

Item No. 6

Report to the Chairperson and Members of the Transportation Strategic Policy Committee

The following Motion submitted by Councillor Frank Kennedy was agreed at the Transportation Strategic Policy Committee meeting held on 7th February, 2018. It was agreed also that a report on the Motion would be submitted to a future meeting of the SPC:

“In light of the ever growing practice of people using smartphones while walking (in particular sending texts and reading emails and articles), which creates serious risks to health and safety including that oblivious smartphone users could step onto oncoming traffic, be hit by cars and bicycles, or walk into stationary objects, this Committee resolves that Dublin City Council conducts an assessment of the ways in which it could (a) encourage people not to engage in this practice and to be aware of the serious consequences that it can cause, and (b) introduce safety measures to prevent injuries and collisions.”

In view of the safety issues raised in the Motion, which are considered to be of national relevance, it is deemed appropriate to refer the Motion to the Road Safety Authority to request that the issues raised be highlighted in a nationwide safety campaign. The Environment and Transportation Department has written to the RSA in this regard and their response will be circulated to the Transportation SPC on receipt.

In addition, the City Council will design a web insert for the DCC website to highlight the dangers involved.

Kevin Meade
Senior Executive Officer
Environment and Transportation Department

22nd March, 2018

Addendum:

Copy of letter dated 23rd April, 2018, from the Road Safety Authority in relation to the use of Smart Phones while walking is attached and copy of the City Council's reply to the letter.

19th June, 2018