

Rathborne Village Management Company
Usher House
Main Street
Dundrum
Dublin 14
D14 N7Y8

An Bord Pleanála,
64 Marlborough Street,
Dublin 1.

27th October 2022

Re: DART+ West Railway Order Application

Rathborne Village Management Company Submission with respect to the impact of the Proposed Ashtown Road Improvement on Rathborne Village.

Dear Sir / Madam,

We write to you in regard to the Railway Order Application for DART+ West. Rathborne Village was developed in the mid-2000s as a mixed-use high density neighbourhood village. Works associated with this development resulted in the realignment and upgrade of the Ashtown Road to function as a primary route and thoroughfare through the village plaza, catering for a significant increase in traffic volumes including public bus services.

We wish to confirm our support for DART+ West but we object to the Railway Order application in its current form. We confirm that we have paid €50 as the statutory fee for the making of this objection.

Resulting from the Proposed Ashtown Road Improvement works and the severing of the Ashtown Road in its current form, the core function and character of this primary route and its surrounding plaza area will fundamentally change. As part of the proposed scope of works, a new turning circle and drop-off zone is proposed. However, no consideration has been given to the impact on the remaining elements of the village 'Main Street' and its resultant change to both function and character of the area.

We believe that it is incumbent on CIE to give due consideration to the impact and effect this Project will have on the current Ashtown Road layout (currently operating as a main thoroughfare) and the function, character and use of the village post-completion of works. The public realm was designed to cater for Ashtown Road as a primary thoroughfare - this will clearly change under the DART+ West proposal. A redesign of the public realm should occur to take account of both hard and soft landscape opportunities to cater for a more pedestrian and cycle-oriented Village 'Main Street', whilst also addressing the needs of the commercial occupiers actively operating within the plaza.

Rathborne Village Management Company
Company Limited by Guarantee
Directors: F. McDonough, H. O'Neill

In conclusion, we respectfully request An Bord Pleanála to seek Further Information under Section 41 of the Transport (Railway Infrastructure) Act 2001, as amended, from the Applicant to give consideration to the changing needs of Rathborne Village resulting from the DART+ West Railway Order Application and extend the scope of works to include environmental improvements to the Village "Main Street" to serve as enhanced and more pedestrian friendly public realm. Any such proposals should be re-advertised to afford the local residents, businesses and wider community the opportunity to comment.

Yours sincerely,



Fergal McDonough
Rathborne Village Management Company