

Case	29S.PC0185 - Proposed National Maternity Hospital at St. Vincent's		
Reference/ Description	University Hospital, Elm Park, Dublin 4		
Case Type:	Section 37B of the Planning and Development Act 2000, as amended		
Meeting:	Meeting with Dublin City-Gouncil Du Laughaire Rathdom County Coursel		
Date:	13 <sup>th</sup> November 2015	Start Time:	10.00 a.m.
Location:	Offices of Dun Laoghaire-Rathdown County Council	End Time:	10.45 a.m.
Chairperson:	Anne Marie O'Connor, Assistant Director of Planning		

# Representing An Bord Pleanála Anne Marie O'Connor, Assistant Director of Planning Kevin Moore, Senior Planning Inspector Sinéad McInerney, Executive Officer Representing Dún Laoghaire Rathdown County Council Sean Manton, Senior Executive Engineer, Transportation Claire Casey, Senior Executive Engineer, Transportation Julienne Brown, Senior Executive Planner, Planning Rhona Naughton, Acting Senior Planner, Planning

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### Introduction

The representatives of An Bord Pleanála (the Board) and Dún Laoghaire Rathdown County Council (DLRCC) were introduced and the Board thanked the DLRCC for agreeing to meet with them in relation to the proposed development.

The Board opened the meeting by giving a brief description of the pre-application consultation process being held with the prospective applicant, the Health Service Executive, under section 37B of the Planning and Development Act 2000, as amended. The proposed development comprises the relocation of the National Maternity Hospital from Holles Street to St. Vincent's University Hospital Campus.

It was explained that the purpose of pre-application consultations is to determine if the proposed development is strategic infrastructure development (SID), to inform the prospective applicant on procedures involved in making an application and to advise on matters relating to proper planning and sustainable development or the environment, which may have a bearing on the Board's decision in respect of a future application. The Board stated that it has held two pre-application consultation meetings with the prospective applicant to date and it understands that the prospective applicant has also met with DLRCC.

Section 37C(4) of the Act provides that An Bord Pleanála may consult with any person who it considers may have information which is relevant to consultations being held under section 37B. The Board has previously met with Dublin City Council (DCC) in relation to the proposal. Such meetings are held as information gathering exercises, in this instance, to seek the views of DLRCC and to ascertain if it has any issues or comments in relation to the proposed development that it wishes the Board to raise with the prospective applicant. The Board will keep a record of this meeting which will issue to DLRCC and the prospective applicant. The record of the meeting will not become available to the public until the pre-application consultation process has concluded and the Board has made a formal decision on whether the proposed development is or is not SID.

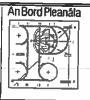
DLRCC confirmed that it met with the prospective applicant in relation to the proposed development on 12<sup>th</sup> October 2015.

# **Transportation Matters**

The principal issues of concern to DLRCC regarding the proposed development relate to transportation matters.

### Accessibility

The application for the proposed development should include plans to encourage effective use of sustainable modes of transport. In this regard, it was noted that the



National Maternity Hospital is currently located within the city centre, where more sustainable modes of transport are available to staff, patients and visitors, including DART, Dublin Bus and the Dublin Bike Scheme. DLRCC considers that it is important to retain the modal split which currently exists at Holles St. and alternative options to use of private car should be provided, to staff in particular.

It was noted that the DART line is close by however, St. Vincent's University Hospital Campus is not well served in terms of bus routes or bicycle facilities from the station. It is also noted that the hospital has training and education links with UCD. While there is a bus service from Sydney Parade DART Station to UCD, it is not a frequent service and does not include St. Vincent's Hospital Campus. DLRCC considers that the possibility of a shuttle service between the DART Station, hospital and UCD should be considered.

DLRCC informed the Board that it has developed a cycle route along the Rock Road and while a continuation of this route to the city centre is outside DLRCC's control, it would welcome and support such development.

The Board enquired if the prospective applicant had discussed any specific mitigation proposals with the planning authority. The prospective applicant has indicated that parking will be provided on-site, however DLRCC noted that the site is confined and it is proposed to extend the existing car park. No further proposals were referred to.

DLRCC considers that any application should address the matters outlined above in detail and should reflect transportation matters on a wider level. Specific mitigation measures should be included e.g. shuttle buses, taxi ranks, bike schemes, car pooling.

DLRCC requested that if the prospective applicant is submitting a draft Mobility Management Plan in advance of lodging an application, a copy could also be sent to DLRCC for information.

### <u>Parking</u>

Residential areas of DLRCC currently experience overspill of parking from developments within the DCC area. There is evidence that there is insufficient parking to meet current needs at St. Vincent's University Hospital Campus and staff regularly use on-street parking within the vicinity. DLRCC has introduced Pay and Display systems to combat this and ensure sufficient parking for local residents and businesses in the area.

## Road Network

With regard to the road network, the Board stated that the prospective applicant has provided information on the area of residence of patients and noted that the majority



are from South Dublin and Wicklow. The Board queried if the DLRCC had any concerns in relation to the capacity of the road network as a result of relocating the hospital to the St. Vincent's University Campus. DLRCC stated that the route is currently used by many patients travelling to Holles Street and the proposed relocation will not therefore have a significant impact with regard to patients travelling to the hospital.

The prospective applicant has informed DLRCC that traffic counts have been carried out to the Merrion Gate, and DLRCC considers that traffic counts should also be carried out in the wider DLRCC area.

# Construction Traffic

The Board referred to the proposed construction compound that may be located onsite. DLRCC stated that construction traffic impacts should be clearly addressed in any application.

# **Planning Matters**

DLRCC confirmed that there are no specific planning issues that it wished the Board to raise with the prospective applicant.

### Conclusion

A copy of the record of this meeting will be forwarded to the planning authority.

Anne Marie O'Connor

**Assistant Director of Planning** 

17<sup>th</sup> November 2015