, & Promotion	€1,045
Total	€129,662

Fáilte Ireland contributed funding of €100,000 under its national Home of Halloween support to 'Home of Halloween Limerick'.

Fire and Shadows Samhain Procession – Some Bones won't stay Buried

The Fire and Shadows Procession presented by Lumen Street Theatre showcased local artistic innovation, storytelling and had outstanding public impact with circa. 12,000 in attendance on the night.

The Costs associated with the 'Fire and Shadows Samhain procession' totalled €79,703.99.

19. Question submitted by Councillor U. Gavan

I will ask at the next meeting of the Metropolitan District of Limerick how many rightsizing schemes will be available in the Metropolitan District in 2026 and can they be listed by LEA and date they plan to be ready for occupation.

REPLY: At this time, Limerick City and County Council plan to launch 3 rightsizing schemes in Limerick's Metropolitan District in 2026. Please see details of schemes below.

Local Electoral Area	Name of Scheme	Number of units	Type of units	Tenure	Estimated date of register launch	Estimated date of occupation
Metro East	Clare Street	1	1 bed apartment	Rightsizing	Week beginning 15/12/25	Mar-26
Metro West	Ashgrove, Dooradoyle	4	2 bed apartments	Rightsizing	Week beginning 16/02/26	Nov-26
Metro West	Greenfield, Greenfields Road	4	2 bed apartments	Rightsizing	Week beginning 30/03/26	Dec-26 * TBC

Formal notification will issue to Elected Members in advance of register opening dates.

A further update on estimated register launches will be issued to Elected Members on the 9th February, 2026.

20. Question submitted by Councillor U. Gavan

I will ask at the next meeting of the Metropolitan District of Limerick how many Council owned residential properties in the Metropolitan District:

- ***Are awaiting window/door upgrades***
- ***What is the average awaiting time for an upgrade***
- ***What selection criteria is used to upgrade, is it by LEA, severity of case, length on list or Council know how and can a list be provided to the public so they can see where they are on the waiting list for openness and transparency***

REPLY: A response to the questions above has been itemised as follows:

1. There are currently no properties awaiting upgrades from Response Maintenance in the Metropolitan District. Any upgrades of windows and doors to Council-owned properties are carried out under centrally-funded energy retrofit schemes.

2. In cases where replacement is deemed urgent (e.g. aluminium or timber windows), a lead in time of 10-12 weeks applies.

3. Aluminium and timber doors and windows are prioritised for replacement by Response Housing Maintenance. Cases logged via Dynamics are considered for inspection and assessment. In cases where a request has been made, but replacement is not deemed urgent, orders are considered at various times with consideration given to:

- Budget
- Those properties most in need
- The status of the rent account

An example of properties not deemed urgent would be those with PVC double glazed windows.

21. Question submitted by Councillor E. O'Donovan

I will ask at the next meeting of the Metropolitan District of Limerick what emergency homeless supports will be available over the Christmas season and will this information be placed visibly on social media so people will know where to go for assistance.

REPLY: Limerick City and County Council in partnership with NOVAS operates an out-of-hours service year-round in response to Homelessness. This service operates from the NOVAS intensive family support offices and is funded and works in collaboration with the Homeless Action team. The out-of-hours service will be available all through the Christmas office closure from the 24th December to the 2nd January during normal operating hours.

The contact number for out-of-hours is available on limerick.ie and anyone who calls the Homeless Action Team on 061-557051 will be redirected to this freephone number 1800 606060.

22. Question submitted by Councillor P. Reale

I will ask at the next meeting of the Metropolitan District of Limerick what plans this Council have in relation to the release of the schedule of Municipal District Works 2026 and what plans are in place to brief and conduct workshops with Councillors before being brought forward for ratification.

REPLY: The Schedule of Municipal District Works is normally presented to the Metropolitan District Meeting probably in March or April 2026. The Department of Transport (DOT) Grant allocations and the Transport Infrastructure Ireland (TII) grants will be available from mid to late February 2026. The schedule of works will include Roads Operations & Maintenance including Restoration Improvements (overlay, road reconstruction) works, Surface Dressing, Low Cost Safety, Active Travel, Bridge Rehabilitation works etc. The schemes are chosen based on PSCI surveys (condition rating for roads). The Schedule of Municipal District Works will be made available to the Elected Representatives in advance of its presentation at the Metropolitan District meeting. It is not intended to hold workshops in advance of the presentation as the timelines are too short.

23. Question submitted by Councillor P. Reale

I will ask at the next meeting of the Metropolitan District of Limerick for an update on the installation of bus shelters across the Metropolitan District in 2025 and what plans are scheduled for bus shelter installations in 2026.

REPLY: At present there is a national shortage of bus shelters. In April 2025, the National Transport Authority appointed Bauer Media Outdoor to supply and install bus shelters throughout Ireland. From the beginning of 2025 to the present, approximately 50 bus stops were upgraded across Limerick City and County as part of the Bus Stop Enhancement Programme. The bus stop enhancements included the installation of concrete hardstanding areas, disability access kerbing, bus stop polls, TFI signage and road markings at official Bus Eireann and Local Link bus stops. 50 bus stops have been recently upgraded, but only 5 bus shelters were installed prior to April 2025.

We have been advised that Bauer Media Outdoor are expecting to have a steady supply of bus shelters in Q2 of 2026. At present we cannot confirm how many bus shelters will be installed in 2026.

24. Question submitted by Councillor P. Reale

I will ask at the next meeting of the Metropolitan District of Limerick what if any plans this Council has for the green space adjacent to the Fairgreen Road and Ballysimon, better known as Fairgreen Field (Folio LK681001F) and what engagement has previously taken place with local residents and businesses in relation to these lands.

REPLY: The Fairgreen site is in the ownership of Limerick City and County Council.

The site is zoned for residential use.

Should the site become a project in the future pre-engagement will take place with the local community to deliver a mix of tenure including Social, New Build Incremental Sale and Affordable Sale.

25. Question submitted by Councillor S. Hickey O'Mara

I will ask at the next meeting of the Metropolitan District of Limerick that details of the "agreement in principle" made between Limerick Council and Caherdavin Parish in relation to the location of a new playground and community park in the Caherdavin Parish field be shared with Members. When and where were meetings held with community stakeholders in advance of this agreement? When was the decision made in relation to a new community park for the area? Why were all Limerick City North public representatives not kept updated on these meetings and ensuing decisions?

REPLY: The Council would like to clarify that we are not at liberty to disclose any details at this stage, as discussions remain ongoing in relation to the Parish field.

26. 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 for park-and-ride facilities at each of the four strategic sites identified by the NTA: Ennis Road, Raheen, Ballysimon and Newport Roundabout/Annacotty.

REPLY: Under Measure SM2 of LSMATS it is an objective of the NTA & LCCC to –

- Implement a Network of Strategic Park & Ride Sites served by high frequency public transport services, and walking and cycling networks

Updates on progress in respect of these Strategic Park & Ride sites are as follows: -

Raheen

A preferred site has been identified. Site Investigations are complete. We are progressing land negotiations. We have to review access and egress options with key stakeholders to develop a scheme that will achieve the objectives.

Subject to successful pre-consultation we hope to progress planning in Q1-2026.

Mackey

A preferred site has been identified within lands owned by LCCC. We have progressed potential Site Layouts but need to address access and egress options with key stakeholders to develop a scheme that will achieve the objectives.

Ennis Road (Coonagh)

A preferred site has been identified. We are close to finalising necessary land agreements and hope to progress planning for the site in Q1-2026.

Ballysimon

We are close to finalising a preferred site. We will need to review the option with key stakeholders before progressing to the next stage.

NOTICES OF MOTION

27. Notice of Motion submitted by Councillor D. McSweeney

I will move at the next meeting of the Metropolitan District of Limerick that this Council commence an immediate review of the Scheme of Priority for Affordable Dwelling Purchase Arrangements.

It was agreed to refer this Notice of Motion to the Home and Social Development Strategic Policy Committee.

28. Notice of Motion submitted by Councillor E. Secas

I will move at the next meeting of the Metropolitan District of Limerick that the Golf Links Road-Dublin Road junction is redesigned as a priority to ensure the safety for everyone, especially children walking to the local schools, with specific focus on:

- ***Widening the footpath for all road users.***
- ***Installing a barrier to prevent vehicles from cutting the corner.***
- ***Reviewing the placement of poles that currently obstruct the path.***

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

Members queried whether responsibility for highlighting the issues in an audit was a matter for the Schools or Active Travel Department. The Senior Engineer for Active Travel advised that the schemes are operated by the Department of Education in conjunction with the Department of Transport. Once schools are selected, audits are carried out by the Department of Transport rather than by the Active Travel Team. Schools must apply directly to participate in these schemes.

REPLY: This junction will be investigated to examine the issues raised. The safety of pedestrians can be improved at this junction under Active Travel funding and Local

Cost Safety funding. Note the submissions for Low-Cost Safety funding 2026 is complete so it will be included in the 2027 submission.

Limerick City and County Council will make small improvements in 2026 within the constraints of the available funding.

29. Notice of Motion submitted by Councillor S. Kiely

I will move at the next meeting of the Metropolitan District of Limerick that this Council reconsider the inclusion of the Boro Park on the smart housing list.

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

REPLY: The SMART Housing Programme is a core initiative under the new Government Housing Plan 'Delivering Homes, Building Communities 2025–2030'. It is specifically designed to deliver affordable rental accommodation for workers who are currently unable to secure suitable housing due to acute shortages in the private rental market. This shortage is contributing to sky-rocketing rents in Limerick, long commutes, extended periods living in the family home, and reliance on overcrowded house-sharing arrangements, none of which offer a sustainable or appropriate housing solution for working adults.

As part of the initial phase of the Programme and following a Councillor private workshop held 25th November 2025, a number of initial Council-owned sites have been identified for further assessment and potential delivery. The Boro Park site is included on this preliminary list, subject to early-stage engagement with the local community. This choice was made on the basis that the Boro Park site was zoned suitable for residential use in the current Development Plan approved by Full Council in 2022 and the related Colbert Quarter Spatial Framework (deemed consistent with the Development Plan) which had contemplated approximately 500 homes from 2 to 10 storeys on the Boro Park site.

Following the appointment of design teams which is expected next week, it is the Mayor's stated intention to undertake structured and meaningful engagement with the local community around the Boro Park to fully understand local considerations with a view to progressing to full planning in line with the objectives of the Statutory Development Plan.

The Mayor will ensure that Elected Members are kept fully informed at each stage of this process and that any decision regarding the progression of the Boro Park site will be made transparently, with due regard to community input and the strategic objectives of the SMART Housing Programme.

30. Notice of Motion submitted by Councillor S. Beasley

I will move at the next meeting of the Metropolitan District of Limerick for Limerick City and County Council to write to the Minister for Transport to collaborate with Transport for Ireland (TFI) to allow service dogs to accompany their owners on the new bus services in Limerick City.

The Cathaoirleach noted that this Notice of Motion was withdrawn by Councillor Beasley.

31. Notice of Motion submitted by Councillor S. Beasley

I will move at the next meeting of the Metropolitan District of Limerick for Limerick City and County Council to write to the Minister for Housing requesting the recording of figures of people who have died in homelessness in Limerick City.

The Notice of Motion was proposed by Councillor Beasley, seconded by Councillor Donoghue and agreed.

In proposing the Motion, Councillor Beasley stated that Dublin City Council are the only Local Authority that currently records homeless deaths.

32. Notice of Motion submitted by Councillor S. Benson

I will move at the next meeting of the Metropolitan District of Limerick that this Council acknowledges the urgent need for a bus service on the Condell Road and cannot wait for Bus Connects, and that we write to the NTA to request that they introduce a bus service for the Condell Road as soon as possible.

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

Following discussions, it was proposed by Councillor O'Sullivan and Councillor Slattery that the following bus stops be included in the correspondence to the NTA: Clonmacken, Monéir, Ted Russell Park, Westfields Wetlands and Bloodmill Road. This amendment was agreed.

33. Notice of Motion submitted by Councillor M. Donoghue

I will move at the next meeting of the Metropolitan District of Limerick that the current Presentation of Waste Bye-Laws are updated to reflect the current volume of required segregation of waste, and that a programme of clear communication around these updated bye-laws is developed.

It was agreed to refer this Notice of Motion to the Climate Action, Biodiversity and Environment Strategic Policy Committee.

34. Notice of Motion submitted by Councillor M. Donoghue

I will move at the next meeting of the Metropolitan District of Limerick that where visibility has been reported as poor, the newer LED bulbs in our public lighting network are replaced with stronger LED bulbs to improve visibility for pedestrians, drivers and cyclists.

The Notice of Motion was proposed by Councillor Donoghue, seconded by Councillor Benson and agreed.

In proposing the Motion, Councillor Donoghue expressed concern that the current lighting levels may be leading to assaults and aggressive begging and could pose a threat to public safety.

The Senior Executive Engineer, Roads stated that there was a Special Meeting arranged on this matter and a more in-depth discussion would be had at that.

REPLY: The Government has set a national target for Ireland to improve energy efficiency under Ireland's National Energy Efficiency Plan and one measure to meet this, is to replace the existing SON/SOX lighting with energy efficient LED lighting. The National Public Lighting Energy Efficiency Project (PLEEP) which is being delivered through Cork County Council as the lead authority for the South West Region is currently progressing through Limerick City. All public lighting upgrades delivered through this PLEEP project are implemented to designed public lighting standards. It is not proposed to undertake the replacement of these newly installed LED lanterns on our public lighting network with alternative types.

35. Notice of Motion submitted by Councillor U. Gavan

I will move at the next meeting of the Metropolitan District of Limerick that Limerick City and County Council call on the Department of the Taoiseach to initiate a full and urgent review of local government funding, powers and structures bringing us in line with our European counterparts.

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

In proposing the Motion, Councillor Gavan stated that Ireland has one of the most centralised governments in Europe.

36. Notice of Motion submitted by Councillor U. Gavan

I will move at the next meeting of the Metropolitan District of Limerick that this Council write to the OPW for an update on the acquisition of a site for the proposed Garda Station in Castletroy.

The Notice of Motion was proposed by Councillor Gavan, seconded by Councillor Secas and agreed.

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

I will move at the next meeting of the Metropolitan District of Limerick that this Council write to Shannon Port Company in relation to the future use of the Sailors homes and the possibility of it being used as artists spaces.

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 advised that she had been contacted by a number of artists experiencing difficulties in securing suitable workspace. She further noted that the space in question had previously been used for art exhibitions on an ad hoc basis.

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

I will move at the next meeting of the Metropolitan District of Limerick for upgraded lighting including festoon lighting on Parnell Street, Wickham Street and Upper William Street to ensure better visibility and safety.

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

The Director of Service for Environment, Climate Action and Fire advised that further discussions with the Members would be required regarding the location, costings and ongoing maintenance of the proposed lighting upgrade.

REPLY: **Upper William Street:** Public lighting upgrades have been completed at this location as part of the National Public Lighting Energy Efficiency Project (PLEEP), which has been delivered to a designed public lighting standard. It is not proposed to undertake any further upgrades of public lighting at this location.

Wickham Street: Public lighting infrastructure at this location consists of lanterns mounted on buildings. Upgrade of public lighting infrastructure at this location would require significant investment which is not available through the public lighting maintenance budget.

Parnell Street: Public lighting at this location is installed to a designed standard which was installed during the public realm upgrade works undertaken in the recent past. It is not proposed to undertake any further upgrades of public lighting at this location.

Festoon Lighting: Festoon lighting is a decorative lighting type is not suitable as a public lighting solution. Delivery of decorative festoon type lighting is not possible through the public lighting maintenance budget.

39. Notice of Motion submitted by Councillor J. Pond

I will move at the next meeting of the Metropolitan District of Limerick that following on from a number of recent accidents/crashes at Killonan Cross that Limerick City and County Council would engage with TII to have safety measures installed to make this junction safer for all road users.

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

The Senior Executive Engineer, Central Services, Traffic & Roads stated that there is ongoing engagement with the TII and he would expect to have an update shortly regarding safety measures for this junction.

REPLY: Limerick City and County Council has highlighted the accident profile of Killonan Junction on N24 to the TII (Transport Infrastructure Ireland). As part of the review of recent minor safety improvements, they have requested the collision history for this location. Limerick City and County Council will continue to engage with TII and will provide an update once further information becomes available.

40. Notice of Motion submitted by Councillor P. Reale

I will move at the next meeting of the Metropolitan District of Limerick that this Council carries out an immediate safety review of the pedestrian crossing at Athlunkard Bridge and install interim safety measures to ensure the safety of all users whilst engaging with the NTA for a long term safety scheme.

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

In proposing the Motion, Councillor Reale stated that a further serious accident had occurred at the pedestrian crossing at Athlunkard Bridge within the previous fortnight. He called for interim safety measures to be implemented to increase awareness of the pedestrian crossing among road users.

Members extended their best wishes to the person who was injured in the recent accident.

REPLY: The Roads Operations/ Parks team has removed tree limbs and vegetation at the Athlunkard Bridge pedestrian crossing to improve its visibility. The pedestrian crossing is programmed to be relined before Christmas (this work is weather dependent).

The Active Travel Team has a safe route to schools project currently ongoing for the Scoil Ide and St. Munchin's College. The scope of the scheme provides for a shared surface at Scoil Ide and St. Munchin's College and footpath upgrades. Pedestrian crossings including a pedestrian crossing point 100m North of St Munchin's College are included as part of this project.

41. Notice of Motion submitted by Councillor P. Reale

I will move at the next meeting of the Metropolitan District of Limerick that this Council provides a public schedule of Bring Bank and Clothes Bins collection days at all locations across the Metropolitan District so that people looking to recycle can schedule their trips on days that these bins are emptied and have adequate space to dispose of such items. This will further allow this Council to alternate collections between various locations.

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

In proposing the Motion, Councillor Reale stated that there is a constant level of dumping occurring at clothes and recycling bins across the Metropolitan District due to overflow.

Members requested that a map be included as part of the initiative to indicate the locations of the various drop-off points

Following discussion, it was agreed to refer this Notice of Motion to the Climate Action, Biodiversity & Environment SPC.

REPLY: The Council acknowledges the importance of providing clear information to support recycling efforts across the Metropolitan District.

Currently, textile collections from clothes banks take place every Monday, Wednesday, and Friday, ensuring regular service for these facilities. Glass bring banks are serviced on a weekly basis, with additional collections arranged upon request to address any capacity issues.

We will work with our contractors to determine whether a public schedule of collection dates for individual Bring Bank and Textile Bank locations can be published. However, it is important to note that any schedule may be subject to change due to operational issues beyond our control.

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

I will move at the next meeting of the Metropolitan District of Limerick that a feasibility study be carried out in regard to the building of a slip road at the entrance and exit of Ferndale in order to address safety concerns of residents which have been raised due to increased traffic on the newly opened section of the Coonagh-Knockalisheen Distributor Road.

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

REPLY: Under the Coonagh to Knockalisheen Distributor Road project, a road safety audit will be carried out at the junction to Ferndale during the Audit process. Any works identified in the Audit will be undertaken in due course.

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

I will move at the next meeting of the Metropolitan District of Limerick that this Council considers making the former tourist office at Arthur's Quay, which is currently being refurbished with the intention of it becoming a "Welcome to Limerick" office, be a multi-function space for the city that includes community and co-working space for Limerick residents and workers.

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

It was agreed that an update on the Arthur's Quay Framework would be given at the January Meeting.

REPLY: Thank you for your motion regarding the future use of the former Tourist Office at Arthur's Quay. This building is of significant importance including architecturally and its preservation was a clear preference in the recent public consultation, and as such, it has been prioritised for investment. In 2025, approximately €150,000 in Mayoral funding will be advanced in 2026 to continue repair and refurbishment efforts to bring the building back into use.

To date, the following works have been completed or are in progress:

1. **Building Clear-out:** Completed.
2. **Deep Clean and Minor Works:** Completed: This incident cleaning concealed spaces such as the plant room.
3. **Glazing Package:** Completed: Addressing water ingress through the roof (approximately 15 leaks), demolition of walls to provide an accessible toilet, electrical strip-out and rewiring with a basic board, mechanical strip-out, basic lighting, and fire alarm installation. The objective is to deliver a weather-tight, dry building with certified basic electrics to allow ESB reconnection, enabling the building to be put back into use. While the initial works will be basic, the building can be further developed with future investment.

In relation to its future use, while the "Welcome to Limerick" office may be located in this building, we are keeping an open mind regarding other potential uses that will benefit the city centre. It should be remembered though that the space is limited and LCCC has many other buildings in the city centre – for example the recently repaired 58 O'Connell Street, ENGINE, Istabraq Hall and others which might be better suited for community use and, for co-working, especially ENGINE and the yet to be developed design and fashion hubs on Nicholas St/Mary St.

44. Correspondence

Correspondence was noted and taken as read.

This concluded the Meeting.

Signed: _____
CATHAOIRLEACH

Dated: _____