

Date: 25/02/2026

To: Cathaoirleach and each Elected Members of the Metropolitan District of Limerick

Ref: Grants Under the Night Time Economy Pilot Programme Scheme via Twilight Thursday initiative

A Chomhairleoir, a chara,

As part of the national night time economy pilot programme, Limerick City & County Council published the city's night time economy action plan in July 2025. The plan outlines 7 key pillars containing a total of 21 actions. The highest priority action was developing Twilight Thursday which has proven to be a great success so far and has since been adopted by Dublin and Drogheda.

The Department of Culture, Communications and Sport have made a total of €65,000 available to Limerick City & County Council for Night Time Economy in Limerick City Centre under the Night Time Economy Pilot Programme.

We are seeking the approval of Elected Members to allocate these funds towards the Twilight Thursday grant Scheme in 2026. These funds will allow us to continue to produce an impressive programme of events each month as each month the programme is created over a period of less than 10 days.

There are 2 strands of grant funding currently available under the Twilight Thursday programme,

Strand 1: up to €2,000

Strand 2: €2,000 + (reserved for larger scale events with higher capacities)

The scoring metrics for applications is:

Overall Quality & Ambition – 50 Marks

Track Record & Experience – 25 Marks

Feasibility – 25 Marks

The assessment panel meets on a monthly basis to assess each application and awards partial or full funding to successful applicants.

The assessment panel consists of Craig Power (Night Time Economy), Shane Feane (Festivals & Events), and Aoife O'Connell (Ryder Cup)

In 2026 we have so far allocated the grants noted on appendix 1.

The Members of the Metropolitan District of Limerick are hereby requested to approve the allocation of €65,000 in funding to be distributed through grants under the Night Time Economy Pilot Programme Scheme via Twilight Thursday initiative as outlined above.

Mise le meas,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Craig Power". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, stylized 'C' and 'P'.

Craig Power

Night Time Economy Advisor

Economic, Tourism, Culture, Property

and Corporate Buildings Directorate