COMHAIRLE CONTAE ÁTHA CLIATH THEAS  
SOUTH DUBLIN COUNTY COUNCIL



**MEETING OF SOUTH DUBLIN COUNTY COUNCIL**

**Monday, April 11, 2016**

**HI (5)**

REPORT OF THE LAND USE PLANNING & TRANSPORTATION SPC

**Thursday, 31st March 2016.**

**Present:**

**Elected Members:** Councillor W. Lavelle

Councillor L. O’Toole

Councillor P. Gogarty

Councillor P. Donovan

Councillor M. Murphy

**Non Elected** Mr. Denis Sherwin

**Members:**

**Council Officials:**  Mr. E. Taaffe, Director of Land Use

Planning & Transportation

Dr. Rosaleen Dwyer, Heritage Officer

Mr. William Purcell, Senior Engineer

Ms. Laura Leonard, SEO

**Apologies** for inability to attend were received from Councillor R. Nolan, Ms. Siobhan Butler and Mr. Neil Durkan.

**An Cathaoirleach, Councillor W. Lavelle presided.**

**H.I. 1. Confirmation of Minutes**

The Minutes of the meeting of the Land Use Planning and Transportation Strategic Policy Committee held on 26th November 2015 were proposed by Cllr. Lavelle, seconded by Cllr. Gogarty and AGREED.

Cllr. Lavelle welcomed Cllr. P. Donovan onto the committee in place of Cllr. Brophy who was wished well in Dail Eireann.

Cllr. Lavelle then introduced Mr. Conor Faughnan, Chief Executive Officer of the AA Ireland to the chamber and invited him to make a presentation to the members.

**H.I. 2. Presentation by Mr. Conor Faughnan, Automobile Association Ireland**

Mr. Faughnan gave an account of his background and role in AA Ireland and outlined that as a registered lobbyist, he on behalf of his organisation has an active advocacy role for the motorist.

He went on to set out current issues of interest to the AA as follows:

Cost of Motor Insurance

Traffic congestion, particularly M50

Transport Planning

Speed Limits – consistency across County boundaries.

Following the presentation, Cllrs Gogarty, Murphy, O’Toole, Donovan, Lavelle and Mr. Denis Sherwin thanked Mr. Faughnan and raised questions to which Mr. Faughnan responded.

Mr. Eddie Taaffe, Director of Services clarified some of the points raised and expressed his appreciation for the presentation.

Mr. Faughnan was thanked by Cllr. Lavelle for his attendance and contribution.

**H.I. 3 County Biodiversity Plan Preparation and County Heritage Plan Review.**

Dr. Rosaleen Dwyer, Heritage Officer gave a presentation outlining the process of preparation of the County Biodiversity Plan and the Review process of the County Heritage Plan.

[See Link](http://www.sdublincoco.ie/viewdocument.aspx?id=d8f191e2-6c9b-4f41-8514-a5e200f41451)

Following the presentation, Councillors Donovan, Murphy and Lavelle contributed to the debate. Cllr Lavelle requested that maps be sent to all members of the SPC.

**H.I. 4 Speed Limit Review – Interim Update**

Mr. William Purcell, Senior Engineer presented the following report on the progress of the Speed Limit Review advising members that speed surveys were underway and that first draft maps had been prepared, circulated to members and feedback was welcome.

**SPEED LIMIT REVIEW**

The speed limit review is being undertaken in accordance with the document “Guidelines for Setting and Managing Speed Limits in Ireland” issued in 2015 by the Department of Transport, Tourism and Sport. A copy was issued to all elected members. These guidelines constitute a direction of the Minister for Transport having regard to Section 9(9) of the 2004 Road Traffic Act.

The guidelines allow for and encourage the introduction of a 30kph speed limit in certain areas such as local residential and housing estate roads. Roads which have direct frontage housing or are immediately adjacent to play areas should have speed limits of 30kph. Roads which are through roads within estates and which have very little direct frontage housing and are not immediately adjacent to play areas would generally have a speed limit of 50kph but may be reduced where the road authority deems it to be appropriate.

The following must be taken into consideration when considering to implement a 30kph speed limit:

* Speed surveys must be undertaken to establish the 85th Percentile Speed (the speed at or below which 85% of all vehicles are observed to travel under free flowing conditions past a nominated point).
* Roads must be representative but not all roads within an estate need to be surveyed.
* SDCC must liaise with adjoining local authorities to ensure a consistent approach and results.
* After implementation of a 30kph limit monitoring will have to be undertaken to identify if the new speed limits are being observed.
* Existing speeds cannot be assumed – speed surveys have to be undertaken.
* Existing traffic calmed estates must be surveyed to determine the 85th percentile speed.
* Speed survey results cannot be extrapolated into other areas.

As a result of repeated requests from the members for 30kph speed limit implementation in residential estates throughout the county SDCC propose to implement this limit on a blanket basis save for local distributor and other house and open park frontage free roads.

At the time of writing all area committees have been presented with the proposed speed limits for their EA in the form of a detailed map of the area. The members are to make observations in time for the April ACM's so that their observations may be assessed and adopted or excluded as appropriate.

The procedure to be followed is outlined in Section 4.8 of the guidelines. SDCC now intend to continue with the procedure outlined (See attached Appendix A - Flowchart).

Cllrs. Lavelle, O’Toole and Mr. Sherwin raised questions which were responded to.

A further update will be brought to next SPC.

**H.I. 5 Road Safety Working Together Group**

Ms. L. Leonard brought members attention to the report seeking nominations sought for membership of the Road Safety Working Together Group which had been ratified by the Council. She further informed the SPC that the inaugural meeting was scheduled for April 27th 2016.

**SDCC Road Safety Working Together Group**

The aim of this committee is to develop a unified approach to road safety from among the main stakeholders. This is done by agreeing a strategy aimed at reducing the number and severity of road collisions through multi-agency co-operation and support.

**Proposed members of the Road Safety Working Together Group in South Dublin**

* Chair of Strategic Policy Committee
* Two nominated councillors
* Director of Services for Roads Section
* Senior Engineer of Traffic Section
* SEO of Roads
* Road Safety Officer
* Representative from;
  + RSA
  + TII
  + An Garda Síochána
  + Dublin Fire Brigade, Tallaght Station
  + HSE

**Inaugural meeting required to;**

* Nominate a Chair *(Chair of SPC proposed)*
* Identify any other stakeholders that should be included in this Working Group
* Discuss, edit and agree the draft SDCC Road Safety Plan
* Agree schedule for meetings *(twice yearly proposed)*
* Develop specific strategies with regards to the objectives within the plan

**Key Stakeholders:**

* Dublin Bus/Luas
* Community representatives
* Cycling Ireland
* Schools representative
* Driving Instructor representative

While these groups would add a wider spectrum of opinions to the Working Together Group they are considered to be too specific and it would be recommended that we should interact with these groups through sub groups

Following a discussion Councillor Lavelle proposed that Mr. Denis Sherwin be nominated by the SPC as a representative to the Road Safety Working Together Group. This was Agreed by the SPC.

**H.I. 6. Naming of Infrastructure**

Ms. L. Leonard gave a presentation which outlined the purpose, scope and suggested process for a Naming of Infrastructure Protocol.

Councillors Gogarty, Murphy, O’Toole and Lavelle contributed to the ensuing discussion and it was proposed that a workshop to progress the matter be arranged.

[See Link](http://www.sdublincoco.ie/viewdocument.aspx?id=565fa092-060f-4622-b475-a5e200c7487c)

Mr. Eddie Taaffe agreed to this and that a date be scheduled for the workshop and members notified.

**H.I.7. Western Orbital Road /N4/N7 Study Update.**

This item was deferred until the next meeting of the SPC

**H.I. 8 Residential Parking Permits.**

The following report had been prepared for the consideration of the SPC.

RESIDENTIAL PARKING PERMITS

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Local Authority | Residents Permit | Visitors Permit |
| South Dublin  County Council | €20 for 1 year  €40 for 2 year | €20 for First Visitors Permit, €50 for Second Permit |
| Dublin City Council | €50 for 1 year and €80 for 2 years if you live in a house.  €400 for 1 year or €750 for 2 years if your building contains more than 4 housing units, has off-road parking available to it and is located in a low demand zone (includes converted houses and apartment blocks).  €400 for 1 year or €750 for 2 years if your building is a converted house, contains more than 4 housing units, has off-road parking available to it and is located in a heavy demand zone | €1.25 each, and are sold in multiples of four |
| Fingal County Council | €20 for 2 year permit | €1.20 per disc for visitors |
| Dun-Laoghaire Rathdown County Council | €40 per year or €75 for 2 years | €2 each with a maximum of 120 per resident in a calendar year |

As set out in the South Dublin County Council (Control of Parking) Bye Laws 2010 the tariff for permits is as follows;

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Type of Permit** | **Bye-Law** | **Appropriate Fee** |
| Residents Parking permit | Bye-Law 16 | €20 for one year permit  €40 for two year permit |
| Replacement Residents Parking permit | Bye-Law 19 | €5 |
| Visitors Parking permit | Bye-Law 28 | €30 for first one year permits  €50 for subsequent one year permits |
| Commercial Parking Permit | Bye-Law 31 | €60 for one calendar month permit |

The first Visitors Permit had been suggested at €30 per year under the consultation but was adopted at the rate of €20. The second visitor permit is €50 under the 2010 Bye Laws, this was increased from the visitor permit tariff set in the 2003 Bye Laws of €20. There is a limit of two visitor permits per household.

There is no household limit for number of residential parking permits (for cars owned by residents at a particular residential address)

All residents within pay and display areas are eligible for permits but there may be some restrictions on where they can park.

It must be noted that the permit is not a guarantee of a space being available but an exemption from the pay and display charge local to the address for which the permit was issued.

**Example of new Parking Permit**

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The Warden can scan the barcode and verify through their handheld computer that the permit is valid.

This item was **Noted.**

**H.I. 9 Public Awareness & Information Pay Parking**

This item was deferred and it was agreed that it would be listed as the first item of business for the next meeting of the SPC.

**H.I. 11 A.O.B.**

Mr. Eddie Taaffe, Director of Services notified members of the National Transportation Authority allocation of funding for 2016 and drew attention to a possible reduction in the allocation for Willsbrook. Ph 3.

Cllr. W. Lavelle requested that members be kept informed of any developments and expressed dissatisfaction with any suggestion of a change in this allocation.

**H.I. 10 Update on Current/Planning Road Projects**

Note this item was not reached due to meeting overrun.

**The meeting concluded at 7.25 p.m.**