

CORRESPONDENCE

**MEETING OF THE MUNICIPAL DISTRICT OF
ADARE-RATHKEALE**

11TH JANUARY, 2021

- Email received on 20th December, 2021 from the National Transport Authority Oireachtas Liaison, in reply to a motion passed by the elected Members of the Adare Rathkeale Municipal District requesting a representative of Bus Eireann attend the December Meeting of the District to discuss the recent changes to bus stop locations in Askeaton town and also to discuss Rathkeale town and lack of bus stop locations.

From: oireachtaslaiison <oireachtaslaiison@nationaltransport.ie>
Sent: Monday 20 December 2021 17:01
To: Butler, Karen <karen.butler@limerick.ie>
Subject: RE: Request from Municipal District of Adare Rathkeale Co Limerick.

Dear Ms Butler

The position on the issues raised is as follows.

Askeaton bus stops

Bus services in Askeaton are provided on Route 314 which forms part of the subsidised network of public service obligation (PSO) route provided by Bus Éireann under a public service contract with the NTA.

The NTA has established that bus services have been stopping adjacent to the Garda Station (Askeaton West) and adjacent to St Francis Avenue (Askeaton East). However, those locations are not approved bus stops. Accordingly, at the NTA's request, Bus Éireann has now undertaken to identify other suitable bus stop locations in Askeaton West and Askeaton East in consultation with Limerick City and County Council which has statutory responsibility for the approval of bus stops locations in its administrative area.

Rathkeale bus stops

Rathkeale has only one PSO route (Route 321) which provides a daily service in each direction on weekdays.

The majority of services in Rathkeale are being provided by Bus Éireann Expressway Routes 13 / 14, which are commercial bus services licensed by the NTA. Accordingly, it is a matter for the bus operator to decide if it is in its commercial interest to provide additional bus stops on those routes in Rathkeale and apply to Limerick City and County Council for the necessary approval.

Bus Shelters

The NTA has statutory responsibility for the provision of bus shelters nationally. The NTA works closely with local authorities nationally to secure the development and implementation of bus shelter programmes at a county level. All of the capital costs relating to the provision of bus shelters are funded by the NTA.

While there are no plans at present for the provision of shelters in Askeaton or Rathkeale, the NTA is prepared to examine the feasibility of installing shelters at existing bus stop locations (or at proposed new bus stops) in consultation with Limerick City and County Council when the next bus shelter programme is being developed for County Limerick.

Yours sincerely

NTA Oireachtas Liaison