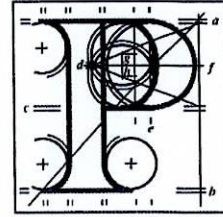


**Our Case Number: ABP-316272-23**



**An  
Bord  
Pleanála**

Rory and Cliona Carton  
77 Highfield Road  
Rathgar  
Dublin 6

**Date:** 06 July 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.

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

Tel	Tel	(01) 858 8100
Glaó Áitiúil	LoCall	1800 275 175
Facs	Fax	(01) 872 2684
Lálthreán 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

Rory & Cliona Carton  
77 Highfield Road,  
Rathgar,  
Dublin 6  
June 1st, 2023

An Bord Pleánala,  
Strategic Infrastructure Division,  
64 Marlborough Street,  
Dublin 1.

To whom it may concern,

I am writing to you in relation to the Templeogue/Rathfarnham to City Centre Core Bus Corridor Scheme. A number of our neighbours attended an information evening on the bus corridor and related road and traffic changes. Details of the scheme and the implications for the towns in our area and how they would be affected, was hosted by Councillor Anne Feeney, Senator Mary Seery Kearney and Councillor James Geoghegan. The information and slide deck were shared with us.

Having reviewed the information, we would have significant concerns about the traffic impact on roads in our area. In closing Rathgar Road to two-way traffic and allowing cars turn onto Highfield Road from the Upper Rathmines Road, there will be a material uplift in traffic on Highfield Road. This is a residential road that is set to receive increased bus traffic and new bus stops under the proposal.

It is estimated that almost 8,000 cars currently use Rathgar Road daily when coming out of town. With the closure of Rathgar Road outbound from town and allowing for some reduction of car usage due to the bus corridor, there could be c5,000 cars daily looking to exit town via Highfield Road. The challenge posed by the outbound road closure in Rathgar Road was highlighted by a late modification to the NTA scheme. The proposed modification to the Highfield Road/Rathmines Road Upper junction will allow cars turn right on Highfield Road.

I am a keen cyclist and have been for over 35 years. I cycle to work daily and most other local engagements. We have four sons and two are now cycling to school (aged 13 and 11). We are conscious of living in a more sustainable way and encourage our children to do the same. Our intention is that all four boys will cycle to school, sports, and friends' houses.

We are extremely worried on a number of levels but primarily for the safety of the cyclists and pedestrians. Highfield Road is narrow and despite it being turned into a bus corridor, there are no plans to introduce a bicycle path. The new proposed road layout will significantly increase the



An Bord Pleánala,  
June 1st, 2023  
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number of cars on the road at peak times. It is a pleasure to see so many cyclists on Highfield Road on a daily basis. It is a positive development and a sign of people's commitment to a greener way of living. We should protect and encourage such behaviour.

The introduction of a two-way bus corridor with multiple bus stops on a narrow road is not encouraging or protecting our cyclists. I would argue, it does quite the opposite. As a parent of four children who will cycle to school, I feel the proposed road layout will create an unsafe environment to cycle through. To now have the prospect of significantly more cars on the road poses a further threat to safety of residents and cyclists.

We understand the need to reduce the number of cars on the road but equally understand that this needs to be done in a safe and respectful way. We would appeal to An Bord Pleanála to leave Rathgar Road open to two-way traffic and failing that to retain the current road restrictions preventing cars turning from the Upper Rathmines Road onto Highfield Road.

Sincerely,

Rory & Cliona Carton