

**Minutes of West Clare Municipal District Budget Meeting held on Friday 10th
November at 2.45pm in the Council Chamber, Ennis, Co. Clare**

Cathaoirleach sa Cathair:

Cllr. Joe Garrihy

I Láthair:

Cllr. Shane Talty (online), Cllr. Susan Crawford (online), Cllr. Joe Killeen, Cllr. Bill Chambers, Cllr. Ian Lynch (online), Cllr. Cillian Murphy, Cllr. Gabriel Keating & Cllr. PJ Kelly.

Officials present:

Mr. Pat Dowling, Chief Executive

Ms. Noleen Fitzgerald, Head of Finance

Ms. Trina Rynne, Financial Accountant, Finance

Mr. Leonard Cleary, Area Co-Coordinator & Director of Service

Mr. John O'Malley, A/Senior Executive Officer & Meetings Administrator, West Clare Municipal District

Mr. Enda MacNamara, Senior Executive Engineer, West Clare MD

Mr. Steve Lahiffe, Senior Staff Officer, West Clare Municipal District

The Cathaoirleach convened the meeting and introduced the Chief Executive, Mr. Pat Dowling.

Mr. Dowling outlined the statutory process in relation to the General Municipal Allocation (GMA), which is defined as the discretionary funding available to the municipal district members for allocation in the draft budgetary plan.

Mr. Dowling advised that the GMA for the West Clare MD for 2021 even during these exceptional times will be maintained at €409,479. It is recognised that the allocation of this funding has a multiplier effect.

The Head of Finance, Ms. Noeleen, Fitzgerald, then went through the current financial situation the Council faced along with outlining what supports were & are available to businesses. A discussion was had in respect of grants available and the Chair wished to highlight the positive feedback he had received in relation to the Restart Grant and thanked the Finance Staff for their help.

It was also re-iterated by the members that the money given through the GMA to local communities had a multiplier effect that was invaluable.

Prior to the GMA funding being adopted by the MD, Cllr. Kelly did ask that the legislation would be examined.

At the end of the meeting Cllr. Garrihy proposed that the West Clare MD allocation for 2021 would be adopted and this was seconded by Cllr. Keating.

**Signed: Cllr. Joe Garrihy,
Cathaoirleach**

**Signed: John O'Malley,
Meetings Administrator**

Dated this 19th January 2021.