



Cruinniú /Name of Meeting	Transport SPC
Ionadaí FPCG (glacadóir - nótaí) Name of GCCF Rep (note-taker)	Richard Manton, Derrick Hambleton
Dáta & Suite Date & Location of Meeting:	26 th May 2015, Galway City Council
I láthair/ Attendance	<p>Councillors: John Walsh (chair), Frank Fahy, Pearce Flannery, Anna Marley, Peter Keane, Mike Cubbard</p> <p>External reps: Richard Manton (community/voluntary), Derrick Hambleton (environment), Chris Coughlan (business/commercial), Pat Hardiman (trade union)</p> <p>In Attendance: Joe O'Neill, Sharon Connolly, Frank Snowden, Kieran McGlynn, Helena Martyn, Elaine Walsh, Fiona Griffin</p> <p>Apologies: Cllr. Noel Larkin</p>
Príomhphointí pléite / Key Issues Discussed:	
<p>1. School transport Discussion on this issue continued from the previous SPC meeting. Cllr. Frank Fahy called for the City Council to investigate the provision of a subsidised school bus transport service. Joe O'Neill said that the City Council must first find out the lay of the land for school transport. Cllr. Mike Cubbard called for any such service to be subsidised, reflecting the financial burden on families. Pat Hardiman suggested the promotion of car-pooling for schools.</p> <p>2. 30 km/h speed limits The Jake's Legacy campaign calls for a reduction of speed in housing estates to 20 km/h. Cllrs. Frank Fahy and Pearce Flannery said that 20 km/h was too low and 30 km/h should be sufficient. Richard Manton pointed out that the Jake's Legacy campaign did not result in the Minister approving 20 km/h speed limits for housing estates, but has succeeded in placing speed reduction on the agenda. A €2 million fund has been provided by government to local authorities to investigate speed reduction and a road speed review will be completed by Galway City Council this year. However, Joe O'Neill said that the biggest difficulty is enforcement and a range of physical measures, such as building out housing estate entrances, will also reduce speed. Sharon Connolly's department is currently identifying estates in which to implement 30 km/h limits and drawing up a schedule of works.</p> <p>3. Bus across Quincentennial Bridge The provision of a bus route across the Quincentennial Bridge, for those living in Knocknacarra and working in Parkmore, has long been called for. As the NTA licences public transport routes, the discussion focused on encouraging business to provide a service for their employees. Such a service is currently provided by HP and Chris Coughlan offered to guide other businesses, suggesting a survey be conducted to assess business needs and willingness to subsidise.</p>	

4. Car-pooling in bus lanes

Cllr. Pearce Flannery raised the potential to open bus lanes to car pooling, with a trial on one route. The City Council executive approached the NTA with a proposal, but was told that this would not be supported as buses would be discommoded and allowing cars into bus lanes would 'send the wrong message', according to Sharon Connolly. Derrick Hambleton also pointed out that cars already cut into bus lanes and this proposal would further delay the buses. Joe O'Neill agreed and suggested other ways of promoting car-pooling, such as priority parking.

5. Non-motorised Passenger Transporter Bye-laws

Edits to the existing Non-motorised Passenger Transporter Bye-laws went to public consultation and a low number of responses were received. As the plan involves the movement of parking for people with mobility impairments, representative groups were consulted. It was decided to locate jaunting cars at the north of Eyre Square between the bike share stands and the new parking places. The amended bye-laws will be brought before the next City Council meeting.

6. Signage & Branding

A new policy for signage and branding in the city has been compiled by Kieran McGlynn and covers three types of signage: NDP, RSA and information plinths. NDP signage is obsolete and many will be covered with new signs. RSA signage will be used for road safety, a litter campaign and for large events. There was agreement that this signage should not be commercial and should be used to promote the city. Information plinths are tall, three-sided signs that wrap around poles, targeted at pedestrians. The policy regulates these signs for the first time and limits their number. Chris Coughlan and Cllr. Frank Fahy recommended the use of signage for the Capital of Culture bid, highlighting twinned towns, QR codes for a cultural trail etc. Cllr. Anna Marley and Joe O'Neill raised the importance of the Irish language. Real-time parking information will be added to VMS signs in Q3 2015. The policy was approved and will be brought before the next City Council meeting.

7. Integrated Transport Management Programme

Outlined by Sharon Connolly, this is a joint initiative between Galway City Council and the NTA, currently at an early stage. The programme will tie together the various transport studies conducted in Galway over the last 15-20 years, including the City Development Plan, Walking and Cycling Strategy, Smarter Travel Bid, Bus and Cycle Network plan, Public Transport Feasibility Study etc. - there is no cohesive single report to show the needs of transport over roads. Modelling from the NTA will also be included. Derrick Hambleton and Richard Manton questioned the programme's relationship to the N6 scheme, calling for proper spatial planning to reduce car dependency and pointing out that €14 million has already been wasted on planning for the outer-bypass. Joe O'Neill acknowledged that poor planning had taken place in Galway and around the country in the past. Sharon Connolly and Joe O'Neill said that the programme is independent of the N6 scheme, yet said that there was a need for another river crossing and this would free up road space for sustainable transport. Cllr. Anna Marley said that regardless on one's position on the N6 scheme, it won't happen for years and the work on sustainable transport should continue, with updates for the SPC.

Socruithe déanta/ Key Decisions Made:

- Provision of a subsidised school bus service to be investigated
- Schedule of housing estate works to reduce traffic speed to be drawn up
- Willingness of Parkmore business to provide bus to be assessed
- Non-motorised Passenger Transporter Bye-laws to go before City Council in June
- Signage and Branding policy to go before City Council in June
- Integrated Transport Management Programme to be developed
- Climate change and public transport to be added to next agenda

Gníomhaíochtaí

Action(s) required from GCCN:

Climate change and public transport to be added to next agenda. Derrick Hambleton to prepare a contribution.

Dáta don chéad chruinniú eile

Date of next meeting :

Tuesday, 21st July

Moltaí breise /Any Other Comments:

n/a