

**CORRESPONDENCE**  
**MEETING OF THE METROPOLITAN DISTRICT OF LIMERICK**  
**16<sup>TH</sup> FEBRUARY 2026**

- Email dated 15<sup>th</sup> January 2026 from the Office of the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage in reply to Notice of Motion from Members that this District write to the Minister for Housing requesting the recording of figures of people who have died in homelessness in Limerick City.
- Email dated 16<sup>th</sup> January 2026 from the Department of the Taoiseach in reply to Notice of Motion from Members that this District 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.
- Letter dated 19<sup>th</sup> January 2026 from the National Transport Authority in reply to Notice of Motion from Members that this District 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 the motion that was passed at the October 2024 Metropolitan meeting.

It was 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.

- Email dated 29<sup>th</sup> January 2026 from the Office of the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage in reply to Notice of Motion from Members that District call on the HSE, An Garda Síochana, and relevant homeless service providers to strengthen inter-agency cooperation and implement measurable protocols to combat drug and alcohol misuse in homeless accommodation facilities in Limerick.

It was agreed to amend the Motion to include writing to the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage and the Minister of State at the Department of Health with special responsibility for Public Health, Wellbeing and the National Drugs Strategy.

- Letter dated 27<sup>th</sup> January 2026 from Iarnród Éireann in reply to Notice of Motion from Members that this District 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 the motion that was passed at the October 2024 Metropolitan meeting.

It was 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.

**From:** Minister Browne's Office <ministerbrowne-housing@corr.cloud.gov.ie>  
**Sent:** Thursday 15 January 2026 16:51  
**To:** Customer Services <customerservices@limerick.ie>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL]HPLG-MBO-00041-2026

Oifig an Aire  
Office of the Minister  
15th January 2026  
RE: HPLG-MBO-00041-2026

Dear Ms. Foley,

The Department does not collate information relating to deaths of homeless individuals. However, on 20 May 2025, the Health Research Board published a report "Deaths among people who were homeless at time of death in Ireland, 2021". This HRB Bulletin was commissioned by the Department of Health to address the need to improve understanding of premature mortality among people who are homeless nationally, and to provide more complete and accurate national data to inform policy. The report can be accessed at the following link: <https://www.hrb.ie/wp-content/uploads/2025/06/Deaths-among-people-who-were-homeless-2021-bulletin.pdf>

The report shows that there were 347 deaths among people who were homeless in the period 2019-2021 (276 male and 71 female).

- 94 deaths occurred in 2019 (76 male and 18 female).
- 125 deaths occurred in 2020 (97 male and 28 female).
- 128 deaths occurred in 2021 (103 male and 25 female),
- The majority (59%) lived in Dublin (city or county).

Data on the number of deaths from 2019 to 2021 were reported by HSE Health region, with deaths among those located in the Mid-West which includes Limerick City and County, Tipperary and Clare amounting to 9 individuals in 2021, No deaths were recorded in that region in 2019 and 2020.

The deaths of people availing of homeless services are a concern and are being taken very seriously. It is important that we establish the facts concerning the circumstances involved, and that we base our response on the best knowledge and evidence available. The Department is working closely with the Department of Health, the HSE and local authorities to continue to deliver the appropriate measures to support all individuals experiencing homelessness including those with complex needs.

Yours sincerely,

Jack Savage  
Private Secretary

**From:** Taoiseach Martin 25 <noreplytm25-taoiseach@corr.cloud.gov.ie>  
**Sent on:** Friday, January 16, 2026 11:41:21 AM  
**To:** Metro Meeting <metromeeting@limerick.ie>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL]DOT-TM25-00043-2026

16th January 2026

Reference Number: DOT-TM25-00043-2026

Dear Ms Foley

Further to your email to the Taoiseach, Micheál Martin, T.D., I have forwarded your correspondence to the Minister for Housing, Local Government & Heritage, James Browne, T.D., for attention and direct reply.

Yours sincerely

Stephen O'Connor  
Department of the Taoiseach  
Telephone: 01 619 4021  
Email: taoiseach@taoiseach.gov.ie



Údarás Náisiúnta Iompair  
National Transport Authority

Teach Mhargadh an Fhéir  
Margadh na Feirme  
Baile Átha Cliath 7, D07 CF98  
Haymarket House  
Smithfield, Dublin 7, D07 CF98

01 879 8300  
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Mr Aedín Foley, Meetings Administrator,  
Limerick City and County Council  
Corporate Headquarters,  
Merchant's Quay,  
Limerick City.

19<sup>th</sup> January 2026

**Ref: Temporary Rail Platforms - Adare**

Dear Mr Foley,

I refer to your correspondence dated 20<sup>th</sup> November 2025 which was received by the National Transport Authority (NTA) on the 15<sup>th</sup> of December 2025 regarding the above matter.

Regarding progress on the temporary rail platform in Adare for the 2027 Ryder Cup, I can advise that the design is complete and invitations to tender for the construction stage were issued in December 2025. Tender returns are due in February 2026. Construction is planned to take place in Spring/Summer 2026 with a view to the platform being complete before the freight line becomes operational. The temporary platform will be in service for the week of the Ryder Cup event in September 2027 following which it will be decommissioned and removed. Regarding planning permission, it was confirmed in September 2025 that the proposed temporary platform is Exempt Development under the Planning and Development Regulations 2001 (as amended).

The primary rail-based transport solution being considered for the 2027 Ryder Cup is to operate a rail shuttle service between Limerick Junction station and Adare for the week of the event. Limerick Junction station will provide an interchange for intercity services to/from Dublin, Cork and Killarney/Tralee. There are no plans to provide any other station facilities on the Foynes line in relation to the Ryder Cup event.

Finally, I can confirm that the Foynes line will be reopened as a freight line as per the Final Business Case approved for the project

I trust that the above information is of assistance.

Yours sincerely,

Hugh Creegan

Hugh Creegan,  
Deputy Chief Executive.

**From:** Minister Browne's Office <[ministerbrowne-housing@corr.cloud.gov.ie](mailto:ministerbrowne-housing@corr.cloud.gov.ie)>  
**Sent:** Thursday 29 January 2026 10:36  
**To:** Customer Services <[customerservices@limerick.ie](mailto:customerservices@limerick.ie)>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL]HPLG-MBO-00423-2026

29th January 2026

[customerservices@limerick.ie](mailto:customerservices@limerick.ie)

Ref: HPLG-MBO-00423-2026

Dear Mr. Foley,

Thank you for your email to Mr. James Browne, T.D., Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage, in connection with your query.

Your correspondence is currently receiving attention and a further reply will issue as soon as possible.

Yours sincerely,

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Jack Savage

Private Secretary

Mr Aedin Foley  
Corporate Governance & Customer Services  
Limerick City & County Council  
Corporate Headquarters  
Merchants Quay  
Limerick  
V94 EH90  
[customerservices@limerick.ie](mailto:customerservices@limerick.ie)

27<sup>th</sup> January 2026

Dear Ms Foley,

Thank you for your correspondence dated 20<sup>th</sup> November 2025, received by this office on 23rd December 2025.

With regard to progress on the temporary rail platform in Adare for the 2027 Ryder Cup, I can advise that the design is complete and invitations to tender for the construction stage were issued in December 2025. Tender returns are due in February 2026. Construction is planned to take place in Spring/Summer 2026 with a view to the platform being complete before the freight line becomes operational. The temporary platform will be in service for the week of the Ryder Cup event in September 2027 following which it will be decommissioned and removed. Regarding planning permission, LCCC confirmed in September 2025 that the proposed temporary platform is Exempt Development under the Planning and Development Regulations 2001 (as amended).

The primary rail based transport solution being considered for the 2027 Ryder Cup is to operate a rail shuttle service between Limerick Junction station and Adare for the week of the event. Limerick Junction station will provide an interchange for intercity services to/from Dublin, Cork and Killarney/Tralee. While there are no plans to provide any other station facilities on the Foynes line in relation to the Ryder Cup event, other possibilities to utilise existing rail infrastructure to maximize the rail based offering continue to be explored.

I can confirm that the Foynes line will be reopened as a freight line. While many of the attributes of a freight line are common to a passenger line, there are no stations planned for the corridor with the exception of the temporary facility at Adare for the 2027 Ryder Cup as mentioned above. Iarnród Éireann are supportive of the objective of establishing passenger services on the line in the future as noted in the All Island Rail Review, subject to an acceptable business case and Government funding. There is currently no funding available therefore do not have an active project however, should funding become available we will revisit this.

Thank you for your continued support.

Yours sincerely,



Mary Considine

Chief Executive