

Issue

01/23



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Chairman's Report

IPA NEWS



Dear Member,

After a long hiatus, I am delighted to welcome you to the latest edition of *parkingIRELAND* magazine as we look forward to our forthcoming IPA Chairman's Lunch event which is returning to its traditional date at the end of November. Since the Covid pandemic, the industry has been slowly but surely returning to pre-pandemic levels of activity. This is particularly true in the case of retail-oriented parking facilities while business and commuter-type sites continue to struggle following the move to working from home and hybrid working arrangements brought about during and in the wake of the pandemic period. As well as impacting on occupancy levels, this trend has had serious implications for the economic wellbeing of our urban centres and the retail and commercial customers that our industry serves and the evidence of this is obvious when you visit any town or city centre in the country.

It is not the only challenge facing our sector- the relentless promotion of sustainable transport modes and the discouragement of private car traffic via traffic management restrictions in response to climate change concerns and government policies continues unabated. This issue features the recent launch of the new Transport Plan for Dublin city centre, which is bound to be replicated in other urban centres throughout the country, presents major issues for parking operators and the facilities which they serve. While the concept and goals of these policies are laudable and difficult to oppose in view of the growing environmental crisis, the timing and scope of the proposed changes are less palatable. Public transport infrastructure in urban centres in Ireland is woefully inadequate and compares very unfavourable to that which exists in comparable Western European cities and the implementation of policies such as those contained within the NTA and DCC's Plan is very much a case of 'putting the cart before the horse'. With the volume of car traffic in the Dublin city centre core having already reduced by over 30% in the past ten years due to previous restrictions in that period, the target of a further 40% reduction, in the absence of a satisfactory public transport network, will inevitably lead to further decline in our urban centres due to reduced footfall and retail activity. The economic impact of these measures does not appear to be a major consideration for policymakers promoting these measures and we would call on all parking operators and stakeholders affected by the planned changes to make their views known via the current public consultation process.

Elsewhere in this edition we look at the recent consolidation in the Irish parking sector which is usually characteristic of and clearly indicates the maturity, and perhaps early decline stage, of the traditional market for managed parking services in this country. It will be very interesting to say the least to see how the market changes following this development and what the long term consequences will be. We also report on the largest parking-related project which was completed at a major out-of-town retail centre featuring the implementation of innovative and cutting-edge equipment and technologies. The recent relaunch meeting of the BPA's Northern Ireland Regional Group is also covered as is the AGM of the European Parking Association and its announcement of major changes in governance and structure and physical relocation of its headquarters from Cologne to Brussels to be closer to the political centre of Europe where the policies and regulations shaping our sector are formulated.

However, it is closer to home that our focus is with the details of our upcoming annual industry event presented in this issue and we very much look forward to welcoming friends and colleagues to what we hope will be a memorable event!

Industry Calendar



IPA Chairman's Lunch 2023
Wednesday 29th November 2023
Gibson Hotel, Dublin 1
www.parkingireland.ie



Parking Industry Expo 2023
March 10th - 14th 2023
Schaumburg, Illinois, USA
<https://www.pieshow.parkingtoday.com>



Intertraffic Amsterdam 2024
16th - 19th April 2024
RAI Amsterdam, Netherlands
www.intertraffic.com/amsterdam/



Parkex 2024
22nd - 23rd May 2024
CBS Arena, Coventry
<https://www.parkex.net/>

Email: info@parkingireland.ie | Why not visit our revamped website: www.parkingireland.ie

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EDITOR'S NOTES:

Articles and photos for possible inclusion in a future edition of this publication are welcome. Please email to the Editor or Chairman. Any photos submitted should be .jpgs or .pdfs, and of a sufficiently high quality for printing.

DISCLAIMER:

The material in this newsletter is presented in good faith and is to the best of our knowledge accurate at the time. It is our policy to acknowledge any inaccuracies in the following edition.

COVER PAGE PHOTO: Cover Page Photo: Liffey Valley Shopping Centre (Courtesy: Alan Devereux- Systra)

Board of Directors 2023

Chairman	Keith Gavin	A.G.K. Ltd.
Secretary	St. John O'Gara	Park Rite / Tazbell
Treasurer	David Cullen	Euro Car Parks Ltd.
	Jonathan Spring	UTS Parking & Transportation Ltd.
	Alastair McDonald	Q-Park Ireland
	Lynn Murray	Electro Automation
	Brian Moore	Port of Waterford Company
	Neil Cunningham	APCOA Parking Ireland Ltd.
	Eoghan Connolly	Blue Wall Technologies Ltd.
	Richard Flood	RFC Security Group
	Michael Dale	Advanced Parking Solutions
	Colin Delaney	Easytrip Services Ireland Ltd.
	Frank Moore	Best Car Parks
	Donal O'Hagan	Parking Business Services
	Thomas Harrington	YourParkingSpace



MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION FORM

I wish to apply for:
 Full Membership ☐ Associate Membership ☐

Organisation Type:
 Please indicate the area of operation which best describes your activity within the parking industry (Tick where appropriate):

Other (Please specify): _____

Contact Details:

Contact Name : _____

Business Name : _____

Address : _____

Landline Number : _____ Mobile No. : _____

Email address : _____ Website: _____

Annual Membership Fees: Full Member - €750 Associate Member - €200

Invoice will issue when application has been accepted.

Please advise Purchase Order number, if required : _____

Declaration by Applicant:
 I hereby apply for membership of the Irish Parking Association. I accept that the decision of the Board in relation to all matters pertaining to membership is final. If accepted, I shall abide by the Code of Conduct of the IPA. I certify that the information given on this form is true and correct.

Signed: _____

Date: _____

Post to The Secretary, Irish Parking Association, Unit 3 Barrowside Business Park, Sleaty Road, Carlow
 Or Email completed form to info@parkingireland.ie



IPA Board Changes 2023

Following 20 years with IPA member company **Blue Wall Technologies**, and over 40 years in total in the parking and security sectors, IPA Director **Roger McClure** announced his retirement from the industry in early 2023.

Roger was a Director of the IPA since 2001 and served as Secretary for a number of those years and was an active and invaluable member of the Board during his time with the Association. His vast industry experience and knowledge was of great benefit in the development of the IPA and he was also responsible for organising a number of our trade exhibitions and industry events.

The Board of the IPA wish to extend their sincere gratitude to Roger for his immense contribution and wish him the very best in his retirement. As anyone who knew or encountered Roger will know, his passion for the parking industry was only surpassed by his love for canoeing and he has since launched his new venture, Riverbend Adventures Ltd., in his home town of Kilkenny and we wish him every success with the new business. *Go n-eirí an bóthar leat agus coinnigh slán ar an abhainn Roger!*

Roger McClure has been replaced on the IPA Board by Blue Wall Technologies' newly-appointed Sales Manager, **Mr. Eoghan Connolly**.

In other changes, and following a restructuring of the business which sees former MD **Jim Fleming** taking up a Group role with **Electro Automation**, and he has been replaced on the IPA Board by new Managing Director **Ms. Lynn Murray**.

The IPA Board would also like to thank Jim for his service and invaluable input during his time with us and wish him the very best in his new role. We would like to welcome both Eoghan and Lynn to our team and look forward to having you on the Board as the IPA continues to grow and develop.



New Clamping Regulator Appointed by NTA

Having served in the role since the end of 2020, former NTA Clamping Regulator **Mr. Paul Duane** announced that he was departing the NTA in early September 2023 to take up a new position with the CCPC. The IPA had a close working relationship with Mr. Duane in his time as Clamping Regulator and particularly on the development and introduction of the new 'Code of Practice for Parking Controllers and Clamping Operators' which refined and updated the previous Code and came into effect at the beginning of this year. The IPA and Mr. Duane also co-operated in the organisation of information workshops for enforcement operators which were very useful in outlining the requirements of the new Code and the Vehicle Clamping and Signage Regulations 2017 which underpin it.

The IPA would like to take this opportunity to thank Paul for his assistance during his tenure and to wish him the very best in his new role.

Mr Eddie Fullerton has assumed the role of Clamping Regulator as of Monday the 11th of September. Eddie has worked with the National Transport Authority in the area of transport regulation for a number of years. We look forward to working with Mr. Fullerton and continuing the good relationship between our respective organisations

Q-PARK Complete takeover of Park Rite

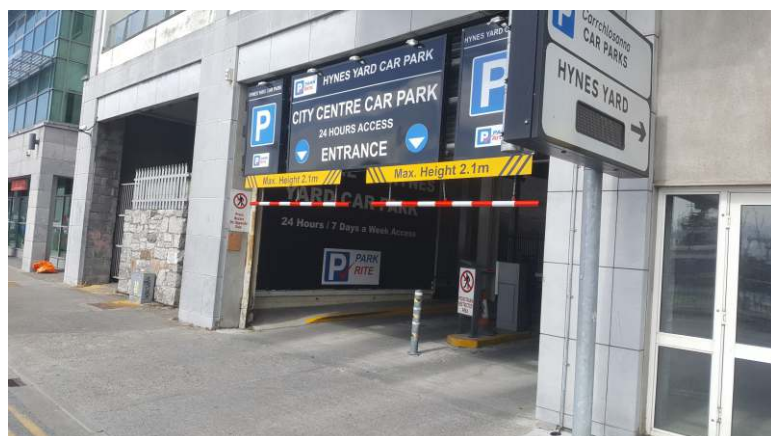


In arguably the biggest development in the Irish parking industry in recent years, **Q-Park** has acquired the business of locally-based rival, **Park Rite**, via its takeover of Park Rite's parent company Tazbell Services Group. The deal, which was initially announced in August 2022 but was delayed to allow for an examination by the Competition and Consumer Protection Commission (CPCC), was finally cleared to proceed by the regulatory authority in recent weeks and significantly increases Q-Park's presence in the Irish market.

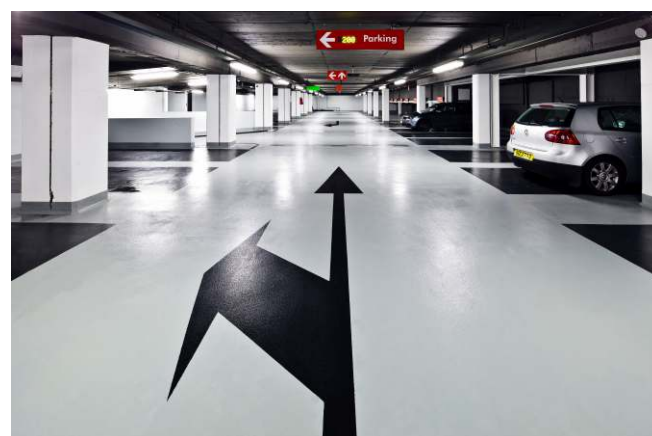
Q-Park is a Dutch multinational operator with a portfolio comprising over 3,300 parking facilities with more than 640,000 parking spaces in the Netherlands, Germany, Belgium, Great Britain, France, Ireland, and Denmark. Its Irish business already included nine major car parks in the Dublin area, including Stephen's Green Shopping Centre, Setanta, Grand Canal Square, Dawson St., and The Spire. It also operates four large multi-storey car parks in Cork- Carroll's Quay, City Hall, Grand Parade, and St. Finbarr's- as well as both Henry St. and Harvey's Quay in Limerick, Eyre Square Shopping Centre in Galway, and the Victoria Square Car Park in Belfast.

Park Rite is part of the Tazbell Group which, as well as providing car parking management services, also operates on-street parking enforcement services through **Dublin Street Parking Services (DSPS)** which manages parking enforcement on behalf of Dublin City Council. Tazbell Group is also responsible for management of tolling on the M3 and M4 motorways. Park Rite manages a large portfolio of parking facilities including major sites in Dublin such as the IFSC MSCP, ILAC Centre MSCP, Irish Life Car Park, Drury St., and Parnell St. MSCP, as well as MacDonagh Junction in Kilkenny, Cruise's St. in Limerick, and the UHG and Hynes Yard multi-storey car parks in Galway.

This development represents a further concentration of the Irish parking market and follows the acquisition of NCPS by APCOA in 2019 (see *parkingIRELAND* 02/19 P6). According to the 2010 IPA Market Report, the 'Big 5' private operators were responsible for the management of over 100,000 off-street spaces and this latest move sees those operators reduced in number to three, albeit with the entry of some new players in the intervening years, and clearly reflects the further maturing of this market.



Hynes Yard MSCP Galway



Q-Park Setanta Car Park

The CCPC was notified of the proposed takeover in August 2022 and commenced an initial examination. In a statement issued just before last Christmas it confirmed it was to carry out a Phase 2 investigation, stating:

"Following an extended preliminary investigation, the CCPC has determined that a full investigation is required in order to establish if the proposed transaction could lead to a substantial lessening of competition in the State"

The CCPC's probe identified potential competition concerns specifically linked to the supply of off-street car parking in parts of Dublin city centre and Galway city centre. These potential concerns included an increase in market concentration through the loss of close competition between Q-Park and Tazbell. To address these potential concerns, Q-Park has made a number of legally binding commitments to the CCPC, including:

- In Galway, the top level of Tazbell's current car park is to be leased to a new entrant to the Galway market, an online parking provider that will operate in competition with Q-Park.
- Q-Park has also agreed to cease operation of one of its car parks in Dublin city centre when its existing contract expires. The CCPC says that this will allow another competitor to bid for the contract to operate that car park.
- An independent monitoring trustee will be appointed to monitor compliance with these commitments.

Following agreement of these commitments, the CPCC issued approval for the takeover to proceed in mid-August 2023, stating:

"Following detailed examination, and having taken into account, [sic] the commitments given by Q-Parke CCPC has determined that the proposed acquisition will not substantially lessen competition and, as a result, can be put into effect."

NTA & Dublin City Council Launch Dublin City Centre Transport Plan 2023



CITY CENTRE PLAN MEASURES	2024	2025	2026	2027	2028
Traffic Free College Green and Dame Street					
Bachelors Walk Bus Gate					
Aston Quay Bus Gate					
Left-turn ban – Westland Row to Pearse Street					
Tara Street / Pearse Street Reconfiguration					
Liffey Interim Cycle Route					
Clontarf to City Centre Cycle Route					
Capel Street Formalisation					
Parliament Street Traffic-Free Street					
Gardiner Street Public Realm Enhancement					
Custom House Quay or Beresford Place					
Lincoln Place (Subject to assessment)					

A new Transport Plan for Dublin City Centre was launched by the National Transport Authority (NTA) and Dublin City Council (DCC) at the September 2023 meeting of the Council's Traffic and Transportation Strategic Policy Committee (SPC) and the measures contained in it are far-reaching and ambitious. The Plan seeks to “identify and prioritise changes to the current transport arrangements which are necessary to fulfil the vision for the City as a sustainable, dynamic, and inclusive place...”.



Figure 4.6 – Proportion of Inner Core Traffic by Destination

The Plan states that up to 60% of existing private car traffic in the city core is represented by vehicles whose destination is not within the city centre and it is intended to create a 'low traffic environment' in the city by removing this. Among the key traffic management measures outlined in the Plan are the following measures:

- Private car traffic to be removed at the North and South Quays at Bachelor's Walk and Aston Quay
- Only public transport and cyclists will be permitted to turn left from Westland Row onto Pearse St.
- Beresford Place to be reconfigured from one-way gyratory to two-way movement and the reduction of traffic lanes on Gardiner St. from four lanes to two.
- Traffic to be removed from College Green and Dame St. from the junction with George's St. eastwards.
- All private car traffic to be removed from Parliament St.

Other specific provisions of the Plan which will impact on private car access to the city centre include:

- Reduction of on-street parking to cater for sustainable modes and to move charging for on-street parking to an emissions-based pricing structure
- Access to City Centre Car Parks will be maintained, as required, while the redeveloping or repurposing of the most centrally-located multi-storey car parks will be pursued.

Overall, the Plan seeks to reduce daily private car numbers in the city centre by 21,500 (based on 2019 figures) and for this transport mode, equating to a 40% drop in this mode share level to an ultimate target of 17% within the next 5 years. The Draft Plan is currently open for public consultation with a deadline of 01.12.2023 with the following link available to download the Plan and make submissions:

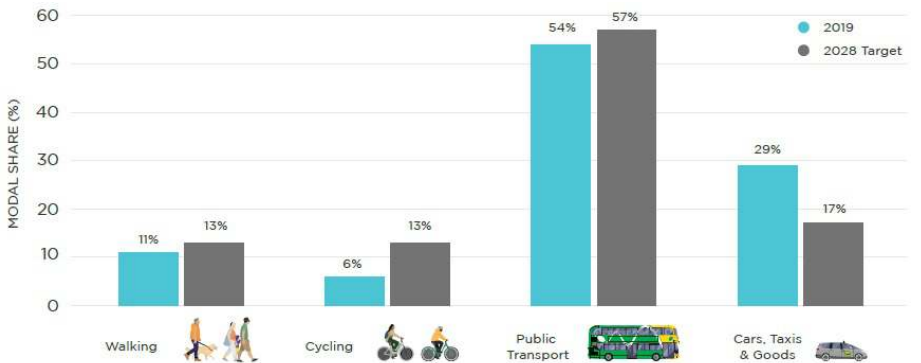


Figure 21 – 2028 Development Plan Target Outcome

<https://www.nationaltransport.ie/news/consultation-now-open-for-draft-dublin-city-centre-transport-plan-2023/>



Liffey Valley Shopping Centre, located in Clondalkin Co. Dublin, is one of Ireland's premier retail destinations, boasting over 80 stores, 20 restaurants, and a 14-screen cinema. With more than 3,400 car spaces and easy access from the M50 motorway, it is a bustling hub for shoppers and entertainment-seekers alike. The Centre recently underwent a significant refurbishment and extension and, as part of the planning conditions attached to the development, Centre owners **Hines** were required to introduce paid parking at the popular outlet in Clondalkin Co. Dublin.

A new Bus Plaza, part of the BusConnects programme, was also created at the front of the Centre and provides a 75% increase in bus services serving this major retail destination. Main contractors for the project were Clonmel Enterprises Ltd.

Ticketless & Cashless Parking Solution

Blue Wall Technologies were selected as the supplier of the new automated access control system at the enhanced Liffey Valley Shopping Centre Car Parks and they were tasked with designing and implementing a system to efficiently manage the c. 60,000 vehicles per week across six different car parks, with a total of 12 entries, 11 exits (featuring pay-on-exit functionality), and 9 pay stations.

Using state-of-the-art License Plate Recognition (LPR) cameras installed at all vehicle entry and exit points, the innovative system eliminated the requirement for traditional physical tickets. Customers are provided with easy, contactless entry to the car parks and user-friendly payment terminals at the exit points ensure that customers can pay via card or mobile payment apps and the system is integrated with a secure online payment gateway for cashless transactions.



A cloud-based management system was implemented to monitor and control the entire parking operation, providing real-time data on occupancy, revenue, and customer flow, allowing for effective car park management and decision-making. The new system prioritises customer convenience, efficiency, and security, enhancing the parking experience and it represents a significant leap forward in parking management technology in Ireland.

Parking Guidance & VMS

As part of the enhanced customer parking experience at the Liffey Valley Shopping Centre, **A.G.K. Ltd.** installed 9 new Full Matrix electronic Variable Message Signs (VMS) on the main approach routes. These Signs display the real-time parking space availability information for the various car parks at the Centre and enable customers to make more efficient advance parking search decisions. The system, which is interfaced with the external car park monitoring system provided by German supplier **Cleverciti**, is provided with the *Vanguard* operator control software package for display of customised traffic information messages using full colour graphics.

The parking guidance system also includes 44 VMS Totems at internal car park intersections to show drivers where free spaces are. Car park detection for the c. 3,000 spaces included in the system is effected via 50 overhead sensors mounted on lampposts. The data generated by the system provides detailed insights into parking activity including peak times, zones and average dwell duration which is of major benefit in the management of the car parks. Cleverciti's system was installed by **Civic Group**, a leading infrastructure services and civils installation contractor.





You are Cordially Invited to Attend:



The Irish Parking Association
Chairman's Lunch 2023
on
Wednesday 29th November
at the
Gibson Hotel
Point Square, North Dock, Dublin 1

EVENT PROGRAMME

IPA Board Meeting 

10.30am - 11am: Delegate Registration Tea/Coffee

11am - 12.30pm: **INFORMATION SEMINAR**

zevi

Zero Emission
Vehicles Ireland

NTA
Údarás Náisiúnta Iompair
National Transport Authority



An Roinn Iompair
Department of Transport

AA

The Changing Shape
of Our Streets



Electric Vehicle Charging
Infrastructure

- Developments & Trends

Urban Transport Plans:

- Are 'Car-Free' Urban Centres
The Future For Our Towns
& Cities

● Presentations ● Panel Discussion ● Q&A

12.30pm - 1.30pm: Drinks Reception

1.30pm - 4pm:
Lunch &
Open Forum



Guest Speaker- Martin Kenny TD

'Transport Policy- An Alternative View'
- What a Change of Government Might Mean
for the Irish Parking Sector

Martin Kenny TD is the main Opposition Spokesperson on Transport and with Sinn Féin likely to be the lead party in government after the next election he will set out his vision for transport policy to our delegates.

4 - 4.30pm:
Entertainment:



Reggie Blackrock Road

Straight from his €5.4m mansion on the Blackrock Road, former Cork Person of the Month Reggie will provide some insightful observations on modern Irish society.

5pm - Late...!:

Music by Crackabilly



Lively three piece, playing rock and pop classics, featuring Aoife on Violin & Clare Peelo on vocals will bring proceedings to an enjoyable end!

- Guests are invited to stay for a social evening and networking opportunity with fellow parking industry colleagues

FEES: €75 per Delegate (OR included in 2024 IPA Membership Fee) /
€750 for Table of 10

RSVP: info@parkingireland.ie / Tel.: 059-9136886



BPA N.I. Regional Group Meeting



l-r: Ms. Alison Tooze- BPA; Mr. Keith Gavin- IPA Chair, Mr. Sean McConnell - DfI Roads; Ms. Anja Patel- BPA Chair

Following an enforced break due to the Covid pandemic, the British Parking Association re-launched its Northern Ireland Regional Group with a meeting at the Glenavon Hotel in Cookstown, Co. Tyrone, on the 21st September last.

The meeting, which attracted an attendance of over forty delegates from both local authorities and private operators throughout the North, was officially opened by Ms. Anja Patel, Chair of the British Parking Association and was led by BPA Council representative for Northern Ireland, Mr. Sean McConnell of DfI Roads.

The Irish Parking Association was represented by Chairperson, Mr. Keith Gavin, and IPA Director, Mr. Jonathan Spring of UTS Technologies.

The meeting itself was broken into two sessions, i.e.:

- Morning: *Parking Policy, Future Strategy & Innovation*
- Afternoon: *Northern Ireland EV Charging Strategy and the role of parking operators*

Presentations to delegates were provided by Ms. Sian Kerr, Director of Transport Planning and Policy with the Department for Infrastructure, Mr. Tim Weir, Chair of the DfI's Electric Vehicle Infrastructure Task Force, and independent consultant, Mr. Andrew Benfield from Cenex.

CARS (Type M1):

Year	2024	2025	2026	2027	2028	2029
Target	22%	28%	33%	38%	52%	66%
Year	2030	2031	2032	2033	2034	2035
Target	80%	84%	88%	92%	96%	100%

UK ZEV Mandate (courtesy: Tim Weir Presentation 21.09.2023)

The issue of Electric Vehicle (EV) Charging Infrastructure generated the most discussion and debate and the meeting was somewhat overtaken by events by British Prime Minister Rishi Sunak's shock announcement the previous day that UK government policy was being changed to delay the banning of the sale of new petrol and diesel cars by five years to 2035, from the previous deadline of 2030. The general feeling among the meeting's participants was that this u-turn was politically opportunistic and that industry and policy planners were already moving ahead on the ZEV Mandate in any event. One major issue highlighted by the speakers from DfI was the current logjam in the political process in Northern Ireland which has left them without a functioning government and has significantly contributed to the region lagging far behind the rest of the UK in terms of EV charging infrastructure rollout.

Some interesting statistics were provided in relation to transport in Northern Ireland which highlighted some of the specific challenges to the rollout of EV infrastructure there, i.e.:

Some Transport Statistics

- Population of Northern Ireland – 1,903,175
- Cars registered in NI – 1.2m (12,000 Ultra Low Emission)
- 90% of car journeys in NI are for 5 miles and under
- 80% of properties have access to a driveway
- 60% of properties in Belfast do not
- 76% of car journeys are for recreational purposes

(Source: Ms. Sian Kerr DfI Presentation 21.09.2023)

In the panel discussion which concluded the proceedings, Mr. Tim Weir highlighted the constraints of the existing electricity network in Northern Ireland and that 'shared island' funding had been provided by the Irish government while IPA Chair Keith Gavin stated that, with similar issues being encountered in the Republic of Ireland, there would be significant merit to progressing the future rollout of EV infrastructure on an all-island basis. A number of other key issues of mutual interest were identified as areas where both the BPA N.I. Regional Group and the IPA should focus their future efforts, including:

- Enforcement and data sharing
- EV infrastructure
- Parking as a service including standards, tech and accreditations

An invite was issued to all delegates and BPA representatives to attend the forthcoming IPA Chairman's Lunch event at the end of November and both groups agreed to continue their collaboration in the future.

EPA AGM 2023 & Foundation of EPA aisbl- Moving Closer to Centre of Europe!



(Photo: Alexander Louvet)

The European Parking Association (EPA) held its Annual General Meeting in Brussels on 14-15 September 2023. The culmination of the two-day event was the official signing, in front of a Belgian notary, of the constitutional act of the new Brussels-based EPA aisbl by 14 founding members.

The new EPA aisbl will focus on the following:

- Building relationships and cooperating with stakeholders and their representative organisations in the field of urban mobility in Europe and globally.
- Monitoring and engaging with initiatives at EU level related to parking management and sustainable urban mobility.
- Representing the national professional associations at European level on all matters concerning parking and sustainable mobility.
- Collecting and sharing amongst members and stakeholders data, technology and regulations of importance for the European parking sector.

Nearly 50 representatives from the 23 Full and 36 Associate members of EPA attended the special event, which marked a milestone in EPA's history. The programme on the first day offered expert presentations on relevant topics such as EV charging and fire regulations, Cross-Border Enforcement and the new obligations to share parking data under the revised EU ITS Directive. The second day started with the Annual General Meeting of the existing "EPA e.V.". During the General Meeting, two resolutions of principle were passed to transfer the activities and assets of the Cologne, Germany based "EPA e.V." to the new Brussels based "EPA aisbl" as of 2024.

At the previous General Meeting in September 2022, EPA's members had given the EPA Board a mandate to transform the association into an effective advocacy and research organization focusing on issues of strategic importance for the European parking sector. The transformation of the EPA e.V. into the EPA aisbl, aims to enhance the perception and recognition of the association with the EU institutions, national governments, public authorities and other relevant stakeholders. The relocation of the EPA Secretariat from Cologne to Brussels is planned for Spring 2024 to bring it physically closer to the relevant EU institutions and bodies.

As soon as the new EPA aisbl is officially registered and operational, the activities of the EPA e.V. will be phased out. To ensure operational continuity, it was also decided at this year's General Meeting that the current Board will remain in place until the first regular cycle of elections of the EPA aisbl takes place in the Autumn of 2024.

After the results of this year's elections, the Board of Directors consists of the following members:

- Nigel Williams, EPA President, nominated by the BPA, UK
- Michael Kessler, Vice President, nominated by Bundesverband Parken, DE
- Stefan Sadleder, Vice President, nominated by WKO Austria, AT
- Philip de Brabanter, nominated by the Belgian Parking Association, BE
- Peter Dingemans, nominated by VEXPAN, NL
- Sébastien Fraisse, nominated by FNMS, FR
- Jaime López de Aguilar, nominated by ASESga, ES
- Christian Tønnevd, nominated by NORPARK, NO
- Morten Høther Sørensen, representing the Associate Members, nominated by EasyPark
- James Toal, representing the Associate Members, nominated by SKIDATA

The Policy & Strategy Committee consists of the following members:

- Álvaro Busca Martín-Sanz, nominated by ASESga, ES
- Thomas Veith, nominated by Bundesverband Parken, DE
- Manny Rasores De Toro, nominated by BPA, UK
- Thierry Brusseaix, nominated by FNMS, FR

"Although it will be a few weeks before the EPA aisbl receives legal personality by Royal Decree, we will not stand around waiting", said EPA President Nigel Williams. "We have our first Board meeting scheduled for the end of September. Over the next 12 months we will forge ahead with the activities that we commenced over the last 12 months. We will also put in place a new communications strategy and develop ESG guidelines and initiatives to assist our members. As soon as the EPA aisbl is fully functional, in early 2024, we will send out the new membership application forms and finalise membership fees to allow all existing EPA members to renew their commitment to our association."

Blue Wall Announces Exciting New Chapter with a Dynamic Management Team for Accelerated Growth

Blue Wall is thrilled to announce a pivotal moment in its 21 year history as it enters the next chapter of growth and innovation. With a strategic vision for the future, Blue Wall is excited having appointed Eoghan Connolly as Sales Manager along with a restructuring of the management team, poised to lead the company into a promising era of expansion and success. (See IPA Board Changes- P. 3).



Eoghan Connolly

This transformation marks a significant milestone in Blue Wall's journey, reinforcing its commitment to providing cutting-edge parking systems and maintaining its position as a trusted industry leader.

The newly appointed management team brings a wealth of expertise and experience to the table, promising to drive Blue Wall to new heights. Their collective dedication and innovative thinking will be instrumental in propelling the company forward and enabling it to capitalise on emerging opportunities. Blue Wall's commitment to excellence and innovation has been a hallmark of its success, and the new management team is fully aligned with these values. Their fresh perspectives, combined with the company's long-standing reputation for quality, will undoubtedly lead to exciting new opportunities and achievements.

In a statement, Managing Director Derek Tebay said, *"This marks an exciting new chapter in the Blue Wall story. Our new management team is passionate and driven, and together, we are committed to delivering the highest quality to our valued customers while exploring new avenues for growth and expansion. With our collective expertise and shared vision, the future looks incredibly promising."*

Some recent project awards & completions include **Liffey Valley Shopping Centre** (see Project Focus- P. 6), **Maldron Hotel Newlands Cross**, **Clayton Hotel Burlington**, **Marino Institute of Education & Santry Sports Clinic**.

Q-Park Ireland Roll Out EV Infrastructure at Irish Sites



Q-Park are constantly working to keep up with the times and providing for their customers' needs. One of these needs was EV chargers and the operator answered the call! In 2022, 43 EV Chargers were installed in their various sites throughout the Republic of Ireland with another 4 in Belfast, bringing total units installed on the island to 47 and they plan to double these numbers by the end of 2023.

Sites where Q-Park have installed the new EV chargers include The Spire, Stephen's Green, Christchurch, Four Courts, and

Bloomfields in Dublin, Bray PCC in Wicklow, Grand Parade and Carroll's Quay in Cork, Harvey's Quay and Henry St. in Limerick, Eyre Square in Galway, and Victoria Square in Belfast.

Further information on Q-Park's EV charging network is available at: <https://www.q-park.ie/en-gb/products/ev-charging>

YourParkingSpace- Building on Success!



Since arriving on the Island of Ireland in 2021 YourParkingSpace (Ireland) Ltd. is seeing tremendous growth in many different industry sectors. Headed up by Thomas Harrington, a 24-year veteran of the Parking Industry, the company is creating just the right mix of traditional operating know-how with cutting-edge digital technology that is enabling clients to make informed decisions about their car park usage and of course to generate increased revenues from their carpark portfolio. The graphic alongside illustrates just how exciting a year the company has experienced and they are now building on this success in 2023 with retail parks, hotels, and shopping centres all flocking to the YourParkingSpace banner.

Using the latest technology, YPS are solving the problems clients were experiencing with traditional management companies (lack of real-time reporting, transparency in revenue collection and effective transfers of same, inflexibility when it comes to enforcement to resolve complaints or negative experiences from everyday customers).

Their technology-driven philosophy and customer focus allow YPS to manage clients' complex parking needs into an innovative model that best serves their requirements.

In order to support its growth in Ireland, Thomas Harrington has been quoted as saying *"he is getting the band back together"* which has seen him hire ex-NCPS stalwarts Joan Sreenan (Client Liaison Manager), along with Corinne Muller (Corporate Account Manager), and long-time parking industry member Ciaran Doran as Operations Manager overseeing all installations and maintenance projects.

MF Services completes upgrades to contactless payment pay and display machines across Kilkenny, Kerry, and Galway.



MF Services has facilitated the requirement for contactless Pay and Display payment facilities across Kilkenny, Kerry, and Galway. In this covid-altered marketplace there is an increasing move away from using notes and coins towards contactless payments. The installation of our IPS MS1 allows users the added flexibility of making transactions using the new PCI Level 1 and PA DSS 3.2 card reader that supports contactless credit card payment as well as Apple Pay and Google Pay.

MF Services replaced all **65** existing machines in Kilkenny City for Kilkenny County Council, as well as upgrading the existing **97** machines for Kerry County Council in Tralee, Dingle, Listowel and Ballybunion, and have completed phase 1 of the full replacement of all machines for Galway County Council consisting of **70** machines in Tuam, Loughrea. The remaining machines for Galway County Council

for Ballinasloe, Gort, Athenry, Clifton and Cleggan will be completed by end 2024.

Full access control is supported through the IPS Data Management Software (DMS) which allows the Councils to monitor and obtain instant reports on the operational aspects of the machine. Since successfully completing the installations in 2022, there has been up to **60% reduction in cash payments**.

MF Services were also awarded full Maintenance Contracts with these councils and are responsible for providing weekly checks, replacing ticket rolls, and ensuring that the machines are 100% operational 100% of the time.

New Retail Parking Solutions from SKIDATA Ireland



SKIDATA Ireland has installed new automated access control systems at two major retail destinations. **The Crossings, Adamstown**, anchored by Tesco and Aldi, is the newest retail destination to open in Ireland 2023. SKIDATA Ireland have provided shoppers and residents a fast and convenient journey to access and egress the 400-space multi-storey car park and a validation solution to grant some free parking time. With the recent addition of Tesco at **Tuam Shopping Centre**, it was time to upgrade the existing 400-space MSCP system and after consulting the market, SKIDATA Ireland was appointed as the partner of choice. Cashless payment, electronic validation and License plate technologies offer the very best in driver convenience and operator control.

Euro Car Parks Goes Electric



Euro Car Parks has upgraded its fleet of parking enforcement vehicles at Sligo, Letterkenny & Limerick Hospitals and where it currently ends “CEO Dave Cullen stated “*we are continuing to make our contribution to the environment by focussing on renewables, eco friendly vehicles and minimising power usage. The change to the fleet is the start of a process that will where possible move away from diesel to electric vehicles in our fleet.*”

APCOA Appoint New Business Development Director

APCOA Ireland has recently appointed Greg Maher as their new Business Development Director. Prior to joining APCOA, Greg worked in a diverse range of industries such as FMCG, Construction, and Consultancy. Greg's most recent role was in developing and delivering Portakabin Ireland's Business Development and Marketing strategy within the Irish modular construction market. This included driving Portakabin's growth in markets such as Healthcare, Manufacturing, and Education.



Electro Automation Completes Sale Of Easytrip To DKV Mobility



Electro Automation, together with joint shareholder **Egis**, has recently completed the sale of its interests in **Easytrip** to **DKV Mobility**, the leading German headquartered B2B platform for on-the-road payments and solutions, which employs 2,200 people across its international operations which stretches across Europe.

“Over the past years we have successfully developed our business, together with our customers and business partners”, says Easytrip Ireland CEO **Colin Delaney**. “Joining forces with DKV Mobility is an exciting next step in the development of our company. We're confident that this partnership will significantly contribute to the expansion of our portfolio and services – to the benefit of our customers.”

In addition to toll plazas, Easytrip tags can be used in over 60,000 parking spaces across Ireland. Easytrip Ireland will remain an independent company within the DKV Mobility Group and Electro Automation will continue to work with Easytrip as a supplier, with Easytrip continuing to occupy its offices at EA House.

UTS Technologies acquired by Valley Way Solutions

UTS Technologies has been acquired by Valley Way Solutions. The deal was completed with backing from Dunport Capital Management, led by Ross Morrow, Aidan Lynch and Seán Healy. The deal comes as UTS agrees a long-term partnership with Flowbird. UTS Technologies was established in 1992 in Dublin and is Ireland's leading provider of parking terminals.



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