



An
Bord
Pleanála

Observation on a Strategic Housing 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

Peter Horgan

(b) Observer's
postal address

63 Lissadell Maryborough Hill

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

Click or tap here to enter text.

(b) Agent's postal
address

Click or tap here to enter text.

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 on.

- (a) **An Bord Pleanála case number for the current application (if available)**
(for example: 300000)

313216

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

The Meadows SHD

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

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

Bessborough Cork

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.)

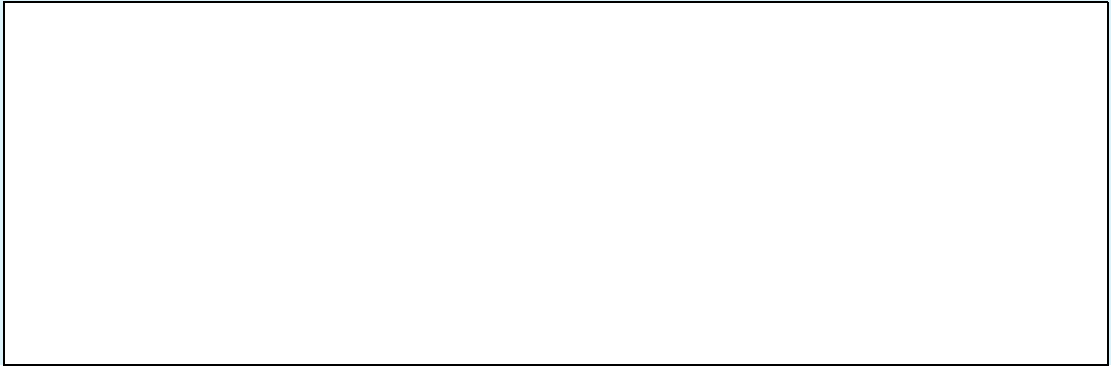
I believe an oral hearing should take place on this SHD due to the conflicting nature of the site as previously outlined in other Bord Pleanala rulings for development on this land. Legislation underlining these types of land remain to be decided by the Oireachtas. Every application on this site is one that is fraught with emotions and deserve oral hearings to allow for a full picture of the development concerned.

As referenced in the Fifth Interim Report of the Mother and Baby Homes Commission, published on 17th April 2019: The Commission considers that it is likely that some of the children are buried in the grounds but has been unable to find any physical or documentary evidence of this. In particular, during the 1940s (when many of the deaths occurred) and when petrol was scarce, it would have been very expensive to arrange off-site burials.

However, as no physical evidence of possible locations was found, the Commission did not consider it feasible to excavate 60 acres not to mention the rest of the former 200 acre estate. If the Bord today to grant planning, a condition of a full geophysical examination the Bessborough site, in totality, must be a condition of planning. That is the only way to know for sure what lies beneath Bessborough but an oral hearing should take place.

I have serious concerns on transport access to and from Bessborough with one road in and one road out and the impact this development will have on residents with no further access being discussed.

5. Grounds

A large, empty rectangular box with a thin black border, intended for a drawing or detailed notes related to the 'Grounds' section.

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.

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.

Remember: You can insert photographs and similar items in part 5 of this form – Observation details

Fee

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

Observers (except prescribed bodies)

- strategic housing observation **only** is €20.
- strategic housing observation **and** oral hearing request is €70

Oral hearing request

8. If you wish to [request the Board to hold an oral hearing](#), please tick the “Yes, I wish to request an oral hearing” box below.

Please note you will have to pay the correct **additional non-refundable fee** to request an oral hearing. 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 observation

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

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

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.

The National Adult Literacy Agency (NALA) has awarded this document its Plain English Mark. Last updated: November 2020



For Office Use Only

| FEM – Received | | SHU – Processed | |
|-----------------------|--|------------------------|--|
| Initials | | Initials | |
| Date | | Date | |

Notes