

Need for the Scheme

The need for the scheme was identified in the 'Mid-West Regional Planning Guidelines 2010 - 2022', prepared by the Mid-West Regional Authority which consists of Clare County Council, Tipperary North County Council and Limerick City and County Councils. The guidelines identified many strategic issues that required consideration in the future planning of the region including the need for the provision of a northern distributor road around Limerick City to support the development of the region.

The Fitzgerald Report 'Addressing the issues of Social Exclusion in Moyross and other disadvantaged areas of Limerick City' (April 2007) has recommended that a distributor road to the north of Limerick City be progressed to develop economic activity and end the isolation of this deprived area.

The various local and county development plans published by Clare County Council and Limerick City and County Councils make provision for the delivery of the proposed road scheme.

Your Comments are Important

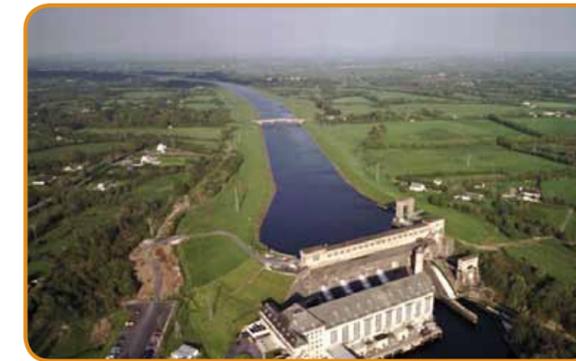
Submissions and observations, in writing, are invited from interested groups or individuals regarding the scheme. All submissions should be clearly endorsed with the project's name, Limerick Northern Distributor Road - Phase 2, and emailed to LNDR@clarecoco.ie or posted to the undersigned on or before Thursday, 16th February 2012.

Administrative Officer,
Transportation Section,
Clare County Council,
Áras Contae an Chláir,
New Road,
Ennis,
Co. Clare.



Limerick Northern Distributor Road - Phase 2

Public Consultation No. 2
Preferred Route Corridor Stage



Scheme Objectives

The proposed scheme will provide a northern distributor road around Limerick City, improving accessibility to the city from County Clare and relieving pressure on the existing river crossings in Limerick City. The road will provide significant improvement in connectivity between different areas along the northern fringe of the city, allowing people living in residential areas to the east of Limerick to access employment areas in the west of Limerick and vice versa. Improved access to the University of Limerick is another important consideration.

The Limerick Northern Distributor Road will promote balanced regional development in South Clare and Limerick. After delivery of the proposed road, it is hoped that economic development will be encouraged as improved access attracts investment to the area.

The fundamental objective of the scheme is, therefore, to provide a transport link between the eastern and western fringes of Limerick City and a link to South County Clare to facilitate economic development in this region.

It is envisaged that the Limerick Northern Distributor Road Phase 2 will be a dual carriageway, providing two lanes in each direction with pedestrian and cyclist facilities. All right turn manoeuvres directly off the dual carriageway will be prohibited and provided for by the introduction of roundabouts in conjunction with restricted left-in, left-out junctions and accesses.

What Happens Next?

Following this Public Consultation period, an analysis of all views expressed and submissions received on the emerging Preferred Route Corridor will be undertaken.

If the emerging Preferred Route Corridor is confirmed, the route corridor will be submitted to the Planning Authorities to safeguard the provision of Phase 2 of the Limerick Northern Distributor Road.

The Preferred Route Corridor will be further developed during the design stage with the completion of an Environmental Impact Statement. The Statutory Orders and the Environmental Impact Statement will be published in advance of an Oral Hearing which may be required by An Bord Pleanála.

Further Information

www.clarecoco.ie/roads-and-transport
www.limerickcity.ie/Transport
www.lcc.ie/Roads/



January 2012

The purpose of this public consultation is to inform the public of the emerging Preferred Route Corridor and invite written submissions on any aspect of the proposals. A questionnaire is included within this information leaflet to assist you in making comment. All submissions will be recorded and considered in the confirmation of the Preferred Route Corridor and the development of the proposed road during the design stage.

Background to the Scheme

Clare County Council, in conjunction with Limerick City Council and Limerick County Council, has commenced the planning process to advance the development of the Limerick Northern Distributor Road - Phase 2 and associated infrastructure from a location in the vicinity of the eastern end of the proposed Coonagh-Knockalisheen Strategic Route to a tie-in with the R445 (Old N7) in County Limerick. The Coonagh-Knockalisheen Scheme is Phase 1 of the Limerick Northern Distributor Road Project.

The scheme will comprise the design and construction of approximately 10km of a distributor road that will include a crossing of the Ardnacrusha Tailrace and the River Shannon, together with crossings of the River Blackwater and the Erina Canal.

In December 2010, members of the public were made aware of the proposal to develop a number of route options leading to the selection of a Preferred Route Corridor. A number of route corridor options were subsequently developed and presented to the public in June 2011 at Public Consultation No. 1. Public exhibitions were held at the Greenhills Hotel, Ennis Road, Limerick. Display material was also available for inspection for a four week period at the following locations;

- Clare County Council, Áras Contae an Chláir, New Road, Ennis, Co. Clare.
- South East Clare Area Office, Westbury Centre, Knockballynameath, Co. Clare.
- Limerick County Council, County Hall, Dooradoyle, Co. Limerick.
- Annacotty Area Office, Limerick County Council, Rivers, Castletroy, Co. Limerick.
- Limerick City Council, City Hall, Merchants Quay, Limerick City.

The route corridor options, together with the feedback received from the public have been carefully assessed under the following five headings;

- Environment.
- Economy.
- Safety.
- Accessibility and Social Inclusion.
- Integration.

This has led to the selection of an emerging Preferred Route Corridor which is presented on the facing page.

Programme of Public Consultations

Public Consultation	Period	Status
Constraints Stage	Q4 2010	Complete
Route Corridor Options (PC1)	Q2 2011	Complete
Preferred Route Corridor (PC2)	Q1 2012	Now in Progress

