



## Miontuairiscí/Meeting Minutes

### Transportation Strategic Policy Committee 30th June, 2022, Training Room, Buvinda House, Dublin Rd, Navan at 3.30 pm

**Attendees – (Councillors):** Cllrs T Golden, P Meade, N French, M Gallagher

**Attendees – (Sectoral Representatives):** G Clarke, A Watson

**(Officials):** M Murray, J McGrath, C Corrigan, M Farrell, M Devaney, L Sherrock

Item	Discussion / Action
1.0	<p><b><u>Minutes of Previous Meeting</u></b></p> <p>The minutes of the previous meeting held on 31<sup>st</sup> March 2022 were approved. Proposed by Cllr Noel French and seconded by Cllr Trevor Golden.</p>
2.0	<p><b><u>Matters Arising from Minutes</u></b></p> <p>No matters arising</p>
3.0	<p><b><u>Presentation from Caroline Corrigan – Road Safety Plan</u></b></p> <p>C Corrigan made a presentation on the Road Safety Plan</p> <p>Following the presentation, the Members raised the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- It was also noted that the number of fatalities from outside the county is quite high</li> <li>- Have not mentioned the quality of roads we drive on. The plan should include the safety of the roads with regards to sightlines – grass verges that are overgrown etc.</li> <li>- Dangerous behaviours contributing to fatalities, alarming that non wearing of seatbelt is top of the list.</li> <li>- Speeding is one of the most common issues that arises with constituents when discussing the roads.</li> <li>- Ramps, chicanes etc should be considered, to assist the work of the AGS in tackling the issue of speed</li> <li>- Fatalities – Motorcyclists, the percentage is higher in Meath than the national average, are more people commuting on this mode of transport and should there be greater awareness?</li> <li>- 4 Stop junctions – would this be something the Department would look at, for particular locations</li> </ul> <p>It was noted that the occurrence of people driving while under the influence of drugs is increasing</p>



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	<p>Council officials responded as follows</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- The idea of this presentation is to show high level statistical information. The preparation of the new plan is a policy making process.</li> <li>- The percentage of accidents caused by an engineering issue is very low</li> <li>- As a Roads Authority, we are proactive in the serving of notices on landowners in relation to hedge-cutting and verge cutting, where required. Contractors are also engaged to maintain certain junctions where visibility is an issue.</li> <li>- Landowners and other stakeholders must take responsibility when it come to the maintenance of their properties/verges etc.</li> <li>- There will be visibility difficulties at certain locations and every road user has a responsibility to drive at the appropriate speed and with due care.</li> <li>- Length of journeys that commuters are taking can have an impact on the accident figures, and these are increasing significantly</li> <li>- Meath County Council highlights accident locations to the DoT and the TII on an annual basis and receives funding for certain safety schemes.</li> <li>- 4 way stop and junctions – this is only implemented if other measures are not working. It might be considered particularly if there are buildings in the way</li> <li>- There is currently not much data on the use of drugs when driving. There is no limit for this.</li> <li>- Need to look at suitability of traffic on certain classifications of roads, HGVs using roads that may not be suitable.</li> <li>- Motorbike usage may increase as the fuel prices go up. This will have to be taken into consideration</li> <li>- The Plan is a synopsis of the data that is being captured both nationally and locally</li> <li>- This Plan is in the development stage, there is a workshop being held in July to progress it further. The aim is to finalise the plan in Quarter 3 of this year</li> <li>- Part of the development of the plan includes the evaluation of the previous plan and the inclusion of the findings in the new plan.</li> </ul>
<p><b>4.0</b></p>	<p><b><u>Road Works Programme 2022 – Procurement &amp; Progress</u></b></p> <p>M Devaney made a presentation on the Road Works Programme 2022 – Procurement &amp; Progress</p> <p>Following the presentation, the members noted the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Presentation was very interesting and informative</li> <li>- Acknowledged that there is a lot of work being carried out on the Road Works Programme.</li> <li>- Programme is based on the roads survey – should funding not all be spent on the red roads?</li> <li>- Acknowledged there was a shortfall in funding of €1.4m which was funded from our own resources</li> <li>- Asphalt suppliers travelling long distances, should we not consider local suppliers, for environmental reasons</li> <li>- Can recycled materials be considered?</li> </ul>



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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Council officials confirmed the following:</li> <li>- Wanted to take this opportunity to highlight the complexities of the tender process for the RWP</li> <li>- Future challenges – Green procurement</li> <li>- RAP reclaimed asphalt – Trial done on R147 Dowdstown a few weeks ago, testing is ongoing but the results to date are good.</li> <li>- Along with recycling pavement, other materials are being looked at and tests are on going. New machinery is also being developed to work with different materials.</li> <li>- The use of gravè emulsion has been used in certain trials in Dublin &amp; Galway on cycle lanes but the results have not been positive.</li> <li>- Expenditure on the programme has to be spread across the geographical areas. MCC was in a position to make up the shortfall in the programme funding this year, but this does not mean that the same would happen in the future</li> <li>- Under procurement rules, the council must consider contractors and suppliers from all over the country.</li> </ul>
<p><b>5.0</b></p>	<p><b><u>AOB</u></b></p> <p>The members raised the following issue:</p> <p>Does MCC have a policy of Fjords? DoS confirmed that there is no policy</p> <p><b><u>Recommendations from SPC Committee to Corporate Policy Group and to Full Council.</u></b></p> <p>No recommendations</p>