

18<sup>th</sup> May, 2017

To the Mayor and Each Member of Limerick City and County Council

Chairperson's Report for the Travel & Transportation Strategic Policy Committee Meeting  
of the 3<sup>rd</sup> April, 2017

**Item 1: Adoption of Minutes**

The minutes of the previous committee meeting held on the 20<sup>th</sup> February, 2017 were proposed by Cllr. Donegan, Seconded by Cllr. Lynch and unanimously agreed and adopted.

**Item 2: To consider Notice of Motion submitted by Cllr. Leddin**

*"I will move at the next Meeting that the Council promote our upgraded walkways/cycleways such as those in Mungret, Cleeves Bank and the Canal Bank link to UL through online digital media methodology".*

The Director of Service read out the reply as previously circulated to this notice of motion.

It was noted that the walkways are already being promoted regularly through Limerick.ie social media monthly newsletters.

It was also noted that the Council's Communications/Marketing team is working with Limerick Smarter Travel to create a digital map of Limerick cycling/running/walking routes.

**Item 3: To consider Notice of Motion submitted by Cllr. Hogan**

*"I will move at the next meeting that a commitment be given that at no occasion in the future will any further traffic from any future development of Greenpark Racecourse be allowed to access the South Circular Road. The Greenpark Infrastructural Development Plan must take this into account and provide for all access from the Dock Road".*

The Director of Service read out the reply as previously circulated to this notice of motion.

It was noted that the indicative route proposed at Greenpark under the Local Infrastructure Housing Activation Fund accesses off the Dock Road and links to Courtbrack Avenue. The indicative route does not connect to the South Circular Road.

It was also noted that any development proposed at this location or indeed any other location will be subject to the normal planning process.

A number of Members highlighted the considerable traffic difficulties that can arise in the Greenpark/South Circular road area and asserted that the Council must have regard to these difficulties when assessing and determining any future planning proposals.

**Item 4: To consider Notice of Motion submitted by Cllr. Secas**

*“I will move at the next Meeting for the Council to speed up the process and bring forward to Councillors for discussion as a matter of urgency, the draft plans for the road treatment scheme for Dublin Road and for safe access to Gaelscoil Chaladh an Treoigh”.*

The Director of Service read out the reply as previously circulated to this notice of motion.

It was confirmed at the meeting that this motion had been discussed at the Metropolitan meeting held on 20<sup>th</sup> March, 2017.

**Item 5: To consider Notice of Motion submitted by Cllr. Prendiville**

*“I will move at the next meeting that the District contact Bus Eireann and the National Transport Authority (NTA) about organising a 'Car Free City' day or weekend, where public transportation would be free in order to encourage more people to use this vital public service, in order to help tackle pollution and climate change”.*

Cllr. Prendiville advised that there is a need to be imaginative in the promotion of available public transport options in Limerick.

He advised that if a car free day/weekend was organised, it would significantly help to promote the use of public transport in Limerick.

The motion was proposed by Cllr. Prendiville, seconded by Cmhlr O’Ceallaigh and unanimously agreed.

**Item 6: Progress Report on the proposed Northern Distributor Road Project**

The Senior Engineer gave a progress report presentation on the proposed Limerick Northern Distributor Road in which he outlined the objectives of the proposed road and how it is critical to the delivery of the Limerick 2030 plan. He explained in detail the benefits of the proposed road generally, the benefits for Limerick city centre, the strategic issues, including flood risk assessment and river crossings, which informed the proposed development and led to the proposal to vary the County Development Plan.

Mr. Murray also addressed the concerns raised in relation to the proposed LNDR and further explained why the option of routing the LNDR through Killaloe was not a viable option.

Mr. Lehane outlined that the population of the Limerick Metropolitan area is set to grow significantly in the next 20 years. He advised that sustainable methods of transport must be promoted and developed including the provision of a public transport link between UL and the city centre and the development of additional bus and cycle lanes and facilities.

Cllr. O'Hanlon asserted that the then city council had made a critical error approximately 20 years ago when it refused to support an access route from the M20 Motorway into the southside of the city. He pointed out that this refusal had significant adverse consequences for the Council in terms of realising the potential for development in this area of the city.

He stated that it is incumbent on the Members of Council to ensure that this current Council does not repeat this mistake.

Concluding, he re-asserted that any proposed decision in relation to the LNDR must be made having regard to the overall good of the Limerick region and the need for the city and county to grow and realise its full potential.

Cllr. M. Sheahan stated that the more information that the Members received in relation to the proposed LNDR, the better it would be for them in relation to making an informed decision.

**Recommendation:**

“That the Council contact Bus Eireann and the National Transport Authority (NTA) about organising a 'Car Free City' day or weekend, where public transportation would be free in order to encourage more people to use this vital public service, in order to help tackle pollution and climate change”.

The Meeting then concluded.



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**Chairperson of the Travel & Transportation Strategic Policy Committee**