**PRESS RELEASE: BE SAFE ON OUR ROADS THIS CHRISTMAS: KILKENNY COUNTY COUNCIL LAUNCHES ROAD SAFETY PLAN 2022-2030**

In a combined effort to enhance road safety and address the alarming rise in road incidents, Kilkenny County Council unveils its Road Safety Plan 2022-2030. Aligned with the Government's Road Safety Strategy, this strategic initiative is the result of extensive consultation and collaboration with the Road Safety Working Together Group—a diverse group of stakeholders dedicated to promoting a safer road environment.

At the launch of the Road Safety Plan, Cathaoirleach of Kilkenny County Council Council, Cllr. Michael Doyle, stated: “*As we launch the Road Safety Plan 2022-2030, our commitment to the safety of every road user in Kilkenny is priority. This plan signifies our collective dedication to reducing road collisions and fatalities. We ask everyone to join us in prioritising road safety, especially during the upcoming Christmas season. By working together and embracing the initiatives outlined in this plan, we can create a safer road environment for all.”*

The Road Safety Plan 2022-2030, an essential document outlining Kilkenny County Council's commitment to safeguarding lives on our roads, outlines clear aims and objectives. In the wake of a year which was marked by an increase in road collisions and fatalities, this plan signifies a step towards mitigating such incidents and promoting a culture of responsible road use.

The plan, a detailed roadmap encompassing a range of targeted measures, is now accessible to the public on Kilkenny County Council's official website. It provides insight into the strategies, interventions, and initiatives that will be implemented over the next eight years to enhance road safety within the community.

As the festive season approaches, Kilkenny County Council appeals to all road users to increase their commitment to road safety. The holiday season, often accompanied by increased travel and festivities, demands more vigilance and responsibility on our roads. By adhering to traffic regulations, respecting fellow road users, and prioritising safety, we can collectively contribute to a safer and more secure road environment for all.

Cllr. Matt Doran, Chairperson of the Strategy Policy Committee for Transportational Policy/Mobility Management and Water Services on launching the plan said: “*As Chairman of the Strategic Policy Committee for Transportation Policy/Mobility Management and Water Services, I am proud to see the launch of the Road Safety Plan 2022-2030 by Kilkenny County Council. This strategy serves as a roadmap to improve safety, reduce collisions, and save lives*.”

The Road Safety Working Together Group, an instrumental force behind the development of this plan, comprises representatives from the Road Safety Authority (RSA), Ambulance Service, Transport Infrastructure Ireland (TII), Elected Representatives, Fire Service, An Garda Síochána, Director of Roads & Transportation, Cycling Officer, Road Safety Officer, and Roads Engineering Staff. This collaborative effort reflects the shared commitment of these key stakeholders to create lasting positive change.

By working together, we can make significant strides towards a safer and more secure road network for everyone.

For further information and to access the Road Safety Plan 2022-2030, please visit [insert website link].

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