



**Kilkenny**  
Chamber  
Advancing business together



# Building Vibrant Communities

*Increasing cycling, walking and  
local living in our city.*

**03.02.21**

# Welcome



Time	Item	
1.00 – 1.05	Opening	John Hurley, <i>Kilkenny Chamber of Commerce</i>
1.05 – 1.15	Cycle Kilkenny – Building Vibrant Communities in Kilkenny	Fergus Horgan, <i>Kilkenny LEADER Partnership</i> Caitríona Corr, <i>Kilkenny County Council &amp; Waterford Institute of Technology</i>
1.15 – 1.25	Movement and Mobility in Kilkenny	Tim Butler, <i>Kilkenny County Council</i>
1.25 – 1.35	Business and Cycling in Dublin	Marian O'Donnell, <i>Dublin Chamber of Commerce</i>
1.35 – 1.45	Active Travel and Making Better Places	Simon O'Rafferty, <i>M.CO</i>
1.45 – 2.00	Q&A / Open discussion	
2.00	Close	



## Cycle Kilkenny

A new steering group established in 2020 by Kilkenny Leader Partnership.

It aims to deliver a comprehensive and coordinated package of cycling-related infrastructure, programmes and policies to cultivate a cycling culture in Kilkenny



# Can Cycling Friendly Environments Revitalise Town Centres?

**Caitríona Corr**

Kilkenny County Council  
Waterford Institute of Technology



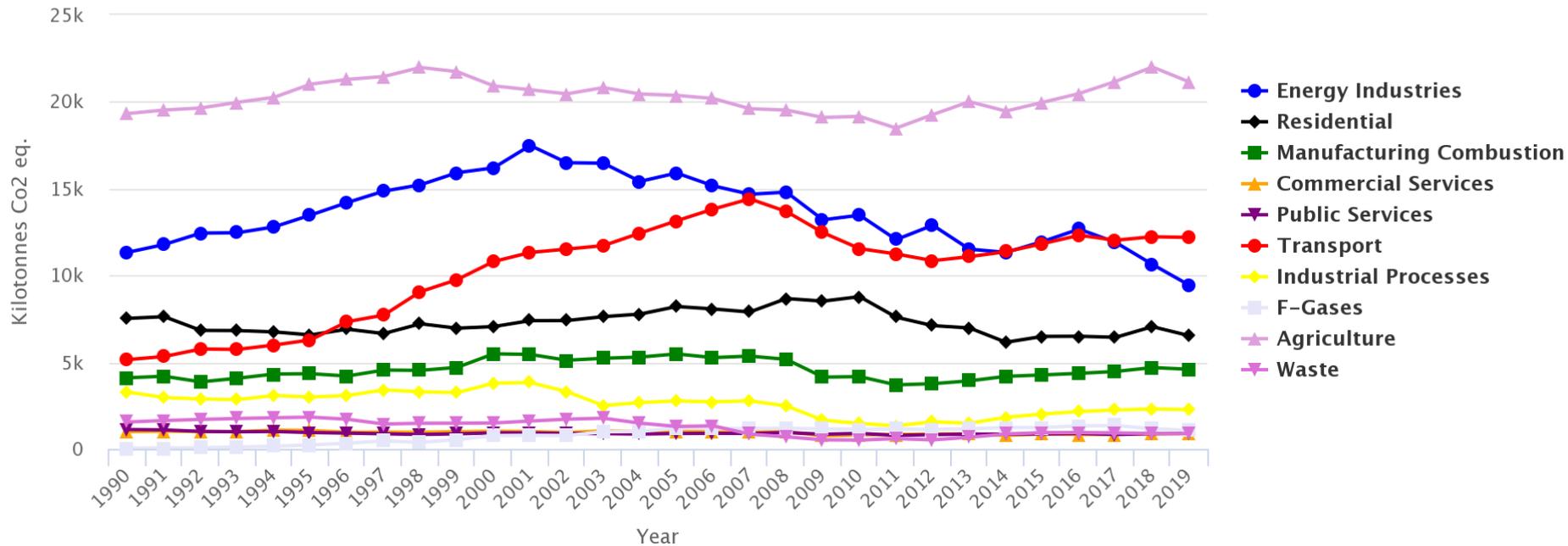
## Why Cycle?

- Energy Efficiency
- Health Benefits
- Reduction in Congestion, Air and Noise Pollution
- Space Efficiency
- Attractive Town Centres

An increasing share of newer technology vehicles has meant that 2019 figures remained stable at approximately 20% despite a significant increase in car numbers.

### Greenhouse Gas Emissions By Sector

Source: EPA



# Health Benefits of Active Transport

Physical inactivity costs each of the WHO Region's countries about €150-300 per citizen per year. Worst case scenario: Ireland €1.5 billion per year

Physical inactivity is responsible for:

- ▶ 6% of the burden of disease from coronary heart disease (Europe 5.5%; Ireland 8.8%)
- ▶ 7% of type 2 diabetes (Europe 6.8%; Ireland 10.9%)
- ▶ 10% of breast cancer (Europe 9.3%; Ireland 15.2%)
- ▶ 10% of colon cancer (Europe 9.8% ; Ireland 15.7%)

Benefits include reduction in the burden of disease;

Reduced feelings of anxiety and depression;

Improved quality of life, sleep and cognitive function



# Reduced Air Pollution

Respiratory disease leads to one in five deaths in Ireland and 14.3% of all inpatient hospitalisations (2016).

Lung cancer is the main cause of cancer deaths in males and females

Ireland has one of the highest rates of asthma in the world; 21.5% for children and 7-9.4% in adults.

Typically begins early in life and causes a high lifetime burden





# Reduced Noise Pollution and Space Efficiency

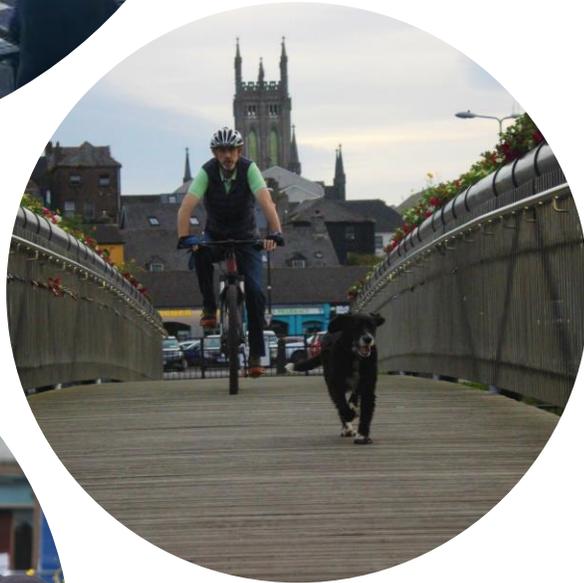
O'Connell St Revitalization Project aims to  
bring 5000 new jobs to the City Centre

# Attractive and Welcoming Town Centres

- ▶ Attractive places will bring more people to live and work in town centres
- ▶ New life and footfall, contribute to the viability of services, shops and public transport, increase housing supply
- ▶ Enable more people to be closer to employment or and recreational opportunities, as well as to walk or cycle more and use the car less and reducing journey demand
- ▶ Connected communities where a range of community facilities and services are accessible in short walking, cycle or public transport timeframes from their homes to destinations that meet their daily needs.
- ▶ Remote working provides an opportunity to attract new workers and revitalise Irish towns

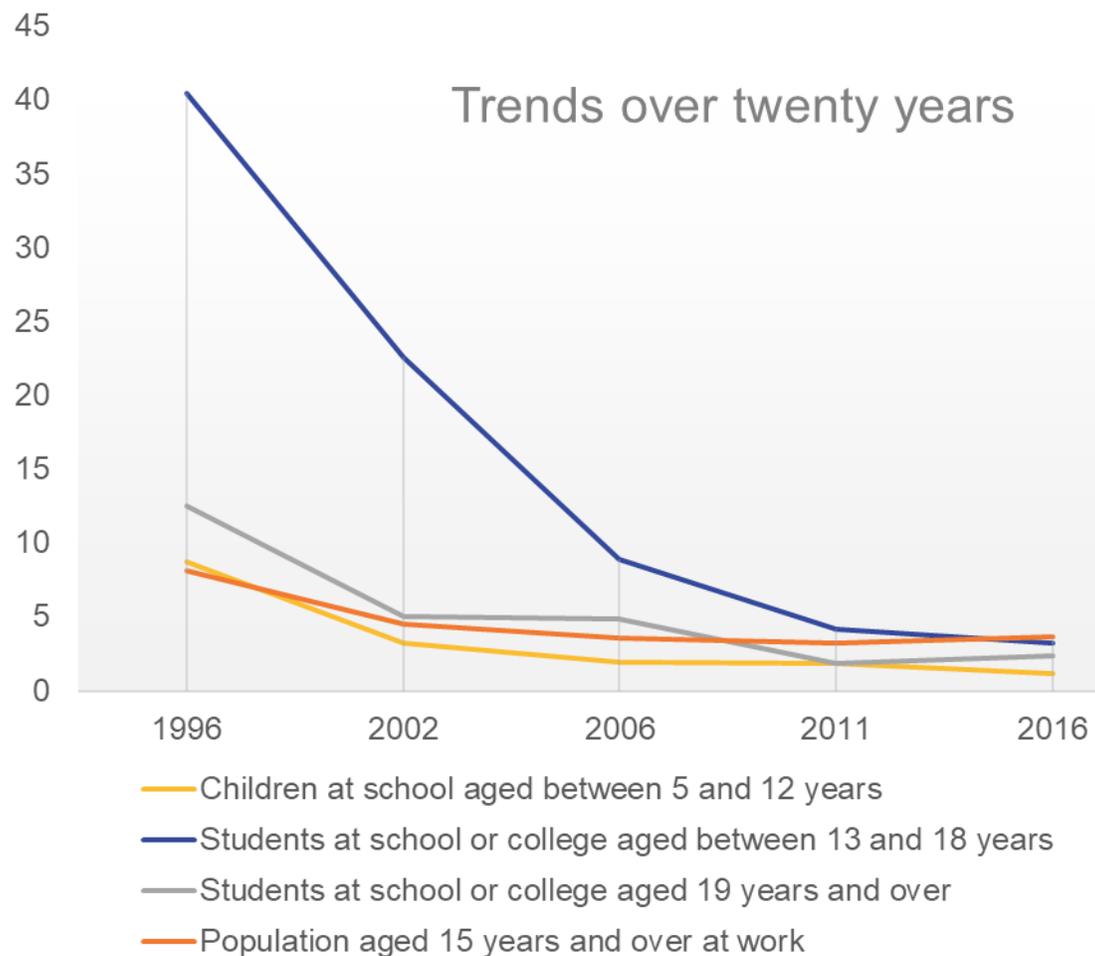


# Societal Benefits

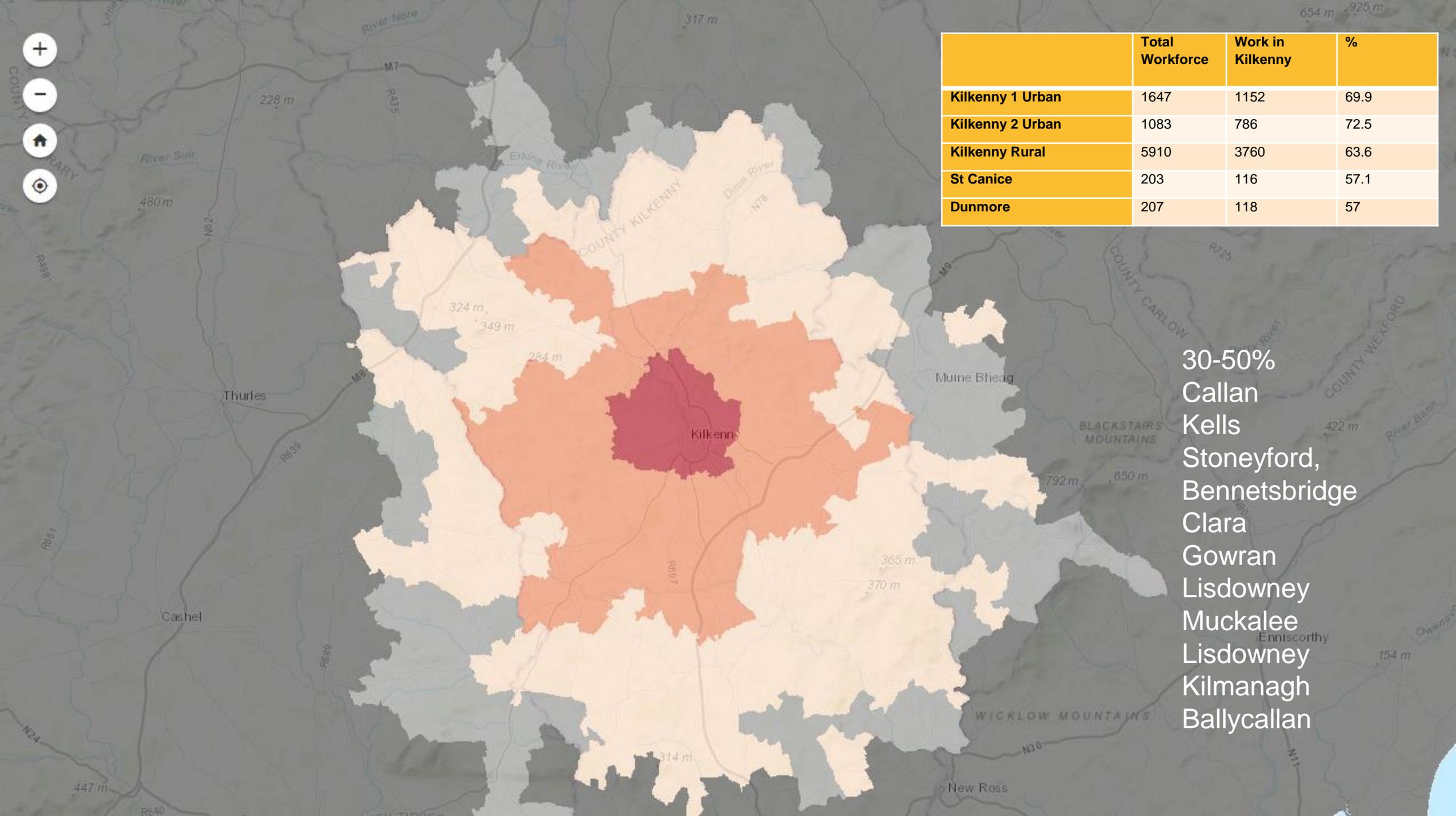


- ▶ Opportunities to connect with people and places
- ▶ Know neighbours
- ▶ Social capital, trust, People invested in their community
- ▶ Health benefits are greatest for the least active individuals
- ▶ Easily incorporated into daily life including commuter, shopping, companion and other journey types

## Cycling as a means of transport in Kilkenny



The percentage of those cycling as a means of travel in Kilkenny fell from **13.65%** in 1996 to **3.12%** in 2016



	Total Workforce	Work in Kilkenny	%
<b>Kilkenny 1 Urban</b>	1647	1152	69.9
<b>Kilkenny 2 Urban</b>	1083	786	72.5
<b>Kilkenny Rural</b>	5910	3760	63.6
<b>St Canice</b>	203	116	57.1
<b>Dunmore</b>	207	118	57

30-50%  
 Callan  
 Kells  
 Stoneyford,  
 Bennetsbridge  
 Clara  
 Gowran  
 Lisdowney  
 Muckalee  
 Lisdowney  
 Kilmanagh  
 Ballycallan



# Tim Butler

Director of Services

Kilkenny County Council

*Corporate, HR, Roads & Transportation, Water Services, Health & Safety & Communications*



**KILKENNY  
COUNTY COUNCIL**

Movement and  
Mobility in  
Kilkenny  
County Council



# Mobility Projects Kilkenny City February 2021

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Kilkenny County Council  
Comhairle Chontae Chill Chainnigh

**Tim Butler**  
Kilkenny Co. Co.



# Background

Purpose of this presentation is to detail:



Kilkenny County Council

Comhairle Chontae Chill Chainnigh

Various works currently underway with funding and planned works for which funding has been secured

Projects for which funding applications have and will be made. Increased focus on mobility and active travel

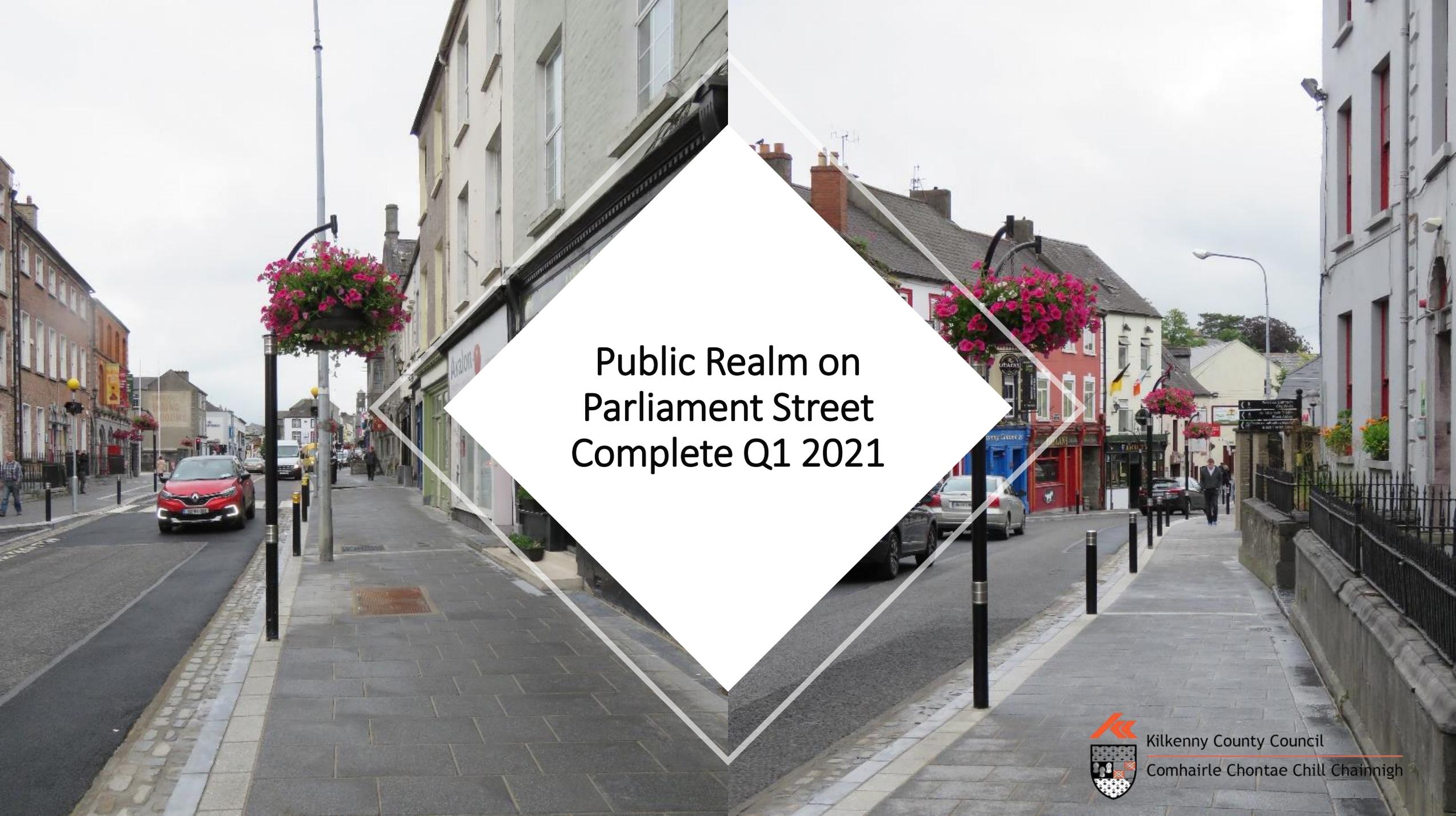
Mainly visual and with related projects grouped

All these are in addition to our annual maintenance – road works programme, street cleaning, environmental services, housing etc.

# Current Projects

- Parliament St Public Realm
- Vicar St (funding secured)
- One-way and upgrade of Ormonde Street (funding secured)
- Upgrade Kieran Street, St Mary's Lane and outdoor seating areas
- Link to / Butler Gallery Carneige Plaza
- Cycling routes and Cycling Officer
- All requiring Council matched funding

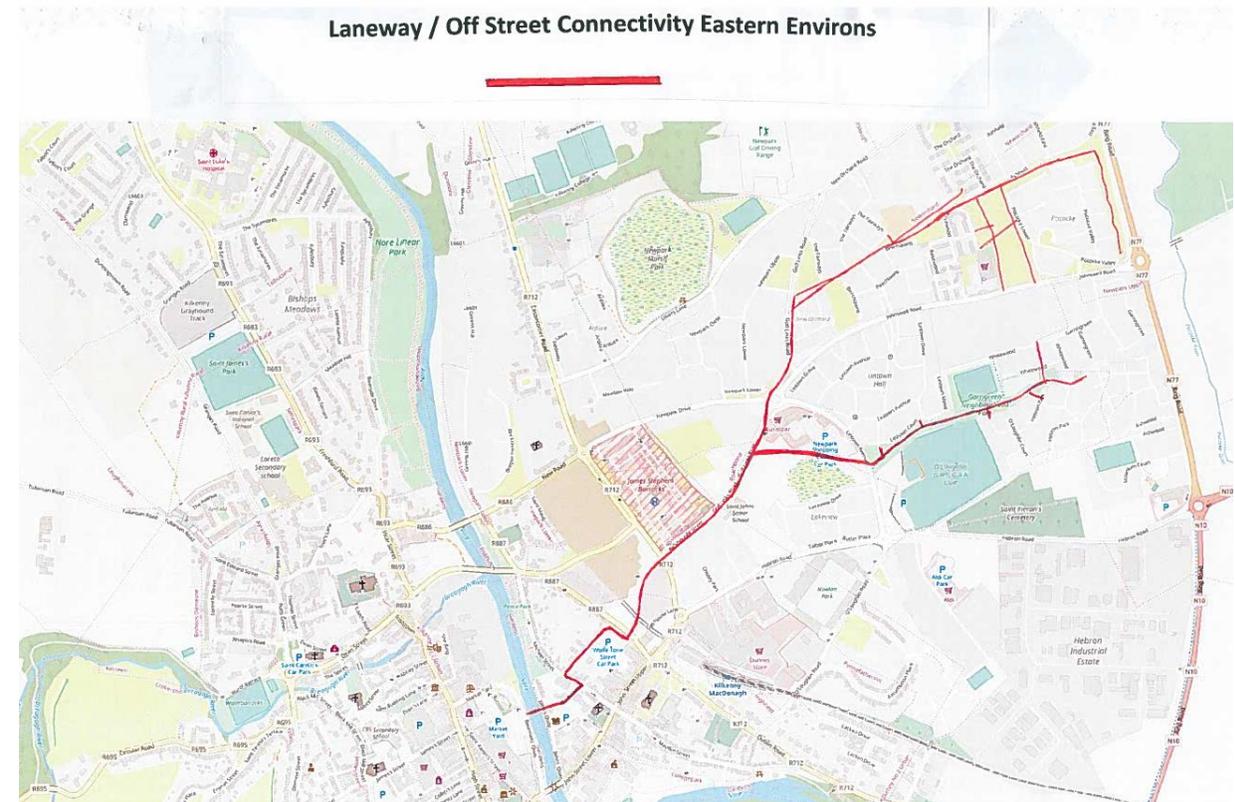
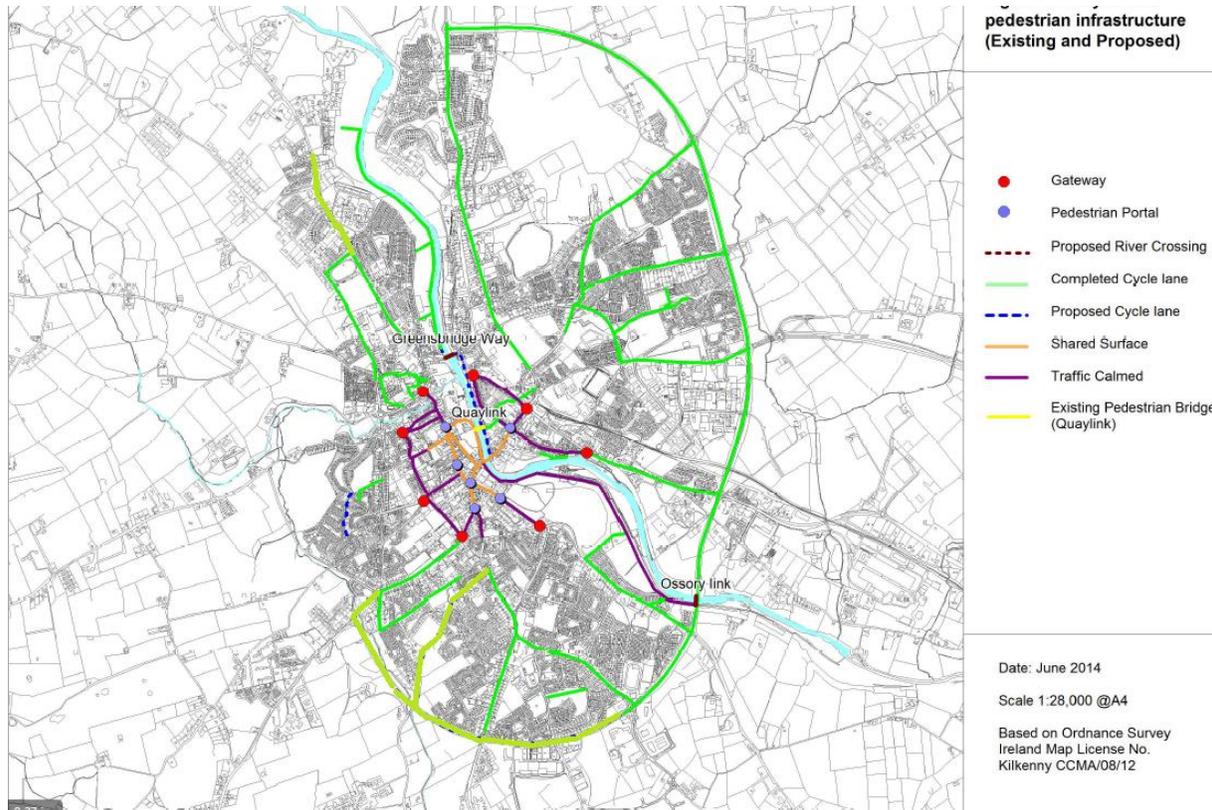




Public Realm on  
Parliament Street  
Complete Q1 2021



# City Demarcation and off Street connectivity



# COVID Measures

- One way system to facilitate social distancing
- Farmers Market at weekends
- Artists on the Mayors Walk
- Additional pedestrianisation
- Outdoor seating areas
- Changes to parking areas - Castle Road and Wolfe Tone St



# Kilkenny City Core

## Current

Pedestrianisation,  
Farmers Market,  
Seated Areas...  
Car parking

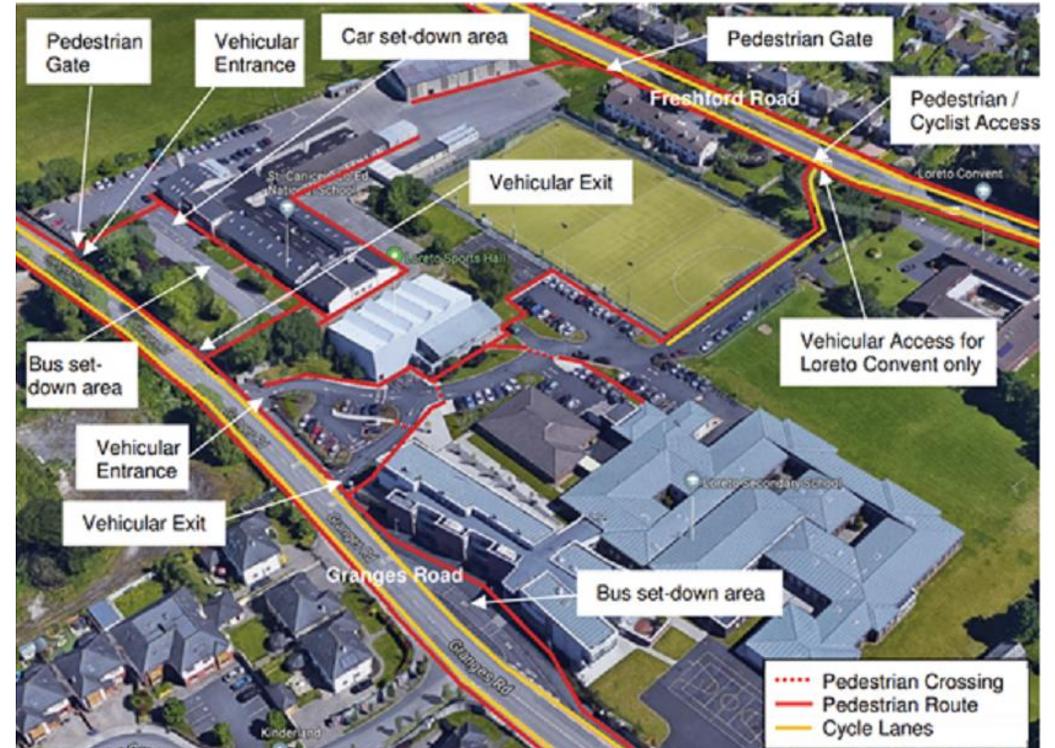
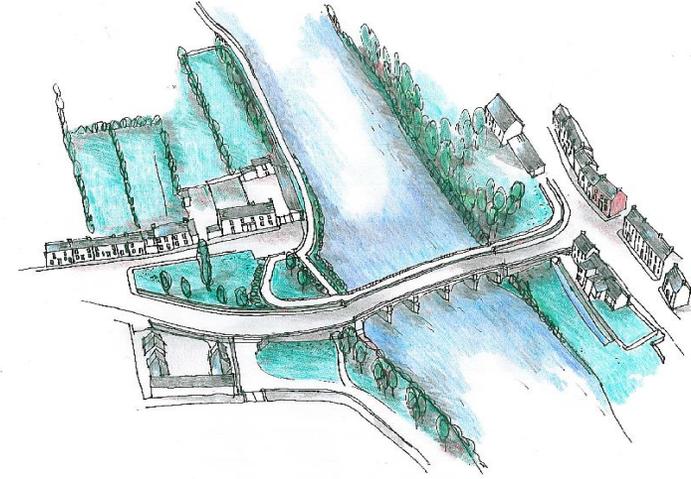
## Future

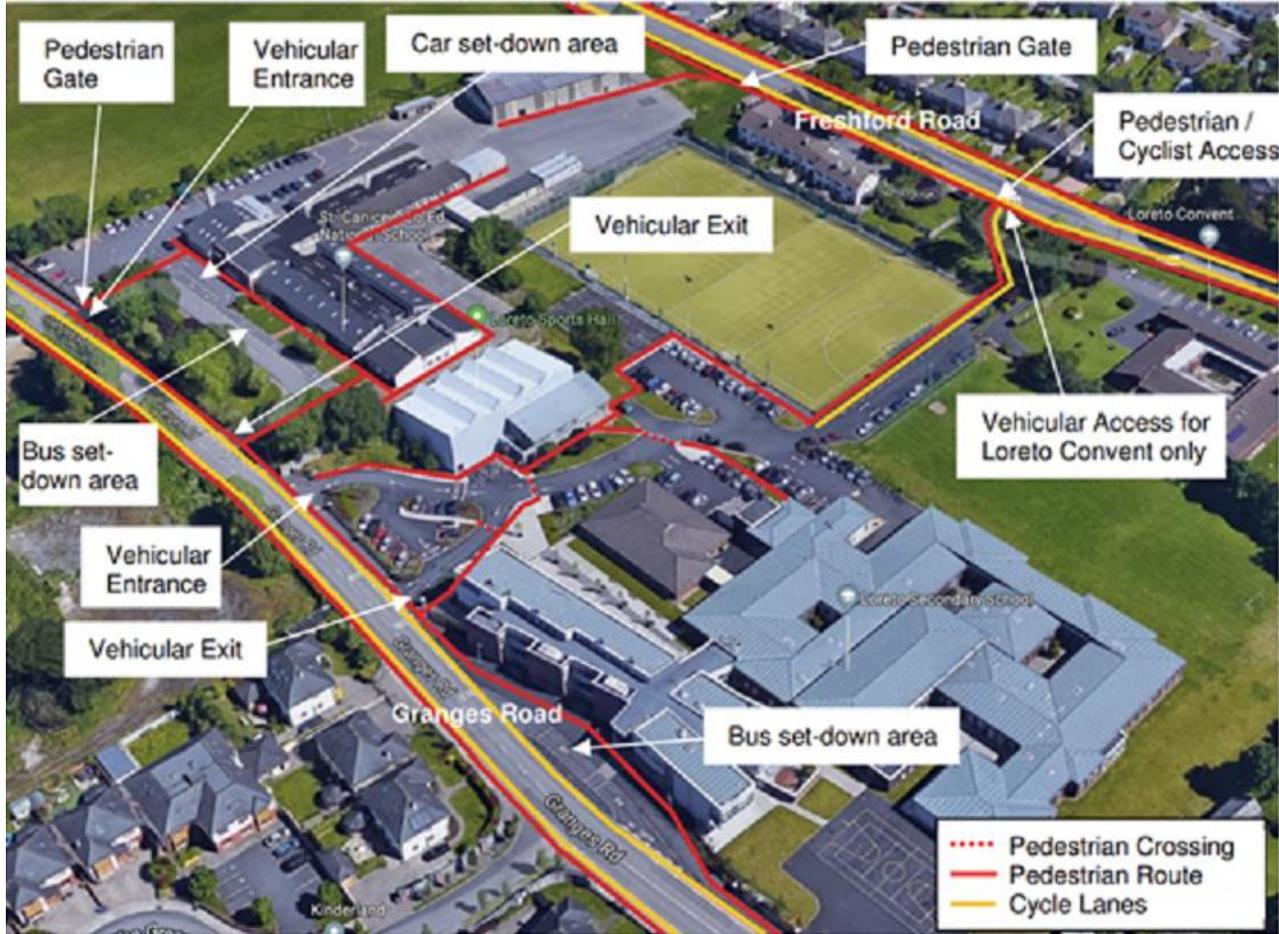
Future: City Centre  
Traffic Management  
Plan - increased focus  
on pedestrian, cyclist  
and public transport



# Future Projects

1. Greensbridge & Linear Park connectivity and complete North to South connectivity
2. Cycling / pedestrian bridges north and south of centre
3. Safe School zones
4. Cycle support infrastructure
5. Replicate Newpark to City Centre connectivity
6. Increase pedestrianisation and improved public realm





Reference Photographs





# Kilkenny City Bus Route

# Kilkenny City Breagagh Valley

The Breagagh Valley, a residential district which will accommodate up to 3,000 housing units along with schools, creches, parks etc. It is within a 10 minute walk to the city centre and will be linked with walking and cycling paths

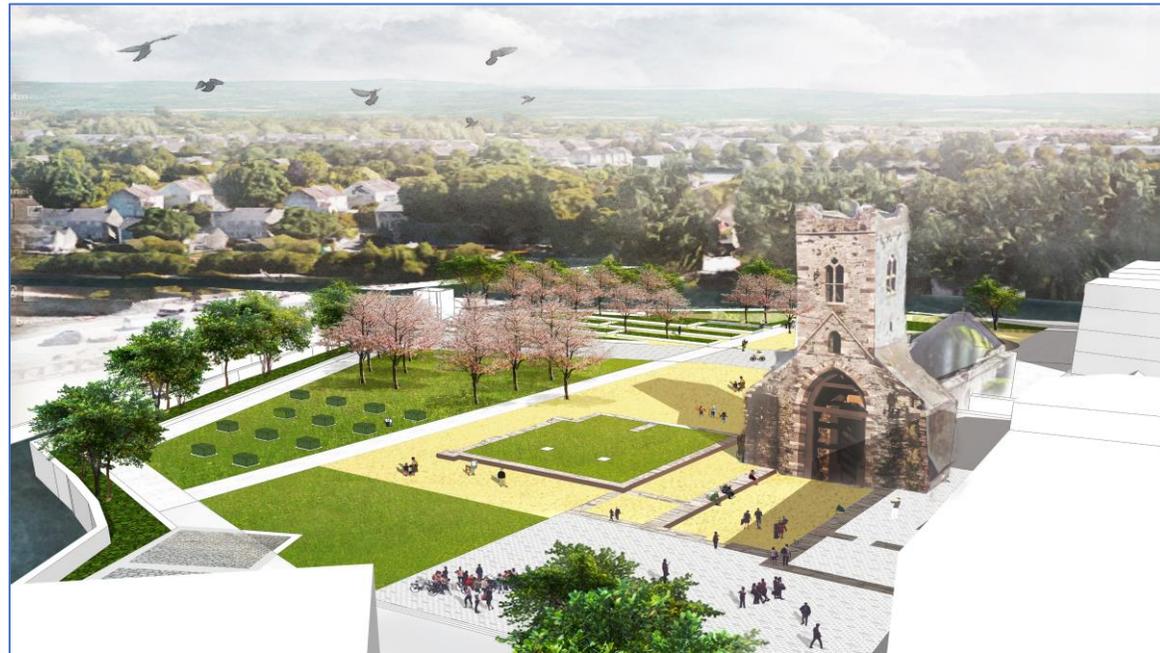
Enabling infrastructure to be complete Q1 2021

## Breagagh Valley Park



Kilkenny County Council  
Comhairle Chontae Chill Chainnigh





Abbey Quarter, Public Realm



# CLIMATE CHANGE & SAFETY

## Public Lighting



Kilkenny County Council  
Comhairle Chontae Chill Chainnigh

# Marian O'Donnell

Dublin Chamber of  
Commerce



Movement and  
Mobility in  
Kilkenny  
County Council



**DUBLIN  
CHAMBER**

## Cycling in the City

Engaging in promoting active transport in Dublin

# Dublin 2050

- In 2016 Dublin Chamber undertook to create our Vision for 2050.
- This led to the Chamber taking a more holistic approach to developing the city.
- City issues are now business issues; most notably housing and transport have huge impact on business costs and have knock on impacts on Dublin's competitiveness



## Dublin Chamber and the CyclingWorks Dublin campaign

- In 2018 the Chamber launched a campaign in partnership with CyclingWorks Dublin to encourage the business community to pressure the Government to increase the funding for safe cycling infrastructure.
- Came after a drop in cycling numbers in 2018 (2% decline) & little movement on the Greater Dublin Area Cycle Network Plan (launched in 2014 and committed to 2,500km of continuous cycle lanes in Dublin Region)



# Dublin: The 15 Minute City, our vision:



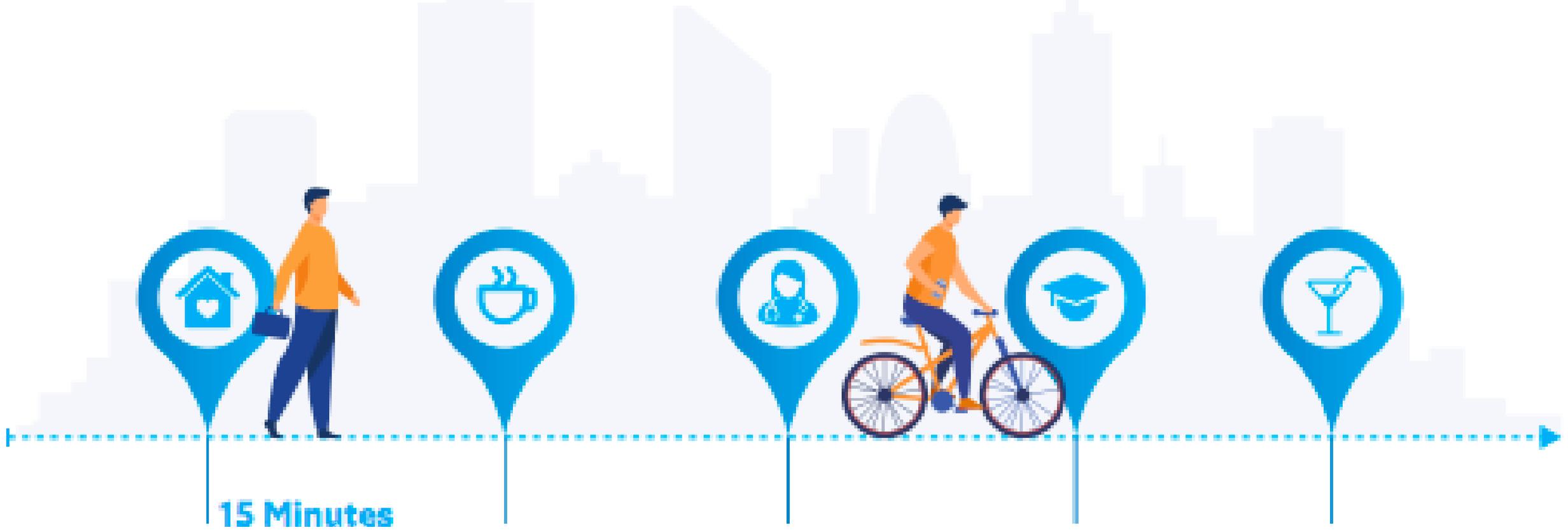
Within 15 minutes of active transport from their home, Dublin residents should:

Have access to a key public transport hub to commute around the city to access work or higher-level more central services.

Be connected to their local community through safe, accessible and well connected footpaths and cycle paths.

Have access to an open greenspace and high quality public realm.

Have facilities and services that promote local living and a local economy.



- **Cycling and Walking**

It works by designing walkable communities where people can live locally and can access most of their daily needs within 15 minutes of active transport, walking, or by bike.

# Why the importance now?

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- Dublin Post Covid-19 – role out of active transport in response to reduced capacity on public transport
- 15 Minute City – Goals in National Planning Framework – Compact growth & increased population density
- Flexible working – transform communities and cities
- Significant congestion problems
- Infrastructure Investment – significant public transport projects in Dublin are in planning and design stages – many with cycling infrastructure along side.
- Local Authority Development Plans
- E-scooter and e-bike legislation
- End of journey and start of journey focus
- Engaged communities and businesses
- Renewed focus on Sustainability – review of GDA Transport Strategy & NDP



# Question Time



How can we revitalise our town centres and attract people to live and work in a sustainable Kilkenny?



How can we transform our city into a cycling city?



Have you done or planned any activities relating to cycling and walking with your staff and customers (e.g. bike to work scheme, company bikes, delivery via cargo bikes)

**CYCLING IN  
KILKENNY  
CREW  
SURVEY  
RESULTS**



**LIGHT  
HOUSE  
STUDIOS**



Are there enough cycle lanes in Kilkenny? if No, please expand on answer, (example, areas that would benefit from a cycle lane etc.)

**Crew comments:**

- Low number of cycle lanes in the city, more cycle paths required.
- Road and paths very narrow in parts of the city to walk on.
- Safer cycle paths to parks and places on the outskirts of the town such as Kells, Bennetsbridge, Jenkinstown park etc.



Are there enough locking stations for your bike in Kilkenny?  
if No, please expand on answer

**Crew Comments:**

- Signage required of where the locking stations are located in he city.
- More locking stations required for bikes around the cathedral and shopping centre.
- The locking stations for bikes should be sheltered.



## Suggestions from Crew

- Offer masterclass on bike safety
- Offer masterclass on bike maintenance



# Final Comments

- Dog poop situation on sidewalks. We more people out walking their dogs during lockdown it has become really bad.
- Not enough safeguard to connect to nearby villages on bikes.
- Some cyclists on the road, do not know the rules of the road.
- Increase the size of sidewalks for pedestrians.



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## Next Steps

- Slides, resources and outputs from this workshop will be shared
- Workshop with community groups in partnership with the Kilkenny PPN (date TBC)
- County and City Development Plan open for consultation until 12<sup>th</sup> March 2021
- Stay connected – Make a pledge or share your activities via the Cycle Kilkenny channels



THANK  
YOU

