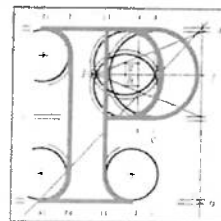


Our Case Number: ACP-324568-26



**An
Coimisiún
Pleanála**

Donegal Bay Cycling Club
c/o Aonghus Murphy
Ogherbeg
Donegal Town

Date: 01 October 2026

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

Dear Sir / Madam,

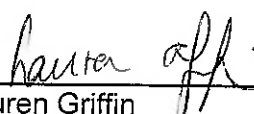
An Coimisiún Pleanála has received your recent submission (including your fee of €50) in relation to the above-mentioned proposed road development and will take it into consideration in its determination of the matter.

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
Glaó Áitiúil
Láithreán Gréasáin
Ríomhphost

Tel (01) 858 8100
LoCall 1890 275 175
Website www.pleanala.ie
Email communications@pleanala.ie

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



An
Coimisiún
Pleanála

SID Online Observation

Online Reference
SID-OBS-006120

Online Observation Details

Contact Name
Aonghus Murphy

Lodgement Date
29/09/2026 14:31:17

Case Number / Description
324568

Payment Details

Payment Method
Online Payment

Cardholder Name
Aonghus Murphy

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_3UL17pB1CW0EN5FC1WEnyeie

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



An Coimisiún Pleanála
64 Marlborough Street
Dublin 1, D01 V902

Re: Submission of Support – Donegal County Council Proposed Barnesmore Gap
Greenway Project

To Whom It May Concern,

I am writing on behalf of Donegal Bay Cycling Club to formally register our enthusiastic support for the planning application and scheme proposal for the Barnesmore Gap Greenway.

As a active cycling club serving members across south and west Donegal, our organisation represents riders of all ages and abilities—from young beginners learning to ride, to commuters, leisure cyclists, and competitive athletes. The development of this ~37.5 km high-quality, off-road route connecting Donegal Town to Ballybofey/Stranorlar through the iconic Barnesmore Gap represents a transformative step forward for active travel, road safety, and community sport in our region.

We strongly endorse this project for the following key reasons:

1. Road Safety & Protected Active Travel Infrastructure

Currently, cyclists traveling between Donegal Town and the Twin Towns must navigate the heavily trafficked N15 national primary route. The N15 carries significant heavy commercial vehicles, high-speed traffic, and narrow margins through the Gap, creating a hostile and high-risk environment for vulnerable road users. The proposed 37.5 km fully segregated greenway provides a safe, accessible corridor, separating cyclists and pedestrians completely from motorized traffic and significantly reducing collision risks.

2. Grassroots Cycling Development & Inclusivity

A dedicated, off-road facility of this caliber is vital for the growth of local cycling. It offers a safe space to run youth programs, beginner-to-intermediate leisure rides, and adaptive cycling initiatives without the barrier of traffic fear. It ensures that families, elderly residents, and less confident riders can enjoy cycling safely for recreation and health.

3. Active Commuting & Modal Shift

The greenway provides a direct, sustainable connection between major population centers in County Donegal. By offering a viable alternative to short and medium car journeys, the

scheme aligns directly with national active travel objectives, supporting local decarbonisation targets and encouraging healthier, daily habits for commuters.

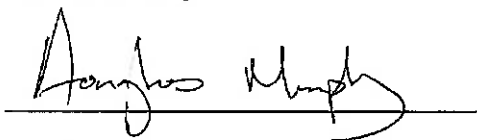
4. Sports Tourism & Regional Economic Benefits

Donegal Bay Cycling Club frequently hosts and participates in events that attract visitors to the North West. High-quality greenways across Ireland (such as the Waterford and Great Western Greenways) have proven to be major catalysts for local economies, supporting hospitality, bicycle hire, and eco-tourism. The Barnesmore Gap Greenway will showcase Donegal's world-class natural scenery while drawing sports tourists and leisure cyclists year-round.

Conclusion

Donegal Bay Cycling Club unreservedly supports the approval and timely progression of the Barnesmore Gap Greenway. We commend Donegal County Council and the project team for bringing the scheme to this stage and look forward to utilizing this infrastructure upon its completion.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Aonghus Murphy', is written over a horizontal line.

Aonghus Murphy
Ogherbeg
Donegal Town
Co Donegal

Donegal Bay Cycling Club

0877647220