



An  
Bord  
Pleanála

**Board Direction**  
**BD-004995-20**  
**ABP-301482-18**

---

The submissions on this file and the Inspector's report were considered at a Board meeting held on 21/01/2020.

The Board decided to refuse permission, generally in accordance with the Inspector's recommendation, for the following reasons and considerations.

### **Reasons and Considerations**

Notwithstanding that the grass pitch on the appeal site and adjoining former pitches were recorded in the Natura Impact Statement prepared on 9th August 2016 as being one of the most important ex-situ feeding grounds for Light Bellied Brent Geese in Dublin, and having regard to the recent changed characteristics of the former pitches resulting in a possible reduction in the overall availability of grasslands for feeding purposes due to increased sward height, together with the absence of any up-to-date survey information present with the planning application relating to the current usage of the site itself and immediately adjoining lands by Light Bellied Brent Geese as a feeding resource, or by any other Special Conservation Interest species for any other purpose, the Board is not satisfied that the usage of the site by any such species can be accurately determined at this time.

The Board, therefore, cannot establish, beyond all reasonable scientific doubt, that the proposed development, either individually or in combination with other plans and projects, would not adversely affect the integrity of the North Bull Island SPA (Site Code: 004006), the South Dublin Bay and River Tolka Estuary SPA (Site Code: 004024), the Baldoyle Bay SPA (Site Code: 004016), the Malahide Estuary SPA (Site Code: 004025), and the Rogerstown Estuary SPA (Site Code: 004015), or any other European site in view of these sites' conservation objectives.

**Board Member**

**Date:** 04/02/2020

---

Paul Hyde