



An
Bord
Pleanála

Record of Meeting

Case Reference	29S.PC0185		
Description	Proposed National Maternity Hospital at St. Vincent's University Hospital, Elm Park, Dublin 4		
Case Type	Section 37B of the Planning and Development Act 2000, as amended		
Meeting No.	6	Start Time	11.00 a.m.
Date	25 th January 2017	End Time	11.45 a.m.
Location	Offices of An Bord Pleanála		
Chairperson	Anne Marie O'Connor, Assistant Director of Planning		

Attendees:
Representing An Bord Pleanála
Anne Marie O'Connor, Assistant Director of Planning
Kevin Moore, Senior Planning Inspector
Marcella Doyle, Senior Executive Officer
Sinéad McInerney, Executive Officer
Representing the Prospective Applicant
Eleanor Masterson, HSE
Paul O'Neill, GVA
Sean Mahon, O'Connell Mahon Architects
Jane Doyle, Doyle Kent
Fergus Monaghan, ARUP

Introduction

The prospective applicant was welcomed and the teams were introduced.

The prospective applicant confirmed that it had no comment to make in relation to the record of the 5th pre-application consultation meeting which was held on 15th April 2016.

Proposed Development

The prospective applicant gave a presentation in relation to the proposed development. The purpose of the meeting is to provide an update on the project since the last meeting, set out the strategic need for the project, re-familiarise An Bord Pleanála with the proposed development and to refer to the new Dublin City Development Plan which has been adopted since the last meeting.

At the outset the prospective applicant stated that the project remains a government priority. The existing facilities are not fit for purpose going forward, there is a requirement for expansion given the increase in demand for maternity services, and healthcare policy provides for the co-location of maternity and adult healthcare services.

To date, the prospective applicant has engaged in consultations with An Bord Pleanála, Dublin City Council, Dun Laoghaire Rathdown County Council, statutory authorities including the National Transport Authority and Irish Water and hospital staff and it has also held consultations with the public. It stated that the application documentation has been fully reviewed having regard to all consultations that have taken place. The prospective applicant will carry out further public consultations and it is intended to lodge the application to An Bord Pleanála in Quarter 1 of 2017.

The proposed development is approx. 50,000 m² of which approx. two-thirds will provide maternity services and one-third will be shared and non-clinical services. In

order to re-familiarise An Bord Pleanála with the project, the prospective applicant presented the proposed site plan, floor layouts and elevations. With regard to the floor plans, it referred to the types of accommodation and services to be located on each of the seven floors and addressed the co-location with the adult hospital. It is also intended to expand the car park on site. With regard to elevations it referred to the step back design in order to minimise impact on adjoining properties. It also presented the scale of the proposed buildings within the overall campus and in the context of Merrion Road. It referred to the extensive public realm to the front of the building and a new access to the car park resulting in the car park being accessible from both the existing entrance on Nutley Lane and a new entrance from the internal road that is accessed from the existing campus entrance on Merrion Road.

A Campus Site Capacity Plan is being prepared in relation to how the maternity hospital can be developed without compromising the future needs of the rest of the campus, including the redevelopment of the adult hospital and future expansion of both adult and maternity services. The plan accounts for known and planned development within the site, plus a 20% expansion capacity. The prospective applicant referred to the future masterplan for the campus, the future public realm and future pedestrian and vehicular circulation, and to making the campus more pedestrian and cycle friendly and also allowing for internal circulation.

With regard to the Dublin City Development Plan 2016-2022, the prospective applicant said that it came into effect in October 2016. The zoning of the site remains generally the same, and the plan supports the proposed development. The following three specific objectives were referenced:

- CEE20 - the role of hospitals is recognised as crucial to the wellbeing of the city including employment, economic development and innovation
- CEE21 – recognition of the strategic role of hospitals, including the proposed National Maternity Hospital, and support for the provision of the floorspace and facilities necessary to deliver the services, and

- SN22 - to facilitate the provision of hospitals having regard to the requirements of the relevant healthcare authorities.

The application will also consider the other objectives of the development plan e.g. traffic, sustainable development etc.

Other Matters

Other matters discussed related to traffic and transport. It is expected that there will be approx. 300 additional trips generated as a result of the proposed development which is an increase of approx. 1% with regard to the capacity of the network. The prospective applicant considers this to be negligible. Detailed discussions have taken place with the planning authorities with regard to traffic impacts and modal splits. Reference was made to enhanced connectivity between the east and west of the St Vincent's Hospital Campus and plans for an additional bus stop along Nutley Lane to improve the private shuttle bus service between the campus and UCD. The prospective applicant also referred to positive steps being taken to promote cycling access and highlighting the close proximity of the DART, which is under-utilised at present. The possible closure of the Merrion Gates along the DART line was also referred to and the impacts on the movement of the DART, road traffic and pedestrians/cyclists. Detailed consultations have taken place with the NTA and reference was made to the Orbital Study and the potential route from UCD to Stillorgan and Sandyford, and how that might benefit the campus. The prospective applicant said that it has carried out recent traffic counts to include in the application. It said that staff movements are typically at off-peak times and potential congestion issues may impact more so on patients attending the hospital.

The representatives of An Bord Pleanála stated that it had nothing further to add at this stage and advised the prospective applicant to have regard to the matters raised at earlier meetings when making its application for the proposed development.

Procedures

The procedures for making the application have been addressed at an earlier meeting. The representatives of An Bord Pleanála gave a brief summary of the lodgement procedures as follows: Following receipt of the record of this meeting, the prospective may request closure of the pre-application consultation in writing. The report will then be completed and forwarded to the Board for determination. A letter will then issue to the prospective applicant advising if the proposed development is or is not strategic infrastructure development; if determined to be strategic infrastructure, the letter will include the list of prescribed bodies to be notified of the application. The pre-application consultation file will become available for public inspection at this stage.

The prospective applicant said that it has a model of the proposed development that can be submitted with the application. The representatives of An Bord Pleanála suggested that if the model has been presented during public consultations that it would be beneficial to submit it with the application.

The prospective applicant raised the matter of the holding of an oral hearing, stating that it would have no objection to a hearing. The representatives of An Bord Pleanála advised that an oral hearing is generally held in Strategic Infrastructure cases but that it is at the discretion of the Board whether to hold an oral hearing in relation to any case.

Conclusion

The prospective applicant will revert to the Board to seek closure of the pre-application consultation process in due course.

Anne Marie O'Connor

Assistant Director of Planning

January 2017