

## PRESS RELEASE FROM TFI LOCAL LINK KERRY

### TFI LOCAL LINK KERRY TO EXPAND BUS SERVICES INTO DINGLE DAINGEAN UÍ CHÚIS & SURROUNDING AREAS

TFI Local Link Kerry has today announced the expansion of its services to Dingle Daingean Uí Chúis from the surrounding areas along the peninsula.

Launching on Monday 19th April, the increase in service will see two TFI Local Link Kerry buses operating the high roads and by roads, taking in the spectacular scenery that the peninsula has to offer while connecting passengers with Dingle Daingean Uí Chúis and onwards to Tralee.

The expanded service will be a combination of Demand Responsive Transport services (DRT), which are Door to Door where possible, while also offering a suite of Rural Regular Services (RRS) which will operate on a point-to-point basis with a dedicated timetable and stops.

- **Route 277 Dingle Daingean Uí Chúis – Fionntrá – Baile an Fheirtéaraigh – Dún Chaoin** (Monday to Sunday)

This timetable is primarily a RRS service but has DRT collections at certain times each day.

The 2 bus services listed below will operate on a DRT (Door to Door) type model.

- **R73 - Dingle Daingean Uí Chúis - Gallarus - Mhuiríoch - An Fheothanach – Baile na nGall** (Tuesday, Thursday, Friday & Saturday)
- **R74 - Dingle Daingean Uí Chúis – Lispole - Annascaul** (Monday & Wednesday)

The need for the expansion of TFI Local Link services along the Dingle Peninsula was voiced to TFI Local Link through consultation with our own passengers & stakeholders. We also wish to acknowledge the inputs from the general travelling public, The Dingle Hub, North East & West Kerry Development and their local area action committees, Dingle Tourism Alliance, Kerry County Council and elected Public Representatives.

**Alan O' Connell, TFI Local Link Kerry General Manager outlined** “working with the Rural Transport Team at the National Transport Authority, TFI Local Link Kerry was focused on providing regular connections to and from Dingle Daingean Uí Chúis that would benefit local residents and tourists alike.”

“By providing a regular and reliable public transport service along the peninsula, these bus services will offer greater access for people to go about their daily lives, to access essential services, or to visit the many beautiful villages, locations and attractions the peninsula is renowned for.”

Alan also wished to outline that “buses are timed to connect with the Bus Éireann 275 bus that operates between Dingle Daingean Uí Chúis and Tralee allowing people to use public transport to go from Tralee to Dún Chaoin, Baile an Fheirteagh or Fionn Trá and back again on the same day. This alone represents a major expansion of transport.”

“We have prioritised some legs of the bus routes to operate the demand responsive model and therefore we are asking intending passengers who may not live along the main route or close to the bus stops to make contact and register for this option with us.”

**Hilary Scanlan, Chairperson of TFI Local Link Kerry said:**

“On behalf of TFI Local Link Kerry, I would like to thank all those agencies, organisations and groups who participated in the consultation and made sure that the needs of the area were identified. This work has resulted in the expansion of bus services which can only be positive for the communities and visitors of West Kerry.

I also wish to acknowledge the hard work and dedication of the staff, bus drivers and operators in Kerry, as they continue to support people and communities to stay connected, particularly during these most challenging of times. I also wish to remind people that the fares are very attractive at between €2 single and €5 return and that the Free Travel Pass are accepted on all services.”

**Anne Graham, CEO of the National Transport Authority welcomed the announcement:**

“The expansion of TFI Local Link services along the Dingle Peninsula will provide increased access to local amenities and will make a real difference to those living in the surrounding isolated or rural areas.

TFI Local Link has already been a great success story throughout the country and in these challenging times, continues to show great resilience and versatility in the service it provides to the community.

The services will also provide better links between towns and villages in Kerry and provide a service that is better integrated with other national services.”

**How can TFI Local Link Kerry help you?**

TFI Local Link Kerry are here to get you there, perhaps you are living on one of our existing routes, or we may have services that can be diverted to your door? Contact the office on 066 7147002 or email [bookings@locallinkkerry.ie](mailto:bookings@locallinkkerry.ie) with your transport needs.

Thank you for your patience with our restricted capacity for essential travel only. Booking is required on our services.

To see timetables visit our website [www.locallinkkerry.ie](http://www.locallinkkerry.ie) or social media – Facebook, Twitter or Instagram. You can also ring us in the office and we will post you out a copy.

**Notes to Editor**

TFI Local Link is the National brand for Public Transport services in local and rural areas of Ireland. There are 15 TFI Local Link offices nationally which are funded by the National Transport Authority.

All TFI Local Link Kerry services are coordinated centrally through the Countywide Call Centre based in our offices in Castleisland. Services are available to anyone who wishes to avail of them.

**TFI Local Link Kerry have made 2 million passenger trips since 2003 with 160,500 of those trips carried out in 2019.**

For further information, inclusive of timetables, please visit our website at [www.locallinkkerry.ie/timetables](http://www.locallinkkerry.ie/timetables) or please call 066-7147002 or contact Alan O’Connell, General Manager 087-9662948 [alan@locallinkkerry.ie](mailto:alan@locallinkkerry.ie)