

**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 19TH JANUARY 2026 AT 9:45 A.M.**

**PRESENT IN THE CHAIR:** Cathaoirleach, 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, Talukder

**OFFICIALS IN ATTENDANCE:**

Director of Service, Environment, Climate Action and Fire (Mr. K. Lehane), Senior Executive Officer, Metropolitan District of Limerick, Parks & Cemeteries (Ms. S. Reidy), Meetings Administrator (Ms. A. Foley), Senior Staff Officer, Corporate Services (Ms. C. Sheehy), Director of Service, Economic, Tourism, Culture, Property and Corporate Buildings (Mr. S. Lenihan), Senior Executive Officer, Economic and Tourism Development (Mr. B. Troy), Administrative Officer, Economic and Tourism Development (Mr. E. Crimmins), Staff Officer, Economic and Tourism Development (Mr. S. Feane), Senior Executive Engineer, Central Services, Traffic and Roads (Mr. J. Sheehan), Senior Engineer, Active Travel (Mr. S. McGlynn), Senior Executive Engineer, Active Travel (Ms. T. Flanagan), Senior Executive Officer, Housing Support Services (Ms. M. Hayes), Senior Executive Engineer, Transportation, Public Realm and Placemaking (Mr. M. Foley), Senior Executive Officer, Strategy and Non-LA Housing Construction (Ms. S. Newell), A/Senior Executive Engineer, LA Housing Construction and Maintenance (Mr. D. O'Dea), Administrative Officer, LA Housing Construction and Maintenance (Ms. G. McNamara), Assistant Staff Officer, Corporate Services (Mr. T. Cronnelly)

**1. Minutes**

Circulated copy of draft Minutes of the Monthly Meeting of the Metropolitan District of Limerick held on 15<sup>th</sup> December 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".

**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. Limerick City Centre**

#### **(a) Follow up on Christmas in Limerick**

The Head of Economic and Tourism Development presented an overview of Christmas in Limerick 2025. He acknowledged the hard work and commitment of his team in delivering a successful campaign, and he highlighted a number of key successes. These included the Light Up Limerick Procession, the Children's Artwork Display, the Toots Christmas Train, the Arthur's Quay Ice Rink, the Civic Christmas Trees, and the programme of events at King Johns Castle.

The Cathaoirleach acknowledged the very successful Christmas in Limerick Campaign and congratulated all involved, noting that it had delivered a fantastic experience for the people of Limerick. He outlined the positive feedback received from both traders and customers. The Cathaoirleach also acknowledged and welcomed the visible Garda presence throughout the Christmas period.

The Head of Economic and Tourism Development outlined the success of the Limerick Gift Card initiative during the Christmas period and encouraged more businesses to get behind the card.

Members thanked the Head of Economic and Tourism Development for the comprehensive overview of the Christmas in Limerick 2025 campaign and highlighted its overall success. They commented on how well the city looked throughout the Christmas period and thanked the staff involved.

Members raised concerns that some Christmas Trees were still in place at certain locations around the city. They asked whether plans had begun for Christmas in Limerick 2026 and requested that the committee setup for the 2025 campaign remain in place to support planning for the 2026 programme. Members requested that King John's Castle would be lit up throughout the year.

The Head of Economic and Tourism Development informed the Meeting that preparations for Christmas 2026 would begin shortly.

The Director of Economic, Tourism, Culture, Property and Corporate Buildings outlined the plans to continue with a sub-committee for planning the Christmas in Limerick 2026 programme, and it was agreed that the committee established for the 2025 campaign would remain in place for 2026.

The Director of Economic, Tourism, Culture, Property and Corporate Buildings advised Members that engagement with state bodies regarding the regular lighting up of King John's Castle was ongoing. He confirmed that any remaining Christmas Trees in the city were scheduled to be removed shortly.

Members thanked the team for their hard work in ensuring the Christmas in Limerick campaign was a huge success.

**(b) Vacant Business Premises Rates Incentive Scheme 2026**

The Head of Economic and Tourism Development, with the aid of a presentation, gave an overview of the details of the scheme and the various criteria and requirements for applicants. He informed Members that the intention of the scheme is to incentivise and encourage the reoccupation of vacant retail properties across Limerick.

Members welcomed the scheme and expressed their delight that people are being encouraged to reopen businesses across Limerick, acknowledging the positive impact this will have on the city, and on the towns throughout the county included in the scheme. They queried whether the scheme could be extended to villages, and they requested that tattoo parlours would not be excluded from the scheme.

**4. Economic, Tourism, Culture, Property and Corporate Buildings Directorate**

To consider the Director General's Report under Section 238(3)(c) of the Planning and Development Act 2000, as amended, recommending the Licences for the Limerick St. Patrick's Day Parade 2026 and International Band Championship 2026 events to be held

On the proposal of Councillor McSweeney and seconded by Councillor Kiely, the report, as circulated, was approved.

**QUESTIONS**

**5. Question submitted by Councillor C. Slattery**

*I will ask at the next meeting of the Metropolitan District of Limerick for an update on progress on the Columbarium walls at Kilmurry Cemetery.*

**REPLY:** The Kilmurray Cemetery Columbarium Wall project is well underway. This is the first Columbarium Wall project in Limerick. Two of the walls have been installed on site and works are nearing completion. It is intended to make the niches available for sale to the public in the near future. There is provision for a further four walls to be installed on site subject to the level of interest by the public. Once interest is confirmed, the Council will proceed with progressing the remainder of the walls noting that this will require a Part 8 planning consent.

**6. Question submitted by Councillor C. Slattery**

*I will ask at the next meeting of the Metropolitan District of Limerick for an update on when a public toilet will be installed at Castletroy Park and Clare Street Park.*

**REPLY:** There are public toilet facilities physically in place at Castletroy Park but these require connection to the Uisce Eireann network prior to becoming operational. The Council has recently received an offer from Uisce Eireann to connect to their network subject to terms and conditions. Once this contract is in place, the Council will require Uisce Eireann to the actual connection and in the interim the Council are in the process of arranging the necessary pipework to meet the Uisce Eireann connection point. In relation to O'Brien Park, the Council does not currently have plans or budget provision for the installation and ongoing operation of public toilet facilities at this location.

**7. Question submitted by Councillor P. Doyle**

*I will ask at the next meeting of the Metropolitan District of Limerick when will the Dog Park at the Castletroy Park be open for use by dog owners.*

**REPLY:** The Council are waiting for ground conditions to improve before opening the dog park in Castletroy Park. The project was implemented in unfavourable weather conditions, and this has led to the cutting up of the greens. The Council will advise on an open date once the greens are inspected and suitable to open for public use. It is expected that it may be March/April before the dog park will be open to the public.

**8. Question submitted by Councillor P. Doyle**

*I will ask at the next meeting of the Metropolitan District of Limerick when will the Pocket Park at the junction of Parnell Street and Sexton Street be open for use by local residents and visitor to Limerick City.*

**REPLY:** The Council has constructed most of the elements for the Pocket Park. This includes stabilisation of the wall with the adjoining school and site clearance with new footpaths including boules area and bulb planting. There are a few other elements that remain outstanding and need to be completed before the Pocket Park can open. It is estimated that the Pocket Park will open before the end of Q2 2026

**9. Question submitted by Councillor P. Doyle**

*I will ask at the next meeting of the Metropolitan District of Limerick when will the dangerous building on Thomas Street beside Crew Brewing be fully repaired as for some time the footpath is blocked off, and the building is an eyesore.*

**REPLY:** Following a successful tender process Limerick City and County Council have awarded the works contract to PBC Ltd. to advance construction on the Living Georgian City 33/34 Thomas Street Project and these works are due to commence in Q1 2026 with an anticipated 19 month works programme.

## **10. Question submitted by Councillor S. Beasley**

*I will ask at the next meeting of the Metropolitan District of Limerick:*

- (a) How many fines were issued for dog fouling in the Metropolitan District during 2025 to date.**
- (b) How many complaints or reports of dog fouling were received by the Council in the Metropolitan District during 2025 to date.**
- (c) What is the ratio of complaints received to fines issued.**
- (d) What measures are currently in place in the Metropolitan District to prevent dog fouling, including the provision of dog waste bins and signage**

**REPLY:** (a) Two dog fines were issued for dog fouling in the Metropolitan District during 2025 to date.

(b) There were 34 dog fouling complaints received by the Council for the Metropolitan District during 2025 to date.

(c) The ratio of complaints was 1 to 17 complaints received to fines issued.

(d) Limerick City and County Council combats dog fouling through public awareness campaigns (Bag it, Bin it), ongoing engagement and patrols by Environmental Inspectors, providing free dog waste bags to encourage people to clean up after their dog and erecting public health hazard signage. In addition, the Environmental Awareness Officer works with Tidy Towns groups and Green schools to raise awareness on this issue and encourages community participation in keeping Limerick free of dog waste. The Council will be launching a renewed campaign in 2026 to make people aware of their responsibilities in cleaning after their dog.

Failure to clean up after a dog is an offense under the Litter Pollution Act, enforcement under the Act for this offence is very challenging.

## **11. Question submitted by Councillor S. Beasley**

*I will ask at the next meeting of the Metropolitan District of Limerick:*

- (a) What specific actions has the Council taken to promote the Ask for Angela initiative amongst the business community in the Metropolitan District.**
- (b) How many hospitality venues (pubs, clubs, restaurants, cafes, hotels) in the Metropolitan District have signed up to participate in the campaign to date.**
- (c) What training or awareness materials have been provided to businesses to support the implementation of the scheme.**
- (d) Has the Council partnered with An Garda Siochana, the Vintners Federation of Ireland, or other stakeholders to coordinate the rollout of this campaign.**
- (e) What promotional activities have been undertaken (social media, local press, public posters, community events, information sessions) to educate the public about how Ask for Angela works.**
- (f) What is the timeline for full implementation of this campaign across all appropriate venues in the Metropolitan District.**

**REPLY:** An application for the 2025 Community Safety Fund to implement this initiative city wide was unsuccessful so no actions have been taken to date. The Night-Time Economy Advisor will continue to try and source funding for the initiative in 2026.

## **12. Question submitted by Councillor S. Beasley**

*I will ask at the next meeting of the Metropolitan District of Limerick:*

**(a) How many children have been born to families residing in homeless services (including emergency accommodation, hostels and temporary accommodation) in the Limerick City and County Council area during each of the last five years (2021, 2022, 2023, 2024, 2025).**

**(b) Of these births, how many families remained in homeless services for:**

- More than 6 months after the birth
- More than 12 months after the birth

**(c) What specific supports are provided to expectant mothers and newborns living in homeless accommodation.**

**(d) How many of these families have since been housed in permanent accommodation.**

**REPLY:** (a) This is not information that Limerick City & County Council (LCCC) actively record. The Homeless Action Team only do so when notified of a birth by one of our families. When advised, the Homeless Action Team add a record to the client's Pathway Accommodation & Support System (PASS) file and encourage clients to provide a Birth Certificate and PPS number in order to update their housing application. This information is then forwarded to the Housing Assessments unit.

(b) LCCC do not gather this information.

(c) LCCC's primary function is to provide emergency accommodation and clients usually notify us of a new arrival after the event, or very close to the arrival date. If there are acute health needs, we may refer the case to our colleagues in the HSE's Social Inclusion team. An example of this would be if a client did not have a GP.

(d) LCCC do not have specific numbers in relation the question, but in general, exits from Homelessness in the requested years has been as follows:

<b><u>Year</u></b>	<b><u>Families</u></b>	<b><u>Singles</u></b>
2021	57	64
2022	62	43
2023	73	54
2024	72	59
2025	62	80

### **13. Question submitted by Councillor E. Secas**

*I will ask at the next meeting of the Metropolitan District of Limerick for a breakdown of the costs associated with the following two events:*

- ***Samhain Parade, Fire and Shadows 2025 Home of Halloween Initiative in Limerick 2025***

**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 'Fire and Shadows Samhain procession' which took in Limerick City centre place on the evening of Saturday 25<sup>th</sup> 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

#### **The Costs associated with the 'Home of Halloween totalled €129,662**

Fáilte Ireland contributed funding of €100,000 under its Ireland, Home of Halloween Destination Development (Pilot) Scheme  
Limerick City and County Council contributed €29,662

Limerick Home of Halloween programming costs are as follows:

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
Foyne Aviation Museum themed Irish Coffee celebration	€300
Halloween at Lough Gur visitor centre	€3,500

Programming:	Cost
Halloween programme at Desmond Castle and Newcastle West	€12,872
Misc, & Promotion	€1,045
<b>Total (incl., VAT)</b>	<b>€129,662</b>

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

Fáilte Ireland contributed funding of €46,333 under its national Fire and Shadows procession and associated night-time economy support to 'Fire and Shadows procession Limerick'.

Limerick City and County Council contributed €33,370.99

**Fire and Shadows Samhain procession' programming costs are as follows:**

Programming:	Cost
Creative production & street theatre	€32,500
Event planning, Event Control, Event management, Security, Comms, H&S, Medical and Rescue cover.	€20,418
Venue Management, Marquees, Toilets, Barriers, lighting and security.	€15,922.35
Transport and signage.	€6,894.15
Road Closures	€2,459.54
Photography and promotion	€1,309.95
Facilities LCCC	€200
<b>Total (incl., VAT)</b>	<b>€79,703.79</b>

All procurement for Limerick's Halloween programming was done in line with LCCC procurement policy.

#### **14. Question submitted by Councillor U. Gavan**

*I will ask at the next meeting of the Metropolitan District of Limerick for an update on the route for the Greenway path from UL to Castleconnell/Montpellier.*

**REPLY:** The Technical Consultants on this Scheme are AtkinsRéalis. At present the UL to Montpelier Greenway is still in the Options Selection phase.

A number of issues are still to be resolved by the project team prior to the publication of the preferred route corridor. We also await the announcement of the 2026 TII allocation to this project.

#### **15. Question submitted by Councillor U. Gavan**

*I will ask at the next meeting of the Metropolitan District of Limerick if Limerick City & County Council will be implementing inline bus stops which allow buses to collect*

*passengers without having to pull in off the road on routes throughout Limerick City to aid traffic congestion.*

**REPLY:** The National Transport Authority (NTA) encourages the installation of inline bus stops, particularly in urban areas. LCCC installs inline bus stops when existing traffic lane widths are suitable and in accordance with NTA guidance documents. Unfortunately, LCCC does not have a database available to us which distinguishes if existing bus stops are online or offline.

#### **16. Question submitted by Councillor D. McSweeney**

*I will ask at the next meeting of the Metropolitan District of Limerick for a full list of undeveloped residential zoned land parcels owned by Limerick City and County Council in Limerick City West and the year they were acquired by this Authority.*

**REPLY:** The table below identifies undeveloped residential zoned land parcels owned by Limerick City and County Council in Limerick City West and the year they were acquired by the Authority based on available information. Attached are maps identifying the land parcels overlaid on the residentially zoned lands on the relevant zoning maps.

Site Number	Folio	Area	Location	Acquired
1	LK16922N	4.338	Mungret	2014
2	LK16926N	3.618	Mungret	2014
3	LK16927N	4.485	Mungret	2014
4	LK16929N	3.907	Mungret	2014
5	LK20458N	5.591	Mungret	2014
6	LK68692F	1.024	Mungret	2014
7	LK68692F	0.659	Mungret	2014
8	LK1669F	0.639	Patrickswell	1971
9	LK67440F	0.086	Patrickswell	1956
10	LK9349F	0.085	Patrickswell	1978

#### **17. Question submitted by Councillor D. McSweeney**

*I will ask at the next meeting of the Metropolitan District of Limerick for the total additional expenditure in addition to the original contract sum and a full breakdown of such costs for each of the following Active Travel Schemes:*

- *R510 Quinn's Cross to Raheen Roundabout Scheme*
- *Fr. Russell Road Scheme*
- *Mill Road*

**REPLY:** It's important to note that each project presents unique challenges, influenced by factors such as location, varying ground conditions, and the involvement of multiple stakeholders.

Below, I have outlined the financial details for the Fr. Russell Road Scheme, the R510 Quinn's Cross to Raheen Roundabout Scheme, and the Mill Road, Corbally Project.

### **1. Fr. Russell Road Scheme**

- Original Tender Sum €3,097,987(exc VAT)
- Agreed Final Account: €4,254,607(exc Vat)
- Total Additional Items Expenditure: €1,156,620(exc VAT)

#### Breakdown of Additional Items:

- Change Orders
- Service Alterations
- Additional Ducting
- Adjustments to Footpaths and Tactiles
- RSA Items - Racefield - Client Requests (Change to Working Hours)
- Unforeseen Ground and Services
- Bill Omissions

### **2. R510 Quinn's Cross to Raheen Roundabout Scheme**

- Original Tender Sum €3,147,853.50(exc VAT)
- Agreed Final Account: €4,950,500.00(exc Vat)
- Total Additional Items Expenditure: €1,802,646.50(exc VAT)

In February 2024, P & D Lydon Ltd. was awarded the contract for this scheme at a tender sum of €3,147,853.50 (ex VAT). Throughout the project, a total of 112 contractual claims were submitted, amounting to €2,127,306.61 (ex VAT) in additional costs.

The average tender submitted for the R510 project was €3,784,446.82 (exc VAT).

#### Claims Categories:

- Change Orders/Instructions
- BoQ Omissions
- Non-possession of Site
- Unchartered Services
- Unforeseen Ground Conditions
- Prolongation

Ultimately, the total amount claimed by the contractor reached €5,275,160.10 (ex VAT). MHL Consulting assessed the claims and determined a final account sum of €4,370,254.01 (ex VAT), which the contractor disputed, leading to a Conciliation process.

On October 28, 2025, the Conciliator recommended a final payment of €4,950,500.00 (ex VAT), which was accepted by the NTA, Limerick City and County Council (LCCC), and P & D Lydon Ltd.

### **3. Mill Road, Corbally Project**

- Original Tender Sum €3,295,185.08(exc VAT)
- Agreed Final Account: €5,471,500.00 (ex VAT)
- Total Additional Items Expenditure: €2,176314.92

Shareridge Ltd. was awarded the Mill Road project in October 2023 for a tender sum of €3,295,185.08 (ex VAT). The project saw 220 contractual claims submitted, totalling €6,037,447.62 (ex VAT) in additional costs.

The average tender submitted for the Mill Road project was €3,998,597.36.

#### Claims Categories:

- Access to Site
- Additional Works
- Concrete Levy
- Design Change
- Disruption
- Ongoing Works and Continuing Instructions

As the project neared its conclusion, the total claimed by the contractor was €9,332,632.70 (ex VAT). Ryan Hanley recommended a final account sum of €3,524,966.44 (ex VAT), which was disputed by the contractor, initiating the Conciliation process.

The Conciliator recommended a final payment of €5,471,500.00 (ex VAT), which was accepted by the NTA, Limerick City and County Council, and Shareridge Ltd.

### **18. Question submitted by Councillor M. Donoghue**

*I will ask at the next meeting of the Metropolitan District of Limerick whether traffic calming measures are planned for Wolfe Tone Street and Lord Edward Street and to identify what those measures are and the associated timeframe for implementation.*

**REPLY:** Limerick City and County Council will be carrying out road marking along Wolfe Tone Street and Lord Edward Street to reduce the speeds during January/ February 2026. The Council will conduct a speed survey to assess the benefit of these measures in April 2026. If further works are required the Council will apply for a S38 notice to implement further Traffic Calming measures

## **19. Question submitted by Councillor M. Donoghue**

*I will ask at the next meeting of the Metropolitan District of Limerick what measures are in place to compel the owners of private property where vegetation is significantly overgrown and facing onto public spaces (footpaths, roads, amenity areas) to cut back and appropriately maintain these spaces to improve presentation and reduce opportunities for litter gathering, illegal dumping, drug-taking and other anti-social behaviour.*

**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 overgrown hedgerow and trees.

To date we are satisfied that landowners have cooperated and that they are completing the work required within a reasonable timeframe. The targeted locations include overgrown hedgerow along Local and Regional roads in rural areas which reduce the effective widths of the roads. In urban settings this will include overgrown hedgerow that effectively reduce the widths of footpaths and cycle lanes.

## **20. Question submitted by Councillor M. Donoghue**

*I will ask at the next meeting of the Metropolitan District of Limerick if there are any plans to upgrade/repair the footpaths on both sides of O'Connell Street from Hartstonge Street to Cecil Street and the associated timeframe for implementation.*

**REPLY:** There is no funding available for footpath upgrades on O'Connell Street at present. These upgrades/ repairs would be included within the O'Connell Street, Phase 2 project. The O'Connell Street Phase 2 project will be reviewed after the completion of the Limerick City Centre Transportation Plan.

## **21. Question submitted by Councillor E. O'Donovan**

*I will ask at the next meeting of the Metropolitan District of Limerick for the total expenditure in 2025 on hotel emergency accommodation in the Limerick Metropolitan Area and how many families and individuals availed of same.*

**REPLY:** The expenditure for Homeless services is published on [www.gov.ie](http://www.gov.ie). In 2025 Limerick City and County Council spent a total of €11,408, 113 on accommodation for homeless persons/emergency accommodation. An amount of €8,846,928 from this total was spent on hotel or bed and breakfast type accommodation.

The number of families availing of these services is reported monthly in the Executive Report which is published on [www.limerick.ie](http://www.limerick.ie). In December 2025 there were 135 families availing of homeless services and 99 individuals with no children.

## **22. 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 Garden International considering the departure of Nordic Aviation.***

**REPLY:** In response to the question submitted, Gardens International is a commercial property and Limerick Twenty Thirty DAC cannot comment on individual tenants or on matters relating to tenancy, occupation, or lease arrangements, as these are commercially sensitive. The property continues to be managed in the normal course in line with the company's governance and legal obligations.

With the permission of the Cathaoirleach, Councillor O'Donovan stressed her disappointment at the reply received in relation to the current tenancy and occupants in Garden International.

## **23. 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 water quality in Corbally Baths and the City Centre and if the plan is continuing for public bathing facilities at these sites.***

**REPLY:** In relation to water quality monitoring at Corbally Baths, Limerick City and County Council undertakes sampling (monthly in 2025) during the bathing season (June 1st to 15th September) and has done so since May 2019. The Bathing Water Regulations require four years of microbiological testing in order to perform an indicative assessment of the water quality at this location for bathing. Currently the water quality is of "poor" quality and therefore not satisfying the limits set out in the Bathing Water Regulations. However, the 2024 improvement in microbiological results continued in 2025 (notwithstanding sudden impact of 15th July 2025 weather event).

## **24. Question submitted by Councillor D. McSweeney**

***I will ask at the next meeting of the Metropolitan District of Limerick for an update on the Clarina/Ballybrown Public Realm Enhancement Plan.***

**REPLY:** The Draft Clarina/Ballybrown Public Realm Enhancement Plan is currently being finalised and includes proposed public realm design layouts for several key areas.

We will be a presentatiing to Councillors and further Public Engagement events will be held in Q1 2026.

## **25. Question submitted by Councillor Hickey O'Mara**

***I will ask at the next meeting of the Metropolitan District for an update on the findings of the sustainability audit carried out on Riverfest 2025, for consideration in advance of Riverfest 2026.***

**REPLY:** LCCC Festivals and Event commissioned Grooveyard Events to carry out a Sustainability Audit on Riverfest 2025. A Draft report was received from Grooveyard Events in September 2025. We have reverted to Grooveyard Events requesting further clarifications and additional information on the content of the Draft Report. Grooveyard Events have committed to providing an updated report in Q1 2026. Once the updated report has been received it will be circulated.

## **26. Question submitted by Councillor Hickey O'Mara**

***I will ask at the next meeting of the Metropolitan District for a full breakdown in tabular form of:***

- ***The number of dogs destroyed each month at Limerick Dog Shelter in 2024.***
- ***The number of dogs destroyed each month at Limerick Dog Shelter in 2025.***
- ***How much income was accrued by Limerick Dog Shelter through surrendering, rehoming and reclaiming fees in 2024.***
- ***How much income was accrued by Limerick Dog Shelter through surrendering, rehoming and reclaiming fees in 2025.***

**REPLY:** The number of dogs euthanised by Limerick City and County Council per month in 2024 and 2025 are shown in the following table –

<b>Dogs Euthanised</b>	<b>2024</b>	<b>2025</b>
January	4	2
February	4	6
March	2	2
April	2	3
May	2	3
June	7	4
July	9	3
August	4	2
September	2	1
October	5	0
November	3	2
December	2	5
<b>Total Euthanised</b>	<b>46</b>	<b>33</b>

Total no. dogs to enter shelter	201	168
---------------------------------	-----	-----

The income accrued by the Limerick Dog Shelter through surrendering, rehoming and reclaiming fees in 2024 was €3,000. The income accrued in 2025 was €2,840

## **27. Question submitted by Councillor O. O'Sullivan**

***I will ask at the next meeting of the Metropolitan District of Limerick for the date of the agreed workshop to receive a full breakdown of costs of the Flavours of Limerick festival.***

**REPLY:** Neon Agency Ltd, the service provider appointed to deliver the Flavours of Limerick Festival, entered liquidation on 16 September 2025. As confirmed by the appointed liquidators (Grant Thornton), the liquidation process is ongoing and the final financial position has not yet been determined.

Until that process is concluded, it would be premature to convene a workshop intended to provide a full and final breakdown of costs. Accordingly, it is not possible at this time to agree a date for such a workshop. Once the liquidation has progressed to a point where final figures are confirmed, the Council will consider next steps.

## **28. Question submitted by Councillor O. O'Sullivan**

***I will ask at the next meeting of the Metropolitan District of Limerick for an update on the Food Hub for the market area of Limerick City under the Citizen Collaboration Program within the 'Liveable Limerick City' URDF funding in 2021.***

**REPLY:** Limerick City and County Council submitted an Application for the Call 2 Urban Regeneration and Development Fund (URDF) to the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage under the Living Limerick City Centre Initiative in 2020 and received preliminary approval in August 2021.

The Council submitted the Preliminary Business Case for the Citizen Collaboration Programme in December 2023, for the development of a Food Hub for Limerick's Milk Market and received a subsequent Approval in Principle (AG1) in April 2024. The Food Hub development included the purchase of five of the Milk Market Units, once they came available and an additional suitable premises for the Food Hub. The approved URDF funding is €1.4m for the Food Hub.

The current status related to the Food Hub is that a preferred premises has been identified and the Council are working with stakeholders to secure the purchase.

**29. Question submitted by Councillor O. O'Sullivan**

*I will ask at the next meeting of the Metropolitan District of Limerick for a pipeline of all new, planned, and current multi-unit residential development in Limerick City North with timelines.*

**REPLY:** Table 1 below provides data up to and including November 2025. The figures are for multi-use applications comprising 2 or more units as per CSO Code 105 Residential. Table 2 identifies the timeline of when commencement notices were served.

**Table 1:**

Limerick City North	No. of Live Multi Unit Residential Permissions	No. of Multi Units with Live Planning Permission	No. of Apartments Commenced	No. of Houses Commenced	Total No. of Units Commenced/Completed	No. of Units Awaiting Commencement
Corbally, Kings Island	3	43	0	26	26	17
Thomondgate, Moyross, Caherdavin, Ennis Road	19	1044	110	88	198	846
<b>Total</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>1,087</b>	<b>110</b>	<b>114</b>	<b>224</b>	<b>863</b>

**Table 2:**

Limerick City North	No. of Units Commenced 2021	No. of Units Commenced 2022	No. of Units Commenced 2023	No. of Units Commenced 2024	No. of Units Commenced 2025
Corbally, Kings Island	0	0	0	26	0
Thomondgate, Moyross, Caherdavin, Ennis Road	0	0	5	0	193
<b>Total</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>193</b>

## NOTICES OF MOTION

### **30. 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 explain why the graveyard gates were not open Christmas Day at Mount St. Oliver Cemetery and what measures they are taking to prevent this happening again.***

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

In proposing the Motion, Councillor Slattery expressed her disappointment and highlighted the stress this had caused for families wishing to visit the graveyard on Christmas Day.

**REPLY:** Limerick City and County Council engage the services of a security company to open and close the gates at Mount Saint Oliver Cemetery on days when staff are not present. There was delay in opening the gates to Mount Saint Oliver Cemetery on Christmas Day as the security company did not attend as Limerick City and County Council did not explicitly request this service on Christmas Day. On Christmas Day, once staff became aware of the closed gates, attendance on site was arranged to ensure the gates were open.

Upon review with the security company, it has been agreed that requirements for opening and closing over the Christmas period will be explicitly communicated and confirmed in advance each year.

On behalf of the Cemeteries team, I wish to apologise and express our regret at the distress caused to those who wished to visit loved ones on Christmas Day and provide assurances that measures are now in place to prevent a reoccurrence.

### **31. Notice of Motion submitted by Councillor P. Doyle**

***I will move at the next meeting of the Metropolitan District of Limerick that a car park space be designated for Click and Collect (30 minutes free parking for shoppers) on both William Street and O'Connell Avenue (across from St. Josephs Church) to support local retailers.***

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

Members welcomed the motion and acknowledged the benefit this would have for the people of Limerick and for retailers in the area.

**REPLY:** Parking regulations in Ireland do not specifically address click and collect parking spaces. The Council relies on the enforcement of double yellow lines within the space to prevent overstaying, in this way vehicles which are actively loading or loading for a few minutes can be accommodated. This method of parking enforcement is not suitable for stays of 30 minutes.

The future provision or retention of dedicated click and collect spaces should be considered within the broader context of the upcoming Limerick City Centre Transport Plan and the Parking Management Plan which is currently under review and will include consideration of charging fees & durations of stay.

This will ensure that any free parking measures or changes implemented align with objectives as set out in LSMATS & the Development Plan as well as the Transport Plan sustainable transport objectives, traffic management priorities and the needs of local businesses and residents.

### **32. Notice of Motion submitted by Councillor S. Beasley**

*I will move at the next meeting of the Metropolitan District of Limerick that Limerick City and County Council:*

- (a) Request the installation of dog waste bag dispensers and dedicated dog waste bins at key locations throughout the Metropolitan District, with priority given to:***
  - All existing and planned dog parks***
  - Park entrances and popular walking routes***
- (b) Adopt a phased rollout approach, beginning with a 12-month pilot, at 10-15 high-priority locations, with priority given to the below, with regular monitoring and evaluation:***
  - O'Brien Park***
  - Caherdavin Dog Park***
  - Mayorstone Dog Park***
  - Castletroy Park Dog Park***
  - Plassey Riverwalk/Canal Bank***
- (c) Public usage data and costs after the pilot period to inform future expansion across the Metropolitan District.***

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

In moving the Motion, Councillor Beasley highlighted the need for prevention measures to be put in place to prevent dog fouling across the Metropolitan District.

**REPLY:** Limerick City and County Council promotes responsible pet ownership including the removal of pet waste from public places by owners and advises of our “any bag, any bin” approach. The Council no longer provides pet waste bins or dedicated pet waste bag dispensers following a review of public health concerns, improper use and cost

efficiency concerns. Most dog bins have now been removed and replaced with street bins or park bins. "Any bag, any bin" encourages owners to bag and bin pet waste via the street cleaning and park bins. There are multiple street cleaning and park bin locations in the Metropolitan District that are emptied frequently, thereby managing any potential public health issue while avoiding the costly service of dedicated pet waste disposal.

### **33. Notice of Motion submitted by Councillor S. Beasley**

***I will move at the next meeting of the Metropolitan District of Limerick that Limerick City and County Council call on the HSE, An Garda Siochana, 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.***

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

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.

**REPLY:** There is already significant inter-agency co-operation between services who have responsibility for addressing Homelessness in Limerick through forums such as the Regional Homeless Forum which meets on a quarterly basis and includes all stakeholders. The strengthening of the inter-agency co-operation has also been raised as part of the Mayoral Expert Working Group on Homelessness as an area of focus. This will continue to be explored and developed through the Working Group.

### **34. Notice of Motion submitted by Councillor E. Secas**

***I will move at the next meeting of the Metropolitan District of Limerick that the necessary procedures for taking in charge the Curragh Birin road section linking the public Groody Road to the Curragh Birin housing estate which is already taken in charge, are started promptly for safety reasons, and given that it has been maintained by this local authority for the past couple of years.***

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

**REPLY:** The section of carriageway linking Groody Road to Curragh Birin estate is not in public charge and I'm not aware that it has been maintained by Limerick City and County Council. I confirm that Limerick City and County Council will commence engagement with the registered property owner to initiate the process of taking in charge the said section of public carriageway.

### **35. Notice of Motion submitted by Councillor C. Slattery**

***I will move at the next meeting of the Metropolitan District of Limerick that Limerick Council explain why they did not draw down the full allocation from Government for the Tenant in Situ Scheme for 2025.***

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

**REPLY:** Limerick City and County Council submitted claims totalling €12,587,673.75 by the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage deadline date of the 5th of December 2025 in relation to Second Hand Acquisitions in 2025. A further €1,275,873.17 in claims were sent to the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage for acquisitions after the 5th of December that closed at the end of 2025.

Therefore, a total of €13,863,546.92 was submitted to the DHLGH for 2025 out of a total allocation of €15m. This is in line with the projection communicated to the Elected Members as part of a Special Workshop on the 20th of November 2025.

The reasons the full complement of €15m was not spent in 2025 are as follows:

- Delays with an acquisition not being approved internally which necessitated the Housing Team to substitute in another property which caused delays and the loss of a unit for 2025.
- A further property was delayed for a number of months in closing as numerous queries had to be responded to prior to final approval internally.
- Delays with vendors sending back contracts due to living abroad. These properties will now close in 2026.

The further allocation of €4.5m issued in September 2025 for second hand acquisitions is now also fully committed with acquisitions to close in the coming months. We have notified the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage that this fund is committed and have requested a further allocation of funding. Once 2026 funding allocation has been advised we will notify the Elected Members.

Members expressed their disappointment that the full allocation available under the Tenant in Situ Scheme 2025 had not been drawn down. They emphasised that additional families would potentially have been prevented from becoming homeless, had the full allocation been used.

Members queried where the delays had occurred that prevented the Council from drawing down the full allocation. They requested that a detailed review be undertaken, including the timeline of events outlining the actions that led to these delays.

In response, the Senior Executive Officer, Strategy & Non-LA Housing Construction, acknowledged the Members' frustrations and welcomed the review.

### **36. 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 work with the Department of Transport to call for additional services on Castleconnell rail line, improving connectivity to the city.***

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

Members welcomed the Motion and requested an update on when the Bus Connects programme would be rolled out.

### **37. Notice of Motion submitted by Councillor M. Donoghue**

***I will move at the next meeting of the Metropolitan District of Limerick that a special committee is setup for the purposes of reviewing and recommending a new approach to the Housing Strategy and Housing Needs Demand Assessment that is people-centred and focused on developing and supporting sustainable communities in the context of the impending review of the current Limerick Development Plan.***

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

### **38. Notice of Motion submitted by Councillor M. Donoghue**

***I will move at the next meeting of the Metropolitan District of Limerick that this Council considers establishing a framework setting out Voids Refurbishment Classifications that identify the various levels of works required to bring each house back into use and a related value, e.g.:***

- ***Light touch works to the value of €10,000***
- ***Replace windows/doors/bathrooms to the value of €15,000***
- ***Invasive works to the value of €25,000***
- ***Extension or significant internal remodelling to the value of €50,000***

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

**REPLY:** At present when a property becomes vacant it is inspected to detail works required to return the property to stock. Works are carried out to ensure that it complies with the Housing (Standards for Rented Houses) Regulations 2019.

Properties are classified in accordance with the works required as follows:

- Cat 1 – Minor Works less than €50,000
- Cat 2 - Moderate works greater than €50,000 and less than €100,000
- Cat 3 - Major Works. Value Greater than €100,000

Works are carried out using a mixture of direct labour and contractors.

We currently have frameworks in place for the supply of various goods and services including:

- Small builders' framework
- Windows and doors
- Electrical works and certification
- Plumbing works including gas certification

A Supplygov framework is also used for building works.

In 2025, 129 properties were returned to housing stock.

#### **39. Notice of Motion submitted by Councillor E. O'Donovan**

***I will move at the next meeting of the Metropolitan District of Limerick for salt to be placed on footpaths surrounding University Hospital Limerick, St. Camillus' Hospital, University Maternity Hospital Limerick and all primary care centres within the Metropolitan Area with high pedestrian foot traffic.***

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

**REPLY:** When roads are gritted in the Limerick City and County Council city routes during a salting route the salt spray width is extended to include the cycle lanes and footpaths. This works well along areas where there is no existing parking along the route. Special attention is given to the 3 bridges walk, areas near the Market area on Friday nights and the areas near the Hospitals and schools. Additional attention will be given to these areas during extreme weather events.

#### **40. 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 the Department of Housing to request an immediate update on the allocation for the 2026 Tenant in Situ Scheme and when this will be released to the Metropolitan District.***

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

#### **41. Notice of Motion submitted by Councillor Hickey O'Mara**

*I will move at the next meeting of the Metropolitan District of Limerick that we agree to tackle speeding and the lack of pedestrian and cyclist safety along Castle Street between the junction of Thomond Bridge and Verdant Place and the roundabout. I propose the following actions:*

- *A speed survey is carried out at Castle Street/Thomond Bridge*
- *Improved speed limit signage is put in place to remind motorists of the reduced speed limit including a radar speed sign.*
- *That a controlled crossing is constructed at the junction of Thomond Bridge and Verdant Place*

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

**REPLY:** A speed survey will be arranged at the junction of Thomond bridge and Verdant Place.

- Improved speed limit signage and road markings can be put in place to help reduce speeds. Note the speed survey will indicate the extent of the issue along this road.
- Verdant Place is currently closed for the past 6 months and is likely to remain closed for a further 6 months. This location was examined for a controlled crossing 2 years ago and it was found that there was insufficient pedestrian demand. Buildouts and tactile paving were installed then which had the effect of narrowing the road, reducing traffic speeds and allowing safe crossing at this locus.

#### **Suspension of Standing Orders**

On the proposal of Councillor O'Sullivan, seconded by Councillor Kiely, Standing Order 4 was suspended to complete the agenda.

#### **42. Notice of Motion submitted by Councillor O. O'Sullivan**

*I will move at the next meeting of the Metropolitan District of Limerick that a Metropolitan Sub-Committee be formed under the new Community Safety Partnership, to facilitate structured regular discussion on city policing matters for all Metropolitan elected members.*

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

In moving the Motion, Councillor O'Sullivan stressed the importance of ensuring issues related to the Metropolitan District receives consistent attention.

**REPLY:** Local Community Safety Partnerships are established under the national Community Safety Partnership framework. This sets out a Partnership's statutory structure, membership, and governance. The Partnership includes representation from An Garda Síochána, local authority officials, elected members, community representatives, and relevant statutory agencies. There are seven mandated positions for elected members of Limerick City and County Council on the Limerick Partnership.

The creation of Sub-Committees is a matter of business for the full partnership to decide when it is established. All operational and strategic matters relating to policing and community safety are addressed through the LCSP as a whole.

#### **43. Correspondence**

Correspondence was noted and taken as read

This concluded the Meeting.

**Signed:** \_\_\_\_\_  
**CATHAOIRLEACH**