

CORRESPONDENCE
MEETING OF THE METROPOLITAN DISTRICT OF LIMERICK
21ST SEPTEMBER 2026

- Email dated 13th July 2026 from the Private Secretary to the Minister for Health, Jennifer Carroll MacNeill, TD, in response to Notice of Motion that this District take action on vape shops using child-targeted signage. Furthermore, that this Council write to Minister for Health, Jennifer Carroll MacNeill requesting a national ban on vaping indoors in public places, workplaces and public transport.
- Email dated 17th July 2026 from the Private Secretary to the Minister for Transport, Darragh O'Brien, TD, in response to Notice of Motion that this District write to the Minister for Transport and the National Transport Authority seeking clarification on the level of funding to be allocated to the delivery of BusConnects Limerick under the National Development Plan Review 2025 and the Transport Sectoral Investment Plan 2026-2030. This letter must also request a clear multi-annual funding commitment and delivery timeline for the project, and further confirmation of the specific capital investment planned for Limerick within the national BusConnects programme, given the strategic role of BusConnects in delivering sustainable mobility, supporting compact urban growth, and enabling Transport Oriented Development in line with national policy.
- Letter dated 23rd July 2026 from the Private Secretary to the Minister of State at the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage with special responsibility for Local Government and Planning, John Cummins, TD, in response to Notice of Motion that this District 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 related to roads, public lighting, drainage and public open spaces.
- Email dated 5th August 2026 from the Office of the Minister for Culture, Communications and Sport, Patrick O'Donovan, TD, in response to Notice of Motion that this District write to both Minister for Culture, Communications and Sport, Patrick O'Donovan and Minister of State with responsibility for Sport, Charlie McConalogue, to request the reinstating and ring-fencing of funding for the Enjoy Tennis programme at Limerick Lawn Tennis Club.
- Letter dated 10th August 2026 from Mary Considine, Chief Executive, Iarnród Eireann in response to Notice of Motion 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.

- Email dated 11th August 2026 from Jeremy Ryan, Director of Public Transport Services, National Transport Authority in response to Notice of Motion that this District write to the National Transport Authority to implement a bus service on the Condell Road ahead of the rollout of BusConnects.
- Email dated 11th August 2026 from the Private Secretary to the Minister for Justice, Home Affairs and Migration, Jim O'Callaghan, TD, in response to Notice of Motion that this District write to the Minister for Justice to consider the introduction of a new bye-law to prohibit the use of e-scooters on public roads, footpaths and/or open green areas in the Metropolitan District.
- Email dated 8th September 2026 from the Private Secretary to the Minister for Justice, Home Affairs and Migration, Jim O'Callaghan, TD, in response to Notice of Motion that this District write to the Minister for Justice to consider the introduction of a new bye-law to prohibit the use of e-scooters on public roads, footpaths and/or open green areas in the Metropolitan District.

From: Ministers Office <noreplymo-health@corr.cloud.gov.ie>
Sent: Monday 13 July 2026 15:50
To: Customer Services <customerservices@limerick.ie>
Subject: [EXTERNAL]HEA-MO-03497-2026

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HEA-MO-03497-2026

13th July 2026

Dear Ms. Foley,

On behalf of the Minister for Health, I would like to thank you for your correspondence on behalf of the Metropolitan District of Limerick.

Proposals to extend the existing smoke free legislation to vaping, and to prohibit smoking in outdoor dining areas, were subject to public consultation in 2024, alongside measures to regulate nicotine inhaling products.

The legislative programme that was pursued in the short-term were the measures most likely to reduce vaping among young people. This programme consists of the Public Health (Single Use Vapes) Bill which will prohibit the sale of single-use vapes, and which has completed all stages in the Oireachtas. It also includes the Public Health (Tobacco Products and Nicotine Inhaling Products) (Amendment) Bill which will restrict flavours, packaging and appearance for nicotine inhaling products. It will also prohibit retail advertising of all nicotine products, and prohibit the display of nicotine products in mixed retail as is currently the case for cigarettes. This Bill has completed all stages in the Dáil and awaits conclusion of EU-level notification processes to continue.

However, our national tobacco control policy, *Tobacco Free Ireland*, is currently being reviewed. This review will consider the full range of existing legislative and voluntary measures to protect the public from second-hand smoke and aerosol, and whether these should be strengthened. This will be done in the context of the EU Council Recommendation on Smoke and Aerosol Free Environments. This recommends that Member States protect the public from second-hand smoke and aerosol in a range of indoor and outdoor spaces.

I trust that this of assistance to members.

Yours sincerely,

Joann Lynch

Private Secretary to the Minister for Health

From: Ministers Office <Minister-Transport@corr.cloud.gov.ie>
Sent: Friday 17 July 2026 15:23
To: Customer Services <customerservices@limerick.ie>
Subject: [EXTERNAL]Ref: TTAS-MO-02425-2026

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Our Ref: TTAS-MO-02425-2026

Dear Aedin Foley ,

On behalf of the Minister for Transport, Darragh O'Brien, TD, I wish to apologise for the delay in responding to your letter regarding the delivery of BusConnects Limerick.

The Minister for Transport has responsibility for policy and overall funding in relation to public transport. The National Transport Authority (NTA) has responsibility for the planning and development of public transport infrastructure, including the BusConnects programme. Accordingly, the matters raised fall within the remit of the NTA, which is best placed to consider them and respond directly. Given their responsibility in relation to this matter, the Department has forwarded this query to the NTA for their consideration and direct reply.

Pending a more detailed reply, I note that the NDP Sectoral Investment Plan published by the Department of Transport last November has allocated significant funding to the NTA to progress BusConnects in Dublin, Galway, Cork, Limerick and Waterford. The NTA will publish a more detailed plan soon setting out the elements of the BusConnects programmes to be advanced within available funding, including in Limerick.

The NTA published its final new bus network for Limerick in December 2023. The redesign of the bus network is one of the nine key elements of BusConnects Limerick that aims to transform the city's bus system, making public transport more useful to more people. The new bus network will enable more people to avail of public transport resulting in increased access to a greater number of schools and workplaces across Limerick City. Overall, 41% of residents will live within 400 metres of a high frequency bus route, running every 15 minutes or better.

Limerick is also the first city in Ireland with a fully electrified bus service, with two phases of charger installation works coming on-stream at Roxboro bus depot during 2024 and 61 zero-emission buses in active passenger service today.

I trust this can be of some assistance.

With best wishes,

Amanda Corley

Private Secretary to Minister O'Brien TD

The Minister is a Designated Public Official under the Regulation of Lobbying Act, 2015 (details available on www.lobbying.ie)

An Roinn Iompair

Department of Transport

Lána Liosain, Baile Átha Cliath, D02 TR60

Leeson Lane, Dublin, D02 TR60

www.gov.ie/transport



Oifig an Runaí Aire
Office of the Minister of State

23rd July 2026

Ms. Aedin Foley

customerservices@limerick.ie

Ref No HPLG-MOSC-00632- 2026

Dear Ms. Foley,

I refer to your correspondence dated 29th June 2026 regarding the meeting of the Metropolitan District of Limerick, where the following was agreed by members:

That Limerick City and County Council urgently engage with the Department of Housing Local Government and Heritage and Uisce Eireann to secure remediation funding necessary to advance the taking in charge process for the Hermitage Estate in Castleconnell etc

It is important at the outset that I point out that under Section 30 of the Planning and Development Act 2000, the Minister with responsibility for planning, is precluded from exercising any power or control in relation to any particular case with which a planning authority or An Coimisiún Pleanála is or may be concerned with.

The legislative process for the taking in charge of housing estates by local authorities is set out in section 180 of the Planning and Development Act 2000. The prescribed process in this regard applies to residential developments consisting of two or more dwellings that have been granted planning permission under section 34 of the Act.

There is no automatic requirement for local authorities to take charge of unfinished housing estates after a certain period of time. Under section 180 (1) of the Act of 2000, the planning authority is obliged to initiate the taking in charge process where requested by either the developer of, or by the majority of owners of the dwellings in, the estate in question. However, this is subject to the development being completed to the



satisfaction of the authority and in accordance with the permission and any conditions attached thereto.

Where developments have not been completed to the satisfaction of the planning authority, and where enforcement proceedings in this connection have not been commenced by the planning authority within 4 years of the expiry of the planning permission relating to a development, section 180 (2)(a) of the Act provides that the planning authority shall, where requested by the majority of owners of the houses involved, initiate the taking in charge procedures under section 11 of the Roads Act 1993, as amended (the Roads Act).

Where this particular approach is being progressed, the authority may apply the security or development bond provided as part of the planning application for the purposes of ensuring the satisfactory completion of the development.

Where the calling in of the development bond is not possible or sufficient, section 180(2A) of the Act provides that the initiation of the taking in charge procedures under section 11 of the Roads Act shall not preclude the planning authority concerned from pursuing a developer for any costs incurred by the authority in respect of necessary works undertaken on a development to enable it to be taken in charge by that authority.

In order to conclude the taking in charge process where the development has been deemed to have been satisfactorily completed, a local authority is required to make a declaration under section 11 of the Roads Act following a proposal by the executive. The making of such a declaration, which effectively confirms that the authority is prepared to take over responsibility for the ongoing maintenance of the public works elements of the estate, is a reserved function of the elected members of a local authority.

Therefore, the decision to take any particular estate or estates in charge is ultimately one for the elected members of the local authority who, by way of declaration made under the Roads Act, will make such a decision.

The financial decision making and the accountability of local authorities is a matter for the elected members of a local authority who have direct responsibility in law for all reserved functions of the authority, which includes the adoption of the annual budget of the local authority.



In this regard, section 103 of the Local Government Act 2001, as amended, provides for the local authority budgetary process. It is a matter for each local authority to determine its own spending priorities in the context of the annual budgetary process, having regard to both locally identified needs and the funding resources available to the local authority. This includes the taking in charge of housing estates.

I confirm there is no longer a dedicated funding scheme for unfinished housing estates and currently there are no plans to reintroduce a further funding scheme for such purposes.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'E. Colleary', written over a horizontal line.

Eoin Colleary

Private Secretary to Minister of State John Cummins

Please note: The Minister is a Designated Public Official under the Regulation of Lobbying Act, 2015

From: Ministers Office <noreplymo-ahg@corr.cloud.gov.ie>
Sent: Wednesday 5 August 2026 11:32
To: Customer Services <customerservices@limerick.ie>
Subject: [EXTERNAL]CCS-MO-02122-2026

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Ms. Collette Sheehy

customerservices@limerick.ie

Our Ref: CCS-MO-02122-2026

Dear Ms. Sheehy,

I wish to acknowledge receipt of your recent correspondence to Patrick O'Donovan, TD. Minister for Culture, Communications and Sport in connection with Limerick Tennis Club.

Yours sincerely,

Aileen Daly

Minister's Office

—

An Roinn Cultúir, Cumarsáide agus Spóirt

Department of Culture, Communications and Sport

Lána Líosain, Baile Átha Cliath 2, D02 R5Y3

Leeson Lane, Dublin 2, D02 R5Y3

T + 353 (0)1 643 7660

www.gov.ie

Príomh Fheidhmeannach, Stáisiún Uí Chonghaile, Baile Átha Cliath 1, D01 V6V6

Chief Executive, Connolly Station, Dublin 1, D01 R1W9.

T 01 703 2454 E Info@irishrail.ie W www.irishrail.ie



Aedin Foley

Corporate Governance & Customer Services

Limerick City & County Council

Corporate Headquarters

Merchants Quay

Limerick

V94 EH90

customerservices@limerick.ie

10th August 2026

Dear Ms Foley,

Thank you for your recent correspondence concerning the possibility of developing a temporary rail platform in Patrickswell prior to the Ryder Cup event next year.

Unfortunately, we are not in a position to consider the request for further infrastructure interventions on the Limerick – Foynes at this time.

Our platform in Adare is a temporary structure which will be removed post Ryder Cup as there are significant works required to support a flood relief scheme, and the railway infrastructure has not been designed to accommodate a permanent rail passenger operation.

We are engaging with the National Transport Authority on future infrastructural developments to enhance public transport including our ability to serve Patrickswell into the future but not within the timeline of our Ryder Cup deliverables.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Mary Considine".

Mary Considine

Chief Executive

-----Original Message-----

From: Jeremy Ryan <jeremy.ryan@nationaltransport.ie>

Sent: Tuesday 11 August 2026 15:44

To: Customer Services <customerservices@limerick.ie>

Cc: Sinead Hingston <Sinead.Hingston@nationaltransport.ie>; internaloireachtas <internaloireachtas@nationaltransport.ie>

Subject: [EXTERNAL]FW: Limerick City & County Council Request for Bus Service

[You don't often get email from jeremy.ryan@nationaltransport.ie. Learn why this is important at <https://aka.ms/LearnAboutSenderIdentification>]

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FAO Collette Sheehy, Meetings Administrator

Dear Collette

Thank you for your letter of 31st July 2026 (attached) to Hugh Creegan, in relation to a resolution agreed at the 22nd July 2026 meeting of the Metropolitan District of Limerick, in relation to the early provision of a bus service on Condell Road.

As part of Limerick BusConnects network redesign, the NTA plans to introduce new bus route 12, which will operate between Colbert Station and Brookville Avenue via Condell Road. Unfortunately the NTA does not have funding to implement new bus services in 2026. It is unlikely that the NTA will be in a position to implement the proposed bus service in advance of the implementation of BusConnects Limerick network redesign.

Yours sincerely

Jeremy Ryan
Director of Public Transport Services

National Transport Authority
Údarás Náisiúnta Iompair

A: Haymarket House Smithfield Dublin D07 CF98

E: jeremy.ryan@nationaltransport.ie

W:

<https://eur04.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=http%3A%2F%2Fwww.nationaltransport.ie%2F&data=05%7C02%7Ctommy.cronolly%40limerick.ie%7C2e938b68420f453683a508def8528b55%7C1e1a5d0dc1d74802a64986e3a852284b%7C0%7C0%7C639221230566119267%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJFbXB0eU1hcGkiOnRydWUsIlYiOiIlwLjAuMDAwMCIsIlAiOiJXaW4zMlslkFOljoIjIWFpbCIsIl dU1joyfQ%3D%3D%7C0%7C%7C%7C&sdata=vjHGJ%2B07g%2FbxXao1DIWaK0g2CYc1fEUlvbWWybsGgUc%3D&reserved=0>

T: +353 (0)86 8115392

From: Ministers Office <noreplymo-justice@corr.cloud.gov.ie>
Sent: Tuesday 11 August 2026 16:12
To: Customer Services <customerservices@limerick.ie>
Subject: [EXTERNAL]Ref: DJE-MO-10120-2026

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Ms. Collette Sheehy

customerservices@limerick.ie

Minister's Reference: DJE-MO-10120-2026

Dear Ms. Sheehy,

I wish to acknowledge receipt and thank you for your correspondence dated 31 July 2026, in relation to e-scooters, which is currently receiving attention.

Yours sincerely,

Ellen Byrne

Private Secretary to the

Minister for Justice, Home Affairs and Migration

Please note that if the issue raised in your correspondence is deemed more appropriate to another organisation, such as another Government Department or Agency, your correspondence will be forwarded to that organisation for attention in accordance with the provisions of the Department of Justice Privacy Statement, which can be accessed [here](#).

From: Ministers Office <noreplymo-justice@corr.cloud.gov.ie>
Sent: Tuesday 8 September 2026 14:48
To: Customer Services <customerservices@limerick.ie>
Subject: [EXTERNAL]Ref: DJE-MO-10120-2026

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Ms. Collette Sheehy

customerservices@limerick.ie

Minister's Reference: DJE-MO-10120-2026

Dear Ms. Sheehy,

Thank you for your correspondence dated 31 July 2026 to the Minister for Justice, Home Affairs and Migration, Jim O'Callaghan, on behalf of Limerick City and County Council. I am responding on the Minister's behalf.

Our road safety strategy takes a whole of government approach and is a shared responsibility. Development and implementation of road traffic legislation and policy falls within the remit of my colleague, the Minister for Transport, and the vital role of enforcing road traffic laws is carried out by An Garda Síochána.

Should you wish to make direct policy or legislative suggestions, these should be addressed to the Department of Transport: Department of Transport, Leeson Lane, Dublin 2, D02 TR60, or by email: info@transport.gov.ie

The Department of Justice, Home Affairs and Migration's role is to support An Garda Síochána who are tasked to enforce road traffic legislation. The Minister is supporting the Garda Commissioner with the largest ever Garda Vote of €2.74 billion

in Budget 2026. This will support recruitment of up to 1,000 Gardai, 200 more Garda staff and additional members of the Garda Reserve in addition to equipment, technology, facilities, that it needs to carry out vital policing work.

An Garda Síochána take a proactive approach to tackling all forms of dangerous behaviours by people using e-scooters as well as other forms of powered personal transporters. All members of An Garda Síochána enforce road traffic legislation and are required to perform 30 minutes of Roads Policing activity during each tour of duty.

The Garda response has been effective, as reflected by the increases in seizures of e-scooters and other PPTs. There have been 793 prosecutions for possession of e-scooters to the end of Q1 this year.

Incidents when vehicles were seized or detained	2024	2025	Q1 2026
e-scooters	310	931	754
Scramblers	165	159	94
Quad bikes	39	40	17
e-bikes	144	237	140

The Government is committed to ensuring that Gardaí have the resources, equipment, and legislation they need to fulfil their vital policing role.

I trust this is of assistance to you.

Yours sincerely,

Ellen Byrne

Private Secretary to the

Minister for Justice, Home Affairs and Migration

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