Comhairle Cathrach
& Contae Luimnigh

Limerick City
& County Council

Seirbhísí Corparáideacha, Acmhainní Daonna
& Forbairt Eagraíochtúil
Comhairle Cathrach & Contae Luimnigh
Ceannchearthú Chorparáideach
Cé na gCeannaithe
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Limerick City and County Council
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TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN

Re: Strategic Infrastructure Development for the upgrade of Limerick Wastewater Treatment Plant and Regional Bioresource Centre off the Dock Road, Limerick

I hereby certify that the following is a true extract from the Minutes of Special Meeting of Limerick City and County Council held on 8th October, 2026.

Signed: _____

Ciara Farrell,
Meetings Administrator.

Date 23/10/2026

MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS AT SPECIAL MEETING OF LIMERICK CITY AND COUNTY COUNCIL HELD IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER, DOORADOYLE, LIMERICK AND ONLINE ON THURSDAY, 8TH OCTOBER, 2026 AT 10.00 A.M.

PRESENT IN THE CHAIR: Príomh Chomhairleoir, Councillor T. Ruddle

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Mayor John Moran

Councilors Beasley, Benson, Butler, Carey, Collins (B), Collins (M), Conway, Daly, Doyle, Foley, Galvin, Gavan, Hartigan (S), Keary, Kiely, Kilcoyne, Leddin, McSweeney, O'Donoghue, O'Donovan, O'Hanlon, O'Sullivan (O), O'Sullivan (T), Pond, Reale, Ryan (E), Ryan (M), Secas, Sheahan, Slattery, Talukder, Teefy, Teskey, Ward.

OFFICIALS IN ATTENDANCE:

Deputy Director General and Director, Corporate Services, Human Resources and Organisational Development, (Mr. J. Delaney), Director, Housing (Mr. V. Murray), Director, Transportation, Mobility and Public Realm, (Ms. P. Liddy), A/Director, Environment, Climate Action and Fire (Ms. S. Reidy), Director, Planning, Heritage and Ryder Cup, (Mr. S. Duclot), Senior Planner, Development Management (Ms. N. O'Connell), Senior Executive Planner, Development Management (Ms. G. O'Keeffe), Executive Planner, Development Management (Ms. Á. Leland), Senior Engineer, LA Housing, Construction and Maintenance (Mr. B. Kidney), Meetings Administrator (Ms. C. Farrell), Administrative Officer, Corporate and Customer Services (Ms. A. Foley), Senior Staff Officer, Corporate and Customer Services (Ms. C. Sheehy).

1. **Strategic Infrastructure Development – Limerick Wastewater Treatment Plant Upgrade and Regional Bioresource Centre. ACP 324584-26**

The Members were advised that the Council was being asked to consider the Director General's Report under Section 37E of the Planning and Development Act 2000 (as amended) following on from the submission of a Strategic Infrastructure Development (SID) to An Coimisiún Pleanála, known as Limerick Wastewater Treatment Plant Upgrade and Regional Bioresource Centre off the Dock Road, Ballykeeffe, Corkanree and Courtbrack (townlands), Limerick.

The Senior Executive Planner with the aid of a PowerPoint presentation, updated the Members on the Director General's Report. The Senior Executive Planner and Senior Planner responded to queries raised and the Elected Members made the following views and observations in respect of the proposed development.

Strategic Need, Growth and Local Benefits

- Members recognised the strategic importance of the proposed upgrades to the wastewater treatment plant in supporting future population growth and economic development in the city.
- Members emphasised the need to ensure that the proposed development delivers clear and tangible benefits for the people of Limerick.
- Members queried the long-term benefits of the proposal for Limerick City and County, particularly in relation to the importation of sludge from wastewater treatment plants across the south-west region and emphasised the need for a return on investment for the local area.

Existing Wastewater Infrastructure and Regional Investment

- Members raised concerns regarding the performance of the existing wastewater treatment plants in Askeaton and Foynes and queried whether a more permanent solution could be achieved through the connection of both towns to the Bunlicky Wastewater Treatment Plant.
- While welcoming the proposal, Members called for greater investment in rural water and wastewater infrastructure, highlighting the need for generators at pumping stations to maintain water services during power outages.
- Concerns were raised by Members regarding the condition of wastewater infrastructure across the county.
- Adare and Newcastle West were identified as requiring urgent investment, with Members noting that inadequate infrastructure was impacting future development and emphasising the need to prioritise rural areas and county towns across Limerick.

Water Quality, Ecology and Environmental Protection

- Members raised concerns regarding the potential occurrence of trihalomethanes (THMs) in drinking water supplies and sought assurances from Uisce Éireann regarding the continued improvement of drinking water quality, particularly during periods of low water levels.
- Members expressed serious concerns regarding the potential environmental impacts of wastewater discharges on the Shannon Estuary, fish migration and protected habitats.
- Members requested independent ongoing ecological monitoring and stressed the need for robust environmental safeguards to be applied throughout the project.

Sludge Imports, Treatment and Energy Recovery

- Members emphasised the need for detailed information regarding the volume of material proposed to be imported to the Limerick wastewater treatment plant, including current and projected sludge volumes following completion of the proposed development.
- Members emphasised the importance of maximising opportunities for biogas and biosolids production on site through biodigestion and other sustainable mechanisms.

Engagement and Communication

- Members raised concerns regarding difficulties in contacting Uisce Éireann and emphasised the need for a more direct channel of engagement between the Elected Members and Uisce Éireann to support effective communication.

In reply to Members' queries, the Senior Planner noted the Members' comments and confirmed that same would be included with the Director General's Report as an addendum.

This concluded the Meeting.

Signed: _____

Príomh Chomhairleoir

Date: _____