

**COMAIRLE CATHRACH AGUS CONTAE PHORT LÁIRGE**

**Item  
No. 7**

**WATERFORD CITY AND COUNTY COUNCIL**

**MONTHLY COUNCIL MEETING HELD 11<sup>TH</sup> MARCH, 2021**

**C O R R E S P O N D E N C E**

**1. CORRESPONDENCE:**

- a). Email dated 4<sup>th</sup> February, 2021 from Dublin City Council with copy of letters sent to relevant Minister's on the issue of Maternity Leave for Councillors.
- b). Email dated 1<sup>st</sup> March, 2021 from Laois County Council with copy of letter sent to Minister Darragh O'Brien re. the Land Development Agency Bill.

**2. CONFERENCES:**

NONE

**3. MAYORAL/CATHAOIRLEACH RECEPTION/FUNCTIONS:**

Certificates of Achievement to:

1. Waterford Viking Marathon
2. South Eastern Theatre Group
3. Mount Sion School of Sanctuary
4. Mount Sion Choir

**4. MOTIONS RECEIVED:**

**Clare County Council**

At the December & January meetings of Clare County Council the members passed the following resolutions and it was agreed to circulate to all Local Authorities :

*"That Clare County Council call on the Minister for Transport, Climate, Environment and Communication to provide specific funding to all local authorities in order to create a role for an active and sustainable travel officer so that alternatives to the dependency on cars can be worked on. The role would also include modal shift, behavioural change and designing for the active mobility of people of all ages and abilities who have a right of access to our public streets."*

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*"I am calling on Minister Darragh O'Brien and Minister of State Peter Burke to urgently review planning policy in relation to the Development of Residential property.*

*1/ What I am looking for is more clarity and transparency in relation to developers applying for private residential development and disposal of the total development when completed for social housing.*

*2/ Developers are required to deliver on Part V of their obligations in the delivery of a portion of the development for Social and Affordable Housing and this has to be agreed with the planners with input from Senior Officers within the housing section.*

*3/ Planning and housing have a duty to deliver balanced tenure and sustainable communities where a mix of housing would be available for both private and social needs.*

*4/ The development of large scale social housing requires considerable assistance and support at local level and in some instances local services are not sufficient to provide school placements and other essential supports for some vulnerable families and this has to be a consideration for planners.*

*5/ Currently members of the public wishing to purchase their own property are finding it very difficult to find private property for sale as the policy in planning is mostly focused on the delivery of social housing and in turn this policy puts more pressure on local authorities waiting lists and for the lower to middle income bracket they cannot get on the list due to income thresholds.*

*Public confidence needs to be strengthened in the whole planning process and I am hopeful the Ministers will find the balance required in the development of vibrant communities."*

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*"In light of the incredible service and commitment given to the country by our frontline staff, healthcare workers, carers and lifesavers over the period of the Covid 19 Global Pandemic I call on the government to explore any and every manner to tangibly recognise this extraordinary above and beyond service.*

*I propose this recognition should be in the form of direct tax free bonus payment similar to the €500 one off payment scheme introduced in Scotland, a tax credit, additional paid leave, or other appropriate clear and tangible reward to mark this commitment.*

*To do this I call on the Department of Health to lead a cross department group with the achievement of above as its one objective."*

### **Tipperary County Council**

At the February & Special Meeting's of Tipperary County Council the following motions were adopted and it was agreed to circulate to all Local Authorities for their support:

*"That Tipperary County Council write to the Minister of Environment, Climate and Communication, Eamon Ryan, TD seeking a 75% rebate in the PSO levy on ESB bills for Community Halls and facilities because of their inability to fundraise due to Covid-19. This motion if passed should be circulated to all other Councils and DPER".*

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*“That Tipperary county Council calls on the Minister for Tourism, Culture, Arts, Gaeltacht, Sport and Media, Ms. Catherine Martin, T.D., to consider providing extra supports to regional newspapers who provide an essential service to may communities including in County Tipperary during the Covid pandemic”.*

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*“That Tipperary County Council call on the Government to introduce a National day of recognition for the survivors and victims of Mother and Baby Homes. That Survivors of Mother and Baby Homes should have the right to information about their birth Mother and their full identity. The Government would Establish a proper redress scheme for survivors and victims and immediately provide counselling and other mental health services to survivors of Mother and Baby Homes to support them in this remarkably difficult time. Also, that we as a council recognise the Historical role that County, Borough and Town Councils from Tipperary played in the running of Mother and Baby institutions in this County, so that we can be sure that this sad part of our past is known and not hidden away. That the government would also support the excavation, exhumation and where possible the identification of remains of babies buried at institutions and insure their dignified reburial and in particular support the endeavours of the We are Still Here Sean Ross Group to complete a 3D scan dig of identified burial locations at Sean Ross. The Council also calls on Minister Roderic O 'Gorman to extend the lifetime of the commission to allow the DPC (data protection commission) to fully investigate the destroying of recordings of evidence without making full transcripts. This immediate action is required to preserve the testimony of witnesses”.*

### **Kerry County Council**

At a recent meeting of Kerry County Council the following motions were adopted and it was agreed to circulate to all Local Authorities :

*"That Killarney MD would write to the Minister for Health requesting the immediate introduction of payment to student nurses, once they take up placement duties. If this motion is passed, I ask that it would be circulated to all other Local Authorities requesting their support."*

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*“That this Council writes to Ms. Samantha Power, newly appointed Head of US Aid by President Biden to address this Council at some future date.”*

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*"That this Council calls on the Government to utilise its seat on the United Nations Security Council to deliver Statehood to the Palestinian people."*

### **South Dublin County Council**

At the January meeting of South Dublin County Council the following motion was adopted and it was agreed to circulate to all Local Authorities :

*“During the massive struggle that has been waged by ex- Debenhams workers across the companies 11 stores in Ireland the deficit of workers protection in liquidations has again been sharply exposed. This Council calls for the immediate implementation of the Duffy/Cahill Report, compiled in 2016 in the aftermath of The Clery's dispute- as one way of strengthening workers' rights and tackling the legal outs provided to major corporations who engage in tactical liquidations in order to avoid their obligations under hard won workers' rights. If passed this Council communicates such in writing to Government, to all Local Authorities and to the ICTU offering its support for implementation”*

### **Limerick City & County Council**

At the January meeting of Limerick City & County Council the following motions were adopted and it was agreed to circulate to all Local Authorities for their support :

*“That, Limerick City and County Council acknowledge the oversight role played by Councils in mother and baby homes, and call on all Councils to write to the Government to establish a national day of recognition for the women and their children impacted; and that the Council write to the Minister for Children asking that the survivors be given access to a written copy of Final Report of the Commission of Investigation into Mother and Baby Homes.”*

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*“That, Limerick City and County Council requests the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage to immediately suspend the statutory time period for the preparation of the Draft Limerick Development Plan 2022 - 2028 until such time as (a) public health restrictions are lifted to allow for safe face-to-face engagement between the Elected Members, the public and the Executive and (b) the Department provides a definition of the 'social and economic need' as referred to in the National Planning Framework.”*