

High costs putting young off learning to drive

Eddie Cunningham

YOUNG people are being put off learning to drive due to the high cost of lessons and insurance, a new survey reveals.

Two thirds (66pc) of 17-24-year-olds say they are not learning because they do not have the money to pay for the mandatory 12 driving lessons.

At the same time, 37pc say insurance costs are too high for them to consider learning, according to the Carzone survey.

The findings are bound to spark debate about the challenges facing younger drivers in terms of the overall cost of driving and owning a car.

As you would expect, a high number (72pc) don't own a car.

Yet, ever optimistic, 35pc are planning to buy one within the next year, with 32pc intending to buy in the next three months.

Strangely, at a time when more and more cars are automatic (hybrids and EVs are effectively so), nearly all (91pc) who are learning to drive opted for a car with manual transmission.

It also found that even

Just 7pc will buy a hybrid or electric vehicle

those who can afford to learn to drive claim the list for lessons is too long (15pc) and say it is making them less accessible.

A significant number (40pc) of those are currently insured on a parent's or sibling's car.

It will come as no surprise that the cost of owning a vehicle is another critical factor, with a large number of young people not having a car.

That is prompting some to buy a vehicle but their budgets for doing so are quite small. About 37pc plan to spend between €2,000 and €5,000.

That won't get them much in today's market where second-hand values are remarkably high.

More than one fifth (22pc) have less than €2,000 to spend while 17pc have a bigger budget of €5,000-€7,000.

Surprisingly, the survey found that 37pc plan to buy diesel despite its decreasing popularity while 31pc will go for petrol, and just 7pc will buy a hybrid or EV.



Cathal Crowe

Fianna Fáil TD calls for cap on Ukrainian refugees

Hugh O'Connell

A FIANNA Fáil TD has called for a cap on Ukrainian refugees coming into his own constituency - a move which would violate EU law and official Government policy.

Clare deputy Cathal Crowe told his local radio station, when asked, that he supports a cap on new arrivals coming into his home county.

"Yes I would think so and I've said this I suppose to colleagues in Government as well," he told Clare FM.

"When people are sleeping on the airport floors in Shannon and Dublin, that's not providing quality of care, there are other countries - if you even look North of the border, in Northern Ireland, they are nowhere near the figures we in Clare or we nationally have."

Mr Crowe said this was a "sensible position" in light of the fact that some refugees arriving into Ireland from Ukraine are unable to obtain accommodation and said that "right now we can't meet their needs".

He added: "There's now I think around it's three per cent of Clare's population is Ukrainian, the arms of Clare have been wide open and wel-

coming and rightly so.

"We've done everything we can to date to help, the arms have been wide open. But I think you get to a point where the capacity to help is reached, in fact it can be exceeded and I now believe we are at that stage in Co Clare"

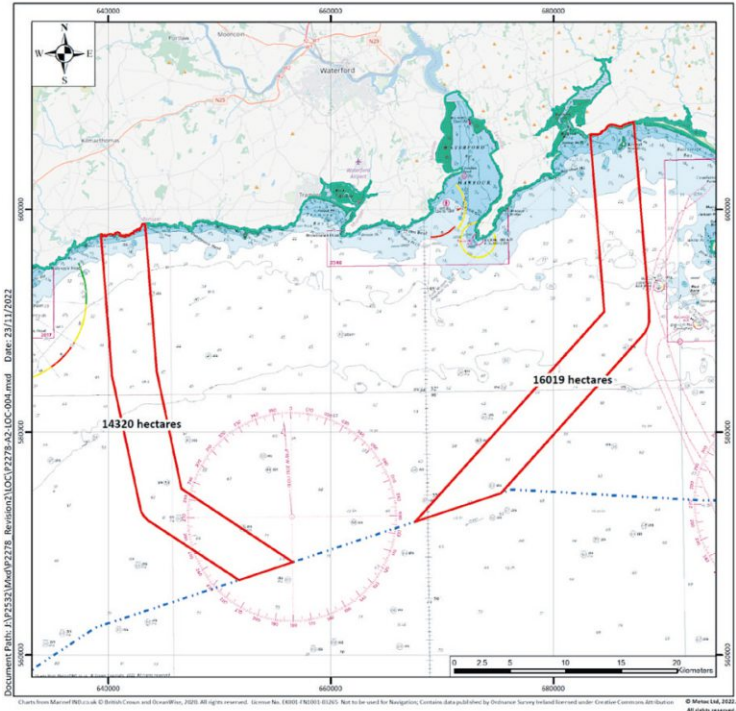
He said that Clare has "exceeded capacity" in terms of providing care and support to Ukrainian people.

PUBLIC NOTICE

INVITATION FOR PUBLIC SUBMISSIONS OR OBSERVATIONS ON APPROPRIATE ASSESSMENT

Notice is hereby given pursuant to Regulation 42(13) of the European Communities (Birds and Natural Habitats) Regulations 2011, as amended, of an application for a foreshore licence in relation to carrying out the proposed geophysical, geotechnical and environmental surveys of the cable corridors of interest as set out in Foreshore Licence Application Reference: FS006983. This will support the assessment of the suitability of areas off Bunmahon Bay, County Waterford and Bannow Bay, County Wexford (within the 12 nautical mile limit) for the potential development of an offshore wind farm approximately 25km offshore in the Celtic Sea by SSE Renewables (Ireland) Ltd.

The foreshore licence application area is shown in the map below:



A copy of the application, map of the proposed project, the determination that an Appropriate Assessment is required in respect of the project, the Natura Impact Statement, and the other information and documentation relevant to the application, are available for inspection for 30 calendar days, between 30 November 2022 and 9 January 2023, free of charge at:

- Relevant Garda Station
 - o Dungarvan Garda Station, Youghal Road, Dungarvan, County Waterford.
 - o New Ross Garda Station, Marshmeadows, New Ross, County Wexford.
- Offices of a planning authority or An Bord Pleanála
 - o Dungarvan Civic Offices: Davitts Quay, Abbeyside, Dungarvan, County Waterford. Opening hours for this office are 09:30 – 16:30 on weekdays.
 - o New Ross Municipal District Office: The Tholsel, Quay Street, New Ross, County Wexford. Opening hours for this office are 09:00 – 17:00 on weekdays.
- Relevant local library
 - o Dungarvan Library: Davitts Quay, Abbeyside, Dungarvan, County Waterford. Opening hours for this library are 10:00 – 17:00 on Tuesdays, Wednesdays, Friday and Saturdays and 13:00 – 20:00 on Thursdays.
 - o New Ross Library: Barrack Lane, New Ross, County Wexford. Opening hours for this library are 10:30 – 17:30 on Mondays, Wednesday – Saturday (with lunch closures 13:00 to 14:00 on Monday and Saturdays) and 10:30 – 20:30 on Tuesdays.

This documentation and information is also available on the Department's website, at:

<https://www.gov.ie/en/foreshore-notice/5d5d9-sse-renewables-celtic-sea/?referrer=http://www.gov.ie/en/publication/7f15e-sse-renewables-celtic-sea/>

Members of the public who wish to make a submission or observation in writing concerning the proposed project may do so between 30 November 2022 and 9 January 2023 (quoting ref: FS006983) to the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage, Foreshore Section, Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage, Newtown Road, Wexford, Co. Wexford or foreshoreORE@housing.gov.ie. The closing date for submissions is close of business (17.30) on 9 January 2023 .

Take notice that material to which the Minister shall have regard in making the Appropriate Assessment determination will be published on the Department's website. In this regard, the Department wishes to draw attention to its policy on defamatory material that may be contained in submissions it receives, which may be found at:

<http://www.housing.gov.ie/planning/foreshore/public-participation-foreshore-consent-process>