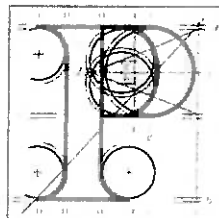


Our Case Number: ACP-324568-26



An
Coimisiún
Pleanála

Ballybofey & Stranorlar Chamber of Commerce
c/o Martin McGowan
The Base Enterprise Centre
Railway Road
Lifford
Co. Donegal
F93 A0E4

Date: 01 October 2026

Re: Proposed Development of the Barnesmore Gap Greenway Project
County Donegal

Dear Sir / Madam,

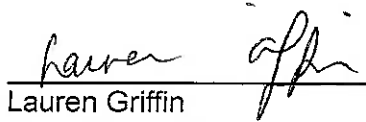
An Coimisiún Pleanála has received your recent submission (including your fee of €50) in relation to the above-mentioned proposed road development and will take it into consideration in its determination of the matter.

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 meantime, 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,


Lauren Griffin
Executive Officer
Direct Line: 01-8737244

HA02

Teil
Glao Áitiúil
Láithreán Gréasáin
Ríomhphost

Tel
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64 Sráid Macilbhríde
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64 Marlborough Street
Dublin 1
D01 V902



An
Coimisiún
Pleanála

SID Online Observation

Online Reference
SID-OBS-006119

Online Observation Details

Contact Name
Martin Mc Gowan

Lodgement Date
29/09/2026 13:25:29

Case Number / Description
324568

Payment Details

Payment Method
Online Payment

Cardholder Name
B S CHAMBER OF
COMMERCE

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_3UL069B1CW0EN5FC1gBBIqta

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

Incorporating that heritage into the Greenway experience could add another dimension to the attraction for both residents and visitors.

We believe that the project should therefore be viewed as much more than a cycleway or walking route. It is an investment in tourism, economic development, public health, recreation, active travel, heritage and the long-term attractiveness of the Twin Towns and the wider region.

As a Chamber representing the business community of Ballybofey and Stranorlar, we see considerable potential for businesses in the Twin Towns to benefit from increased visitor numbers and from the increased attractiveness of the area as a place to live, work, visit and invest.

We also recognise that the development will have a direct impact on a number of landowners, both through the acquisition of land and through the disruption associated with construction. Those impacts should not be understated. We believe that affected landowners should be treated fairly, respectfully and transparently throughout the process, with appropriate compensation and mitigation provided in accordance with the statutory provisions.

I make that point particularly strongly because, in addition to my role as Chairman of Ballybofey & Stranorlar Chamber of Commerce, I am also involved professionally in dealing with property and land matters in the area, including acting for some landowners affected by major infrastructure projects. I therefore fully appreciate that, while there is a significant public and economic benefit to a project of this nature, the impact on individual landowners must also be properly recognised and addressed.

Our support for the Greenway is therefore not intended to diminish or overlook the legitimate concerns of those directly affected. Rather, we believe that it is possible to support the wider strategic benefit of the project while ensuring that affected landowners are dealt with fairly throughout the process.

Ballybofey and Stranorlar have long been an important commercial and community centre for the Finn Valley. We believe that the Barnesmore Gap Greenway has the potential to build on that position and create a significant new connection between our towns, the wider county and the tourism economy of Donegal.

For these reasons, Ballybofey & Stranorlar Chamber of Commerce wishes to formally record its support for the proposed Barnesmore Gap Greenway and respectfully asks that this submission be taken into consideration as part of the planning process.

We believe this is an opportunity to create an asset which will benefit not only the current generation but generations of residents, visitors and businesses to come.

Yours faithfully,

Martin McGowan
Chairman
Ballybofey & Stranorlar Chamber of Commerce