



Comhairle Cathrach
& Contae **Luimnigh**

Limerick City
& County Council

Minutes of the Meeting of Limerick City and County Council's Travel and Transportation Strategic Policy Committee held on 22nd October 2025 at 3:00 p.m. in the Council Chamber, Dooradoyle and ONLINE by MS Teams Video Conference.

Members' Present: Cllrs. Teefy (Chair), Butler, Conway, Kilcoyne, Gavan, Hartigan, O'Donoghue, O'Donovan, E. Ryan, T. Ruddle, Scanlon, Secas, Teskey.

Mrs. M. Browne, Mr. F. Flaherty, Mr. D. Tobin, J. Foster, S. Golden, Mr. P. Ruttle.

Apologies: Cllr. P. Doyle, Cllr. M. Ryan, Mr. D. O'Neill.

Officials Present: Ms. P. Liddy, Mr. H. McGrath, Ms. A. Leahy, Ms. C. Brislane, Mr. J. Cregan, Ms. M. Corrigan, Ms. M. Fitzgerald, Ms. T. Flanagan, Ms. N. McGarry, Ms. R. O'Donnell, Mr. J. O'Leary.

The Chair opened the Meeting and welcomed Patricia Liddy as new Director of Services and thanked Hugh McGrath for his contribution to date. Mr. Tobin referenced a motion he submitted regarding the 304A bus to Mungret community school which commenced in July and is very welcome. He also expressed his thanks for the support on his motion at the last SPC for the prioritisation and full delivery of the Rathkeale to Limerick City Greenway in advance of the Ryder Cup in 2027.

Cllr. Conway wished to convey his appreciation to local link for new and improved service in the Kilmallock area.

Cllr. O'Donovan raised concerns regarding the level of interaction between TII and PPN members in contrast to elected members.

Ms. Corrigan read the reply from Minister Darragh O'Brien regarding the delivery of the Rathkeale to Limerick City Greenway. The Chair advised the response will be circulated to all members

Item 1: Minutes:

The Minutes of the Meeting of the Travel and Transportation Strategic Policy Committee held on the 10 of June 2025 were proposed by Cllr. E. O'Donovan and seconded by Cllr. O'Donoghue.

Item 2: Think Before You Park Campaign' - Update by Mrs. Maureen Browne, Social Inclusion PPN.

Mrs. Browne delivered a presentation on the 'Think Before You Park campaign', established in 2004 and outlined the purposes of the group. Audits undertaken in the Access Awareness project, launched in September 2022 identified the issues across all communities caused by parking on footpaths.

The Chair thanked Mrs. Browne for the presentation adding that it is a very effective campaign. Cllr. J. O'Donoghue thanked Mrs. Browne adding that this is the first he has seen of the campaign adding that it is a great initiative.

Mrs. Browne added that people cannot jump off footpath to avoid cars and wheelie bins parked in their paths. She added that planning has a lot to do with it as there is no planning for parking and respect would go a long way for all concerned.

Cllr. O'Donovan complimented the excellent work. She added that the issue is going to increase due to the growing population Planning and policy leaving us down, guidelines should be law. She did a walkability audit walk with Mrs. Browne and suggested that there should be a disability audit for every project especially Active Travel projects.

Cllr. S. Hartigan highlighted the cars parked on footpaths daily around UL and suggested that providing more parking is not a solution, awareness and enforcement is critical. Cllr. Ryan advised that message is getting through and has seen improvements in Ballylanders, where car spaces are marked out.

Mrs. Browne advised that there is no issue in the wide Main Street in Ballylanders however, once out of the main street, there is parking on footpaths in Kilfinane and Galbally Road as drivers want to park right outside visiting premises. Cllr. Gavan also highlighted the increasing number of cars and wheelie bins on footpaths in her area.

Cllr. Secas also welcomed Ms. Liddy and thanked Mr. McGrath for the support to date. She added that a holistic approach is required as well as better planning, a change in behaviour and awareness.

Mr. Tobin asked Mrs. Browne if she would attend the next Road Safety Working Together Group (RSWTG) and if her campaign be included in the updates. He also asked if she could feed into the next walkability audit with Toby Goodwin, Active Travel.

Mr. Tobin also suggested that staff attend the 'Way Finding' training in Dublin, if they have not already attended.

Ms. Liddy complimented the excellent campaign and advised that LCCC has engaged in 'Make Way Day' and engaged with An Garda Siochána and provided 1000 stickers for illegal parking. In reply to Mr. Tobin, she added that training was provided in 2024, and it is intended to run this again. In relation to the query regarding LSWTG, Ms. Liddy noted the request.

Regarding audits, Ms. Liddy confirmed that Active Travel has a disability audit included from the outset as provided by legislation.

Cllr. J. O' Donoghue suggested that penalty points could also be issued a lot more for parking on footpaths. Cllr. Gavan suggested that the presentation be circulated to universities and refer to parking on footpaths.

The Chair advised that this will be organised.

Item 5 was addressed as the next item with the agreement of the Chair.

Item 5: EV Implementation Stage and Update on Progress to date – John O'Leary, A/S.E.E.

Mr. O'Leary delivered a presentation on EV Charging Infrastructure implementation and progress to date, outlining the background policies and objectives and detailing LCCC's EV strategy.

The Chair thanked Mr. O'Leary and asked for a timeline in the Kilmallock area. In response Mr. O'Leary advised that the main civils infrastructure is ready and the chargers are scheduled for initial installation before Christmas with anticipated power-on from ESB Networks in January. The Chair also enquired about the sale of EV vehicles. Mr. O'Leary advised that EV sales had dropped in 2024, however there has been a move upwards in 2025.

Cllr. Conway enquired if the local authority is under pressure to shift the fleet to EV and asked how long it takes to charge a car and if there will be supervision.

Cllr. J. O' Donoghue stated that it is difficult to plan around modal shift and it is mostly hybrids being purchased. He asked about the cost, as cost needs to be considered and does it make sense financially nationally or locally. Trade in value is not great for EV's and the world is evolving. EV's are not suitable for larger vehicles and HGVs.

In response, Mr. O'Leary advised that overstaying penalties will be imposed by the Charge Point Operator for prolonged parking after the charging is complete and byelaws will also apply in relation to disc parking zones where chargers are to be located.

In response to Cllr. O' Donoghue, Mr. O'Leary advised that the costs of project are funded through ZEVI and operations and maintenance on the concession contract will be cost neutral to

the Council. Regarding heavy goods vehicles, technology is very much developing at present but most likely in the direction of hydrogen or HVO (Hydro-treated Vegetable Oil) biofuel.

Mr. O'Leary added that many of the gaps in the map for EV charging are down to grid capacity issues and waiting on upgrades to the system by EirGrid and ESB Networks over the coming years.

Cllr. Hartigan queried the target status of our 2025 Alternative Fuels Infrastructure Regulation (AFIR) requirements. In response, Mr. O'Leary advised that that there are approx. 130 public charging sites in Limerick and that LCCC are projected to meet its AFIR targets for 2025 and will then focus on the 2030 targets.

Mr. Tobin stated that it is a game changer and asked how does the LCCC strategy fits into this and if the LIHAF road model fits into other areas. He also queried on-street parking in the city, charging cables on footpaths and local charging hubs.

Cllr. Secas advised she moved from EV to diesel because of cost on her ESB bill. Cllr. Gavan echoed Cllr. Secas comments and asked if there is any EV charger planned for Castleconnell area.

Mr. O'Leary advised that the EV charger for Castletroy will be at the playground and Annacotty may be included in the next phase of charging sites subject to grid capacity. Castleconnell was reviewed recently and grid capacity issues still constrain the optimum siting locations for a public charger.

Cllr. Hartigan shared positive posts on Google regarding the cost benefit of EV's. Cllr. E. Ryan highlighted the negative costs of EV's. John O Donoghue, referenced negative costs, trade in value and cost of disposing of batteries.

Mr. O'Leary added that the Munget LIHAF model is repeatable in terms of delivery of residential neighborhood charging. Regarding charging for homes without off-street parking, the current solution is to use neighborhood charging hubs due to legal, health & safety and insurance issues regarding trailing EV charging cables across footpaths in the public realm. Most of the feedback from people on EV Charging has been positive.

Mr. O'Leary advised that further information can be accessed at the following links:

https://www.seai.ie/plan-your-energy-journey/for-your-home/electric-vehicles/about-evs/why-drive-electric?gad_campaignid=20804600072&gad_source=1&gbraid=0AAAAACeKKRQXyUc523bcGLZTkj0zV_KBU

Item 3: Transport Oriented Development (TOD) in Limerick – Update by Mr. Carmel Brislane, S.E.P.

Ms. Carmel Brislane delivered a presentation on the urban development approach that integrates land uses with access to transport and concentrates housing, employment, and leisure

space near public transport nodes, such as rail and bus stations. She outlined the NDP submission for €335 million request to deliver two transformative Transit Oriented Development (TOD) infrastructure packages in Limerick City

The Chair thanked Ms. Brislane for the presentation and asked if locations were identified. In response, Ms. Brislane stated that locations are yet to be confirmed, Bus Connects and Rail will be the main drivers for this project.

Cllr. O' Donovan thanked Ms. Brislane for the interesting presentation. She queried if TOD sites are focussed around housing, industry or health care. One is needed in Dooradoyle and health care facilities should be prioritised.

Cllr. Kilcoyne agreed with Cllr. O'Donovan and noticed the absence of Patrickswell, Adare, Rosbrien and Castletroy on map of train sites. He added that a new Roundabout is going in at Lucey's cross and Bus Connects to turn at Roundabout to go back into village of Patrickswell.

Cllr. Gavan raised questions in relation to Annacotty, which has a railway station and 3000 people working in small business in the industrial estate.

In response to Cllr. O'Donovan, Ms. Brislane stated that the TOD's are in mixed use development sites. In reply to Cllr. Kilcoyne, she confirmed that the TOD is specific for the five Cities or a metropolitan town, i.e. Limerick city and Shannon town where there is high capacity and frequency of bus/rail services. It is hugely dependent on Bus Connects. When she receives report from Dept. of Transport, she will have more information

Item 4: Limerick City Centre Transport Plan – Update by Mr. Hugh McGrath, S.E.

Mr. Hugh McGrath delivered a presentation on the Limerick City Centre Transport plan outlining the objectives.

The Chair thanked Mr. McGrath and opened the floor to questions.

Mr. Golden asked what the Transport plan encompasses now and looked for clarification on the transport plan scope to include deliveries.

Cllr. O'Donovan stated that there is a very heavy emphasis on busses without the basic infrastructure in city. She also enquired about carshare.

In response to Mr. Tobin in relation to timeline of key bus corridors, Mr. McGrath stated that the Transport plan must come first, we will be pushing to get key corridors funded in the coming years.

In relation to Car Share, Mr. McGrath advised Limerick are hoping to have a new provider soon. Bike share, bike and e-scooter scheme is to be put in place in 2026 in conjunction with the NTA and we will not lose the TFI bike scheme until a new scheme is in place.

In response to Mr. Golden, Mr. McGrath advised that the plan should be about prioritising movement of people and goods. We are working on the delivery strategy, which will be about assessment of delivery needs, with appropriate parking management and work has already started on this with other cities. While this will be addressed in the transport plan, we have begun data collection and have commenced a review of parking demand\pricing in line with other cities and to ensure the best outcome to facilitate optimal use of road space to the benefit of the city.

Cllr. Secas appreciates the work, understands one is going for planning for Park and Ride, and asked which site it will be. Mr. McGrath advise that the ambition is to get all four strategic sites advanced (Mackey, Raheen, Coonagh and Ballysimon) however unable to confirm which site is likely to be advanced first as all have some work to do. It is hoped to progress at least one site to planning this year.

Cllr. Gavan understood it was the Mackey scheme which was to go through due to the Ryder Cup and complimented the work in Annacotty Business Park.

Mr. McGrath confirmed that there is engagement between LCCC, NTA and TII however not quite there yet due to traffic considerations and Limerick City and County Council has to work in conjunction with TII to ensure any development demonstrates a positive impact on the traffic issues at Junction 29. The Mackey Park and Ride for Ryder Cup is a different concept but will be a good pilot to showcase the overall principle of park and ride.

Ms. Liddy informed the members that she was very happy to be back in Limerick and thanked the members for the warm welcome. There are a lot of challenges, and the main thing is to get funding going forward.

Following a discussion by the members, it was agreed to change the time of future SPC meetings to 2:15p.m.

This concluded the business of the meeting.