

Meeting of Limerick City and County Council to be held on Monday, 26th January 2026.

Question submitted by Councillor E. Secas

"I will ask the Mayor what direct engagement, if any he has had to date with the National Transport Authority and relevant Government Departments or officials to progress the provision of a Park and Ride facility at the Mackey Roundabout, in order to address ongoing traffic congestion and associated road safety concerns; and whether he will commit to further engagement with these bodies to help accelerate the delivery of this project."

Response

I thank the Councillor for raising this issue and for continuing to highlight the importance of the Mackey Roundabout and the associated Park and Ride proposal, particularly in the context of traffic congestion and road safety.

This objective is explicitly reflected in my Mayoral Programme, Objective ML88 "ML88 - Have a fully developed (if not implemented in part) plan to resolve vehicular transport access issues at UL, Plassey Technological Park and the Mackey roundabout. We will complete the west side access road to Moyross, parking for the duration of this Programme any further consideration of the final and east-west central section of the Northern Distributor Road."

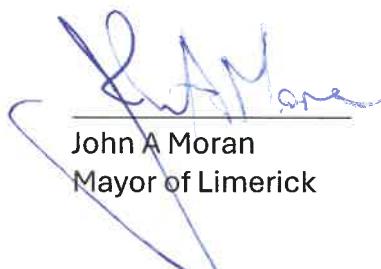
In terms of direct engagement, I have raised the Mackey Park and Ride and wider Mackey Roundabout constraints in my discussions with the National Transport Authority and with Government Departments, most notably during the preparation of submissions under the National Development Plan process, including Project Ireland 2040. On those occasions, I explicitly set out Limerick's transport priorities and reiterated the strategic importance of the Mackey location.

More generally, engagement at official level with the NTA, Transport Infrastructure Ireland and the Department of Transport is ongoing and is led on a day-to-day basis by the Council's Transport and Mobility team, who have been working with these bodies for a number of years to progress planning for a strategic Park and Ride and mobility hub at Mackey.

I would note the Part 8 before the Full Council for the use of the location as a park and ride for the Ryder Cup. I would hope that its becoming a reality even for this temporary purpose will help the case for a more permanent site.

While progress has not moved at the pace any of us would like, the project remains an active priority, and I am hopeful that agreement can be reached with the key stakeholders, including the NTA, TII and the Department of Transport in 2026.

I will continue to use my role to support and reinforce this work at political level and to press the relevant agencies and Departments to advance the project as quickly as possible, subject to funding, feasibility and statutory requirements. I would encourage all Councillor and Oireachtas representatives to join in that effort.



John A Moran
Mayor of Limerick



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Question submitted by Councillor E. O'Donovan

"I will ask the Mayor at the next Meeting of Limerick City and County Council of the feasibility of Limerick Council purchasing the Sailors home on O'Curry Street to be used as a civic space, as it is due to go for sale on the open market soon."

Response

I thank Councillor O'Donovan for the question.

I fully agree that the Sailors' Home on O'Curry Street has the potential to serve as an important civic and cultural space for the city.

This objective is explicitly reflected in my Mayoral Programme, Objective ML102, where I express the desire to:

"ML102 - Working with Limerick and Foynes Port Company have ensured the redevelopment of the Ballantyne Mills as new office space and the restoration of the Sailors Home as a new cultural facility."

This is especially important timing with the planning permission for the adjacent Gasworks site.

Since my election, and recognising that restoration works were ongoing, I have continued to explore the feasibility of this objective.

In that context, I have had informal discussions at the margins of other meetings with both the Chair and the Chief Executive of Shannon Foynes Port Company to indicate potential interest on my part, should the property be made available for sale, or alternatively if a lease or deferred purchase arrangement were to be considered. Such an approach could, subject to agreement, facilitate an extension of the overall project.

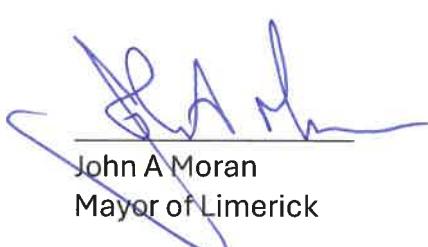
If Shannon Foynes Port Company were to decide to dispose of its interest in the Sailors' Home, it is my understanding that, as a State body, it would be required to comply with Circular 11/15: *Protocols for the Transfer and Sharing of State Property Assets*.

Under those protocols, any proposed disposal would first have to be offered to other State bodies, and the valuation would be determined by the Valuation Office.

Any proposal for the Council to acquire the building would, in the normal course, require the preparation of a formal business case and compliance with the Council's financial, governance, and statutory approval processes.

Should an opportunity arise to progress Objective ML102 in this manner, it would be pursued in line with those established procedures.

I will continue to monitor developments in relation to the property and will keep members informed should a formal opportunity to acquire or otherwise secure the building for civic use arise.



John A Moran
Mayor of Limerick