**Rathfarnham/Templeogue-Terenure ACM
14th March 2017
Headed Item 4**

**Policy Context**

Transport and mobility policy in South Dublin is governed by a number of local, regional and national organisations, plans and strategies:

SDCC Development Plan 2016 – 2022

Transport Strategy for the Greater Dublin Area 2016 – 2035

Transport 21 (or other government capital investment programme)

South Dublin County Local Economic and Community Plan 2016 – 2021

South Dublin County Public Transport Report (Dec 2016)

Regional Planning Guidelines

**South Dublin County Council Plans**

SDCC is committed to maximising use of the traffic network from within its own resources and by seeking other sources of funding.

In relation to traffic signals we will this year be undertaking re-furbishment works at the signals at:

Butterfield Ave/Rathfarnham Village

Butterfield Avenue/Rathfarnham By-Pass

Templeogue Road (Cheeverstown House)

Upgrading works will be undertaken at the signals at the R838/M50 junction (Ballymount).

As part of the planning permission for the housing development on Scholarstown Road/Stocking Lane new pedestrian/cycle facilities will be provided along Scholarstown Road and the traffic signals at Stocking Lane/Scholarstown Road and Scholarstown Road/Edmonstown Road will be linked to improve efficiency.

The NTA is a very important element in the overall context. It is the statutory body for undertaking strategic planning of transport and developing the effective management of traffic and public transport demand in the Greater Dublin Area. It is responsible for identifying and promoting pedestrian, cycle and bus infrastructure. In relation to the Rathfarnham/Templeogue-Terenure Committee District Area there are a number of ongoing projects in relation to walking/cycling:

**Tallaght to Ballyboden Cycle Route**

Funding is in place to improve pedestrian/cycle facilities on Scholarstown Road from Knocklyon (Supervalu) to Orlagh Roundabout.

**Tallaght to Templeogue Cycle Track Scheme**

 Funding is in place to continue this project across the M50.

**Grange Road Walking and Cycling Route**

 This project is nearing completion.

**Green Schools Cluster (Ballyroan Schools Project)**

Works are well advanced on items outside the school. The remaining works concern items within the school grounds. (completion Q3 this year).

**Area Based Transport Assessment**

Area Based Transport Assessment for Forward Planning has been raised by way of motion at this Area Committee and whilst it is accepted that it relates to LAP’s, it is worthwhile to set out some of the guiding principles which may have some relevance for the RTT area at this time.

Area Based Transport Assessment can help to identify the strategic and local transport interventions required to support population growth in an area & the surrounding areas.

It should identify and assess the deliverability of transport interventions that could form the basis for an Action plan.

An Area Based Transport Assessment according to the TII (NRA) guidelines should include:

* An understanding of the local area, the nature of transport activity (road, public transport, cycling, walking) that is likely to be generated as a result of the proposed development. This would also include the existing public transport links available.
* A quantification of the catchment of users and level of travel activity that will take place, particularly during all relevant peak periods.
* An estimate of total person trips, and the nature of those trips at peak periods
* An analysis of the current transport network in the area and surrounding key junctions. The analysis of the transport network should consider the full extent of the network where impacts are envisaged.

**Application for Rathfarnham Templeogue Terenure Area**

An assessment of existing infrastructure and how it will serve new communities in conjunction with determining the impact of development at junctions beyond the vicinity of the planned new communities is desirable. It is the case that all planning applications are assessed by Roads Forward Planning engineers who incorporate knowledge available to them under the above headings and that this informs particular conditions applied to permissions granted in many cases to supplement existing infrastructure. In addition factors such as the availability of public transport, limitation on number of parking spaces and ensuring optimum traffic flow are incorporated into planning decisions. The County Development Plan underpins this process and is the guiding policy document.

An Area Based assessment or components of it may be of value for the Rathfarnham Templeogue Terenure area in the following way:-

* Development of an “action plan” outlining suggested measures which will be assessed before being included in an Implementation plan

What could be included/local knowledge from elected members and residents /community groups?

* Junctions for consideration /improvement?
* Bus Routes & Bus Stops for assessment?
* Cycle lane and Pedestrian route improvements?

Members are invited to submit suggestions in addition to the measures outlined in this report for consideration, costing and formulation as appropriate into a works programme.