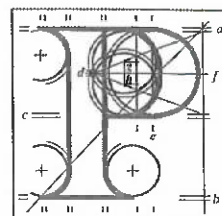


Our Case Number: ABP-314724-22

Planning Authority Reference Number:



**An
Bord
Pleanála**

Waterways Ireland
Eastern Regional Office
Floor 2, Block C
Ashtown Gate
Navan Road
Dublin 15
D15 Y3EK

Date: 06 December 2022

Re: Railway (Metrolink - Estuary to Charlemont via Dublin Airport) Order [2022]
Metrolink. Estuary through Swords, Dublin Airport, Ballymun, Glasnevin and City Centre to
Charlemont, Co. Dublin

Dear Sir / Madam,

An Bord Pleanála has received your recent submission (including your fee of €50) in relation to the above-mentioned proposed Railway Order and will take it into consideration in its determination of the matter.

The Board will revert to you in due course with regard to the matter.

Please be advised, there is no fee for an affected landowner, listed on the schedule, to make an observation on this case, therefore, a refund of €50 will be made to the credit/debit card used to make the online observation.

Please be advised that copies of all submissions/observations received in relation to the application will be made available for public inspection at the offices of the relevant County Council(s) and at the offices of An Bord Pleanála when they have been processed by the Board.

More detailed information in relation to strategic infrastructure development can be viewed on the Board's website: www.pleanala.ie.

If you have any queries in the meantime, please contact the undersigned. Please quote the above mentioned An Bord Pleanála reference number in any correspondence or telephone contact with the Board.

Yours faithfully,

Niamh Thornton
Executive Officer
Direct Line: 01-8737247

Teil	Tel	(01) 858 8100
Glaó Áitiúil	LoCall	1890 275 175
Facs	Fax	(01) 872 2684
Láithreán Gréasáin	Website	www.pleanala.ie
Ríomhphost	Email	bord@pleanala.ie

64 Sráid Maoilbhríde	64 Marlborough Street
Baile Átha Cliath 1	Dublin 1
D01 V902	D01 V902

An Bord Pleanála
64 Marlborough St.
Dublin 1
D01V902

24th November 2022

Metrolink Railway Order 2022

Dear Sirs,

Waterways Ireland wishes to make observation on the Metrolink Railway Order application as follows.

Waterways Ireland owns and maintains the Royal Canal and its towpaths which cross the Metrolink proposal at the Phibsboro area as shown in the Railway Order application. The proposed works will make significant intervention underneath and adjacent to the Royal Canal on the property ownership of Waterways Ireland both at construction stage and in the permanent features. Appropriate short term licensing and longer term property arrangements will be necessary to put in place. It should be noted that Waterways Ireland is a North South Body and as such any property disposals first require Departmental and North South Ministerial Council approvals.

The Royal Canal has a proposed designation as a Natural Heritage Area from the Wildlife Act and all proposals must address requirements from this. Canal water quality is measured against the Water Framework Directive standards and is to a very high standard, so no new stormwater discharges are permitted to its waterbody. The canal is an important habitat and all legal environmental procedures must be followed to ensure protection of its flora and fauna, in particular otters and other protected species, both at construction stage and in the permanent works.

The Royal Canal is an important heritage asset in its entirety and there are also various locks, bridges and sections of canal channel that are listed on the Record of Protected Structures and have associated protections through Planning legislation. All proposed changes should account for the legal protections and the overall concept of the canal as a heritage structure. Any proposed changes within the canal environs will also require further landscape character assessment.

The Royal Canal and its towpaths are working assets open to daily public use. This is both in terms of navigation for boat and other water-based recreational uses, and for the towpaths which are pedestrian & cycle recreational corridors. All of these activities require to be adequately accommodated and maintained, both throughout the works and in the permanent arrangements.

The Royal Canal is also a water corridor and as such can carry flooding risks if water movement is not suitably managed. All works must consider and take measures to minimise or eliminate these risks.

Oifig Réigiúnach an Oirthir
Urlár 2, Bloc C
Geata Bhaile an Ásaigh
Bóthar na hUaimhe
Baile Átha Cliath 15

Eastern Regional Office
Floor 2, Block C
Ashtowngate
Navan Road
Dublin 15

Eastern Regional Office
Flure 2, Block C
Ashtoongate
Navan Road
Dublin 15



Waterways Ireland have met with Transport Infrastructure Ireland and their consultants as part of design development but all future property, operational, environmental and legal issues for construction stage will have to be addressed in advance of any works taking place on Waterways Ireland property.

Yours faithfully,

Mervyn Hamilton
Senior Engineer, Operations
Royal Metro Naas Area

Waterways Ireland
Eastern Regional Office
Floor 2, Block C
Ashtown Gate
Navan Road,
Dublin 15, D15 Y3EK

T: (office) +353 1 868 0148
E: mervyn.hamilton@waterwaysireland.org

Oifig Réigiúnach an Oirthir
Uirlár 2, Bloc C
Geata Bhaile an Ásaigh
Bóthar na hUaimhe
Baile Átha Cliath 15

Eastern Regional Office
Floor 2, Block C
Ashtowngate
Navan Road
Dublin 15

Eastern Regional Office
Flure 2, Block C
Ashtoongate
Navan Road
Dublin 15