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Please accept me submission to the Waterford City and County pre-draft consultation on Climate Change.

we would like to discuss the following with you, by way of suggested encouragement, activation of reduced-carbon behaviour personal actions:

LEAVE THE CAR AT HOME:

- Reduce speed limits in the Waterford City area (inside the outer ring road) to 30 km/hour.

- Define rural roads in the county that are designated as "rothar roads" – only for local access and active travel, with a **30 km/he speed limit** e.g.: Old Kilmeaden Road [L4410], Old Tramore Road [L1020], Grantstown-Orchardstown-Ballinvella [L1023] to Dunmore;

- Plans to reduce car parking space in urban and suburban areas, including retail, to promote active travel.

- Plans to increase the **frequency of established bus** timetables to every 10 minutes, and to ensure that the timetable is followed.

- A communication strategy to convey the importance of sustainable living to all households, via radio, internet, and print media.

- Outreach to workplaces Environment and Health and Safety departments to convey the importance of climate action for a sustainable planet, including reduced consumption, active travel, and energy consumption reduction.

- Promoting walking & cycling (Active Transport) via training to schools, workplaces and in community groups (e.g.: Sports clubs, Scouts, Fitness centres, in Shopping centres)

- Corporate sustainable mobility plans – encourage employers to reduce car parking in the city: the stick is,

- Introduce one-way streets to make roads and streets safer.

- Pilot Dutch-style roundabouts at Ardkeen stores, Ardkeen hospital, Kilbarry-Tramore road and at Plunket station

- In line with WMATS, add a cycle-lane to Rice bridge.

- Prioritise converting the Red Iron Bridge to a walk-cycle way to link to South Kilkenny

- Turn down the streetlights: for energy saving, for wildlife and for looking at the stars, we do not need street lights shinning as strongly from 22:00 midnight to 06:00am. Turn them off, or down by 50% current.

- Strongly present and reinforce the benefits of the Active Travel plans for the city and county.

- In conjunction with the planning department, pilot schemes to promote car-swapping for an eBike, providing secure bike parking for participants e.g.: in the inner city. This should be done in tandem with plans to reduce on-street parking & soften street scape to placemaking. People need safety to want to get on a bike on the road; they need convenient options to try something and leave the car at home.

- Make **eBike rental** and **cargo bike rental** available in every 0.5 km district in the city (e.g.: Ballybricken, Yellow Road, Pollberry, Ballytruckle) for residents and promote their trialling and purchase for small businesses. The HAROLDS' Cross bike library is a great success in Dublin UCD and St. James' hospital.

- Include cargo bike rental schemes to the Renew workshop in Johnstown.

- Secure bike parking is needed throughout the city for eBike an eCargo bikes. Fingal CoCo recently installed some – no need to reinvent the wheel. Adapt what is working elsewhere!

- While we are awaiting the Active Travel bridge, bring in a ferry between Ferrybank and the city for cyclists;

- Plan for a ferry between Giles' Quay and Maypark, to link South Kilkenny to the hospital, which is a huge employer in the region. Such a ferry would also allow people from South Kilkenny active-travel access to East

Waterford county for day trips. It would be an attention-grabbing feature of the WATERFORD METROPOLITAN AREA and would help to build active transport in the east county.

CELEBRATE ACTIVE TRAVEL!!

- Support Bike-Week type events on a quarterly basis
- Initiate a cycling festival, to go across the country, from Ferrybank to Tallow, celebrating Dervela Murphy, Sean Kelly and Sam Bennett.
- Paint the streets to change the way we look at our roads – involve Waterford Walls and local artists in this.
- Celebrate walking routes like St. Declan's way, Leinster-Munster Way linking up the neighbouring counties, as means to promote internal tourism. Work with Bord Failte on that
- Cycling tourism is a massive, growing form of transport in Europe. We need to have low-cost accommodation options to facilitate it.

As deterrents for bad behaviour, the following must be implemented to move to more sustainable behaviours:

WASTE:

- Include waste collection in the property tax to avoid fly-tipping; the current model is not working; property tax then covers tenants in a multi-tenant property.
- Introduce substantial **rewards** for evidence (video, photos) of fly-tipping and rewards.
- Apply substantial **fines** for fly-tipping.
- Remove on-street space for cars in the city.
- Ban gifts and rewards in competitions that gift cars and flight-dependent holidays abroad.
- Ban car advertising on billboards (n public spaces) in Waterford city and county.
- Help to promote country clean-up activities to encourage social cohesion and responsibility.

INTERNAL TOURISM:

- To encourage internal tourism (within Ireland) create inland swimming places (enclosed Lidos) on the river Suir in Waterford (e.g.: at the Red Iron Bridge in the river in an enclosed frame and down river at Knock boy as a beach with protection from the current.)
- To encourage internal tourism set-up hostels: low cost, simple short stay accommodation, to allow people to visit Waterford on a lower budget.
- To encourage internal tourism, define Waterford as a sustainable city, by taking back the car parks on the Quay for open-space interactions: table tennis, skateboarding, yoga, tai chi and dancing.
- Define s a coastal bus route that connects communities along the coastal road, but which is a tourist attraction. Buses on the route will include a bike rack, to allow cyclists also to hop-on and hop-off.
- Make the coast road (Tramore to Dungarvan) one-way June to August, inclusively 1100 – 1900, to allow safe driving, walking and cycling.
- **Pets on public transport:** as pets are not allowed on public transport, it is a reason for pet owners to have a car. Be the first county in Ireland to welcome pets on buses and trains!

  While, applying fines for poop left on the public transport, and for pets being left on seats.

RE-NATURING:

- Rewild every roundabout – it must have trees in it.
- Involve schools in setting up changes to the urban landscape: surveying the environment & monitoring changes to the biodiversity.
- Encourage communities to get involved in rewilding (for Natural resilience) are much lay green- and brown- area as possible & celebrate it: invite the community to join in and rewild, take ownership, pride and to be invested in our immediate environment.
- Pilot renaturing schemes in Trinity Square and Ballybricken, Pollberry, to accommodate more Nature, clean the air, allow cooling with planting and improve the urban realm.

GENERATE DATA:

- Measure the air quality at as many points as possible.
- Measure how much more surface area has been made available to Nature, to soak-aways, how much more tree cover there is, the surface temperatures in urban and rural areas.
- Engage with SETU, the National Biodiversity centre and measure change via surveys and air and water quality improvements.

ENERGY SAVING:

- Open offices in each small town, city or use a travelling information-van to move around and inform about energy saving measures at home, home insulation, renewable energy options for the home (run with SEI) and water-saving.
- Have a WCCC Climate Action office tent at all festivals
- Engage with SETU, the National Biodiversity centre and measure change via surveys and air and water quality improvements.

OUTREACH:

- Running promotional events to convey practical consumption measures to the public at shopping centres or large supermarkets.
- Schools' events: running collective events at schools (all-school) where packaging reduction on consumption (buying less, avoiding packaging), and reuse of product (clothing, food, media) and active travel events (walking & cycling) are run.
- Waste reduction and composting: set-up community composting station in localities (within 0.5km radius) where people can come and bring materials for composting and collect finished compost.
- Sponsor a science slot on all local radio and media to convey strong messages about adaptations we need to make to become more sustainable; refer to data and our climate 2030 and 2050 targets.

Waterford has turned many heads with the Greenway, but it is a long way to becoming a 15-minute city. We can turn more heads by becoming the first in Ireland to do implement some innovative measures to change our consumption culture to a more sustainable one.

Best regards,

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