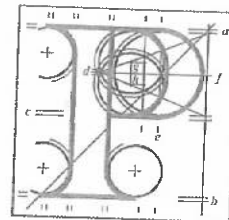


Our Case Number: ABP-316119-23

Planning Authority Reference Number:



**An
Bord
Pleanála**

Helen Shine
147 Landen Road
Ballyfermot
Dublin 10
D10 VH63

Date: 01 June 2023

Re: DART+ South West Electrified Heavy Railway Order - Hazelhatch & Celbridge Station to Heuston Station, and Hesuton Station to Glasnevin
County Dublin and County Kildare

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 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,

Eimear Reilly
Executive Officer
Direct Line: 01-8737184

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Láithreán Gréasáin
Ríomhphost

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64 Sráid Maoilbhríde
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64 Marlborough Street
Dublin 1
D01 V902

Reference Number: 308826

Helen Shine

147 Landen Road

Ballyfermot

D10VH63

Dear Sir/Madam

I am submitting some observations on the planned expansion of the Dart South West railway. I currently live on Landen Road and my house backs on to the railway.

Construction

- I currently work from home the majority of the week in the back bedroom and have concerns around the length of the construction process and the noise disturbance when trying to work from home. Is it possible to get confirmation of when and for how long the work will take?
- As with most railways there are rats around the area. Can any assurances be given around avoiding potential infestations of rats when the ground is dug up or what are the plans in place to deal with this?

Longterm

- I would have concerns about the frequency of trains passing. The number of trains each hour is doubling at least and even if they are electric trains there is still an impact noise wise. I live to the back of the running Shed on the Inchicore works site and when trains pass the sound is magnified as the train is passing between two structures and it's not open track. As it is, when trains pass it can be felt in the house itself. What will the longterm impact be on the foundations of the house and the integrity of the land? Will

there be consequences in terms of house insurance for residents? In constructing the retaining wall how will the insertion of rods/anchors potentially compromise the back gardens? Will noise levels be monitored throughout the process?

- As advised above I work from home the majority of the week and have concerns over noise disturbance when trying to work.
- With electric trains there will also be a lot of overhead cabling and I have concerns over safety there and what it will look like.
- Also, what will the end construction look like in terms of the retaining wall etc. Will anything change at the back wall of our houses in terms of fencing , hoarding etc?

I also have some concerns around communication. In early 2023 I was visited by 3 members of the planning team. At the time I was told that my garden would be borrowed temporarily for the works to happen. Two weeks ago, I emailed to confirm an email address for submission of observations and was told in fact my garden would not now be needed for the works. Had I not contacted the planning office I would not have known this. From that point of view I would have concerns about how much residents are going to be kept in the loop about what is going on. Are the plans going to constantly change and is it certain that my garden won't be needed or could that change again down the line?

In addition, I have had to pay a €50 fee to submit my observations. I was told on the phone to Dart South West offices recently that if I didn't pay that fee that my observations wouldn't be taken into consideration. The free observations are only open to "1. **Potentially Impacted Properties (including homes and businesses) who are referenced in the Railway Order**, i.e. you received a pack showing drawings of how your property may be impacted can make an observation as follows".

I think all the properties backing on to the railway are potentially going to be impacted by the ongoing construction work, by what it will look like in the end and by the fact that as advised on their website they are increasing the hourly frequency from 12 to 23 trains an hour. I think anyone living with that increase in frequency to the back of them is going to be impacted either way whether their garden is borrowed, bought or not touched at all and charging a fee like that to voice an opinion on something that directly impacts our houses is unfair.

Regards

Helen Shine