



Comhairle Cathrach  
& Contae **Luimnigh**

---

**Limerick City**  
& County Council

**Minutes of the Adjourned Meeting of Limerick City and County Council's Travel and Transportation Strategic Policy Committee held on 12th July 2022 at 3:30 p.m. in the Council Chamber, Dooradoyle and ONLINE by MS Teams Video Conference.**

**Members Present:**

Cllrs. Novak Uí Chonchúir (Chair), E. O'Donovan, Leddin, Kilcoyne, McSweeney, Secas, Sheahan (M), Teefy, Collopy, Daly, Mitchell. Mr. D. O'Shea, Mr. B. Harper, Mrs. M. Browne. Mr. Dean Lillis.

**Officials Present:**

Mr. B. Kennedy, Mr. R. Gallagher, Ms. M. Corrigan, Mr. S. McGlynn, Ms. S. Kennedy, Ms. T. Flanagan, Mr. T. Brennan, Mr. D. Slavin, Mr. J. Cregan, Ms. A. Leahy

**Apologies:** Cllrs. Butler, Ryan (M).

The Chair opened the Meeting and welcomed new member Mr. Dean Lillis, following the resignation of Ms. Ailish Drake and thanked Ms. Drake for her contribution to the Travel and Transportation SPC. She also welcomed new member Cllr. Tom Collopy, following the resignation of Cllr. John Costello and thanked Cllr. Costello for his contribution to the SPC and looked forward to having the same working relationship with Cllr. Collopy.

Cllr. Collopy, on behalf of Sinn Fein wished Cllr. Novak Uí Chonchúir the best of luck in her role as Chair. Cllr. Teefy added her good luck wishes to Cllr. Novak Uí Chonchúir and expressed her thanks to Cllr. Leddin for his dedicated work as Chair of the SPC. The Chair acknowledged the competent and confident contribution of Cllr. Leddin as previous Chair in difficult and challenging times. She also thanked her family and friends and her two party colleagues Cllr. Hartigan and Deputy Leddin for their support.

Mr. Kennedy wished success to Cllr. Novak Uí Chonchúir in her position as Chair. He also thanked Cllr. Leddin for his contribution to the work achieved through the Agendas of the SPC.

The Chair acknowledged apologies from Cllrs. Ryan and Butler.

### **Item 1: Minutes**

The Minutes of the Meeting of the Travel and Transportation Strategic Policy Committee held on 27th April 2022 were proposed by Cllr. Teefy, seconded by Cllr. Sheahan (M) and adopted.

### **Item 2: To confirm dates for Travel and Transportation SPC Meetings for 2023**

Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> February 2023 at 3.30 pm

Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup> April 2023 at 3.30 pm

The above dates were proposed by Cllr. Collopy and seconded by Ms. Maureen Browne.

### **Item 3. LSMATS Update – Mr. Robert Gallagher, Senior Engineer**

Mr. Gallagher gave an update on LSMATS confirming that the NTA presented the second draft of LSMATS at the April Travel and Transportation SPC meeting, at which the major changes were outlined. He added that the draft was well received by Elected Members and the Public Consultation closed on the 10<sup>th</sup> June. There were 83 submissions of which the main topics were the following:

1. LNDR – There were some submissions agreeing with the removal of the LNDR from LSMATS, however the vast majority of the submissions were opposed to its removal. This is still under discussion with the NTA and stakeholders, and an update will follow in due course.
2. Rail Transport – There was a warm welcome for inclusion of heavy rail infrastructure and the proposed link to Shannon Airport. Faster implementation was recommended.
3. Entrance from Corbally – It was considered necessary for LSMATS to deal with this issue in more detail.
4. Targets – It was deemed imperative that the targets be more challenging and realistic.

Mr. Gallagher concluded that detailed consideration of the submissions is now underway by the NTA and a final draft is expected in September/October 2022.

The Chair indicated a special meeting could be organised to discuss updates and progress if required. Cllr. Mitchell thanked Mr. Gallagher for the update and added that the proposed LNDR is vital infrastructure. He asked if the LNDR is now omitted permanently. Mr. Gallagher advised that it is not definitive and the Executive will be actively striving to have it included in the final draft.

### **Items 4 & 5. Active Travel Update (including update on the recent visit to Dun Laoghaire - Mr. Sean Mc Glynn, A/Senior Engineer**

Ms. Sinead Kennedy and Ms. Tara Flanagan presented the Active Travel Projects Update.

Mr. Terry Brennan delivered a presentation on Active Travel communications including -

1. Creating brand awareness
2. Engaging story-telling
3. Selling the Team
4. Community engagement
5. Updates to Elected Members

Mr. Sean Mc Glynn updated the members on a recent visit to Dun Laoghaire where ideas were shared regarding Active Travel.

Cllr. Secas congratulated Cllr. Novak Uí Chonchúir on her position as Chair and thanked the previous Chair, Cllr. Leddin. She thanked the presenters for the very informative presentations. She pointed out that community engagement is crucial and should be included from the beginning. She added that there are genuine concerns regarding the route on the UL to Annacotty scheme. Some residents have made proposals to the Council and she urged the Council to take these on board.

Mr. Harper congratulated Cllr. Novak Uí Chonchúir on her position as Chair and congratulated the Active Travel Team. He noted there is ample funding and staff are now in place. He expressed his concerns regarding delivery and tracking of the schemes and noted the LIT/TUS and MIC routes to the city were announced in 2015 and a spade has not been put in the ground yet. He would like to see a dashboard showing the expected start date and duration of a project, the spend to date and any delay explained.

Cllr. Collopy commented that the presentation was very informative and asked if the content could be emailed to the members. Mr. McGlynn welcomed Cllr. Collopy and confirmed that the presentations would be circulated to the members.

In response to Cllr. Secas, Mr. Mc Glynn agreed that community engagement is important. In response to Mr. Harper, Mr. Brennan advised that there are six weekly updates to elected members and briefing sessions are also held. Mr. McGlynn also stated that there is a project management tool in operation and a report can be generated for all projects and an update given through the SPC.

Cllr. O' Donovan asked if there was a start date for the project at Baggot Estate. Referencing Mr. Harper's point regarding TUS to City Centre, Cllr. O'Donovan asked why is it still at options stage. She would like to see scrutiny of this and feels communication is a very important part of Active Travel. From submissions coming through, the same observations seem to be coming up all the time e.g. access for emergency vehicles and removal of trees. She asked if we could do a Myth busting communication around misinformation.

Cllr. Sheahan's (M) advised that his main concern was the route from Castletroy to Annacotty and in particular Mulcair Drive. He was glad to hear there would be community engagement.

Cllr. Mc Sweeney congratulated Cllr. Novak Uí Chonchúir on her election as Chair and welcomed the discussion on the Active Travel schemes. He expressed his disappointment that the Active Travel team had previously refused to engage with communities prior to Part 8. He would like to see a commitment from Active Travel that in the event of any Part 8 impacting residents, there will be prior consultation in the form of pop up clinics to engage with residents.

In reply to Cllr. O' Donovan, Mr. McGlynn advised that a Brief is being worked on for consultants to review Emergency Services Access across Active Travel Projects. It was also agreed that the Active Travel Team would put together the AT approach of best possible results to each project in terms of Trees and Development. As regards the Castletroy to Annacotty project, engagement is already in place.

In response to a question regarding the S.C.R. scheme, Ms. Flanagan acknowledged the delay however, added that the scheme has expanded to Ballykeeffe, which required a detailed options report to be completed. She expects a Part 8 to be lodged before the end of the year with a tender for construction early next year. The Active Travel Unit is happy to tweak communications and Ms. Flanagan is working on a report regarding removal of trees and emergency access.

In reply to Cllr. Mc Sweeney, Mr. Mc Glynn committed that Active Travel will communicate and engage with stakeholders. He also agreed to a review and issue a briefing of the costing to date for the S.C.R. scheme, as this has expanded to a much bigger scheme.

Cllr. Teefy expressed her thanks for the presentation and acknowledged the good work but wished to remind all present that there is also a big county out there. She was particularly interested in what role a mini sweeper could have in a smaller town. In response, Mr. McGlynn agreed that much of the work has been done in the Metropolitan area but there is a parcel of works to be done in the county areas and he intends to progress this.

Mr. Harper stated that following the last SPC meeting at which the NTA presented on LSMATS, he asked why we need approval from NTA. He also referenced a recent video where the NTA said they had some concerns in relation to some designs. In response, Mr. McGlynn stated that transparency in dealing with NTA is very important and Active Travel conforms to the gateways set out by the NTA. Mr. Gallagher further added that cycling guidelines are changing; scenarios are changing so designs need to change accordingly. Mr. Gallagher stated that the designs from the Active Travel office are of a very high quality.

The Chair thanked the Active Travel presenters and added it was good to see an enlarged Active Travel team. However, she shared the concerns for the MIC and LIT/TUS to City Centre and hoped it would be completed before another name change.

Cllr. Teefy wished to express her disappointment at the new layout of the Roxboro Road/Childers Road. The road has very much narrowed and in her opinion the cycle lanes are not being greatly utilised. The Chair advised that this would be a matter for discussion at an operational level.

She advised that the next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, the 25<sup>th</sup> October 2022. The meeting then concluded.