

Submission No.			74	
Organisation Name or Name of Submitter			Duncan Smith TD	
Item No.	Section Ref.	Page No.	Observation Statement	TII Response
Submission on the Railway (MetroLink to Charlemont via Dublin Airport) Order [2022]				
1	Introduction	1	<p>I preface this submission be clearly stating I welcome the plans for MetroLink and the fact it has been submitted to An Bord Pleanala for the granting of a Railway Order.....</p> <p>The current alignment as submitted to An Bord Pleanala is ambitious and has the capacity to reshape transport in Dublin for decades to come, with multiple connections to bus, rail and tram services.</p> <p>It is an absolute necessity that this project proceeds without further delay.</p>	<p>TII wish to thank you for taking the time to make this submission. Your positive support is gratefully appreciated, and for the reasons you have set out, TII are committed to realising the MetroLink Project to address the challenges highlighted and to deliver the benefits that MetroLink will bring.</p>
2	Local Connectivity	3	<p>MetroLink proposes to link the third largest town in Ireland by population, Swords, with our capital city, our international airport, Dublin Airport, and Dublin City University through Phibsboro and into the city centre. It is vital infrastructure. When this is delivered, we must make sure that people will not have to get into their cars to travel from one side of Swords to the other. They should be able to travel quickly, efficiently and in an environmentally friendly way to the MetroLink. This will benefit all the Greater Dublin Area, particularly those living in the rural villages and rural areas who will be able to get to Swords relatively quickly and then on into Dublin City. It is not just a service for Swords, or Fingal, or the airport; it is infrastructure that will benefit the whole of the Greater Dublin Area.</p> <p>In Swords the key concern is transport for residents. There is a great need for improved paths and cycle lanes for people to be able to cycle, walk and use electric scooters throughout Swords. The Metrolink project must be delivered but in tandem with the delivery of accessibility and sustainable methods of accessing Metrolink stations throughout the proposed MetroLink route.</p>	<p>As outlined in Chapter 4 (Description of the MetroLink Project) Section 4.13.2.1, the need for integration with other modes of transport including walking and cycling has been considered in the design of the proposed Project. The R132 Connectivity Project received planning approval on 20 January 2022 and will progress ahead of MetroLink. This will improve the R132 for vehicle occupants, cyclists and pedestrians and will also provide access across the R132 where it is necessary to demolish four footbridges which conflict with the MetroLink alignment. The realignment of the existing roundabouts to signalised junctions will improve connectivity across the R132 through the provision of signalised pedestrian crossings and improved footway provisions. Cycle parking provision will also be provided as part of MetroLink at the proposed Swords Station and will cover 100% of the predicted demand at this station (Table 4.9).</p> <p>The South Fingal Transport Study 2019 also notes that future interchange to the MetroLink from other modes, including bus, walk and cycle should be considered as part of any redevelopment of Swords Main Street and the R132 Swords Bypass. Green corridors have also been identified as part of the Barrysparks and Crowscastle Masterplan, which will be located adjacent to the Swords Central Station, providing pedestrian and cyclist connectivity from the Holywell area.</p>