

8th August 2022

Case Ref. No: TA29N.314019 Jean Brophy

Observations Re: Planning Application

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- There is a lack of an overall strategic local area plan for housing, infrastructure and amenities development in the Santry area. This is a big oversight if the desire is to build a sustainable and cooperative community that is for the common good.
- The present transport service to the Santry area is inadequate for existing needs of people living in the area, in particular, at peak times when people are going to and coming from work and school to mention but two reasons for travel. Past promises of enhanced transport services have never been brought to fruition. Traffic gridlock is already a part of everyday life for many of us living in the area. This will only increase with this further development which will raise the population with added needs of transport. Because of the gridlock the Greenfield housing estate is presently used as a "rat run" from Santry Avenue to Collins Avenue and Ballymun Road to Swords Road by drivers trying to get to their destinations on time. This causes huge difficulties for residents in the estate to get to/from their work and getting children to/from school etc. It adds to danger on our estate roads with some cars speeding through the estate to make up time already lost at the various junctions. Further endangerment to residents comes in the guise of increased degradation of the air quality by car emissions pollution.
- The long promised Metro North which was to be in place or to have at least a nearer completion date was part of the conditions logic for planning permission for this site, will now, we are told, not be delivered until 2034 and going on past promises we, in this area have little faith in what we are told is planned and indeed if completed I believe will have little positive effect for those living in the Santry area due to its routed distance from the Santry Village area.
- The present provision of school places serving the area are outside Santry with no primary or secondary school sited actually in Santry which necessitates parents having to use public transport or cars to take children to and from schools, leading and adding to gridlock problems outlined above. This development will put further pressure on the schools in nearby areas with the resulting rise in class numbers that will impact on the quality of teaching and learning for our children. Planned extra school places in the Drumcondra/Whitehall area will not solve the problem for Santry families as they will still need to use either cars or public transport with the same gridlock problems.
- With the ongoing increase of population in the Santry area it can be assumed that there will be more who will choose cycling as a mode of transport. There is no provision of safe cordoned off cycle lanes in the area as have been installed in other areas of the city and indeed the lack of policing of those that do exist to keep them free for safe cycling use, shows a possible already inadequate policing resource in existence in the area. Without the development of a safe cycling infrastructure the present and future residents are not being provided with an important alternative safe and healthy travel choice. With cyclists, including those using motorised bicycles and motorised scooters, now preferring to use the

pavements where cycle lanes are inadequate walking has become increasingly hazardous for pedestrians, in particular, the elderly and children. I personally have had some very near misses and imagine it will not be if I get knocked down in one of these incidents but rather when it will happen. As an elderly person who likes to walk, [REDACTED] when walking in the Santry area. This is due to inadequate infrastructure and lack of policing of safe behaviour on pavements.

- It is quite obvious that existing cleaning and pavement maintenance services are already inadequate in the area, particularly in Greenfield Estate, presumably because those that exist are over stretched and are unable to provide the services needed to maintain the streets in a clean and safe way. This development will only lead to further call on and dilution of these services.
- As it stands there are not enough GP practices in Santry to cater for present residents with many having already to travel outside the area to access a GP. This puts a huge strain on our elderly population who rather than being able to go independently to their local GP now very often have to call on already busy family members to take them or take the gridlocked public transport. The quality of life for our older residents needs to be considered. This will only become a more acute problem with an increase in population brought as a result of these developments.
- The aggregate effect of this development along with other recently completed developments will have a negative effect on the quality of life for existing residents and new residents alike. Until there has been a negotiated local, life enhancing overall development plan put in place for Santry no further housing development should be undertaken.

Therefore taking my observations as outlined above into consideration, I would not like to have this to this new development as per case no. above go ahead.

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