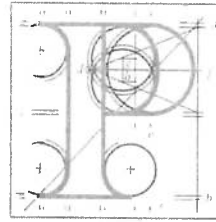


Our Case Number: ACP-323410-25



An
Coimisiún
Pleanála

Cllr. Sean Hartigan and Others
Drominboy House
Castleconnell
Co. Limerick

Date: 16 October 2025

Re: Proposed Limerick City Greenway (UL to NTP)
Within the townlands of Dromroe, Sreelane, Newcastle and Castletroy, Co. Limerick.

Dear Sir / Madam,

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

Please note that the proposed road development shall not be carried out unless the Commission has approved it or approved it with modifications.

If you have any queries in the mean time, please contact the undersigned officer of the Commission at laps@pleanala.ie

Please quote the above mentioned An Coimisiún Pleanála reference number in any correspondence or telephone contact with the Commission.

Yours faithfully,

Breda Ingle
Executive Officer
Direct Line: 01-8737291

HA02

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Glaó Áitiúil	LoCall	1800 275 175
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64 Sráid Maoilbhríde	64 Marlborough Street
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D01 V902	D01 V902

Submission on Case 323410

An Coimisiún Pleanála - Case reference: HA91.323410

AN COIMISIÚN PLEANÁLA	
LDG-	083310-25
ACP-	
09 OCT 2025	
Fee: €	50 Type: Card
Time: 10.57	By: In person

On behalf of the regular users of the canal and river bank walkway from Lock Quay to the confluence of the Mulcair River with the Shannon River, I'm making a submission on An Coimisiún Pleanála - Case reference: HA91.323410

We concede that while there is justification for the path to be improved and widened from the Lock Quay to the University of Limerick boat club, as it has a lot of pedestrian and bike traffic facilitating travel between University of Limerick and the City, we do not believe the path from UL boat club onto the back of Cooke medical should be transformed into a tarred surface along the river bank, as this section;

- Does not have as much traffic
- Has a lot of nature/biodiversity, that needs to be protected
- Is subject to flooding
- Is a relatively quiet undisturbed path, enjoyed by many for what it is.
- Has no provision for maintenance of the greenway once built. Limerick Council have not maintained the current 'smarter travel path' from Lock quay to University of Limerick boat club, since it was opened a decade ago to a satisfactory standard. Neither Limerick Council nor University of Limerick have not maintained the ancient river side path from UL boat club to Cooke medical to a satisfactory standard for the last 36 years. There is no reason to believe they will maintain this project once it is built. I have evidence of both bodies refusing to take responsibility for issues on this path and pass the blame to both each other or ESB, Inland Waterways, Inland Fisheries etc.
- The application fails to consider other proposed projects which may result in cumulative impacts

The wooded banks of the Shannon above the city, centering on the site now occupied by the University of Limerick, has a long history as an essential amenity. A number of villa type houses of the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries each with its planted demesne formed its centerpiece. Of these villas Plassey house c. 1770, extended c. 1870, is the principal survivor. It was built by Thomas Maunsell and named after a famous battle in India. Plassey Banks, as it is locally referred to, is a much-loved country walk enjoyed by hundreds of walkers, runners and cyclists every day.

Limerick Council's proposal, Limerick City Greenway (UL to NTP), will sweep away much of the historic planting which was laid out as allées of beech and Spanish chestnut trees planted in the late 18th or early 19th century as part of the picturesque enhancement of Plassey Park. The Council intends to replace this exceptionally beautiful woodland path on the banks of the Shannon, part of which is historically known as The Lady Maunsell Walk, with a widened tarmac surface, a mixture of wooden and iron railings and various pieces of street furniture. It would be a shocking act of vandalism that would destroy the charm and simplicity of the area.

From an ecological point of view, it is a shocking proposal; to remove 60+ mature trees, carry out extensive groundwork and put a tarred road on the riverbank. The removal of these trees cannot be done without causing extreme damage to/ destroying the riverbank, an area prone to flooding and would very likely result in the need for a flood defense barrier running alongside the greenway.

The River Shannon is already suffering from poor water quality, and fish stock is decimated. A tarred road on the bank will create a toxic run off into the river every time it rains, creating ongoing substantial damage. This will also drive away birds, bats and other wildlife that live along the bank. The ecosystem will be destroyed.

The hundreds of people who walk, run and cycle there every day choose the riverbank because it is a country walk, they choose to be in nature for all the benefits it brings, physical and mental.

The Council is now talking of creating "quiet places" in other parts of the city,

(<https://www.limerick.ie/council/newsroom/news/public-consultation-opens-on-proposed-quiet-area-designation-for-the-peoples>) while they plan to completely destroy a treasured quiet place, important in the lives of huge numbers of people, that was created two hundred years ago.

For the Council to claim they are carrying out this work to improve access is a fraud. If the Council maintained the existing paths the area would be accessible to everyone. The proposed vandalism would destroy the place for everyone, it would no longer be a quiet place, a country walk, a treasure in the lives of so many people that should be protected for future generations. It is an extremely important amenity area for both the local community, and those from further afield. It is valued as a country walk, a place of exceptional natural beauty that should be protected.

The existing unpaved path was created as part of the designed landscapes of several estates that bordered the River Shannon. It ran through three town lands: Shreelane (the Plassey estate), New Castle and Castle Troy (Willow Bank and Rose Lawn estates). See attached OS map surveyed 1839, published 1842. It is an interesting example of a designed feature that was shared by these estates which also had the river Shannon as a focus for their designed landscapes. The path is thus part of an aggregate designed landscape. Another example can be found in nearby Castleconnell.

The council should maintain the paths with a good quality gravel, clear the invasive plants, extend the path down to Bohemian's field and repair and reopen the black bridge.

This proposed development is for a piece of metropolitan transport infrastructure. Such infrastructure belongs in, or adjacent to, existing main transport routes as a complement to them rather than intensifying land use within or adjacent to SAC sites. The alluvial woodland that would be affected by this development is an annex habitat and is extremely important from a European conservation perspective. This historic walk and its components will be entirely destroyed by this development.

It is also entirely unnecessary; there are existing and recently upgraded active travel routes close by on Plassey Park Road, there is no requirement for this very damaging duplication. The cycle path currently turns off the river path at the boat house, goes through the campus and out one of two entrances onto the cycle path on Plassey Park Road. If the plan goes ahead cyclists will still have to join the cycle path on Plassey Park Road, just a little further down. We believe that the existing cycle/pedestrian paths through UL and the National Technological park should be improved/upgraded to connect to Annacotty village. It would be a senseless act of destruction to spend an enormous budget on this project. This development would entirely destroy the ambience of what is an extremely important amenity for the people of Castletroy. It would be unforgivable to allow it to proceed.

In order to fully assess the potential impact of the proposed development on European Sites, the project must be assessed alone or in combination with existing activities and proposed plans for the region. This application has failed to consider the following proposed projects which may result in cumulative impacts

Limerick to Scarriff Greenway

[Public Consultation on the Limerick to Scarriff Greenway - Waterways Ireland](#)

UL to Montpellier Greenway

<https://www.ulmontpeliergreenway.com/>

Eastern and Midlands Water Supply Project

<https://www.water.ie/projects/national-projects/water-supply-project-east-1>

Shannon Fish Passage Project

https://irishriverproject.com/wp-content/uploads/2022/01/2030_scope-of-services-lwr-shannon-options-prelim-design.pdf

Regards

Cllr. Seán Hartigan

0857218312

sean.hartigan@limerick.ie

Drominboy House, Castleconnell, Co. Limerick.

On behalf of those named below who have contacted me by email and/or signed a petition objecting to the proposal.

Bríd Kennedy

Margaret Clarke

Noel Clarke

Aoife Burke

Ciara McCarthy

Rebecca Hayes

Caroline Buckley

Adrienne Barrow

Lisa Buckley

Chloe Buckley

Alan Harvey

David Fleming

Robert McLoughlin

John O'Connor

George Fitzgerald

Glynn O'Neill

Patsy Sheehan

James McCormick

Susan Kerwin Bat Rehabilitation Ireland

Judith Hill

Tom O'Dwyer

Theresa O'Dwyer

Adam Craughan

Susan Craughan

Daniel Craughan

Fiona Craughan

Will Harrison

William Kennedy

Teresa Gunnigle

Paddy Gunnigle

Liam Irwin

Maura Ashe

Mark Cummins

Kevin Lillis

Brian Coates

Eileen Coates

Katorina Maher

Alan Ryan

Margaret Hayes

Gemma Guerin

Geralyn Molan

Mary Larking

John Whittle

Edel Foley

John O'Brien

Sinead Clinton

Maria Jennings

Barry Long

Lucy O' Neill

Robert H. Longley Robert H. Longley
resident of Plasey fishermen huts 085-754 8017

• Aidan Mulqueen

Aidan Mulqueen

085-7163414

• Con Shahan
2 College Ct Drive

086 8386833

C Shahan

• Geraldine Landers
G Landers

086 8432 108

25th Aug
• Theresa Glasson
Theresa Glasson

086 289 2656

Michael Luite

• Michael Luite

• Ben Cahill

087 654 8362

• Carl Foshag
Carl Foshag

089 410 8878

• Jure Ruje
Jure Ruje

089 249 3178

• Wenjie Wang

087 775 0808

Aug
• Anthony Monoras
Anthony Monoras

087 969 0821

• Margaret Fennessy
Margaret Fennessy

085 724 0532

Thursday 21 August

21.8.25. Colin O'Neill

085 839 5753

Donna Lippes

Colin O'Neill
JK

• Keelan Nash

Keelan Nash 0851617459

• Sean Considine

Sean Considine
085 816 0812

• Shane Reynolds

~~Shane Reynolds~~
087 229 0196

• Niamh Keogh

Niamh Keogh
086 1989 666

Stephen Keogh
(husband, Munster)

• Gerardine O'Donnell

~~Gerardine O'Donnell~~
087 759 7347

• James Quinlan

James Quinlan

• Monica Lamb

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for Bar
087 466 4593
(466 4593)

• Margaret Loughran Margaret Loughran 08639074

• Tony Loughran Tony Loughran 087 225 3441

• Danna Lippes Danna Lippes 085752

• Adrian Tully Adrian Tully 085-738478

• Addison Adams
~~Adolm Adams~~

386 442 7007

• Canon Halpin
~~Canon Halpin~~

085 111 9471

• Martina Zietz
~~Martina Zietz~~

085 270 7001

• Dobrosława, Zietz
~~Dobrosława Zietz~~

085 216 9843

• Glynn O'Neill

085 727 8577

~~34 Kilbane Castleway~~
~~Glyn O'Neill~~

~~Taylor Hartman~~

1907 406 4944

~~Anna Williams~~
~~Anna Williams~~

~~Ana Ballas~~
~~Ana Ballas~~

~~Caroline Auona~~
~~Caroline Auona~~

• Yvonne Boland
~~Yvonne Boland~~

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~~Sharon Greenfield~~
~~Sharon Greenfield~~

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• ~~Dorothy Mulvey~~

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L
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aka Craig
- Judith Hill 087 9240187
H. Clarke Hill
- Margaret Clarke 086 3866623
H. Clarke
- Noel Clarke 086 2438019
Maez Renee
- Adam Craughan
- Susan Craughan 086 341 5820
Susan Gm
- ~~Adam~~ Daniel Craughan 087 9116510
Paul Gm
- Maria Craughan 083 1798566
CRAUGHAN
- Amanda Ryan 086 8268 778
- Amanda Ryan
- Robert Helen Meloney 086 023 7611
- Robert Meloney BL
- Colette Clancy 087 4105982
with an O'Connell
083 9955227
- Cora O'Connell 086 8144807