



**Fingal
Public
Participation
Network**

Minutes

Linkage Group Name	Housing, Planning and Transport
Venue	Zoom
Date of Meeting	19 th October 2021
Attendees	Facilitator: Nike Adesemowo, Raymond Ryan, Levi Omokaro, Lawrence Carvalho, Paddy Judge, Dayakar Komirelly, Oghenetano Uwhumiakpor, Ray Smyth, William Cahill and George Mongey Apologies: Angela Rogers
In attendance	Adam Rudden (FPPN)

1. Open, Welcome, Minutes and Matters Arising

Facilitator opened the meeting and conducted a round on introductions.

Minutes were proposed by PJ

Seconded by WC

No issues arising

2. PPN Representative Progress Reports

SPC Representative presented report for Housing SPC that took place on 21st September 2021.

Key topics covered:

- A new Housing Plan for Ireland
- Strategy for Housing Disabled People 2021-2026
- Linkage Group Motion: Two-bedroom Apartments
- Fingal targets under Housing for All Plan
- Infill spaces across the County

- SPC Representative stated that the linkage group motion on Two-bedroom Apartments did not go through. It was stated at the SPC meeting that such a motion would contravene the current housing plan that will be in operation over the next number of years.
 - Linkage discussed how one-bedroom apartments is short-sighted.
 - What research informs this understanding?
 - One-bedroom apartments do not meet people's evolving needs as their family size increases. One-bedroom apartments imposes pressures that limit family size. Children cannot be raised in one-bedroom apartments. A long-term vision/bigger picture approach is needed.

SPC Representative presented report for Transport & Infrastructure Management SPC that took place on 16th September 2021

Key topics covered:

- Draft Burial Policy – Update
- Regional Parks and Open Spaces Bye-Laws – Invitation to Fingal DOG
- National Transport Authority Quarterly Report
- Electric Vehicle Charging Strategy
- Motion: Councillor A. Graves - Town Bus Service for Swords
- Motion: R. Ryan - Segregated cycle tracks in urban areas
- D. Keaney - Kerb protected cycleways

SPC Representative stated that “Motion Segregated cycle tracks in urban areas” was not offered for debate.

FCC stated their design decisions are in line with The Design Manual for Urban Roads and Streets (DMURS), the Cycle Design Manual, Traffic Signs Manual and the Traffic Management Guidelines

SPC Representative stated that in relation to motion on “Kerb protected cycleways” FCC stated that the “cycle ways” fall under Section 38 of the Road Traffic Act 1994, which does not require a public consultation. However, they did engage stakeholders at area committee meeting, along with issuing notifications and letter drops to residents, along with being featured on website.

FCC also stated non-statutory public consultation will form part of the stakeholder engagement process in the future where possible.

- Linkage Group member communicated their disappointment with FCC's response. Section 38 does not mean that they should not consult with local community.
- Linkage Group member requested the number of reported accidents in relation to the cycleways in Huntstown and Rivervalley.
 - The reply from FCC was that it was not their policy to divulge such information.
- Linkage group member stated the solution would be for FCC to remove the plinths.
- Some of these cycleways manoeuvre on and off the path, meaning there is a danger for cyclists to end up on the wrong side of the road.
 - Another Linkage Group member commented that existing laws need to be enforced to prevent this.

Consulted and Input into the PPN Strategic Plan Review

The PPN Strategic Review subgroup and Fingal PPN Secretariat have requested that the Linkage Groups be consulted and input into the PPN Strategic Plan Review during the next round of linkage groups meetings.

This linkage group was assigned actions 1 -3. Linkage also inputted into Action 4.

Action 1 – Grow PPN membership in a planned and sustainable way

- Linkage Group were in Favour of renaming this action to: Rename this action to: “Engage with PPN membership in a planned and sustainable way”
- On the “Number of outreach events attended” Group stated that this should not simply fall on PPN Staff, and that the secretariat should have a role in this.
- On “re-registration” Linkage group member stated that having a re-registration is creating too much work and placing focus in the wrong area. Groups who are active are generally engaged with Fingal’s community officers. So, it is known by community officers what groups are active or not. Instead of focusing on re-registration, the PPN should focus their energy on supporting new members.
- Another Linkage Group member commented that they were not surprised in the drop in membership given that membership is tied to Fingal funding. Some memberships may have been sought for Fingal Grant Compliance purposes as opposed to being an active PPN member.

Action 2 - Increase the operational capacity of the PPN

- Linkage Group are in favour of ensuring the PPN Staff Liaison Group is active.

Action 3 - Operate the network to the highest possible standard

- Linkage Group agree that 75% attendance of National meetings is a good target.

Action 4 - Further develop Linkage Groups

- On the recommendation “Each Linkage Group has a simple work plan, budget and projects that result in specific measurable outcomes for the community”
 - Linkage Group felt this was overkill. Linkage groups should be driven by events taking place at SPC level, not an annual workplan or other projects. SPC should/could assist in helping focus linkage groups by providing information based on what is going to happen at next SPC meeting ahead of time, so that linkage group could use that information as their focus for their meeting.

“Number of motions submitted by each Linkage Group annually”

Linkage Group commented on what does this metric really mean if motions go nowhere beyond SPC Meetings.

General Comments

- Linkage Group commented on elements of success/failure that may not be captured by the strategy’s metrics.
 - FCC and the FCC committees need to listen to the PPN. There is a sense that Fingal CC and the FCC committees have not embraced the PPN to the level necessary for the PPN to be successful. A two-way relationship/authentic partnership is not occurring.

- The result of this is that it can create a sense of futility or lack of meaningful efficacy among PPN Representatives and Linkage Group members.
- PPN Members are volunteering their time and effort but are seeing little impact/pay off, being generated as a result of such commitment at SPC/Committee levels.
- Linkage group attendance has dropped in recent rounds. The linkage group discussed how there could be a strong connection in the drop off in attendance and the lack of visible achievements being secured at the FCC Committee level.

Next Meeting Date

08th February 2022