

MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS AT MEETING OF LIMERICK CITY AND COUNTY COUNCIL HELD IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER, DOORADOYLE, LIMERICK, AND ONLINE, ON MONDAY, 30TH MARCH, 2026, AT 3PM.

PRESENT IN THE CHAIR:

Councillor C. Slattery, Príomh Chomhairleoir.

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Mayor Moran.

Councillors Beasley, Benson, Butler, Carey, Collins (B), Collins (M), Conway, Daly, Donoghue, Doyle, Foley, Galvin, Gavan, Hartigan (S), Hartigan (T), Hickey-O'Mara, Keary, Kiely, Kilcoyne, Leddin, McSweeney, O'Donoghue, O'Sullivan (O), O'Sullivan (T), Pond, Reale, Ruddle, Ryan (E), Ryan (M), Scanlan, Secas, Sheahan, Stokes, Talukder, Teefy, Teskey, Ward.

An apology for her inability to attend the Meeting was received from Councillor O'Donovan.

OFFICIALS IN ATTENDANCE:

Director General (Dr. P. Daly), Deputy Director General and Director, Corporate Services, Human Resources and Organisational Development (Mr. J. Delaney), Director, Housing (Mr. V. Murray), Director, Regeneration, Community, Sport and Rural Development (Mr. B. McCarthy), Director, Transportation, Mobility and Public Realm (Ms. P. Liddy), Director, Environment, Climate Action and Fire (Mr. K. Lehane), Director, Economic, Tourism, Culture, Property and Corporate Buildings (Mr. S. Lenihan), A/Director, Finance, Investment and Governance (Ms. I. Griffin), A/Director, Planning, Heritage and Ryder Cup (Ms. M. Woods), Meetings Administrator (Ms. C. Farrell), Administrative Officer, Corporate and Customer Services (Ms. A. Foley), Senior Staff Officer, Corporate and Customer Services (Ms. C. Sheehy), Senior Executive Officer, Human Resources and Business Improvement (Mr. J. Clune), A/Administrative Officer, Business Improvement (Ms. Y. Daly), Assistant Staff Officer, Corporate and Customer Services (Ms. S. Carroll).

Votes of Sympathy

At the outset and with the permission of the Príomh Chomhairleoir, the Council expressed its sympathy to the following:

- Councillor Kieran O'Hanlon on the passing of his brother, Gary, whose funeral had taken place earlier in the day.
- Councillor Joe Leddin on the passing of his brother, John.
- The family of the late James (Jimmy) Hickey, Staff Member.
- Jennifer Withero, Member of Staff, on the passing of her sister Lorraine Lawless.
- The family of the late Cecilia Patricia (Patsy) Lillis, Patrickswell.
- The family of the late Maurice Harnett, Abbeyfeale.

The Meeting was adjourned for 15 minutes as a mark of respect.

1. Minutes

Circulated, copy of draft Minutes of the following Meetings:

- (a) Ordinary Meeting of the Council held on 26th January, 2026.
- (b) Special Meeting of the Council held on 10th February, 2026.
- (c) Special Meeting of the Council held on 9th March, 2026 at 4pm.
- (d) Special Meeting of the Council held on 9th March, 2026 at 4.15pm.
- (e) Special Meeting of the Council held on 16th March, 2026.

Proposed by Councillor Collins (M);

Seconded by Councillor Sheahan;

And Resolved:

“That, the draft Minutes, as circulated, be taken as read and adopted and signed.”

Mayor Moran requested clarification on Item No. 14 of the Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of Council held on 26th January, 2026, requesting that minutes are amended to note that there was an increase in the current allocation to include unspent funds and therefore the Mayoral Fund for 2026 was increased to €8 million.

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 Meeting of any declaration of interest in any item due for discussion at the Meeting.

In accordance with Section 177 of the Local Government Act 2001 (as amended), Councillor Kilcoyne removed himself from the Meeting at Item 3, Disposal of Land, declaring he had an interest in (f), Disposal of 0.0264 Acres (0.0107 Hectares) of Land at Ballyanrahan East, Barnakyle, Patrickswell, Co. Limerick.

3. Disposal of Land

General Disposals

- (a) Circulated, copy of Statutory Notice dated 13th March, 2026, concerning the disposal of 1.2897 Acres (0.5219 Hectares) of Land by way of Lease at Athea, Co. Limerick.

Proposed by Councillor Collins (M);

Seconded by Councillor Sheahan;

And Resolved:

“That, in accordance with the provisions of Section 183 of the Local Government Act, 2001 (as amended) and Section 211 of the Planning and Development Act, 2000 (as

amended), the approval of the Council be and is hereby given to the disposal of 1.2897 Acres (0.5219 Hectares) of Land at Athea, Co. Limerick, to Athea Community Council Company Limited by Guarantee, for the sum of €1, subject to the covenants and conditions contained within the 30-Year Lease, particulars of which were contained in Statutory Notice dated 13th March, 2026”.

(b) Circulated, copy of Statutory Notice dated 13th March, 2026, concerning the disposal of 2.5711 Acres (1.0405 Hectares) of Land by way of Lease at Castletown, Ballyagran, Co. Limerick

Proposed by Councillor Collins (M);
 Seconded by Councillor Sheahan;
 And Resolved:

“That, in accordance with the provisions of Section 183 of the Local Government Act, 2001 (as amended) and Section 211 of the Planning and Development Act, 2000 (as amended), the approval of the Council be and is hereby given to the disposal of 2.5711 Acres (1.0405 Hectares) of Land at Castletown, Ballyagran Co. Limerick, to Castletown Conyers Development Association CLG, for the sum of €1, subject to the covenants and conditions contained within the 30-Year Lease, particulars of which were contained in Statutory Notice dated 13th March, 2026”.

(c) Circulated, copy of Statutory Notice dated 13th March, 2026, concerning the disposal of 6 Aster Court, Keyes Park, Limerick (House Exchange).

Proposed by Councillor Collins (M);
 Seconded by Councillor Sheahan;
 And Resolved:

“That, in accordance with the provisions of Section 183 of the Local Government Act, 2001 (as amended) and Section 211 of the Planning and Development Act, 2000 (as amended), the approval of the Council be and is hereby given to the disposal of property at 6 Aster Court, Keyes Park, Limerick, to Mrs. Bernadette McNamara and Mr. Joseph McNamara, in consideration of Mrs. Bernadette McNamara and Mr. Joseph McNamara transferring the ownership of their property at 160 Oisín Drive, O’Malley Park, Limerick, subject to (1) the disposal to be by way of exchange of the above property to Limerick City and County Council (subject to necessary conveyancing requirements); and (2) Limerick City and County Council to acquire the property free of any existing mortgage(s) or burden(s) and any existing mortgage(s) or burden(s) on the property at 160 Oisín Drive, O’Malley Park, Limerick, to be transferred to the property at 6 Aster Court, Keyes Park, Limerick, particulars of which were contained in Statutory Notice dated 13th March, 2026.”

(d) Circulated, copy of Statutory Notice dated 13th March, 2026, concerning the disposal of 0.0135 Acres (0.0054 Hectares) of Land at the Lay by on the Greenway at Castlematrix, Rathkeale, Co. Limerick.

Proposed by Councillor Collins (M);
Seconded by Councillor Sheahan;
And Resolved:

“That, in accordance with the provisions of Section 183 of the Local Government Act, 2001 (as amended) and Section 211 of the Planning and Development Act, 2000 (as amended), the approval of the Council be and is hereby given to the disposal of 0.0135 Acres (0.0054 Hectares) of Land at the Lay By on the Greenway at Castlematrix, Rathkeale, Co. Limerick, to Debra Forrest, for the sum of €1,200 subject to the covenants and conditions contained within the Contract, and the purchaser to discharge Limerick City and County Councils’ reasonable legal costs, particulars of which were contained in Statutory Notice dated 13th March, 2026.”

(e) Circulated, copy of Statutory Notice dated 13th March, 2026, concerning the disposal of 0.2629 Acres (0.1064 Hectares) of Land at Askeaton, Co. Limerick.

Proposed by Councillor Collins (M);
Seconded by Councillor Sheahan;
And Resolved:

“That, in accordance with the provisions of Section 183 of the Local Government Act, 2001 (as amended) and Section 211 of the Planning and Development Act, 2000 (as amended), the approval of the Council be and is hereby given to the disposal of 0.2629 Acres (0.1064 Hectares) of Land at Askeaton, Co. Limerick, to Uisce Éireann, for the sum of €8,000 subject to the covenants and conditions contained within the Contract, and Uisce Éireann to discharge Limerick City and County Councils’ reasonable legal expenses, particulars of which were contained in Statutory Notice dated 13th March, 2026”.

(f) Circulated, copy of Statutory Notice dated 13th March, 2026, concerning the disposal of 0.0264 Acres (0.0107 Hectares) of Land at Ballyanrahan East, Barnakyle, Patrickswell, Co. Limerick.

Proposed by Councillor Collins (M);
Seconded by Councillor Sheahan;
And Resolved:

“That, in accordance with the provisions of Section 183 of the Local Government Act, 2001 (as amended) and Section 211 of the Planning and Development Act, 2000 (as amended), the approval of the Council be and is hereby given to the disposal of 0.0264 Acres (0.0107 Hectares) of Land at Ballyanrahan East, Barnakyle, Patrickswell, Co. Limerick, to Fergus and Josephine Kilcoyne, for the sum of €1, subject to the covenants and conditions contained within the Contract, particulars of which were contained in Statutory Notice dated 13th March, 2026”.

(g) Circulated, copy of Statutory Notice dated 13th March, 2026, concerning the disposal of 0.0229 Acres (0.00928 Hectares) of Land at The Rear of 3 Fairhill, Rathkeale, Co. Limerick.

Proposed by Councillor Collins (M);
Seconded by Councillor Sheahan;
And Resolved:

“That, in accordance with the provisions of Section 183 of the Local Government Act, 2001 (as amended) and Section 211 of the Planning and Development Act, 2000 (as amended), the approval of the Council be and is hereby given to the disposal of 0.0229 Acres (0.00928 Hectares) of Land at the Rear of 3 Fairhill, Rathkeale, Co. Limerick, to Edward Gammell, for the sum of €2,300 subject to the covenants and conditions contained within the Contract, and the purchaser to pay Limerick City and County Councils’ legal costs of up to €1,000 plus VAT, particulars of which were contained in Statutory Notice dated 13th March, 2026.”

(h) Circulated, copy of Statutory Notice dated 19th March, 2026, concerning the disposal of Disposal of 1.6185 Acres (0.6550 Hectares) of Land at Tooreen, Croom, Co. Limerick.

Proposed by Councillor Collins (M);
Seconded by Councillor Sheahan;
And Resolved:

“That, in accordance with the provisions of Section 183 of the Local Government Act, 2001 (as amended) and Section 211 of the Planning and Development Act, 2000 (as amended), the approval of the Council be and is hereby given to the disposal of 1.6185 Acres (0.6550 Hectares) of Land at Tooreen, Croom, County Limerick, to Croom Precision Tooling Ltd trading as Croom Medical, Croom Medical contribution to the development of a new all-weather 3G Floodlit Astro Turf Pitch for Croom Soccer United at Skagh, Croom, County Limerick, subject to the covenants and conditions contained within the Contract, particulars of which were contained in Statutory Notice dated 19th March, 2026”.

4. Executive Report

Circulated, Executive Report for the months of January and February 2026.

The Reports were noted by the Council.

5. Audit

(i) Audit and Risk Committee Work Programme 2026

Circulated, report of the Senior Executive Officer, Corporate and Customer Services dated 11th March, 2026, together with copy of Limerick City and County Council Audit and Risk Committee Work Programme 2026, as agreed by the Audit and Risk Committee at a meeting of the Committee held on 18th February, 2026.

Proposed by Councillor Collins (M);

Seconded by Councillor Collins (B);

And Resolved:

“That, the Limerick City and County Council Audit and Risk Committee Work Programme 2026, as circulated, be and is hereby adopted.”

(ii) Audit and Risk Committee Annual Report 2025

Circulated, report of the Senior Executive Officer, Corporate and Customer Services dated 11th March, 2026, enclosing the Limerick City and County Council Audit and Risk Committee Annual Report 2025.

The Mayor requested that replies to his previous questions be provided by the Audit and Risk Committee and circulated.

The report was noted by the Council.

(iii) Audit and Risk Committee Charter and Terms of Reference

Circulated, report of the Senior Executive Officer, Corporate and Customer Services dated 11th March, 2026, together with a copy of the draft Charter and Terms of Reference for Limerick City and County Council Audit and Risk Committee, as agreed by the Audit and Risk Committee at a meeting held on 18th February, 2026.

Proposed by Councillor Collins (M);

Seconded by Councillor Collins (B);

And Resolved:

“That, the Charter and Terms of Reference for Limerick City and County Council Audit and Risk Committee, as circulated, be and is hereby adopted.”

6. Proposed Variation No. 2 to the Limerick Development Plan 2022-2028 (as varied) to remove text in Chapter 7, Objective TR O37 regarding access to substandard roads

Circulated, report of the Senior Planner, Planning, Heritage and Ryder Cup dated 18th March, 2026, enclosing a copy of the Mayor's Report dated 16th February, 2026, in relation to the Proposed Variation No. 2 to the Limerick Development Plan 2022-2028 (as varied) to remove text in Chapter 7, Objective TR O37 regarding access to substandard roads.

Proposed by Councillor Galvin;
Seconded by Councillor Collins (B);
And Resolved:

“That, in accordance with Section 58 (12) of the Planning and Development Act 2024, Proposed Variation No. 2 to the Limerick Development Plan 2022-2028 (as varied) be and is hereby made, in accordance with the details published on 10th January, 2026”.

Members acknowledged the work undertaken by forward planning team, noting the benefits this variation will have for people living in rural Limerick. They emphasised the importance of working collaboratively in achieving improved outcomes.

7. Annual Report 2025 for Limerick City and County Council

Circulated, report of the Senior Executive Officer, Corporate Services and Governance dated 20th March, 2026, together with copy of draft Annual Report 2025 for Limerick City and County Council.

The report stated that the draft Annual Report 2025 had been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Local Government Act, 2001 (as amended by the Local Government Reform Act 2014 and the Local Government (Mayor of Limerick) and Miscellaneous Provisions Act, 2024). It set out details of the policies, programmes, services and other activities undertaken by the Council. It also gave an outline of activities to promote the interests of local communities and twinning. The final version of the Annual Report would be brought before the May Meeting of the Council for adoption.

The draft Annual Report 2025 was noted by the Council.

8. Annual Service Delivery Plan 2026

Circulated, report of the Senior Executive Officer, Human Resources and Business Improvement dated 24th March, 2026, enclosing Draft Annual Service Delivery Plan 2026 for Limerick City and County Council.

Members queried if the Annual Service Delivery Plan (ASDP) was before them for consideration, as set out on the agenda, or if it was being presented in draft form for discussion.

The Members were informed that the ASDP was before them for consideration. The Members expressed concern at the lack of engagement with them, and it was requested that a workshop be held, followed by a Special Meeting to consider the Plan.

On the proposal of the Príomh Chomhairleoir and seconded by Councillor Collins (B), it was agreed to remove the item from the agenda, in order to facilitate a Workshop and to bring the ASDP to a Special Meeting for consideration.

9. Arts Grants and Bursaries

Strategic Fund for Culture and Arts Scheme 2026

Circulated, report of the Arts Officer | Creative Ireland Co-ordinator dated 18th March, 2026, seeking the Council's approval to recommended allocations under the Strategic Fund for Culture and Arts Scheme 2026.

Proposed by Councillor Sheahan;
 Seconded by Councillor Collins (M);
 And Resolved:

"That, the approval of the Council be and is hereby given to recommended allocations under the Strategic Fund for Culture and Arts Scheme 2026, as set out in the report of the Arts Officer | Creative Ireland Co-ordinator dated 18th March, 2026."

10. Local Community Development Committee Annual Report 2025

Circulated, report of the Local Community Development Committee Chief Officer, dated 23rd March, 2026, enclosing Annual Report 2025 of the Limerick Local Community Development Committee.

The Local Community Development Committee Annual Report 2025 was noted by the Members.

11. Local Community Safety Partnership

The Meetings Administrator stated that Limerick City and County Council was required to consider the nomination of seven Members to the Limerick City and County Local Community Safety Partnership

Proposed by Councillor Collins (M);

Seconded by Councillor Teefy;

“That, Councillors Benson, Collins (B), Conway, Kiely, Reale, Scanlan and Slattery, be appointed to the Limerick City and County Local Community Safety Partnership.”

As there were no other nominations, the Príomh Chomhairleoir declared Councillors Benson, Collins (B), Conway, Kiely, Reale, Scanlan and Slattery appointed to the Limerick City and County Local Community Safety Partnership.

Members expressed disappointment in relation to the number of Councillors allowed to sit on the Local Community Safety Partnership Committee (LCSP) in Limerick, noting that representation of seven out of forty-one Elected Members is disproportionate. They suggested that consideration be given to the establishing sub-committees.

The Members were informed that as part of the conditions of the Community Safety Partnership, seven Elected Members were to be appointed to the Committee. It was noted that, once the full committee was established, the LCSP could consider sub-committee structures.

12. PPN Sectoral Nominations – Local Community Development Committee and Strategic Policy Committees (deferred from January Meeting of Limerick City and County Council)

Circulated, report of the Director, Regeneration, Community, Sport and Rural Development dated 5th January, 2026 in relation to the appointment of PPN Sectoral Nominations to the Local Community Development (LCDC) and Strategic Policy Committees (SPCs).

Members queried the selection process and whether there was an appropriate geographical spread of representatives across the city and county, noting that the balance appeared uneven. The Director of Services, Regeneration, Community, Sport and Rural Development advised that the Public Participation Network (PPN) has statutory rights and that the selection process is a matter for the PPN.

On the proposal of Councillor Collins (B) and seconded by Councillor Kiely it was agreed that the Council would write to the PPN requesting them to review the geographical representation.

13. Strategic Policy Committee – Sectoral Nomination (deferred from January Meeting of Limerick City and County Council)

Circulated, report of the Senior Executive Officer, Corporate Services, Governance and Customer Service dated 15th January, 2026 seeking the Council’s approval of Sectoral Nomination to the Economic Development, Enterprise, Tourism and Planning Strategic Policy Committee.

The report stated that there was a vacancy on the Economic Development, Enterprise, Tourism and Planning Strategic Policy Committee arising from the resignation of Michelle Gallagher from the Committee. Correspondence had been received from the Business and Employers’ Pillar nominating Ms. Caoimhe Moloney to the Committee, representing the Business/Commercial Sector. The approval of the Council was sought to this appointment.

Proposed by Councillor Collins (M);
 Seconded by Councillor O’Sullivan (O);
 And Resolved:

“That, the approval of the Council be and is hereby given to the appointment of Caoimhe Moloney to replace Michelle Gallagher on the Economic Development, Enterprise, Tourism and Planning Strategic Policy Committee, representing the Business/Commercial Sector.”

14. Designated Activity Companies (DACs) (deferred from January Meeting of Limerick City and County Council)

Circulated, correspondence from the Mayor, in relation to the appointments of Board Members to the Designated Activity Companies (DACs).

Following discussion on the roles of the Elected Members in relation to DACs, potential conflicts of interest, shareholder expectation letters and the DAC Oversight Board, it was agreed on the proposal of Councillor Collins (M), seconded by Councillor Collins (B), that the Meeting be adjourned for 15 minutes.

Upon resumption, it was proposed by Councillor Collins (M) and seconded by Councillor Sheahan to appoint the following Members to the Boards of the Designated Activity Companies (DACs):

Innovate Limerick Designated Activity Company (DAC):

Councillors Donoghue, Doyle, Kilcoyne and Leddin.

Limerick Twenty Thirty Designated Activity Company (DAC):

Councillors Butler, Collins (M), Ryan (E) and Sheahan.

Discover Limerick Designated Activity Company (DAC):

Councillors Daly, Kiely, Slattery and Stokes.

DAC Supervisory Board:

Councillors Collins (B), Foley, McSweeney, O'Donoghue and O'Sullivan (O).

It was proposed by Councillor Collins (B) and seconded by Councillor Stokes to appoint Councillor Hartigan (T) to the Board of Askeaton Pool and Leisure Centre DAC.

15. Strategic Policy Committee Reports

- (i) Circulated, report of the Chairperson of the Economic Development, Enterprise, Tourism and Planning Strategic Policy Committee dated 2nd March, 2026, in relation to Meeting of the Committee held on 9th February, 2026.

The Chairperson's report was noted by the Council.

- (ii) Circulated, report of the Chairperson of the Climate Action, Biodiversity and Environment Strategic Policy Committee dated 17th February, 2026, in relation to Meeting of the Committee held on 10th February, 2026.

The Chairperson's report was noted by the Council.

- (iii) Circulated, report of the Chairperson of the Community, Leisure, Arts, Heritage and Culture Strategic Policy Committee dated 17th February, 2026 in relation to Meeting of the Committee held on 11th February, 2026.

The Chairperson's report was noted by the Council.

Recommendation

Corporate Services will issue an email to all Limerick City and County Council staff informing them about the Hidden Disabilities Sunflower Project and advising staff to be attentive to individuals presenting with a Sunflower lanyard, pin, or identification card.

On the proposal of Councillor Sheahan, seconded by Councillor Collins (M), the Recommendation was agreed.

- (iv) Circulated, report of the Chairperson of the Home and Social Development Strategic Policy Committee dated 12th February, 2026, in relation to Meeting of the Committee held on 12th February, 2026.

The Chairperson's report was noted by the Council.

- (v) Circulated, report of the Chairperson of the Travel and Transportation Strategic Policy Committee dated 9th March, 2026 in relation to Meeting of the Committee held on 18th February, 2026.

The Chairperson's report was noted by the Council.

16. Foreign Travel

Circulated, report of the Senior Executive Officer, Corporate Services and Customer Services dated 23rd March, 2026, seeking the Council's approval for attendance and participation by a delegation from the Council to visit Brussels to celebrate 35 years of Twinning Partnership between Hohenlohe and Limerick, 4th – 6th May, 2026.

Proposed by Councillor Collins (M);
Seconded by Councillor Sheahan;
And Resolved:

"That, in accordance with Section 142 (5) of the Local Government Act, 2001, as amended, the approval of the Council be and is hereby given to foreign travel in respect of attendance and participation by a delegation from the Council to visit Brussels to celebrate 35 years of Twinning Partnership between Hohenlohe and Limerick, 4th – 6th May, 2026".

17. Conferences

(a) Participation by Members at Conferences

Details of the following Conference had been circulated electronically to the Members:

"National Young Carers Conference" held in Belfield, Dublin 4 on 7th March, 2026."

The Council approved the attendance of the following Member at Conference already approved:

"Irish Health Services Entitlements" - Four Seasons Hotel, Carlingford, Co. Louth - 5th to 7th December, 2025.
Councillor M. Collins.

(b) Reports on Conference / Seminar / Meeting / Event

Circulated, report by Member who had participated at Conference / Seminar / Meeting / Event.

The report was noted by the Council.

QUESTIONS

18. Question submitted by Councillor S. Beasley (deferred from January Meeting of Limerick City and County Council)

I will ask at the next Meeting of Limerick City and County Council regarding illegal dumping enforcement activities across Limerick:

- (a) How many individuals and/or entities have been fined or prosecuted for illegal dumping offences in each of the last five years (2021, 2022, 2023, 2024, 2025).*
- (b) Of these enforcement actions, please provide a breakdown between: - Domestic/residential offenders - Commercial/business offenders - Breakdown by Municipal/Metropolitan District area.*
- (c) What is the total value of fines issued for illegal dumping in each of the last five years, and what percentage of these fines have been successfully collected.*
- (d) How many reports or complaints of illegal dumping were received by the Council in each of the last five years, and what is the ratio of reports received to enforcement actions taken.*
- (e) What resources are currently dedicated to illegal dumping enforcement, including: - Number of enforcement officers assigned to this issue - Budget allocation for enforcement activities - Technology used (cameras, vehicle tracking, etc.)*
- (f) What are the most common locations or "hotspots" for illegal dumping across the Council's functional area, and what targeted measures have been implemented at these locations.*
- (g) How many court prosecutions were initiated for illegal dumping offences in each of the last five years, and what were the outcomes of these prosecutions (convictions, dismissals, pending).*
- (h) What is the total cost to the Council of: - Investigating illegal dumping incidents - Cleaning up illegally dumped waste - Legal and court costs associated with prosecutions for each of the last five years.*
- (i) What preventative measures or public awareness campaigns has the Council undertaken to reduce illegal dumping, and what metrics are used to evaluate their effectiveness.*

REPLY:

The responses to questions a, b, c, d, g and h are in the following table.

In relation to question b, it was not possible to breakdown the number of enforcements by Municipal District.

Please refer to the Litter Management Plan 2023-2026 for more information.

<u>Question</u>		<u>2021</u>	<u>2022</u>	<u>2023</u>	<u>2024</u>	<u>2025</u>
(a)/(b)	Commercial fines/prosecutions	14	19	8	9	13
(a)/(b)	Domestic fines/prosecutions	170	138	126	141	190
(a)/(b)	Total fines/prosecutions	185	155	132	150	203
(c)	Value of fines issued	€19,365	€13,710	€14,710	€16,125	€21,860

(c)	Percentage of fines collected	37%	41%	29%	23%	31%
(d)	Dumping complaints	1017	817	631	573	657
(d)	Ratio of complaints : fines/prosecutions	5:1	5:1	5:1	4:1	3:1
(g)	Total Prosecutions	41	59	30	38	52
(g)	Successful	23	22	13	17	12
(g)	Dismissed	17	28	17	17	3
(g)	Pending	1	2	0	4	37
(g)	Cancelled/Reached agreement	0	7	0	0	0
(h)	Overall costs incurred *	€615,743	€640,168	€627,309	€628,047	€709,847

**Includes payroll of Litter Team, excludes monies spent by Roads/ Cleansing/ Regeneration teams on Cleaning illegally dumped rubbish.*

(e) What resources are currently dedicated to illegal dumping enforcement, including: - Number of enforcement officers assigned to this issue - Budget allocation for enforcement activities - Technology used (cameras, vehicle tracking, etc.)

- The Domestic Waste and Litter Team have five Environmental Control Officers/Inspectors support by an administrative team of five.
- Budget allocation – as above.
- The Environmental Enforcement team who deal with commercial Waste among other functions consists of eight technical staff supported five administrative staff. This team covers Commercial Waste including authorised and unauthorised waste activities.
- In 2017 the Anti-Dumping Initiative (ADI) Grant was introduced, funded by the Department of the Environment and is aimed at restoring areas where there is a persistent problem with illegal dumping. The allocation is spent on Clean ups/ Bulky Waste collections / small capital works/ CCTV /Drones.
- CCTV surveillance is being used at litter black spots, bring banks and regeneration areas to identify alleged illegal dumping offenders.

(f) What are the most common locations or "hotspots" for illegal dumping across the Council's functional area, and what targeted measures have been implemented at these locations.

- The most common locations (hotspots) for illegal dumping across Limerick City and County Council include: St. Mary's Park, Ballinacurra Weston, Galvone, Moyross, Johnsgate, Donnellan's Field, Abbeyfeale, Cappamore, Riverview Estate, Kilmallock, Garryowen, Rathkeale, Toppins Field, Sharwood Estate (Newcastle West), and Lenihan Avenue/Hyde Road.
- Environmental Control Officers carry out routine weekly patrols in identified blackspot areas. They enforce legislation under the Litter Pollution Acts and the Waste Management Acts, issuing fines and initiating legal action where necessary.
- An annual targeted programme of household waste-management surveys is conducted in areas identified by Environmental Inspectors as having persistent issues with illegal dumping or inadequate domestic waste management.
- Commencing with a pilot in 2024, the Litter Team has introduced a targeted programme of Bulky Waste Collections in these areas to encourage householders to dispose of waste responsibly and to help prevent litter and waste pollution.

(i) What preventative measures or public awareness campaigns has the Council undertaken to reduce illegal dumping, and what metrics are used to evaluate their effectiveness.

Advertising

- Radio advert campaign- Radio Limerick - "Man in Van"
- [Online content on Environment and Climate Action | Limerick.ie](#)
- [Reviewed and updated regularly and publicised e.g. Limerick Civic Amenity Centres | Limerick.ie](#)

Outreach events

- Distribution of anti-dumping/anti littering information (at agricultural shows, via voluntary groups)

Collaborative waste prevention events in the Southern Waste region (10 local authorities)

- Promotion of waste prevention assets located on www.mywaste.ie directly with Tidy Towns and Residents Association groups and social media
- e.g. Circular Cups for Community Events in the Southern Region - My Waste & Think Before You Skip It - My Waste

Green Schools Programme

- [Green Schools programme Green-Schools | Working Together for a Sustainable Future](#)
- Specifically Litter and Waste and Global Citizenship Litter and Waste themes – Limerick City and County Council support the 169 schools in Limerick in conjunction with An Taisce. 38 schools received a green flag in 2025.

Other Schools initiatives

- ["Rubbish Film Festival" participation -secondary schools Home Page - Rubbish Film Festival](#)
- ["Relove Fashion" participation young people aged between 12 to 19 Relove Fashion](#)
- ["Picker Pals" participation Primary school litter picking and online content Picker Pals | VOICE Ireland](#)
- [WEEE Ireland Schools Battery competition is actively promoted. The WEEE Ireland Schools Battery Recycling Competition is back for 2025-2026! - WEEE Ireland](#)

National Spring Clean

- [National Spring Clean Home - National Spring Clean](#)
- Supported by council provision of supplementary litter picking/clean up supplies to community groups registered with National Spring Clean together with pick up of collected materials.

Tidy Towns

- [National Tidy Towns competition www.tidytowns.ie](http://www.tidytowns.ie)
- Tidy Towns seminar and ongoing support for Limerick Tidy Towns groups. Anti-Dumping and Waste/Litter prevention is contained within the 8 categories included in this national competition. 57 communities participated in 2025. Judged by National Tidy Towns judges.

Going for Gold

- [Limerick Going for Gold Limerick Going for Gold 2025 Launches with Over €180,000 in Prizes and Grants for Local Communities | Limerick.ie](#)
- Tidy Towns competition within Limerick Going for Gold promotes awareness around illegal dumping and is judged by the Limerick Going for Gold judges. 78 communities participated in 2205.

Other initiatives

- [Promotion of Home - Re-Turn bins within communities.](#)
- [Promotion and arrangement of Farm Plastics Collection points Irish Farm Film Producers Group CLG | Ireland's only approved farm plastics recycling compliance scheme](#)
- [Promotion of Waste Electrical and Electronic Equipment collection points and regular arrangements. Household Recycling Public Collection Days - WEEE Ireland](#)
- [Cloth Nappy Incentive Scheme – Free Starter Kits Available for Families in Limerick | Limerick.ie](#)
- [Limerick's New Relove Paint Store is Brushstroke of Genius for Circular Economy | Limerick.ie](#)

Evaluation Metrics

- The EPA measures and reports on the environmental enforcement performance of local authorities using the [Local Authority Environmental Enforcement Performance Framework](#).
- A Recommended Minimum Criteria for Environmental Inspection plan is created annually with interim and end of year reviews and results published by the EPA.
- NOAC publishes the Local Authority Performance Indicator Report annually which monitors certain indicators related to enforcement activities.
- Irish Business Against Litter Survey – publishes two report annually which monitor litter black spots and the main thoroughfares of the city for litter and illegal dumping.
- National Litter Pollution Monitoring Quantification surveys are undertaken by the Environmental Inspectors and compiled within litter.ie. This helps to inform litter management planning and awareness activities.

19. Question submitted by Councillor M. Donoghue

I will ask at the next Meeting of Limerick City and County Council what progress has been made to ensure that all Per Cent for Art funding that the Council qualifies for, has been applied for and drawn down.

REPLY: Individual Departments and sections hold responsibility for the implementation of the Per Cent for Art scheme on their capital projects, through including a budget line for Per Cent for Art as part of their application for funding, at all stages of capital project approval and implementation.

The arts office is assisting sections in developing artist briefs and commissioning processes, within its current capacity, on a case by case basis and on request.

20. Question submitted by Councillor M. Collins

I will ask at the next Meeting of Limerick City and County Council for particulars of the sums due for derelict sites levy in each Municipal District for each of the past three years; the total sums paid and the number of proceedings taken in the district and circuit courts.

REPLY: The total amount of Derelict Site Levies imposed by Limerick City and County Council from the years 2022 to 2025 is €4,701,545. The total amount collected in this period is €1,974,105. This is detailed as follows:

Derelict Site Levies		
Year	Net Invoiced Amount	Receipts
2022	719,539	271,622
2023	1,279,605	286,076
2024	1,482,136	830,492
2025	1,220,264	585,915
	4,701,545	1,974,105

There is a total amount of €3,610,847 outstanding to date. A breakdown of these amounts by Municipal District is not available.

If a payment is not received within 2 months of getting a notice or if there is no approved payment plan, interest is charged at a rate of 1.25% per month on the outstanding amount.

Where a Derelict Sites Levy is due and owing, the local authority will take further action including placing a charge on the relevant urban land. Limerick City and County Council currently have 72 Legal Cases pending.

21. Question submitted by Councillor S. Beasley

I will ask at the next Meeting of Limerick City and County Council how many Notice To Quits have been received, broken down by 2024 / 2025 and to date in 2026.

REPLY: Since 2024, 593 Notice of Terminations have been received. Please see breakdown by year below:

Year	Total NoTs received
2024	238
2025	275
2026 to date	80

22. Question submitted by Councillor D. McSweeney

I will ask at the next Meeting of Limerick City and County Council for a detailed update on the derelict properties that have been acquired through the Rural Limerick Housing Development (RLHD) initiative which is a pilot project funded under the Rural Regeneration and Development Fund (RRDF) which enabled Limerick City and County Council acquire and refurbish properties and offer them for sale on the open market to include:

- 1. Full list of properties acquired under this initiative.*
- 2. Full list of properties currently in the ownership of Limerick City and County Council under this initiative and date works were completed and date properties were ready to be put on the open market.*
- 3. Full breakdown of funding drawn down from the Department to date.*
- 4. Full list of properties that have been offered for sale on the open market to include date put on open market, date sale closed and date sale completed.*
- 5. Details of engagement with the Department in relation to changing the operation of this initiative and not putting the properties on the open market for sale.*

REPLY:

1. While properties were not “acquired” under the RRDF funding model, properties previously vested under the Derelict Sites Act 1990, were allocated for refurbishment under the terms of the Rural Limerick Housing Development (RLHD) Project as funded by the Rural Redevelopment Regeneration Fund.
2. Table below:

Property	Location	Property Type	Substantial Completion	Ready for Market
6 Colbert Terrace	Abbeyfeale	3 bed terrace	Jul-25	Sept-25
7 Colbert Terrace	Abbeyfeale	3 bed terrace	Jul-25	Sept-25
Convent Road **	Abbeyfeale	2 bed detached	Apr-23	July-23
Old Church Street	Abbeyfeale	3 bed end terrace	Dec-25	Feb-26
Bridge Inn Bar A	Abbeyfeale	4 bed terrace	Oct-25	Dec-25
Bridge Inn Bar B	Abbeyfeale	1 bed terrace	Oct-25	Dec-25
Jim Butler Building A	Bruff	3 bed end terrace	On site	N/A
Jim Butler Building B	Bruff	3 bed terrace	On site	N/A
Central Bar	Ardagh	4 bed terrace	Dec-25	Feb-26
Butler Hope Building	Bruff	2 bed terrace	Sold	Sold

Further works were carried out in Askeaton on a number of properties with potential for residential development, to address water ingress and prevent further deterioration pending the upgrade of the Askeaton Waste-Water Treatment System by Uisce Éireann.

3. Funding drawn down from the Department to date is €2.5m, the total amount available under the RRDF grant.

4. Properties brought to market:

- Convent Road, Abbeyfeale was brought to the market September 2023. Minimal offers received. Did not reach the reserved asking price. Was returned to market on 28th August 2024, with the new LCCC auctioneers and again offers were minimal and property was withdrawn from market.
- Butler Hope Building, Bruff was brought to market in September 2023, went sale agreed, S183 Disposal was approved in September 2024, but did not proceed due to boundary issues with the adjoining land. There was a requirement to amend boundaries with Táihte Éireann due to the amended site area. LCCC required a new S183, which was obtained in March 2025 and the sale completed in February 2026.

5. The 6 properties in Abbeyfeale are being reviewed to examine the feasibility of a rental model in line with the Mayoral Objective ML15 – “with a view to deploy risk transfer mechanisms and equity sharing to unlock rental deliver in relation to renovation”.

Discussions are ongoing, with the RRDF team in the DHLGH to reach agreement as to the future of these properties.

23. Question submitted by Councillor E. O'Donovan

I will ask at the next Meeting of Limerick City and County Council for the number of animal welfare complaints received last year and the current resources available to the local authority for enforcement of the Animal Health and Welfare Act (2013).

REPLY: A review of the Council’s records shows that 27 animal welfare or cruelty cases were reported in 2025.

The Council does not have an Authorised Officer appointed under the Animal Health and Welfare Act. As a result, we do not have the authority to enforce the provisions of the Act. Responsibility for implementing the Act lies primarily with the Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine (DAFM). All animal welfare cases received by the Council are therefore referred to DAFM. The Council’s capacity to address such matters has been further reduced following the transfer of the Local Authority Veterinary Officer post to DAFM.

Council staff continue to operate under the Control of Dogs Act, the Control of Horses Act, and the Dog Breeding Establishments Act, and will take action on cases that fall within the scope of these legislative provisions.

24. Question submitted by Councillor S. Hickey-O'Mara

I will ask at the next Meeting of Limerick City and County Council for an update on steps taken to date in relation to the Council's commitment to exploring how to enhance the voice of young people already represented through Comhairle na nÓg, and other youth representative groups in Limerick, with the purpose of exploring the establishment of a Youth Mayor.

REPLY: Comhairle na nÓg is already established with a national profile and supported by government and represents the voice of young people and children aged 12 to under the age of 18 years. Ireland is unique in that its youth participation structure is funded and supported directly by a government department, giving rise to Comhairle na nÓg, and local Youth Councils. Limerick City and County Council play a key role in creating awareness about Comhairle and the topics currently worked on in the local area. In terms of exploring how to further enhance the voice of young people already represented the Council will engage with Comhairle na nÓg at the next Steering Group meeting on this subject matter.

NOTICES OF MOTION

25. Notice of Motion submitted by Councillor E. Ryan

I will move at the next Meeting that Limerick City and County Council provide independent legal advice to all its Elected Members on whether or not they have a conflict of interest when called as a witness on behalf of a constituent when the case is being taken by Limerick City and County Council.

The Notice of Motion was proposed by Councillor Ryan (E) and seconded by Councillor Scanlan.

In proposing the Motion, Councillor Ryan (E) outlined the background to the case. Members, in supporting the Motion, emphasised the importance of independent legal advice for the Elected Members.

The Director General advised that, in the event of any Member being called as a witness, Corporate Services could work with the Member to seek appropriate advice.

REPLY: With regard to the issue of conflict of interest, the advice is that unless the Elected Members have been involved in the decision made to prosecute it is unlikely that a Member could have a conflict of interest. The decision to prosecute is an executive function; Elected Members do not have a role in this executive function.

If in any case where the Council has initiated proceedings, and an Elected Member is called by the subject of the proceedings, the Council will arrange for separate legal service advice to be provided if an Elected Member believes they might have a conflict of interest.

26. Notice of Motion submitted by John Moran, Mayor of Limerick

I will move at the next Meeting that this Council agrees, subject to the necessary administrative, legal, procurement and data protection arrangements being put in place, and with financial support secured so as to protect existing core services in 2026, that all meetings of the Full Council held after the adoption of this resolution shall be live-streamed and recorded in full by audio and video means, and that such recordings shall be made publicly available on the Council's official website (www.limerick.ie) no later than two business days following the conclusion of each meeting, without unnecessary barriers or registration requirements.

The Notice of Motion was proposed by Mayor Moran and seconded by Councillor Hartigan (S).

In proposing the Motion, the Mayor highlighted the importance of making Meetings accessible to the public and noted that this may require additional technological supports. He advised that Councillor O'Donovan had agreed to contribute GMA funding towards the costs.

Members discussed the value of live-streaming and recording Meetings to enhance public understanding on how local democracy operates. Concerns were expressed in relation to associated costs, as well as legal and data protection implications.

Councillor Collins (M) proposed an amendment to the Motion to include "all Statutory Meetings". This was seconded by Councillor Collins (B).

The Mayor advised that the Mayoral Fund would cover the cost of implementing the recording of Full Council Meetings and noted that Standing Orders could be reviewed to incorporate this provision; any expansion to other Meetings would require further consideration.

REPLY:

This response considers the implications of live streaming and digitally recording, to make publicly available, the proceedings and recordings of the Plenary Meetings of Limerick City and County Council.

The Members will be aware that under Part 6 of the Local Government Act 2001 (as amended) members of the public are entitled to be present at a meeting of the local authority. In Limerick this has been facilitated through the public and press galleries for in person attendance and, since the introduction of hybrid meetings, online for members of the public and press.

Standing Orders

The livestreaming of Council and broadcasting of recordings is not provided for under the Standing Orders.

The full Standing Orders are currently under review by the Standing Orders Sub Committee. Any amendment requires that at least one half of the total number of Members of the Council vote in favour of amending.

Technical Capacity and Software

The current system in use was commissioned for internal use and is not appropriate for roll out to meet requirements of data protection, freedom of information, storage and broadcast capability.

While livestreaming can occur at a cost of €10,000 & vat per annum with additional staff resources, ICT and the Data Protection Unit have recommended that a managed solution is required where the recording and publication process is automated and supported.

Consultation local authorities who currently record meetings confirms the use of a managed solution. Initial marketing soundings the estimated costs of suitable software with built-in governance and technical capabilities to allow for use in the Council Chamber is approximately €30,000 p.a. & vat subject to proper procurement.

Conclusion

While live streaming and recording public meetings can provide transparency and accessibility benefits, it also presents legal, data privacy, financial and reputational risks. It is noted that the Members of Council have qualified legal privilege, not absolute parliamentary privilege.

It is recommended that if the decision is to proceed it is appropriately resourced in order to ensure an effective solution.

Suspension of Standing Order No. 4: In the course of discussion on this item, the Príomh Chomhairleoir drew attention to the time which was approaching 5.30 p.m. and on the proposal of Councillor McSweeney, seconded by Councillor Teefy, Standing Order No. 4 was suspended to complete the agenda.

The Deputy Director General informed the Meeting that the current system, Microsoft Teams, would not be a suitable platform for compliant live-streaming and recording, noting that a managed solution was more appropriate. He advised that Members' queries in relation to legal implications would need to be addressed.

Members requested clarification on legal implications and costings outlining that the proposed amendment to the motion would need to be considered. They discussed whether statutory meetings would include SPCs, the CPG and the Mayoral Implementation and Consultative Forum.

It was agreed on the proposal of Councillor Collins (M), seconded by Councillor Sheahan, to take a 15-minute adjournment.

On the proposal of Príomh Chomhairleoir, seconded by Councillor Collins (M) it was agreed that the Meeting be adjourned to a date in the future.

Any Other Business

MAYOR/DIRECTOR GENERAL ORDERS:

The Register of Orders made by the Mayor or the Director General up to the date of the Meeting was available on Sharepoint for inspection by the Members.

PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT:

The Register of Decisions on Applications under the Planning and Development Act, 2000, as amended, is available on SharePoint for inspection by the Members.

Signed:

Príomh Chomhairleoir

Date:
