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Green light for L.A. flights

Tourism and Transport Minister Maire Geoghegan-Quinn has given the green light to a new scheduled air service between Shannon and Los Angeles.

Shannon-based The Translift Airways plan to operate the service four times a week in the peak season and twice weekly in winter using a 234-seat aircraft. The flights will stopover at Boston on their

way to L.A.

With the service set to start next spring, Minister Geoghegan-Quinn expressed confidence that the flights will generate significant extra business for Irish tourism interests.

At present, 20 per cent of all US tourists to Ireland come from the west coast, despite there being no direct air link.

The Minister says that the

granting of the new rights to Translift reflects her the commitment to development of aviation at Shannon.

Translift have already began planning the L.A. service and say they will be recruiting an additional 60 staff to augment their current workforce of 125.

Chief executive of Translift, Mr. P.J. McGoldrick, has thanked the Minister for her "vote of confidence" and says jobs as the airline expands." the new service should act "as a catalyst for even more

Warning on graveyard thefts

People visiting Mount St. Lawrence graveyard have been warned to be on their guard as a group of car vandals have been operating in the area.

Gardai have told Cllr. John Ryan that two or three incidents occur each week near the graveyard.

"I heard of one incident recently where four men wearing balaclavas jumped out in broad daylight and stole handbags from a car that had just been parked," Cllr. Ryan told The Post.

A problem for gardai is that thieves can quickly get on to the railway line near the graveyard and make their getaway.

Cllr. Ryan has now called on Limerick Corporation to erect signs near the graveyard urging people to be careful with their valuables.

"October and November are the busy months for people visiting graveyards and I feel the Corporation will have to take some action before then," he commented.



First day . . . Geraldine Getlevog and Rachael McNamara were pictured during their first morning at school in Mary Queen of Ireland, Caherdavin. Photo: Eamon Ward, Press 22.

Call for rail link to Sligo