**COMHAIRLE CONTAE ÁTHA CLIATH THEAS
SOUTH DUBLIN COUNTY COUNCIL**

**MEETING OF LAND USE PLANNING & TRANSPORTATION MEETING**

**Tuesday 22nd November 2016**

**HEADED ITEM NO. 6**

School Bus Service

**Context:**

The National Transport Authority Greater Dublin Transport Strategy 2016 – 2035 notes that *“the school run has become an increasingly important element in traffic congestion across the region, particularly in the morning peak”*

In the case of South Dublin, Census 2011 noted (<http://membersnet.sdublincoco.ie/Meetings/ViewDocument/38624>):

* The largest proportion of trips to primary school in South Dublin, or 48%, were made by car as a passenger in 2011.  This was an increase from 43% in 2006, when there were nearly 12% less such trips overall.
* Those travelling by bus decreased from 6% to 5% from 2006-11.
* Those travelling by car to secondary school in South Dublin increased from 24% to 28% between 2006 and 2011, whilst those travelling by bus decreased from 26% to 24%.

Findings from Census 2016 are awaited.

**Previous Study:**

In 2007 South Dublin County Council commissioned a School Transport System Study. The study was presented to presented to the Transportation SPC in September 2007 and to the Council October 2007 (<http://membersnet.sdublincoco.ie/Meetings/Agenda/326>). The Study contained detailed recommendations for the establishment of a supervised school bus services on specified routes. Following approval by the Council, funding requests were made to various Government Departments and Agencies but these proved unsuccessful.

**Recommendation:**

It is proposed that the Land-Use and Transport SPC would establish a sub-group to examine the feasibility of introducing a supervised school bus service on a pilot basis, focussing on routes in the Lucan area. The sub-group would:

* Review the 2007 study in terms of current relevance;
* Examine options for provision of such service;
* Pursue funding opportunities, including subvention from the NTA;
* Consider possible routes for a pilot service.

**Cllr. William Lavelle**

Chairman