

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 15TH JUNE 2026 AT 9:45 A.M.

PRESENT IN THE CHAIR:

Cathaoirleach, Councillor Daniel Butler.

MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE:

Mayor Moran.

Councillors Beasley, 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 Services, Metropolitan District of Limerick (Mr. K. Lehane), Meetings Administrator (Ms. A. Foley), Senior Staff Officer, Corporate Services (Ms. C. Sheehy), Assistant Staff Officer, Corporate Services (Mr. T. Cronolly), Administrative Officer, Metropolitan District of Limerick (Ms. A. Potter-Cogan), Director of Services, Housing (Mr. V. Murray), Senior Executive Officer, Housing Strategy and Mixed-Tenure Partnership (Ms. S. Newell), Programme Manager, Colbert Quarter Infrastructure Activation Office (Mr. P. Noone), A/Project Manager, Colbert Quarter Infrastructure Activation Office (Mr. K. Toomey), Senior Executive Quantity Surveyor, LA Housing Construction and Maintenance (Mr. C. Cooney), Senior Engineer, Environment, Rural Water and Climate Action (Mr. A. Finn), Senior Executive Engineer, Environment, Rural Water and Climate Action (Ms. C. Lynch), Executive Engineer, Environment, Rural Water and Climate Action (Mr. B. Barrett), Senior Planner, Development Management (Ms. N. O’Connell), Senior Engineer, Active Travel (Mr. S. McGlynn), Senior Executive Engineer, Transportation, Public Realm and Placemaking (Ms. N. McGarry), Project Manager, Regeneration (Ms. N. Kelly), Executive Engineer, Central Services, Traffic and Roads (Mr. D. O’Connell), Night-Time Economy Advisor, Economic and Tourism Development (Mr. C. Power), Administrative Officer, Property Services (Ms. T. Knox).

1. Minutes

Circulated copy of draft Minutes of the Monthly Meeting of the Metropolitan District of Limerick held on 18th May 2026.

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. Disposal of Land

(a) General Disposal

Circulated, Report of the Head of Property Services dated 29th May 2026- setting out proposals for the Disposal of 0.0057 Acres (0.0023 Hectares) of Land at Dalgaish Park, Moyross, Limerick.

The Report, as circulated, was noted by Members.

Councillor Kiely raised concerns regarding a previous proposed disposal brought before the Members. She noted that works had commenced on lands at Childers Road and requested that the Director of Services, Metropolitan District, the Property Team and the Active Travel Team would investigate the matter as a priority.

4. Limerick City Centre

The Director of Services, Metropolitan District of Limerick gave an update to the Members on the ongoing works to Laneways in Limerick City Centre.

He noted that, while laneways are an important part of the city's Georgian heritage they have faced challenges, particularly in relation to waste management, littering and presentation of waste.

The Director of Services highlighted that significant progress had been made through the support of the Elected Members, businesses, Council investment, pilot projects, improved cleansing and stronger enforcement of litter bye-laws. He advised that several laneways had already seen substantial improvements.

He informed Members that works carried out included resurfacing, improvements to public lighting, installation of bin storage units, installation of bollards to prevent unauthorised parking. He further advised that additional improvement works were planned to laneways, with a number of projects targeted for completion by the end of July.

The Director of Services referred to the Irish Business Against Litter (IBAL) June 2026 report, which identified a number of blackspots within the city centre. He confirmed that targeted actions were underway to address these areas through increased enforcement. In particular, he sought the support of Members for the removal of the textile bank on the Dock Road. The Members acknowledged the importance of textile recycling banks in the city; however, they supported the Director's proposal to remove the textile bank on the Dock Road.

Members welcomed the update and acknowledged the work of the Director of Services, Metropolitan District of Limerick, and the City Centre Response Team. They commended the team for the positive work undertaken and the significant improvements delivered, which had enhanced the appearance of the city centre over the past year. Members thanked the Cathaoirleach for making the city centre a priority for his term as Cathaoirleach of the Metropolitan District and emphasised the importance that this focus would continue for the year ahead.

5. Economic, Tourism, Culture, Property and Corporate Buildings Directorate

Circulated, Report of the Head of Economic and Tourism Development outlining the allocation of grants for May 2026 under the Night-Time Economy Pilot Programme Scheme via Twilight Thursday initiative.

The Report, as circulated, was noted by Members.

6. Environment, Climate Action and Fire Directorate

Part 8 Procedure – Patrickswell Sports and Community Campus at Lisheen Park, Ballyanrahan East, Patrickswell, Co. Limerick

Circulated, Report of the Director of Service, Environment, Climate Action and Fire, dated 10th June 2026 and enclosed Mayor's Report date 10th June 2026 setting out details in relation to the proposed development of a new Patrickswell Sports and Community Campus at Lisheen Park, Ballyanrahan East, Patrickswell, Co. Limerick. The Report has been prepared in accordance with Section 179 of the Planning and Development Act 2000 (as amended) and Part 8 of the Planning and Development Regulations 2001 (as amended).

Members welcomed the proposed development and highlighted the need for such a facility in the area. Some Members particularly welcomed the inclusion of a playground, noting the demand for it and its proximity to the local school, playschool and after-school services. Other Members expressed concern regarding the proposed location of the playground due to the potential for anti-social behaviour and were of the view that the Part 8 should proceed without the playground element.

The Mayor noted that work to progress the proposed development had been ongoing for a considerable period of time and highlighted the demand for such facilities within the area. He acknowledged the concerns raised by some Members regarding the proposed location of the playground and noted the support expressed for the overall development.

The Mayor advised that a person connected to him owned property located approximately 3.5km from the proposed site but confirmed that he nor the connected person had any involvement or interest in the lands subject to the Part 8 proposal.

The Mayor stated that he was pleased to commend the proposal to the Members.

Following discussions, it was proposed by Councillor Kilcoyne, and seconded by Councillor Talukder to amend the Part 8 as follows:

“Pursuant to Section 179(3)(a) of the Planning and Development Act 2000 it is recommended to the Elected Members of Limerick City and County Council that the proposed development proceed as proposed without the inclusion of the playground at the proposed location.”

Following further discussions, it was proposed by Councillor Secas, and seconded by Councillor Donoghue to amend the Part 8 as follows:

“Pursuant to Section 179(3)(a) of the Planning and Development Act 2000 it is recommended to the Elected Members of Limerick City and County Council that the proposed development proceed as proposed with the inclusion of a natural play area instead of a playground at the proposed location.”

The Cathaoirleach informed the Members that two amendments to the proposed development of a new Patrickswell Sports and Community Campus at Lisheen Park, Ballyanrahan East, Patrickswell, Co. Limerick had been proposed. He advised that, in line with standing orders, the first amendment would be considered and voted on before the second amendment would be taken.

The Cathaoirleach then declared that a vote be taken on the proposal of Councillor Kilcoyne, seconded by Councillor Talukder, that pursuant to Section 179(3)(a) of the Planning and Development Act 2000 it is recommended to the Elected Members of Limerick City and County Council that the proposed development proceed as proposed without the inclusion of the playground at the proposed location.

FOR THE AMENDMENT

Councillors Kilcoyne, Leddin, O’Hanlon, Pond, Reale, Talukder. (6)

AGAINST THE AMENDMENT:

Councillors Beasley, Butler, Donoghue, Doyle, Gavan, Hartigan, Hickey-O’Mara, Kiely, McSweeney, O’Donovan, O’Sullivan, Secas, Slattery. (13)

ABSTENTION:

There were no abstentions (0)

The proposed amendment to the Part 8 was not carried.

The Cathaoirleach advised that a vote would now be taken on the proposal of Councillor Secas, seconded by Councillor Donoghue, that pursuant to Section 179(3)(a) of the Planning and Development Act 2000 it is recommended to the Elected Members of Limerick City and County Council that the proposed development proceed as proposed with the inclusion of a natural play area instead of a playground at the proposed location.

FOR THE AMENDMENT:

Councillors Donoghue, Gavan, Kilcoyne, Leddin, Pond, Reale, Secas, Talukder.

(8)

AGAINST THE AMENDMENT:

Councillors Beasley, Butler, Doyle, Hartigan, Hickey-O'Mara, Kiely, McSweeney, O'Donovan, O'Hanlon, O'Sullivan, Slattery.

(11)

ABSTENTION:

Councillor Daly.

(1)

The proposed amendment to the Part 8 was not carried.

On the proposal of Councillor McSweeney and seconded by Councillor O'Donovan, the Mayor's Report, as circulated, was accepted without variation or modification.

7. The Land Development Agency

A presentation was delivered by the Land Development Agency outlining its current and planned housing developments within Limerick City and County, including development in Mungret, Carey's Road, Dock Road, St. Joseph's Road and Castletroy.

It was noted that The Mills development in Castletroy had been completed and was fully occupied, with strong demand for the cost rental units.

The LDA advised that construction had commenced at Mungret, where over 180 affordable homes are being delivered and construction has now started. Members were also informed that planning permission had been granted for the Lightworks development at the Dock Road, comprising almost 300 apartments, primarily cost rental units, with construction expected to commence in 2027.

Members thanked the LDA for the presentation and expressed overall support for the proposed developments. They emphasised the importance of adhering to the mixed tenure policy going forward and requested regular updates be provided. Concerns were also raised regarding parking provisions within existing and proposed residential developments.

7(a). Whitebox

A presentation was given by Whitebox on the Ballygrennan, Moyross Masterplan Development.

Members were advised that the development was a long-term project involving Limerick City and County Council and private partners, focused on delivering housing, healthcare and local

services in the area. The proposed development includes 115 new homes, a neighbourhood centre which will provide a range of local amenities.

An update was provided on the Limerick Cancer Centre, which is currently under construction and is expected to be completed by the end of 2026. Members were also advised that plans for a 90-bed nursing home were progressing, together with proposals for additional healthcare facilities on the remaining lands, including a potential new hospital, subject to agreement with the HSE.

It was noted that the wider project aims to bring investment, employment and community benefits to the Moyross area. The remaining lands are planned to be developed from 2027 onwards, with full delivery expected over a number of years.

Members thanked Whitebox for the presentation and welcomed the proposed developments, acknowledging the benefits they would bring to Limerick. Members requested that further briefings be arranged in due course.

QUESTIONS

8. Question submitted by Councillor Kiely

I will ask at the next meeting of the Metropolitan District of Limerick what action plan is currently in place to treat Japanese knotweed in the Boro Park and in other areas in the Metropolitan District, by electoral area and in tabular format.

REPLY: All Japanese knotweed identified in the Metropolitan District is reported to an appointed specialist Contractor. It is subsequently treated until it has been successfully destroyed (a period of 5-6 years generally).

Boro Park is currently on this list and continues to be treated.

Please note that during treatment, and while treatment is in hand, living parts remain visible for a number of years.

Limerick City and County Council urges all members of the public to refrain from interference with invasive species, and to report any instances immediately.

9. Question submitted by Councillor Beasley

I will ask at the next meeting of the Metropolitan District of Limerick can Limerick City and County Council provide a breakdown of how Local Property Tax revenue was allocated and spent in each of the years 2024, 2025, to date, including which services and projects were funded from this revenue stream in each of those years.

REPLY: Limerick City and County Council received the following Local Property Tax (LPT) income in the years 2024, 2025 and 2026:

Year	LPT Income
2024	€21,329,589
2025	€21,405,939
2026	€22,691,264

Local Property Tax forms part of the Council's general revenue funding alongside commercial rates, grants and subsidies and goods and services income. LPT contributes to day-to-day (revenue) expenditure across local authority services rather than being ring-fenced to specific individual projects. The main areas supported by LPT funding are as follows:

- Road maintenance and improvement works (local and regional roads)
- Footpath improvements
- Street cleaning
- Environmental services including fire services
- Parks, playgrounds, open spaces and recreational amenities
- Festivals and Events
- Library services
- Local economic and community supports

10. Question submitted by Councillor Beasley

I will ask at the next meeting of the Metropolitan District of Limerick, over the past three years, how much has Limerick City and County Council spent on providing emergency accommodation for homeless persons (including hotels, bed and breakfasts, and other emergency housing arrangements), and how much revenue has the Council received from persons accessing this accommodation through rental agreements or payment arrangements based on their circumstances.

Please provide the figures broken down by year (2024, 2025, to date).

REPLY: The information around spend is publicly available on GOV.IE as Limerick City and County Council return their financial information to the Department of Housing Local Government and Heritage.

In 2024 the total amount spent on Emergency Accommodation in Limerick City and County Council was €11,322,793.

In 2025 the total amount spent on Emergency Accommodation in Limerick City and County Council was €16,937,214.

2026 figures are not accurately available at this time, but an estimated spend figure for Q1 2026 is in the region of €3.7m.

Limerick City and County Council allow the accommodation providers of family hub and STA (Short Term Accommodation) hostels to retain these payment charges that they have received from clients who have been referred by the Homeless Action Team.

These payments have been used by the service providers to offset the amount of section 10 funding required to operate those services.

11. Question submitted by Councillor Beasley

I will ask at the next meeting of the Metropolitan District of Limerick when dogs are released from Limerick pound, are they microchipped and neutered as mandatory processes, and is the microchip registered in the owner's name.

REPLY: All dogs leaving Limerick Dog Shelter are microchipped prior to rehoming. Each dog is registered either to the new owner or to the charity that has agreed to rehome it.

Dogs are not neutered at the shelter as it does not have the staff resources or facilities required to carry out medical procedures such as neutering. In addition, the shelter environment is not suitable for post-operative care and recovery.

The priority of staff is to rehome dogs as quickly as possible to good homes, ensuring their welfare by minimising the time spent in the shelter.

12. Question submitted by Councillor O'Donovan

I will ask at the next meeting of the Metropolitan District of Limerick for an update on the boules area in the Pocket Park on Parnell Street and if those wishing to use the boules area can hire boules for use.

REPLY: The Boules area in the Pocket Park on Parnell Street is now open for general use. Limerick City and County Council is currently exploring with nearby commercial premises the possibility of establishing a system for hiring of boules sets to members of the public.

13. Question submitted by Councillor O'Donovan

I will ask at the next meeting of the Metropolitan District of Limerick for an update on work undertaken at the Corbally Baths considering water quality consistently does not satisfy the limits set out in the Bathing Water Regulations and what work is required to ensure regulations are met for bathing.

REPLY: Water analysis has been ongoing at Corbally Baths since 2019 with sampling taking place during the bathing season. The bathing season runs from 1st of June to the 15th September each year with a requirement to meet a number of parameters. The microbial parameters governing bathing water quality are Intestinal enterococci and Escherichia coli.

Over that time 67 samples have been analysed. 26 of those failed one or both of the required parameters. Monitoring will continue over the bathing season in 2026 with a further review of the results there after.

14. Question submitted by Councillor Gavan

I will ask at the next meeting of the Metropolitan District of Limerick for an update on the dockless bike scheme in Annacotty/Castletroy with a view towards the September return of students to the area.

REPLY: The National Transport Authority (NTA) is currently progressing the procurement of a national framework for the provision of dockless bike services. It is anticipated that this framework will be in place by Quarter 3 of this year.

Once established, Limerick City and County Council will be able to initiate a mini competition under this framework to appoint a provider for a Dockless Bike Scheme. The intention is that the scheme will serve a range of locations across the functional area, including Annacotty and Castletroy.

Further updates will be provided as the procurement process progresses and more definitive timelines become available.

15. Question submitted by Councillor Gavan

I will ask at the next meeting of the Metropolitan District of Limerick for an update following recent requests by Councillors in Limerick City East regarding movement on lane alteration requests (left lane for Bloodmill and Dunnes) and improvements to Childers Road, in light of increasing traffic congestion in these areas.

REPLY: The proposals referenced by Members in relation to lane reconfiguration, including the provision of a dedicated left-turn lane for access to Bloodmill Road/Dunnes Stores, as well as broader improvement works along the Childers Road corridor will require significant capital investment and must be progressed in line with appropriate technical assessments.

This will include detailed traffic modelling, junction capacity analysis, road safety appraisal, and alignment with current national and regional transport policies.

Given the scale and strategic importance of the Childers Road corridor, further design will be required to define the scope and feasibility of any proposed measures. The advancement of these proposals will therefore be subject to the availability of funding and will be considered as part of future submissions to the National Transport Authority, along with other relevant capital programmes.

In the interim, the Council will continue to monitor traffic conditions in the area, and Members will be kept informed as assessments progress and as funding opportunities arise to support delivery.

16. Question submitted by Councillor Donoghue

I will ask at the next meeting of the Metropolitan District of Limerick for a full breakdown of footfall figures across Limerick City as previously presented by Limerick City and County Council, including days and times in certain locations, demographics, and events.

REPLY: Limerick City and County Council utilises a combination of different technologies to monitor footfall and movement patterns across the city, including Micro-Radar sensors and third-party mobility data providers.

Footfall data is collected through anonymised, non-personal measurement technologies.

Micro-Radar sensors record movement counts only, and data is available for certain locations across Limerick City where these sensors have been installed. The locations were selected based on operational requirements, for example to monitor pedestrian and traffic activity, support urban planning and transport initiatives, and to measure economic activity in key areas.

In addition, third-party mobility datasets, generated based on mobile phone signals, have been procured by Digital Services that provide movement and dwell-time data for the city centre in aggregated and anonymised formats.

It is important to note that none of the footfall datasets capture personally identifiable information, while the Council also does not collect demographic data in any of its footfall datasets.

The data in these footfall datasets can be provided broken down by location, date, day of the week, and time of the day, while footfall trends can be analysed in the context of major events, seasonal variations, weather patterns, and city centre initiatives.

This enables the identification of peak and off-peak periods, and supports planning and event analysis where required.

Given the types of data sources, the variety of methods in which the data is collected and recorded, and the different structures of the datasets that we have available for the city centre, it is difficult to provide that data in a standardised single dataset broken down by location, events etc. Instead, Digital Services can provide reports and analysis of footfall data for specific locations and timeframes upon request, subject to the availability of valid data for those locations.

Meanwhile, Digital Services continues its efforts on behalf of the Council to enhance its data capabilities and make reliable data available on-demand through dashboards to support evidence-based decision making in areas such as urban planning, transport, tourism and economic development, while ensuring strict compliance with data protection requirements.

17. Question submitted by Councillor Donoghue

I will ask at the next meeting of the Metropolitan District of Limerick how many living units has Limerick City and County Council purchased under compulsory purchase order in the city centre, and how many of these have been sold on for private or affordable housing.

This Question was withdrawn by Councillor Donoghue.

NOTICES OF MOTION

With the permission of the Cathaoirleach Notice of Motion 21 was taken first.

21. Notice of Motion submitted by Councillor Secas

I will move at the next meeting of the Metropolitan District of Limerick that Limerick City and County Council urgently engage with the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage, and with Uisce Eireann to secure remediation funding necessary to advance the taking in charge process for the Hermitage estate in Castleconnell, including works relating to roads, public lighting, drainage and public open spaces.

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

On the proposal of Councillor Doyle, seconded by Councillor Pond, it was agreed that Members would meet with the Director of Service, Planning and Ryder Cup, to discuss the taking in charge process for the Hermitage Estate, Castleconnell, and explore options for progressing the matter.

18. Notice of Motion submitted by Councillor Kilcoyne

I will move at the next meeting of the Metropolitan District of Limerick that this District write to Irish Rail requesting the installation of a temporary rail platform at Patrickswell adjacent to the existing Limerick-Foynes railway line, and that this platform be designed to operate during the Ryder Cup 2027 and thereafter be retained or repurposed subject to post-event review, in order to maximise public transport capacity, reduce road congestion, and future-proof transport infrastructure for the metropolitan area.

The Notice of Motion was proposed by Councillor Kilcoyne, seconded by Councillor Talukder and agreed.

19. Notice of Motion submitted by Councillor Doyle

I will move at the next meeting of the Metropolitan District of Limerick that average speed cameras be trialled on the Limerick to Murroe/Cappamore Road (R506), with cameras before and after Annacotty Business Park in order to slow traffic approaching the railway lines and the residential areas of Clyduff, Garraun and Lisnagry.

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

REPLY: Transport Infrastructure Ireland and An Garda Síochána have primary responsibility for the operation and enforcement of speed enforcement systems, including average speed cameras, on the national road network. At present, the use of such systems on regional roads, including the R506, is not widely established and would require consideration of the appropriate legislative framework, operational responsibilities, and associated costs.

Limerick City and County Council acknowledges the concern regarding traffic speeds on the R506, particularly in proximity to Annacotty Business Park and the residential areas of Clyduff, Garraun and Lisnagry. The Council will raise the potential for a pilot of average speed cameras on regional routes with the Department of Transport at the next available opportunity.

In the interim, the Council will continue to liaise with An Garda Síochána in relation to speed enforcement on this route and will review any feasible traffic calming or safety measures aimed at improving road safety in the area.

20. Notice of Motion submitted by Councillor Kiely

I will move at the next meeting of the Metropolitan District of Limerick that Limerick City and County Council progress plans to add a bus stop at the Claughaun GAA Club (or in the immediate vicinity) for the residents of Castletroy View and the surrounding area.

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

In proposing the Motion, Councillor Kiely expressed the view that the provision of a bus stop in this location would encourage greater use of public transport in the area.

REPLY: The Active Travel Team will engage with the National Transport Authority (NTA) regarding the potential provision of an official bus stop on the Route 301 service in the vicinity of Claughaun GAA Club, to serve residents of Castletroy View and the surrounding area.

It should be noted that the NTA is responsible for the planning of bus routes, the assessment of service requirements, and the funding of associated infrastructure. The role of Limerick City and County Council is to approve the proposed location of any bus stop and to oversee the delivery and installation of the requisite infrastructure on the ground.

22. Notice of Motion submitted by Councillor Slattery

I will move at the next meeting of the Metropolitan District of Limerick that traffic calming measures are put in place to stop speeding at St. Judes Avenue, Ballysimon Road.

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

In proposing the Motion, Councillor Slattery expressed the view that the speed ramps currently in place at St. Jude's Avenue were not fit for purpose.

REPLY: Limerick City and County Council notes the concerns raised regarding speeding at St. Judes Avenue. There are currently two speed ramps in place at this location.

Notwithstanding this, the area will be subject to a review of the existing traffic calming measures to assess their effectiveness. As part of this review, a speed survey will be carried out, and consideration will be given to the re-lining and enhancement of the current measures to further improve visibility and road safety.

The location will also be kept under ongoing assessment as part of the Council's traffic management programme.

23. Notice of Motion submitted by Councillor Beasley

I will move at the next meeting of the Metropolitan District of Limerick that Limerick City and County Council investigate the feasibility and costs of installing all-weather surfaces in dog parks across the city, with O'Brien's Dog Park on Clare Street to be considered as a trial location.

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

REPLY: The costs of provision of all-weather surfaces (water bound gravel) at dog parks in the city would be so high as to be prohibitive.

The provision of an all-weather surface at the suggested trial location of O'Briens Dog Park on Clare Street, for example, would be approximately €20,000 excluding VAT.

Limerick City and County Council proposes to monitor ground conditions throughout the year, and to maintain the surface through spot treatment of wet and high-use areas to ensure the surface remains in a satisfactory operational condition.

Suspension of Standing Orders

On the proposal of Councillor McSweeney, and seconded by Councillor Kiely, Standing Order 4 was suspended to complete the Meeting.

24. Notice of Motion submitted by Councillor Beasley

I will move at the next meeting of the Metropolitan District of Limerick that Limerick City and County Council write to An Garda Síochána requesting residential access control at Caherdavin Lawn entrance on all GAA match days, allowing only residents to enter the estate.

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

In proposing the Motion, Councillor Beasley noted that residents of Caherdavin Lawn had received parking fines on recent GAA match days.

Following discussions, it was proposed by Councillor O'Sullivan, seconded by Councillor Hickey-O'Mara and agreed to amend the Motion to the following:

"I will move at the next meeting of the Metropolitan District of Limerick that Limerick City and County Council write to An Garda Síochána requesting residential access control at the junction of Cherry Avenue and Elm Drive on all GAA match days, only allowing residents to enter."

25. Notice of Motion submitted by Councillor O'Donovan

I will move at the next meeting of the Metropolitan District of Limerick that a plan is developed to address the significant disparity in CCTV coverage between Limerick City West and the other Metropolitan Local Electoral Areas, and for increased and additional CCTV investment in Limerick City West.

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

Members requested that a briefing be provided by Digital Services on CCTV coverage within the Metropolitan District.

REPLY: The rollout of Community CCTV in Limerick has not been planned based on Metropolitan Local Electoral Areas. Rather, the network has built up over the last approximately thirty years in response to specific public safety issues, particularly issues related to the sustained organised crime and gang feuding that was prevalent in Limerick City in the late 1990s and into the 2000s.

During that time, Limerick saw very high levels of serious and violent crime which were heavily concentrated in certain parts of the city. In response to that, CCTV systems were installed in the areas where this activity was highest, areas which now fall within the North and East Local Electoral Areas. The systems were installed by the Council, working closely with An Garda Síochána and local communities. All schemes were authorised by the Garda Commissioner and continue to operate, playing an important role in supporting Garda investigations to this day. The CCTV network as it currently exists reflects those historic decisions made during periods of significant organised crime, rather than anything recent or planned across LEAs.

Proposals for new CCTV installations should be brought forward on the basis of identified risks and patterns of criminal behaviour, rather than based on geographical location only. To be considered for approval, a proposal must:

- meet the requirements around necessity, justification and proportionality, as set out under Part 5, Section 28 of the Garda Síochána (Recording Devices) Act 2023,
- have support from the community, local councillors, and An Garda Síochána, and
- have sufficient funding in place to cover the installation costs of the CCTV system as well as the costs of maintaining the system in the years after installation.

The application and approval processes are resource-heavy and typically take multiple years to complete, but if successful then end with sign-off from the Garda Commissioner.

As an example, a new CCTV scheme was approved earlier this year for the Limerick City West Local Electoral Area in the People's Park. This proposal was driven by clear, evidence-based public safety concerns linked to consistent reports of drug dealing and violent incidents in and around the area. The application arising from this proposal took approximately 10 months to put together, was submitted in October 2024, and approved by the Garda Commissioner in February 2026.

In summary, while there is a disparity in the number of CCTV cameras in the Limerick City West Local Electoral Area when compared to Limerick City East and Limerick City North, this did not arise because of a planned rollout of the CCTV network based on geographical boundaries. Rather, the CCTV network as it exists today has developed over time as a result of a targeted response by Limerick City and County Council, working with communities, local councillors, and An Garda Síochána, to organised crime in areas that saw the highest level of this criminal activity over a sustained period of time.

At this point in the Meeting, Leas-Cathaoirleach Councillor Kiely took the Chair.

26. Notice of Motion submitted by Councillor Gavan

I will move at the next meeting of the Metropolitan District of Limerick that following recent planning applications for more than 1400, 200 units in the Castletroy/Annacotty area, and another delay of BusConnects, that Limerick City and County Council urgently prioritise a traffic management plan for Castletroy.

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

In proposing the Motion, Councillor Gavan highlighted the need for proper infrastructure within the area and emphasised the need to address the delay in the delivery of BusConnects.

REPLY: Limerick City and County Council (LCCC) acknowledges the level of development activity in the Castletroy/Annacotty area and the associated concerns regarding traffic congestion, particularly in the context of recent planning applications and delays to the BusConnects programme.

While the BusConnects programme has experienced delays, the National Transport Authority (NTA), in conjunction with LCCC, is progressing interim service improvements. These include enhancements to bus services serving the Annacotty area, including a proposed extension to Annacotty Business Park. While LCCC is hopeful that these improvements will be delivered in 2026, no confirmed delivery timeline has been provided by the NTA to date.

In parallel, LCCC, in partnership with the NTA, is currently reviewing potential improvements to traffic lane arrangements in the Annacotty area. Subject to agreement on the preferred measures, it is intended to progress these proposals through the statutory Section 38 process in Q3 2026.

In terms of strategic infrastructure, funding has been sought under the Housing Infrastructure Activation Fund (HIAF) for the Castletroy Link Road scheme. LCCC is awaiting a decision on this application.

The Council will continue to monitor traffic conditions in the area and progress both interim and longer-term measures, in collaboration with the NTA, to address the impacts arising from ongoing and future development.

27. Notice of Motion submitted by Councillor Donoghue

I will move at the next meeting of the Metropolitan District of Limerick that a Daytime Economy Officer is recruited to help manage the local retail and cultural offering in Limerick City.

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

REPLY: Limerick City and County Council provide the policy context and the receiving environment to protect, support and encourage Limerick City Centre as the primary destination for retail and cultural offerings. This is achieved through the hierarchy of economic, cultural, community and spatial plans pertaining to Limerick City linking national policy with regional strategies, local plans, thematic strategies and delivery vehicles.

National policy identifies Limerick City as the regional driver for economic, social and cultural development. This is particularly expressed in the Limerick Development Plan 2022-2028 where the integration of spatial planning, economic development, retail strategy, community infrastructure together with heritage and cultural policy are expressed in a framework for future development and growth.

Our Corporate Plan, Moving Forward Together 2025-2029, identifies the vision, commitments and goals of Limerick City and County Council. The delivery of the Plan, across over 1,000 service areas will be further supported by a new Workforce Plan (currently in preparatory stage).

Limerick City and County Council's Annual Service Delivery Plan 2026 is aligned with the 2026 Annual Budget and identifies key deliverables associated with the retail and cultural offerings in Limerick City. This is led by the Economic, Tourism, Culture, Property and Corporate Buildings Directorate and achieved through collaboration across all Directorates and our Stakeholders including representatives of the retail and cultural sectors.

The specific call for a Daytime Economy Officer to manage the retail and cultural offering available in Limerick City would require additional staffing and financial commitments through the forthcoming Workforce Plan and future Budget allocations and is therefore not a matter that can be progressed through a Notice of Motion in the absence of these requirements.

In addition to the services provided by Limerick City and County Council, the Local Enterprise Office, based at Engine, Upper Cecil Street is available to existing and prospective businesses and provides numerous supports and training to promote start-ups and growth.

28. Notice of Motion submitted by Councillor Donoghue

I will move at the next meeting of the Metropolitan District of Limerick that Enforcement Officers are given the powers and resources to mandate that landlords and building owners upkeep the shopfronts of their vacant buildings in Limerick City to support the quality of the public realm.

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

REPLY: The protection and enhancement of shopfronts in the City Centre is an integral element of creating a vibrant and attractive public realm. The Planning Department acknowledges that the enforcement of planning legislation, and use of other powers are important mechanisms in ensuring that high quality standards are maintained. The Planning Department, endeavours to achieve this within current resources assigned.

The specific call for Enforcement Officers to manage shopfronts of vacant buildings in Limerick City would require additional staffing and financial commitments through the forthcoming Workforce Plan and future Budget allocations and is therefore not a matter that can be progressed through a Notice of Motion in the absence of these requirements.

Following discussions, the Senior Planner, Development Management, noted that a dedicated Enforcement Manager has been assigned to tackle enforcement issues.

29. Notice of Motion submitted by Councillor Kiely

I will move at the next meeting of the Metropolitan District of Limerick that Limerick City and County Council look at meanwhile uses for Cals Park, Hyde Road.

The Notice of Motion as proposed by Councillor Kiely, seconded by Councillor Donoghue and agreed.

Members welcomed the Motion and highlighted the importance of protecting Council-owned assets.

REPLY: Cals Park, also known as Caledonian Park, is included in the Colbert Quarter Spatial Framework within the Caledonian District. It is an objective of the Council, as expressed in the Limerick Development Plan 2022-2028, to support and work with the Land Development Agency in the planning, co-ordination and development of Colbert Quarter in order to achieve compact growth, sustainable development and economic and physical revitalisation.

Meanwhile uses must be co-produced alongside existing community groups. This ensures that early-stage work is socially and environmentally led, empowering local residents and stakeholders. It is recognised that a clear strategy must be in place for the eventual phasing out or relocation of temporary uses so that their removal to facilitate permanent development does not leave a deficit in the local community infrastructure.

Any proposals for meanwhile uses at Cals Park must be carefully balanced against active progress being made to bring forward permanent, long-term developments on this specific site. The LDA is currently undertaking a comprehensive development strategy for the Cals Park site. To avoid conflicting layouts, wasted capital expenditure, or premature community disruption, any proposed meanwhile uses must align with the timelines and spatial parameters emerging from the development strategy.

The specific request to examine, design, and implement meanwhile uses at Cals Park pending the wider rollout of the masterplan represents a project-specific undertaking that requires dedicated resourcing and financial budget allocations. Therefore, if a suitable meanwhile-use project were to be identified then a budget would have to be sought for its feasibility, design, implementation and operational/maintenance costs over its short to medium term.

It is recommended that the objectives of the motion be noted, and that the potential for temporary interventions at Cals Park continue to be assessed in tandem with partners, stakeholders as the broader masterplan phases and associated funding streams are advanced.

Following discussion, the Programme Manager, Colbert Quarter Infrastructure Activation Office, advised that proposals for meanwhile uses of Cals Park would be considered.

30. Correspondence

Correspondence was noted and taken as read.

This concluded the meeting.

Signed: _____
CATHAOIRLEACH