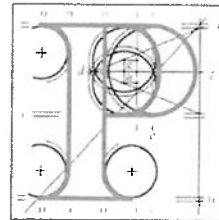


Our Case Number: ACP-324272-26



**An
Coimisiún
Pleanála**

Letterkenny Chamber of Commerce
c/o Toni Forrester
Grand Central Complex
Canal Road
Letterkenny
F92 EK7Y

Date: 20 July 2026

Re: Proposed TEN-T Priority Route Improvement Project
all routed along the electoral divisions of Dooish, Stranorlar, Convoy, Lettermore, Magheraboy,
Letterkenny Rural, Manorcunningham, Kinraigy, Treantaghmucklagh, Feddyglass, Clonleugh
North, and Clonleugh South, all in County Donegal

Dear Sir / Madam,

An Coimisiún Pleanála has received your recent submission 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 relation to this matter 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,


Eimear Reilly
Executive Officer
Direct Line: 01-8737184

HA02C

Tel
Glao Áitiúil
Láithreán Gréasáin
Ríomhphost

Tel
LoCall
Website
Email

(01) 858 8100
1800 275 175
www.pleanala.ie
communications@pleanala.ie

64 Sráid Maoilbhríde
Baile Átha Cliath 1
D01 V902

64 Marlborough Street
Dublin 1
D01 V902

Teil
Glao Áitiúil
Facs
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An
Coimisiún
Pleanála

SID Online Observation

Online Reference
SID-OBS-005684

Online Observation Details

Contact Name
Toni Forrester

Lodgement Date
06/07/2026 16:03:51

Case Number / Description
324272

Payment Details

Payment Method
Online Payment

Cardholder Name
Toni Forrester

Payment Amount
€50.00

Fee Refund Requisition

Please Arrange a Refund of Fee of

€

Lodgement No

LDG—

Reason for Refund

Documents Returned to Observer

☐

Yes

☐

No

Request Emailed to Senior Executive Officer for Approval

☐

Yes

☐

No

Signed

EO

Date

Finance Section

Payment Reference

ch_3TqE3nB1CW0EN5FC1YE9TZL3

Checked Against Fee Income Online

EO/AA (Accounts Section)

Amount

€

Refund Date

Authorised By (1)

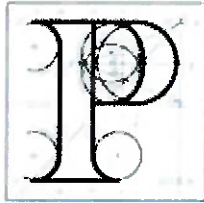
SEO (Finance)

Authorised By (2)

Chief Officer/Director of Corporate Affairs/SAO/Board
Member

Date

Date



Observation on a Strategic Infrastructure Development Application

Observer's details

1. Observer's details (person making the observation)

If you are making the observation, write your full name and address.

If you are an agent completing the observation for someone else, write the observer's details:

(a) Observer's
name

Letterkenny Chamber of Commerce

(b) Observer's
postal address

Grand Central Complex
Canal Road
Letterkenny F92 EK7Y

Agent's details

2. Agent's details (if applicable)

If you are an agent and are acting for someone else **on this observation**, please **also** write your details below.

If you are not using an agent, please write "Not applicable" below.

(a) Agent's name

Toni Forrester

(b) Agent's postal
address

As above

Postal address for letters

3. During the process to decide the application, we will post information and items to you or to your agent. For this **current application**, who should we write to? (Please tick ✓ one box only)

You (the observer) at the postal address in Part 1

☒

The agent at the postal address in Part 2

☐

Details about the proposed development

4. Please provide details about the **current application** you wish to make an observation.

- (a) **An Coimisiún Pleanála case number for the current application (if available)**

(for example: 300000)

324272

- (b) **Name or description of proposed development**

Proposed TEN-T Priority Route Improvement Project

- (c) **Location of proposed development**

(for example: 1 Main Street, Baile Fearainn, Co Abhaile)

County Donegal

Observation details

5. Grounds

Please describe the grounds of your observation (planning reasons and arguments). You can type or write them in the space below. There is **no word limit** as the box expands to fit what you write.

You can also insert photographs or images in this box. (See part 6 – Supporting materials for more information).

Letterkenny Chamber is the only full time Chamber of Commerce in Donegal affiliated to Chambers Ireland. We work for the interests of the business community in Donegal while also promoting economic development in the region with a range of partners and key stakeholders.

We have 340 members representing 15,000 employees from all sectors and sizes of business including FDI and many indigenous SMEs all of which share growth ambitions.

Letterkenny is the largest urban centre in Donegal with a population of 22000 and is now larger than Sligo. As the commercial capital with a University, Regional Hospital and some large employers it grows in size by around 20,000 each day putting pressure on all aspects of its infrastructure. The town is a significant growth centre as identified in the NDP and the North West City Region is being recognised as a strong cross border conglomeration (4th largest city on the island), however for many decades the town and region has lacked the infrastructure that could deliver the connectivity we need.

Over many years infrastructure has ranked highly among members concerns. Our businesses across the region and key stakeholders have clearly shown ambition and although the dial is moving the County Donegal statistics show a County that is still struggling across the metrics with infrastructure still being one of major concern.

Connectivity is key to achieving a thriving economy enabling the region to contribute positively to a successful Ireland.

The result of the current routes is congestion at peak times, increased road fatalities and a negative impression and reputation for the towns of Letterkenny and Ballybofey/Stranorlar. The peak time impression of congestion is off-putting to investors, visitors and potential employees.

County Donegal has no rail infrastructure and little prospect of its development. Most other counties in Ireland have alternative travel options while the NW is left with no option other than continued reliance on the car making it the worst performing County in the Northern & Western Region for infrastructure.

This Infrastructure deficit acts as an inhibitor to enterprise growth and international investment. It is not just about access but about productivity and livelihoods. In order to be a connected region and become a net contributor to the Irish economy the region needs infrastructure that is to a comparable standard to the rest of the country.

5. Grounds

The Donegal TEN-T route improvement project is welcomed by members and key stakeholders across County Donegal.

This proposed new route would deliver:

- A new route into Letterkenny allowing town centre traffic to flow more easily and reduce congestion.
- It would significantly improve the road from Manorcunningham to the border at Lifford and onwards to Dublin so enabling safer and quicker access to customers, clients and investors.
- A bypass for Stranorlar/Ballybofey would also result in much more predictable travel times to the south of the County and at the same time reduce the stress and congestion on the towns.

In this modern economy we believe it is not acceptable to still be moving goods, and people on single carriageway roads that are unsafe and not suitable for purpose.

Our members have waited for a long time to see these routes developed and we support this application.

Supporting materials

6. If you wish, you can include supporting materials with your observation.

Supporting materials include:

- photographs,
- plans,
- surveys,
- drawings,
- digital videos or DVDs,
- technical guidance, or
- other supporting materials.

You can insert photographs and similar items in your observation details: grounds (part 5 of this form).

If your supporting materials are physical objects, you must send them together with your observation by post or deliver it in person to our office. You cannot use the online uploader facility.

Fee

7. You **must** make sure that the correct fee is included with your observation.

Observers (except prescribed bodies)

- strategic infrastructure observation is €50.
- there is no fee for an oral hearing request

Oral hearing request

8. If you wish to request the Coimisiún to hold an oral hearing, please tick the “Yes, I wish to request an oral hearing” box below.

You can find information on how to make this request on [our website](#) or by contacting us.

If you do not wish to request an oral hearing, please tick the “No, I do not wish to request an oral hearing” box.

Yes, I wish to request an oral hearing

☐

No, I do not wish to request an oral hearing

☐

Final steps before you send us your observations

9. If you are sending us your observation using **the online uploader facility**, remember to save this document as a Microsoft word or PDF and title it with:

- the case number and your name, or
- the name and location of the development and your name.

This also applies to prescribed bodies sending an observation by email.

If you are sending your observation to us by post or delivering in person, remember to print off all the pages of this document and send it to us.

For Office Use Only

FEM – Received		SIDS – Processed	
Initials		Initials	
Date		Date	

Notes