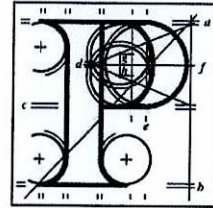


**Our Case Number:** ABP-316272-23



**An  
Bord  
Pleanála**

Meals on Wheels Rathmines  
c/o Suzanne Lynch  
29 Leinster Square  
Rathmines  
Dublin 6

**Date:** 16 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](mailto: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

<b>Teil</b>	<b>Tel</b>	(01) 858 8100
<b>Glaio Áitiúil</b>	<b>LoCall</b>	1800 275 175
<b>Facs</b>	<b>Fax</b>	(01) 872 2684
<b>Láithreán Gréasáin</b>	<b>Website</b>	<a href="http://www.pleanala.ie">www.pleanala.ie</a>
<b>Ríomhphost</b>	<b>Email</b>	<a href="mailto:bord@pleanala.ie">bord@pleanala.ie</a>

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

## **Meals on Wheels Rathmines**

**St. Mary's Community Centre, Richmond Hill, Rathmines, Dublin 6**  
C/O Suzanne Lynch, 29 Leinster Square, Rathmines, Dublin 6

### **Bus Connects - Templeogue/Rathfarnham to City Centre Bus Corridor Scheme**

To whom it may concern

We are a team of twenty drivers, a voluntary Meals on Wheels service for over 40 years operating from St. Mary's Community Centre, Richmond Hill, Rathmines, Dublin 6.

We collect freshly prepared hot meals that need to be consumed within 90 minutes from the HSE run kitchen at 11:30am daily Monday to Friday including Bank Holidays, Christmas and the New Year.

The Bus Connects Scheme includes a proposed 'bus gate' on Rathmines Road Lower which will make it impossible for us to deliver meals within a health and safety timeframe to the community of Rathmines and the surrounding roads of Ranelagh and Harold's Cross.

The proposed 'bus gate' on Rathmines Road Lower is to be in operation from 6am till 8pm. This will prevent us travelling in a North South direction during our delivery hours.

Currently one of our delivery runs is 6 km and will, following the restrictions of the 'bus gate' be 10 km.

Our second run is currently 3 km. It will, if this proposal is realised, be 7 km.

If these restrictions are in place, the detours necessary to access our clients will seriously extend our delivery time.

We suggest that the 'bus gate' hours are open to car traffic Monday to Friday from 10am to 4pm in both directions, North/South. This would hugely facilitate our delivery service and accessibility to and from the Community Centre.

Our drivers use their own cars and come from outside the Rathmines neighbourhood. The 'bus gate' and turning restrictions do not allow for extra time some drivers will have to take to access and return home or to work from Richmond Hill.

Some of our drivers are volunteering within a restricted time frame as their employers have permitted time off during the year to volunteer. The extended time taken with these proposed road changes will prevent some drivers from volunteering.

With the proposed bollards on Lower Mountpleasant Avenue, which seriously hamper our movement West/East, we suggest the return of the left turn from Rathmines Road Lower onto Castlewood Avenue be considered.

A turning circle at the junction of Lower Mountpleasant Avenue and the Canal will facilitate turning onto the Rathmines Road.

We hope all the reasons above are considered to help us to continue to provide this vital service to the older and vulnerable community of Rathmines in a safe and timely manner.

Yours sincerely

Suzanne Lynch  
On behalf of Meals on Wheels Rathmines

€50 enclosed