

## Conference on Sustainable Transport Solutions.

### *Let's Talk Cleaner Greener Transport*

#### **Purpose of the Conference**

- To present the results of a pilot project with Letterkenny University Hospital Renal Dialysis transport providers, Sustainable transport vehicle manufacturers and the SEAI.
- To present information on sustainable transport opportunities and supports both national and local (e.g. Electric Vehicles, Plug in Hybrids and Hybrids)
- To provide an opportunity for information sharing on all grants and supports available
- To provide an opportunity for transport providers to explore the application of these models and identify any issues that need to be addressed.

#### **Target Audience**

- Taxi and Hackney providers
- People and organisations who book and use Small Public Service Vehicles.
- Other interested parties locally or nationally

#### **Organised by**

SITT/LocalLink Donegal & Letterkenny University Hospital in association with the SEAI, The NTA and Department of Transport Tourism and Sport Climate Change Unit.

#### **Date**

4th April 2018

#### **Venue**

Mill Park Hotel, Donegal Town.

#### **Background**

SITT/LocalLink Donegal are coordinating and managing the daily transport needs for patients attending for Renal Dialysis at Letterkenny University Hospital. This transport is taking patients from all over Donegal, 7 days per week, 52 weeks per year. The average yearly km is running over 1.3million.

This service is delivered by private taxi and Hackney operators who over the years have been exemplary and diligent in their delivery of this service. Back in 2016, while attending a transport conference, Declan Meally from the SEAI presented on the future trend of transport, the world of EVs and the potential they offered.

Not long after, SITT/LocalLink met with the SEAI and started the conversation on the possibility of working a pilot on our Renal Dialysis transport.

Through 2017, SITT/LocalLink met with a number of potential stake holders who all readily came on board and worked with us to get this pilot ready to launch

## Partners:

- Letterkenny University Hospital
- SITT/LocalLink Donegal
- Private Operators SPSV - Taxi/Hackney Operators

1. Jackie Holmes, Inishowen, Co. Donegal
2. Ryan Dorrian, Ballybofey, Co. Donegal
3. John O Donnell, Annagry, Co. Donegal
4. Derek Vial, Killybegs, Co. Donegal
5. Donal Cullen, Mevagh, Co. Donegal
6. Charlie Gildea – Letterkenny Cabs, Letterkenny, Co Donegal
7. Liam Conneely, Killybegs, Co. Donegal

- Sustainable Energy Authority Ireland (SEAI)
- NTA – Taxi Regulation.
- Dept of Transport, Climate change Unit
- ESB Ecars
- Toyota
- Nissan

We are now coming near the end of a pilot which took place over the months of February and into March 2018 where we replaced 6 of our current vehicles for a mix of 7 sustainable vehicles –

2 x Electric Vehicles,  
3 x Plug in Hybrids and  
2x Hybrids.

## AIM

Through an integrated approach, work to move Renal Dialysis transport from being a service delivered by traditional taxis and hackneys, fuelled by diesel, to a sustainable transport provision which will be more cost effective while significantly reducing the carbon footprint.

At the end of the pilot, all the information and data collected will pass to the SEAI, the Climate Change Unit and the Vehicle Manufacturers who in turn will have results and findings ready for a full conference on Cleaner, Greener Transport. This conference is set for the 4<sup>th</sup> April in Donegal Town.

It is our expectation, through an open tendering process, all work requiring taxis & hackneys, and in particular, for renal dialysis and hospital discharge nationally, will score sustainable transport the highest where possible. It is envisaged that within a reasonable time frame, all SPSV working for LocalLink nationally will be sustainable in line with the Government targets.

