



Kilkenny LEADER Partnership

Kilkenny Integrated Mobility Modes Initiative (KIMMI)



J.J. Kavanagh & Sons
Keeping Ireland Moving Since 1919



**Kilkenny
County Council**



Tomar Trust
National influence. Local implementation

KILKENNY LEADER PARTNERSHIP



Rialtas
na hÉireann
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of Ireland

Tionscadal Éireann
Project Ireland
2040



KIMMI in Brief

- ***Aim-*** The integration of fixed route conventional public bus services with flexible, *demand responsive transport* (DRT) community-focused modes.
- ***Area-*** County Kilkenny, Ireland; population of approx. 100,000'; rural county with one large town and numerous small towns and villages.
- ***Approach-*** The use of 'real time passenger information' (RTPI) hardware and software to link national bus carrier- *JJ Kavanagh Coaches* and community transport company *Ring a Link*.



Why, When, What, How?



- KLP, founded in 1991 is a 'LEADER company': a local NGO focused on broad-based rural development;
- Identified poor transport/ mobility, as key source of disadvantage of rural communities and businesses- and realised that public policy was inadequate to the challenge
- Mentored the formation of community-based transport company; *Ring a Link*, in 2001. Now the biggest & best in Ireland of its type.
- KLP continued mobility focus over the years- and in the last few moved to plan for a future of integrated options.
- Instigated and led a number of actions to build a consensus, enlarge capacity and form partnerships and coalitions to tackle the work.





Kilkenny's Other Mobility Initiatives Involvement

- **SAMPO-** 1995- '97: The main goal of SAMPO was to assess and demonstrate the value added potential and the effectiveness of telematics technologies to provide Demand Responsive Transport Services (DRTS).
- **SAMPLUS-** late 90's, following on from the successful SAMPO project, it demonstrated and evaluated Demand Responsive Transport (DRT) services using telematics technologies.
- **SUNRISE-** 2004-'06: transfer the technological, operational and organisational experiences of DRT services to allow regional development in transport services and improve the social cohesion; *Ring a Link* was the local partner
- **FLIPPER-** 2008- '09: aimed at establishing a knowledge transfer network among different EU areas and Authorities, to achieve capability-building, environmental, sustainable and innovative solutions in Public Transport; *Ring a Link* was the local partner





Planning, Consensus & Capacity Building

- KLP hosted a public ‘Think Tank’ on mobility and transport in Kilkenny, November 2016.
- KLP with partners Ring a Link, Local Energy Agency, organised and funded the international **iROUTE** Conference in June 2017. designed:
 - ***Stimulate new thinking around public transport***
 - ***New networks, plans and projects***
- **iROUTE** led to the formation of the *Kilkenny Integrated Transport Group* (KITG) to plan for above,
 - KLP, RaL, Local Authority, Energy Agency, business
 - KITG commissioned the *Comprehensive Mobility Plan* (CMP)
 - CMP and KITG made KIMMI possible...



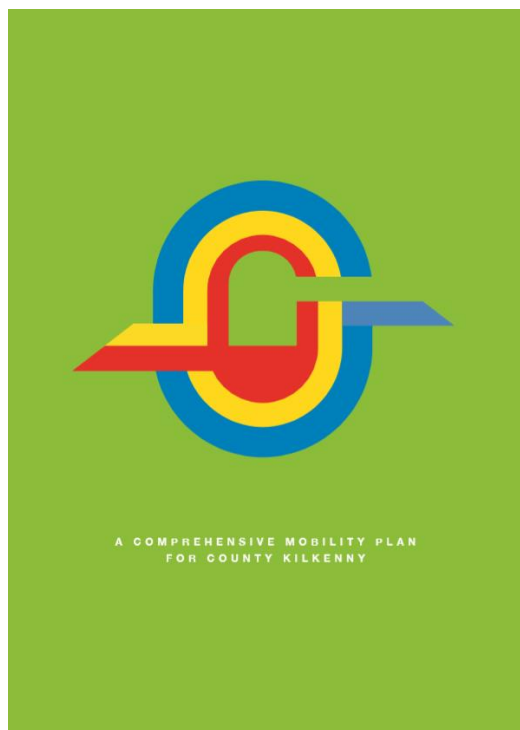
INTEGRATED RURAL URBAN TRANSPORT EVOLUTION





Key Elements in 'Preparing the Ground'...

- *Comprehensive Mobility Plan.*
185 page report outlining the possible and the path to it...
- The forming of a 'Partnership' of committed parties; iROUTE and Think Tank crucial steps.





Other Steps...

- **TICK:** 'Transport in Cairngorms & Kilkenny'- a LEADER Cooperation project with our LEADER colleagues in Scotland.
- Focused on integrated transport options,
- KTIG partner visit in March 2019. Important in building a partnership internally and externally
- Commenced in 2019, due to finish 2021





Partners & Stakeholders

- *Kilkenny LEADER Partnership* (LEADER local action group)
- *Ring a Link* (non-profit community transport company)
- *Kilkenny County Council* (local authority)
- *3CEA* (Three Counties Energy Agency)
- *JJ Kavanagh & Sons* ("Ireland's largest private coach operator.")
- *Tomar Trust* (a private philanthropy, supporting project)



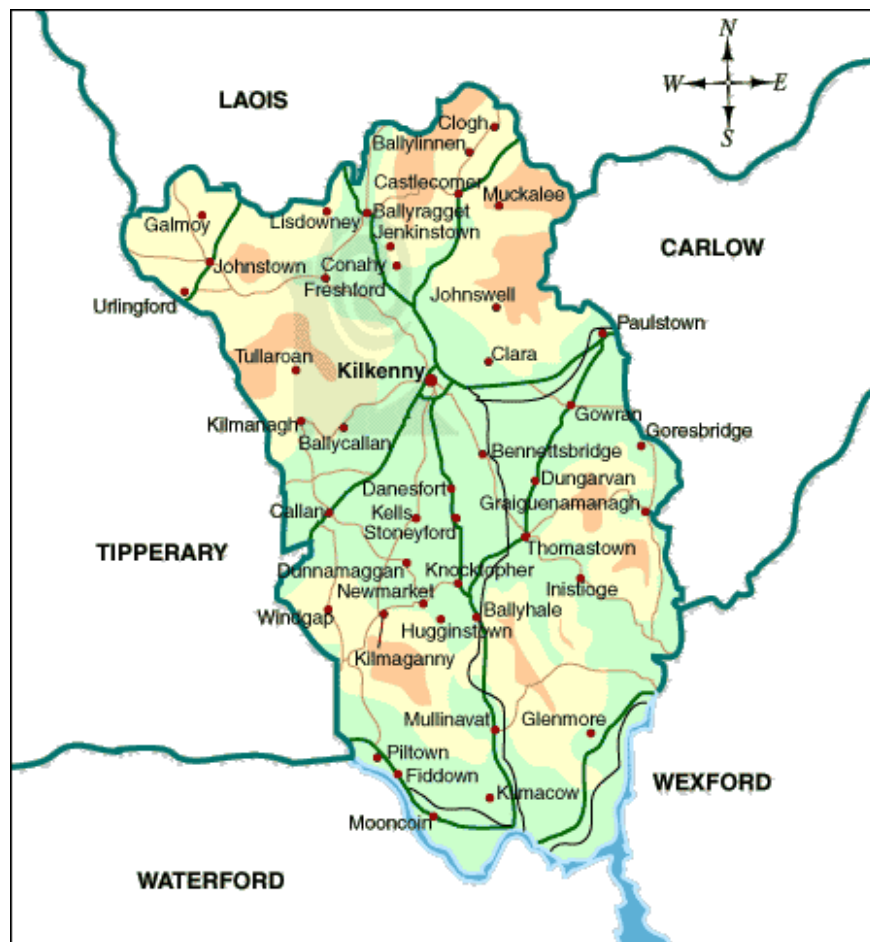


Transport Context in Ireland

- National Transport Authority (NTA) has high-level responsibility for policy.
- However little focus to date on rural transport- and even less on integration of local services.
- KIMMI partners met with NTA and briefed them on proposal: NTA agreed to take a 'watching brief' on the initiative.
- KIMMI partners hope that it can provide a model for replication elsewhere in the region- and potentially the country...



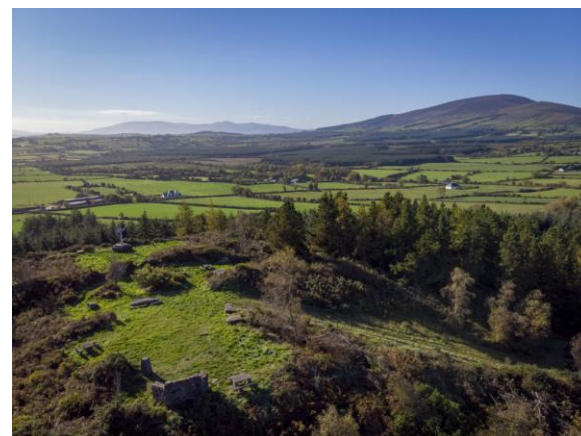
Kilkenny in Context



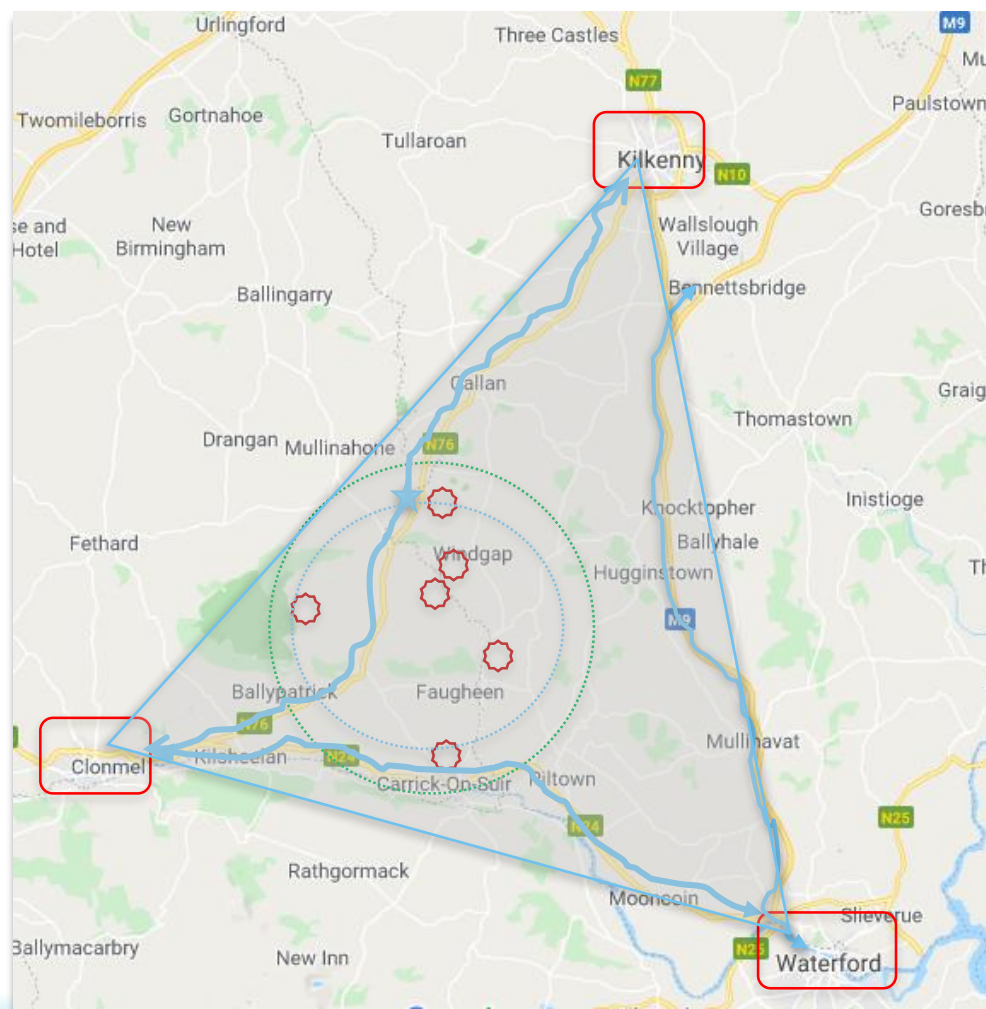


Kilkenny: A Brief Profile

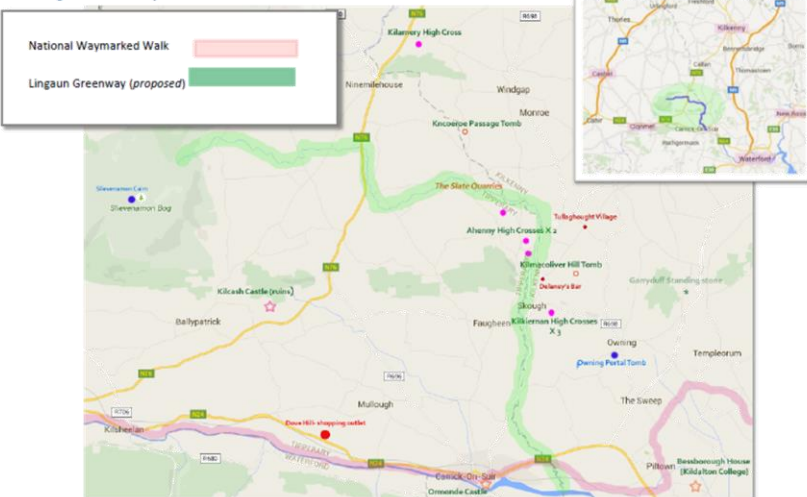
- County population of 100,000 with Kilkenny City 26,500 of that total.
- Economy- Agriculture, food processing, tourism, light engineering, creative sector, financial administration...
- Other than the 'City'- small towns and villages, dispersed in rolling pastoral landscape, river valleys and low hills.
- Tourism focused on City culture and a few rural attractions. Lots of potential in 'heritage tourism': e.g. *The Lingaun Valley*
- Reasonable road system- M8 and M9 motorways; On railway link to Dublin and Waterford. A lot of minor roads...



The Link to The Lingaun Valley



The Lingaun River Valley



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Target Audience & Additional Mobility Mode

Initial focus on independent travellers (“the culturally curious”) staying in Kilkenny 15 hotels.

Hoping also to benefit rural residents with ‘back-haul’ mobility option to Kilkenny or Clonmel.

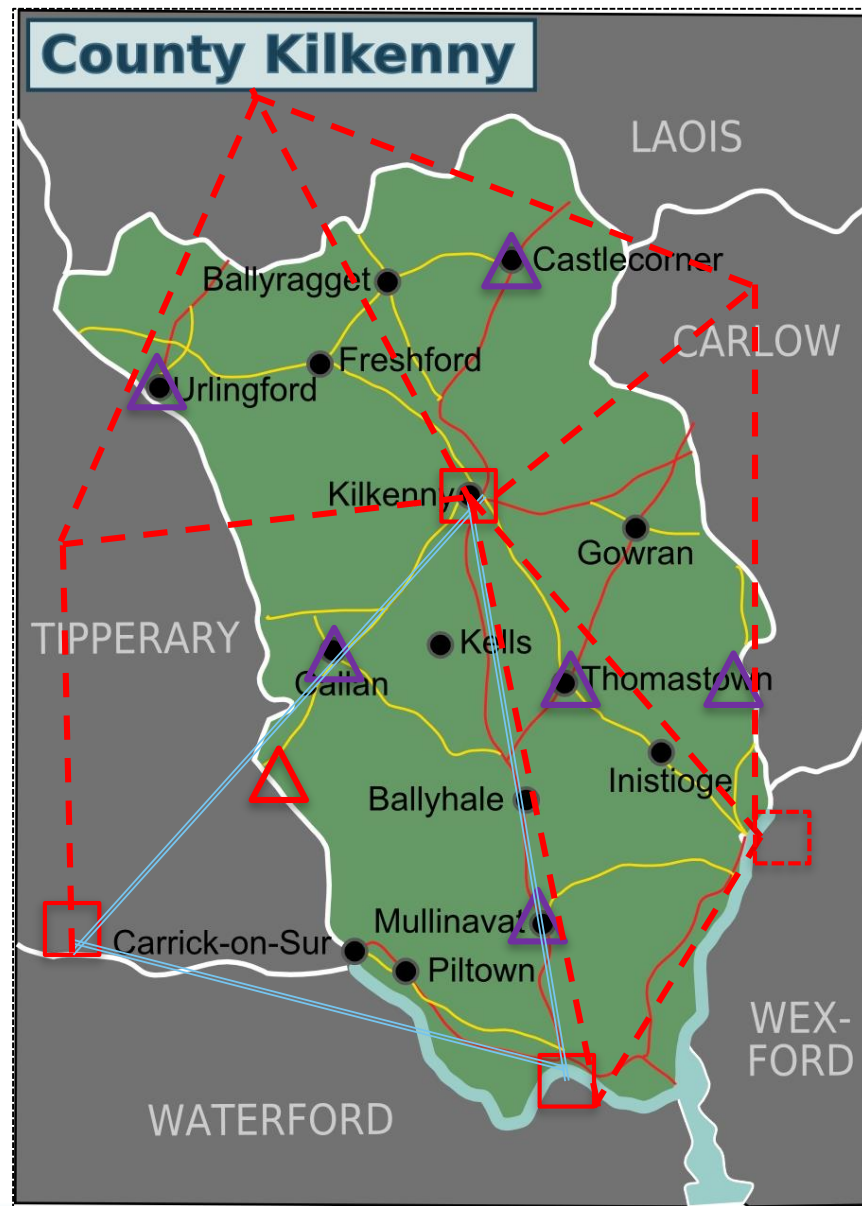
To support/ attract visitors, KIMMI will also trial small bike hire option at the Lingaun Super Stop on that route:
2 X electric bikes and 4 push bikes.

If successful, this option could be replicated in all of the Super Stops in the other rural villages.



Beyond the Pilot...

- Implement integrated RTPI service in main villages linked to the city- and link to wider region.
- Recruit other smaller private operators to partner on project to get complete 'county coverage'.
- Link Waterford- Kilkenny and Waterford- Clonmel as a 'triangle model'
- Replicate and expand on that model elsewhere in the near region- Clonmel, Carlow, Portlaoise, New Ross. Forming an integration matrix of modes.





I'm happy to try to answer any questions?

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