

DEERPARK AREA RESIDENTS ASSOCIATION

The Secretary,
An Bord Pleanála,
64 Marlborough Street,
Dublin 1.

30 August 2022

**Notice of restriction of or interference with existing Public Right of Way –
Blanchardstown to City Centre Core Bus Corridor Scheme Compulsory Purchase Order
2022.**

Dear Sir or Madam,

On behalf of Deerpark Area Residents Association ('DARA'), we refer to the observation process in respect of the above application.

DARA represents over 200 dwellings in the Castleknock area immediately adjacent of the Phoenix Park. The DARA area is bounded by the Phoenix Park, Castleknock Road and Pecks Lane. This area includes residents residing in Park View, Deerpark Avenue, Deerpark Drive, Deerpark Road, Deerpark Close, Castleknock Road, Castleknock Green, Dunsandle Grove and Dunsandle Close.

DARA wishes to provide the following observations in relation to the aforementioned application:

We do not support the above application / restriction of or interference with the existing Public Right of Way, as it has not been subject to proper public consultation. Resident's views have not been sought or collated on a change which will have significant impacts.

DARA recognises that the junction in question and access point to Blackhorse Avenue and the Ashtown Gate in the Phoenix Park could benefit from some re-design, particularly to improve use by all modes of public and private transport, including cyclists and pedestrians. There is no evidence to DARA of an assessment of options in this regard, e.g. consideration could be given to acquiring lands from the old Phoenix Park Racecourse site to create more space and a safer junction. Any assessment of transport options and or traffic flows should be completed independently and any assessment should include the impact of all forms of transport and the needs of commuters, both current and future – and not solely seen through the lens of a public bus service and or agency.

The use of Compulsory Purchase Orders should not be used as a form of fast tracking or to avoid public consultation.

We believe that the above application should not be approved. A proper public and open consultation process should be initiated, incorporating consideration of the acquisition of adjacent lands such that the full spectrum of options for junction redesign can be fully explored.

Yours faithfully,

John Dillon
Chairperson,
Deerpark Area Residents Association
8 Castleknock Green
Castleknock
Dublin 15