



Comhairle Cathrach
& Contae **Luimnigh**

Limerick City
& County Council

1st May, 2023

To the Mayor and Each Member of Limerick City and County Council
Chairperson's Report of the Travel & Transportation Strategic Policy Committee Meeting
of 18th April 2023.

Item 1: Minutes:

The Minutes of the Meeting of the Travel and Transportation Strategic Policy Committee held on 21st February 2023 were proposed by Cllr. E. O'Donovan, seconded by Cllr. K. O'Hanlon and adopted.

Item 2: Presentation on Universal Access Awareness Project - Step Forward Disability Group

Mrs. M. Browne delivered a presentation on Universal Access Awareness Project outlining the results of an audit completed by the Group showing the day to day barriers which cause distress for people with disabilities.

The members thanked the Group and made the following observations/comments: –

- The fundamental issue is parking on footpaths and the Executive and Active Travel needs to be more proactive and committed to solving the issue.
- Active Travel needs to supply footpaths dished on crossings points
- It was suggested that clamping of illegally parked cars and placing stickers on cars could be effective and also to examine the Bye-laws with regard to parking in disabled spaces
- Monitoring on double yellow lines 24/7 is not possible and an effort is needed from the general public and the Gardaí.
- The Council also needs to engage with local people with local knowledge to put the right measures in place
- An Awareness campaign is necessary to help behavioural change.
- Members raised public concerns received with regard to scooters on footpaths coming up behind pedestrians; barriers at locations such as the junction of Bedford Row and Thomas Street and the width of drains not suitable for people with walking aids.
- It was suggested that some form of bleepers on scooters could be part of the solution to alert pedestrians.
- Roads in housing estates are narrow and car owners park on footpaths in order to assist emergency and other vehicles gaining access.
- It was suggested that stickers/billboards placed around the city, together with photographs from real life would have a big impact on behavioural change.

Mrs. Browne thanked the members for their comments and added that cars are valued more than human life. It was suggested at the Cappamore Kilmallock District Meeting that the Council runs a media campaign, and the Group is working closely with an Active Travel engineer in the Cappamore Kilmallock area.

The Chair summarised the member's comments as follows:

1. Media campaign
2. Enforcement
3. Design

Mr. Kennedy stated that this was a very worthwhile discussion and thanked the Step Forward Disability Group for the presentation. All projects comply with DMURS where the pedestrian is first on the hierarchy. There has not been clamping in Limerick, but maybe it is something to consider and will also consider the use of stickers on cars. The Council has worked with Disability Groups for many years and the executive will ask the engineer equivalent in other areas to engage with the Group.

With regard to dishing of footpaths Mr. Kennedy confirmed that Mr. S. McGlynn is working closely with the districts and will continue to do so.

Limerick did run a campaign in the past and Mr. Kennedy will engage with the Communications officer in Merchants Quay to push on and suggested maybe a repeat campaign over a length of time. He will also contact the NTA in relation to funding and will arrange contact with the other District Disability groups in the county.

It was agreed by the Chair to move Item 4 forward to accommodate the NTA.

Item 4: BusConnects Programme Update – National Transport Authority

Mr. Jarrett Walker from Walker & Associates delivered a presentation on the BusConnects Programme and confirmed that the Public Consultation finished on the 7th April last

The members thanked Mr. Walker and the NTA for the presentation and welcomed the positive project.

During discussion the members highlighted the following points and queries:-

- Bus service is poor in Rhebouge and Mill Road - Double-decker buses cannot get access in the areas and it was requested that a meeting be considered on an area basis
- Mini-buses are used where normal standard buses cannot access in places like Moldova and maybe these could be considered in certain areas.
- Some members made submissions on behalf of the local community and asked if consideration could be given to other areas like the extension of route from Monaleen Road/Annacotty Business Park to the Mackey Roundabout
- Regarding the 304 Route (Raheen to UL) a suggestion was made to introduce a more direct route with less stops maybe a 304B via Childers Road
- When will the submissions assessment begin and when will a synopsis be available to the members
- When will Park and Ride be up and running
- What are the figures behind the travel time calculations and what are the next steps

In response to queries, Mr. Creegan added the following:

- The NTA will discuss the arrangement of an area based meeting with the Director of Services
- Mini-buses are not cost effective, can do long distances but are expensive to operate.
- Possible locations are to be discussed at a Focused local Area Meeting
- Over 600 submissions were received which are still being assembled- the next step is to identify if there are any changes to the network
- Park and Ride will be a failure if a good bus service is not in place – the bus service and routes are a priority
- The NTA's Park & Ride team is examining Park & Ride in Ballysimon, Raheen and Junction 28.
- Travel time calculations are based on existing times and are founded on walk/wait/time
- The NTA is advancing the Park and Ride Strategy in Raheen.

Item 3: Presentation on World Class Waterfront URDF scheme – Strand 3 – Pedestrian Bridges & Waterfront Infrastructure Works - Place-Making & Public Realm Team

Ms. Olive Downes delivered a Presentation on the URDF World Class Waterfront Project, with a focus on the Strand 3 Scheme - Pedestrian Bridges & Infrastructure Works

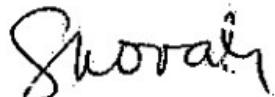
The members thanked Ms. Downes for the presentation and were pleased to see that Honan's Quay will be closed for summer public realm like last summer.

In response to questions, Ms. Downes also added that the Strategic Assessment Stage of the scheme has been approved for each strand. All strands will go through a preliminary business case step first on a phased basis. Regarding the timeline for Strand 3, it is expected that the final draft Preliminary Business case will be completed by September 2023 and LCCC approval and submission to the DoHLGH will be completed by November 2023.

The members thanked Mr. Robert Gallagher for all his assistance and professionalism over the years, and wished him well in his retirement

The Chair thanked the presenters and members for their contribution. The meeting then concluded.

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Saša Novak

Chairperson of the Travel & Transportation Strategic Policy Committee