



Comhairle Cathrach  
& Contae **Luimnigh**

**Limerick City**  
& County Council

**DATE: 15 April, 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 8 April, 2019.**

**Item 1: Adoption of Minutes**

On the proposal of Cllr. Lynch, seconded by Cllr. Pond the minutes of the previous committee meeting held on 11 February, 2019 were unanimously adopted.

**Item 2: Presentation on Bus Éireann Services in Limerick City and County – Bláithín McElligott and Brian Connolly (Bus Éireann)**

Mr Kennedy advised that at the request of the Committee at its last meeting Bus Éireann was present to give a presentation on bus services. He advised that due to recent issues with bus delays and scheduling of services, the Council, Bus Éireann and An Garda Síochána had met and agreed a number of actions, which aimed to address some of the issues in the shorter term.

Ms McElligott then gave a presentation on the current and future planned bus services for the Limerick city area. She advised that the current 304 and 304A services run six times per hour. Fleet capacity has increased between 2016 and 2018 with the introduction of double decker buses. Usage has increased by approximately 20% between 2017 and 2018 to 3.6 million passenger journeys. She advised that Bus Éireann proposed to carry out an extensive review of routes and scheduling during Summer 2019. She referred to the multi-agency initiative, which aimed to address some of the factors causing delays to the service. She stated that Bus Éireann was proposing to review services to the National Technology Park, Raheen Business Park, Mungret and Patrickswell with a view to incorporating them into the city service. It is installing Real Time Passenger Information (RTPI) on routes, which will allow passengers more accuracy in planning journeys.

The Members welcomed the presentation and amongst the matters raised were punctuality of service; reliability of service; new or revised services; extension of city services to outlying

towns; upgrade of vehicles; communication with passengers; drivers' shift requirements; the need for additional bus lanes; continued co-operation between LCCC, Bus Éireann and the Garda.

**Item 3: Update on NTA Grants 2019 – Mr. Dan Slavin, A/S.S.E.**

Mr. Slavin advised that the grant allocation from the National Transport Authority (NTA) had been received. A total of €2,560,000 has been allocated to Limerick. Among the projects receiving funding were:

<b>Project Name</b>	<b>Amount of Grant €</b>	<b>Purpose of Grant</b>
UL to City Centre Bus Corridor	100,000	Feasibility Study
Parnell St./Davis St./Wickham St.	1,850,000	Under construction
Grove Island Roundabout	100,000	New traffic modelling
Raheen to Quinn's Cross	40,000	Cycle lanes
Castletroy Urban Greenway	200,000	Construction
O'Connell St.	50,000	
Cycle Lane Protection Measures	25,000	Trial methods to separate cycle lanes from vehicular traffic
Milford/Plassey Park Road Junction Improvements	60,000	Staggered junction with traffic lights
LIT and MIC to City Centre Cycle Routes	50,000	Preparation of documentation
City Centre Pedestrian/Cycle Bridges	10,000	Engage consultant for Options report
Rhebogue Road Rail Bridge Underpass	25,000	Engage consultants to address pinch point
Traffic Signals Upgrade UL to City Centre	50,000	Upgrade of traffic signals

In welcoming the grants, the Members sought clarification on certain matters and Mr Slavin addressed same.

**Item 4: Review of Parking Bye-Laws – Mr Dara McGuigan, A/S.E.O.**

Mr McGuigan advised the Committee that the Physical Development Directorate intends to undertake a review of the existing Parking Places Bye-Laws. He confirmed that there are currently nine different sets of Parking Bye-Laws in force, some of which have not been reviewed in more than 10 years. There was a need to consolidate and update the Bye-Laws, and parking fees and residential parking permit fees would be reviewed against best

practice as part of the process. He advised that the adoption of parking bye-laws was a reserved function of the municipal and metropolitan districts.

**Item 5: Update on Dockless Bike Scheme – Mr Dara McGuigan, A/S.E.O.**

Mr McGuigan gave a presentation to the Committee on dockless bike schemes. He outlined the benefits of bike sharing schemes and the similarities and differences between docked and dockless bike schemes. He acknowledged the benefits brought to the city by the Coke Zero bike scheme, but noted that its coverage was limited to the city centre. A dockless bike scheme could enhance the accessibility to this mode of transport and broaden its reach to the suburbs, as identified in the Limerick Cycle Network Study. He advised that the Council was now considering seeking expressions of interest for a dockless bike scheme. Any scheme if rolled out would require licensing and be regulated by bye-laws.

The Members welcomed the update.

**Item 6. Notice of Motion submitted by Cllr. E. Hogan (deferred from Metropolitan Meeting)**

“I will move at the next meeting that Limerick City and County Council engage with An Garda Síochána to deal with the problem of cyclists using the footpath in Ballinacurra to cycle out of the city, particularly as there is a designated purpose built cycle lane behind the houses.”

In proposing the Motion Cllr Hogan cited the danger posed to residents reversing from their driveways by cyclists using the footpaths on Ballinacurra Road.

In a written response, the Director of Services undertook to liaise with the Garda on the matter and to review the existing signage relating to the alternative off street route.

Cllr Hogan thanked him for his response.

**Item 7. Notice of Motion submitted by Cllr. E. Hogan (deferred from Metropolitan Meeting)**

“I will move at the next meeting that Limerick City and County Council reinstate the Christmas Park and Stride arrangements for a 3 month period at Cleeve’s Car and possibly at the Bus Éireann yard on Roxboro Road to provide parking support for hard pressed retailers in Limerick City”.

In proposing the Motion Cllr Hogan stated that retailers in the City Centre could be greatly assisted by the provision of free car parking at the Cleeves site and at the Irish Rail Roxboro Road site.

In a written response, the Director cited the recent transfer of the Cleeves site to Limerick 2030. Mr McGuigan advised that Physical Development Directorate had spoken with Irish Rail

regarding the availability of its site. It had cited commercial considerations for being unable to provide the site for such a considerable period, but committed to considering its use for special events.

In seconding the Motion Cmhrl Ó Ceallaigh stated that the Members had been previously informed that Limerick 2030 was 100% owned by the Council, and that as such he was supporting Cllr Hogan's Motion to make the Cleeves site available for parking at the Christmas period.

It was agreed that Cllr Hogan's Motion should be put on the agenda for consideration at the next Council meeting.

**Item 8. Notice of Motion submitted by Cmhrl. S. Ó Ceallaigh (deferred from Metropolitan Meeting)**

"I will move at the Next Meeting that Chomhairle Cathrach agus Contae Luimnigh extends the cycle lane on Childers Road the entire length of the road from the Parkway Roundabout to Ballinacurra Road".

In proposing the Motion Cmhrl Ó Ceallaigh noted that there was a shared bus and cycle lane or separate cycle lane on the Childers' Road from the parkway Roundabout to the Kilmallock Road Roundabout. However, there was none beyond that point.

In a written response, the Director of Services stated that the Childers' Road cycle lanes would be incorporated into the Limerick Shannon Municipal Area Transport Strategy to ensure that the most effective multi-modal transport options can be identified for this route.

Cmhrl Ó Ceallaigh welcomed the response.

**Item 9. Notice of Motion submitted by Cllr. M Cahillane (deferred from Metropolitan Meeting)**

"We will move at the next Limerick and County Council Meeting that the following steps be taken to immediately alleviate some of the transport problems being felt across Limerick city. That Limerick City and County Council –

1. Monitor and enforce penalties for anyone who is parking in the red line designated bus stops.
2. Propose that the terminus for the 304 route be moved from Debenhams to a new terminus in O'Connell Street between Roche's Street and Cecil Street which is easier for buses to access, saving time.
3. That the Council demand an input with the National Transport Agency into the planning of bus routes in Limerick.
4. Expand the 301 Augustinian bus stop to avoid congestion.
5. Investigate bus corridors from the City Centre to the University of Limerick".

At the request of Cllr Cahillane this Motion was proposed by Cllr Keller. The Councillor noted the comprehensive written response from the Director of Service and welcomed the proposals in it, stating that he hoped the LSMATS would be futuristic in its outlook.

The Meeting then concluded.

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

**Recommendation:**

That the Council considers the Notice of Motion submitted by Cllr Hogan as follows: "I will move at the next meeting that Limerick City and County Council reinstate the Christmas Park and Stride arrangements for a 3 month period at Cleeve's Car Park and possibly at the Bus Éireann yard on Roxboro Road to provide parking support for hard pressed retailers in Limerick City".