Minutes of Strategic Policy Committee 2 – Infrastructure Policy, Transportation, Fire and Emergency Services Issues held in County Hall on Friday 3rd March 2017.

ITEM 1. UPDATE ON N25 NEW ROSS BY-PASS

- The scheme is currently in the 13th month of a 36 month project.
- It was tendered in 2016 and construction is expected to be completed in the spring of 2019.
- Contract awarded to BAM Iridium Consortium. It will consist of 14km of dual carriageway.
- It is a public private partnership and it will operate and maintain the road for 25 years and it will then revert back to the Transport Infrastructure Ireland.

ITEM 2. KILKENNY CITY BUS NETWORK

- Consultations have taken place between the National Transport Authority (NTA) and Kilkenny County Council in relation to the provision of a Kilkenny City Bus Network.
- The NTA is committed to introducing a subsidised bus service in the City with regular timetable and recognisable bus stops and where possible bus shelters.
- The NTA's proposed network design involves two routes, green and red, running two buses per hour.
- Two routes are proposed both of which will be less than 9km in distance with an average journey time of ½ hour.

ITEM 3. ROADS MANAGEMENT OFFICE

- The Roads Management Office (RMO) was set up in 2014 and it covers all 31 local authorities.
- It provides centralised supports, guidelines and technology support to local authorities in order to improve Roads Assets Management Outcomes, best practice and capacity in local authorities, efficient management of road licensing activities, consistency in road maintenance practices, and a central data base of all road network expenditure.
- Kilkenny County Council currently deals with the Pavement Management Support Unit and the Road Works Licensing Support Unit.
- Pavement rating is recorded both by mechanically and visual methods and in the case of visual rating roads are rated 1 to 10 with 10 being the optimum rating.
- Funding in future by the Department will be based on the ratings awarded to each road.
- The Roads Management Office Road Works Licensing was introduced in May 2015 and is a web based system – Map Road License (MRL).
- The RMO public Lighting Office was recently established and it contains and inventory of 475,000 lights in Ireland

ITEM 4. UPDATE ON FIRE & EMERGENCY OPERATION PLAN 2015-2020

- <u>Fire Stations</u> Contracts for Graiguenamanagh Fire Station have been signed and construction to commence in March 2017. Capital funding has been sought for a new Fire Station in headquarters.
- <u>Fire Appliances</u> A jeep for Kilkenny City and for Thomastown is ordered and will be delivered at the end of March 2017.
- Operational Roads & Procedures Pre Incident plans have been carried out on 25 no premises.
- Operational Standards Mobilisation times.
- (a) Average Time to Mobilise Fire Brigade (fire in minutes) Part-Time Station.

In 2015 the average time to mobilise the Fire Brigade (fire in minutes) part-time station for Kilkenny County Council was 6.77 minutes which is a faster response than our 2014 figure of 6.88 minutes. The national average median for part-time stations was 5.65 minutes.

(b) Average Time to Mobilise Fire Brigade (non-fire in minutes) Part-Time Station.

In 2015 the average time to mobilise fire brigades (non fire in minutes) part time stations was 6.78 minutes. The national average median for part-time stations was 5.75 minutes.

Major Emergency Management

The Major Emergency Management Plan was reviewed in 2015 and 2016 and will also be reviewed in Quarter 4- 2017.

This concluded the business of the meeting.	
Mat Doran Chairman	