

National Transport Authority emailed reply on 22 February 2018
Bus Infrastructure Cork

Dear Mr Koch

Thank you for your letter dated 22 January, setting out the Transport and Mobility Forum's recommendations in relation to Bus Infrastructure, the need for investment in bus infrastructure, services and the manner in which these are provided in the coming years, is being examined, as part of a Transport Strategy, currently being prepared for the Cork Metropolitan Area.

The Transport Strategy will address all transport modes of transport and its objective will be to provide a long-term strategic planning framework for the integrated development of transport infrastructure and services in the Cork Metropolitan Area (CMA), over next two decades or so.

It will be used to inform transport investment levels and investment prioritisation over both the longer and shorter terms and will be able to inform sustainable integrated land use and transport policy formulation at the strategic (CMA) level and at the local level.

The Transport Strategy, commenced in mid-2017, is being prepared for the National Transport Authority (NTA), in conjunction with Cork City Council, Cork County Council and Transport Infrastructure Ireland (TII).

It is expected that a draft Transport Strategy will be published for public consultation in the first quarter of 2018, the purpose of which will be to elicit feedback on any issues or concerns arising, in relation to the proposals contained within it. The draft Transport Strategy will include a range of proposed transport interventions across all modes of transport, along with complementary measures including transport demand management, Intelligent Transport Systems and Park and Ride. It will then be finalised in light of feedback received.

In addition to its role in longer term strategic planning and investment, the NTA also manages a number of transport investment programmes on behalf of the Department of Transport, Tourism and Sport, including the Regional Cities Sustainable Transport Investment Programme. This has a short to medium term focus and it includes an investment programme for the Cork Metropolitan Area, in place since 2013.

In that time, the Cork Metropolitan Area Investment Programme has provided funding numerous transport studies and sustainable transport schemes, including the City Centre Movement Strategy (Phase 1 & 2), Strategic Corridor Studies, Parnell Place Improvement Scheme, Kent Station to City Centre scheme; Kent Station Bus / Rail Interchange and the Skehard Road / Mahon Bus Gate.

These interventions are expected to have a beneficial impact on bus transport in Cork, in combination with on-going investment by the NTA in integrated ticketing, RTPI, bus shelter provision, the journey planner app, incremental improvements to

bus routing and scheduling, Bus Eireann fleet replacement and expansion, higher services frequencies on certain routes.

The number of passengers carried by bus has increased substantially over this period, with further increases in demand for bus transport being facilitated, with the progression of further sustainable transport interventions, funded through the NTA.

Yours sincerely

National Transport Authority



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