



Oifig an Aire | Office of the Minister

Ms. Honor Dunphy,
Waterford City & County Council
City Hall
The Mall
Waterford
Co Waterford

17th April 2019

Minister's Reference: DJE-MO-01834-2019

Dear Ms. Dunphy,

I write to acknowledge receipt of your correspondence dated 12th April 2019.

However, as this matter is more appropriate to the Department of Transport, Tourism and Sport, I have referred your correspondence to that Department for appropriate attention.

Yours sincerely,

Conor Cleary
Private Secretary to the
Minister for Justice and Equality



Oifig an Aire ar a bhfuil freagracht maidir le Cosaint
Office of the Minister with Responsibility for Defence

3 May 2019

Ms. Honor Dunphy
Meetings Administrator
Waterford City and County Council
City Hall
The Mall
Waterford

Dear Ms. Dunphy,

I have been asked by Mr. Paul Kehoe, T.D., Minister with responsibility for Defence to refer to your recent correspondence on behalf of Waterford City and County Council in relation to Defence Forces Pay & Conditions.

Similar to other sectors in the public service, the pay of Permanent Defence Force personnel was reduced as one of the measures to assist in stabilising national finances during the financial crisis.

The recovery in the economy has provided the fiscal resources to provide for a fair and sustainable recovery in public service pay scales.

Pay is being restored to members of the Defence Forces and other public servants in accordance with public sector pay agreements. The focus of these increases is weighted in favour of those on lower pay.

Members of the Permanent Defence Force have received the pay increases due under the Lansdowne Road Agreement. In addition in 2017, following negotiations with PDFORRA, improved pay scales for general service recruits and privates, who joined the Permanent Defence Force post 1 January 2013, were implemented.

In 2016, the Government established the Public Service Pay Commission to provide objective advice to Government in relation to Public Service pay policy. Following the publication of the Public Service Pay Commission report in May 2017, the Government initiated negotiations on an extension to the Lansdowne Road Agreement.

In the case of the most recent Public Service Pay Agreement, non-ICTU Associations including Permanent Defence Forces Representative Associations were afforded parity of esteem. The Public Service Stability Agreement 2018-2020, provides for increases in pay ranging from 6.2% to 7.4% over the lifetime of the Agreement. The focus of these increases is weighted in favour of those on lower pay.

The terms of the agreement were accepted by members of the Defence Forces. The increases due from 1 January 2018, 1 October 2018 and 1 January 2019 have been paid to Permanent Defence Force personnel. Further increases in pay are scheduled for 1 October 2019 and in 2020.

By the end of the current Public Service Pay Agreement the pay of all public servants (including members of the Defence Forces), earning under €70,000 per annum, will be restored to pre FEMPI levels. The restoration of the 5% reduction to allowances cut under FEMPI is also scheduled in the agreement.

New entrants who joined the Defence Forces since 2011, may also benefit from the measures in relation to interventions at points 4 and 8 of the relevant pay scales for all such new entrants to the public service.

In accordance with the provisions of Public Services Stability Agreement 2018-2020, the Government has tasked the Public Service Pay Commission with conducting a more comprehensive examination of the specific recruitment and retention challenges in the Defence Forces, which the Commission identified in Chapter 6 of its report in May 2017.

The Commission's work is on-going. The Government will give due consideration to the findings and recommendations that arise from the work of the Commission.

The Minister trusts the foregoing clarifies these matters for you.

Yours sincerely,



CLIONA O'SULLIVAN

PRIVATE SECRETARY TO

MR. PAUL KEHOE, T.D.

MINISTER WITH RESPONSIBILITY FOR DEFENCE

An Roinn Iompair,
Turasóireachta agus Spóirt
Department of Transport,
Tourism and Sport



Oifig an tAire | *Office of the Minister*

Mr. Honor Dunphy
Waterford City and County Council
City Hall
The Mall
Co. Waterford

14th May 2019

Ref: TTAS-MO-01876-2019

Dear Mr. Dunphy,

Thank you for your letter from the Waterford City and County Council, which has been forwarded to this Department from the Department of Justice and Equality for direct reply.

The inclusion of the Driver Theory Test in the school curriculum as a subject for all students at Leaving Certificate level would be a matter for the Minister for Education and Skills.

Yours sincerely,

Chris Smith
Private Secretary to Minister Ross

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



Oifig an Aire Oideachais agus Scileanna
Office of the Minister for Education and Skills

Ms. Honor Dunphy
Meetings Administrator
Waterford City and County Council
City Hall
The Mall
Co. Waterford

Waterford City and County Council
Received

23 MAY 2019

Corporate Affairs

PLEASE QUOTE REF NUMBER ON ALL CORRESPONDENCE.

Our Ref: DES-CU-01587-2019

22nd May 2019

Dear Ms. Dunphy,

I refer to your recent letter to the Minister for Education and Skills, Mr. Joe McHugh TD regarding the inclusion of driver theory/licence in the school curriculum for students at Leaving Certificate level.

At post-primary level, there are no plans currently to introduce mandatory driver education classes, but it should be noted that basic tuition to lay a foundation in driver education is featured on many schools' curricula.

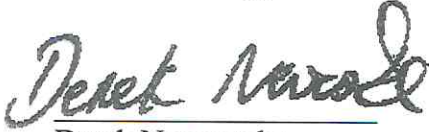
In the primary curriculum, there is incremental provision for children to learn aspects of road safety that are particularly relevant to them, including pedestrian and cycling safety.

An optional Road Safety programme for Transition Year has been developed by the Road Safety Authority in collaboration with the Department, the National Council for Curriculum and Assessment and the Professional Development Service for Teachers, and has been offered nationally as an option since September 2008. Transition Year is now taken by some 70% of post primary students. The programme is available in twenty hour and forty-five hour units, and schools can choose to offer it as part of their Transition Year programme. It features inputs from agencies such as the ambulance service, fire service and An Garda Síochána, as well as providing for visiting speakers, trips out of school, projects and case studies.

The programme provides for an introduction to road safety for pedestrians, cyclists, motorcyclists and motorists, and covers such issues as seatbelts and airbags, driver fatigue, drink/drug driving, enforcement, basic first aid at road crashes, emergency services and rehabilitation. The programme is also supported by digital resources, including DVD support and access to international websites on road safety issues. Relevant Driver Theory Test learning is included at the end of each module. Students may study questions from the Driver Theory Test throughout the course with a view to preparing to sit the Driver Theory Test should they wish to do so. One of the many Learning Outcomes for this module includes the option to successfully complete the driver theory test.

For further information on the Transition Year programme and the modules available please visit the NCCA's website at: <https://www.ncca.ie/en/senior-cycle/programmes-and-key-skills/transition-year>.

Yours sincerely;

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Derek Newcombe', written in a cursive style.

Derek Newcombe
Private Secretary

122

**An Roinn Tithíochta,
Pleanála agus Rialtais Áitiúil**
Department of Housing,
Planning and Local Government



Oifig an Aire
Office of the Minister

10 June 2019

Ms. Honor Dunphy,
Waterford City and County Council,
City Hall,
The Mall,
Waterford.

RE: HPLG-MO-01104-2019

Dear Ms. Dunphy,

Thank you for your correspondence regarding the valuation of licensed premises and the request of your elected members arising from the meeting of Waterford City and County Council held on 11th April 2019.

The Valuation Office is currently engaged in a national revaluation programme, the immediate objective of which is to ensure that the first revaluation of all rating authority areas in over 160 years is conducted across the country, as soon as possible, and on a phased basis. This is a welcome and positive development which is long overdue and on which considerable progress has been made in recent years.

It is a very significant undertaking and involves the valuation of some 150,000 commercial rateable properties. Completing the first revaluation since the middle of the 19th century and getting properties in every Local Authority area onto the 5-10 year cycle of revaluations provided for in the legislation represents a sea-change for the rateable valuation system. I am informed by the Commissioner of Valuation that the first revaluation of rateable commercial and industrial properties has already been completed in the Carlow, Dun Laoghaire-Rathdown, Kildare, Kilkenny, Laois, Leitrim, Longford, Offaly, Roscommon, Sligo, South Dublin and Westmeath County Councils and in Dublin City Council, Waterford City and County Council and Limerick City and County Council rating authority areas.

I am pleased to confirm that significant progress has been made and the programme has established a momentum which is now being built upon as the current phase of work known



as “Reval 2019” is well underway and scheduled to conclude by September 2019. This phase of the overall national programme covers the following counties - Cavan, Louth, Meath, Monaghan, Tipperary, Wexford and Wicklow rating authority areas. The Fingal County Council rating authority area is also undergoing a second revaluation in 2019, having initially been the subject of a revaluation in 2009. The new valuations for the eight areas undergoing revaluation will be published on 17th September 2019, and become effective for rates purposes from 2020 onwards.

I understand that the Commissioner of Valuation intends to sign further Valuation Orders before the end of 2019 to commence the revaluation in an additional batch of local authorities.

A valuation for commercial rates purposes is arrived at by estimating the Net Annual Value (NAV) of the property in question, at a specified valuation date. The term “net annual value” has a legal definition and is set out in section 48 of the Valuation Act 2001 as “the rent for which, one year with another, the property might, in its actual state, be reasonably expected to let from year to year, on the assumption that the probable average annual cost of repairs, insurance and other expenses (if any) that would be necessary to maintain the property in that state, and all rates and other taxes payable in respect of the property, are borne by the tenant”. This definition of Net Annual Value is applied to all rateable properties, including licensed premises, and on a nationwide basis.

Estimating the NAV of a rateable property is an evidence-based exercise. During a revaluation, such as that which took place in Waterford in 2013, the Valuation Office analyses relevant market rental transactions for all rateable properties in accordance with the legislation, best practice internationally as set out in published Practice Guidance Notes, well-established valuation principles and case law arising from the independent Valuation Tribunal and the higher Courts. The conclusion drawn from that analysis is applied to similarly circumstanced properties using the “comparative” method of valuation which, as the name implies, employs direct comparison with other similar properties.

You may be aware that there are a number of avenues of redress for an occupier of rateable property who is dissatisfied with a determination of valuation made under the provisions of the Valuation Acts, 2001-2015. Firstly, before a determination is made, there is a right to make representations to the Valuation Office in relation to a proposed valuation. Later in the process, if the occupier is still dissatisfied with the determination, there is a right of appeal to the Valuation Tribunal which is an independent body set up for the purpose of hearing appeals against determinations of the Valuation Office. There is a right of appeal to the Higher Courts on a point of law.



A second revaluation of all rateable properties in Waterford must be carried out within a minimum of 5 years and a maximum of ten years of the first revaluation i.e. by 2023 at the latest. Outside of a revaluation of all rateable properties in a Rating Authority Area, Section 28 (4) of the Valuation Act 2001 as amended, provides that an Officer of the Commissioner of Valuation may carry out a revision of valuation in relation to a particular property only if a material change of circumstances (MCC) has occurred since the valuation of the property was last revised. MCC is defined in section 3 of the Act as a change of circumstances, which includes a new building, a change in value due to structural alterations of an existing building, total or partial demolition of a building or a sub-division or amalgamation of relevant property. The definition does not allow for a revision of valuation where the change in value is due to economic factors, differential movements in property values or other external factors. At present, there are no plans to alter the legislation in this regard.

I trust the above is of assistance.

Yours sincerely,

Niamh Redmond
Private Secretary



Oifig an Aire Oideachais agus Scileanna
Office of the Minister for Education and Skills

Ms. Honor Dunphy
Meetings Administrator
Waterford City and County Council
City Hall
The Mall
Co. Waterford

PLEASE QUOTE REF NUMBER ON ALL CORRESPONDENCE.

Our Ref: CU01818-2018

17th June 2019

Dear Ms. Dunphy,

The Minister for Education and Skills, Mr. Joe McHugh TD, has asked me to respond to your correspondence in relation to Tramore Educate together.

The Department has secured agreement in principle from the Bishop of Waterford and Lismore in relation to permanent school premises to be provided under the patronage divesting process. This will enable Tramore ETNS to move to their permanent school property, which will be what is currently the junior school building of Glor na Mara primary school. The extension project which will facilitate the Glor na Mara primary school operating from one building and freeing up their former junior school property is due to go on site, subject to no unforeseen delays, in the 3rd quarter of 2019 and the construction period is estimated to be approximately 18 months.

Accordingly, it is envisaged that the to-be-vacated Glor na Mara building will be available for Tramore ETNS in early 2021. Given the above, interim accommodation arrangements will only need to continue for the 2019/2020 and part of the 2020/2021 school years.

The Department devolved the planning and delivery of the additional accommodation for the school to the school patron, Educate Together, and is in regular contact with Educate Together in this regard. A proposal regarding the additional accommodation has recently been received from Educate Together and this is currently under review by the Department.

In order to plan for school provision and analyse the relevant demographic data, the Department divides the country into 314 school planning areas and uses a Geographical Information System, using data from a range of sources, to identify where the pressure for school places across the country will arise. With this information, the Department carries out nationwide demographic exercises to determine where additional school accommodation is needed at primary and post-primary level.

Where demographic data indicates that additional provision is required, the delivery of such additional provision is dependent on the particular circumstances of each case and may, depending on the circumstances, be provided through either one, or a combination of, the following:

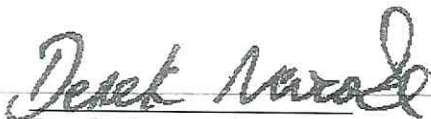
- Utilising existing unused capacity within a school or schools,
- Extending the capacity of a school or schools,
- Provision of a new school or schools.

As you will be aware, in April 2018 the Government announced plans for the establishment of 42 new schools over the next four years (2019 to 2022). This announcement follows nationwide demographic exercises carried out by the Department into the future need for primary and post-primary schools across the country and the 4-year horizon will enable increased lead-in times for planning and delivery of the necessary infrastructure.

In addition to the new schools announced, there will be a need for further school accommodation in other areas in the future.

While the announcement did not include a new post-primary school in Tramore and Kilmacthomas, the Minister has highlighted that the requirement for new schools will be kept under on-going review and in particular would have regard for the increased rollout of housing provision as outlined in Project Ireland 2040.

Yours sincerely,



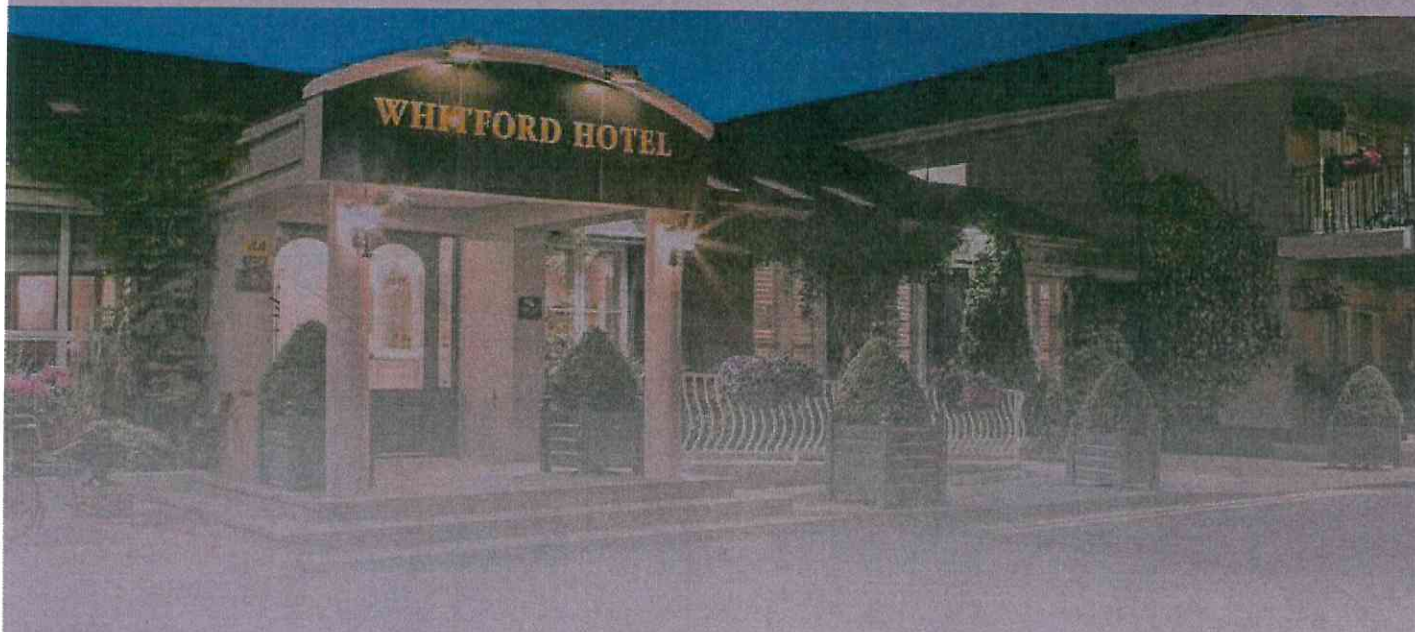
Derek Newcombe
Private Secretary

A hand holding a pen over a document with a checklist. The document has several boxes, some of which are checked. The background is a dark, textured surface.

Institute of Professional Training

Training Seminar for Local Authority Members

From Ballot Box to Council Chamber



Friday 5th - Sunday 7th July 2019

Whitford House Hotel, Wexford

Registration
Friday 5th - 6pm
Saturday 6th - 9.30am

About the training seminar

Irish Private and Public Bodies in association with the Institute of Professional Training is hosting the attached Seminar. The Institute is a State Accredited Educational Trainer and satisfies all criteria of Local Government.



Training Seminar Administrator

Niall Dennehy P.C.
Commissioner for Oaths.

About us

Irish Private and Public Bodies in association with the Institute of Professional Training is Hosting the attached Seminar. The Institute is a State Accredited Educational Trainer and satisfies all criteria of Local Government.

Irish society is becoming increasingly more multicultural and diverse. This social diversity, which is a new phenomenon in Ireland, has long been considered a cornerstone of liberal democracy. One of the key challenges of government now, is to maintain unity in the midst of the competing demands and expectations of such a diverse society.

Local government is at the heart of this challenge. It is at the coalface of citizen / government interaction. It is expected to provide the policies to respond to the demands of this new Irish society. This expectation is further challenged by its own limited policy-making role.

This, in turn, poses a particular challenge for Councillors who are the formal policy makers in local government. The issues involved here will be examined in the seminar with a view to helping Councillors to respond in a caring and professional way to the needs of their constituents.

Agenda

Friday 5th July

6 - 7pm **Registration**

Padge Reck Wexford

7 - 8pm **Seminar Position Papers**

Saturday 6th July

9.30am **Registration**

10am **Presentations**

- Reserved Functions
- Defining the Role of the Councillor

11.15 **Coffee Break**

11.30 **Presentations**

- Executive Functions
- Defining the Role of Management
- Community Appreciation
- Striking a Budget, Commercial Rate and LPT
- Councillors - Policy Makers

1pm **Lunch Break**

2pm **Questions & Answers**

Sunday 7th July

10am **Delegate Networking***

- This optional session is your opportunity to share your experiences and learnings with one another in a moderated setting.
- While discussion will primarily focus on the topics of Government, Local Government and Local Elections. We will also use this time to learn what other topics are of concern to Councillors so we can ensure that our 2019 programme meets your training needs.

Book your place

Seminar Fee: €145

Bookings for the Seminar must be made in advance to:

Secretary, Irish Private and Public Bodies (Consulting) Ltd.

Phone 086 240 2753

Email instprofraining@gmail.com

Web ippbconsulting.com

The Seminar organisers reserve the right to change any of the details of this programme to facilitate the safe and efficient running of this event.

*The organisers assume no responsibility for the attendance / non attendance of delegates.
Institiúid Um Thraenáil Ghairmiúil



POLLING
STATION

29 May 2019



Dear Meetings Administrator

The Association of Irish Local Government will be holding two training mornings for elected members generally – whether new or re-elected – on the following dates and venues:

11 July 2019, registration from 0915, Mullingar Park Hotel, (off the M4), Co. Westmeath

For Councillors whose parent councils are within the catchments of the Midlands and East and Northern and Western Regional Assemblies

and

13 July 2019, registration from 0915, Horse & Jockey Hotel, (off the M6), Co Tipperary

For Councillors within the catchment of the Southern Regional Assembly.

The same rules apply to the above as for the standard training activities viz:

- If a Councillor attends at a location other than the venue specified for her or his training, payment will only be made for the shortest distance of the two;
- A councillor can claim for no more than two out-of-region Saturdays within a calendar year.

The content of the training mornings include elements of induction and refresher training regarding the core competences of the elected member.

This training is intended to be additional and complementary to training which is being organised by each parent local council. Since 2010 Councils have been required to adopt a Training and Development Programme for Councillors – see Part V (B) of the directions issued by the Minister in this regard which accompanied Circular LG04/2018. The coming months early in the life of a new Council would seem an opportune time for the development of such a programme which might include a blend of parent council in-house training and external training such as that provided by the AILG.

We look forward to working with your members over the new council term.

Yours faithfully

Liam Kenny

Director, 087 2872704

Regional Enterprise Plan to 2020
Midlands

**Save the
Date!**

OCTOBER

Wed 9th 2019

Save the date!

For an *exciting 1 day conference* on

“Creating Economic & Business Opportunities from Climate Change”

Tullamore Court Hotel, Tullamore, County Offaly

Wednesday, 9th of October 2019 – Fee €150

To register please email: info@midlandsrep.ie

Full conference programme will issue in due course.

An initiative of the Midlands Regional Transition Team in conjunction
with the Eastern & Midlands CARO & Local Enterprise Office Offaly.

A Date For Your Diary

11th & 12th September 2019



The Hillgrove Hotel Leisure & Spa, Monaghan
hillgrovehotel.com | info@hillgrovehotel.com

Seminar to commence with registration at 5pm and official opening at 7.30pm on Wednesday 11th September.

Seminar Dinner to take place at 8pm on Thursday 12th September.

AILG

Association of Irish Local Government
 Aontas Rialtas Áitiúil na hÉireann

AUTUMN TRAINING SEMINAR 2019
 Hillgrove Hotel, Old Armagh Road, Monaghan

CONTACT:

Tom Moylan & Liam Kenny
 Directors

AILG, Manor Mills,
 Maynooth, Co. Kildare.

Phone: 00 353 1 610 6100

Mobile: 00 353 86 823 6386

Email: t.moylan@ailg.ie

www.ailg.ie

ACCOMMODATION DETAILS

**The Hillgrove Hotel Leisure & Spa, Old Armagh Road,
 Monaghan, Co Monaghan, H18 RK15**

(047) 81 288

Delegate Rates Available:

€79 Single Occupancy / €99 Per Room (Double/Twin)

Ashleigh Guest House	37 Dublin St., Monaghan	(047) 81 227
Grove Lodge B&B	Old Armagh Road, Latlurcan, Monaghan	(047) 84 677
Westenra Arms Hotel	The Diamond, Monaghan	(047) 74 400
Four Seasons Hotel & Leisure Club	Coolshannagh, Monaghan	(047) 81 888
The Meadows B&B	No 5 Tirkeenan, Monaghan	(047) 81 227



COMHAIRLE | CLARE
CONTAE AN CHLÁIR | COUNTY COUNCIL

20th June, 2019.

Our Ref: June 19-15/AR/MMcI

To Each Local Authority.

I set out below the terms of resolution adopted by the members of Clare County Council at their June monthly meeting:-

“In light of a recent appeal to the EU from 180 scientists and doctors from 36 countries warning about the danger of 5G, which will lead to a massive increase in involuntary exposure to electromagnetic radiation, that Clare County Council in exercising its responsibility to protect the environment and the public from harm:-

- 1) opposes the roll-out of 5G in the County; and
- 2) calls on CommReg to deny licensing for its roll-out; and
- 3) calls on the Minister for Communication, Climate Change and the Environment, to establish a working group to establish the facts about the radiation impact of 5G on the environment & human health due to the current questionable scientific knowledge.”

The members asked that this would also be circulated to each local authority.

Yours sincerely,

Ann Reynolds,
A/Senior Executive Officer,
Corporate Services Department,
Finance and Support Services Directorate.

An Roinn Seirbhísí Corparáideach
Stiúthóireacht Airgeadais agus Seirbhísí Tacaíochta
Áras Contae an Chláir, Bóthar Nua, Inis, Co. an Chláir, V95 DXP2

Corporate Services Department
Finance and Support Services Directorate
Áras Contae an Chláir, New Road, Ennis, Co. Clare, V95 DXP2



COMHAIRLE | CLARE
CONTAE AN CHLÁIR | COUNTY COUNCIL

20th June, 2019.

Our Ref: June 19-16/AR/MMcI

To Each Local Authority.

I set out below the terms of resolution adopted by the members of Clare County Council at their June monthly meeting:-

“Clare County Council request Minister for Health Mr Simon Harris to provide for the rollout of free folic acid for all women of childbearing age and to run an educational programme in tandem, not unlike the hugely successful HPV Vaccination Campaign championed by our own late Laura Brennan.”

The members asked that this would also be circulated to each local authority.

Yours sincerely,

Ann Reynolds,
A/Senior Executive Officer,
Corporate Services Department,
Finance and Support Services Directorate.

An Roinn Seirbhísí Corparáideach
Stiúrthóireacht Airgeadais agus Seirbhísí Tacaíochta
Áras Contae an Chláir, Bóthar Nua, Inis, Co. an Chláir, V95 DXP2

Corporate Services Department
Finance and Support Services Directorate
Áras Contae an Chláir, New Road, Ennis, Co. Clare, V95 DXP2