



Comhairle Cathrach
& Contae **Luimnigh**

Limerick City
& County Council

DATE: 8 November, 2018.

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

**Chairperson's Report for the Travel & Transportation Strategic Policy Committee Meeting
of 8th October 2018**

Item 1: Adoption of Minutes

On the proposal of Cllr. O'Hanlon, seconded by Cllr. Lynch, the minutes of the previous committee meeting held on the 9th April 2018 were unanimously adopted.

Item 2: Presentation on Mobility Management Plans by Limerick Smarter Travel

Ms Sábh Hanley, Smarter Travel Co-ordinator, delivered a presentation to the Members on Limerick Smarter Travel (LST) Mobility Management Plans. Ms Hanley explained that LST engages with employers that are seeking to diversify work commuting patterns to identify actions which could facilitate alternative travel options. LST then supports the employer to implement the actions by way of a Mobility Management Plan. Plans are reviewed on a regular basis. There are currently 12 companies participating in the initiative.

In welcoming the presentation the Members raised a number of issues relating to safe cycling, quality of footpaths, rural bus services, crossing points and transportation policy. In response Mr Kennedy advised the Members that the Limerick Transport Strategy, which is scheduled to commence in October/November 2018, will look at transport issues for the city. The Strategy will form a major policy document for transportation in Limerick.

Item 3: Notice of Motion submitted by Councillor Galvin

"I will move at the next Meeting that the Government review the locations of the 'Go Safe' vans within Co. Limerick".

In proposing the Motion Cllr Galvin called for a review of the locations and purpose of the Go Safe Vans.

In responding, the Senior Engineer advised that the Council has had ongoing discussions with the Garda and with Go Safe regarding the locations of the Go Safe Vans. He agreed to bring

the Members comments to the next meeting of the Road Safety Committee. Cllr Galvin welcomed this proposal.

Item 4: Notice of Motion submitted by Councillor Galvin

“I will move at the next Meeting that a programme be put in place to number all the local roads within this Municipal District”.

In proposing the Motion, Cllr Galvin said that the proper numbering of all roads was important for the reporting of littering, crime, and road quality issues.

The Senior Engineer advised that Physical Development Directorate would undertake a study to establish the costs and resource requirements of providing signs on all local roads, and would report back to the Strategic Policy Committee on the findings of the study. Cllr Galvin welcomed this proposal.

Item 5: Notice of Motion submitted by Councillor J. Leddin

“I will move at the next meeting that Limerick Metropolitan Council review the current use of the Rosbrien Road to Edward Street by Bus Éireann in view of the speed and frequency of buses and the growing danger to both elderly and young children living on this road.”

In proposing the Motion, Cllr. Leddin raised the issue of Bus Éireann InterCity coaches using the Rosbrien Road/Lord Edward Street route as a short cut to accessing the Colbert Station terminus. He noted that there was a three tonne weight restriction on this road.

In response, the Senior Engineer advised that Physical Development officials had been in contact with Bus Éireann regarding this matter and that Bus Éireann had given an undertaking to instruct its drivers not to use this short cut.

Cllr Leddin welcomed the intervention of Physical Development officials with Bus Éireann.

Item 6: Notice of Motion submitted by Councillor J. Leddin

“I will move at the next meeting that Limerick Metropolitan Council prepare a submission as part of the NDP2040 to upgrade the existing disused rail lines in the city into new cycle routes under the €2 billion urban regeneration fund.”

In proposing the Motion, Cllr. Leddin stated that there are a number of disused railway lines in the Limerick area, and there is currently funding available for greenway type proposals, and suggested that the Council should link with Irish Rail to explore the possibilities for development of the lines.

In responding, the Director of Service said that the Council would be very interested in exploring the possibility of expanding the greenway network in Limerick with Irish Rail. It was the Directorate’s intention to apply for funding for greenways as and when it became available for potential projects. He advised that possible future greenways would also be considered as part of the Limerick Transport Strategy.

Cllr Leddin thanked the Director of Service for his response and welcomed the commitment to the development of greenways.

Item 7: Notice of Motion submitted by Councillor J. Leddin

“I will move at the next meeting that Limerick Metropolitan Council examine the feasibility of constructing a new pedestrian and cycle bridge across the river Shannon from O’Callaghan Strand to Bishops Quay using the original funds allocated for a footbridge.”

In proposing the Motion, Cllr. Leddin said that a proposal for a pedestrian and cycling bridge would engender widespread support amongst pedestrian and cyclists.

In responding, the Director of Service advised that a proposal for a footbridge across the river Shannon has been included in a recently submitted application for funding under the Urban Regeneration Development Fund (URDF), and that footbridges would also be considered as part of the Limerick Transport Strategy.

Cllr Leddin welcomed the application for URDF funding, and the Members approved the Motion.

Item 8: Notice of Motion submitted by Cmhlr. S. Ó Ceallaigh

“I will move at the next meeting that Limerick City and County Council introduces designated parking spaces for motorbikes and mopeds in Limerick City centre and that these will be monitored to view the viability of their expansion at a later time.”

In proposing the Motion, Cmhlr Ó Ceallaigh said that there was a need to trial a number of secure parking spaces for motorcycles in the City.

In response, the Director of Service said that the Council would consider meeting with a representative group to discuss this issue and examine where the demand exists, and look at the feasibility of providing required parking. The Motion was seconded by Cllr Browne and approved.

Item 9: Notice of Motion submitted by Cmhlr. S. Ó Ceallaigh

“I will move at the next meeting that efforts be made to include the refurbishment and re-opening of the Black Bridge in any plans for a Greenway/Cycleway along the river Shannon.”

In proposing the Motion, Cmhlr Ó Ceallaigh said that the Black Bridge was a well-used amenity until its closure some years ago. He acknowledged that Councillors had contributed to the cost of carrying out a study on the Bridge which had identified a cost of approximately €1 million to re-instate it. He was now seeking national funding to redevelop the Bridge.

In responding, the Director of Service advised that there may be an opportunity to seek funding for the Bridge in future greenway or URDF applications.

The Motion was seconded by Cllr S Browne and approved.

Item 10: Notice of Motion submitted by Councillor R. O'Donoghue

“I will move at the next Meeting that the Council install, without delay, traffic calming measures in all towns and villages in County Limerick where there is a lack of Garda presence due to the shortage of Gardaí and the closure of local stations. In the interest of the health and safety of residents – both young and old – speed indicators, ramps and other traffic calming measures are urgently needed as is clear from the fatalities, near misses and traffic issues in the towns and villages of County Limerick.”

In proposing the Motion, Cllr O'Donoghue referred to the recent fatality in Ballingarry and called on traffic calming measures to be installed in all towns and villages in County Limerick.

In responding, the Senior Engineer stated that Physical Development Directorate would work with the Garda and the area offices to identify speeding blackspots and request the latter to proceed with the traffic calming warrants, in accordance with the procedures set out in the Council's Traffic Calming Policy for Urban Areas.

The Motion was seconded by Cllr Lynch and approved.

Item 11: Make Way Day

Ms M Browne advised the Meeting that Make Way Day events were held nationwide on 26th September.

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Chairperson of the Travel & Transportation Strategic Policy Committee