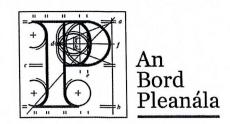
Our Case Number: ABP-317121-23



Residents of Griffith Downs c/o Peter McDonnell 5 Griffith Downs Drumcondra Dublin 9

Date: 06 September 2023

Re: BusConnects Swords to City Centre Bus Corridor Scheme

Swords to Dublin City Centre

Dear Sir,

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,

**Executive Officer** 

Direct Line: 01-8737287

HA02A

5, Griffith Downs,
Drumcondra,
Dublin 9
1st September 2023

#### **Bus Connects:**

Sarah Caulfield, Executive Officer, An Bord Pleanala, 64 Marlborough St. Dublin 1

ABP ref. No. 317121 - 23

Ref. No. 1174(1). 1i and 1174(2). 1i

Re: Compulsory Purchase Order of part of the green area along Swords Road, Dublin 9 which is part of the green space of Griffith Downs, to facilitate a two-way cycle lane of approx. 60 meters long situated between the entrance to Griffith Downs and the pedestrian entrance to Seven Oaks, Dublin 9.

I am writing to ABP on behalf of all the residents of Griffith Downs, Drumcondra, Dublin 9 to object to the recent proposal of Bus Connects (Swords to City Centre Core Bus Corridor Scheme) to issue a Compulsory Purchase Order to permanently acquire a large portion of the green area along Swords Road and immediately outside Griffith Downs for the purpose of accommodating a new two-way cycle lane along this short strip of grass (approx. 60 meters long).

We are strongly of the view that this new two-way cycle lane is totally unnecessary as there are two single cycle lanes already in use along this stretch of road – one on the east side along the green space outside Griffith Downs and another heading north along the west side of the road. Both of these cycle lanes are in place for a good number of years and are performing satisfactorily to date. There is no need to alter the current system, except for an upgrade around the bus stop and around the pedestrian entrance to Seven Oaks.

For the cyclists travelling outbound who need to enter Seven Oaks/Bonnington Hotel there is a set of traffic lights at the hotel/Seven Oaks junction which could be modified for that purpose.

We don't see the need to remove any of the existing green area outside Griffith Downs to satisfy a need that does not exist. This green area has been looked after by the residents of Griffith Downs for over forty years which entails planting flowers every summer and also cutting the grass about ten times per year and collecting the leaves every autumn. The City Council cuts the grass only on rare occasions. We now feel that we own this well-kept green space. In fact it is the only "well maintained green area along Swords Road from the city centre to the airport". We wish that this remains the case into the future! We are determined to maintain this valuable green space. It

complements current government and wider society aspirations in advancing a general green agenda.

I must note that having attended all the public presentations on Bus Connects over recent years, this new proposal was never mentioned or hinted at over all that time. There are also some very nice healthy mature trees on this green space which must be retained and cared for.

We, the residents of Griffith Downs, strongly believe that this green area must not be sacrificed for a proposal that has little or no justification. THIS GREEN SPACE MUST NOT BE REMOVED. It would contradict all current government policies and directives about maintaining our green spaces.

I am attaching an NTA map of the green area proposals and two schedules of the land which is the subject of our objection.

I am also attaching a photo which was taken 3<sup>rd</sup> August 2023 (this summer) which demonstrates how well this green space is maintained by the residents of Griffith Downs. It must be retained as it currently stands.

Peter Medonnell

Regards,

Peter McDonnell,

5, Griffith Downs,

Drumcondra,

Dublin 9

Email:

Enclosed fee of €50

## SCHEDULE PART I

# Lands Being Permanently Acquired

Land other than land consisting of a house or houses unfit for human habitation and not capable of being rendered fit for human habitation at reasonable expense

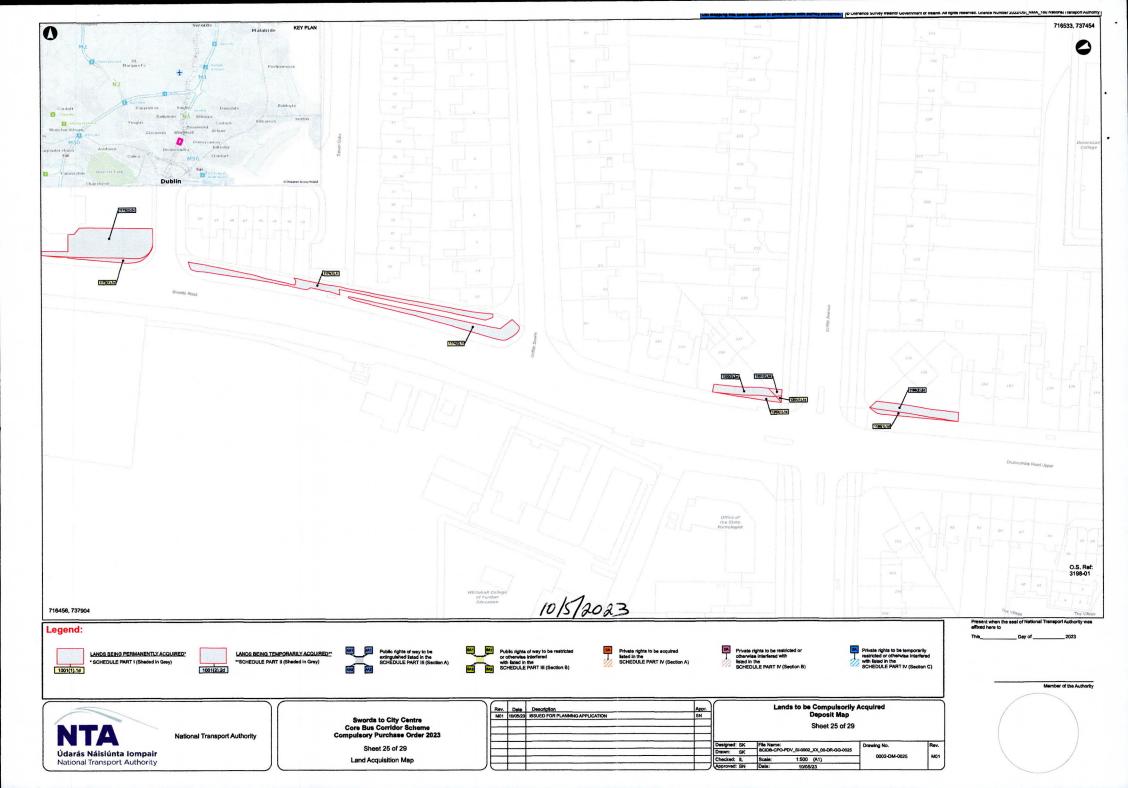
Number on map deposited at NTA	Quantity, Description, and situation of land		Owners or Reputed Owners	Lessees or Reputed Lessees	
1174(2).1i	Area (Ha): Area (m2): Description: County: Address:	0.01659 165.9 Community Dublin Green area at Seven Oaks, Whitehall, Dublin 9	Dublin City Council, Civic Offices, Wood Quay, Dublin 8, D08 RF3F	None	Eircom Limited, Eir Network Management Centre, 2022 Bianconi Avenue, Citywest Business Campus Dublin 24, D24HX03  Electricity Supply Board, ESB Head Office, 27 Fitzwilliam Street Lowe Dublin 2, D02KT92

## SCHEDULE PART I

## **Lands Being Permanently Acquired**

Land other than land consisting of a house or houses unfit for human habitation and not capable of being rendered fit for human habitation at reasonable expense

Number on map deposited at NTA	Quantity, Description, and situation of land		Owners or Reputed Owners	Lessees or Reputed Lessees	
1174(1).1i	Area (Ha): Area (m2): Description: County: Address:	0.02098 209.8 Community Dublin Green area at Seven Oaks, Whitehall, Dublin 9	Dublin City Council, Civic Offices, Wood Quay, Dublin 8, D08 RF3F	None	Eircom Limited, Eir Network Management Centre, 2022 Bianconi Avenue, Citywest Business Campus, Dublin 24, D24HX03  Electricity Supply Board, ESB Head Office, 27 Fitzwilliam Street Lower Dublin 2, D02KT92



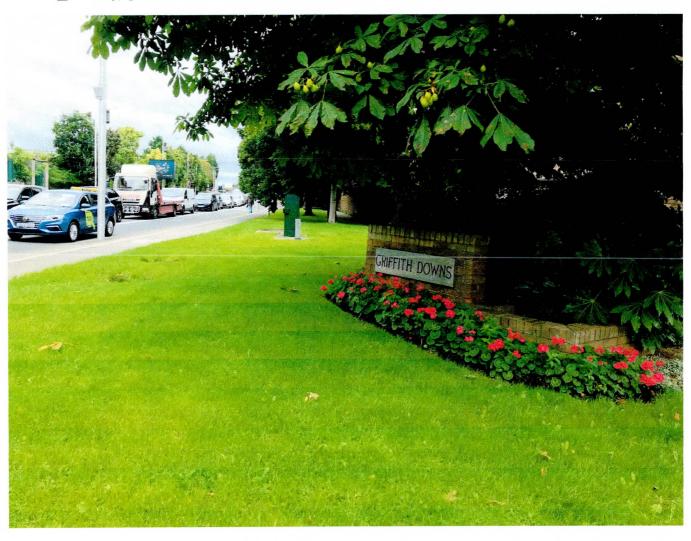
Subject: Griffith Downs Green Area

From: Peter McDonnell

Date: 01/09/2023, 08:06

To: Peter McDonnell

─IMG\_4540.jpg



Sent from my iPhone

Attachments:

IMG\_4540.jpg

3.5 MB

