



Comhairle Cathrach
& Contae **Luimnigh**

Limerick City
& County Council

16th March, 2022.

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

**Chairperson's Report of the Travel & Transportation Strategic Policy Committee Meeting
of 22nd February, 2022.**

The Chair, Cllr. Leddin opened the Meeting.

Item 1: Adopt Minutes of Travel and Transportation SPC Meeting of the 14th December 2021

The Minutes of the Meeting of the Travel and Transportation Strategic Policy Committee held on the 14th December 2021 were proposed by Cllr. Kilcoyne, seconded by Cllr. Costelloe and adopted.

Item 2: To agree dates for Travel & Transportation SPC Meetings for 2022

Following issues raised by Cllr. Teefy and Cllr. Secas regarding the times of proposed SPC meeting dates clashing with the LCETB meetings, the Chair agreed to rearrange the times of SPC Meetings to suit all members.

**Item 3: Brief Update on Limerick Shannon Metropolitan Area Transport Strategy (LSMATS)
- Mr. Robert Gallagher**

Mr. Gallagher updated the members on the draft LSMATS and advised the meeting that when the second public consultation is announced, the NTA will be invited to a Travel and Transportation SPC Meeting to present the draft. He added that allocations for sustainable transport has not been adversely affected by the delay however, it is important to finalise the strategy for the development of Limerick.

The members thanked Mr. Gallagher for the update.

Item 4: Presentation: 2022 Funding Allocation from the NTA, TII & DoT - Brendan Kidney

Mr. Brendan Kidney delivered a presentation on the 2022 funding allocations, showing an increase in funding in 2022 compared to 2021 as follows:

- DoT - an increase of 18% to €35,845,150
- NTA - an increase of 40% to €24,390,568
- TII - an increase of 144% to €30,936,901

The members thanked Mr. Kidney for the presentation and welcomed the increase in funding. In response to questions, Mr. Kennedy added the following –

- Allocations are based on what the directorate intends to spend this year.
- The Beary's Cross scheme will be going to tender shortly and anticipates that contractors will be on site in Q3/Q4 this year.
- A schedule for district works will be brought to all Municipal districts in April 2022.

Item 5: Presentation: Mobility Management Measures for Business - Ms. Karen McDonnell

Ms. K. McDonnell delivered a presentation on the Mobility Management measures for businesses in Limerick outlining the background and the national targets for the Transport Sector under the Climate Action Plan 2021. She explained the Mobility Management Plans (MMPs) and plans for Limerick and outlined the project aims of the proposed pilot plan.

The Chair thanked Ms. McDonnell and opened the floor to questions.

The members raised the following questions:

- Could the Council lead by example and be involved in the pilot
- Has a company for the proposed pilot been identified already
- What other sectors are being tackled e.g. air travel and remote working.
- Would sustainable modes of transport and mobility management reduce and dictate planning.

In response to questions, Mr. Gallagher added the following:

- The Council is having initial discussions with a company identified for the pilot however, is open to recommendations from the members.
- Ideas are good and implementation is not always great however, sometimes it is a matter of a change of attitude not infrastructure.
- Air travel is outside the Council's remit but remote working is being discussed.
- All zoning and planning will be determined by the Development Plan and businesses within the areas will then be required to submit their mobility plan.

Item 6: Presentation: Regulating shared car service for Limerick City - Mr. John O'Leary

The above presentation was delivered by Mr. Brendan Kidney. Mr. Kidney explained the working of a shared car scheme and outlined the existing Pilot Car Share Scheme in Limerick between Limerick City and County Council and GoCar. He outlined the benefits of the scheme and explained the next steps in preparing draft bye-laws.

The Chair thanked Mr. Kidney for the presentation and opened the floor to comments and questions.

The members raised the following questions:

- Will it be a single operator licence or multiple.
- How insurance works for the service.
- How widely known is the initiative.

In response to questions, Mr. Kidney added the following -

- He confirmed it would be a sole licence holder, the operator is not yet decided
- Regarding insurance a user needs to sign up to the club and details will be captured at this stage. Rental is per hour.
- The aim is to promote the service publicly and go to tender to appoint a licenced operator.
- This is a private enterprise, there is one trip per day at present and market forces will dictate what is on offer.
- The bye-laws cover 9 spaces in public space
- The strategy is ongoing regarding electric charging and there will be a gradual transition to EV as time goes on. One car share eliminates fifteen cars.
- The Council will be running a new competition once byelaws are in place, Go Car was a pilot but full tender process will be put in place.

Item 7: Notice of Motion submitted by Mr. Bruce Harper

That the Council will, in accordance with commitments made as signatory to the Local Authority Climate Charter (2019), commit to not taking forward decisions, approvals or investments relating to major transport programmes and projects (including investments in transport infrastructure), until a process for carbon proofing the major decisions, programmes and projects on a systematic basis has been completed and has demonstrated that the plan, programme or investment is aligned with a low carbon pathway reducing emissions by 50% by 2030 and net zero by 2050.

The members debated the Notice of Motion and expressed concern that projects could be held up if the Council goes ahead with this process, and funding would have to be returned.

Cllr. Novak seconded the Notice of Motion

Cllr. Secas thanked Mr. Harper for proposal but proposed an amendment as follows -
That the Council will, in accordance with commitments made as signatory to the Local Authority Climate Charter (2019), employ a process for carbon proofing in any future major transport decisions, programmes and projects to ensure that the plan, programme or investment is aligned with the Climate Action and Low Carbon Development (Amendment) Act 2021.

Cllr. Butler seconded Cllr. Secas' proposal to amend the wording of the Notice of Motion.

The Chair announced a vote to amend the wording of the Notice of Motion.

For the Proposal

Councillors Butler, Costelloe, Foley, Kilcoyne, Mitchell, Ryan, Secas, Sheahan (M), Teefy, Mr. T. O'Brien, Mr. F. Heffernan (11)

Against the Proposal

Councillor Sasa Novak Uí Chonchúir, Mr. B. Harper (2)

The Chair declared the proposal carried by a vote of 11 for and 2 against.

Item 8: Question submitted by Mr. Bruce Harper

This item was moved to next SPC Meeting to be held on the 19th April 2022.

Item 9: Question submitted by Ms. Ailish Drake

The pedestrianisation of Foxes Bow laneway is regulated by Section 45 of the Road Traffic Act, and signposted to that effect. But cars are driven and parked on this street every day, leading to dangerous conditions for pedestrians using the laneway. Ostensibly pedestrian-only after 11am with automated bollards at one end, motorists regularly drive the wrong way from Thomas St onto this pedestrianised lane, sometimes parking in the adjoining laneways or using Foxes Bow illegally for access to food businesses. In the context of protecting the pedestrianised spaces of Limerick city and enforcing the established regulations governing such spaces, can the Council

1. Confirm all extant regulations in relation to the pedestrianised status of Foxes Bow and adjoining laneways
2. Provide a solution to the dangerous environment being created for pedestrians on one of the few pedestrianised streets in the city, up to and including bollards at the Thomas St. entrance.

A written response to Question was circulated to all members.

This concluded the business of the meeting.

Recommendation from Travel and Transportation SPC:

That the Council will, in accordance with commitments made as signatory to the Local Authority Climate Charter (2019), employ a process for carbon proofing in any future major transport decisions, programmes and projects to ensure that the plan, programme or investment is aligned with the Climate Action and Low Carbon Development (Amendment) Act 2021.

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Chairperson of the Travel & Transportation Strategic Policy Committee