



Comhairle Cathrach  
& Contae **Luimnigh**

**Limerick City**  
& County Council

**DATE: 4 March, 2019.**

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

**Chairperson's Report for the Travel & Transportation Strategic Policy Committee Meeting  
of 11 February, 2019.**

**Item 1: Adoption of Minutes**

On the proposal of Cllr. Lynch, seconded by Cllr. Donegan the minutes of the previous committee meeting held on 3 December, 2018 were unanimously adopted.

**Item 2: Update on Road Grants 2019 – Mr. Vincent Murray, S.E.**

Mr. Murray gave a presentation on the Roads Grants advised by the respective funding bodies Transport Infrastructure Ireland (TII), the Department of Transport (DTTAS), Tourism and Sport and the National Transport Authority (NTA) to the Council for 2019.

The combined total of grants for Limerick is €39.25 million, which is an increase of approximately €10 million on 2018 grants.

TII grants for 2019 have increased by approximately €1 million on 2018 grants, due in large to the high proportion of motorway and national roads schemes in the mid-west region.

Mr Murray advised that the DTTAS grants for 2019 were €26.2 million, which represents an increase on 2018 grants. This funding is for the upgrade and maintenance of regional and local roads networks, and includes provision for winter maintenance.

He advised that €384,000 had been provided by the Department of Rural and Community Development for the Local Improvement Scheme which provides funding for private roads in rural areas.

He stated that the National Transport Authority grants were likely to be approximately €2.75 million in 2019 for the promotion of cycling, walking and public transport in urban areas.

The members welcomed the presentation and grant funding, and enquired about the status of a number of roads schemes in the city and county, to which Mr Murray responded.

Cllr O'Hanlon formally proposed that Bus Éireann be invited to make a presentation at the next meeting of the SPC. This proposal was seconded by Cllr Lynch.

**Item 3: Presentation on the Limerick City and County Council Climate Adaptation Strategy – Mr Dara McGuigan, A/S.E.O. and Mr. Tom O’Neill, Heritage Officer.**

Mr McGuigan advised the committee that the Physical Development Directorate, in conjunction with Economic Development Directorate, was preparing a draft Climate Change Adaptation Strategy in accordance with the requirements of the Climate Action and Low Carbon Act 2015 and the National Adaptation Framework.

The Strategy would attempt to address how the Council will adapt its plans, processes and policies to take account of the current and future effects of climate change-related extreme weather events, to minimise the harmful effects and exploit any beneficial opportunities of climate change.

The local authority sector is one of 12 sectors nationally which are charged with producing climate adaptation strategies in 2019. The deadline for adoption of the Strategies is 30 September, 2019. He advised that the Strategy was being drafted at present, and that the Members would have an opportunity to comment on it during a public consultation period later in the process.

**Item 4: Use of agricultural machinery on the Great Southern Greenway – Mr. Denis McAuliffe.**

Mr McAuliffe raised a concern that landowners with lands on both sides of the Great Southern Greenway were using the Greenway as an access route to bring agricultural machinery from one landholding to another, thereby causing damage to the surface of the Greenway, and potentially causing danger and inconvenience to users of the trail. He called for bye-laws regulating the use of the Greenway to be introduced.

Mr Kennedy responded that Physical Development in conjunction with our colleagues in Social Development, and Sports Ireland will review the situation. He went on to advise that the Council had secured €2.7 million in funding from the Rural Regeneration Development Fund to upgrade the surface of the Greenway to Irish Trails Office standard, and to develop a link from the trail to the Barnagh Tunnel and the viewing point on Barnagh Hill. Cllr Browne welcomed the funding and hoped that the issues raised could be resolved.

The Meeting then concluded.

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