# Appendix I Preferred Route - 3rd Non-Statutory Public Consultation

- Brochure

# Appendix I: Clongriffin to City Centre Core Bus Corridor – Preferred Route Third Round of Public Consultation November 2020

The Clongriffin to City Centre CBC –Preferred Route Third Round of Public Consultation November 2020 is available from the NTA BusConnects Website, and can be accessed by clicking on the links below:

https://busconnects.ie/media/2103/01-clongriffin-to-city-centre-preferred-route-301020fa-web.pdf

# Clongriffin to City Centre

# **Core Bus Corridor Preferred Route**

Third Round of Public Consultation November 2020



Project Ireland 2040 Building Ireland's Future





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# **1. Introduction**

# 1.1 What is BusConnects?

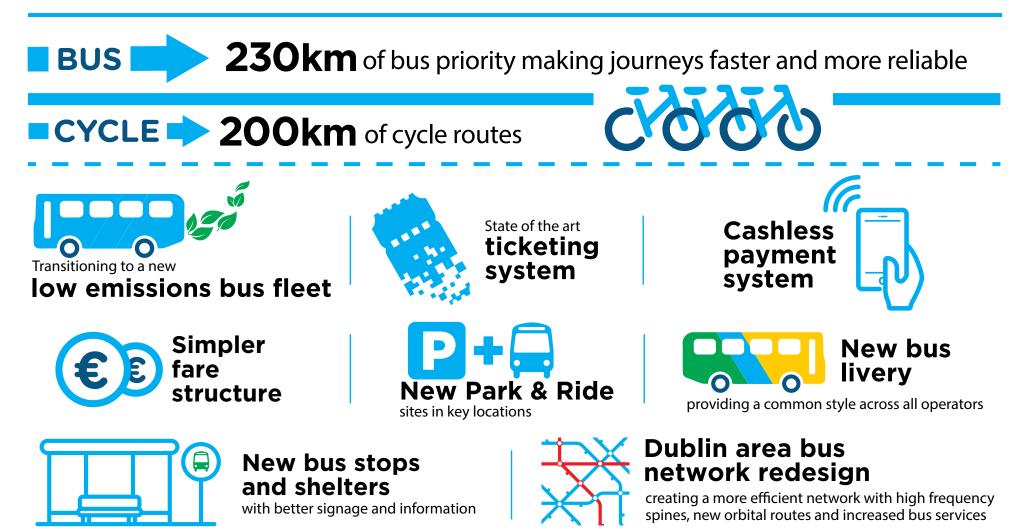
BusConnects is the National Transport Authority's (NTA) programme to greatly improve bus and sustainable transport services. It is a key part of the Government's polices to improve public transport and address climate change in Dublin and other cities. Dublin is growing and needs a bus network that works for a developing city. The aim of BusConnects is to deliver an enhanced bus system that is better for the city, its people and the environment.

BusConnects is included in the Programme for Government "Our Shared Future" 2020, as well as within the following Government strategies:

- > The National Development Plan 2018 2027;
- Transport Strategy for the Greater Dublin Area 2016 - 2035
- The Climate Action Plan 2019.



# **BusConnects Dublin is a programme of 9 elements**



# 1.2 What are the aims and objectives of BusConnects Core Bus Corridors?

**Aims:** The aim of BusConnects Core Bus Corridors is to provide enhanced walking, cycling and bus infrastructure on key access corridors in the Dublin region, which will enable and deliver efficient, safe, and integrated sustainable transport movement along these corridors.

# **Objectives:**



# Enhance the capacity and potential of the public transport system by

improving bus speeds, reliability and punctuality through the provision of bus lanes and other measures to provide priority to bus movement over general traffic movements;



Support the delivery of an efficient, low carbon and climate resilient public transport service, which supports the achievement of Ireland's emission reduction targets;



Enhance the potential for cycling by providing safe infrastructure for cycling, segregated from general traffic wherever practicable:



Enable compact growth, regeneration opportunities and more effective use of land in Dublin, for present and future generations, through the provision of safe and efficient sustainable transport networks;



Improve accessibility to jobs, education and other social and economic opportunities through the provision of improved sustainable

connectivity and integration with other public transport services; and



Ensure that the public realm is carefully considered in the design and development of the transport infrastructure and seek to enhance key urban focal points where appropriate and feasible.

### 1.3 What has happened so far?

Between November 2018 and May 2019 the National Transport Authority (NTA) carried out the first round of public consultation regarding proposals for the Emerging Preferred Routes of 16 Core Bus Corridors (CBC) across Dublin. During this first round of consultation we received 13,000 submissions in total. These submissions were reviewed and considered as part of the design process for the Preferred Route option for each corridor.

A second round of public consultation on the Preferred Route options commenced in March 2020 and continued until mid-April 2020. Not withstanding the Covid-19 pandemic and subsequent Government restrictions, the consultation continued due to the level of interest. The focus of public queries and submissions came through emails, post, phone conversations and online submissions as all the information was available on the BusConnects website for review.

It was decided in March that an additional third round of public consultation would take place in the latter part of this year to provide further opportunities for the public to review and submit feedback to the latest set of designs.

### 1.4 What is in this brochure?

This document is one of 16, each dedicated to a single core bus corridor. The document provides a written description of the Preferred Route from start to finish with supporting maps. It includes all revisions made, if any, since the last round of public consultation. It also includes a revised timeline for the progress of the programme due to Covid19 implications.

The brochures detailing the Emerging Preferred Route and the brochures from the second round of consultation earlier this year are available to view and download on our website www.busconnects.ie.

Definitions of the terminology used in the document can be found in chapter 4 of this this brochure.

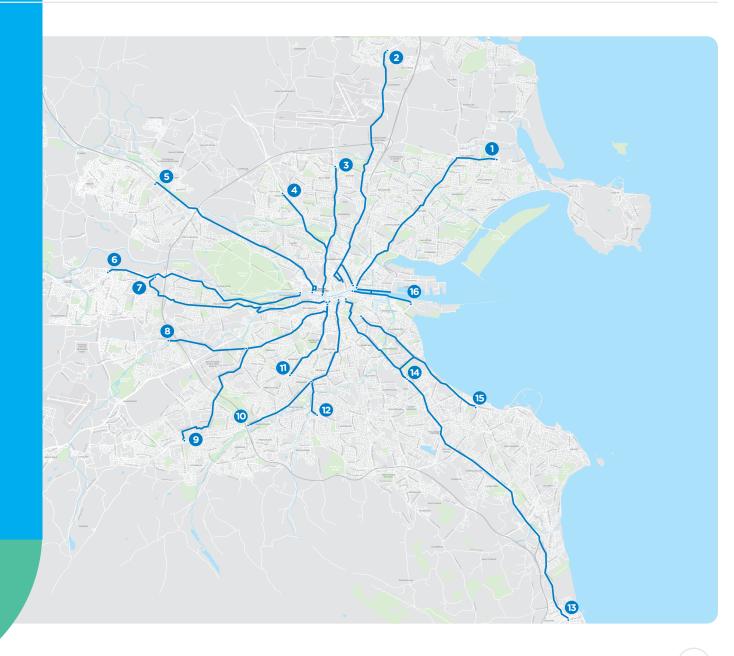




# 1.5 A map of all 16 core bus corridors

### **Preferred Routes**

- 1. Clongriffin to City Centre
- 2. Swords to City Centre
- 3. Ballymun to City Centre
- 4. Finglas to Phibsborough
- 5. Blanchardstown to City Centre
- 6. Lucan to City Centre
- 7. Liffey Valley to City Centre
- 8. Clondalkin to Drimnagh
- 9. Greenhills to City Centre
- 10. Tallaght to Terenure
- 11. Kimmage to City Centre
- 12. Rathfarnham to City Centre
- 13. Bray to City Centre
- 14. UCD Ballsbridge to City Centre
- 15. Blackrock to Merrion
- 16. Ringsend to City Centre



# 2. What has been happening over the last number of months?

Considerable design work has been continuing since the last round of consultation. This work includes the following:

# 2.1 Technical Design

Designs have progressed with further refinements being made to elements of each corridor such as junctions, alignments, bus stops, cycling and walking facilities, and urban realm features. Engagement with stakeholders is continuing including engagement with individual householders directly impacted. The developing design has been, and continues to be, informed by stakeholder engagement and further detailed surveys. These include the identification of underground services and detailed assessment of trees along the routes.

Draft Preferred Route Option Reports have been prepared for each CBC detailing the

development of each corridor from the Emerging Preferred Route through to the draft Preferred Route Option. These draft "Preferred Route Option Reports" are being published as part of the public consultation and will be finalised following this third round of public consultation and the inclusion of feedback received. **These draft reports are available to view and download on the website www.busconnects.ie.** 

### 2.2 Environmental Impact Assessment

As part of the intended planning application for each corridor, the NTA will be preparing an Environmental Impact Assessment Report (EIAR) in accordance with current Irish and European legislation. This document will identify the anticipated environmental effects of the scheme during both the construction and operational stages. This assessment is being undertaken by environmental specialists on behalf of the NTA. As part of this assessment, these specialists are undertaking studies of the current condition of the receiving environment within the identified corridor extents. This involves a combination of on-site surveys and desktop study of existing records. At the time of this public consultation, various surveys and studies are underway. The information collected will also be shared with the technical designers for consideration in the design decision making process for the infrastructure works.

Further details of the environmental assessment approach for each scheme are outlined in an individual corridor document called "Information on the Proposed Approach to Environmental Assessment". This document gives a more in-depth description of the determination of the extents of anticipated impacts and how the cumulative impacts of adjacent core bus corridors and other construction projects will be assessed. **These draft reports are available to view and download on the website www.busconnects.ie**.

# 2.3 Transport Impact

The transport assessment of the core bus corridor proposals is focussed on the "movement of people" rather than, solely, the "movement of vehicles". In order to adequately determine the impact on public transport, active modes (walking and cycling), and general traffic, a comprehensive suite of transport models have been developed. An extensive set of traffic counts were undertaken in late 2019 and early 2020 and this data, along with other sources, has been used to calibrate and validate the models to assist in the evaluation of the core bus corridors. On a strategic level, the Eastern Regional Model has been used to forecast the modal split for future years. At a more refined level, a Local Area Model has been developed to examine the potential displacement of traffic. In addition, detailed modelling is ongoing in terms of junction and corridor analysis tests and to quantify the effect on the movement of people through each junction and along the corridor itself.

Each EIAR will contain a section on the potential traffic and transport impacts associated with the construction and operational phases of the core bus corridors. This assessment will be informed by the following reports:

 Transport Impact Assessment (TIA)

 this will include the comprehensive assessment of each core bus corridor covering all modes and will include a cumulative assessment of all corridors; and



Transport Modelling Report - this will detail the model development, data inputs, calibration and validation, and forecast model development for the set of models used to support the assessment.

A draft, work-in-progress version of the "Transport Modelling Reports" for each core bus corridor, together with a summary of the work-in-progress strategic modelling results todate, are being published as part of the public consultation and will be finalised following this third round of public consultation and the inclusion of feedback received. **These draft reports are available to view and download on the website www.busconnects.ie**.

### 2.4 Urban Realm

In tandem with the technical design work on finalising the road alignment in the urban cross sections across the core bus corridors, planning has also progressed for refining the Urban Realm design proposals. These designs are being developed in consultation with the local authorities to ensure tie-in to existing schemes and initiatives. The NTA is focusing on finishing the layout of spaces, considering desire lines (how people want to move through spaces) and the placement of urban furniture (trees, bins, bollards, benches, bike stands, railings, etc.)

Urban Realm improvement opportunities along the routes present themselves through the civil/physical works needed to reach the BusConnects objective to provide bus priority, along with improved cycling and pedestrian facilities. All put together, the core bus corridors provide an opportunity for lots of continuous interventions that, together, can give a general city-wide lift.

The Urban Realm improvement opportunities are spread out along the core bus corridors and need to respond to and reflect specific locality and context. In the design of the urban spaces we will be using appropriate materials and urban furniture that comply with standards for use, durability and maintenance as well as carbon footprint considerations.

Further details of the urban realm design approach can be found in a document called "BusConnects Urban Realm Concept Design" published as part of the public consultation. **This document is available to view and download on the website www.busconnects.ie**.

# 2.5 Compulsory Purchase Maps & Schedules

In tandem with the technical design work the designers will be starting the work of preparing the various maps and schedules of areas that are proposed to be acquired under the statutory compulsory purchase order process (CPO). The attached Maps in this brochure indicate Proposed New Boundaries (Possible Land Acquisition) represented by broken red lines. These boundaries are indicative of potential areas for permanent CPO, and are not yet finalised. As detailed plots are finalised the designers will be continuing to seek to meet those with an interest in the impacted areas.

In some cases there may also be a need to realign driveways and/or redo the landscaping of property front gardens, or reorganise business accesses and/or loading areas. Some of these works may be outside the permanent CPO area, and consequently there may be a need to put in place temporary arrangements to ensure access during construction to carry out necessary accommodation works. Similar to the permanent CPO development, the designers will be continuing to seek to meet those with an interest in the impacted areas.



### 2.6 Timeline for the Core Bus Corridor Process

# **3. How to take** part in the public consultation

This brochure provides details of the proposed Preferred Route Option for this core bus corridor. These proposals are subject to a third non-statutory round of public consultation, and subsequent design refinement and environmental impact assessment, before a formal statutory application will be made by the NTA to An Bord Pleanála for approval.

Virtual consultation rooms for each Core Bus Corridor can be found on **www.busconnects.ie.** These rooms will provide a description of each Preferred Route from start to finish with supporting maps and include information of all revisions made, if any, since the last round of public consultation as well as other supporting documents.

### 3.1 General queries

The project website **www.busconnects.ie** has a dedicated section for the Core Bus Corridor

project. All previous emerging preferred route brochures are available on the website. Users can access the site to find out more about the project and download copies of the key documents.

General queries can be directed to a dedicated Freephone – 1800 303 653 or by email to cbc@busconnects.ie

# 3.2 How to engage

We are inviting submissions in relation to the Preferred Route Options set out in this document. The closing date for submissions is stated on the website.

Written submissions and observations may be made by:



#### cbc@busconnects.ie

BusConnects Core Bus Corridors National Transport Authority, Dún Scéine, Harcourt Lane, Dublin 2 D02 WT20

### 3.3 What happens next?

Following the third round of public consultation, the NTA will finalise the Preferred Route Options for all sixteen corridors. The scheme designs will be finalised, transport and environmental impact assessments will be completed. This will culminate in the preparation of an Environmental Impact Assessment Report (EIAR) for the scheme together with details of land to be acquired. This will be submitted to An Bord Pleanála in 2021 for its consideration and determination. A formal statutory consultation process will be undertaken as part of that process.



# 4. Preferred Route Description

### 4.1 Overview

The Core Bus Corridor (CBC) commences at Clongriffin DART Station, and is routed via Clongriffin Main Street which will be extended to join the Malahide Road at a new junction to the north of Clare Hall Junction. The CBC is then routed via Malahide Road to the junction with Marino Mart/Fairview. From here the CBC ties into a separate project, Clontarf to City Centre Cycle Scheme currently proposed by Dublin City Council.

The following paragraphs will describe each section of the CBC in more detail, identifying the key design revisions which have been incorporated into the design since the publication of the Preferred Route Option in March 2020.

### 4.2 Clongriffin DART Station to Malahide Road via Clongriffin Main Street

At Clongriffin DART Station, it is proposed to retain the existing pedestrian, bus stop and bus turnaround facilities. It is intended to route buses through Clongriffin Main Street, minor works are proposed for this existing section of the Main Street. Existing bus and cycle infrastructure will be maintained. At Priory Hall the route will align with Dublin City Council's proposed Belmayne Main Street and Belmayne Avenue Scheme which extends to a new junction at the Malahide Road. This will include a new bus, cycle and taxi only access onto the Malahide Road. General traffic will not be permitted to use this access, access to Main Street for general traffic will remain unchanged through Belmayne.

### 4.3 Mayne River Avenue to Gracefield Road – Malahide Road

The CBC is then proposed to be routed along the Malahide Road to the junction with the R105 at Marino Mart/Fairview. The following junctions are intended to be upgraded to provide bus priority and enhanced pedestrian and cyclist facilities:

- Malahide Road/Clarehall Avenue;
- Malahide Road/Entrance to Clarehall Shopping Centre;
- Malahide Road/Blunden Drive/Priorswood Road;

- Malahide Road/Tonglegee Road/Brookville Crescent; and
- Malahide Road/Gracefield Road.

Between Clarehall Avenue and Blunden Drive, a single bus lane and two general traffic lanes will be maintained in each direction.

It is proposed to upgrade the existing roundabout on Blunden Drive to a fully signalised junction. This modification will involve the removal of some median hedging and trees, however there will be compensatory planting at the junction.

Between Blunden Drive and Greencastle Road the proposed Toucan Crossing has been relocated to align more directly with the pedestrian and segregated cycle track linking Ayrefield Drive and Malahide Road.

Between Tonlegee Road junction and Gracefield Road junction, it is intended to retain the single bus lane and general traffic lane in each direction. A northbound segregated cycle track will be provided in the area between the Malahide Road and Brookville Park. It is proposed that southbound cyclists are redirected onto the adjoining St. Brendan's Avenue using a Quiet Street Treatment. Cyclists can then re-join the Malahide Road at Gracefield Road.

It is proposal to upgrade the existing roundabout at Gracefield Road to a fully signalised junction.

### 4.4 Gracefield Road and Clontarf Road-Malahide Road

Between Gracefield Road and Clontarf Road junctions, it is proposed to upgrade the following junctions on the Malahide Road:

- Malahide Road/Collins Avenue;
- Malahide Road/Copeland Avenue/Griffith Avenue; and
- Malahide Road/Clontarf Road.

Between Gracefield Road junction and Killester Avenue, it is intended to provide a continuous bus lane with a single general traffic lane in each direction. Segregated cycle tracks and footpath facilities will be maintained through this section. To accommodate this, limited areas of land take will be required from private properties. The indicative extents of this land take are included in the Appendix of this brochure. Between Kilmore Road junction and Killester Avenue the western cycle track and footpath is within the green area to minimise any impact on the existing wall and trees.

Between Killester Avenue junction and Collins Avenue, it is proposed to maintain the road cross-section as described in the previous section. The existing road between these junctions requires widening to accommodate the necessary lane widths and bus stop facilities. Land take will only be employed in Maypark to enable the retention of the mature trees and heritage wall. Between Mayfield Park and Collins Avenue it is proposed to utilise some land take from private properties. The indicative extents of this land take are included in the Appendix of this brochure.

Along the Malahide Road between the Collins Avenue junction and the Griffith Avenue junction, it is intended to provide a continuous bus lane with a single general traffic lane in each direction. Currently, there are no continuous segregated cycle tracks in each direction on this section. This issue is proposed to be addressed by road widening works which will involve land take between Donnycarney Church and Clancarthy Road, Clontarf Golf Club and Bowling Club grounds and Nazareth House. The indicative extents of this land take are included in the Appendix of this brochure.

The proposed works may also require the removal of existing trees currently located on traffic islands or between the existing road and footpath, although opportunities to enhance the streetscape have been identified as part of this review.

Between the Griffith Avenue junction and the Clontarf Road junction, it is proposed to continue the bus and general traffic lanes in each direction. There are currently only three traffic lanes on this section of road. To facilitate the new four lane arrangement, it is intended to utilise limited land take from adjacent properties at the following locations:

 Between Copeland Avenue and Marino Avenue;

- Between Charlemont Road and Crescent Place; and
- Between Brian Road and St. Aidan's Park.

It is proposed to provide an alternative cycle route using a Quiet Street Treatment running parallel to the Malahide Road along Brian Road, Carleton Road and Haverty Road. Cyclists will then re-join Marino Mart and connect with the Clontarf to City Centre Cycle Scheme. It is proposed to close Haverty Road for vehicular traffic at the St Aidan's Park end of the street. This proposal will also help to further reduce through-traffic on Brian Road, Carleton Road and Haverty Road.

The proposed bus lane works will tie into the intended bus and cycle facilities on Clontarf Road, which are being advanced by Dublin City Council and have received planning approval.

# 4.5 Key Changes from the Preferred Route Published in March 2020

- The layout of all bus stops along the route have been enhanced;
- Some bus stop locations have changed;
- Cycle facilities have been updated;
- Malahide Road/ Clarehall Avenue updated to allow cycle crossings on all arms.

# 4.6 Key Facts

٥	Approximate number of prop that may be impacted	erties	99
0	Approximate number of on-st parking spaces that may be re		70
Ø	Approximate number of trees may be removed	that	80
٥	Approximate route length:		8kms
٥	Approximate cycle route leng	th:	8kms
٥	Current bus journey time:	up to 6	5 mins
٥	BusConnects journey time:	30-35	5 mins
٥	Future Bus journey time witho BusConnects:		nins +

# **5. Understanding** the terminology

### 1. Core Bus Corridor (CBC):

Part of the overall BusConnects Programme is to create 16 radial core bus corridors (CBC). A CBC is an existing road with bus priority so that buses can operate efficiently, reliably and punctually. This generally means full length dedicated bus lanes on both sides of the road from start to finish of each corridor or other measures to ensure that buses are not delayed in general traffic congestion. The bus lanes will be alongside segregated cycle lanes/tracks where feasible and general traffic.

#### 2. Segregated Cycle Tracks:

A segregated cycle track is a separate section of the road dedicated for cycling only. This space will generally be isolated from other vehicular traffic by a physical kerb. Where is it not physically possible to have segregated cycle tracks there will be the option of quiet roads and shared cycling on reduced speed roads for cyclists.

#### **3. Emerging Preferred Route (EPR):**

The NTA published outline plans for each of the 16 CBCs in a non-statutory public consultation process in 2018/2019. The options were called Emerging Preferred Routes (EPR), in some cases with multiple sub-options, to inform the public of the likely layout of the roadway with the necessary CBC infrastructure in place. They included possible impacts on front gardens, and likely changes to how traffic will operate to facilitate bus priority.

#### 4. Preferred Route Option (PRO):

Following consideration of the public submissions about the 16 EPR's, the core bus corridor proposals have been reviewed and amended. They are now being presented as the Preferred Route Option (PRO) and are subject to a further round of non-statutory public consultation.

They are not final proposals as they are subject to further consideration from this round of public consultation and also subsequent examination in the context of environmental impact assessment.

#### 5. Bus Gate



A Bus Gate is a sign-posted short length of stand-alone bus lane. This short length of road is restricted exclusively to buses, taxis and cyclists plus emergency vehicles. It facilitates bus priority by removing general through traffic along the overall road where the bus gate is located. General traffic will be directed by signage to divert away to other roads before they arrive at the bus gate. To see an animation of a how a Bus Gate will work, please visit our website www.busconnects.ie.

#### 6. Signal Controlled Priority (SCP):

Signal Control Priority uses traffic signals to enable buses to get priority ahead of other traffic on single lane road sections, but it is typically only effective for short distances. This typically arises where the bus lane cannot continue due to obstructions on the roadway. An example might be when a road has pinchpoints where it narrows due to existing buildings or structures that cannot be removed to widen the road to make space for a bus lane. It works through the use of traffic signal controls (typically at junctions) where the bus lane and general traffic will be stopped at the signal to allow the bus pass through the narrow section first, when the bus has passed the general traffic will then be allowed through the lights. To see an animation of a how Signal Controlled Priority will work, please visit our website www.busconnects.ie

### 7. Toucan Crossing:

A Toucan Crossing is a roadway crossing designed to enable both pedestrians and cyclists to cross the road with purposefully designed signal controls.

### 8. Quiet Street Treatment:

Where CBC roadway widths cannot facilitate cyclists without significant impact on bus priority, alternative cycle routes are explored for short distances away from the CBC bus route. Such offline options may include directing cyclist along streets with minimal general traffic other than car users who live on the street. They are called Quiet Streets due to the low amount of general traffic and are deemed suitable for cyclists sharing the roadway with the general traffic without the need to construct segregated cycle tracks or painted cycle lanes. The Quiet Street Treatment would involve appropriate advisory signage for both the general road users and cyclists.

#### 9. Urban Realm:

Urban Realm refers to the everyday street spaces that are used by people to cross, shop, socialise, play and use for activities such as walking, exercise or commuting to/from work. The Urban Realm encompasses all streets, squares, junctions and other rights-of-way in residential, commercial and civic use areas as well as seating, trees and other enhancements. When well designed and laid out with care in a community setting, it enhances the everyday lives of residents and those passing through.

#### Signal Controlled Priority (SCP)



1. Traffic proceeds as normal.



2. As the bus approaches, the light signal changes to halt general traffic.



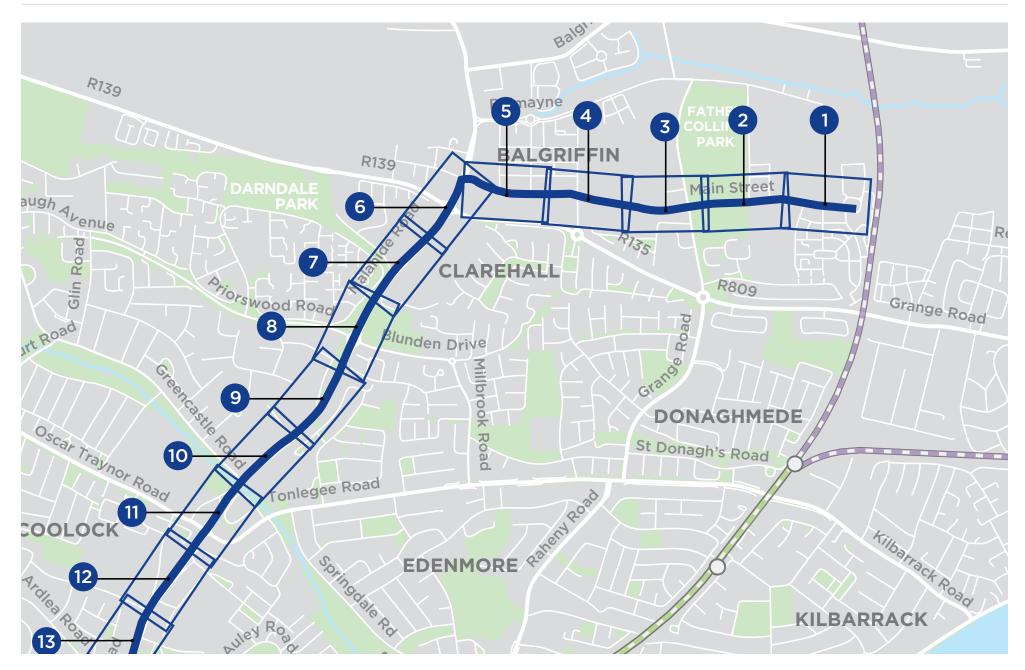
3. The bus has priority to proceed.



4. When the bus has cleared the junction, general traffic proceeds.

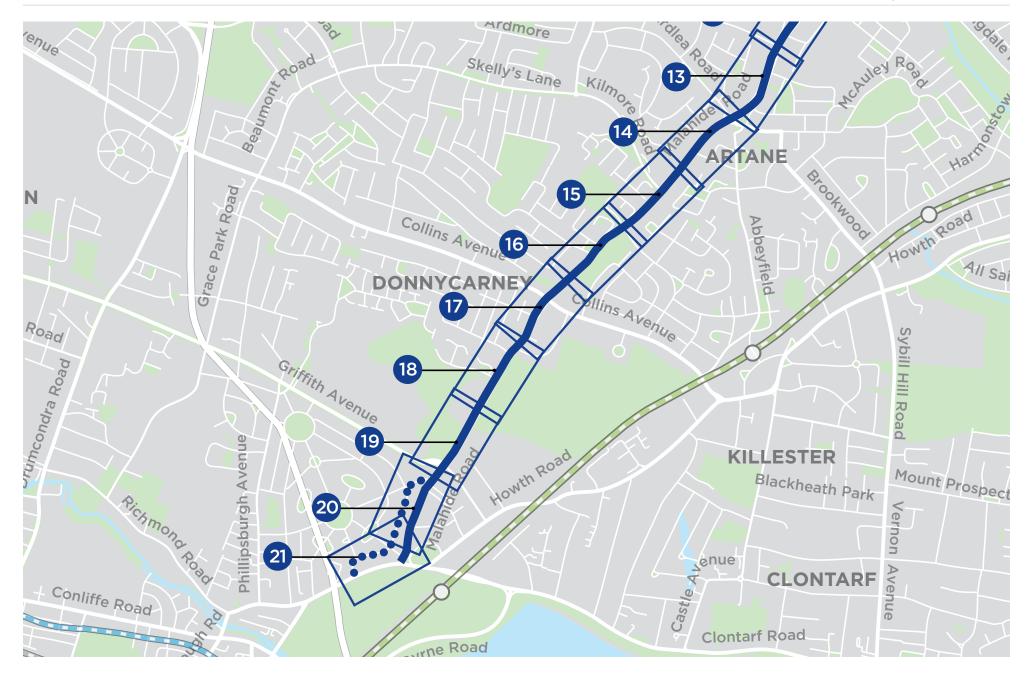
# 6. Appendices

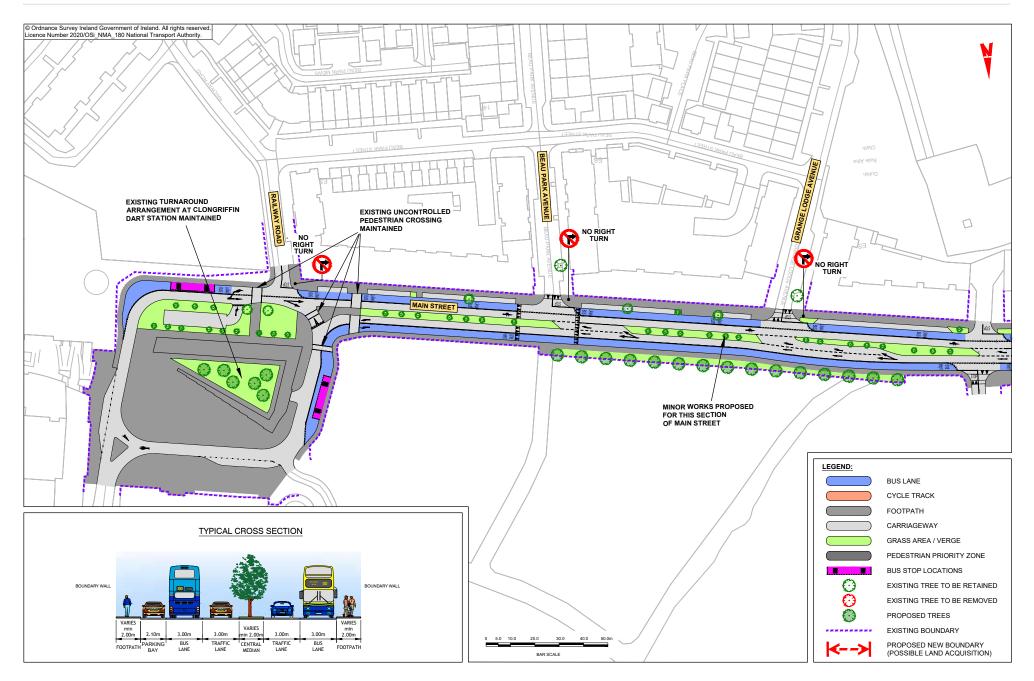
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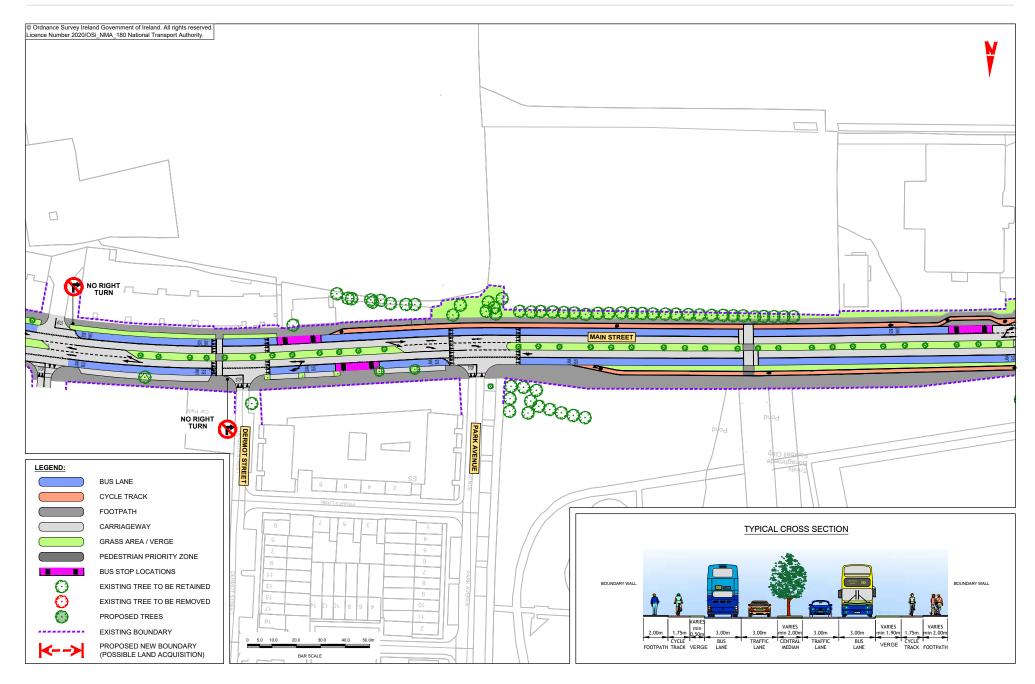


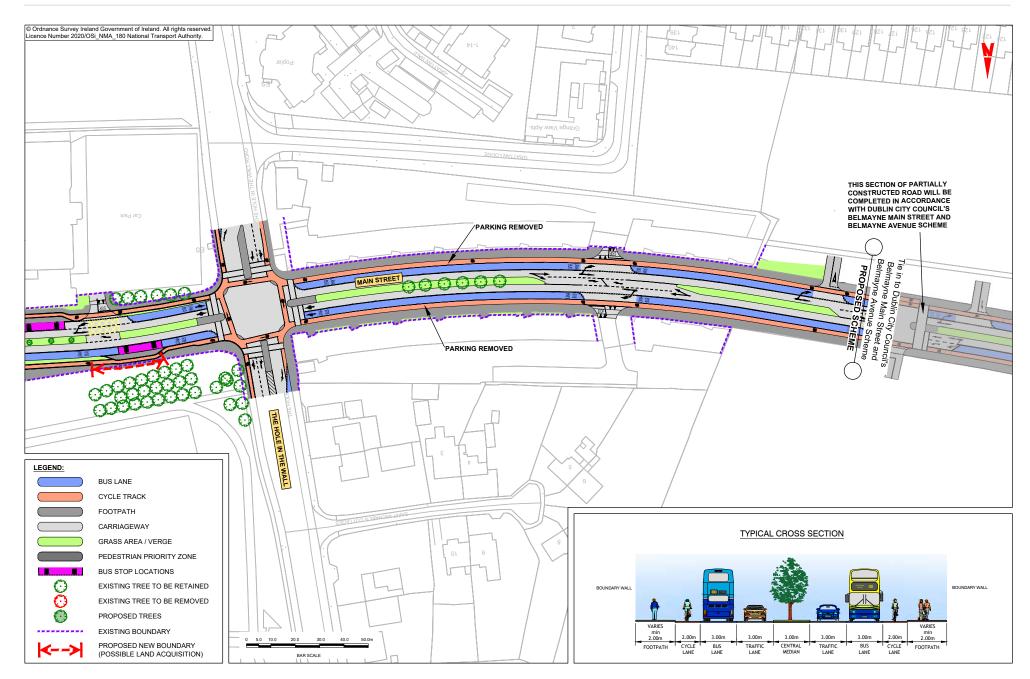
NOTE: The Preferred Route shown on the following drawings is indicative only and is subject to change following consultation and as part of the design development process.

# **Index Map Continued**



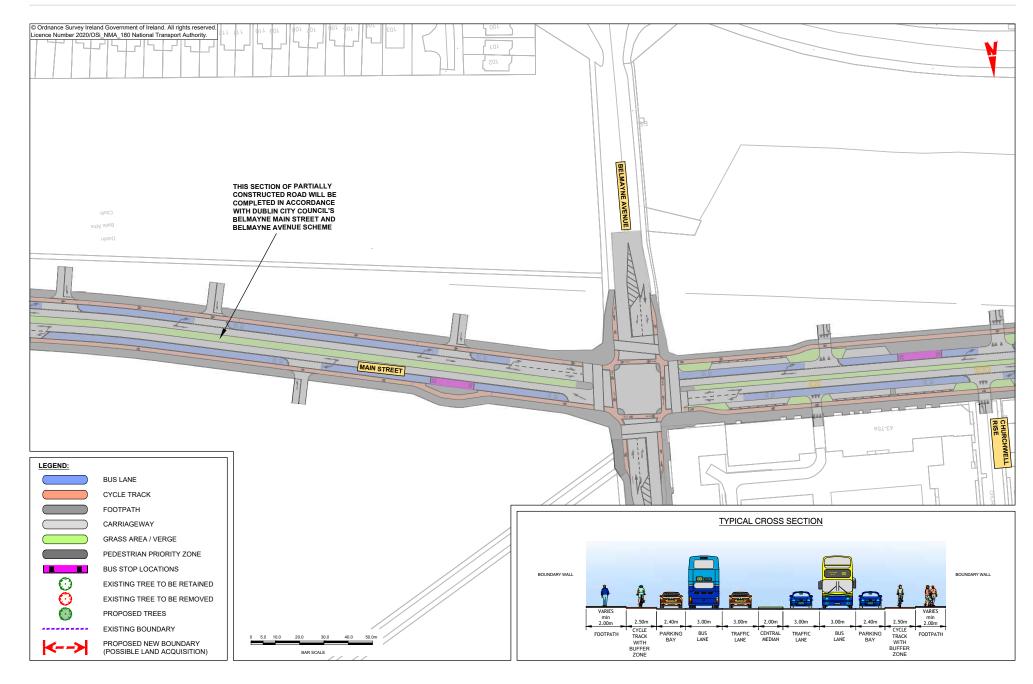


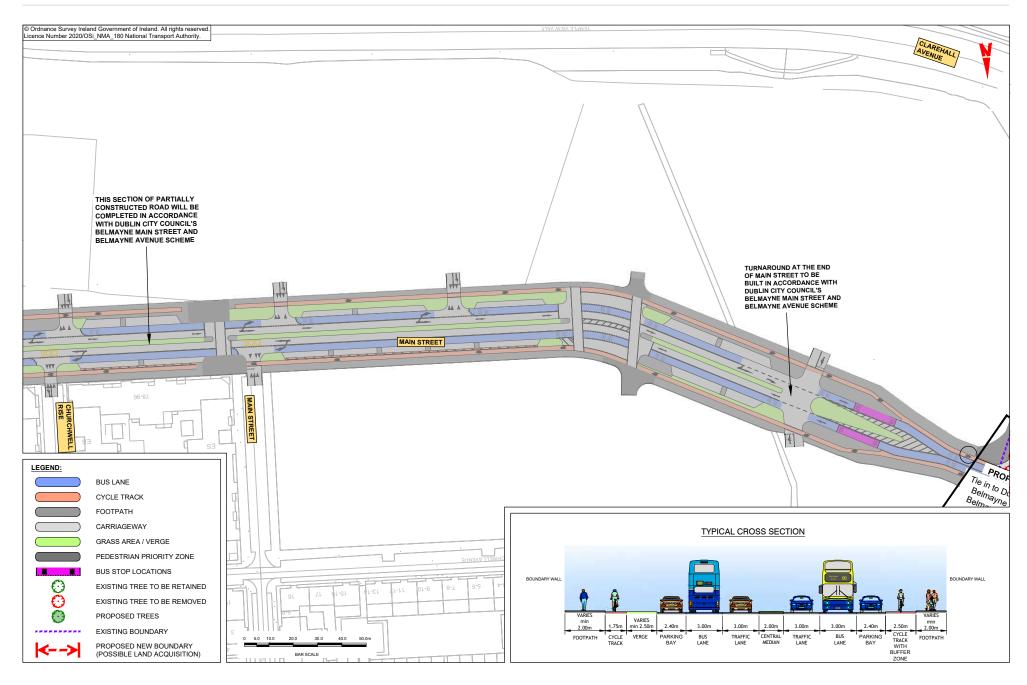


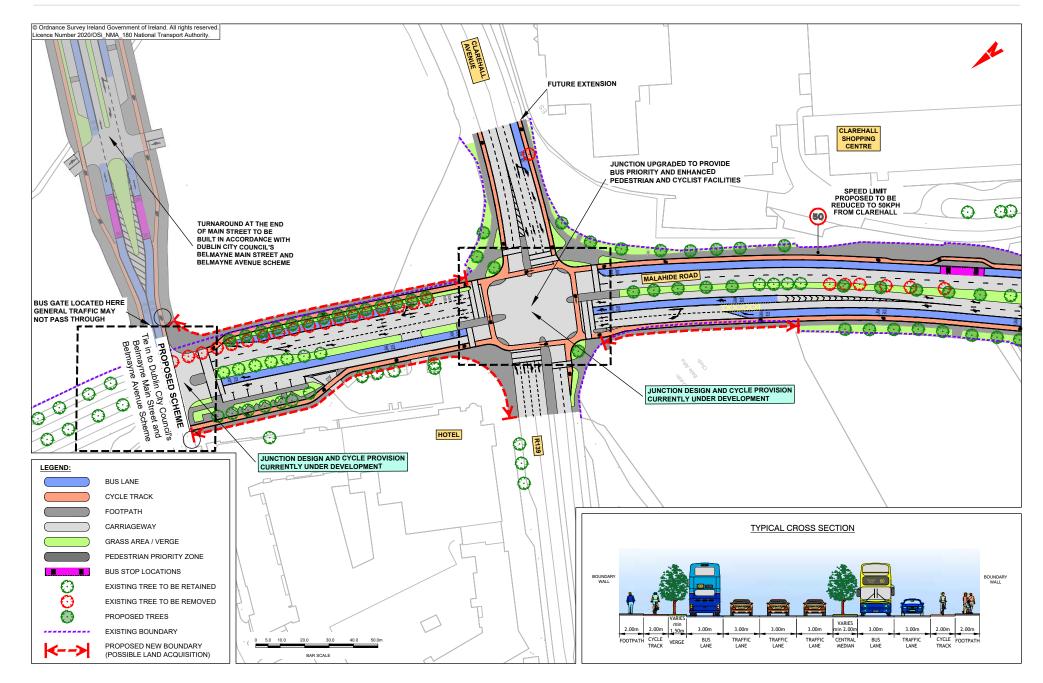


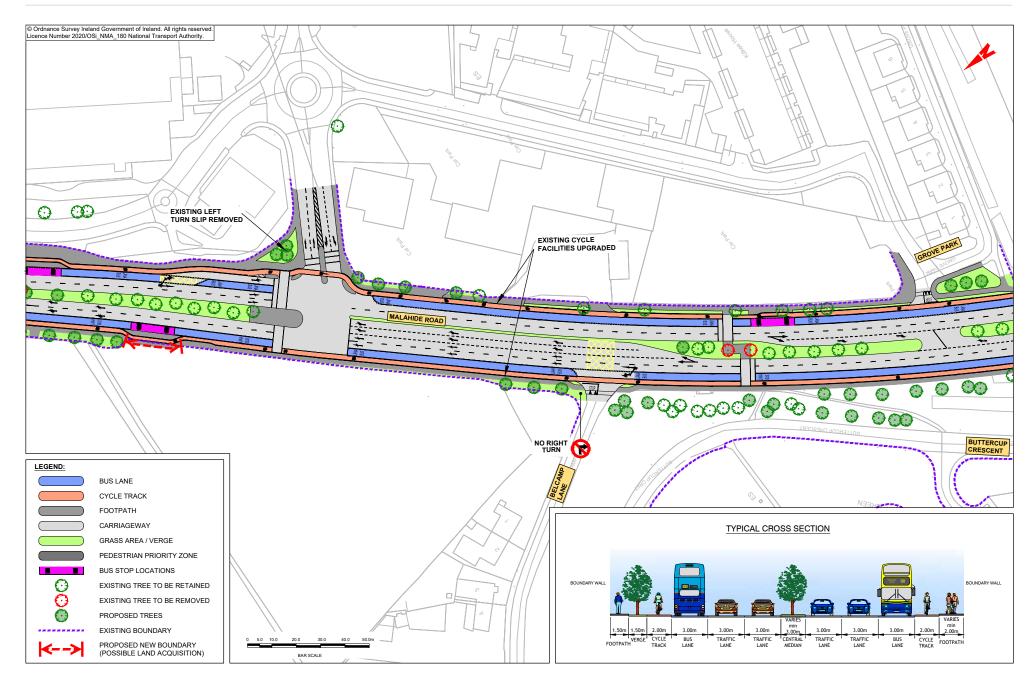
#### BusConnects Core Bus Corridors / 1. Clongriffin > City Centre

#### **MAP 4: Preferred Route**

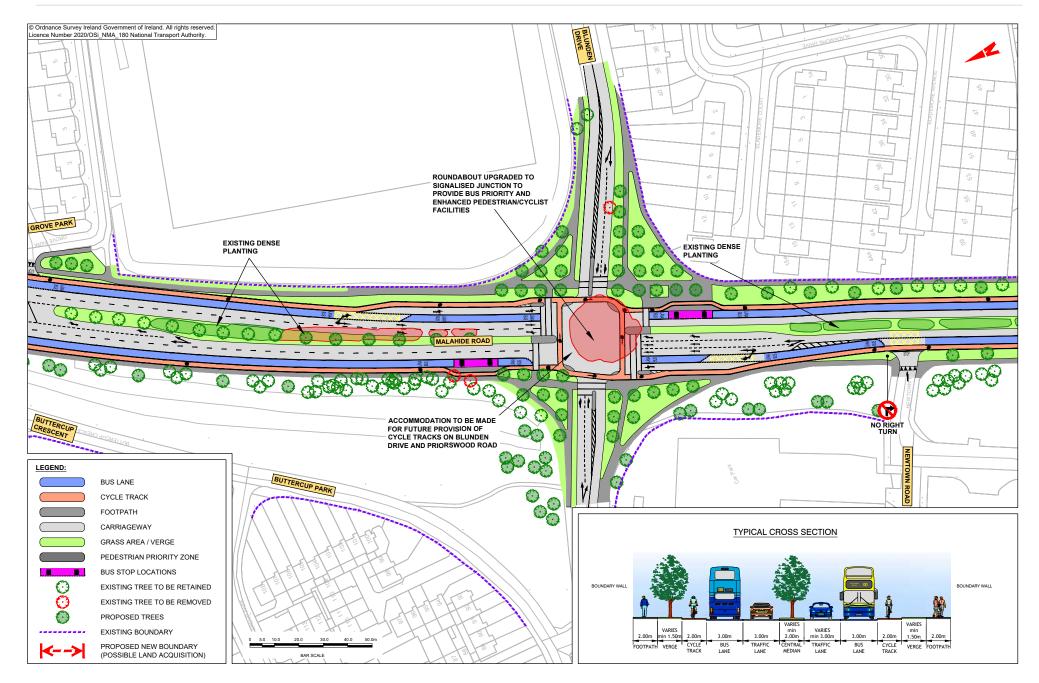






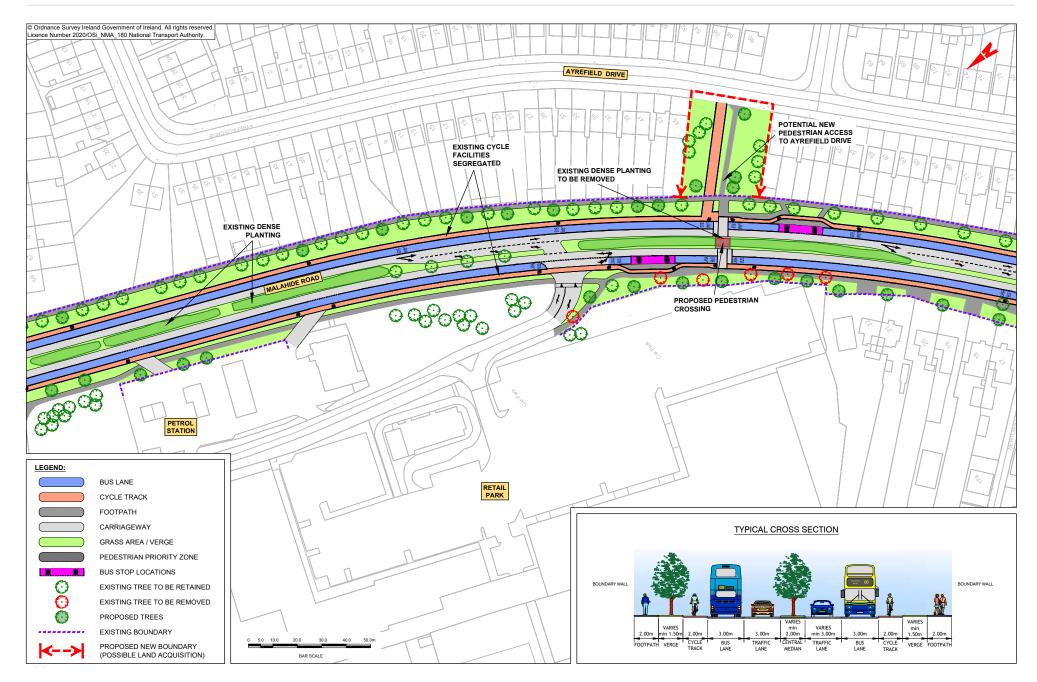


#### **MAP 8: Preferred Route**



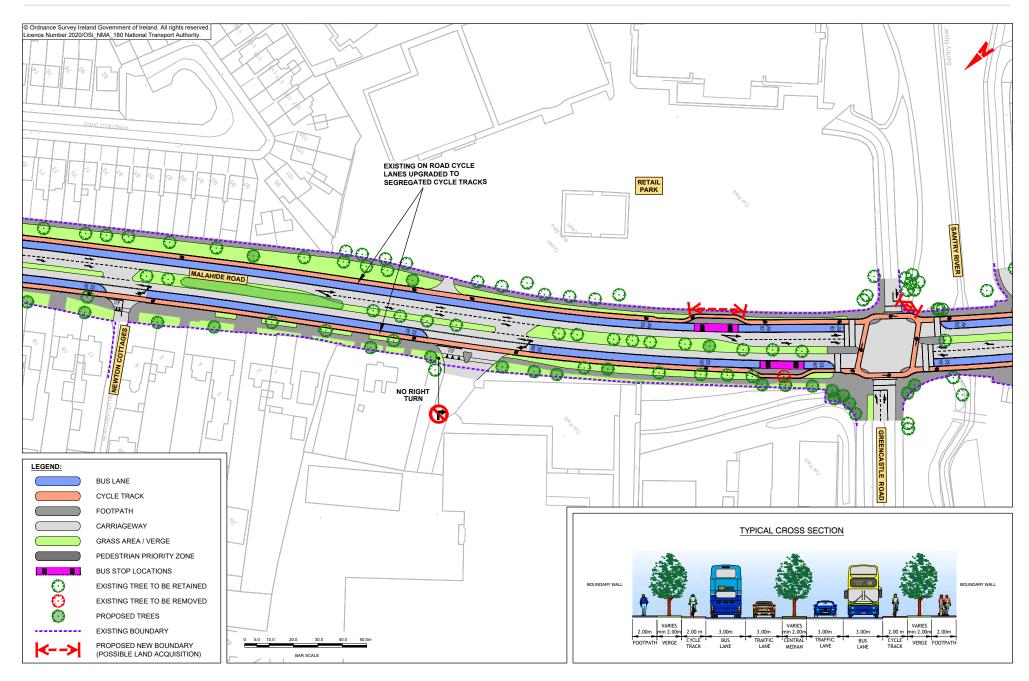


#### BusConnects Core Bus Corridors / 1. Clongriffin > City Centre

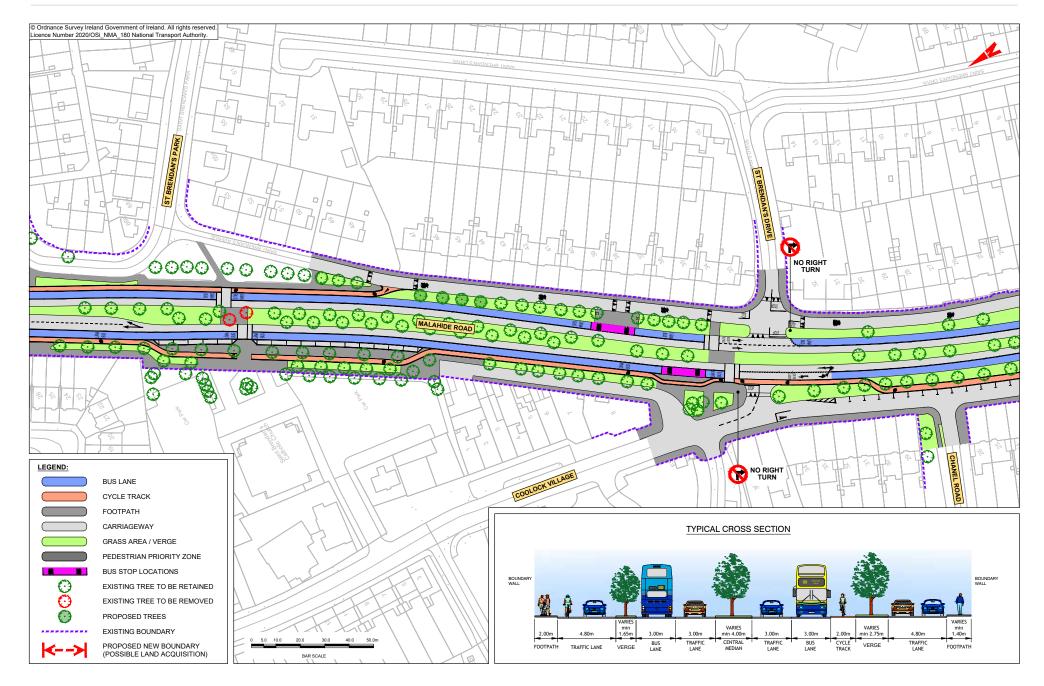


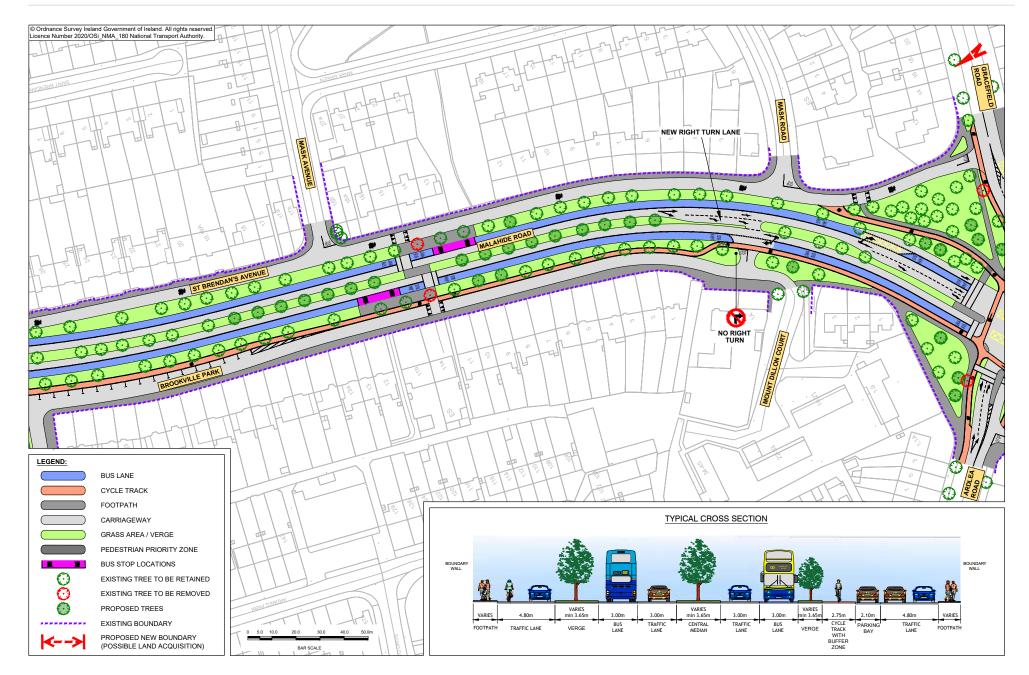


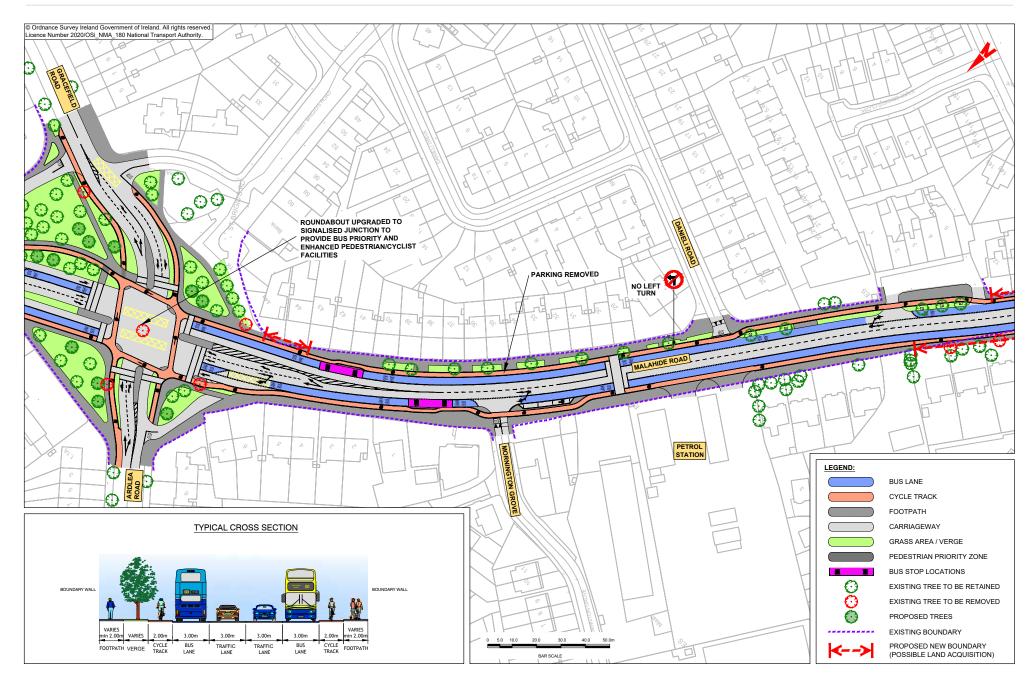
## **MAP 10: Preferred Route**

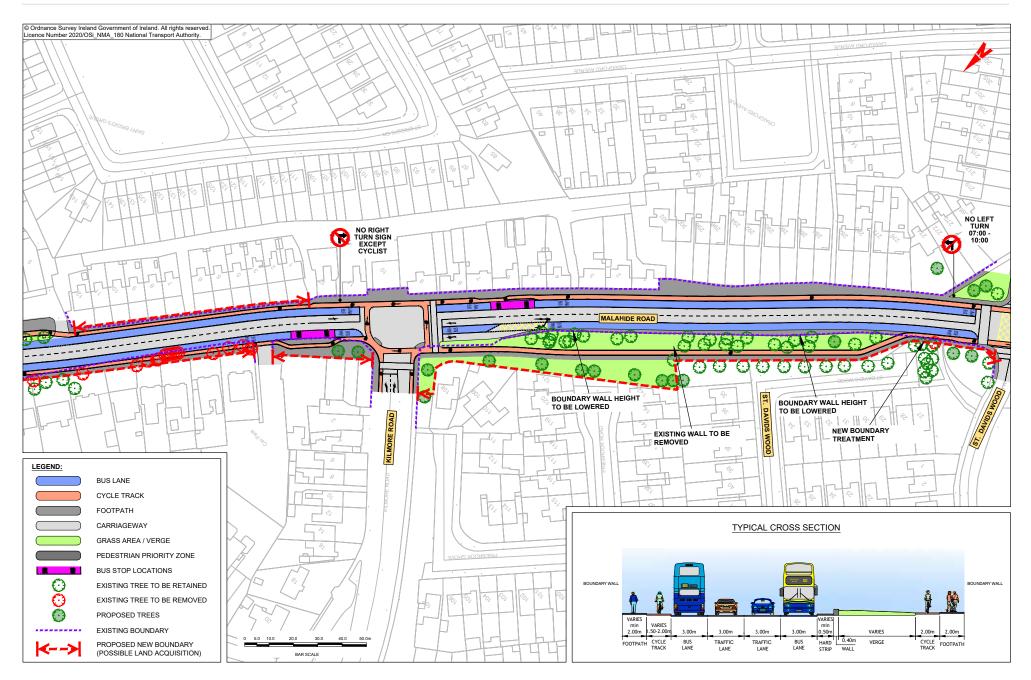


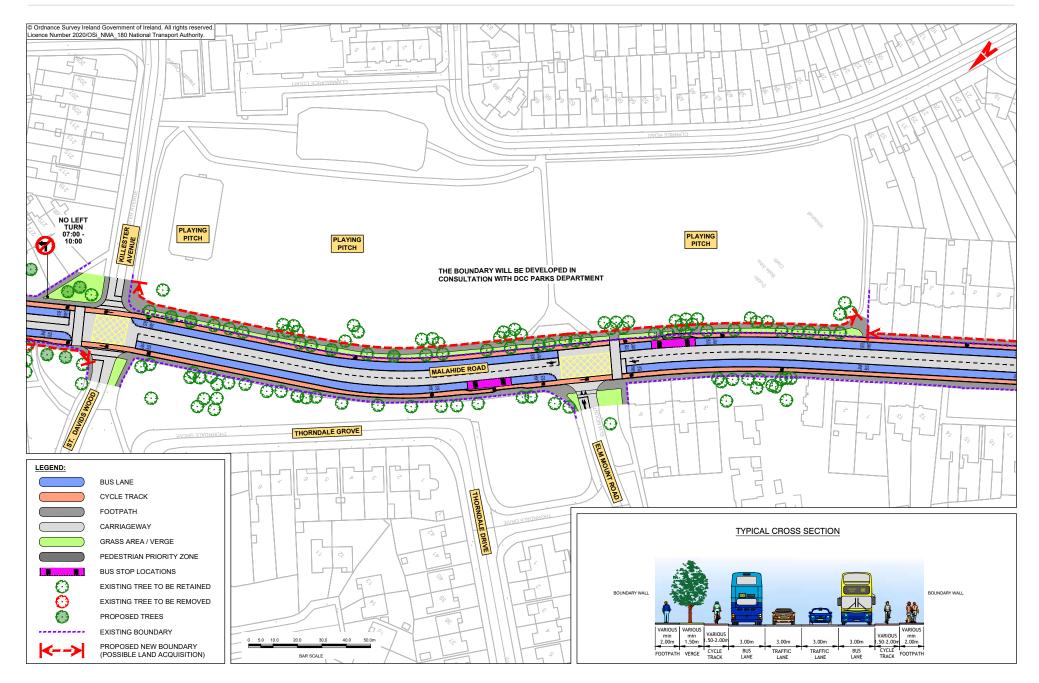




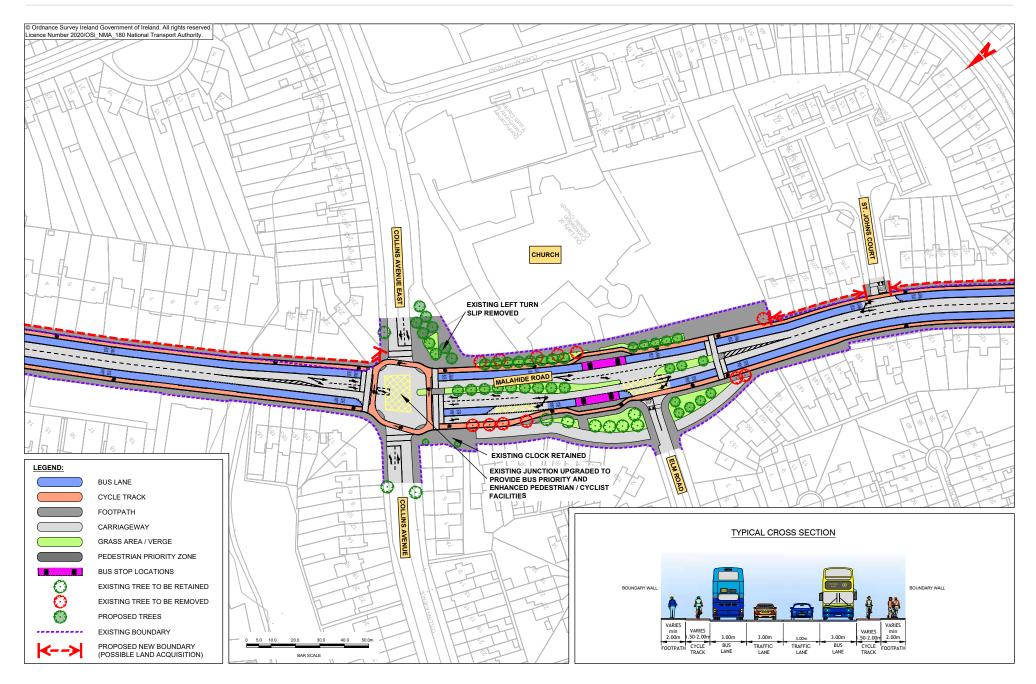


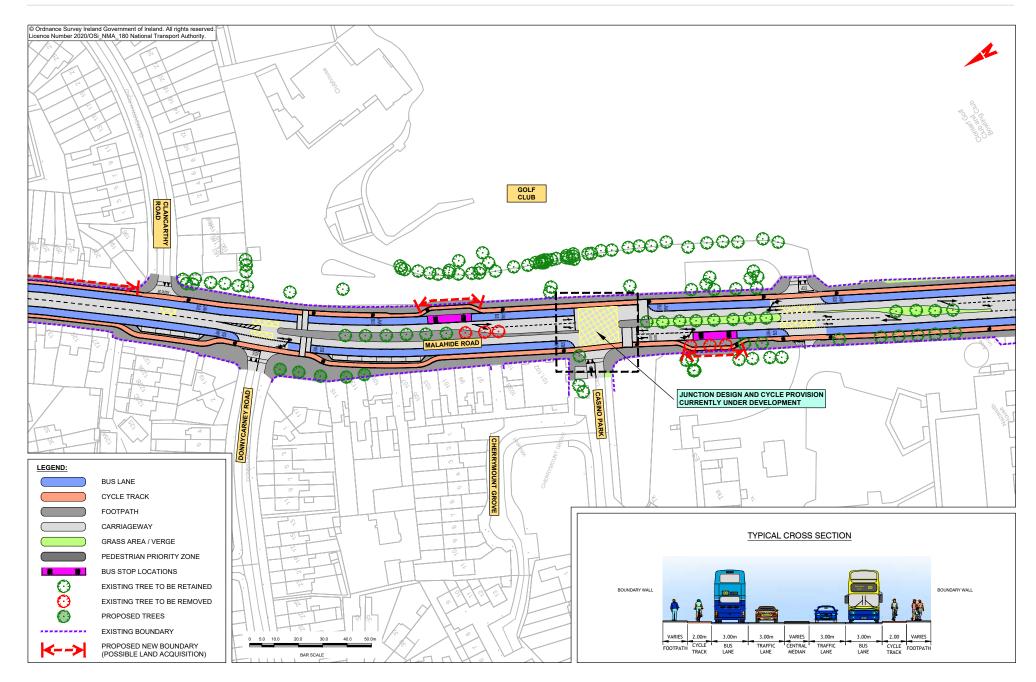


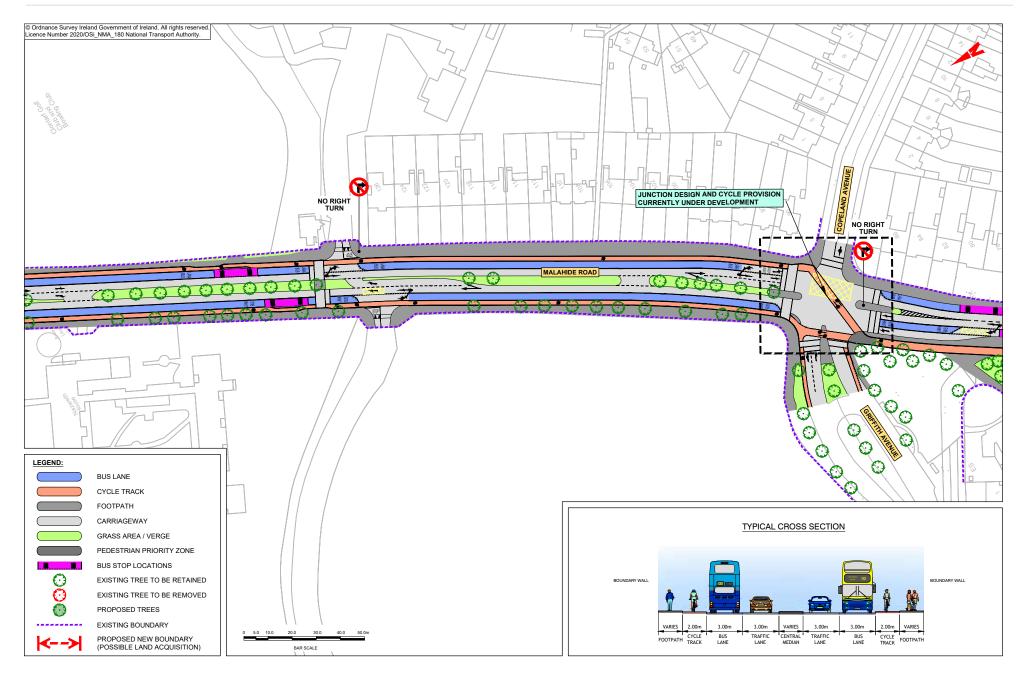


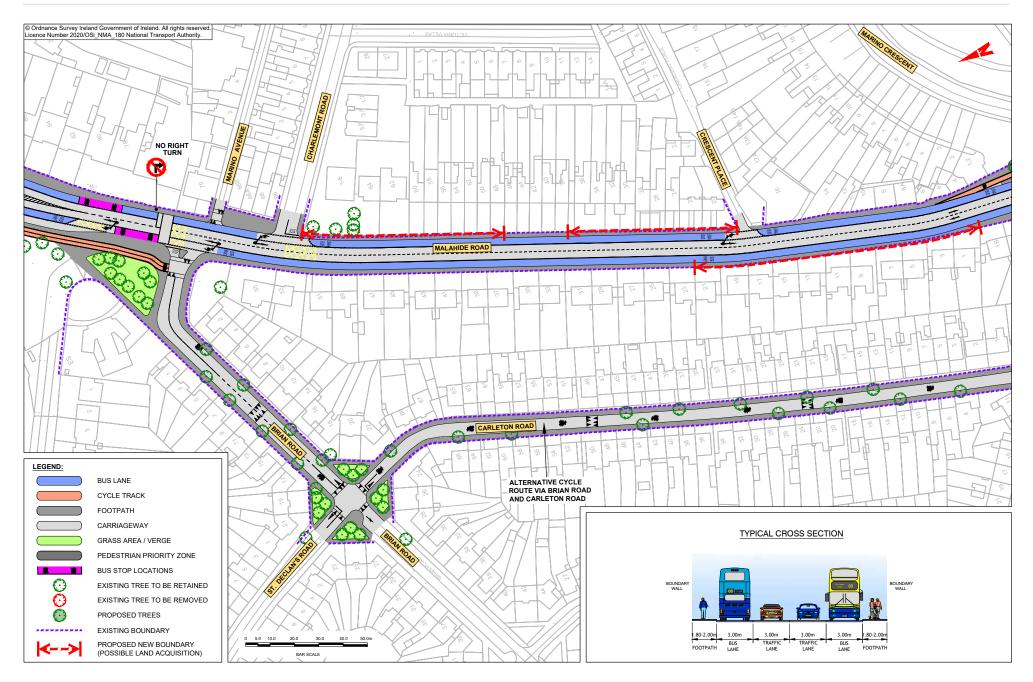




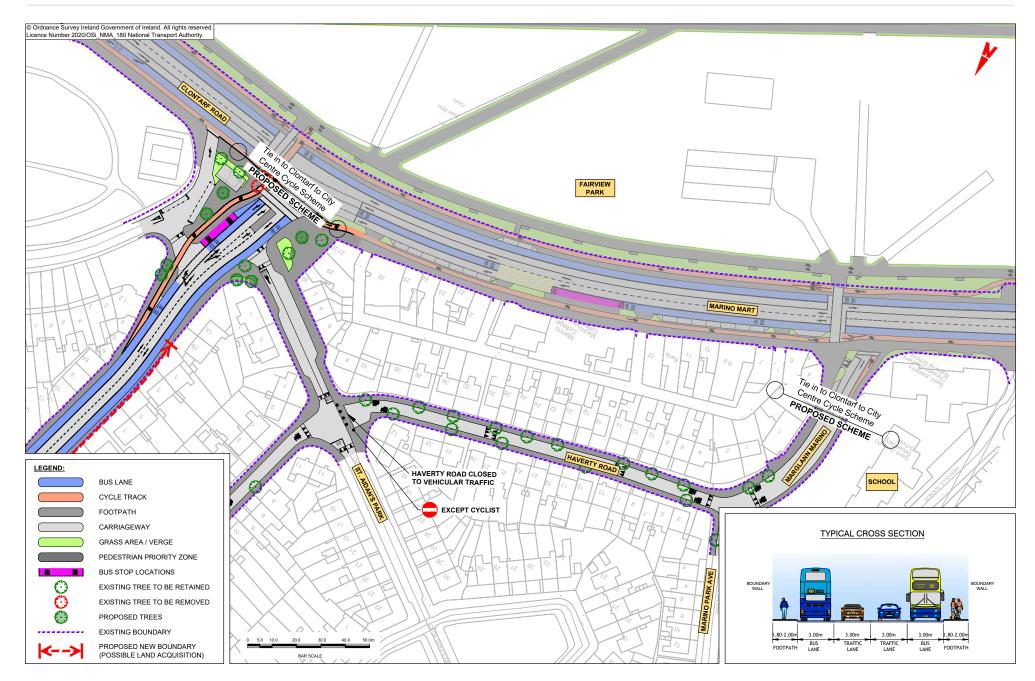


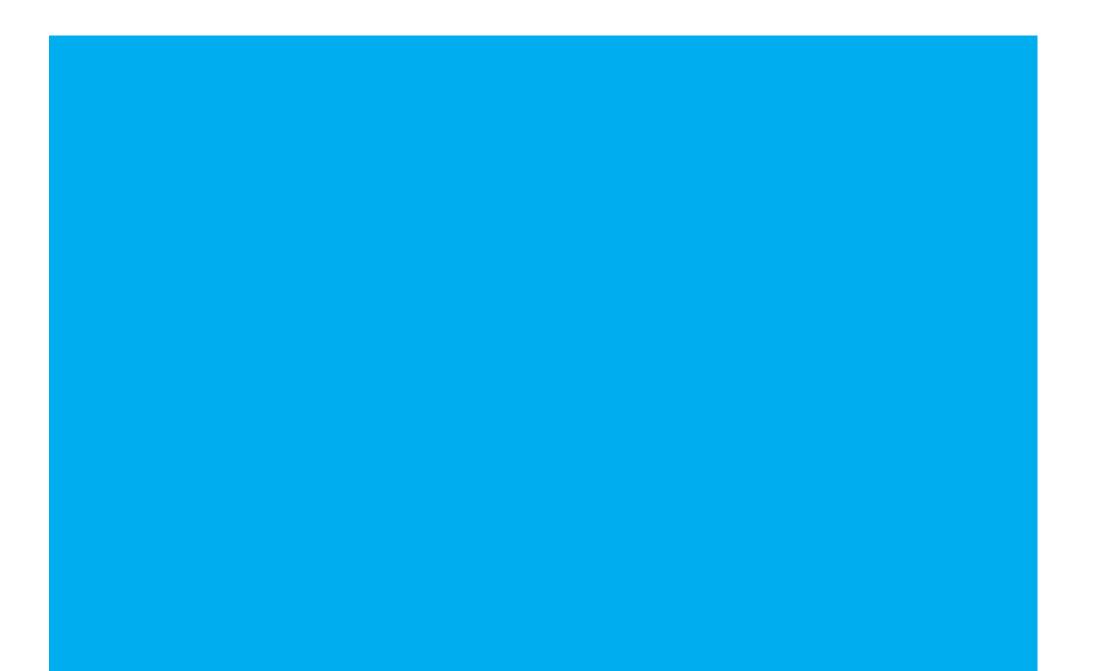














**National Transport Authority** 

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