Road signage needs to be bigger and bolder to improve road safety says Comeragh Councillor

A COMERAGH councillor has again reiterated his believe that traffic signage painted on the roads needs to be bolder and bigger to help with road safety.

Cllr. John O'Leary made the comments at the recent quarterly meeting of Waterford's Local Community Safety Partnership (LCSP) which was open to the public.

It was part of a wider discussion on concerns aired about a pedestrian crossing in the Barrack Street area of Waterford City.

A member of the public had submitted a question

about the particular pedestrian crossing.

Director of Services Ivan Grimes replied that the local authority is proposing to upgrade the Barrack Street pedestrian crossing so that it complies with national guidelines for pedestrian crossings which were issued by the Department of Transport in March, 2024.

Rosemary Kennedy, PPN (Public Participation Network) told the LCSP meeting that the Barrack Street pedestrian crossing "is an accident waiting to happen" as it is only marked out with "two white lines on the road".

She said the road is so busy and there are four schools in the area "and it is a nightmare".

Chief Superintendent Anthony Pettit acknowledged the road is very busy, but welcomed the fact the council has plans to upgrade the pedestrian crossing

Cllr. O'Leary the same situation exists in Kilmeaden.

"I'm getting calls about traffic not stopping at a similar pedestrian crossing in Kilmeaden," he said.

Cllr. O'Leary said he believes the solution is for

stronger signage painted on the roads.

He said he has visited other countries and noticed that the signage painted on their roads "is much stronger and bigger than what we do here in Ireland".

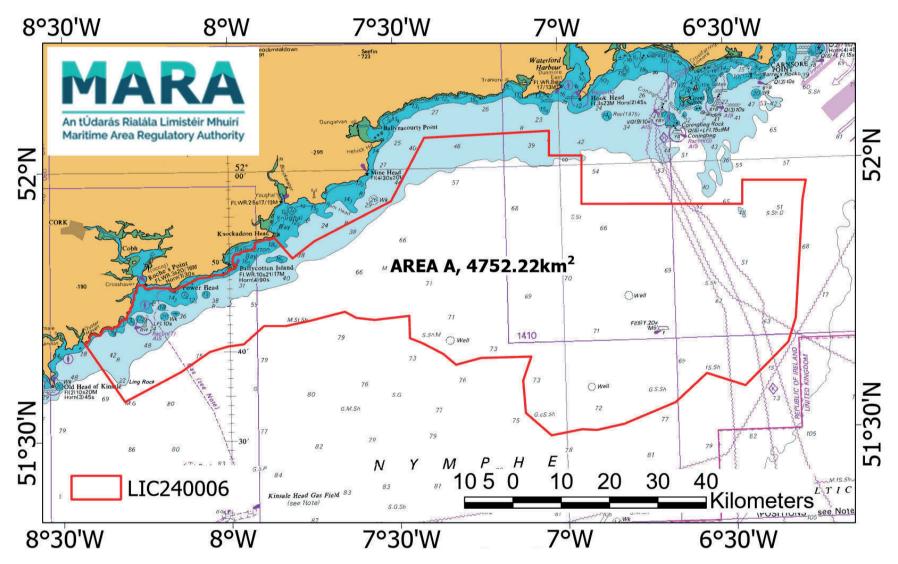
"I don't know why that is - for the sake of a drop of paint! But it should be considered going forward and the signage should be made more bolder and daring and it won't cost a lot."

Cllr. O'Leary added: "The signage on most of our roads is almost hidden, so I'd like to see a massive improvement in that".



PUBLIC NOTICE

The Maritime Area Planning Act 2021 and the European Communities (Birds and Natural Habitats) Regulations 2011 Invitation for public submissions on an application for a maritime usage licence and an appropriate assessment



PUBLIC NOTICE - Proposed Maritime Usage Licence LIC240006

The Department of Environment, Climate and Communications (DECC) has applied to the Maritime Area Regulatory Authority ("MARA") for a maritime usage licence under section 117 of the Maritime Area Planning Act 2021 to undertake marine environmental surveys for the purposes of site investigation in the proposed south coast DMAP (Designated Maritime Area Plan) located off the coast of Counties Cork, Waterford and Wexford, to inform future offshore renewable energy development. The surveys will include geophysical surveys using multibeam echosounder, sub bottom profiler, surface towed sparkers, mini-air-gun and hydrophones. The surface towed sparker system will be the primary sound source used, with the mini-air-gun utilized when inadequate sub surface penetration is achieved due to local geological conditions Other surveys will include Day Grab or Hammon Grab, drop camera and side scan sonar. The licence application is for a period of 12 months and the survey is expected to take place over a maximum duration of 52 days.

A related Natura impact statement has been submitted with the above licence application. The licence application and the Natura impact statement are available for inspection on MARA's website https://www.maritimeregulator.ie/applications/lic240006/ and at the following address by appointment– Maritime Area Regulatory Authority, 2nd Floor, Menapia House, Drinagh Business Park, Drinagh, Wexford, Y35 RF29.

Members of the public who wish to make a submission in writing to MARA on the Licence application and the Natura impact statement may do so quoting ref: LIC240006 DECC to the following e-mail address – licence@mara.gov.ie or by post to the following address - Licence Unit, Maritime Area Regulatory Authority, 2nd Floor, Menapia House, Drinagh Business Park, Drinagh, Wexford, Y35 RF29.

The closing date and time for a written submission to be received by MARA is 17.30 on 7 June.

MARA will then, as soon as practicable, carry out the appropriate assessment determination in accordance with regulation 42 of the European Communities (Birds and Natural Habitats) Regulations 2011. After the determination, MARA will either grant, part grant or refuse the Licence application.

Dated this 7th day of May 2024

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Representative of the Department of the Environment, Climate and Communications