

**COMHAIRLE CONTAE FHINE GALL
FINGAL COUNTY COUNCIL**

**COUNTY COUNCIL MEETING
MONDAY 11TH JANUARY 2021**

ITEM NO. 25

CYCLING AND WALKING OFFICER

Motion: Councillor K. Power

“That the Chief Executive appoint at senior level, a Cycling and Walking Officer on the back of recent significant funding from the National Transport Authority for such projects for Fingal.”

Report:

The improvement of cycling facilities and infrastructure in Fingal and enhancing the visibility and promotion of cycling in the County are priorities for the Council.

The Council sets out its policies and plans for cycling and walking in the County Development Plan and senior officers regularly engage/meet with the National Transport Authority to develop and agree programmes for cycling and walking. In addition, cycling and walking policies are implemented on an ongoing basis through the development management and forward planning (Local Area Plans etc.) processes.

The responsibility for the promotion and raising of awareness initiatives specific to cycling is assigned to the Council’s Road Safety Unit whose remit includes:

- Contact point for queries relating to cycling matters
- Co-ordinating cycling events i.e. Bike Week etc.
- Managing Cycle Training in schools throughout the County
- Information and awareness
- Promotion of cycling events

- Liaising with An Taisce for their 'Green Schools' surveys
- Carrying out Walking and Cycling audits of school routes and developing "Walking Bus" routes

Alongside this, responsibility for investment in and the development of the necessary infrastructure, whether through the adaptation of existing roads or the construction of new routes is assigned to those sections of the Council in which the necessary engineering design and works expertise resides.

Members will be aware that staffing and organisational arrangements are made with a view to the efficient and effective delivery of the functions of the Council. Arrangements are kept under review and are improved and revised as the operating environment changes.

The foregoing arrangements regarding the cycling programme are considered appropriate at the moment however, as with all programmes, staffing and resourcing arrangements will be kept under review as the programme evolves. The requirement for the designation of a Cycling Officer will be considered in this context.