

## 1Tuairisc/Reporting Template for Galway City Community Network Representatives

Please complete and email to [communications@gccn.ie](mailto:communications@gccn.ie)  
at your earliest convenience, preferably one week after the meeting  
and no later than two weeks.



<b>1. Cruinniú / Name of Meeting</b>	<b>Transport SPC Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> February 2022</b>
<b>2. Ionadaí LPCG (glacadóir - nótaí) / Name of GCCN Rep (note-taker)</b>	<b>Shane Foran</b>
<b>3. Dáta &amp; Suite / Date &amp; Location of Meeting:</b>	<b>Tuesday 7th February 2023 Zoom and council chamber</b>
<b>4. I láthair / Attendance</b>	<p><b>Present</b></p> <p><b>Council:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Cllr Frank Fahy (Chair)</li> <li>• Mayor Clodagh Higgins</li> <li>• Cllr Mike Cubbard online</li> <li>• Cllr Alan Cheevers</li> <li>• Cllr Clodagh Higgins</li> <li>• Cllr Niall Murphy</li> <li>• Cllr Peter Keane</li> <li>• Cllr Noel Larkin not sure</li> <li>• Cllr Colette Connolly Online</li> </ul> <p><b>Community:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Shane Foran GCCN</li> <li>• Pat Hardiman Confirm</li> </ul> <p><b>Chamber of Commerce:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Kenny Derry</li> </ul> <p><b>In Attendance:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Pat Greene DoS</li> <li>• Uinsinn Finn</li> <li>• David Greally</li> <li>• Colm Shaughnessy</li> <li>• Brendan Gallagher?? Online</li> </ul>
<p><b>5. Príomhphointí pléite / Key Issues Discussed:</b></p> <p><b>Minutes and matters arising</b> =====</p>	

## **Matters arising**

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Shane Foran – GCCN:

- Restate request that the access controls report be directed to Green Schools

### **Presentation on Overpasses/Pedestrian Bridges**

David Greally - Council Executive:

(Says he is familiar with Kilmore junction in Tuam)

Cllr Peter Keane:

- Galway Transport Strategy not much progress
- Need to get real about not allowing people to cross the road where they want to
- Balance competing interests
- Can we get pedestrians across the roads with out stopping traffic?
- Can people not go 50m out of the way?
- Can you come in here with a solution - angry tone?
- Not coming up with any solutions
- Closure of cross street closed bridge west bound?
- "Perfect desire lines" "visual impact"

Cllr Alan Cheevers:

- Have obsession with traffic lights
- 20 sets of traffic lights between
- Need to take it seriously
- What is the cost of these pieces of infrastructure?

Cllr Colette Connolly:

- Not correct that SPC called for report
- Record that did not ask for this
- Find it astounding that did not acknowledge that ABP ruled out the proposed pedestrian bridge over to church
- Discussion over pedestrian experience - schools are looking for improved access

Exchange between chair and Cllr Colette Connolly – FF SPC did seek report

- Could we go over the distance for the ramps?
- We should prioritise the deficit in pedestrian provision

Shane Foran – GCCN:

- Good presentation - very useful exercise not sure about the locations proposed for these footbridges

Cllr Niall Murphy:

- Seeks clarification on the desire lines

Cllr Frank Fahy (Chair):

- Juries lights are at the wrong location
- Pedestrian lights responsible for traffic all the way back to Moneenageisha
- Can take an hour to get from one side of the city to another
- Closed cross street so O'Brien's bridge is redundant
- Should look at sensors on the lights
- Railings needed

## Responses

David Greally - Council Executive:

- Can provide costs

Uinsinn Finn - Council Executive:

- Not assessed planning landowner ship
- Martin roundabout there is provision for underpass
- In relation to ramps 140m needed
- Re: Seamus Quirke Road
- Ramps need to be on the desire line
- RE Jurys looking could look at that

Uinsinn Finn - Council Executive:

- Have strategic traffic coming across bridge because quincidental bridge
- Lot of traffic has no business in city just using it as a route.
- Reality nobody is going to walk 140 m out of their way several times
- Others will just cross the road
- Value for mobility impaired
- Policy some of the policies in relation to DMURS were strengthened

ClIr Frank Fahy (Chair):

- Dock road
- Discussion about sensors on lights
- Put bus lane on dock road

ClIr Colette Connolly:

- Is the engineer familiar with the ruling re SQR?
- Are they changing the pedestrian crossing?

Shane Foran – GCCN:

- For balance argues that traffic in current state because city has prioritised traffic over pedestrians
- Been on the SPC for nearly two decades
- Recall one of the earlier debates was over the crossing at University Road many observers were of the view that it was in the wrong place.
- People still cross the road at Wards Shop

ClIr Frank Fahy (Chair)

- Cameron's (Newcastle Post Office), Jurys, GMIT crossings are at the wrong locations

## Presentation on E chargers overview of Electric Vehicle infrastructure

Colm Shaughnessy - Council Executive:

John McCarthy – Arup Consulting Engineers:

- Mentions trip hazard due to cables on footpath anti trip mats
- Ban by 2035 on sale of new ICE vehicles
- Parking bays - massive value
- What happens if you put a charger in a bay?
- Energy availability

## Questions

ClIr Niall Murphy:

- No money for charging points in last city budget

- What became of that?
- Is there any budget in 2023?
- What are Galway City Council doing
- Taxi specific charging points
- Drivers subsidised to purchase the tax
- Cable across the footpath??

Clr Colette Connolly:

- Looked at discussing with the private entities Dunnes??

Clr Frank Fahy (Chair):

- Taxis cannot send electric vehicles out of town batteries don't last long enough

Uinsinn Finn - Council Executive:

- Just starting process
- How can we make it more attractive to buy electric cars
- Who should we focus on?
- There was money in the draft budget.
- Don't want to be directly involved in providing charging

Colm Shaughnessy - Council Executive:

- Funds taken out of the budget at the last minute
- Where can we look?
- ESB vs Galway City Council?
- Additional grant funding in recent documents
- Do see more taxi drivers
- Want to hear about these problems
- Cables
- It is a problem? Do put in ducts?
- Alternatives - car sharing hubs
- Alternative to 40-50 cables
- Location - early stages - where is the demand?
- Have we discussed with private car parks? We haven't.

Clr Frank Fahy (Chair):

- Taxi drivers are charging EVs during the day because they work at night?
- Cannot avail of night rate charging

Uinsinn Finn - Council Executive:

- Sees a mixture where house will have two types of car ICE and electric.
- Charging points 35,000 to install??
- What if someone wants to put in their own charge point in an estate with communal parking??
- Do they have "ownership" for the parking space??
- New EVS much more efficient
- Want people to charge at night

Shane Foran – GCCN:

- Do we need lampposts moved from behind footpaths? To road edge? To cater for dual use as chargers?

Kenny Derry – Chamber of Commerce

- Surprised at low numbers of charging points
- Uses public transport where he can
- Needs significant uplift even with cost 35K

- How will it be funded?
- Need significant uplift in numbers and locations
- Need them and need quick charging.

Pat Greene (DoS):

- Where do we need to start?
- How do we prioritise if?
- Public piece is what the development plan covers
- Current map city centre focussed what about the west
- Electric car barely viable on public charging

John McCarthy – Arup:

- Every 60km there will be provision??
- Looking at sports clubs for communal charge points??
- How can we create a policy environment??

Shane Foran asks about lampposts

- Lampposts Chargers are only able to output -- 7 kilowatts

### **Items for agenda of next meeting**

Mayor Clodagh Higgins:

- Proposed that invite minister for transport to address the SPC

Kenny Derry – Chamber of Commerce:

- Chamber writing to Ministers to apply pressure
- Chamber inviting minister to speak

Clr Alan Cheevers:

- Endorses Mayors suggestion
- Minister does not want us to have a by pass
- NTA says no public transport options on the cards until 26 27
- Talking about traffic - Minister does not want a ring road - but other projects take 3 year
- Comments about green councillor
- Stagnated without these options without a bypass

Clr Peter Keane:

- Be cautious about writing to An Bord Pleanala
- If climate action plan decision will be difficult
- ABP will need to ask both local authorities
- If emissions need to come down
- Can try to solve the science or try to solve the legislation
- Look at legislation -
- ABP will find it very difficult.
- Need to look at national climate action plan
- Focus more on legislation

Clr Niall Murphy:

- Suggest review of the GTS.
- Would we have the ring road by 2026 2027?
- Solve the science - do we want the ring road no matter what?
- Are we prepared to suffer consequences of climate damage
- Need to focus on things that are going to reduce submissions.

Clr Frank Fahy (Chair):

- Wants decision?

Clr Colette Connolly

- Don't think any minister is going to come
- Park and ride? No encouragement
- Like an update on the proposed pedestrian crossings GMIT, Wards Shop, Raven Terrace, Jurys
- Have made motions in the past for free school transport

Clr Frank Fahy (Chair)

- Have been advocating church car parks for drop off points

Uinsinn Finn - Council Executive:

- Traffic calming policy document for Clr Mike Cubbard

Clr Alan Cheevers:

- Martin roundabout - amount of money over budget??

Uinsinn Finn - Council Executive:

- Will reply to Clr Connolly directly
- Better for SPC to focus on policy.

Clr Peter Keane:

- Response times on faulty junctions?

Uinsinn Finn - Council Executive:

- Bothar na Treabh = priority one  
<Something about response times>

Clr Frank Fahy (Chair) :

- Something about a tweet about lights being fixed by Tuesday
- Pat Greene - Director of Services: Follow up on that
- Clr Frank Fahy (Chair) did not think well sign posted

Clr Alan Cheevers:

- In a situation where lights go down can we use temporary lights?

Clr Frank Fahy (Chair):

- New lights at build out on Tuam Road (Trappers)
- No room left to legally overtake a cyclist
- Has that junction been designed so he does not have to stop for cyclists?
- Thinks it will cause more problems than it designed to solve
- Has to be balance between cyclists and pedestrians.

Clr Frank Fahy (Chair): Currently am able to over take

Uinsinn Finn - Council Executive:

- There for the safety of the pedestrian

Shane Foran – GCCN:

- I have requested a copy of the Road Safety Audit for that crossing.
- Document supplied is heavily redacted
- I would question if Road Safety Audit has been correctly carried out in accordance with guidelines.

Cllr Frank Fahy (Chair):

- Asks for copy of audit report

**6. Socruithe déanta / Key Decisions Made:**

**7. Gníomhaíochtaí / Action(s) required from GCCN:**

**8. Dáta don chéad chruinniú eile / Date of next meeting :**

**TBA**

**9. Moltaí breise / Any Other Comments:**