

Meeting of the Travel and Transportation Strategic Policy Committee held on Monday 8th April 2019

Notice of Motion submitted by Councillor E. Hogan (referred 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 Park and possibly at the Bus Eireann yard on Roxboro Road to provide parking support for hard pressed retailers in Limerick City".

Reply:

Limerick City and County Council provides 3,500 parking spaces in the city centre, costing from as little as 50 c per 30 minutes (one of the lowest rates in the country). Parking may be availed of through the purchase of parking discs, parking meters and via the Limerick e-Parking app. Parking in the city centre is free on Sundays. For special events the Council has arranged for additional parking at various locations around the city to facilitate the public.

The Cleeves site has been used for a number of years over the Christmas period to provide additional free parking to shoppers in Limerick City. The opening of the site has necessitated the putting in place of arrangements for the security of users and the premises; health and safety considerations; public liability insurances.

As the Councillor will be aware, the Council at its meeting of 25 March, 2019 approved the disposal of the site to Limerick Twenty Thirty DAC under Section 183, to facilitate the master planning of the area for future development.

The Council is in the process of removing 24/7 security from the Cleeves site and replacing with a 24 hour monitored, motion sensor CCTV system. If the site were to be opened to the public to facilitate parking, an application would have to be made under Section 38 of the Garda Síochána Act, 2005 for the operation of CCTV in a public area.

A report will be prepared determining the feasibility of and any cost implications for the provision of park and stride arrangements in Limerick City on this and other sites. Members will be advised in this regard.

The Council has consulted with Irish Rail regarding the availability of the Roxboro Road site. Irish Rail has facilitated the public by making this premises available for public parking for special events eg St. Patrick's Day, Riverfest, Christmas. However due to internal commitments it has advised that it would not be able to facilitate a longer term arrangement at present. It remains agreeable to consider the use of the site as additional parking for special events on a case by case basis.

The Council will continue to explore options to provide additional park and stride arrangements to support business and special events in Limerick.

Brian Kennedy

Director of Service

Physical Development Directorate

24th April, 2019