

Minister Eamon Ryan,  
Minister for Climate Action, Communications Networks and Transport  
Leeson Lane, Dublin 2  
D02TR60

13<sup>th</sup> July 2020

## **Re: Funding the Maintenance of Dublin City Council's Road Network**

Dear Minister Ryan,

At the meeting of the Finance Strategic Policy Committee on 24<sup>th</sup> June 2020, a report was presented to the Committee Members that dealt with the classification of roads and the funding structure around this classification and the business case that has been prepared by Dublin City Council to seek additional funding for the road network in the City Council's administrative area.

During the debate that followed it was highlighted, among other issues, that there has been an increase in road users due to increased economic and tourism activity. Over the period 2011-2018, it was noted that there has been a 20% rise in the number of buses in the city area, 60% increase in the number of pedestrian users and 30% in the number of cyclists.

It was further noted that there has been a significant increase in development and construction activity across the city corresponding with an increased movement of heavy goods vehicles. While welcoming this vital construction activity for the development of the city and national economy, it is also having a detrimental effect on the structural condition of the road network. Thus government investment is required to carry out significant remedial works on the road network.

In addition, it was pointed out that permit requests from utilities companies have increased by 20% from 2011 to 2019. The opening of the public road to allow access by the utilities to their infrastructure is further compromising the integrity of the road and footpaths network thus requiring additional frequent and reactive maintenance works by Dublin City Council.

As you will be aware, the allocation to Dublin City Council for roads maintenance has been set at €5,780,600 for the past six years. Since the introduction of the Local Property Tax, exchequer funding was replaced with LPT receipts. It is, I think, evident that €5.78m is not adequate to address the maintenance requirements of the capital city's road network.

At the conclusion of the meeting, it was agreed that a copy of this report would be forwarded to your department for review. The Committee Members would very much welcome your views on this business case for additional funding and would also welcome the opportunity to formulate a funding matrix which would take into account the length of road, volume of traffic, types of traffic and any other relevant factors for more equitable funding.

Yours sincerely,



**Cllr. Séamas McGrattan**  
**Chairperson**  
**Finance Strategic Policy Committee**

**Copy To:** Ken Spratt, Acting Secretary General