

**CORRESPONDENCE**

**MEETING OF THE MUNICIPAL DISTRICT OF  
ADARE-RATHKEALE**

**10<sup>TH</sup> MARCH, 2026**

- Presentation received on 3<sup>rd</sup> March, 2026 from Aidan Finn, Senior Engineer, Environment, Rural Water and Climate Action in reply to request from Members for a presentation on the newly formed Rural Water Unit.
- Reply received on 5<sup>th</sup> March, 2026 from Ultan Heffernan, Client Project Manager Adare Bypass, Mid West National Road Design Office in reply to request from Councillor Keary and Councillor Collins in relation to issues at the Adare Bypass.
- Report received on 9<sup>th</sup> March, 2026 from Audrey Crowe, Administrative Officer, Property Services in reply to request from Councillor O'Donoghue for and update of future use of all Council owned vacant properties in the District.



# Rural Water Unit

Claire Linehan  
Senior Executive Scientist  
Environment, Rural Water and Climate Action

# Background

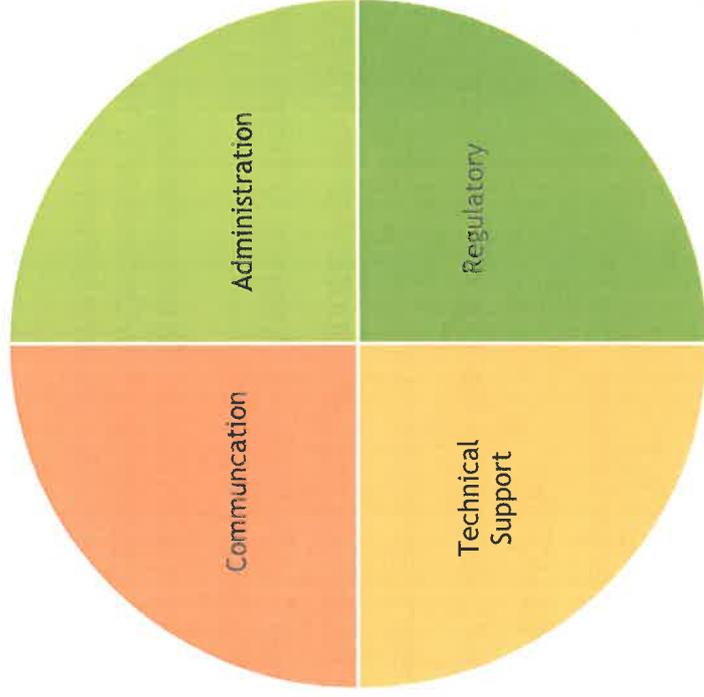
- ▶ New Unit to be set up against the background of the Transition of Water Services to Uisce Éireann (non-Rural Water).
- ▶ Deliver Rural Water Programme and to provide monitoring services to meet regulatory requirements.
- ▶ Continue Uisce Éireann Support Services Agreement (SSA) requirements.
- ▶ Multi-disciplined workforce required consisting of engineering, technical, scientific and administrative staff.
- ▶ Rural Water Liaison Officer has two roles as Administrator and Regulator.
- ▶ Laboratory and Rural Water formed in November 2025 as part of Environment Rural Water and Climate Action Department based in Lissanalta House Dooradoyle.



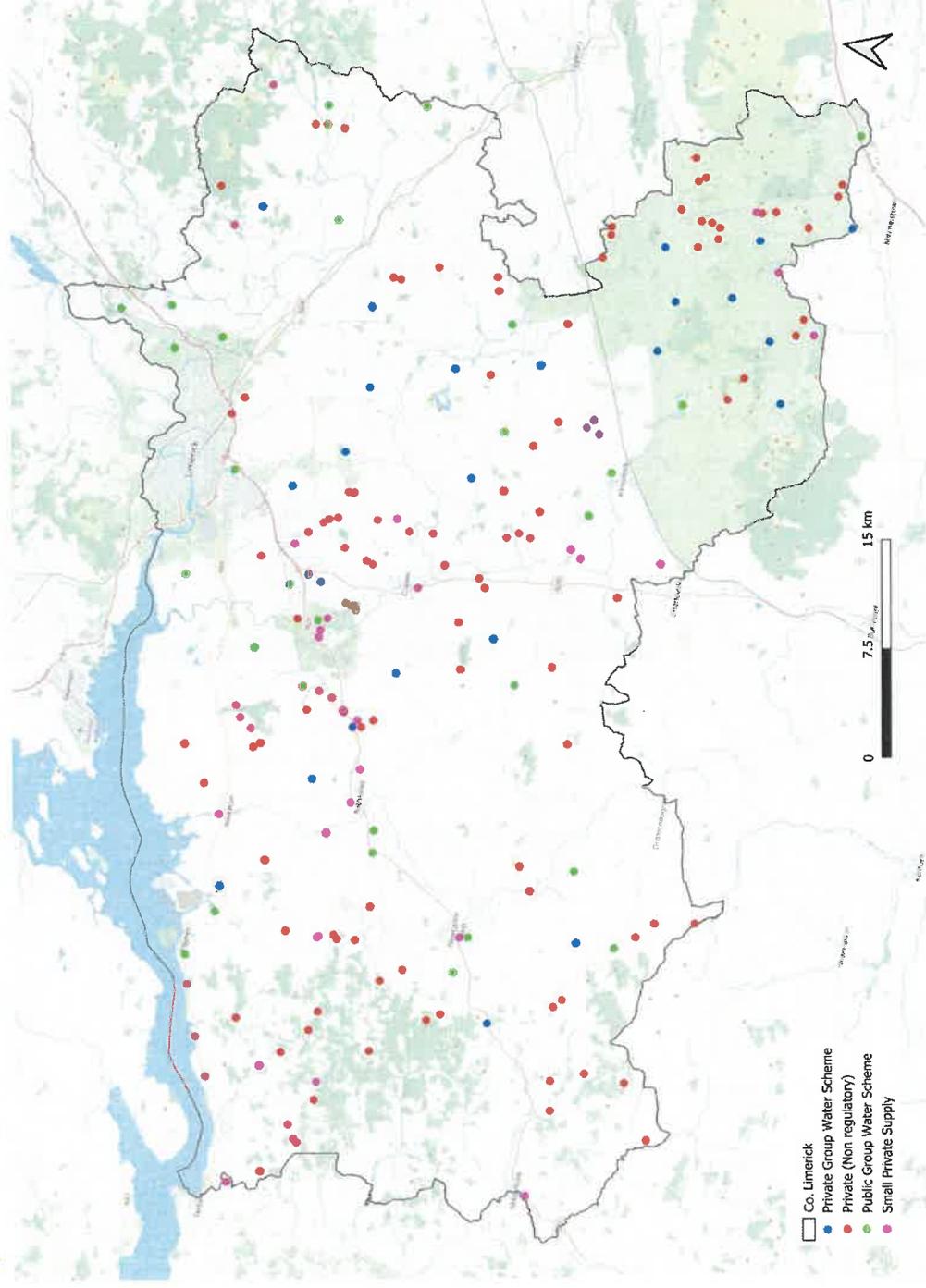
# Our Team

- ▶ Director of Services: Kieran Lehane
- ▶ Department Head: Aidan Finn
- ▶ Rural Water Liaison/ Laboratory Manager: Claire Linehan
- ▶ Rural Water Engineer: Patrick Moran
- ▶ Rural Water Technician/Scientific Support: Adrian Insley
- ▶ Rural Water Administration Support: Leanne O'Brien (GWS Recoupments) Edwina Tobin (Well Grants)
- ▶ Scientific Support: Patrick Mullane (Quality Manager/ H&S), Eithne Lynch (Lab. Supervisor), Mary Hanly (Sampling Co-Ordinator), Niall Scanlan (External Quality Co-Ordinator, Mary Ryan Melody (Administration Support), Josephine Walsh (Administration Support).
- ▶ Email: [ruralwater@timerick.ie](mailto:ruralwater@timerick.ie)
- ▶ Direct line: 061 556803

# Key Unit Functions

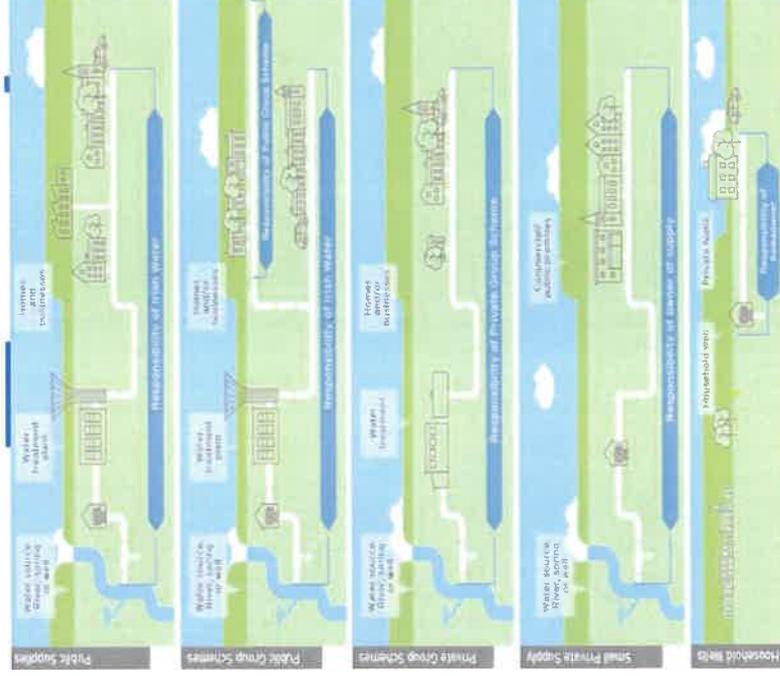


# Water Schemes covered by this Section (Private Water)



Public Group Water Schemes are expected to be Taken in Charge (TiC) over time by Uisce Éireann.

# Water Supplies Types



**Public water supplies** are supplies where Irish Water manages the abstraction, treatment and distribution of treated water. These supplies are covered by the Drinking Water Regulations and regulated by the EPA.

**Public group schemes** are supplies where a group water scheme set up by the local community manages the distribution of treated water to the users. Irish Water manages the abstraction and treatment of the water.

**Private group water schemes** are supplies where a group water scheme set up by the local community manages the abstraction, treatment and distribution of treated water. They are generally supplied by springs or wells.

**Small private supplies** are supplies serving a commercial or public activity such as hotels, pubs, and restaurants, creches and national schools. The owner or manager of the activity manages the abstraction, treatment, and delivery of the water. Small private supplies are also mostly supplied by wells.

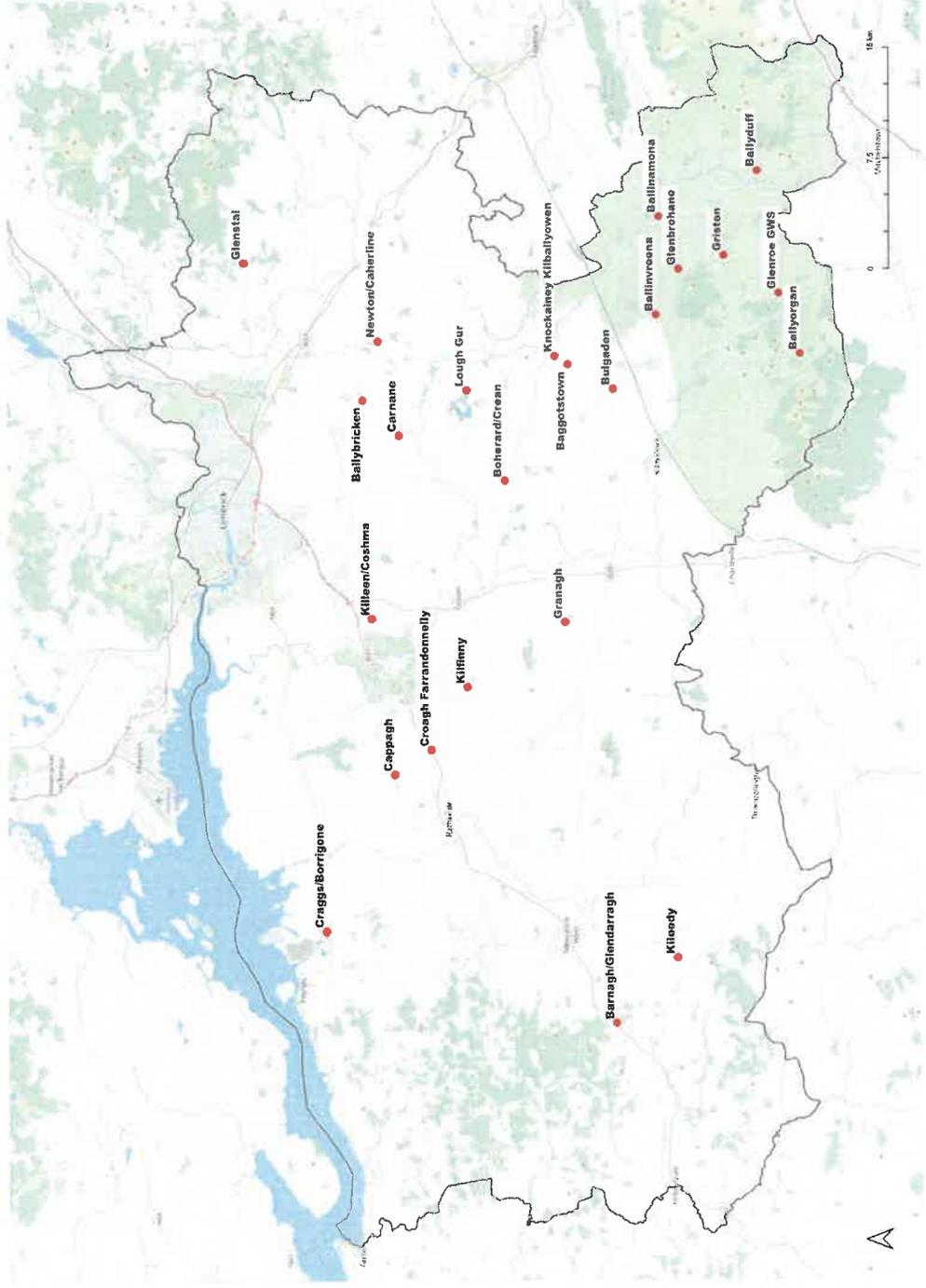
**Household wells** serve individual private homes, mostly in rural areas. Household wells are also referred to as private wells. The householder is responsible for managing this type of supply.

According to 2022 Census data; private water schemes account for 20.5% of Limerick households.

Private Water Supplies are regulated under 2023 Drinking Water Regulations.

**Exclusions:**  
Household wells  
Supplies <10,000 litres/day or <50 people with no commercial or public activity.

# Regulated Private Group Water Schemes



West Limerick GWS  
 Amalgamation:  
 Killeedy, Granagh  
 Cappaigh, Croagh  
 (rationalising into Cappaigh)

Private GWS Obligations:  
 Register Scheme with the  
 Local Authority.

Ensure water supplied  
 meets requirements set  
 out in Drinking Water  
 Regulations 2023.

Minimum Compliance  
 Monitoring Two "Group  
 A" (check) samples and a  
 "Group B" (Audit) sample  
 per year.

Proposed Slabh Riagh GWS  
 Amalgamation:  
 Baggotstown,  
 Ballinveena,  
 Ballyduff, Ballyyorgan,  
 Bulgaden, Glenbrohane,  
 Glenroe, Griston.

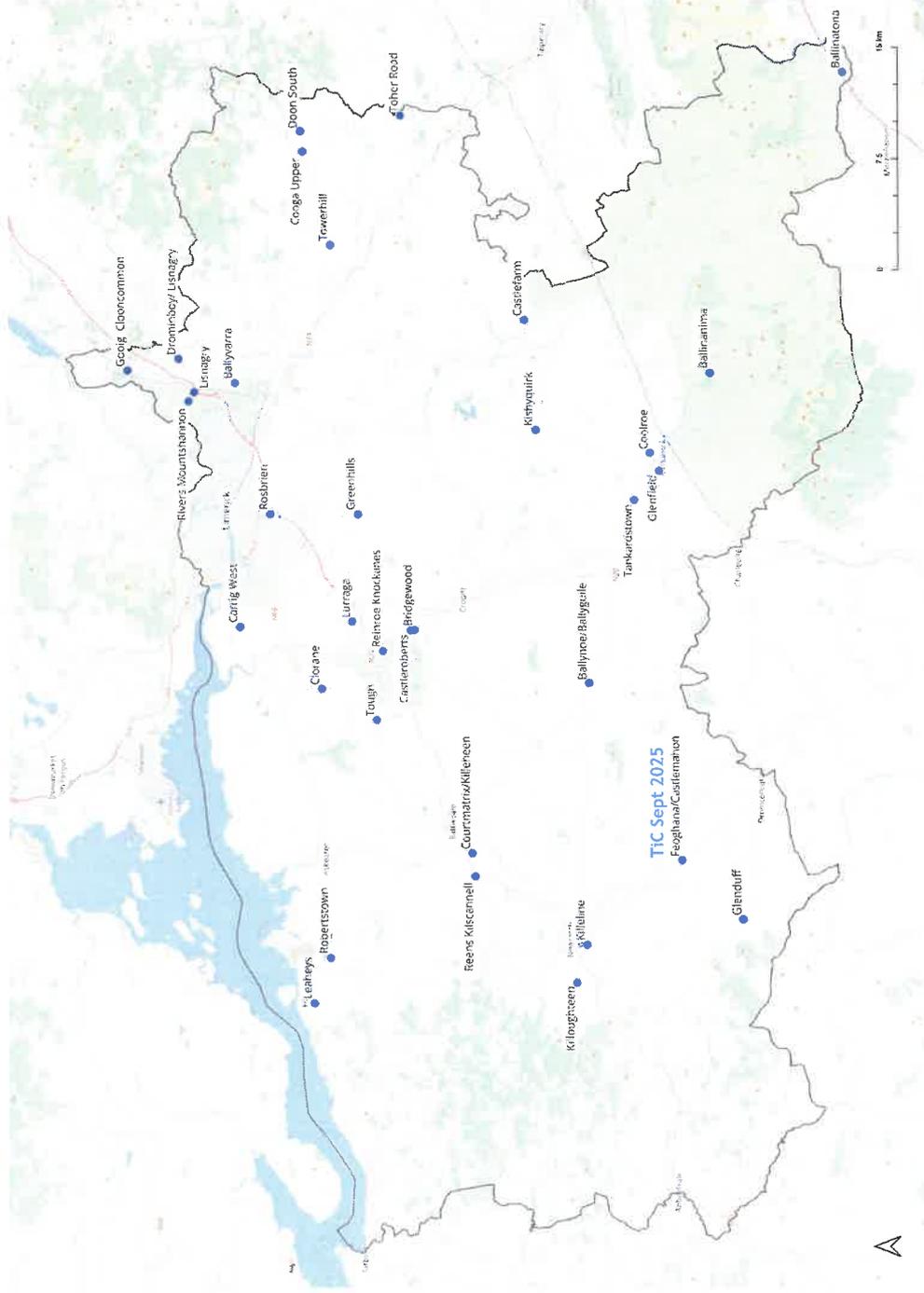
# Regulated Public Group Water Schemes

Public GWS Obligations:

Register Scheme with the Local Authority.

Ensure water supplied meets requirements set out in Drinking Water Regulations 2023.

Minimum Compliance Monitoring Two "Group A" (check) samples and a "Group B" (Audit) sample per year.



A





## Grants approved under MARWP 2024-2026 (November 2024 Allocation €1,621,492)

Summary of Schemes/Projects recommended for funding under Measures A1, A2, A3, A6 and A7 under the Multi-annual Rural Water Programme 2024-2026.						
Local Authority	Scheme/Project Name	EPA Supply Zone Code	Measure	Sub-Measure	Amount of Grant Funding Required	
Limerick	Bailinveena GWS	1900PRI3044	Measure A1 - Source Protection for existing GWS	A1 - Phase 3	€12,000	
Limerick	Caherline Newtown GWS	1900PRI3508	Measure A1 - Source Protection for existing GWS	A1 - Phase 2	€18,057	
Limerick	Carnane GWS	1900PRI3201	Measure A1 - Source Protection for existing GWS	A1 - Phase 2	€18,057	
Limerick	Shrove Knockrour GWS	Exempt	Measure A1 - Source Protection for existing GWS	A1 - Phase 3	€6,697	
Limerick	West Limerick (Cappagh) GWS	1900PRI3562	Measure A1 - Source Protection for existing GWS	A1 - Phase 2	€24,108	
Limerick	West Limerick (Cappagh) GWS	1900PRI3562	Measure A1 - Source Protection for existing GWS	A1 - Phase 3	€13,900	
Limerick	Bailinamona GWS	1900PRI3045	Measure A2 - Water Treatment Provision, Improvements & Capital Replacement	A2(a) - Water Treatment Improvements	€4,000	
Limerick	Barmagh-Glendairragh GWS	1900PRI3261	Measure A2 - Water Treatment Provision, Improvements & Capital Replacement	A2(a) - Water Treatment Improvements	€10,000	
Limerick	Carnane GWS	1900PRI3201	Measure A2 - Water Treatment Provision, Improvements & Capital Replacement	A2(a) - Water Treatment Improvements	€52,710	
Limerick	Knockvaineey GWS	1900PRI3108	Measure A2 - Water Treatment Provision, Improvements & Capital Replacement	A2(a) - Water Treatment Improvements	€11,000	
Limerick	Limerick DBO Bundle	Not Provided	Measure A2 - Water Treatment Provision, Improvements & Capital Replacement	A2(b) - Capital Replacement	€673,863	
Limerick	West Limerick (Combined) GWS	Not Provided	Measure A2 - Water Treatment Provision, Improvements & Capital Replacement	A2(a) - Water Treatment Improvements	€19,500	
Limerick	West Limerick (Croagh) into West Limerick (Cappagh) GWSs	1900PRI3063	Measure A3 - Amalgamation and/or Rationalisation	A3(a) - Amalgamation	€398,000	
Limerick	Ballygeale GWS	Exempt	Measure A6 - Taking-in-charge of Group Water Schemes and Group Sewerage Schemes	A6(a) - Quality deficiency private GWSs	€80,000	
Limerick	Clovers GWS	Exempt	Measure A6 - Taking-in-charge of Group Water Schemes and Group Sewerage Schemes	A6(a) - Quality deficiency private GWSs	€300,000	

Grants approved under MARWP 2024-2026 (July 2025 Allocation €2,843,343)

Local Authority	Scheme/Project Name	Project Code	Measure	Amount of Grant Funding Required
Limerick	West Limerick (Killeedy) GWS	25A0182	Measure A4 - Water conservation, leakage reduction and prevention.	€ 315,250.00
Limerick	West Limerick (Killeedy) GWS	25A0183	Measure A4 - Water conservation, leakage reduction and prevention.	€ 260,200.00
Limerick	West Limerick (Granagh) GWS	25A0180	Measure A4 - Water conservation, leakage reduction and prevention.	€ 54,400.00
Limerick	West Limerick (Granagh) GWS	25A0181	Measure A4 - Water conservation, leakage reduction and prevention.	€ 159,785.00
Limerick	West Limerick (Combined) GWS	25A0179	Measure A4 - Water conservation, leakage reduction and prevention.	€ 64,500.00
Limerick	West Limerick (Cappagh) GWS	25A0178	Measure A4 - Water conservation, leakage reduction and prevention.	€ 92,500.00
Limerick	Glenbrohane GWS	25A0171	Measure A4 - Water conservation, leakage reduction and prevention.	€ 97,665.00
Limerick	Caherline Newtown GWS	25A0170	Measure A4 - Water conservation, leakage reduction and prevention.	€ 543,660.00
Limerick	Ballyweilish GWS	25A0169	Measure A4 - Water conservation, leakage reduction and prevention.	€ 2,295.00
Limerick	Ballydricken - Luddenmores GWS	25A0168	Measure A4 - Water conservation, leakage reduction and prevention.	€ 755,948.00
Limerick	Shrove Knockrour GWS	25A0177	Measure A4 - Water conservation, leakage reduction and prevention.	€ 17,113.00
Limerick	Lough Gur GWS	25A0176	Measure A4 - Water conservation, leakage reduction and prevention.	€ 229,649.00
Limerick	Leahies GWS	25A0175	Measure A6 - Taking-in-charge of GWS and Group Sewerage Schemes	€ 50,000.00
Limerick	Knocklainey - Kilballyowen GWS	25A0174	Measure A4 - Water conservation, leakage reduction and prevention.	€ 83,725.00
Limerick	Hayes - Craggard GWS	25A0173	Measure A4 - Water conservation, leakage reduction and prevention.	€ 5,403.00
Limerick	Griston GWS	25A0172	Measure A4 - Water conservation, leakage reduction and prevention.	€ 21,260.00

Overall Allocation  
€4,464,835

## Project Plan for MARWP Works

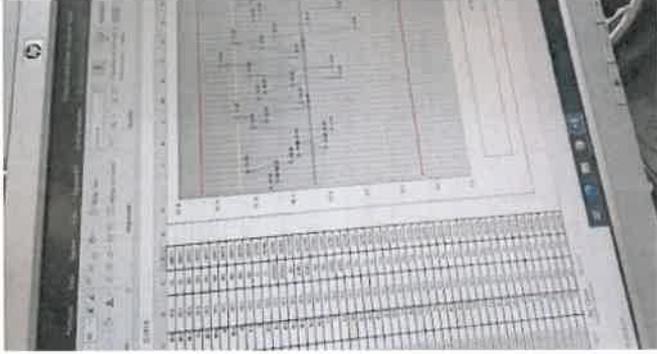
Local Authority	Project Code	Project/Scheme Name	Measure	Funding Allocation (€)	Project Status	Project completion/expected completion date
Limerick	24A0166	Ballinamona GWS	A2(a) - Water Treatment Improvements	4,000	Stage 5 - Project Closed (All MARWP funding recouped)	Qtr 2 2025
Limerick	25B0011	Ballinstona South GWS	A2(a) - Water Treatment Improvements	2,030	Stage 4 - Project Complete (retention outstanding)	Qtr 4 2025
Limerick	24A0160	Ballinvreena GWS	A1 - Phase 3	12,000	Stage 5 - Project Closed (All MARWP funding recouped)	Qtr 4 2025
Limerick	25B0018	Ballinvreena GWS	A4(a) - Water Conservation	14,535	Stage 1 - Not started	Qtr 4 2026
Limerick	25A0168	Ballybricken - Luddenmore GWS	A4(a) - Water Conservation	755,948	Stage 2 - Procurement/Planning Underway	Qtr 4 2026
Limerick	24A0173	Ballygeale GWS	A6(a) - Quality deficiency private GWSs	60,000	Stage 2 - Procurement/Planning Underway	Qtr 2 2026
Limerick	25A0169	Ballyveelish GWS	A4(b) - Infrastructure upgrades	2,295	Stage 3 - Implementation Phase	Qtr 1 2026
Limerick	24A0167	Barnagh-Glendarragh GWS	A2(a) - Water Treatment Improvements	10,000	Stage 5 - Project Closed (All MARWP funding recouped)	Qtr 4 2025
Limerick	25B0014	Barnagh-Glendarragh GWS	A4(a) - Water Conservation	8,500	Stage 5 - Project Closed (All MARWP funding recouped)	Qtr 4 2025
Limerick	25B0005	Boherard Cream GWS	A4(a) - Water Conservation	3,666	Stage 5 - Project Closed (All MARWP funding recouped)	Qtr 3 2025
Limerick	24A0161	Caherline Newtown GWS	A1 - Phase 2	18,057	Stage 1 - Not started	Qtr 1 2026
Limerick	25A0170	Caherline Newtown GWS	A4(a) - Water Conservation	543,660	Stage 2 - Procurement/Planning Underway	Qtr 4 2026

# Project Plan for MARWP Works

Local Authority	Project Code	Project/Scheme Name	Measure	Funding Allocation (€)	Project Status	Project completion/expected completion date
Limerick	24A0162	Carnane GWS	A1 - Phase 2	18,057	Stage 1 - Not started	Qtr 1 2025
Limerick	24A0168	Carnane GWS	A2(a) - Water Treatment Improvements	52,710	Stage 3 - Implementation Phase	Qtr 2 2025
Limerick	24A0174	Clovers GWS	A6(a) - Quality deficiency private GWSs	300,000	Stage 2 - Procurement/Planning Underway	Qtr 4 2026
Limerick	25A0171	Glenbrohane GWS	A4(a) - Water Conservation	97,665	Stage 2 - Procurement/Planning Underway	Qtr 2 2026
Limerick	25A0172	Griston GWS	A4(b) - Infrastructure upgrades	21,250	Stage 2 - Procurement/Planning Underway	Qtr 2 2026
Limerick	25A0173	Hayes - Craggard GWS	A4(b) - Infrastructure upgrades	5,403	Stage 3 - Implementation Phase	Qtr 1 2026
Limerick	24C0059	Kilgless GS	A6(a) - Quality deficiency private GWSs	842,355	Stage 3 - Implementation Phase	Qtr 1 2026
Limerick	25A0174	Knockainey - Kiballyowen GWS	A4(a) - Water Conservation	83,725	Stage 2 - Procurement/Planning Underway	Qtr 4 2026
Limerick	24A0169	Knockainey GWS	A2(a) - Water Treatment Improvements	11,000	Stage 2 - Procurement/Planning Underway	Qtr 2 2026
Limerick	25A0175	Leahies GWS	A6(c) - Moribund ('orphan') GWSs	50,000	Stage 2 - Procurement/Planning Underway	Qtr 4 2026
Limerick	24A0170	Limerick DBO Bundle	A2(c) - Capital Replacement	673,863	Stage 2 - Procurement/Planning Underway	Qtr 4 2026
Limerick	25A0176	Lough Gur GWS	A4(a) - Water Conservation	229,649	Stage 2 - Procurement/Planning Underway	Qtr 4 2026

## Project Plan for MARWP Works

Local Authority	Project Code	Project/Scheme Name	Measure	Funding Allocation (€)	Project Status	Project completion/expected completion date
Limerick	24A0163	Shrove Knockrour GWS	A1 - Phase 3	6,897	Stage 3 - Implementation Phase	Qtr 1 2026
Limerick	25A0177	Shrove Knockrour GWS	A4(a) - Water Conservation	17,113	Stage 2 - Procurement/Planning Underway	Qtr 2 2026
Limerick	24A0164	West Limerick (Cappagh) GWS	A1 - Phase 2	24,108	Stage 2 - Procurement/Planning Underway	Qtr 2 2026
Limerick	24A0165	West Limerick (Cappagh) GWS	A1 - Phase 3	13,500	Stage 4 - Project Complete (retention outstanding)	Qtr 4 2025
Limerick	25A0178	West Limerick (Cappagh) GWS	A4(a) - Water Conservation	82,500	Stage 2 - Procurement/Planning Underway	Qtr 3 2026
Limerick	24A0171	West Limerick (Combined) GWS	A2(a) - Water Treatment Improvements	19,500	Stage 2 - Procurement/Planning Underway	Qtr 2 2026
Limerick	25A0179	West Limerick (Combined) GWS	A4(a) - Water Conservation	64,500	Stage 4 - Project Complete (retention outstanding)	Qtr 1 2026
Limerick	24A0172	West Limerick (Croagh) into West Limerick (Cappagh) GWS	A3(a) - Amalgamation	398,000	Stage 4 - Project Complete (retention outstanding)	Qtr 4 2025
Limerick	25A0180	West Limerick (Granagh) GWS	A4(b) - Infrastructure upgrades	54,400	Stage 3 - Implementation Phase	Qtr 1 2026
Limerick	25A0181	West Limerick (Granagh) GWS	A4(a) - Water Conservation	159,785	Stage 4 - Project Complete (retention outstanding)	Qtr 1 2026
Limerick	25A0182	West Limerick (Kilfledy) GWS	A4(a) - Water Conservation	315,250	Stage 2 - Procurement/Planning Underway	Qtr 3 2026
Limerick	25A0183	West Limerick (Kilfledy) GWS	A4(a) - Water Conservation	360,200	Stage 1 - Not started	Qtr 4 2026



Thank you and Questions



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**March 2026 Meeting of the Municipal District of Adare-Rathkeale to be held  
on Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> March 2026.**

**Update to question submitted by Councillor S. Keary and Councillor B. Collins.**

Councillor Keary also referred to Item 5 in the Minutes of the Monthly Meeting of 13<sup>th</sup> January, 2026 regarding a request for extra funding be sought to maintain the local and regional roads around Adare due to the construction of the Adare Bypass. Councillor Collins added she had made numerous complaints in relation to stone dropping from trucks from the Adare Bypass travelling on the roads around Adare and asked that the roads be inspected on a weekly basis. The Director, Transportation, Mobility and Public Realm advised they are currently engaging with Traffic Infrastructure Ireland on this issue and will revert on the matter in due course.

**Reply to Councillor S.Keary referred to in item 5 of the monthly meeting of 13<sup>th</sup> January, 2026**

Having consulted with Transport Infrastructure Ireland (TII) regarding the request for extra funding to maintain the local and regional roads around Adare due to the construction of the Adare Bypass. TII have confirmed that no such extra funding is available. However, I can confirm that the Adare Bypass Contractor is confined to permitted access routes and carries out daily inspections of the designated routes in the vicinity of the Adare Bypass works. Maintenance crews are available to rectify any problem areas arising on the local and regional roads as a direct result of activities related to the Adare Bypass works throughout the construction period of the Bypass. The Contractor has undertaken a pre-construction condition survey of the permitted access routes and is required to maintain and restore the permitted access routes to pre-construction condition upon completion of the Adare Bypass works.

**Reply to Councillor B. Collins complaints in relation to stone dropping from trucks from the Adare Bypass.**

I acknowledge receipt of complaints regarding the dropping of stone from trucks associated with the Adare Bypass and can confirm that these complaints were actioned immediately in terms of removing the stones from the roadway and cautioning the Contractor regarding the overloading of trucks.

**Signed:**

**Date: 05-03-2026**

Ultan Heffernan  
Client Project Manager Adare Bypass



Telephone: 061 - 951000



e-mail: [info@midwestroads.ie](mailto:info@midwestroads.ie)

**List of vacant properties owned by Limerick City and County Council in Rathkeale – February 2026**

Address	Type	Date Property acquired	Future use
14 Sli Na Milaoise, Rathkeale	3 bedroomed terraced two-storey		
2 Cois Daoile, Rathkeale	2 bedroomed terraced specially adapted bungalow		
1 Cois Daoile, Rathkeale	2 bedroomed terraced specially adapted bungalow		
Former Bank of Ireland, Main Street	Former Bank	April 2022	Studies currently being undertaken by Rural Development dept to progress Part 8 approval for mixed use in Rathkeale (Community / Enterprise)
Gas Works Site	Derelict Property	31/03/2022	No proposals on future use currently
Old Wine Bar	Derelict Property	31/03/2022	No proposals on future use currently
Derelict House, Lower Main Street	Derelict Property	31/03/2022	Different housing options being examined
Derelict House, Lower Main Street	Derelict Property	31/03/2022	Different housing options being examined
Derelict Estate at Ballywilliam	Derelict Site – Including partial built houses, foundations, etc.	12/10/2021	Awaiting outcome of legal arbitration before deciding on future use

**Vacant Properties - Adare Rathkeale MD as of 05/02/2026**

Address	Property Type
23 Woodvale, Foynes	1 bedroomed semi-detached bungalow
9 Woodview Terrace, Foynes	3 bedroomed terraced two-storey
4 Fortfield, Ballyhahill	3 bedroomed semi-detached two-storey
3 Parkview, Shanagolden	3 bedroomed terraced two-storey
17 Glenma, Croom	3 bedroomed terraced two-storey

27 Kylefea, Croom	2 bedroomed semi-detached bungalow
2 Corgrigg Wood, Foynes	3 bedroomed terraced two-storey
1 Caemore Court, Croom	3 bedroomed terraced two-storey
8 The Gardens, Ballingarry	3 bedroomed semi-detached two-storey
14 Sli Na Milaoise, Rathkeale	3 bedroomed terraced two-storey
2 Cois Daoile, Rathkeale	2 bedroomed terraced specially adapted bungalow
1 Cois Daoile, Rathkeale	2 bedroomed terraced specially adapted bungalow
49 Deerpark Adare	2 bedroomed flat - first floor
6 Kenry Court, Pallaskenry	2 bedroomed semi-detached bungalow
1 Reens West, Ardagh	2 bedroomed terraced bungalow
Main Street, Ballingarry	3 bedroomed terraced two-storey
16 Main Street, Croom	2 bedroomed terraced two-storey
Church Street, Askeaton	2 bedroomed terraced two-storey
Church Street, Askeaton	4 bedroomed terraced two-storey
Church Street, Askeaton	4 bedroomed terraced two-storey
Corgrigg, Foynes	5 bedroomed detached bungalow
East Square, Askeaton	4 bedroomed terraced two-storey
3 The Cottages, Rathkeale Road, Adare	2 bedroomed semi-detached bungalow