

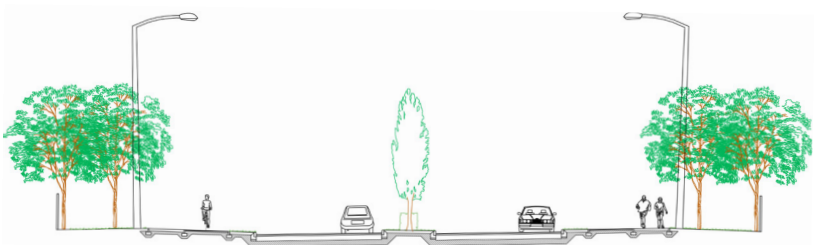
Need for the Northern Distributor Road

The Northern Distributor Road is essential for the continued development of Limerick. Limerick City is the capital of the Mid West and must deliver on its potential and fulfil its leadership role regionally and nationally. As Ireland's economic recovery continues the city must position itself for investment and growth. Top quality modern infrastructure is an essential requirement for Limerick to maintain its competitive advantage and encourage more investment. Better infrastructure will improve access to new housing developments for citizens, the National Technology Park for investors, the University of Limerick for students and the northern suburbs of the city. Overall there will be much better connectivity for residents and businesses in east County Limerick and south County Clare across all of North Limerick and onto the National Road Network.



What the road will deliver

The road will be a high quality urban dual carriageway with footpaths and cycle ways. At present all main roads in the north and east of the city are overloaded, especially at peak times. The road will give road users more choice to move around the city and distribute traffic more evenly across the city's network. It is especially important for the northern suburbs such as Corbally and will greatly relieve pressure in Annacotty, Monaleen and Castletroy. In east Limerick the road will provide for improved connections to Annacotty Village, Cappamore Road the National Technological Park and the University of Limerick. as well as providing good quality cycling and walking facilities along the route.



Typical Urban Dual Carriageway cross section with segregated cyclepaths, footpaths and landscaping.

The planning process

The first step to deliver this new road is to make planning provision for the road. This planning provision requires a change to the Development Plan. This planning provision is achieved by the elected Members of Limerick City and County Council amending the Development Plan for Limerick by including the likely route corridor. The elected members of Clare County Council amended the Clare Development Plan 2 years ago for that part of the road in County Clare and the proposal to amend the 'County Development Plan' will be considered for approval by the elected members of Limerick City & County Council in May. The agreement of the elected members to amending the Development plan is an absolute requirement if the scheme is to proceed. Documents relating to the proposal will be published on 25th February, 2017 and will be available on the Council's web site www.limerick.ie/council. The plan can also be viewed at the Council offices at County Hall, Dooradoyle, City Hall, Merchant's Quay and the libraries at Watch House Cross, the Granary or Dooradoyle. It is important that you try to inform yourself on these proposals. The Council will welcome any enquiries on the following help lines **061-407294 and 061-407548**. The Council will meet any personal callers to assist in explaining the process and the project.

Making your voice heard

The Council encourages you to make a submission on the Northern Distributor Road. Your written submission can be made to Economic Development and Strategic Planning Section, Limerick City and County Council, 7/8 Patrick Street, Limerick V94 XF67 and must arrive on or before Monday 27th March 2017. Alternatively please email your submission to this email address: forwardplanning@limerick.ie

Programme for Public Consultation

Task	Date
Publication of Variation	Sat 25 th February 2017
Last date for public submissions	Mon 27 th March 2017
Limerick City and County Council to assess submissions and issue Chief Executive's Report	April 2017
Meeting of Elected Members of Limerick City and Council to vote on proposed Variation	May 2017



Limerick Northern Distributor Road

Public Information Leaflet
Variation No. 5 to Limerick County Development Plan
2010 - 2016 (Extended)

February 2017

The purpose of this information leaflet is to advise you of the proposal to construct the Limerick Northern Distributor Road and to also to indicate the next steps that must be taken in order to progress this development.



Location of the Proposed Road

The proposed Northern Distributor Road will cross the northern part of the city and link the road network adjacent to the Mackey Roundabout area of Lisnagry to Coonagh on the Ennis Road. There will be a number of junctions along the road to serve Corbally, the University of Limerick and the National Technological Park.

The map shows the proposed 100 metre wide corridor in purple that the Council proposes to limit development within until such time as the final road layout is designed and approved. A dual carriageway type road with footpaths, cycle paths and landscaping would typically be 30 to 40 metres wide between its boundaries and the proposed northern distributor road will fit within the 100 metre wide corridor. A wider protected area is shown hatched in the vicinity of the Mackey roundabout and this is to facilitate improved junction connections linking the proposed Northern Distributor Road to the existing road network including the R445 Old Dublin Road, the Mackey roundabout (M7) and the R506 Cappamore road.

Some of the Main Benefits of the new Road

Journey times around the north of Limerick City will be significantly reduced. For example on the Northern distributor road the travel time from Coonagh to the North Campus of UL will be less than 15 minutes at peak times.

The Northern Distributor Road will bring significant relief to the peak time traffic congestion on Corbally Road and allow this traffic to disperse around the new Distributor Road to get to their destinations within a shorter timeframe.

The Northern Distributor Road will significantly reduce through traffic in Limerick City centre improving accessibility and allowing road space to be reallocated to improved pedestrian and cycling facilities.

The peak time traffic congestion at the Mackey Roundabout will be reduced by the provision of an upgraded junction that will also improve accessibility and reduce delays at the Cappamore Junction.

Ireland must have an efficient roads network to take advantage of European markets. The competitive edge of manufacturers in Limerick and the Mid-West will be significantly enhanced through the availability of efficient transport routes. Having a low level of congestion on our road network is a major selling point for attracting new investment.

New industry and jobs attracted to the mid-west region will help to retain graduates and young people in the region and grow the population of the mid-west.

New roads are an essential long-term economic investment. Inadequate expenditure on roads over the past 10 years is exacting an economic toll through the cost of congestion.

Studies have shown that exhaust emissions are reduced if there is a reduction in traffic congestion which will result in air quality improvements to the Limerick urban environment.

A Strategic Flood Risk Assessment has been carried out for the Limerick Northern Distributor Road Scheme and a Flood Risk Management Plan Justification Test applied and passed in respect of the proposed Road Corridor. Limerick City & County Council are satisfied that the proposed Limerick Northern Distributor Road will not increase the risk of flooding in the areas impacted by the road and the Council will work with the Office of Public Works to maintain and upgrade culverts and flood defence infrastructure along the road corridor during the design and construction of the road scheme.

