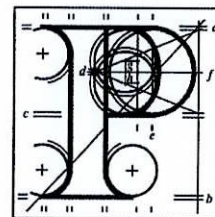


Our Case Number: ABP-316272-23

Planning Authority Reference Number:



**An
Bord
Pleanála**

Barry & Bairbre Redmond and Leo and Marina Casey
3 Rathdown Villas
Dublin 6W
D6W F381

Date: 18 August 2023

Re: Bus Connects Templeogue/Rathfarnham to City Centre Core Bus Corridor Scheme
Templeogue/Rathfarnham to City Centre

Dear Sir / Madam,

An Bord Pleanála has received your recent submission in relation to the above-mentioned proposed road development 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 note that the proposed road development shall not be carried out unless the Board has approved it or approved it with modifications.

The Board has also received an application for confirmation of a compulsory purchase order which relates to this proposed road development. The Board has absolute discretion to hold an oral hearing in respect of any application before it, in accordance with section 218 of the Planning and Development Act 2000, as amended. Accordingly, the Board will inform you in due course on this matter. The Board shall also make a decision on both applications at the same time.

If you have any queries in relation to this matter please contact the undersigned officer of the Board at laps@pleanala.ie

Please quote the above-mentioned An Bord Pleanála reference number in any correspondence or telephone contact with the Board.

Yours faithfully,

Eimear Reilly
Executive Officer
Direct Line: 01-8737184

HA02A

Teil	Tel	(01) 858 8100
Glaio Áitiúil	LoCall	1890 275 175
Facs	Fax	(01) 872 2684
Láithreán Gréasáin	Website	www.pleanala.ie
Ríomhphost	Email	bord@pleanala.ie

64 Sráid Maoilbhríde	64 Marlborough Street
Baile Átha Cliath 1	Dublin 1
D01 V902	D01 V902

3 Rathdown Villas
Terenure
Dublin D6W F381

15th August 2023

An Bord Pleanála
64 Marlborough Street
Dublin D01 V902

Re: Planning Application HA29N.316272, Bus Connects Templeogue/Rathfarnham to City Centre

On behalf of:

Barry and Bairbre Redmond, 3 Rathdown Villas, D6W F381

Leo and Marina Casey, 4 Rathdown Villas, D6W WF44

Dear Sirs,

We wish to object to the above planning application, particularly the effect of proposed traffic changes on us as residents of Rathdown Villas, Terenure.

We fully support the observations in the letter of objection submitted by Senator Mary Seery Kearney (SID-OBS-001035) on behalf of 115 signatories, and we wish to make the following further observations.

Ban on Right Turns

As residents of Rathdown Villas, off Rathdown Park, we are very concerned that the proposal focuses on transport through Templeogue and Terenure for those who do not live or work here, and completely ignores the effects that the changes will have on residents. It prioritises speed of travel through the villages at the expense of daily disruptions for residents.

The Rathdown estate consists of Rathdown Park, Rathdown Avenue, Rathdown Crescent, Rathdown Drive and Rathdown Villas. There are just three vehicle entrances/exits from the estate – two on Templeogue Road and one on Rathfarnham Road.

The proposed bans on right turn off Templeogue Road into Rathdown Avenue and into Rathdown Park would have serious consequences for residents of the Rathdown estate and contribute almost nothing to the overall objectives of the proposal. The consequences for residents are not discussed or acknowledged in the proposal.

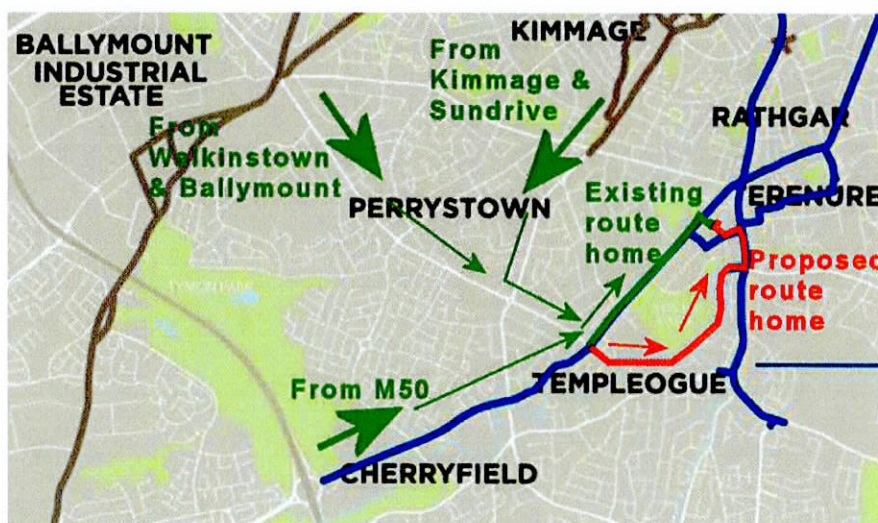
Diverting local traffic

The proposed right turn bans from Templeogue Road would mean that residents of Rathdown coming home from south or west would have to divert right onto the R112 and all the way around back to Terenure. This means that instead of travelling the short distance from Templeville Road to a

right turn into the Rathdown Estate, residents would have to join the traffic on a long loop around Bushy Park and the Rathdown estate via the R112 and the R114 (Rathfarnham Road) to the other side of the Rathdown estate.

In addition, the two existing right turn bans in the centre of Terenure for traffic coming from KCR direction (onto Templeogue Road and onto Rathfarnham Road) mean that at the moment traffic coming from Walkinstown, Kimmage, or Sundrive to Rathdown must divert from the KCR to Fortfield and Templeogue Road, and then turn right into Rathdown Avenue or Rathdown Park. That existing situation will be exacerbated by the proposed new right turn bans. Traffic coming from those directions will have to continue on the R112 and R114 to the other side of the Rathdown estate.

The result is that any residents coming home to the Rathdown estate from the direction of the M50, Templeogue, Walkinstown or Sundrive will have to travel around in a loop to get to the other side. See the marked up map below.



*Green is the existing route via Templeville Road junction to our homes in Rathdown Villas.
Red is the route we would have to take if the proposed right turn bans are implemented.*

Most of the car journeys affected by this right turn ban cannot be replaced by bus journeys because the proposed bus routes only serve a narrow corridor to Terenure along the R137 from Tallaght and the M50. Examples of car journeys to the Rathdown estate that cannot reasonably be made by bus and that will be made longer by the changes include:

- Returning home via the M50. In effect, this includes any journey from outside Dublin.
- Journeys home from doctors or pharmacies in the Templeogue or Kimmage areas.
- Travelling home from the An Post sorting office in Fortfield, which serves the Rathdown estate. It is frequently required to collect undelivered parcels from the sorting office.
- Travelling home after using petrol stations in Templeogue, Fortfield or KCR.
- Travelling home after using or attending sports facilities in Templeogue, Spawell, Templeville Road, or Dolphins Barn.
- Returning from visits to Crumlin Hospital (there is a large number of families with young children in the Rathdown estate).
- Returning home after visits to the Phoenix Park or Dublin Zoo.

- One very specific but very important example is older people attending religious services in Terenure College. Although the distance is easily walkable by most people, those who must go by car will now have to return home by going outwards on the Templeogue Road and all the way around Bushy Park and the Rathdown estate to return home.

In effect, the right turn bans will reduce the ability of Rathdown estate residents to use facilities in Templeogue and Kimmage, and will reduce interaction between those communities.

Shifting local traffic from the Templeogue Road onto the R112 and the Rathfarnham Road like this will not contribute to the overall objectives of the proposal. Instead, it will increase traffic in the area by diverting it onto a longer and already congested route – the R114 (Rathfarnham Road).

No Rationale

There is no reasonable rationale for the two right turn bans from Templeogue Road onto Rathdown Avenue and onto Rathdown Park. It appears that the bans may be intended to prevent rat running, although there is no specific reason for these right turn bans given in the proposal. There are three arguments against the rat running rationale.


- Rat running through Rathdown Park occurs at the moment during peak morning traffic, and is no more than an irritation to residents. It is controlled to some extent by the restricted green period on the traffic lights at the exit to Rathfarnham Road. It is not a major problem for residents.
- Rat running from Templeogue Road to Rathfarnham Road through Rathdown Park does not, and will not, affect the operation of the bus corridors.
- Preventing rat running by banning right turns from Templeogue Road imposes much more of an inconvenience on residents than any rat running does. Traffic engineers are fixing a small problem by creating a big one.

Conclusion

In general, the proposal takes no account whatsoever of residents travelling to and from their homes. The proposal seems to consider that preventing rat running and providing *quiet street treatment* is sufficient for local residents. It gives no consideration at all to how residents travel to and from their homes, particularly when returning home from outside Dublin City.

The two right turn bans from Templeogue Road into Rathdown Avenue and into Rathdown Park should be omitted from the plan, or at the very least should be limited to peak morning traffic hours.

Yours Sincerely



Barry Redmond

On behalf of

Barry and Bairbre Redmond, 3 Rathdown Villas, D6W F381
Leo and Marina Casey, 4 Rathdown Villas, D6W WF44