



Comhairle Cathrach  
& Contae Luimnigh

Limerick City  
& County Council

An Stiúrthóireacht Athghiniúna, Pobail, Spóirt  
agus Forbartha Tuaithe  
Comhairle Cathrach & Contae Luimnigh  
Ceanncheathrú Chorpóraideach  
Cé na gCeannaithe  
Luimneach. V94 EH90

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**To: The Mayor, Príomh Chomhairleoir and Each Member of Limerick City and County Council**

**Chairperson's Report for the Community, Leisure, Arts, Heritage and Culture Strategic Policy Committee**

**A Chomhairleoir, A Chara,**

The Community, Leisure, Arts, Heritage and Culture Strategic Policy Committee meeting was held on 15<sup>th</sup> April 2026. The minutes of the previous meeting held on 11<sup>th</sup> February 2026 were adopted.

### **Update on Strategic Policy Committee work plan development**

Director of Service, Sean Lenihan, informed members of the progress made on the development of the Community, Leisure, Arts, Heritage and Culture Strategic Policy Committee Work Programme. Members were advised that Corporate Services organised training workshops for all SPC members in January 2026, delivered by the Institute of Public Administration. Following this training, a decision was taken to work with the Limerick SPC to schedule the planning of individual SPC Work Programmes. A Work Programme workshop was subsequently held in February 2026 and was attended by both members and officials. It was noted that work is currently ongoing on the draft Work Programme, which was presented to members at the meeting.

In outlining the next steps, it was advised that the draft Work Programme will be circulated to all members for observations, comments and feedback. Any feedback received from members will be considered prior to circulating the final Work Programme. The final version will then be submitted to the CPG for approval.

### **Seanad Public Consultation on Culture and Arts Infrastructure- Limerick Submission**

The Town Centre First Officer, Karen Burke, advised that the Limerick submission to the Seanad Public Consultation on Culture and Arts Infrastructure had been completed, with the deadline extended to Friday, 17 April 2026. Members were informed that further comments could still be submitted, either for inclusion or directly to the Seanad, and that the Arts Officer

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was involved in the process to prepare a joint submission by the County and City Management Association (CCMA) and the Association of Local Authority Arts Officers.

It was noted that the submission highlighted the importance of the late-night economy in both urban and rural areas, engagement with local groups, and the need to address barriers and opportunities. Ongoing challenges were identified, including insufficient state investment, gaps in arts and cultural infrastructure, particularly artist studios and rehearsal spaces, and limited provision in parts of the county, notably west Limerick. Concerns were also raised regarding the sustainability of cultural facilities due to limited operational funding. The submission outlined challenges associated with underutilised public-facing venues and supported co-location, multi-use spaces, and the adaptive use of vacant buildings. Key recommendations included the development of a funded national strategy for arts and cultural infrastructure, increased revenue support for local authority-led arts facilities, support for multi-use cultural hubs, and dedicated resourcing for cultural needs assessments.

**Date of Next Meeting**

Wednesday, 10<sup>th</sup> June 2026.

**Cllr Azad Talukder**

**Acting Chairperson**

**Community, Leisure, Arts, Heritage and Culture Strategic Policy Committee**

**17/04/2026**