

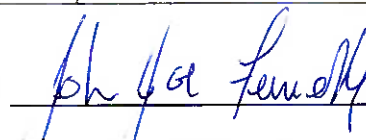
File Ref: Env/SPC	Date/Time: 5 th December 2023 at 2.00 pm	Executive Conference Room Áras an Chontae
Subject:	Transportation, Environment & Emergency Services Strategic Policy Committee	
Present:	<p>CLlr John Joe Fennelly, Chair CLlr William Aird CLlr Paddy Bracken</p>	<p>Mr. John Talbot, Agricultural Rep Mr. John Killeen, Construction Rep Ms. Deirdre O’Connell</p>
In attendance:	<p>Mr. Simon Walton, Director of Services Mr. Paul McLoughlin, Senior Engineer Mr. Adrian Barrett, Senior Engineer (online) Ms. Fiona Skehan, Administrative Officer</p>	
Apologies:	CLlrs Ben Brennan and Marie Touhy	
ITEM	DESCRIPTION	ACTION REQUIRED
1	<p><u>Quorum Present</u> CLlr Fennelly opened the meeting by welcoming the committee and advised quorum was in place.</p>	
2.	<p><u>Confirmation of Minutes of SPC Meeting held on 18th September 2023</u> Proposed by CLlr Aird Seconded by CLlr Bracken</p>	
3	None	
4	<p><u>Progress Report from Director of Services</u> (a) Pedestrian Crossings Mr. McLoughlin circulated draft pedestrian crossings policy following feedback received from members of the SPC, which has now been incorporated into the document. A discussion ensued with regards to LED lighting, using a box system for the crossing rather than disturbing the pavement. Mr. McLoughlin advised that there will be some hardwire and solar powered crossings which should minimise disruption to the pavement, this will bring pedestrian crossing up to standard. CLlr Aird and Bracken welcomed the policy. They asked if, several areas in Portlaoise and Mountmellick of concern, would be prioritised, as they lacked lighting and speed was a big issue. Mr. McLoughlin agreed to include for consider the two black spots for retrofitting in 2024 and will trial / pilot areas on national route in consultation with TII. The Chair asked if CLÁR funding was an option in rural areas to install or upgrade pedestrian crossings. Mr. Walton agreed to check criteria for CLÁR funding as categories have changed.</p>	<p>Updates for next meeting: Criteria for CLÁR funding</p>

	<p>(b) Road Safety Plan 2023 - 2026 Mr. McLoughlin that Road Design is working on review of the existing plan and liaising with other local authorities on best practices. The Road Safety Committee met last week for the first time since COVID and both AGS and LCC agreed to meet every quarter. Mr. Walton advised that the current plan expired in 2022 and agreed to have draft prepared and presented to the SPC for comment and consideration at next meeting. Cllr Bracken asked if there will be a review of speed limits. In response, Mr. McLoughlin advised that Roads is awaiting guidance from the Department.</p> <p>(c) CCTV – National Guidelines and Standard Operating Procedures Mr. Walton advised that legislation at national level is in place. The council awaits code of practice and the associated guidelines which is with the Minister. In the New Year Roads will develop our policy and use existing CCTV.</p>	
5	<p><u>Correspondence</u> No correspondence received.</p> <p>Cllr Aird welcomed work carried out on the Mellick Road, Portlaoise and the only way to slow traffic is the traffic measures put in place. In response, Mr. Walton advised that a safety audit in consultation with residents was carried out, which provided hard evidence that road safety issues were present. Cllr Bracken asked if Derryclooney, Mountmellick could be examined for funding under safety improvement scheme.</p>	
6	<p>Date of next Meeting Tuesday 4th March 2024 at 2pm This concluded the business of the meeting.</p>	FS to book EC room

Signed: John Joe Fennelly
Cllr. John Joe Fennelly
SPC Chairperson

Date: 4/3/24

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