**Report of Land-Use Planning & Transportation SPC**

**Cycle Forum**

**November 2016 to February 2017**

1. **Terms of Reference**

The redrafted Terms of Reference were discussed and it was requested that they be brought to the attention of the SPC and that regular reports on the meetings of the Cycle Forum be brought before the SPC. Furthermore it was raised that the next step is to develop a cycling policy and cycling plan to really start to make an impact on increasing the uptake of cycling.

Mairead Forsythe, Caroline Peppard, Wendy Mantle, Michelle Ui Bhuachalla and Cllr. Donovan contributed to the debate.

It was agreed by the Committee to adopt the Terms of Reference

1. **Development of County Cycling and Walking Strategy**

Laura Leonard presented examples of strategies that she had looked at from a range of locations and a discussion took place which raised the following matters:

Existing Policy examples, DCC BIPAD AUDIT, DLR Co Co

Role of the NTA

Health Perspective to be taken into accounts

Preferred type of cycle infrastructure

Safe cycle routes to school

Dedicated Cycling Officers

All members present contributed to the discussion on the development of a cycling and walking strategy

1. **Speed Limit Review**

Eddie Taaffe updated the meeting on progress since May 2016. The period for public consultation has closed and submissions made are being assessed, a report on the consultation will be brought to each of the Area Committee Meetings with the intention of having the new Speed Limit Bye Laws adopted at the January meeting of the County Council.

Cllr. Donovan, Wendy Mantle and Mairead Forsythe contributed to the discussion which ensued.

1. **Update on Pilot Green Schools Cluster Lucan**

Eddie Taaffe updated the Committee on how it is intended to progress this proposal to seek NTA funding in 2017, that SDCC Planning staff will be heavily involved in this and the work should funding be secured for 2017 will involve scoping out of the project with actual works requiring further funding likely to advance in 2018.

1. **Update on Infrastructure Projects**

Laura Leonard presented update on NTA Infrastructure projects 2016.

Wendy Mantle raised a question on the Dodder Greenway project to which Eddie Taaffe responded explaining the funding of the project and that SDCC are progressing their section that the project will ideally go to construction in the second half of 2017. Cllr Donovan thanked staff for the update.

1. **CYCLE RIGHT – the National Standard for Cycle Training in Ireland**

**Members were briefed on CYCLE RIGHT**, the National Standard for Cycle Training in Ireland, a modular cyclist road safety training course designed to give cyclists the knowledge and skills to move safely through the road system, an environment shared with other road users.

**CYCLE RIGHT** is delivered over three stages with participants gaining skills and knowledge on a phased basis which prepares the individual to cycle in increasingly complex road scenarios. Ideally, individual sessions in each stage should be delivered at intervals (weekly) to allow sufficient time for practice in between. At Stage One, minimum delivery permissible is four x two-hour sessions at weekly intervals.

Members noted the information.

1. **NTA Allocations 2017/Infrastructure Update**

Lauran Leonard, SEO gave the Members the update on the allocation for 2017

She explained that there was less allocated in 2017 than there was in 2016. A lot of monies being put towards Luas works in 2017. However, the figures may not be the final ones for the year.

Mairead Forsythe stated that she was disappointed in the funding. She informed the meeting of a protest taking place by the Dublin Cycling Campaign outside Department of Transport on 22nd February 2017 to lobby for more funding for cycling projects generally more funding is given across Europe for these projects. Funding of 10% is required as currently funding is only half of 1% of the Transport funding.

Following discussion the report was **NOTED**

1. **Cycle/Walking Strategy Development Update**

Laura Leonard, SEO gave the update on the Strategy. Members discussed various actions that would be required to get the strategy in place including:

* Extract cycling sections regarding Development Plan
* Include Activity Plan in policy
* Ensure measures are including qualitative and quantitative – check out DCC strategy?
* Permeability is and will be an issue and could restrict our opportunities to develop specific strategies
* Cycling safety to be expanded to include security too for cyclists and public
* Perhaps to reserve our next Cycling Forum as a Working Strategy development only
* Deliver in advance “homework” for preparing the team for strategy development day perhaps consider a strategy “everyday business made by bicycle” to promote culture of everyday cycling
* Promotion of safe cycling routes e.g. N81 Tallaght to Cheeverstown
* Network maps showing quality of routes to be included in Strategy
* Perhaps invite public participation – e.g. best routes to cycle from A – B

1. **Cycle Events**

Members were notified of the following coming up in the next few months:-

Spring Forward Cycle Challenge 20th March to 9th April

European Cycling challenge Month of May

Bike Week 11th to 18th June 2017

**Members noted the information**