

An Bord Pleanála

John Taylor Menswear Mark & Mary Dinneen 34 Upper Baggot St Dublin Dublin 4

Date: 18 July 2022

Re: BusConnects Belfield/Blackrock to City Centre Core Bus Corridor Scheme

Co. Dublin

Dear Sir / Madam,

An Bord Pleanála has received your observation or submission in relation to the case mentioned above and will take it into consideration in its determination of the matter. Please accept this letter as a receipt for the fee of €50 that you have paid.

Please be advised that copies of all submissions / observations received in relation to the application will be made available for public inspection at the offices of the Local Authority and at the offices of An Bord Pleanála when they have been processed by the Board.

For further information on this case please access our website at www.pleanala.ie and input the 6-digit case number into the search box. This number is shown on the top of this letter (for example: 303000).

Yours faithfully,

Sarah Caulfield Executive Officer

Direct Line: 01-8737287

BL50A

## JOHN TAYLOR

34 Upper Baggot Street, Dublin 4. Telephone: (01) 660 0522 Fax: (01) 660 0321 Email: info@johntaylor.ie

An Bord Pleanala

64 Marlborough St

**Dublin 1** 

V902

10/07/2022

Case Ref:HA29N.313509

AN BORD PLEANANA LDG-ABP- 313509-22 12 302 2022 Fee: 6 9000 1,703: CARD Time: 13.37 By: HAND

BusConnects Belfield/Blackrock to City Centre Core Bus Corridor Scheme

Dear Sir/Madam,

I am the Managing Director of John Taylor Menswear. The company celebrates 50 years in business in December of this year. I believe it has never faced such a serious threat to business in all those years as the advent of BusConnects. That is some statement when you consider all the recessions, the financial crash and the COVID 19 pandemic in the intervening years.

This is due to the decision to route the Core BusConnects corridor up Pembroke Road and onto Upper Baggot Street. The more obvious and better choice was to continue the route onto Northumberland Road. The more direct, shorter route, with Mount St bridge far more able to cope with the huge volume of bus traffic rather than the humpback McCartan bridge. If this route was chosen there would be no need for the Bus Gate on Pembroke Road, the bus priority signal light and the removal of the ability of the carborne customer to stop on most of Upper Baggot Street.

There are no public car parks in the immediate area.50% of our business travels in excess of 5km to shop with us.We have customers from all over Dublin City and also from many parts of Ireland. The proposal as it stands will make Pembroke Road/Upper Baggot Street into a Super Bus Highway . These buses will be empty most of the day. Working from home has changed the basis of all previous calculations.

This is a vibrant retail area in one of the most pleasant areas of the city. To contemplate its destruction and the huge damage it will do to all business on the street to facilitate a stream of empty buses beggars belief. What other city in Europe would go ahead with this plan?

If the ability of our customers to short term park in Upper Baggot Street is removed from our side of the street, I firmly believe this will have a disastrous impact on the business.

The most feasible route is via Northumberland Road and this would avoid the devasting impact of this plan on the many traders and their employees.

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I strongly urge that this plan is revisited in the light of the many changes in the world re COVID 19. There will not be the demand for public transport that this plan is predicated on.

Working from home, hybrid work 2/3 days office work etc are all here to stay and this issue needs to taken into account.

Yours sincerely

**Mark Dinneen** 

**Managing Director** 

Mary Dinneen

**Director Elect**