CORRESPONDENCE
MEETING OF THE METROPOLITAN DISTRICT OF LIMERICK
16TH NOVEMBER 2026

- Letter dated 15th October 2026 from the Deputy Chief Executive of the National Transport Authority (NTA) in reply to Notice of Motion that this District writes to the Department of Transport, the National Transport Authority and TII to ask for additional road budget specifically for bus routes in the city where there has been a serious deterioration with visible tracks on roads across the city due to the weight of the new bus fleet.

- Letter dated 28th October 2026 from the Minister for Culture, Communications and Sport in reply 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 23rd October 2026 from the Office of the Minister for Social Protection in reply to Notice of Motion that this District write to the Minister for Children, Disability and Equality, Norma Foley TD, and Minister for Social Protection, Dara Calleary TD, requesting that they commit to increasing paid paternity leave from two weeks to eight weeks in line with the "8 Weeks for Families" national campaign. I also request that this Motion is circulated to all local authorities, urging them to support this call.

- Letter dated 29th October 2026 from the Office of the Minister for Social Protection in reply to Notice of Motion that this District write to the Minister for Children, Disability and Equality, Norma Foley TD, and Minister for Social Protection, Dara Calleary TD, requesting that they commit to increasing paid paternity leave from two weeks to eight weeks in line with the "8 Weeks for Families" national campaign. I also request that this Motion is circulated to all local authorities, urging them to support this call.

- Email dated 30th October 2026 from Chairperson of An Taisce Limerick in response to an invitation to attend a private briefing of the Metropolitan District of Limerick, following a request at the September Meeting of the Metropolitan District of Limerick to invite An Taisce Limerick to present at a private briefing.

Údarás Náisiúnta Iompair
National Transport Authority

Teach Mhargadh an Fhéir
Margadh na Feirme
Baile Átha Cliath 7, D07 CF98

Haymarket House
Smithfield, Dublin 7, D07 CF98

01 879 8300
info@nationaltransport.ie
www.nationaltransport.ie

Collette Sheehy, Meetings Administrator,
Corporate, Governance & Customer Services,
Limerick City & County Council,
Merchant's Quay,
Limerick.
V94EH90

15 October 2026

Re: Motion in relation to Road Remedial Works

Dear Ms. Sheehy,

I refer to your letter of 28 September providing details of the motion passed by the Metropolitan District of Limerick at their meeting on 20 April in relation to remedial works on roads along bus routes.

As the NTA is not provided with funding from the Exchequer for the road repair purpose sought in the motion, we are not, therefore, in a position to provide funding of this type to the Council.

I hope that the above information clarifies the position.

Yours sincerely,

Hugh Creegan

Hugh Creegan,
Deputy Chief Executive.

An Roinn Cultúir,
Cumarsáide agus Spóirt
Department of Culture,
Communications and Sport

Ms. Collette Sheehy
customerservices@limerick.ie

28 October 2026

Our Ref: CCS-MO-02122-2026

Dear Collette,

Thank you for your letter dated 31st July and I apologise for the delay in response.

National Governing Bodies (NGBs) are responsible for the development and administration of their respective sports at all levels. NGBs, including Tennis Ireland, are key delivery agencies for Sport Ireland and are central to the development, governance and delivery of sport in Ireland. This includes supporting participation, coaching, safeguarding, competition structures and the development of pathways from grassroots participation through to high-performance sport.

Sport Ireland supports this work through a range of investment programmes, each of which contributes to different aspects of the development of a sport:

- Core NGB Investment
- Dormant Accounts Funding (DAF)
- Women in Sport (WIS) Investment
- Events Investment
- High-Performance Investment.

Collectively, these investment streams provide Tennis Ireland with support across different aspects of the sport's development. However, responsibility for determining and implementing the strategic development priorities for tennis remains with Tennis Ireland as the recognised National Governing Body for the sport. It would therefore be inappropriate for either Minister to intervene with this process.

The table below provides a breakdown of Sport Ireland investment in Tennis Ireland since 2018, the first year of the current National Sports Policy 2018–2027. Investment has been provided across a range of funding streams, reflecting Sport Ireland's support for the development of tennis at participation, organisational and performance levels.

Sport Ireland Investment to Tennis Ireland 2018 - 2026:

Investment Type	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026
Core Investment	€ 353,000	€ 425,000	€ 450,000	€ 450,000	€ 450,000	€ 475,000	€ 535,000	€ 760,000	€ 800,000
*Dormant Accounts Funding	€ 66,053	€ 65,448	€ 100,000	€ 155,000	€ 249,750	€ 197,500	€ 170,000	€ 73,000	€ TBD
**High-Performance Funding	€ 175,000	€ 200,000	€ 200,000	€ 205,000	€ -	€ -	€ -	€ -	€ -
Women in Sport	€ 10,000	€ 75,000	€ 75,000	€ 75,000	€ 75,000	€ 65,000	€ 70,000	€ 77,500	€ 80,000
Events & Legacy	€ -	€ -	€ -	€ -	€ -	€ -	€ 30,000	€ 120,000	€ -
Covid Return to Sport	€ -	€ -	€ 960,000	€ -	€ 154,000	€ -	€-	€ -	€ -
Energy Support Scheme	€ -	€ -	€ -	€ -	€ 740,000	€ -	€ 215,000	€ -	€ -
Special Projects	€ 4,000	€ 7,000	€ 25,000	€ 10,000	€ 65,000	€ 10,000	€ 10,000	€ -	€ -
Core Additional (2023)	€ -	€ -	€ -	€ -	€ -	€ 85,000	€-	€ -	€ -
Digital Catalyst	€ -	€ -	€ -	€ -	€ -	€ -	€-	€ 15,000	€ -

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*Note that Dormant Account Funding, is still to be allocated at the time of this response, hence any potential allocations for this year are still to be decided (TBD), depending on any potential applications.

**High Performance Funding – In 2022, Performance Programme Transition Funding to support Performance Programmes in Tennis was redistributed and incorporated into the Core Investment

I trust the foregoing clarifies the position.

Yours sincerely,

P.P.

Patrick O'Donovan
Minister for Culture, Communications and Sport

Oifig an Aire Coimirce Sóisialaí
Office of the Minister for Social Protection

Limerick City & County Council
2 - NOV 2026
Corporate & Governance

Case Number: REPS-2026-50984

Limerick City & County Council
Corporate Headquarters
Merchant's Quay
Co. Limerick

Limerick City & County Council
RECEIVED
02 NOV 2026
Customer Services Post
Dooradoyle

23 October 2026

A chairde,

I wish to acknowledge receipt of your correspondence to the Minister for Social Protection, Dara Calleary TD, regarding Paternity Benefit duration.

Enquiries are being made and a further letter will issue to you as soon as possible.

Yours sincerely,

PP RC
Patricia Steacy
Private Secretary

Oifig an Aire Coimirce Sóisialaí
Office of the Minister for Social Protection

Limerick City & County Council
30 OCT 2026
Corporate & Governance

Case Number: REPS-2026-50984
Limerick City & County Council
Corporate Headquarters
Merchant's Quay
Co. Limerick

Limerick City & County Council
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30 OCT 2026
Customer Services Post
Docedoyle

29 October 2026

Dear Aedín Foley,

I refer to your recent email to Minister Dara Calleary TD on behalf of Limerick City & County Council concerning the recent council resolution supporting an increase in paid paternity leave from two weeks to eight weeks in line with the "8 weeks for Families" national campaign. Minister Calleary has asked me to reply on his behalf.

The Department of Social Protection fully appreciates that the time fathers spend with their child in the first few months of their life is precious.

Fathers can avail of two types of leave and benefit entitlements following the birth or adoption of their children.

Paternity Benefit is available to relevant parents for two weeks to be taken in the first 26 weeks following a child's birth, or placement in the case of adoption.

Relevant parents are also entitled to nine weeks of Parent's Benefit to be taken in the two years following a child's birth or adoption. It can be taken in blocks of minimum one week up to a maximum of nine weeks.

Parent's Leave and Benefit are non-transferrable between parents, thereby encouraging fathers to avail of their nine weeks of leave and benefit and supporting gender equality in the workplace and in caring roles.

The Programme for Government commits to introducing Pay-Related Parent's Benefit and exploring other payments where a similar model could be applied. This move to a pay-related model will provide further financial support during this important period for families.

To progress this commitment, a public consultation document on a pay-related approach to Parents' Benefit will be issued in the near future. This consultation will invite views from the public, employers and stakeholders to support the process and to assist in the development of any future proposals in this area

The extension of Paternity Leave is a matter for the Department for Children, Disability and Equality who have primary legal and policy responsibility for all family leaves, including

Oifig an Aire Coimirce Sóisialaí
Office of the Minister for Social Protection



Paternity Leave. The Department of Social Protection has legal and policy responsibility for the associated benefits.

Yours sincerely

Stephen Fee
Family Leave Benefits Policy

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

From: sean Mc ilfatrick
Sent: Friday 30 October 2026 12:11
To: Foley, Aedin
Subject: Re: [EXTERNAL]Re: Workshop from An Taisce

Caution: This is an external email and may have a suspicious subject or attached content. Please take care when clicking links or opening attachments. When in doubt, contact your IT Department

Hi Aedin,

Re the invitation to attend a private briefing to the elected members we have had a conversation with An Taisce HQ and had our own committee meeting and it has been decided that on the advice of HQ we would not be in a position to attend a private briefing , it is felt that LCCC has a good working relationship with An Taisce HQ in relation to this matter and open dialogue is continuing there and it is felt that this is the proper forum .

It is also our understanding that a councillor has been in communication with HQ in relation to this matter and a comprehensive response was given to the councillor .

Please feel free to contact me if any further info is needed or any other requests are made by councillors .

Regards

Seán Mc ilfatrick
Chairperson
An Taisce Limerick

Protecting Ireland's heritage, safeguarding its future

An Taisce is a membership-based charity. Join at ***www.antaisce.org/membership***

An Taisce 75 YEARS
The National Trust for Ireland