**Land Use Planning and Transportation SPC**

**Cycle Forum Report**

**22nd November 2016**

**Members of the Cycle Forum:** Cllr. William Lavelle, Cllr. Liona O’Toole, , Cllr Paul Gogarty, Mr. Denis Sherwin, Cllr Ruth Nolan, Ms. Mairead Forsythe, Dublin Cycling Campaign, Mr. Neil Durkin, Ms. Siobhan Butler, PPN, Ms. Michele Ui Bhuachalla, Ms. Wendy Mantle, Mr. Paul Corcoran, Dublin Cycling Campaign, Mr. Ally Menary, An Taisce Green Schools, Ms. Caroline Peppard, HSE, Sergeant Peter Woods, Traffic Division, Dublin Castle

**Executive:** Eddie Taaffe, Laura Leonard, Sheila Kelly

Cllr. Paula Donovan became Chairperson of the Cycle Forum in May 2016.

The Forum have progressed and discussed matters under the following headings:

**Terms of Reference for South Dublin County Council Cycle Forum**

A Terms of Reference document had been circulated in advance of the November meeting with changes suggested by a member, the proposed changes were discussed and the Terms of Reference were recommended for acceptance by the group to the SPC.

**Development of County Cycling/Walking Strategy**

The development of a strategy had been discussed at the May meeting and a commitment made to carry out research. A presentation at the November meeting briefed the forum members on this and the Forum requested further development of a County Strategy for drafting and return to the January meeting.

**Update on NTA Cycle/Greenway Schemes 2016**

Suzanne Furlong & John O’Connor have presented updates on NTA schemes and their progress throughout the year, in particular the following schemes have been discussed in 2016:

Green Schools Cluster – Works underway

Dodder Greenway

Willsbrook Cycle Scheme (Ph2)

Grange Road Cycle Route Phase I

Monastery Road Walking Route.

The Forum were advised that they will be kept informed of funding proposals to be submitted to the NTA for 2017 funding.

**Update on Speed Limit Review**

The Forum have been kept updated on the progress of the Speed Limit Review which is has now been through the public consultation on the Draft Speed Limit Bye-Laws. The conclusion of a report on the submissions received is nearing completion. This report will be brought to the Area Committee meetings before being discussed at a full Council Meeting in January 2017.

The members requested that they be kept informed of progress.

**Sergeant Peter Woods, DMR Traffic Division**

At the request of the SPC /Cycle Forum chairperson, Sergeant Woods from Dublin Castle Traffic Division was invited to address the group. Sergeant Woods outlined AGS position in relation to cycle safety and the protection of vulnerable road users and indicated that successful prosecutions are more frequent now in such cases. The responsibilities of cyclists to protect themselves and ensure their visibility particularly in winter months was additionally outlined. The matter of the issuing of fixed penalty notices for cycle offences including failure to use a cycle path where one exists was raised and discussed.

**Potential cluster school cycle network current condition assessment– Lucan**

Michele Ui Bhuachalla presented a report which she had prepared setting out an assessment of cycle track facilities associated with schools clusters in the Lucan area, a coding system of orange, green and red had been applied to indicate availability and standard of cycle tracks and also supporting facilities within schools. Michelle proposed that a second Green Schools Pilot should be considered for the Lucan area.

The proposal for a Lucan Schools Cluster will form part of the submissions to the NTA for the 2017 funding round.

**An Taisce –Green Schools**

Ally Menary, An Taisce Green Schools project made a presentation to the Forum on the work undertaken on this project and on the follow up engagement with the Council in respect of Walkability/ Cycle Audits submitted with recommendations.

The presentation was welcomed.

**The National Physical Activity Plan/Development of a Cycling Strategy for the County**

Caroline Peppard, HSE, provided an overview of the National Physical Activity Plan and in particular the components of it that relate to cycling and the objective that a walking/ cycling strategy be prepared.

The chairperson welcomed the information and agreed that a co-ordinating strategy would be beneficial and that research be carried out to develop such a strategy.

**National Roll-Out Cycle Right January 2017**

Ally Menary informed the Forum of the adoption and introduction of a new National Standard for Cycle Training by the Department of Transport Tourism and Sport which will be rolled out from January 2017.

**Bike Week 2016 Report**

The Forum were provided with a report on the Councils activities and events during Bike Week 2016.