



An
Bord
Pleanála

Record of Meeting
ABP-308826-20 6th meeting

Case Reference / Description	DART+ South West, involving railway improvement works from the environs of Hazelhatch Station to the environs of Heuston Station; and the environs of Heuston Station to the environs of Glasnevin/Phibsborough		
Case Type	Pre-application consultation		
1st / 2nd / 3rd Meeting	6 th		
Date	01/02/2022	Start Time	11.00 a.m.
Location	N/A	End Time	12.10 p.m.

Representing An Bord Pleanála
Staff Members
Ciara Kellett, Assistant Director of Planning (Chair)
Karla McBride, Senior Planning Inspector
Jennifer Sherry, Executive Officer
Representing the Prospective Applicant
Colm Reynolds, Programme Director (DART+ Programme), Iarnród Éireann
Rita Monaghan, CIE Solicitor, Iarnród Éireann
Ricardo Santos, Programme Manager (DART+ South West), Iarnród Éireann

Mark Conroy, EIA and Railway Order Manager, Iarnród Éireann
Gessica Silva, Project Manager, Iarnród Éireann
Colm Shevlin, Project Manager, RPS Group
Leah Kenny, Railway Order Lead, RPS Group
Antonia Gaughran, Environmental Lead, RPS Group
Caitríona Reilly, EIAR Lead, RPS Group
Carl Mogensen, RPS Group

Introduction

The Board referred to its previous meeting with the prospective applicant and the record of this meeting. The Board enquired if the prospective applicant had any comments it wished to submit on the record of this meeting. The prospective applicant advised it had no comments to make.

Presentation

The prospective applicant in its presentation to the Board gave an update on the following topics of the DART+ South West project:

- **Public Consultation No. 2** – was held between 10th November to 17th December, 2021. A number of online seminars and promotions took place to encourage public participation. A summary of feedback received was presented by the prospective applicant with a focus on the top three issues/concerns being identified as stations, operational phase and environmental impact assessment.
- **Design Update** – the prospective applicant outlined the OHLE arrangements required at open sections along the railway line depending on the track geometry. The OHLE proposed is similar to the current system being used by Iarnród Éireann and comprises of a twin track cantilever, single track cantilever and portal arrangement. Furthermore, the issue of OHLE clearance for the bridges was

discussed in detail with different types of arrangement configurations necessary depending on the bridge type.

- **Heuston West Station** – a new station at Heuston West is proposed at existing platform 10 following feedback from Public Consultation No. 1. The prospective applicant included a number of slides with different viewpoints and illustrations. There are limited options to enhance the pedestrian route to the station with access being provided from the access road serving Platform 10. A focus will be on improving safety by widening footpaths, installing courtesy crossings, line marking for shared use cycle lane with vehicles, new pedestrian gates and restricting access to the River Liffey side.
- **Construction Methodology** – the prospective applicant advised it is necessary to widen the rail corridor between Park West Station and Heuston Station to accommodate a four-track area (currently 2 track area). A series of illustrations were provided in the presentation to illustrate the methods.
- **Legislative Update** – statutory instrument S.I. No. 743/2021 called European Union (Railway Orders) (Environmental Impact Assessment) (Amendment) Regulations 2021 was published in December 2021. This regularises references to Environmental Impact Assessment Report (EIAR) in the Railway Order.
- **EIA Scoping** – the prospective applicant carried out EIA scoping with prescribed bodies in parallel to the Public Consultation No. 2. In addition, the prospective applicant set out the methodology being taken for the EIAR and highlighted the approach for two chapters on Human Health and Lands & Soil as an example.

Discussion

The following matters were discussed as part of the meeting:

- Following a query from the Board's representatives on the low response rate to Public Consultation No. 2, the prospective applicant advised the slide in the presentation titled 'summary of feedback received' refers only to the data collected from the feedback forms.
- The Board's representatives noted the provision of new stations was the top key issue raised at Public Consultation No.2 and advised the prospective applicant to address this issue robustly in the application documents. The prospective applicant stated new stations in the area have been identified in the draft Transport Strategy for the Greater Dublin Area 2022-2042. The purpose of the proposed development is for the electrification of the line and to bring on capacity first.
- The Board's representatives enquired if any of the affected bridges along the rail corridor are protected structures. The prospective applicant said this will be included in a topic on heritage to be discussed at the next pre-application meeting.
- In response to the Board's representatives query the prospective applicant stated the swan deflectors on Liffey Bridge will be small metallic discs put on the overhead line and have been very effective in other instances where required.
- The Board's representatives queried the length of the access ramp at Heuston West and enquired if the prospective applicant considered the use of lifts to compliment the ramp. The prospective applicant advised the length of the ramp was decided by low gradients used and highlighted the location is challenging. The prospective applicant further advised it is the preference of Iarnród Éireann to utilise non-mechanical solutions to ensure a robust system is in operation for all eventualities.

Conclusion

The record of the meeting will issue to the prospective applicant, and it will then be a matter for the prospective applicant to submit any comments on this if it wishes to do so or at the time of a further meeting. It was agreed that a further meeting would take place in early March.

Ciara Kellett

Assistant Director of Planning