

**DRAFT MINUTES OF TRANSPORTATION
STRATEGIC POLICY COMMITTEE MEETING
SEPTEMBER 14 2017**

Present:

Councillor Darren Scully, Cathaoirleach
Councillor Mark Dalton
Councillor Réada Cronin
Councillor Paul Ward
Jimmy Earle (Rural Transport)
Councillor Seamus Moore
Councillor Anne Breen

Also Present:

Niall Morrissey, Director of Service
Evelyn Wright, Senior Executive Officer
Brian Martin, Administrative Officer
Celina Barrett, Chief Fire Officer
Niall O’Riordan, Senior Assistant Chief Fire Officer

Apologies:

Councillor Joe Neville
Councillor John McGinley
Vivian Cummins

Item 1 - Introduction

The Cathaoirleach welcomed everyone to the meeting of the Strategic Policy Committee.

Item 2 – Minutes

No matters arising from minutes of previous minutes which were approved by the members.

Item 3 – Update from the Director of Services

Niall Morrissey Director of Services informed the meeting of the following:

- That the decision on the CPO for the Athy Distributor Road is due from An Bord Pleanála on the 12th of October 2017.
- The Part 8 was approved for the Kilcullen Road, Cycle lane Naas.
- Sanction has been received from DTTAS for the Council to prepare a business case for a second crossing on the M7.
- The Maynooth Traffic Management Plan has been published
- Works on the link road adjacent to the Osprey Hotel have commenced by Cairn Developments.
- Update on developments in respect to the Maynooth Ring Road

Item 3 – Update from the Director of Services

Brian Martin Administrative Officer briefed the meeting in relation to the Road Safety and Cycling Forum. In respect to the Road Safety he updated the members on Bike Week 2017, Road Safety Expo at the County Show, Road Safety Education Programme for Schools and Drive for Life awareness programme targeted at transition year students. He also informed the Members of an upcoming event in Naas/Sallins and Leixlip sponsored by the RSA that allows parents to check if their child seats in the car have been installed correctly.

With regard to the Cycle Forum he informed the Members that the first meeting was held on the 25th of May 2017 and the following items were discussed:

- Terms of Reference
- Bike Week 2017
- Bike to Work Scheme
- Cycling Proficiency

Item4 -European Mobility Week: September 16th -22nd, 2017

Evelyn Wright briefed the meeting in respect to European Mobility Week from the 16th of September to 22nd of September 2017. She informed the group of the following:

Kildare County Council, in partnership with GoCar, announced a pilot car sharing scheme as part of European Mobility Week. GoCar is a car sharing membership based program where, once you join, you can rent a car or van 24/7, 365 days a year. The Members were also informed that the Council is engaging with URBO with a view to the provision of a dockless bike sharing scheme on a pilot basis in the Maynooth area. A tender process is also underway for the supply of secure bicycle lockers, which will be located in towns to support cyclists.

Cllr Scully queried the proposed GoCar operation and how it might adversely affect the current car rental business in the Naas Area. He requested that the Council would review the arrangement, including charges, after the pilot project finishes. Cllr. Moore requested an update with respect to a licence fee and charges for car park spaces after pilot project is completed.

The Members were informed that the Council may consider the introduction of Bye Laws in respect of car sharing schemes, if it continues after the pilot period finishes and issues raised would be addressed as part of the process

Item 5- Overview of Sallins By-Pass Project:

David O'Grady, A/Senior Engineer, National Road Design Office gave a presentation to the meeting in respect to Sallins By-Pass Project. The presentation gave an overview of the process:

- The Design of scheme
- Route of the Scheme
- Procurement Process

- Route of the By-Pass
- 3 D Model of the By-Pass route

Cllr Scully thanked David for the presentation and a general discussion arose over various matters arising in relation to the project

Item 6- Fire Service Operations Policy:

Niall O’Riordan Senior Assistant Chief Fire Officer gave a presentation on Fire Services operations around the County. It gave the Members an overview of the following in respect of operations

- Crew compliment for each fire station in Kildare
- Equipment for each fire station in Kildare
- Training and supports available to officers
- A breakdown of the number, times and types of incidents attended by the fire service
- Healthy and Safety
- Recent and future projects

Cllr Scully thanked Niall for the presentation and a general discussion arose over various matters arising in relation to Fire Service Operations in Kildare.

Item 7- Referral from the Kildare/Newbridge MD (March 2017)

Referral from the Kildare/Newbridge MD (Cllr. Joanne Pender) for consideration by the SPC:

“That the Kildare/Newbridge Municipal District includes the raw data as standard on all summary analyses, within reason, where reports have been sought by members which includes numerical data that has been collected, manipulated and summarised for simplicity and is presented to the members for their consideration’

Response from the Roads, Transportation and Public Safety Department (May 2017):

Raw data, collected as part of traffic surveys and counts and other data collected as part of the ongoing work within the Roads, Transportation and Public Safety Department (i.e., road construction levels, bridge structural calculations, CCTV-generated data etc) requires a level of data cleansing prior to analysis and the calculation of summary information. The release of raw data to a non-technical audience would generate a level of queries, questions, verbal and written explanations, and would create an onerous burden on the Department's current limited resources.

Niall Morrissey Informed the meeting that the Roads Department is not in agreement to release raw data as requested in Councillor Pender, as resources are not available to answer the queries that would arise from the release of the data to the general public. The meeting was advised that an entity such as the EPA does not release raw data in respect of their surveys.

After a discussion on this issue, there was general agreement with the Members not to release raw data.

Item 8-Any Other Business

Jimmy Earle of Rural Transport gave the meeting a brief update in developments of their service. He informed the group of Townlink and the aim to connect rural and mainline services. Where a bus is not feasible they are looking at using car hire systems and are looking at carrying out a Community Care Pilot Project with €15,000 funding from Kildare County Council. If the pilot is found successful the option to request funding from the NTA for funding and rollout the project to more areas and also to provide night time services.

The Cathaoirleach thanked everyone for their attendance and contributions.

The next meeting will be held on Thursday 2nd of November 2017.