

**Recommended improvements to planning application number: ABP 313892**

Bus Connect – Core Bus Corridor – Balnchardstown to City Centre

This submission has been prepared for the Chesterfield Residents Association (Representing 79 houses) on the Castleknock Road and following consultation with the residents of Chesterfield. We are supportive of improving public transport but not to the detriment of our local communities.

Our suggested plan is to install a roundabout at the Blackhorse Avenue, Ashtown Gate, Castleknock Road junction. This plan;

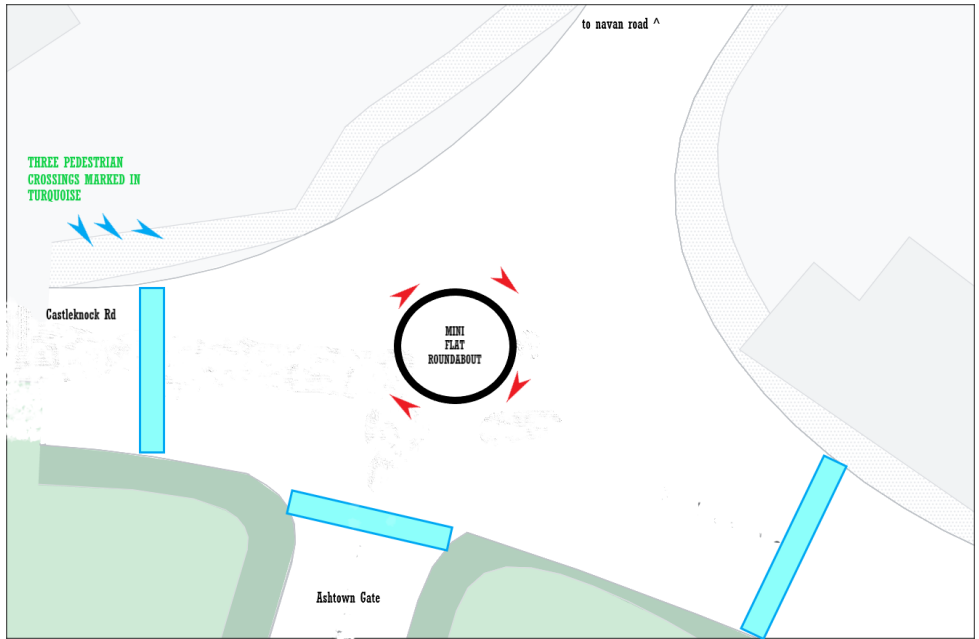
- 1) would improve the safety at this junction for all road users;
- 2) avoid confusion as to who has right of way, thereby avoiding potential collisions and prevent frustration and consequent bad driving;
- 3) does not remove existing public access to Blackhorse Avenue and the Phoenix Park; and
- 4) avoid environmental pollution with extra traffic travelling down the already congested Navan Road.

All road users with the exception of pedestrians could navigate the proposed roundabout as needed. Pedestrians would be facilitated by converting the proposed toucan crossings to 3 standard pedestrian crossings. See the attached map.

The current road layout for the Castleknock Road, Blackhorse Avenue, Ashtown Gate junction provides direct access for the residents of Chesterfield, and the wider Castleknock area, to Blackhorse Avenue and the Phoenix Park. This enables residents to avail of HSE facilities on Blackhorse Avenue and also to travel onwards to the Manor Street/ Smithfield area and the city centre without the need to use the already excessively busy Navan Road or by means of Chesterfield Avenue in the Phoenix Park. This proposal is not in conflict with the long-term plan to make the Ashtown Gate an entrance only gate to the Phoenix Park. It would also allow traffic coming westwards on Blackhorse Avenue to use this junction rather than having to turn right further down and thereby easing the pressure of excess traffic on the Navan Road.

Two bus routes, viz: 37 and 70d (a single service per day) use the Castleknock Road/Blackhorse Avenue, Ashtown Gate junction. These busses rarely encounter delays on Castleknock Road. The current Bus Connect proposal would only provide modest improved access to the Bus Connect route on Navan Road while having a severe negative impact on local residents.

In addition to the above Chesterfield residents deplore the destruction of several hundred mature trees on the Navan Road.



NEW PROPOSED ROUNDABOUT JUNCTION