

LIMERICK COUNTY COUNCIL

Comhairle Contae Luimnigh



Cruinniú Mhí Eanáir

MONDAY, 28TH JANUARY, 2008,

AT 2.30 P.M.

Áras Seán Finn, Rathkeale

AGENDA AND DOCUMENTATION

PRAYER

A Thiarna Dia,

Is uaitse a thagann gach údarás ar talamh. Cuir do bheannacht orainn agus sinn ag plé riachtanais ár gcontae. Go ndéanaimid ár gcinnte de réir d'eagna, agus go gcuirtear i bhfeidhm iad le cneastacht agus cúram. Sin é ár nguí chugat trí Chríost ár dTiarna.

Amen.

O Lord God,

You are the source of all human authority. Bless us in our deliberations on the needs of this our county. May our decisions be guided by your wisdom and put into effect with charity and concern. This we ask through Christ Our Lord.

Amen.

**COMHAIRLE CHONTAE LUIMNIGH
LIMERICK COUNTY COUNCIL**

Oifig an Rúnaí Chontae,
(County Secretary's Office),
Halla an Chontae,
(County Hall),
(Tuar an Dail),
Dooradoyle,
Contae Luimnigh.
(Co. Limerick).

23ú Eanáir, 2008.

Don Chathaoirleach agus do gach Ball don Chomhairle

A Chomhairleoir, a chara,

Iarrtar ort a bheith i láthair ag Cruinniú de Chomhairle Chontae Luimnigh a bheidh ar siúl in Áras Seán Finn, Rath Caola, Contae Luimnigh, ar an Luan, an 28ú Eanáir, 2008, ar a 2.30 i.n. Tá an gnó a bheidh le déanamh leagtha amach ar an Agenda breise.

You are requested to attend Meeting of Limerick County Council to be held in **Áras Seán Finn, Rathkeale, Co. Limerick, on Monday, 28th January, 2008, at 2.30 p.m.** The business to be transacted is set out on the appended Agenda.

Is mise le meas,


E. Griffin,
County Secretary/Meetings Administrator.

C L Á R

1. Miontuairiscí

To adopt Minutes of the following Meetings:

- (a) Budget Meeting of the Council held on 14th December, 2007.
- (b) Ordinary Meeting of the Council held on 17th December, 2007.

2. Fixing of Date

To fix date for the March Meeting of the Council.

3. Disposal of Land

To consider proposal for the disposal of land at

- (a) Ballyshonakin, Effin, Kilmallock.
- (b) Doon.

(Statutory Notices dated 2nd and 10th January, 2008, already circulated)

4. Planning and Development

(a) Proposed Caherconlish Local Area Plan 2008-2014

To consider the adoption of the Proposed Caherconlish Local Area Plan 2008-2014.

(Report Enclosed)

(b) Proposed Newcastle West Local Area Plan 2008-2014

To consider placing the proposed Newcastle West Local Area Plan 2008-2014 on public display for the statutory period of not less than 6 weeks from Saturday, 9th February, 2008, to Thursday, 27th March, 2008, inclusive.

(Report Enclosed and copy of Plan to follow)

(c) Proposed Abbeyfeale Local Area Plan 2008-2014

To consider placing the proposed Abbeyfeale Local Area Plan 2008-2014 on public display for the statutory period of not less than 6 weeks from Saturday, 9th February, 2008, to Thursday, 27th March, 2008, inclusive.

(Report Enclosed and copy of Plan to follow)

5. Corporate Services

(a) Staffing - Proposal to Vary the Number of Permanent Staff

To consider report pursuant to Section 158(1)(a) of the Local Government Act, 2001, in relation to the creation of new permanent posts in the Council.

(Report Enclosed)

(b) Introduction of Competition and Grant Schemes

To consider introduction of Competition and Grant Schemes.

(Report Enclosed)

6. Conferences

To consider participation by Members at the following Conferences:

- (a) International Centre for Local and Regional Development 3rd Annual Conference – Fostering Co-Operation for Local and Regional Development through Cross-Border Spatial Planning, held in Armagh, Northern Ireland, on 17th January, 2008.
- (c) Seminar for Councillors – The Local Government Planning Service – to be held in Clonea, Dungarvan, Co. Waterford, from 1st to 3rd February, 2008.
- (d) Cumann Merriman Winter School 2008 to be held in Westport, Co. Mayo, from 1st to 3rd February, 2008.
- (e) Third Sector Forum “Ireland’s Newest Immigrants – Ensuring their Participation in the 2009 European and Local Elections – to be held in Letterkenny, Co. Donegal, from 21st to 23rd February, 2008.
- (f) Seminar for Councillors – Suicide Prevention: A Call for Action – to be held in Dublin on 23rd February, 2008.

(Details already circulated electronically)

QUESTIONS

Questions submitted by Councillor J. Cavanagh

- 7. I will ask at the next meeting if the bin waiver scheme can be extended to include Old Age Pensioners with adult wife dependency and also if it is possible to take in lone parents with small children and therefore leave waiver at same rate for 2008 while accommodating these people.
- 8. I will ask at the next meeting if the junction at Murphy's Cross, Adare, can be upgraded as a priority to accommodate traffic from the Ballingarry Road - this measure to be taken as a result of slow-down of traffic due to traffic lights at new hospital entrance at Adare - or appropriate traffic calming measures to be put in place.

Question submitted by Councillor T. Neville

9. I will ask at the next Meeting of Limerick County Council for a comprehensive report on discussions that took place between Members of Limerick County Council and the NRA at a recent meeting, particularly with reference to items documented 26th April, 2007, in relation to the N21 and N69.

NOTICES OF MOTION**Notice of Motion submitted by Councillor L. Walsh**

10. I will move at the next meeting that Limerick County Council lead the way in providing set down areas on all our main roads and where possible provide public lighting.

Notice of Motion submitted by Councillor T. Neville

11. I will move at the next Monthly meeting of Limerick County Council that the road in Dullas, Croom, which is in the Rathkeale Electoral area but falls under the Bruff Electoral Area Roads Department, be fully restructured.

Notice of Motion submitted by Councillor K. Sheahan, Cathaoirleach

12. I will propose at the next meeting of Limerick County Council that we would adopt a motion of no confidence in the Health Services Executive (HSE) and that we would call upon the Government and the Minister for Health to abolish the HSE and replace it with an efficient body who would have the professionalism and commitment to deliver a modern and effective Health Service for Cystic Fibrosis patients, especially young adult patients who are born with this life threatening disease. I further propose that this motion would be circulated to all local authorities seeking their support for same.
13. Correspondence.

MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS AT MEETING OF LIMERICK COUNTY COUNCIL HELD IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER, COUNTY HALL, DOORADOYLE, CO. LIMERICK, ON FRIDAY, 14TH DECEMBER, 2007, TO CONSIDER THE BUDGET FOR 2008.

PRESENT IN THE CHAIR:

Councillor K. Sheahan, An Cathaoirleach.

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Councillors Brennan, Butler, Cavanagh, Clifford, Collins, Creighton, Enright, Foley, Galvin, Gleeson, Griffin, Harty, Houlihan, Jackman, McAuliffe, Neville, Ní Chinnéide, O'Donovan, Scanlan, Sheahan, Teefy.

OFFICIALS IN ATTENDANCE:

County Manager (Mr. E. Gleeson), Director, Planning & Development (Mr. T. Enright), Director, Environmental and Emergency Services (Mr. G. Behan), Director, Housing (Mr. J. Feane), Director, Transportation & Water Services (Mr. P. Crowe), Director, Community & Enterprise/Human Resources/Corporate Services (Ms. J. Cotter Coughlan), Head of Finance (Mr. O. Killeen), Financial Accountant (Mr. S. Coughlan), Management Accountant (Ms. E. O'Dea), Meetings Administrator (Mr. E. Griffin),

At the outset, the Cathaoirleach opened the meeting by inviting the County Manager to present an overview of the Draft Budget for 2008 to the Council.

The County Manager stated that he wanted to confirm to the Members that all the Statutory Provisions associated with the Budget Process, i.e. notice to Members, Public Notice, etc., had been complied with. Also, the Draft Budget presented today was in a new format, which represented a further significant step forward in the modernisation programme for Local Government Accounting. The Head of Finance had given an outline of the new draft at the Briefing Session the previous Monday. He added that it was worth mentioning at this stage that Limerick County Council was one of only a small number of Local Authorities in the Country who had achieved the target set of presenting the Budget in this format for 2008, and indeed Limerick County Council was the first Council to consider a Budget in this format.

While the format of the Budget Book had changed, the task of framing a balanced Budget, having regard to the various demands, both statutory and other, still remained an onerous undertaking.

He stated that he had outlined on Page 2 of his report the main issues he had to take account of and, indeed, he wished to particularly acknowledge the views expressed by the Members of the Corporate Policy Group in his meetings with them.

1. OVERALL EXPENDITURE

The overall expenditure requirement for 2008 was €126.584 million - an increase of 7.3% on the adopted figure for 2007. On Page 4 of his report, the breakdown of the funding sources, between grants, rates, etc., was outlined.

2. LOCAL GOVERNMENT FUNDING GRANT

Notification of the grant level under this heading had not yet been issued by the Department of the Environment, Heritage and Local Government, so he had provided for a 4% increase on the 2007 level, based on the best available information. This brought the grant to €27.145 million for 2008.

3. COMMERCIAL RATE

The commercial valuation of the County continued to increase and the 2008 valuation showed an increase of over 4% on the 2007 figure. In drafting the Budget, he was acutely aware of the very competitive environment in which businesses currently operated and, so to ensure that Limerick continued to be an attractive location for new and existing investment, he did not propose to increase the commercial rate for 2008. The Limerick County Rate was the 25th lowest of the 34 County and City Councils in 2007.

4. EFFICIENCY AND VALUE FOR MONEY

Over the past number of years, significant progress had been achieved throughout the organisation under these headings. It was his intention to continue building on the various initiatives already in operation, particularly focused on the use of technology. In addition, any recommendations arising from national V.F.M. studies would be implemented, where appropriate.

He referred to the historical significance of presenting a budget with no increase proposed in the commercial rate. He said it was the first time he had presented such a budget and, as far as he knew, it was the first time this had been done in

Limerick County Council. This was a tribute to all concerned, including the Members for the way they had supported the staff and worked as a team to provide services throughout the county.

5. DEVELOPMENT FUND

Earlier this year, the Council approved a very significant three-year investment programme, costing approx. €64.00 million, from this fund. Work was ongoing on the projects approved, and it was his intention to ensure that all projects proceeded as speedily as possible.

6. CAPITAL PROGRAMME

The three year Capital Programme, covering the period 2008 to 2010 had been circulated with the Budget documentation (Page 75). This programme showed a capital investment programme of over half a billion during the three year period.

Following on from the Briefing Session held the previous Monday for the Members, he wished to mention some of the initiatives in the Draft Budget.

Housing

- Increased provision for maintenance and pre-letting repairs.
- Establishment of new housing services company for the Voluntary Housing Sector.
- Central Heating Programme almost complete. 700 houses benefited.
- Traveller Accommodation Programme reviewed (due for consideration at December Council Meeting).
- Increased provision for the new scheme incorporating Essential Repairs and Disabled Persons Grants Schemes.

Roads

- He had assumed the same level of Non-National Road Grants as notified for 2007. The actual allocation was usually notified in January.
- He had increased the funding from own resources for 2008, by 4%, to meet national guidelines.

- The increased level of grant aid over the last number of years for Local Improvement Schemes was very necessary. This increased aid, combined with funding under the Clár Programme, would ensure that a very worthwhile works programme was now undertaken.
- Public Lighting:** He proposed, in response to requests from Members, to commence in 2008 a programme, to be carried out over a number of years, to enhance the public lighting in the County's Towns and Villages. The €100,000 provision in the Draft Budget would be supplemented with a further allocation from the Development Fund. Full details of the proposed programme would be included with the Road Works Scheme when it came before the Members early in the New Year.
- Traffic Calming Measures & Road Signage:** The Members had expressed concern at the lack of progress on these two important issues, and he was therefore putting in place a programme, to be undertaken over a few years, to address these concerns. Funding for the programme would come from the N.R.A. for National Roads, Department of the Environment, Heritage and Local Government for Regional, own resources and Development Fund for Local Roads. Like the Public Lighting Programme, full details of these initiatives would be brought to the Members with the Road Works Scheme.

Water Services

- The main cost drivers in this sector were:-
 - Increasing population, higher quality standards and energy costs.
 - New regulatory framework – details outlined on Page 19 of his report.
 - Health and Safety challenges.
- The conservation programme would continue - very significant results over the last few years on all schemes throughout the County.
- County-wide metering programme of all non-domestic consumers almost complete.
- He did not propose to increase the charge for water in 2008, and the metering programme would facilitate implementation of the Government's Water Pricing Framework. He had however provided for an increased waste charge, which would bring the charge closer to the economic cost, which he was required to achieve.

- On page 6 of his report, he had outlined the very significant costs for 2008 of implementing in full two new sets of Regulations covering water and waste, introduced in 2007, which he had not provided for in full in this Budget. He had sought additional financial assistance from the Department of the Environment, Heritage and Local Government to help give effect to these Regulations.

Planning

- Activity continued at highest level - just down on 2006 all-time high.
- Review of Local Area Plans for a number of towns would continue in 2008. Also work on village design statements for Murroe, Athea and Ardagh was ongoing.
- Continue to promote the very successful water services initiative in small towns and villages.
- Statutory review of Development Contribution Scheme to be undertaken in 2008.
- Allocation for Tourism Promotion provided for initiatives in the tourism area, including tidy towns initiatives.

Environmental

- New cell at Gortadroma landfill now operational and a further two under construction.
- Anticipated over 70,000 tons intake in 2008.
- Overall provision includes for all aspects of Waste Management, including recycling, civic amenity sites, environmental awareness and clean-up operations.
- Increased provision for Fire Service to meet Health and Safety requirements.
- Shannon River Basin Project to continue in 2008.

Recreation and Amenity

- The increased provision for the Library Service reflected the operational costs of the 24 Branches throughout the County, with Internet access available in 23.

Also, a special provision was included to purchase book stocks for the new Branch in Rathkeale, due to open in January 2008. The Library Headquarters Office recently moved from the old building in O'Connell Street to the new Headquarters in Lissanalta House.

- The increased provision for the Horticultural Unit reflected the ever-increasing demand arising from the take-over of estates.
- Increased provision for support to Leisure Facilities, including the new Swimming Pool and Leisure Centre opened in Askeaton during the year.
- The Arts Programme, which was very much appreciated by the public, would continue to support festivals, and award Grants and Bursaries.

Agriculture, Education, Health and Welfare

- The main activity in this area was the administration of the Higher Education Grants Scheme, and payment of V.E.C. Pensions. The costs of both were almost fully recouped from the Department of Education and Science.

Miscellaneous Services

- This Division was mainly about Corporate Issues, such as Office Accommodation, Financial Management, Franchise and Local Representation.
- Under this heading, he wished to mention the Corporate Building Works and progress achieved in 2007:-
 - Lissanalta House completed – Library H.Q., Motor Taxation, Regional Road Design Office, Laboratory and other offices.
 - Rathkeale Area Office and Library.
 - Commencement of work on the Castletroy Park.

- Kilmallock Area Office, Library, Courthouse and Fire Station, and other projects significantly advanced through the design, planning or procurement process.

The County Manager concluded by saying that he had endeavoured to outline the background to the Budget and highlight some of the issues in the various operational areas. He would now welcome input from the Members and recommend the Draft Budget for 2008 to the Members.

It was unanimously agreed that the Manager's Report on the draft Budget 2008, as circulated to Members, be read into the Minutes of the Meeting as follows:

"The Draft Budget for the financial year ending 31st December 2008 has been prepared in accordance with the provisions of the Local Government Act 2001, and has been circulated to the Members within the prescribed statutory period.

The Statutory Budget Meeting has been fixed for Friday, 14th December. This means that the process of adopting the Budget for the financial year ending 31st December 2008 must be completed within the prescribed period of twenty-one days, commencing on that date.

The Budget for 2008 must therefore be adopted on or before Thursday, 3rd January 2008.

1. Introduction

The task of presenting a balanced budget for 2008, to the Members, was extremely difficult having regard to the ever increasing demands on services and the scarce resources available to meet these demands.

In framing the Budget, I have carefully assessed all cost centres and income streams and the following factors were of significant importance in allocating resources.

- (a) The aims and objectives of the Council's Corporate Plan.**
- (b) Government Policy and Priorities.**
- (c) The ever increasing competitive environment in which Limerick business operates.**

- (d) Views expressed by the Members during the consultation process with the Corporate Policy Group.
- (e) The increasing demand for higher quality services.
- (f) Demands arising from the regulatory framework in areas such as planning, building control, environmental pollution and, particularly for 2008, water and waste water.
- (g) The significant costs associated with the operation and maintenance of new infrastructure provided under successive National Development Plans.
- (h) The Council is subject to pay inflation based on national pay agreements, and non-pay inflation at a rate far in excess of consumer price movement.

The draft Budget therefore was influenced by the above factors on both the Expenditure and Income sides.

2. New Budget Format 2008

In my report, on the Draft 2007 Budget, to the Members, I drew attention to a national proposal to develop a costing model for the Local Government Sector, to replace the existing Programme Group format, and reflect the full economic costs of providing defined services.

Limerick County Council were subsequently requested by the Department of the Environment, Heritage and Local Government to participate in the project with two other Local Authorities.

The main objectives of the new Costing System were:-

- Identify the full economic cost of providing defined services.
- Standardise the basis for apportionment of Central Management Costs.
- Agree on a method for allocation of direct administrative charges.
- Standardise costing practices across all Local Authorities.

- Arising from the development of a new Costing System, to develop a new statutory reporting format, for both the Annual Budget and the Annual Financial Statement.

I am pleased to report to the Members that the Council played a very significant role in this national project throughout 2007, and I understand are the first Local Authority to present the Draft Budget to the Members in the new format.

I wish to place on record my sincere gratitude to the Head of Finance and to the staff of the Finance Function for the commitment, expertise and skill that they have brought to the project.

Having reviewed the new format, I am satisfied that it represents a significant improvement on the old system and puts in place a very sound basis for moving forward.

3. Out-Turn 2007

The quarterly financial reports to the Members, from the Head of Finance, indicated a number of activity areas where excess expenditure, or under-realisation of income, was anticipated. I am satisfied that these variations will be offset with savings in other areas or some increased income yields.

Overall, therefore, the provisional out-turn figures for 2007 indicated in the Draft Budget reflect this position.

4. Expenditure Requirements

The total estimated expenditure included in the Draft Budget for 2008 amounts to €126,584,064, an increase of €8,616,757 (7.30%) over the adopted figure for 2007.

This level of expenditure will be financed from the following sources:-

Details	Amount €	%
1. Local Government Fund Grant	27,145,462	21.44
2. Grants & Subsidies	38,654,732	30.54
3. Commercial Rates	26,952,606	21.29
4. Goods & Services	33,831,264	26.73
	126,584,064	100.00

5. Commercial Valuation / Rates

The total estimated Commercial Valuation used in framing the Draft Budget for 2008 is €447,566 - an increase of €17,916 (4.17%) over the 2007 figure. The level of valuation buoyancy in County Limerick over the past number of years has contributed significantly in keeping the increase in the rate at or below general inflation. Indeed, the current annual rate on valuation (rate in the £) for County Limerick is one of the lowest of the thirty-four County and City Authorities in the country.

To ensure that County Limerick remains an attractive location for new enterprise, and that the competitive environment in which existing business has to operate, I do not propose to increase the rate for 2008.

6. Local Government Fund

At the time of preparing the Budget and Report, the Council have not been notified of the 2008 allocation from the Local Government Fund.

I have therefore, based on the best information available from the Department of the Environment, Heritage and Local Government, assumed a sum of €27.145 million – an increase of 4% over the 2007 allocation.

7. Commercial Water / Waste Water Charges

The implementation of the Government's Water Pricing Policy has presented challenges over the past number of years, and the Council has been working to ensure that the various elements of this policy are introduced in a planned and efficient manner. Among the developments in this regard over the past number of years are:-

- Conservation Programme:- This programme has been in operation for the past number of years, and very significant results have been achieved.
- Universal Metering of all Non-Domestic Consumers:- This contract has been ongoing throughout 2007, and should be complete early in 2008.
- Implementation of new Capital Model for major infrastructural water services projects.

- Introduction of waste water charges for non-domestic consumers.

Expenditure on water and waste water schemes - operation and maintenance - has increased by almost 50% over the past number of years arising from increased demand, higher quality standards and new regulations. To meet these ever-increasing costs and in compliance with the Water Pricing Policy Framework Document, I have fixed the following charges for metered customers for 2008:-

Metered Water:	€1.10 per cubic metre
Metered Waste Water:	€1.50 per cubic metre
Standing Charge Per Meter:	€200 per year

The introduction during 2007 of the European Communities (Drinking Water) (No. 2) Regulations and the Waste Water Discharge (Authorisation) Regulations, places very significant additional obligatory obligations on Local Authorities in respect of regulation, monitoring, reporting and follow-up for both public and private water schemes and a system for licensing, or certification, for waste discharge plants.

The estimated cost for the Council for 2008, to give full effect to these Regulations, is approx. €2 million, which has not been possible to provide for, without very significant increases in charges, in this Draft Budget. I have provided a total sum of €0.50m, and have sought additional funding from the Department of the Environment, Heritage and Local Government to meet these very demanding additional costs.

8. Traffic Calming Measures / Road Signage

In response to concerns expressed by the Members with regard to traffic calming measures and signposting on our roads, I am putting in place a programme to address these concerns. The programme will be undertaken over a number of years and will be financed from a combination of our own resources (Revenue Budget), N.R.A. funding for National Roads, Department of the Environment, Heritage and Local Government for Regional Roads and the Development Fund, where appropriate.

I am satisfied that a combination of the above income sources will ensure the implementation of a very comprehensive programme for Traffic Calming and county-wide signage commencing in 2008.

Full details of the Programme will be brought to the Members in conjunction with the Road Works Scheme for 2008, when the roads grant allocations are notified.

9. Public Lighting

Having regard to the views expressed by the Members, I propose to put in place a structured work programme, to be undertaken over a number of years, to provide energy efficient enhanced public lighting in our towns and villages. To finance the programme, I have committed €100,000 in the 2008 Draft Budget, which will be supplemented with an allocation from the Development Fund. Full details of the programme will be brought to the Members with the Road Works Scheme in early 2008.

10. Landfill Capacity

Additional landfill capacity was added at Gortadroma Landfill in 2007, with the completion of the first of five new cells and the commencement of construction of a further two cells. Based on this additional capacity, it is anticipated that approximately 77,000 tons will be landfilled at Gortadroma in 2008.

I do not propose to increase the charge from €90.00 per ton for 2008.

11. Capital Investment Programme

The provisions of the Local Government Act 2001 require me to prepare and submit to the Members at Budget time a report outlining the proposed Capital Works Programme for the next three years (2008, 2009 and 2010). This report is now enclosed, with your budgetary documentation.

While the estimates included in the report are dependant on grant aid from the Department and various loan approvals, it does show an infrastructure investment by this Council for the period under review of almost €531.5 million.

12. Green Paper on Local Government Reform

I welcome the commitment in the Programme for Government, of the publication of a Green Paper on Local Government Reform. I understand that this paper is due for publication late this year, or early next year. I look forward to the formulation of a response, with the Members, during the consultation period following publication.

13. Gateway Fund

The members will be aware that the Limerick-Shannon Gateway has been selected as one of the 9 gateways identified under the National Spatial Strategy published in 2002. The Government announced in the National Development Plan (2007-2013), the establishment of the *Gateway Innovation Fund* (GIF) as a strategic targeted intervention to stimulate gateway development in the context of the National Spatial Strategy. Under the GIF a total of €300m is available for capital projects, which must be substantially completed by 2010 and which must meet certain criteria, which are aimed at strengthening the gateway.

In June of this year the Department of the Environment, Heritage & Local Government issued a call for proposals for funding under the GIF. Limerick City Council was designated as the lead local authority for the preparation of a bid for Gateway Innovation Funding on behalf of Limerick City Council, Limerick County Council, Clare County Council and North Tipperary County Council. A bid was prepared seeking over €128M for various projects in the Gateway and submitted to the DOEHLG last month. Funding for 20% of the cost of the projects must be sourced locally. The projects are focused on the pedestrianisation and enhancement of the City Centre but also include projects in County Limerick, such as the Coonagh Distributor Road, Cycle and Walkway route developments and an extension to the University Concert Hall.

The Department has appointed consultants to assess the various bids and it is expected that an announcement of the successful gateway bids will be made in Spring 2008.

14. 2007 Progress

While the year just ending presented many challenges for the Council, I would like to take this opportunity to outline some of the positive developments for the County, advanced in 2007.

Construction work on the Tunnel Project and the N7 High Quality Dual Carriageway continued in 2007, and these projects are scheduled for completion in 2010 and 2009 respectively. Phase two of the County Hall development (Lissanalta House) and Rathkeale Area Office and Library (Áras Sean Finn) were completed and occupied during the year.

Also, I particularly welcome the recent signing of the Contract for provision of a new Neighbourhood Park at Castletroy, which is due

for completion next year and represents phase 1 of a programme of such parks for the City Environs and County.

As stated earlier in this report, additional landfill capacity was also added at Gortadroma Landfill during the year, and other significant projects in the water / waste water, housing, fire and corporate building programme were advanced through the planning and procurement process.

I also welcome the commencement of construction on the Revenue Office in Newcastle West, on the site provided by the Council. This development will provide a welcome boost to the economy of Newcastle West. Also, at this time, I welcome the decentralisation of Enterprise Ireland to the Region (Shannon) and I look forward to working closely with this body to ensure continued economic growth in the County.

15. Acknowledgements

As I stated earlier in this report, the year 2007 presented many challenges and the level of progress achieved across all activity areas of the Council could not have been achieved without the co-operation and support of the Cathaoirleach and Members and I wish to sincerely thank you for your support. To the staff at all levels, I also express my appreciation for their continued support during 2007.

The maintenance of all existing services, and the continuation of the Capital Investment Programme, will again present challenges for 2008 but I am confident that, working as a team, the progress achieved in 2007 can be further advanced in 2008.

16. Conclusion

I believe that Limerick County Council continues to provide a quality Local Government service to the people of the County and, in preparing this Budget, I have endeavoured to ensure that this quality service is maintained at the highest possible level, while at the same time ensuring that the cost of this service does not impact unduly on the commercial sector. Indeed, I should also add that the various Value for Money initiatives undertaken by the Council in recent years have had a very positive impact on the Draft Budget. I am pleased therefore to present this Draft Budget for 2008 to the Members and I recommend its adoption.”

The Cathaoirleach paid tribute to the Head of Finance and his team for the manner in which they had adopted the new format of the budget and also stated that the Council should be very proud that it was the first local authority in the country to totally adopt the new format. He also thanked the Corporate Policy Group for its work and input on the Budget and thanked Management for its response to the issues raised by the Corporate Policy Group in relation to traffic calming, public lighting, signage and the possibility of having a budget without an increase in the commercial rate.

On the proposal of Councillor O'Donovan, seconded by Councillor Collins, it was agreed to adjourn the meeting for fifteen minutes to allow a few points of clarification to be discussed with the Head of Finance.

On the resumption of the meeting, Members thanked the Management and Staff for the Budget presented which was considered progressive and encouraging. The Members also stated that the Budget was making a strong statement to small businesses and existing and potential employers that the Council was serious about promoting employment opportunities by not increasing the commercial rate.

The Members expressed concerns in relation to water charges, the cost to consumers and especially schools. The Members also requested that the criteria and conditions in relation to the Refuse Collection Waiver Scheme would be examined by the Environmental Strategic Policy Committee in 2008. The allocations in the Budget in relation traffic calming, lighting and road signage were welcomed by the Members.

On the proposal of Councillor Collins, seconded by Councillor O'Donovan, it was agreed that the resolutions, as set out hereunder, would be adopted:

"That, the Budget for Limerick County Council for the financial year ending 31st December, 2008, as presented, in a total sum of €126,584,064 be adopted."

"That, Limerick County Council hereby determines the annual rate on valuation to be 60.22 for 2008."

The Cathaoirleach and Members thanked the County Manager, Head of Finance and staff for their work in presenting the budget.

This concluded the meeting.

Sínithe:

_____ **An Cathaoirleach**

_____ **An Rúnaí Contae**

Dáta:

MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS AT MEETING OF LIMERICK COUNTY COUNCIL HELD IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER, COUNTY HALL, DOORADOYLE, CO. LIMERICK, ON MONDAY, 17TH DECEMBER, 2007, AT 2.30 P.M.

PRESENT IN THE CHAIR: Councillor K. Sheahan, An Cathaoirleach.

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Councillors Brennan, Butler, Cavanagh, Clifford, Collins, Creighton, Enright, Foley, Gallahue, Galvin, Gleeson, Griffin, Harty, Houlihan, Jackman, McAuliffe, Naughton, Neville, Ní Chinnéide, O'Donovan, Ryan, Scanlan, Sheahan (J), Teefy, Wade and Walsh.

An apology for his inability to attend the Meeting was received from Councillor Hurley.

OFFICIALS IN ATTENDANCE:

County Manager (Mr. E. Gleeson), Director, Housing (Mr. J. Feane), Director, Planning and Development (Mr. T. Enright), Director, Environment and Emergency Services (Mr. G. Behan), Director, Transportation and Water Services (Mr. P. Crowe), Director, Community & Enterprise/Human Resources/Corporate Services (Ms. J. Cotter Coughlan), Head of Finance (Mr. O. Killeen), Senior Social Worker (Mr. S. O'Connor), Social Worker (Ms. P. Phillips), Meetings Administrator (Mr. E. Griffin).

1. ADOPTION OF MINUTES:

Circulated, copy of draft Minutes of Ordinary Meeting of the Council held on 26th November, 2007.

Molta ag Councillor Collins;
Cuidiú ón Councillor O'Donovan;
Agus an Cinneadh:

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

The Cathaoirleach stated that before proceeding further with the Meeting, he wished to address two matters:

- **Water Charges in Schools:**

The Cathaoirleach referred to a discussion at the Budget Meeting and stated that in reply to a query raised by Councillor Harty, he had maintained that the demand for water charges from schools was being implemented as a result of an EU Directive. However, he had since been made aware that it was within the Government's remit as to how the matter should be resolved. In the circumstances, he was requesting that the Council would defer the demand for water charges to schools pending a response from central government. In that connection, he proposed that the Taoiseach, the Minister for Finance and the Minister for Education would be written to requesting that the matter be addressed forthwith at Government level rather than by local authorities. He also proposed that the motion would be circulated to all local authorities countrywide. The proposal was seconded by Councillor Harty and agreed.

- **Presentation to Former Members of the Council:**

The Cathaoirleach extended a welcome to former Members of the Council who were in attendance and to whom a presentation would later be made to mark their contribution as public representatives.

- **Vote of Congratulations:**

Congratulations were extended to Mrs. Kathy Anglim, Ballagh, on reaching her 101st birthday.

- **Votes of Sympathy:**

Sympathy was extended to the families of a number of people recently deceased on their bereavements and it was agreed that the Council's condolences would be conveyed to them as requested.

2. Disposal of Land

Circulated, copy of Statutory Notice dated 28th November, 2007, concerning disposal of land at Ballyculhane Upper, Glin, Co. Limerick.

Molta ag Councillor Collins;
Cuidiú ón Councillor O'Donovan;
Agus an Cinneadh:

“That, the approval of the Council be and is hereby given to the disposal of land at Ballyculhane Upper, Glin, Co. Limerick (Entry 1483 of Folio 11800F) to Michael McElligott, for the sum of €1.00, particulars of which were contained in Statutory Notice dated 28th November, 2007.”

3. Housing

(a) Review of the Traveller Accommodation Programme 2005-2008

Circulated, report of the Director, Housing, dated 7th December, 2007, in relation to Review of the Traveller Accommodation Programme 2005-2008.

The report stated that the Minister for the Environment, Heritage and Local Government had directed that all programmes under Section 17 of the Housing (Traveller Accommodation) Act, 1998, be reviewed by 31st December, 2007. The existing Traveller Accommodation Programme had been adopted by the Council on 28th February, 2005, and work on the preparation of a new programme for the period 2009-2013 would be commencing in March 2008. The report outlined the progress made during the period currently under review for which the targets set out had been achieved. It had been the recommendation of both the Consultative Committee and the Strategic Policy Committee who had reviewed the existing programme that it would not be amended or replaced having regard to the impending preparation of a new programme. Approval was therefore being sought that the current programme not be amended or replaced at this time.

Molta ag Councillor McAuliffe;
Cuidiú ón Councillor Collins;
Agus an Cinneadh:

“That, the current Traveller Accommodation Programme 2005-2008 not be amended or replaced at this time.”

(b) Tenant Support Policy

Circulated, report of the Chairman of the Housing Strategic Policy Committee dated 7th December, 2007, together with draft Tenant Support Policy document dated December 2007.

The report stated that the policy document had been considered at length by the Housing Strategic Policy Committee and provided for a positive framework within which the Council, its tenants and all relevant bodies, could work together to ensure stability and inclusion in communities where social housing was provided. The document had also set out the roles and responsibilities of tenants and had outlined the consequences of failure on the part of tenants to live up to their responsibilities. The Garda Síochána and the Health Service Executive had also contributed to its preparation and committed themselves to working in partnership with the Council in implementing these policies.

The Members welcomed the policy document and stressed the importance of rigorously enforcing the procedures put in place to deal with complaints of anti-social behaviour. It was further suggested that in addition to pre-tenancy meetings, follow-up meetings should also be held after a certain period with a view to forming residents organisations whereby the tenants could become involved with the proper upkeep of their estates.

Molta ag Councillor Collins;
Cuidiú on Councillor Teefy;
Agus an Cinneadh:

“That, the Tenant Support Policy document dated December 2007, as circulated, be and is hereby adopted.”

4. Transportation and Water Services

Part VIII Procedures – Road Improvement Works at the Junction of R521 and R523 at Ardagh

Circulated, report of the Director, Transportation and Water Services, dated 4th December, 2007, in relation to Road Improvement Works at the Junction of the R521 and R523 at Ardagh, to include new traffic signals incorporating pedestrian crossing facilities, footpaths, public lighting, road markings and signage.

The report set out details of the proposed development under a number of headings and was prepared and submitted to the Members pursuant to Section 179 of the Planning and Development Acts, 2000-2006, and Part VIII of the Planning and Development Regulations, 2001-2007.

The Members noted the report and welcomed the proposed development.

5. Planning and Development

Proposed Castleconnell Local Area Plan 2007-2013

Circulated, report of the Director, Planning and Development, dated 3rd December, 2007, enclosing a copy of Manager's Report on the Proposed Amendments to the Proposed Castleconnell Local Area Plan 2007-2013.

Councillor Ryan stated that before proposing adoption of the plan, she wished to have certain matters clarified with regard to the provision and allocation of open space and whether the lands at Scanlan Park could be classified as open space.

The Director of Planning & Development replied that in excess of 12 hectares of land had been allocated in the Plan for open space and that it was considered more beneficial to have the open space provided in a number of different locations depending on the population divide. He added that some of the open space provision was quite substantial and would allow for playing pitches and other activities.

With regard to Scanlan Park, the Senior Planner confirmed that lands in the estate were not included in the total open space allocation. He explained that the Plan, as now drafted, provided that development would occur in three phases - 50% of Phase 1 to be completed before Phase 2 commenced and that open space development (50% of which must be active) would be carried out in conjunction with housing development. He stressed that housing development could not occur unless these provisions were in place and that there would be ongoing discussions with developers and landowners to monitor and implement that policy.

Molta ag Councillor Ryan;
Cuidiú ón Councillor Teefy;
Agus an Cinneadh:

"That, the proposed Castleconnell Local Area Plan 2007-2013 be made with no further amendments, as outlined in the Manager's Report circulated."

6. Corporate Services

(a) Green Paper on the Reform of Local Government

Circulated, County Secretary's report dated 11th December, 2007, in relation to the making of a submission to the Minister for the Environment,

Heritage and Local Government for inclusion in the Green Paper on the Reform of Local Government.

In referring to the County Secretary's report which had been prepared following a proposal from the November Meeting, the Cathaoirleach agreed that the recommendations contained therein could form the basis of a submission from the Council on the Green Paper and that a more detailed submission could be made at the White Paper stage. He again invited the Members to put forward their recommendations for consideration and inclusion.

During a debate on the matter, Members referred to their increased workload as a result of functions already devolved and the abolition of the dual mandate. Some Members also felt that in the event of more powers and functions being devolved, they would need extra support and resources by way of professional and administrative backup.

On the proposal of Councillor Collins, seconded by Councillor Griffin, it was agreed that a sub-committee representing all parties would be formed which would be entrusted with the task of preparing a submission from the Council to the Minister on the Reform of Local Government.

With the Cathaoirleach's permission, the following matters were raised:

Boundary Extension:

Councillor Wade referred to a recent radio interview given by Dr. Edward Walsh, former President of the University of Limerick, in which he appeared to advocate a further extension of the city boundary into the southside of the county. He reiterated that in approving the northside extension of the city boundary, it was the Council's understanding that this extension represented a full and final settlement of the boundary issue. For that reason, he proposed that Dr. Walsh would be invited to attend the next Meeting of the Council. The proposal was supported by Councillor O'Donovan and agreed.

Charges for Water Meters:

Councillor Galvin stated that he had previously raised the matter of standing charges for water meters and had sought a reduction for consumers with two or more land holdings. He stated that he understood that the previous Minister for the Environment, Heritage and Local Government, Mr. Roche, had reached an agreement with the IFA on the matter and he was now requesting that the present Minister, Mr. Gormley, would be contacted to uphold that agreement. The proposal was seconded by Councillor Clifford and supported by the other Members.

(b) Presentation to Former Members

The Cathaoirleach welcomed the following former Members from the 1999 to 2004 Council who were unsuccessful in contesting the 2004 Local Elections – Councillors Seamus Ahern, John Cregan (Ballyhahill), Pat Hennessy, Paddy Hourigan, Sandra Marsh, Joe Meagher.

He stated that it had been the Council's intention to acknowledge their contribution to public life and for that purpose a presentation was now being made to them as a token of appreciation. On his own behalf and that of the Council, he extended best wishes to each of them for the future.

(c) Integrated Dance Group

It was noted that this item would be taken at 4.00 p.m.

7. Conferences

Circulated, details of the following Conferences: (a) Antrim Tourism "Forty Shades of Green Conference" to be held in Dunadry, Co. Antrim, on 1st and 2nd February, 2008; (b) Mid-West Regional Authority 14th Annual Conference "Planning for Renewable Energy" to be held in Adare, Co. Limerick, on 8th February, 2008; (c) AMAI Spring Conference 2008 to be held in Trim, Co. Meath, on 15th/16th February, 2008; (d) 19th Colmcille Winter School 2008 to be held in Gartan, Church Hill, Letterkenny, Co. Donegal, on 29th February, 2008; (e) Wexford Borough Council Conference "Better Local Government – Is it Working?" to be held in Wexford on 3rd/5th April, 2008.

On the proposal of Councillor Collins, seconded by Councillor O'Donovan, the Council approved the attendance of the following additional Members at Conferences already approved by the Council:

The Fr. William Casey Centenary Conference 1907-2007 - Templeglantine, Co. Limerick - on 7th/8th September, 2007: Councillors Scanlan and Foley.

Training Seminar for Councillors "Effective Communications for Councillors" - Letterkenny, Co. Donegal – 16th/18th November, 2007: Councillors Ryan and Sheahan (K).

2007 Nuclear Free Local Authorities Annual General Meeting and 9th Irish and UK Local Authorities Standing Conference on Nuclear Hazards - Dublin - 6th/7th December, 2007: Councillor Ní Chinnéide.

Confederation of European Councillors Winter Seminar 2007 "Tackling Poverty and Social Need in Ireland, North and South" - Enniskillen, Co. Fermanagh - 7th December, 2007: Councillors Scanlan and Collins.

QUESTIONS

Replies to the following Questions on the agenda had been circulated to all Members at the commencement of the meeting and the Questions were therefore considered as having been dealt with.

8. Question submitted by Councillor F. Foley

I will ask at the next meeting for an up-date on the proposed traffic calming measures for Templeglantine.

REPLY: The Roads Section has forwarded a preliminary design to the National Roads Authority requesting funding for the construction of a traffic calming scheme in Templeglantine. The NRA has indicated that funding will not be available in 2008 but that the scheme will be added to their Traffic Calming Scheme Priority List. If and when funding is made available, the Roads Section will progress the design and construction of the scheme.

9. Question submitted by Councillor J. Scanlan

I will ask at the next meeting (a) what revenue was generated from the sale of graves within Limerick County Council management in 2005, 2006 and in 2007 year to date; (b) the number of burial grounds exclusively in Limerick County Council ownership; (c) the value of maintenance grant paid to each cemetery annually; and (d) what the annual spends were/are in procuring lands for new burial grounds in each of the years enquired on.

REPLY: (a) The income from the sale of burial ground plots was as follows: 2005 - €276,500; 2006 - €370,300; 2007 - €369,100; (b) The number of burial grounds in Limerick County Council ownership is 240; (c) A maintenance grant of €350.00 is paid to each cemetery annually; (d) The Council has not, in the years mentioned, purchased land for burial grounds. However, loan charges for the development of Castlemungret Burial Ground (including land purchase) in recent years are as follows: 2005 - €48,800; 2006 -

€85,800; 2007 - €87,300. In line with current policy, the Council does make a financial contribution (up to €25,000) to voluntary burial ground committees to assist them in developing their own burial grounds.

NOTICE OF MOTION

10. Notice of Motion submitted by Councillor J. Scanlan

I will move at the next meeting that Limerick County Council request the Minister for the Environment, Heritage and Local Government to introduce grant-aid to encourage wind farmers convey energy generated by them via underground cabling rather than by means of overhead power lines which are often necessitated by reasons of cost to the producer/s.

Speaking in the absence of Councillor Scanlon, Councillor Sheahan (J) stated that he concurred with the motion that cabling from windfarm sub-stations should be conveyed underground as otherwise it could be unsightly and that finance should be made available by the Department of the Environment, Heritage and Local Government to assist that development.

The Motion was supported by other members who suggested that local authorities should also seek financial assistance towards reinstating roads where windfarms were being located, which was mostly in isolated areas.

11. Correspondence:

The Correspondence circulated with the agenda was taken as read.

6 (c) Integrated Dance Group

The Cathaoirleach welcomed residents from Rathfredagh Cheshire Home, Newcastle West, who were accompanied by pupils from Colaiste Mhuire, Askeaton, and Scoil Mhuire agus Ide, Newcastle West. Dance Facilitator, Ms. Mary Hartney, and Ms. Joan MacKernan, County Arts Officer, were also present.

The meeting was entertained by the students who performed an integrated dance with the Cheshire Home residents. The theme of the performance was the integration of disabled and non-disabled persons through sharing and creativity.

Christmas Greetings:

Before the meeting concluded, the Cathaoirleach wished all present in the Chamber a happy and peaceful Christmas and a prosperous New Year. The Party Leaders and County Manager joined in exchanging the compliments of the Christmas season.

COUNTY MANAGER'S ORDERS:

The Register of Orders made by the County Manager up to the date of the Meeting was available in the Council Chamber for inspection by the Members.

PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT:

The Register of Decisions on applications under the Planning and Development Acts, 2000-2006, was also available in the Council Chamber for inspection by the Members.

Sínithe:

An Cathaoirleach

An Rúnaí Contae

Dáta:

LIMERICK COUNTY COUNCIL

County Hall,
Dooradoyle,
Limerick.

Ref: K1198

2nd January, 2008

TO: CHAIRMAN AND EACH MEMBER OF THE COUNCIL.

DISPOSAL OF LAND

A Chara,

Notice is hereby given in accordance with the provisions of Section 183 of the Local Government Act, 2001, and Section 211 of the Planning & Development Act 2000, of the intention of the County Council to dispose of property described hereunder to Esther Dillon Legal Personal Representative of Bridget Ahern (deceased).

Property at: Ballyshonakin, Effin, Kilmallock, Co. Limerick
(Entry 326 of Folio 11800F)

Consideration: €1.00

Purchasers: Esther Dillon Legal Personal Representative of
Bridget Ahern (deceased)

Authority for Acquisition: Housing Act, 1966

The Council shall resolve at a Meeting held after the expiration of ten clear days from this date that the disposal -

1. Shall not be carried out, or
2. Be carried out in accordance with the terms specified in the Resolution.

If the Council do not pass a resolution to either effect, the Disposal may be carried out in accordance with the terms of this notice.

Mise le meas,



RUNAI CHONTAE

The above property was vested in Bridget Ahern on 1st April, 1969. However, the registration was incorrectly completed at this time. Bridget Ahern is now deceased and the property must now be transferred to her successor in title – Esther Dillon.

LIMERICK COUNTY COUNCIL

Water Services Department,
County Hall,
Dooradoyle,
Limerick.

10th January 2008

TO/ CHAIRMAN AND EACH MEMBER OF THE COUNCIL

DISPOSAL OF LAND AT DOON, LIMERICK.

A Chara,

Notice is hereby given in accordance with the provisions of Section 183 of the Local Government Act 2001, and Section 211 of the Planning & Development Act 2000 of the intention of the County Council to dispose of the land described hereunder to Joseph Murphy & Co. (Tuam) Ltd.

<u>Land:</u>	0.09 acres
<u>Purchaser:</u>	Joseph Murphy & Co. (Tuam) Ltd, Glenbrook, Old Singland Road, Limerick.
<u>Person from whom acquired:</u>	Denis Ryan, Convent View, Doon.
<u>Consideration:</u>	€ 1,000

The Council shall resolve at a Meeting held after the expiration of ten clear days from this date that the disposal:

- (1) Shall not be carried out, or
- (2) Shall be carried out in accordance with the terms specified in the Resolution.

If the Council does not pass a Resolution to either effect, the disposal may be carried out in accordance with the terms of this notice.

Mise le Meas



RUNAI CHONTAE

**COMHAIRLE CHONTAE LUIMNIGH
LIMERICK COUNTY COUNCIL**

Údarás Pleanála,
(Planning Authority),
Halla an Chontae,
(County Hall),
Tuar an Daill,
(Dooradoyle),
Co. Luimnigh.
(Co. Limerick).

16th January 2008

Don Chathaoirleach and do gach Ball don Chomhairle

Re: Proposed Caherconlish Local Area Plan 2008-2014

A Chomhairleoir, a chara,

I enclose herewith a copy of the Manager's report on the Proposed Amendments to the Proposed Caherconlish Local Area Plan for your consideration at the full Council meeting on Monday 28th January 2008.

The Members at a briefing meeting of the Castleconnell Area Committee and the full Council meeting on 22nd October agreed to place the Proposed Amendments to the Proposed Caherconlish Local Area Plan on formal public display from 13th November 2007 to 11th December 2007. During this statutory display period a total of 63 submissions were received. The report was considered at the Castleconnell Area Committee meeting on 14th January 2008 and it was agreed to put the Caherconlish Local Area Plan forward to the full Council for approval. The report consisting of a summary of the 63 submissions received, together with my recommendations are attached as required by Section 20 of the Planning and Development Act, 2000 (as amended). Copies of the original submissions will be available for inspection at the full Council meeting.

Therefore, it is recommended that the Proposed Caherconlish Local Area Plan as amended and agreed by the Castleconnell Area Members be made by the full Council.

Mise le meas,



Tom Enright
Director of Service,
Planning & Development.

**COMHAIRLE CHONTAE LUIMNIGH
LIMERICK COUNTY COUNCIL**

Údarás Pleanála,
(Planning Authority),
Halla an Chontae,
(County Hall),
Tuar an Daill,
(Dooradoyle),
Co. Luimnigh.
(Co. Limerick).

16th January 2008

Don Chathaoirleach and do gach Ball don Chomhairle

Re: Proposed Caherconlish Local Area Plan 2008-2014

A Chomhairleoir, a chara,

I enclose herewith a copy of the Manager's report on the Proposed Amendments to the Proposed Caherconlish Local Area Plan for your consideration at the full Council meeting on Monday 28th January 2008.

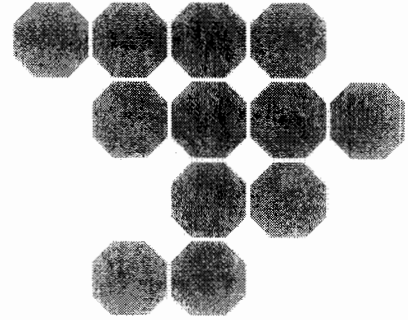
The Members at a briefing meeting of the Castleconnell Area Committee and the full Council meeting on 22nd October agreed to place the Proposed Amendments to the Proposed Caherconlish Local Area Plan on formal public display from 13th November 2007 to 11th December 2007. During this statutory display period a total of 63 submissions were received. The report was considered at the Castleconnell Area Committee meeting on 14th January 2008 and it was agreed to put the Caherconlish Local Area Plan forward to the full Council for approval. The report consisting of a summary of the 63 submissions received, together with my recommendations are attached as required by Section 20 of the Planning and Development Act, 2000 (as amended). Copies of the original submissions will be available for inspection at the full Council meeting.

Therefore, it is recommended that the Proposed Caherconlish Local Area Plan as amended and agreed by the Castleconnell Area Members be made by the full Council.

Mise le meas,



Tom Enright
Director of Service,
Planning & Development.



Limerick County Council

Proposed Caherconlish Local Area Plan 2008-2014

Manager's Report to Members

Under Section 20(3)(f) of the Planning and Development Act 2000
(as amended)

Submissions and Recommendations report

January 2008



Limerick County Council
Forward Planning

Section 20(3) (f) Managers Report to Members

This report focuses on the submissions and observations made following publication of the Proposed Amendments to the Proposed Caherconlish Local Area Plan (May 2007) and on the Managers response to the issues raised. The report forms part of the statutory procedure for preparing a new Local Area Plan that is set out in Section 20 of the Planning and Development Act, 2000-2006. It is a key element of the process of bringing the published Proposed Plan to final adoption (with or without) amendments by the Members of the Council. The report should be read in conjunction with the written statement and maps of the Proposed Castleconnell Local Area Plan (May 2007) and Proposed Amendments to the Plan (December 2007).

1. Introduction

- 1.1 The Members at a briefing meeting of the Castleconnell Area Committee and the full Council meeting on 22nd October agreed to place the Proposed Amendments to the Proposed Caherconlish Local Area Plan on formal public display from 13th November 2007 to 11th December 2007. During this statutory display period a total of 63 submissions were received. The report was considered at the Castleconnell Area Committee meeting on 14th January 2008 and it was agreed to put the Caherconlish Local Area Plan forward to the full Council for approval. The report consisting of a summary of the 63 submissions received, together with my recommendations are attached as required by Section 20 of the Planning and Development Act, 2000 (as amended). Copies of the original submissions will be available for inspection at the full Council meeting.
- 1.2 This report addresses the 63 submissions and observations received. It includes the name and address of the organisation that made the submission, a summary of the issues raised in the submission and the response of the Manager to the issues raised.

Next Step in the Process

- 1.3 Following receipt and consideration of the Managers Report the Members of the Area Committee have recommended that the Proposed Caherconlish Local Area Plan as amended and agreed by the Castleconnell Area Members be made by the full Council.

The LAP is made by resolution of the Council. During the LAP process the Council must consider the proper planning and sustainable development of the area, statutory obligations and any relevant plans and policies of the Government or any Minister of the Government.

1	4/12/07	Donal Lunn	Caherconlish	Site 6	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Open space is not over-looked and would give rise to dumping and anti-social activity and recommends a number of dwelling units to over-look this space 	<p>The site is within an archaeologically sensitive area and is also immediately adjacent to the most centrally located green space locations in the village. The development of this site would interfere with the setting of archaeological monuments and would compound the exiting over zoning if the village for residential purposes which has been commented on by the Spatial Policy unit of the DoEHLG.</p>	Zoning to remain as open space, no change to plan.
2	7/12/07	Denis Lunn	Caherconlish	Site 6	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Open space is not over-looked and would give rise to dumping and anti-social activity and recommends a number of dwelling units to over-look this space 	<p>The site is within an archaeologically sensitive area and is also immediately adjacent to the most centrally located green space locations in the village. The development of this site would interfere with the setting of archaeological monuments and would compound the exiting over zoning if the village for residential purposes which has been commented on by the Spatial Policy unit of the DoEHLG.</p>	Zoning to remain as open space, no change to plan.
3	11/12/07	Fr. D. O'Gorman Board of Management	Caherconlish Caherconlish	Location of school	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Poor location and layout of primary school site Safety of school community due to road concerns Separation of sites for education and for community separated by distributor road Entire field should be zoned for education and community use 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Location of the school is where most available land exists bearing in mind previous development activity. Road safety issues could be catered for in final design stage for school The roadway exists as access to lands other than the school. Suggest phasing of site number 1 to prevent over rapid development of area around school site. 	Zoning of site shown as site 1 to be phased

4	11/12/07	Anne Marie Mannix	Erkin Vale, Caherconlish		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No requirement for additional zoned residential lands as shown on amendments Lands outside of zoned area have been bought for more residential Need for secondary school in the area Need for increased facilities such as footpaths, lighting, active amenity and graveyards 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> This concurs with the DoEHLG response and population projections that indicate that in the previous draft more than sufficient land had been zoned residential. The establishment of a secondary school is beyond the remit of the plan and is a function of the Department of Education. The Planning Authority can make provision through zoning for such activities. Provision of street lighting and road issues would be the preserve of the local roads engineer and have been dealt with in Policies M1 and C2 	<p>Omit zoning decisions for development on sites numbers 5, 4 and phasing to be introduced on site 1. Zoning on sites 4 and 5 can be subject to review in future plans.</p> <p>Introduction of phasing to the plan in which policy will read: Phasing of residential development is to take place, with land in phase 2 being released only when 50% of the land in phase 1 is developed.</p> <p>No Change to plan.</p>
5	11/12/07	John Byron	High street, Caherconlish	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Proposed road not sufficient Facilities in the area, graveyards, amenities. Issues of stream in site 4, which would be removed. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Failure to address traffic congestion on main street and road access. Additionally zoned lands are unsustainable with regard to existing facilities, including lack of graveyards. Lack of Facilities and active open space, stream in site 4 to removed as a result of rezoning. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> As in previous plan the plans for by pass would not be possible due to resource constraints and is not a current proposal. Policies in relation to access are covered in Policy M1 This concurs with the DoEHLG response and population projections that indicate that in the previous draft more than sufficient land had been zoned residential. Additionally zoned residential land to be omitted in the case of site 4 	<p>No Change to plan.</p> <p>Omit zoning decisions for development on sites numbers 5, 4 and phasing to be introduced on site 1. Zoning on sites 4 and 5 can be subject to review in future plans.</p> <p>Introduction of phasing to the plan in which policy will read: Phasing of residential development is to take place, with land in phase 2 being released only when 50% of the land in phase 1 is developed.</p> <p>No Change to plan.</p>

6	11/12/07	Anthony Creamer	Boskill, Caherconlish	Site 5 of amendments map	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sub-standard road • Impact on road of historical importance 	Zoning to be omitted to protect the historical site and LAP boundary to be amended accordingly	Site 5 to be omitted and LAP boundary to be amended accordingly. Zoning on site 5 to be reviewed in next LAP
7	11/12/07	Pat Buckley	Boskill, Caherconlish	Site 5 of amendments map	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sub-standard road • Impact on road of historical importance 	Zoning to be omitted to protect the historical site and LAP boundary to be amended accordingly	Site 5 to be omitted and LAP boundary to be amended accordingly. Zoning on site 5 to be reviewed in next LAP
8	11/12/07	M. O'Brien	Boskill, Caherconlish	Site 5 of amendments map	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sub-standard road • Impact on road of historical importance 	Zoning to be omitted to protect the historical site and LAP boundary to be amended accordingly	Site 5 to be omitted and LAP boundary to be amended accordingly. Zoning on site 5 to be reviewed in next LAP
9	11/12/07	Joseph McGuire	Boskill, Caherconlish	Site 5 of amendments map	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sub-standard road • Impact on road of historical importance 	Zoning to be omitted to protect the historical site and LAP boundary to be amended accordingly	Site 5 to be omitted and LAP boundary to be amended accordingly. Zoning on site 5 to be reviewed in next LAP
11	11/12/07	Josephine Deegan	Boskill, Caherconlish	Site 5 of amendments map	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sub-standard road • Impact on road of historical importance 	Zoning to be omitted to protect the historical site and LAP boundary to be amended accordingly	Site 5 to be omitted and LAP boundary to be amended accordingly. Zoning on site 5 to be reviewed in next LAP
12	11/12/07	Mick Devine	Boskill, Caherconlish	Site 5 of amendments map	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sub-standard road • Impact on road of historical importance 	Zoning to be omitted to protect the historical site and LAP boundary to be amended accordingly	Site 5 to be omitted and LAP boundary to be amended accordingly. Zoning on site 5 to be reviewed in next LAP
13	11/12/07	The Ryan Family submission 3	Boskill Cross, Caherconlish	Site 5 of amendments map	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sub-standard road • Impact on road of historical importance 	Zoning to be omitted to protect the historical site and LAP boundary to be amended accordingly	Site 5 to be omitted and LAP boundary to be amended accordingly. Zoning on site 5 to be reviewed in next LAP

14	11/12/07	Patrick Leonard	Boskill	Site 5 of amendments map	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sub-standard road • Impact on road of historical importance 	Zoning to be omitted to protect the historical site and LAP boundary to be amended accordingly	Site 5 to be omitted and LAP boundary to be amended accordingly Zoning on site 5 to be reviewed in next LAP
15	11/12/07	Patrick Bourke	Boskill	Site 5 of amendments map	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sub-standard road • Impact on road of historical importance 	Zoning to be omitted to protect the historical site and LAP boundary to be amended accordingly	Site 5 to be omitted and LAP boundary to be amended accordingly Zoning on site 5 to be reviewed in next LAP
16	11/12/07	Tony Creamer	Boskill	Site 5 of amendments map	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sub-standard road • Impact on road of historical importance 	Zoning to be omitted to protect the historical site and LAP boundary to be amended accordingly	Site 5 to be omitted and LAP boundary to be amended accordingly Zoning on site 5 to be reviewed in next LAP
17	11/12/07	Joy Creamer	Boskill	Site 5 of amendments map	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sub-standard road • Impact on road of historical importance 	Zoning to be omitted to protect the historical site and LAP boundary to be amended accordingly	Site 5 to be omitted and LAP boundary to be amended accordingly Zoning on site 5 to be reviewed in next LAP
18	11/12/07	Mary Barrow	12 Beechview Gardens, Caheroonish	Site 5 of amendments map	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sub-standard road • Impact on road of historical importance 	Zoning to be omitted to protect the historical site and LAP boundary to be amended accordingly	Site 5 to be omitted and LAP boundary to be amended accordingly Zoning on site 5 to be reviewed in next LAP
19	11/12/07	Evelyn Leonard	Boskill	Site 5 of amendments map	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sub-standard road • Impact on road of historical importance 	Zoning to be omitted to protect the historical site and LAP boundary to be amended accordingly	Site 5 to be omitted and LAP boundary to be amended accordingly Zoning on site 5 to be reviewed in next LAP
20	11/12/07	John Delaney	The Laurel, Boskill	Site 5 of amendments map	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sub-standard road • Impact on road of historical importance 	Zoning to be omitted to protect the historical site and LAP boundary to be amended accordingly	Site 5 to be omitted and LAP boundary to be amended accordingly Zoning on site 5 to be reviewed in next LAP
21	11/12/07	Mr. B. Kennedy	Boskill	Site 5 of amendments map	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sub-standard road • Impact on road of historical importance 	Zoning to be omitted to protect the historical site and LAP boundary to be amended accordingly	Site 5 to be omitted and LAP boundary to be amended accordingly Zoning on site 5 to be reviewed in next LAP

22	11/12/07	Robert Quirke	8 Beechview Gardens, Caherconlish	Site 5 of amendments map	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sub-standard road • Impact on road of historical importance 	Zoning to be omitted to protect the historical site and LAP boundary to be amended accordingly	Site 5 to be omitted and LAP boundary to be amended accordingly Zoning on site 5 to be reviewed in next LAP
23	11/12/07	John O'Mahoney	1 Beechview Gardens	Site 5 of amendments map	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sub-standard road • Impact on road of historical importance 	Zoning to be omitted to protect the historical site and LAP boundary to be amended accordingly	Site 5 to be omitted and LAP boundary to be amended accordingly Zoning on site 5 to be reviewed in next LAP
24	11/12/07	Mr. Hickey	11 Beechview Gardens	Site 5 of amendments map	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sub-standard road • Impact on road of historical importance 	Zoning to be omitted to protect the historical site and LAP boundary to be amended accordingly	Site 5 to be omitted and LAP boundary to be amended accordingly Zoning on site 5 to be reviewed in next LAP
25	11/12/07	Catherine Crowley	2 Beechview Gardens	Site 5 of amendments map	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sub-standard road • Impact on road of historical importance 	Zoning to be omitted to protect the historical site and LAP boundary to be amended accordingly	Site 5 to be omitted and LAP boundary to be amended accordingly Zoning on site 5 to be reviewed in next LAP
26	11/12/07	Timmy Ryan	13 Beechview Gardens	Site 5 of amendments map	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sub-standard road • Impact on road of historical importance 	Zoning to be omitted to protect the historical site and LAP boundary to be amended accordingly	Site 5 to be omitted and LAP boundary to be amended accordingly Zoning on site 5 to be reviewed in next LAP
27	11/12/07	Joan Ryan	4 Beechview Gardens	Site 5 of amendments map	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sub-standard road • Impact on road of historical importance 	Zoning to be omitted to protect the historical site and LAP boundary to be amended accordingly	Site 5 to be omitted and LAP boundary to be amended accordingly Zoning on site 5 to be reviewed in next LAP
28	11/12/07	Anne O'Connell	6 Beechview Gardens	Site 5 of amendments map	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sub-standard road • Impact on road of historical importance 	Zoning to be omitted to protect the historical site and LAP boundary to be amended accordingly	Site 5 to be omitted and LAP boundary to be amended accordingly Zoning on site 5 to be reviewed in next LAP
29	11/12/07	James McInerney	Templemichael, Caherconlish	Site 5 of amendments map	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sub-standard road • Impact on road of historical importance 	Zoning to be omitted to protect the historical site and LAP boundary to be amended accordingly	Site 5 to be omitted and LAP boundary to be amended accordingly Zoning on site 5 to be reviewed in next LAP

30	11/12/07	Johnny Howard	Templeichael, Caherconlish	Site 5 of amendments map	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sub-standard road Impact on road of historical importance 	Zoning to be omitted to protect the historical site and LAP boundary to be amended accordingly	Site 5 to be omitted and LAP boundary to be amended accordingly Zoning on site 5 to be reviewed in next LAP
31	11/12/07	Noel Casey	Boskill Cross, Caherconlish	Site 5 of amendments map	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sub-standard road Impact on road of historical importance 	Zoning to be omitted to protect the historical site and LAP boundary to be amended accordingly	Site 5 to be omitted and LAP boundary to be amended accordingly Zoning on site 5 to be reviewed in next LAP
32	11/12/07	Rosaleen Creamer	Boskill Cross, Caherconlish	Site 5 of amendments map	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sub-standard road Impact on road of historical importance 	Zoning to be omitted to protect the historical site and LAP boundary to be amended accordingly	Site 5 to be omitted and LAP boundary to be amended accordingly Zoning on site 5 to be reviewed in next LAP
33	11/12/07	Liam Lynch and Family	Boher, Co. Limerick	Extension of development boundary	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Additional zoning of lands to accommodate the remainder of the site to make development a viable option. 	In previous draft additional lands had been zoned residential in this site. The zoning of additional land would contribute to further over zoning for residential lands.	No change to plan.
34	11/12/07	Paul and Barbara O'Leary	Templeichael, Caherconlish	Site 5 of amendments map	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Do not want development of this nature at this location Too many dwelling houses at present, additionally zoned lands will have a negative effect 	This and other submissions have indicated the need to prevent encroachment on neighboring property be this development in site 5. The increase in zoned land for residential purposes has been the subject of comment from many submissions and also the DoEHLG.	Site 5 to be omitted and LAP boundary to be amended accordingly Zoning on site 5 to be reviewed in next LAP
35	11/12/07	Nora Keneghan	Spatial Policy Section, DoEHLGHLG, Custom House, Dublin 1	Residentially zoned lands	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Additional lands zoned residential from draft plan. The PA should consider phasing of the lands with a review of this during the duration of the plan Issue of flooding has also been raised. Question of whether or not the LAP is in line with provisions of the CDP in relation to the settlement strategy. 	Omit zoning of residential land on sites 4 and zone site 1 to education and community and introduce phasing as indicated on the attached map.	Changes to plan in that sites 1 to be phased, site 4 zoning for residential is omitted and introduction of phasing. Zoning on site 4 to be reviewed in next LAP
36	11/12/07	Seamus McElligott	5 High Street, Caherconlish	Change in existing residentially zoned lands	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Wishes to have previous submissions from July reconsidered. 	This has been the subject of debate in the previous draft and it was decided that not to change zoning in regard to this site.	No Change to plan.

37	11/12/07	Fr. D. O'Gorman	C/o Seamus McElligott 5 High Street Caherconlish	No change to residentially zoned lands	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Wished to change the zoning to residential use to provide for over-looking onto the park area. 	<p>This submission had been received in the previous draft. This submission did not result in any changes to this draft and submissions are confined to those changes that would have occurred since the previous draft. The site is within an archaeologically sensitive area and is also immediately adjacent to the most centrally located green space locations in the village. The development of this site would interfere with the setting of archaeological monuments and would compound the existing over zoning if the village for residential purposes which has been commented on by the Spatial Policy unit of the DoEHLG.</p>	No change to plan.
38	11/12/07	Seamus McElligott	5 High Street, Caherconlish	Site 8 on previous draft zoning map.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Request alteration of zoning to residential from existing residential as in line with previous submission. 	The existing zoning would not prejudice the owners plans for the site.	No change to plan.
39	11/12/07	Albert Lahoud	Parnassus House, Caherconlish	Site 5 Site 4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Requests a clearer definition of the zoning objective on site 5 and requests that only a section of the site be rezoned Site 4 rezoning would result in an over development of residentially zoned lands 	<p>Rezoning of part of the site would address neighbors concerns.</p> <p>Omission of zoning on site 4 would reduce amounts of new development and would be in line with response from the Spatial policy Unit.</p> <p>Zoning on sites 4 and 5 can be subject to review in future Local Area Plans.</p>	<p>Omit zoning on site 5 and return LAP boundary to original location.</p> <p>Omit zoning on site 4 and return LAP boundary to it's original location.</p>
40	11/12/07	Caherconliss h/ Caherline community council Ltd.	The millennium Centre, the Square, Caherconlish		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Requests gradual expansion of the town Concern over lack of amenity space 	Omission of residential zoning and introduction of phasing would assist in regard to controlling expansion of town and ensuring that it more gradual in character.	Change to plan in that residential zoning on site 4 and 5 omitted and site 1 be phased. Introduction of phasing. See wording above
41	11/12/07	Pat O'Dwyer	Oakley Park	Re-zoning of site 3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Requests that lands changed from agricultural to community and enterprise be re-zoned to residential 	Altering zoning to residential would contribute to further over-zoning for residential purposes.	No change to plan.
42	11/12/07	Daniel O'Gorman	Community Representative C/o Ballyhoura Development, Millennium Centre,	Open space Distributor road Amendments to plan	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Not adequate open space to facilitate the zoned commercially and residentially zoned lands By-pass should not be drawn up but form a full circle round of the town. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reduction of residentially zoned lands would ease pressure on facilities. A total of 8 acres of open space has been set aside in the LAP. Resource constraints mean that full 	Site 5 and 4 to be omitted and LAP boundary to be amended accordingly. Site 1 to be subject to phasing.

					<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Site 6-Agreed to parking to be provided for on site Site 7-agreed, site should have some parking Road alterations- not acceptable. 4 storey housing to be omitted-agreed. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Site 4 to be omitted from plan. Site 5 zoning omitted Site 6 parking agreed on site in previous draft. Road alterations discussed above. 4 storey housing to be omitted agreed in previous draft. 	
46	6/12/07	T.E. Podger	Carrigoreilly, Caherconlish	Future Developments on his lands	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Wants intent for development on his lands noted 	Noted	No change to plan.
47	7/12/07	Michael and Philomena Martin,	Grianan Alligh, Caherconlish	.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Excessive zoning 	Zoning to be altered in line with DoEHLG submission.	Change to plan in that residential zoning omitted in sites 4 and 5 that can be subject to review in future LAPs. Introduction of phasing
48	7/12/07	Valerie Marron	Caherconlish	School site Green space	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Need to relocate school site Lack of green space 	This site offers one of the largest areas for the location of the school.	No change to plan. .
49	7/12/07	Elizabeth Stanley	Doonvullen Lower	Road	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Location of the road 	Resource constraints prevent full by pass of the village and is not a current proposal	No Change to plan.
50	10/12/07	Mark Kiely and Ciara Dillon	77 Cois Rloga, Caherconlish	Site 4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Excessively zoned lands Destruction of local and environmental eco system Noise 	Excessively zoned lands in the current plan have been the source of comment from the DOEHLG as has flooding issue.	Zoning to be omitted. LAP boundary to be revised accordingly
51	10/12/07	John Treacy and Family	Templemichael	Site 4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Excessively zoned lands Obstruction of views and amenities 	Excessively zoned lands in the current plan have been the source of comment from the DOEHLG as has flooding issue.	Zoning to be omitted. LAP boundary to be revised accordingly.
52	10/12/07	Suzanne Kelly	Templemichael	Site 4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Excessively zoned lands Obstruction of views and amenities Destruction of local and environmental eco system Traffic 	Excessively zoned lands in the current plan have been the source of comment from the DOEHLG as has flooding issue.	Zoning to be omitted. LAP boundary to be revised accordingly

53	10/12/07	Margaret Moroney	Templemichael	Site 4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Excessively zoned lands Obstruction of views and amenities 	Excessively zoned lands in the current plan have been the source of comment from the DOEHLG as has flooding issue.	Zoning to be omitted. LAP boundary to be revised accordingly
54	10/12/07	Gerard Moroney	Templemichael	Site 4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Excessively zoned lands Obstruction of views and amenities 	Excessively zoned lands in the current plan have been the source of comment from the DOEHLG as has flooding issue.	Zoning to be omitted. LAP boundary to be revised accordingly
55	10/12/07	Brendan Morgan, Adrienne Cully and Family	79 Cois Rioga, Caherconlish	Site 4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Excessively zoned lands Obstruction of views and amenities Pedestrian Safety 	Excessively zoned lands in the current plan have been the source of comment from the DOEHLG as has flooding issue.	Zoning to be omitted. LAP boundary to be revised accordingly
56	10/12/07	Aideen O'Raholly and Michael Dunne	Templemichael	Site 4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Excessively zoned lands Obstruction of views and amenities Pedestrian Safety 	Excessively zoned lands in the current plan have been the source of comment from the DOEHLG as has flooding issue.	Zoning to be omitted. LAP boundary to be revised accordingly
57	10/12/07	Majella and Vincent Enright	80 Cois Rioga, Caherconlish	Site 4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Excessively zoned lands Obstruction of views and amenities Pedestrian Safety Traffic safety 	Excessively zoned lands in the current plan have been the source of comment from the DOEHLG as has flooding issue.	Zoning to be omitted. LAP boundary to be revised accordingly
58	11/12/07	Bertie Scanlon	Templemichael	Site 4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Excessively zoned lands Obstruction of views and amenities 	Excessively zoned lands in the current plan have been the source of comment from the DOEHLG as has flooding issue.	Zoning to be omitted. LAP boundary to be revised accordingly
59	4/12/07	Michael McCauley	Tir Eoghain, Templemichael, Caherconlish	Site 4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Over development of residentially zoned lands Site is located near a flood plain which is of serious concern Obstruction of views 	Both the DoEHLG responses to the two drafts indicate concern with over zoning and also indicate concern with flood plain issues. The response to the second draft indicates concerns as to whether or not the re-zoning that has taken place since the last draft is in accordance with the Settlement Strategy of the Limerick County Development Plan, while again stressing flooding concerns.	Site 5 and 4 to be omitted and LAP boundary to be altered accordingly. The question of zoning for such sites can be the subject of submissions to future plan reviews.
60	11/12/07	L & L Martin and Family	74 Cois Rioga, Caherconlish	Site Marked 4 on amendments map- objecting to proposed zoning	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The additional cars will create a traffic problem onto Lynches cross No amenities or park to accommodate the people of the area 	Both the DoEHLG responses to the two drafts indicate concern with over zoning and also indicate concern with flood plain issues. The response to the second draft	Site 5 and 4 to be omitted and LAP boundary to be altered accordingly.

61	10/12/07	Andrew Greene	2 Barrack Close		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Excessive zoned lands Lack of open green spaces and amenities Road creating additional problems 	<p>indicates concerns as to whether or not the re-zoning that has taken place since the last draft is in accordance with the Settlement Strategy of the Limerick County Development Plan, while again stressing flooding concerns.</p> <p>Both the DoEHLG responses to the two drafts indicate concern with over zoning and also indicate concern with flood plain issues. The response to the second draft indicates concerns as to whether or not the re-zoning that has taken place since the last draft is in accordance with the Settlement Strategy of the Limerick County Development Plan, while again stressing flooding concerns.</p>	<p>Site 5 and 4 to be omitted and LAP boundary to be altered accordingly.</p> <p>Introduction of phasing.</p>
62	10/12/07	Michael McCauley and Family	Tir Eoghain, Templemichael	Site 4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Excessively zoned lands Obstruction of views and amenities Traffic 	<p>Both the DoEHLG responses to the two drafts indicate concern with over zoning and also indicate concern with flood plain issues. The response to the second draft indicates concerns as to whether or not the re-zoning that has taken place since the last draft is in accordance with the Settlement Strategy of the Limerick County Development Plan, while again stressing flooding concerns.</p>	<p>Site 5 and 4 to be omitted and LAP boundary to be altered accordingly. As indicated above zoning for sites 4 and 5 can be the subject of submissions in future plans.</p> <p>Introduction of phasing</p>
63	10/12/07	Anthony McInerney	Templemichael, Caherconlish	Road and School	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Relocation of the road is not alleviating the traffic problem in the town School site is not located on a suitable site 	<p>Full by pass of the town not possible due to resource constraints and is not required at this time</p> <p>The School site is one of the few that offer sufficient area for the school.</p>	<p>No change to plan.</p>



Legend

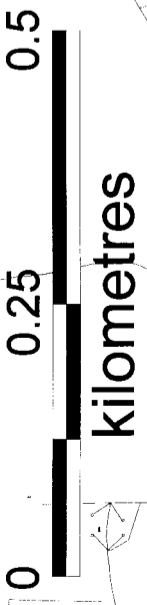
- Education & Community
- Agricultural
- Indicative Access Points
- Proposed Architectural Conservation Area
- Zone of Archaeological Potential
- Serviced Residential Sites
- Flood Risk Area
- Utilities
- Established Development (Primarily Residential)
- Open Space
- Town Centre
- Residential
- Mixed Use
- Employment
- LAP Boundary
- Proposed Distributor Road (Indicative Line)
- Potential Pedestrian Routes
- Revised Route for part of Distributor Road

1 & 2 indicates phasing

1 indicates phase one for residential development

2 indicates phase two for residential development

PHASING DOES NOT APPLY TO RESIDENTIAL SERVICED SITES



**COMHAIRLE CHONTAE LUIMNIGH
LIMERICK COUNTY COUNCIL**

Údarás Pleanála,
(Planning Authority),
Halla an Chontae,
(County Hall),
Tuar an Daill,
(Dooradoyle),
Co. Luimnigh.
(Co. Limerick).

21st January 2008

Don Chathaoirleach and do gach Ball don Chomhairle

Re: Proposed Newcastle West Local Area Plan 2008-2014

A Chomhairleoir, a chara,

As Members will be aware, work on the review of the Local Area Plan for Newcastle West has been ongoing over the past year. The proposed Plan for the period 2008-2014 is now being brought before the full Council for consideration.

The Newcastle Area Committee considered the Plan at a number of meetings and agreed at their last meeting on 21st January to recommend to the Council that the Proposed Plan be put on public display. It is proposed that a public information meeting be held in Newcastle West during the public display period to consider the proposals contained within the Plan and details of this meeting will be published well in advance. When the display period is over any observations/submissions received will be brought to the Newcastle Area Committee in the first instance, prior to the Plan being brought back to the Full Council for further consideration.

Therefore, subject to the agreement of the Full Council, it is recommended that the Proposed Plan be placed on public display for the statutory period of not less than 6 weeks from Saturday 9th February 2008 to Thursday 27th March inclusive.

A copy of the 'Proposed Plan' will be circulated to each Member prior to the meeting.

Mise le meas,



**Tom Enright
Director of Service,
Planning & Development**

**COMHAIRLE CHONTAE LUIMNIGH
LIMERICK COUNTY COUNCIL**

Údarás Pleanála,
(Planning Authority),
Halla an Chontae,
(County Hall),
Tuar an Daill,
(Dooradoyle),
Co. Luimnigh.
(Co. Limerick).

21st January 2008

Don Chathaoirleach and do gach Ball don Chomhairle

Re: Proposed Abbeyfeale Local Area Plan 2008-2014

A Chomhairleoir, a chara,

As Members will be aware, work on the review of the Local Area Plan for Abbeyfeale has been ongoing over the past year. The proposed Plan for the period 2008-2014 is now being brought before the full Council for consideration.

The Newcastle Area Committee considered the Plan at a number of meetings and agreed at their last meeting on 21st January to recommend to the Council that the Proposed Plan be put on public display. It is proposed that a public information meeting be held in Abbeyfeale during the public display period to consider the proposals contained within the Plan and details of this meeting will be published well in advance. When the display period is over any observations/submissions received will be brought to the Newcastle Area Committee in the first instance, prior to the Plan being brought back to the Full Council for further consideration.

Therefore, subject to the agreement of the Full Council, it is recommended that the Proposed Plan be placed on public display for the statutory period of not less than 6 weeks from Saturday 9th February 2008 to Thursday 27th March inclusive.

A copy of the 'Proposed Plan' will be circulated to each Member prior to the meeting.

Mise le meas,



Tom Enright
Director of Service,
Planning & Development



Don Chathaoirleach agus do gach Ball don Chomhairle

18th January 2008

Re: Increased Staffing Levels

A Chomharleoir, a chara,

I wish to advise the Council that sanction has been received from the Department of the Environment, Heritage and Local Government to the creation of a number of permanent posts in the Regional Waste Office, the Housing Department (RAS) and the Environmental Laboratory. Details of each sanction are set out below.

Regional Waste Office

This office has been in existence since 2001. It has been staffed since that time by contract staff (4) employed by the participating local authorities i.e. Limerick County Council, Limerick City Council, Clare County Council, and Kerry County Council. Because of the on-going nature of the work of the office, permanent posts for each local authority have been sanctioned. Limerick County Council currently employs the Regional Waste Co-Ordinator on a temporary contract.

Approval of the Council is sought to the creation of a permanent position of Regional Waste Co-Ordinator in place of the existing contract post. There will be no additional financial cost to the Council as the full running costs of the office are borne by the respective local authorities on a pro-rata basis and these costs have been included in the Council's Budget for 2008.

Housing Department – Rental Accommodation Scheme

Limerick County Council took over responsibility for administering the Rental Accommodation Scheme from the Health Services Executive in

October 2006. Two additional temporary posts were created to administer the scheme i.e. Project Manager (Gr.VII) and a Office Administrator (Gr.IV) in line with national policy. Because of the on-going nature of the work of the scheme, permanent posts have been sanctioned at Gr.VII and Gr.IV levels.

Approval of the Council is sought to the creation of permanent posts at Grade VII and at Grade IV level in lieu of the existing contract posts. There will be no additional financial cost to the Council as the full costs of administering the Scheme have been provided in the Council's Budget for 2008.

Environmental Laboratory

Current staffing levels (8.5) in the Environmental Laboratory have remained static since 2001 despite significant changes that have occurred since then in the environment in which the Laboratory operates.

The following Legislation has been enacted in the intervening years, with a consequent increased volume of work and responsibility:-

- SI 439/2000 European Communities (Drinking Water) Regulations December 2000 which came into force in 2004.
- SI 106/2007 European Communities (Drinking Water) Regulations 2007.
- SI 278/2007 European Communities (Drinking Water No. 2) Regulations 2007.
- SI 684/2007 Waste Water Discharge (Authorisation) Regulations 2007.
- Water Services Act 2007.

In addition, the enhanced supervisory role of the Environmental Protection Agency in the area of water quality places enormous pressure on Council resources. In their reports over recent years the E.P.A. has commented that Limerick County Council is not meeting its minimum monitoring requirement in relation to water supplies. In addition, the level of monitoring by the Council is below the National Average.

Furthermore in their reports on Waste Water Treatment, the E.P.A. has also highlighted the fact that the Council is not meeting its minimum monitoring requirements in that area.

Given the foregoing the Council made a submission for additional staffing to the Department of the Environment, Heritage & Local Government. Sanction has now been received for creation of the following posts;

Laboratory Staff

- 1 x Senior Executive Scientist
- 1 x Executive Scientist
- 1 x Assistant Scientist

1 x Executive Technician
4 x Grade 1 Technician
1 x Clerical Officer

Area Staff for Process Control

4 x Executive Technician

Licensing Staff

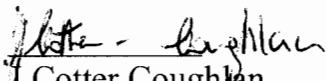
1 x Executive Scientist

As part of the restructuring of the laboratory staffing it is proposed to suppress two existing posts so the total number of additional staff required amounts to 12.

The costs associated with the additional staff amount to €315,000 in the current year. The Council has made provision for costs associated with additional water monitoring in the 2008 budget. This provision will be adequate to meet the staffing costs outlined above.

The approval of the Council is now sought to the creation of the above posts resulting in an increase of 12 no. staff, as set out above.

Mise le meas


J Cotter Coughlan
Director of Services

**Limerick County Council,
County Hall,
Dooradoyle,
Co. Limerick.**

18th December, 2007

Don Chathaoirleach agus do gach Ball den Chomhairle

Re: Introduction of Competition and Grant Scheme

A Chomhairleoir, A Chara,

2008 is the 50th Anniversary of the establishment of the National Tidy Towns competition. Limerick County Council fully appreciates the importance of active citizenship, such as participation in Tidy Towns, and is committed to practical steps to encourage more people to become involved in the life of their communities. I wish to inform you of the introduction of the following schemes in 2008, as was discussed and agreed by the Social, Cultural and Community Development SPC on the 20th November 2007.

1. LIMERICK IN BLOOM COMPETITION

This locally advertised competition will be open to community groups, tidy towns committees and residents associations throughout the County who enhance their settlement by means of flower, tree and shrub planting. A prize fund in the region of €10,000 will be made available to the successful entries and will be awarded at an annual ceremony at the end of 2008.

Local Businesses will be invited to sponsor the competition to match the funding being provided by Limerick County Council.

The competition will be advertised in February, judging of entries will take place from July to mid August and the award ceremony will take place in November.

The competition will have three separate categories based on population as follows:

- Category 1: Population in excess of 700
- Category 2: Population between 300 and 700
- Category 3: Population less than 300

The winning entrant in each category will receive €1,100 with 2nd and 3rd place receiving €550 and €300 respectively. The overall winner chosen from among the various categories will receive a cash prize of €1,500. All remaining entrants will receive a token award of €100.

2. PRIMING GRANT SCHEME

The purpose of this grant is to allow the Council to contribute financially to local groups such as Residents Associations, Action Groups, small Tidy Village Groups, etc. that carry out environmental work.

The grant is to be used for the purpose of purchasing trees, shrubs, brushes, shovels, street furniture and other incidental items which are required to carry out the maintenance and improvement works.

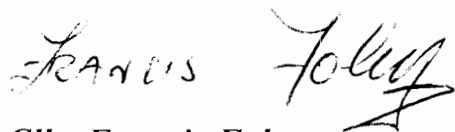
A grant of up to a maximum of €500 shall be made available to successful applicants on submission of receipts.

The scheme will be advertised in conjunction with the Limerick in Bloom competition in February each year with a closing date of 31st May.

As you are aware, the costs of the above Schemes are included in the 2008 Budget.

The Council's approval to introduce these Schemes is required.

Mise le Meas,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Francis Foley". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, stylized 'F' and 'L'.

Cllr. Francis Foley,

Chairperson – Social, Cultural and Community Development SPC

CORRESPONDENCE

JANUARY 2008 COUNCIL MEETING

- Letter Received on 12th December, 2007, from Mr. Simon Burke, Chairman, Superquinn.
 - Letter Received on 19th December, 2007, from the Office of the Minister for Education and Science.
 - Letter Received on 14th December, 2007, from Mr. Paul Minihan, Human Resources & Industrial Relations Manager, Musgrave Retail Partners Ireland (SuperValu Centra).
 - Letter Received on 14th December, 2007, from Ms. Anne Brett, A/Senior Executive Officer, Corporate Services, Galway City Council.
 - Letter Received on 21st December, 2007, from Mr. Martin Walsh, County Secretary, Waterford County Council.
 - Letter Received on 2nd January, 2008, from B. Doyle, Meetings Administrator, Clonmel Borough Council.
 - Letter Received on 7th January, 2008, from Mr. John O'Mahoney, Meetings Administrator, South Tipperary County Council.
 - Letter Received on 10th January, 2008, from the Office of the Minister for the Environment, Heritage and Local Government.
 - E-Mail Received on 14th January, 2008, from Mr. Alan Farrell, Town Clerk, Ballinasloe Town Council.
 - E-Mail Received on 17th January, 2008, from Mr. Brian Murray, Town Clerk, Balbriggan Town Council.
 - Letter Received on 17th January, 2008, from the Office of the Minister for the Environment, Heritage and Local Government.
-



SUPERQUINN

Superquinn
Support Office
Newcastle Road
Lislanigan
Co. Dublin
Ireland

telephone +353 1 630 2000
pager/fax +353 1 628 1444
website www.superquinn.ie

Mr. E. Griffin
Limerick County Council
County Secretary
County Hall
Dooradoyle
Co. Limerick

10th December, 2007

Dear Mr Griffin,

Thank you for your letter of 3rd December.

Your Council's resolution is worded in a general fashion suggesting that Councillors wish to see retail trading hours reduced over Christmas. Elsewhere it has been reported that you wish specifically to end the practice of 24 hour trading in supermarkets.

A retailer's first duty is to meet the needs of his customers. In recent years, there has been a clear trend in customer shopping patterns favouring non-traditional shopping times. In a reflection of lifestyles where in many cases both parents work full time, and in general where families have a great many activities to fit into the average week, people now wish to have their supermarket open at times to suit the customer.

If we are to meet the needs of our customers, therefore, longer opening hours are required. We typically arrange to staff these hours by employing additional people to cover them, and also by offering additional hours to existing part-time employees. The practice does sometimes involve rostering colleagues for changed patterns of work, but does not require longer hours to be worked by full time colleagues.

It seems to me therefore that this development has provided additional employment and economic benefit to shop workers without prejudicing anybody's interests. It is also meeting a clearly identified customer need.

In these circumstances, I cannot see the justification for reducing trading hours. We will, of course, keep this matter under review and would respond to any change in demand for longer shopping hours. Superquinn does not typically open 24 hours, though we do plan to open the Limerick store through the night on 23 December.

Yours sincerely



Simon Burke
Chairman

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Superquinn is a registered trademark of Superquinn Limited. Directors: Keith McCraith, James Wilson

Superquinn Limited, Park Road, Limerick. Trading Superquinn Support Office, Newcastle Road, Lislanigan, Co. Dublin



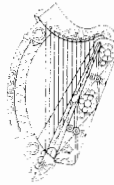
Oifig An Aire Oideachais agus Eolaíochta.

Sráid Maoilbhríde.

Baile Átha Cliath 1

Telefón: (01) 889 6400

Facs: (01) 872 9093



Office of the Minister for Education and Science

Marlborough Street.

Dublin 1

Telephone: (01) 889 6400

Fax: (01) 872 9093

Mr. Eugene Griffin
County Secretary
Limerick County Council
County Hall
Dooradoyle
County Limerick



PLEASE QUOTE REF NUMBER ON ALL CORRESPONDENCE

Our Ref: 0707275 SR

16 December 2007

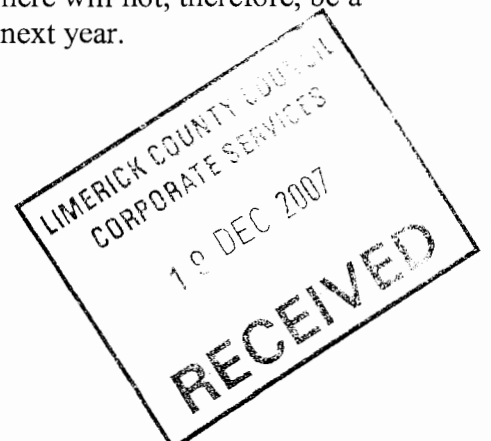
Dear Mr. Griffin,

The Minister for Education and Science Mary Hanafin TD has asked me to refer to your recent letter on behalf of Ahalin National School in relation to the schools application under the Summer Works Scheme 2008.

The Summer Works Scheme was introduced in 2004. Since then, over 3,000 projects costing in excess of €300 million have been completed. Considerable extra investment has been provided in the Budget to increase funding for school buildings to almost €600 million next year. With so many small projects having been completed over the past few years, I intend to focus on delivering as many large projects as possible in 2008. There will not, therefore, be a new Summer Works Scheme as part of our building programme next year.

Yours sincerely

Ronnie Ryan
Private Secretary



Mr E. Griffin,
County Secretary,
Limerick County Council,
County Hall,
Dooradoyle,
County Limerick

13th December 2007

Re: Letter of 3rd December

Dear Mr Griffin,

I refer to your letter of 3rd December last concerning the resolution passed at the meeting of Limerick County Council of 26th November. As you may already be aware and by way of background, Musgrave Retail Partners Ireland is a Division of Musgrave Group. We are business partners to independent retailers who operate under our SuperValu and Centra franchises. We are the business partners to in excess of 600 stores nationally who together employ approximately 25,000 people.

Our retail outlets are acutely conscious of the need to maintain opening hours that meet the ever changing needs of Irish consumers. Our independent retailers must also maintain hours that enable them to compete successfully with larger multiples. For the most part, this includes opening evenings and weekends, including Sundays. Notwithstanding, unlike some multiple retail outlets operating in Ireland who do so as a policy, our independent retailers do not tend to operate on a 24 hour basis, save in exceptional circumstances. Furthermore, opening hours tend to be extended only marginally in the lead up to Christmas. As our stores are by-and-large run on a day to day basis by the owner, our retailers are very mindful of the family and social implications of their opening hours both for themselves and their employees.

I hope this is of assistance to you and the members of Limerick County Council. Kindly contact me if I can be of further assistance.

Yours sincerely,



Paul Minihan
Human Resources & Industrial Relations Manager





Reference Number: **AB/KL/Dec07**

11th December, 2007

Re: Notice of Motion Passed by Galway City Council

Dear Sir/Madam

At a meeting held by Galway City Council on the 5th November 2007 the following Notice of Motion was entered and adopted unanimously.

"That Galway City Council request the Minister for the Environment to introduce a ban on all detergents, powders etc. containing phosphates as a result of the damage this is doing to fish, plant life and Lough Corrib in general".

An amendment at the end of this motion was also passed as follows:

"That Galway City Council requested the Minister for the Environment to introduce a ban on all detergents, powders etc containing phosphates as a result of the damage this is doing to fish, plant life and Lough Corrib in general and that this Council call on the Minister of the Environment to carry out a full investigation into what other discharges are currently going into Lough Corrib and leading to serious pollution of the water and that the investigation be completed as a matter of urgency".

The City Councillors requested that support for this motion be circulated to all local authorities for their information.

Mise le meas,

**Anne Brett,
A/Senior Executive Officer,
Corporate Services.**

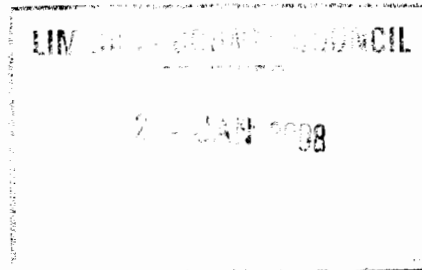
Galway City Council, Galway City Council, Galway City Council, Galway City Council



COMHAIRLE BUIRGE CHLUAIN MEALA
CLONMEL BOROUGH COUNCIL

28th December, 2007.

File Ref:- 84/2/24B
C.C. 84/2/25B



A chara,

At the December monthly meeting of Clonmel Borough Council, the members of the Council considered a Notice of Motion which called for the introduction of a clamping system for people who are parking in disabled persons car parking spaces.

During the course of discussion on this Notice of Motion, concern was expressed by the members of the Council at the fact that there were incidents of motorists parking in disabled persons parking spaces thus denying this facility to disabled drivers. It was agreed that this situation would be monitored over a period and the introduction of a clamping system would be investigated.

Reference was made to the Parking Places Bye-laws operated by this Council and to the level of fines for an offence for parking in a disabled persons parking space. The members of the Council felt that the existing fine of €80 should be substantially increased to a level that would deter motorists from parking in these spaces. It was agreed that this matter would be referred to the Department of Transport with a request that the legislation would be amended to allow for a substantially increased fine i.e. up to €500.

The members of Clonmel Borough Council agreed that this matter be circulated to all Local Authorities for their support.

It would be very much appreciated if you could arrange to bring this matter before your elected members at their next meeting for their consideration and support.

Mise le meas,

B. Doyle,
Meetings Administrator.





3rd January, 2008.

To/ All Local Authorities.

A Chara,

At the December Monthly Meeting of South Tipperary County Council the members adopted the following Notice of Motion and requested that it be forwarded to all Local Authorities:-

“That the Manager explain the system operating for cyclists, at roundabouts and where traffic calming measures have been put in place, from a safety viewpoint”.

Is mise le meas.

John O'Mahoney.

John O'Mahoney,
Meetings Administrator.



Office of the Minister



Please Quote Ref: REP116/JG/08

8 January, 2008.

T. Knox,
County Secretary,
Limerick County Council,
County Hall,
Dooradoyle,
County Limerick.

DEPARTMENT OF THE
ENVIRONMENT, HERITAGE AND
LOCAL GOVERNMENT

A Chara,

I have been asked by Mr. John Gormley, T.D. Minister for the Environment, Heritage and Local Government, to acknowledge receipt of your recent letter in connection with a recent motion passed by the council relating to the provision of money for sewerage schemes.

The contents of your letter have been noted.

CUSTOM HOUSE, DUBLIN 1

Mise le meas,

Tel No: +353 1 888 2000

LoCall No: 1890 20 20 21

Fax No: +353 1 878 8640


Eddie Kiernan
Private Secretary

Shanny Jacinta

From: Knox Tina
Sent: 14 January 2008 13:15
To: Shanny Jacinta
Subject: FW:

From: Mary Carty [mailto:mcarty@GalwayCoCo.ie]
Sent: 14 January 2008 12:20
To: Carlow County Council; Cavan County Council; Clare County Council; Cork County Council; Donegal County Council; Dun Laoghaire/Rathdown County Council; Fingal County Council; Galway County Council; Kerry County Council; Kildare County Council; Kilkenny County Council; Laois County Council; Leitrim County Council; County Secretary; Longford County Council; Louth County Council; Mayo County Council; Meath County Council; Monaghan County Council; North Tipperary County Council; Offaly County Council; Roscommon County Council; Sligo County Council; South Dublin County Council; South Tipperary County Council; Waterford County Council; Westmeath County Council; Wexford County Council; Wicklow County Council
Subject: FW:

From: Mary Carty
Sent: 14 January 2008 12:13
To: 'Clonmel Borough Council'; 'Drogheda Borough Council'; 'Kilkenny Borough Council'; 'Sligo Borough Council'; 'Wexford Borough Council'
Subject:

To Each Local Authority

At the September meeting of Ballinasloe Town Council, held on 11th September, 2007 the members proposed that the following Notice of Motion would be circulated to all Local Authorities.

“That this Council write to the Minister for the Environment and Local Government requesting the immediate reversal of his Departments decision to withdraw grant assistance from “Disabled Persons Grant” applications and that this motion be circulated to every Local Authority for their consideration and to the East Galway Oireachtas members”.

Mise le meas,

Alan Farrell
Town Clerk

Shanny Jacinta

From: Griffin Eugene
Sent: 17 January 2008 11:47
To: Shanny Jacinta
Subject: FW: Motion from Balbriggan Town Council
Attachments: Dept of Environment foreign drivers.doc

From: Balbriggan Town Council [mailto:Balbriggantowncouncil@fingalcoco.ie]
Sent: 17 January 2008 11:27
To: Athlone Town Council; Carlow County Council; Cavan County Council; Clare County Council; Cork City Council; Cork County Council; Donegal County Council; Dublin City Council; Dun Laoghaire Rathdown County Council; Dungarvan Town Council; Galway County Council; Kerry County Council; Kildare County Council; Kilkenny County Council; Leitrim County Council; Limerick City Council; County Secretary; Longford County Council; Louth County Council; Meath County Council; Monaghan County Council; Offaly County Council; Roscommon County Council; Sligo County Council; South Dublin County Council; Tipperary N.R. Council; Tipperary S.R. Council; Waterford City Council; Waterford County Council; Westmeath County Council; Wexford County Council; Wicklow County Council
Subject: Motion from Balbriggan Town Council

Herewith motion passed at the Balbriggan Town Council Statutory Meeting held on 16th January 2008. I would be obliged if you could circulate this to your members.

Regards
Brian Murray
Town Clerk

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16th January 2008

Ref: BTC/10/08

Mr. John Gormley T.D.
Minister for the Environment
Heritage & Local Government
Custom House
Dublin 1

Dear Minister,

I set out herewith the text of a motion passed at the Statutory meeting of Balbriggan Town Council held on 15th January 2008:

Balbriggan Town Council call on the Minister for the Environment to bring in legislation to close the loophole in the law, whereby drivers with foreign or otherwise invalid licences who break the road Traffic laws are not being given penalty points.

The members look forward to your earliest reply.

Brian Murray
Cleireach an Bhaile

c.c. All Local Authorities

Oifig an Aire
Office of the Minister



AN ROINN COMHSHAOIL, OIÐHREACHTA AGUS RIALTAIS ÁITIUIIL
DEPARTMENT OF THE ENVIRONMENT, HERITAGE
AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT

January, 2008.

Mr. E. Griffin, County Secretary,
Limerick County Council,
County Hall,
Dooradoyle,
Co. Limerick.

RE: REP4207/JG/07

Dear Mr. Griffin,

I have been asked by Mr. John Gormley, T.D., Minister for the Environment, Heritage and Local Government to refer further to your letter in relation to the Green Paper on local government reform.

The public consultation period is completed but the council's submission will be considered in the new phase of consultation, likely to be in spring 2008 during the development of the White Paper.

Yours sincerely,

PP Dorrell
Eddie Kiernan,
Private Secretary

