

KILDARE COUNTY COUNCIL
Minutes of Presentation to council from
the National Transport Authority (NTA)
held at 12.00 o'clock Monday 25 March 2019
Áras Chill Dara, Devoy Park, Naas, Co Kildare.

Members Present: Councillor S Power (Mayor), Councillors M Aspell, A Breen, F Brett, A Breslin, K Byrne, B Caldwell, D Callaghan, M Coleman, R Cronin, I Cussen, B Dooley, S Doyle, T Durkan, B Hillis, I Keatley, C Kelly, P Kennedy, A Larkin, M Lynch, M McCabe, P McEvoy, J McGinley, F McLoughlin Healy, M Miley Jnr, S Moore, T Murray, J Neville, N O Cearúil, S O'Neill, J Pender, R Power, T Redmond, D Scully, M Stafford, M Wall, P Ward, B Weld and B Young

Apologies: Councillor D Fitzpatrick

Also Present: Mr P Carey, Chief Executive, Messrs J Boland, S Kavanagh, T McDonnell, P Minnock and N Morrissey (Director of Services), Ms F Millane (A/Head of Finance), Ms M McIvor (Meetings Administrator), Ms K Keane (Meetings Secretary) and other officials.

01/03/19

National Transport Authority (NTA)

Ms Anne Graham, Chief Executive Officer, Mr Hugh Creegan, Deputy Chief Executive Officer and Mr Tim Gaston Director of Finance and Corporate Services attended from the National Transport Authority (NTA) and thanked the Mayor and the members for the opportunity to address them at their meeting.

Ms Graham referred to the NTA's Transport Strategy for the Greater Dublin Area 2016 - 2035. She stated the NTA's vision was to provide high quality, accessible, sustainable public transport connecting people across Ireland and in order to do this the NTA would need to:

- Secure the provision of an efficient, accessible and integrated transport system in rural and urban Ireland
- Transform and elevate customers' transport experience
- Regulate privately operated transport services for the benefit of consumer
- Contribute to the effective integration of transport and land use policies
- Advance Ireland's transition to low emissions transport systems

She informed the members that their key projects included:

- BusConnects (€2.4 billion) - redesigning the bus network including low emission vehicles
- DART expansion (€2 billion) - expansion of service and commence procurement of a combination of fully electric and a bi-mode fleet
- Metrolink (€3 billion)
- Cycling infrastructure

Ms Graham stated that state companies provided the majority of subsidised public transport and stated 2 million passenger journeys were availed of annually across the state. She stated that in relation to rural services a central booking service with a driver app and an online booking facility, a brand and website (locallink.ie) was now available. Ms Graham stated that there were transport plans in place for Kildare and Newbridge, in relation to traffic congestion on the M4/N4 they were engaging with Transport Infrastructure Ireland with regard to potential for widening the road to accommodate bus priority, to provide priority in towns for bus services where possible, to progress with works on the Lucan and Tallaght bus corridors, and to purchase a second-hand or a new rail fleet.

A discussion ensued with the members putting a number of questions to Ms Graham, Mr Creegon and Mr Gaston. The Mayor and members thanked Ms Graham for her presentation. Mr Niall Morrissey, Director of Service also thanked Ms Graham and her colleagues for attending the meeting and thanked the members for their input also.

The presentation concluded.