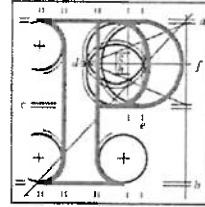


**Our Case Number:** ABP-317742-23



**An  
Bord  
Pleanála**

Alison, Mark, Leya & Esme Fallon  
44 Woodbank  
Shankill  
Dublin 18

**Date:** 17 October 2023

**Re:** BusConnects Bray to City Centre Core Bus Corridor Scheme  
Bray to Dublin 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.

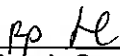
Please note that the proposed road development shall not be carried out unless the Board has approved it or approved it with modifications.

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,

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Sarah Caulfield  
Executive Officer  
Direct Line: 01-8737287

HA02A

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

**An Bord Pleanála**  
**Strategic Infrastructure Division**  
**64 Marlborough Street, Dublin 1**  
**DO1 V902**

*Submitted online **and by hand** by 44 Woodbank, Shankill, Dublin 18*

**Subject:** Objection to the Order & Bus Connects Plans for Bray to City Centre Core Bus Corridor Scheme

**10<sup>th</sup> October 2023**

Dear Members of An Bord Pleanála,

Please find below our formal objection to the proposed Compulsory Purchase Order for Woodbank, Shankill and Bus Connect plans for the broader Shankill area.

While we understand there is a need for transport solutions, these should be sustainable, appropriate and considerate of other environmental, social, wellbeing and community impacts. The proposals for Bus Connect will negatively impact on all these elements for the residents of Woodbank and the wider Shankill community and appear to be a contravention of Charter of Fundamental Rights of the European Union (Article 37 Environmental protection). Notable objections include:

- The proposal is totally inappropriate in terms of scale for Shankill which has a small village and is not an urban centre.
- The proposal will result in a material detrimental impact and negative change to the community, which is currently a sleepier suburban small village centre. The large size of the road becoming the dominant characteristic resulting in the current character being irrevocably and negatively changed.
- Negative environmental impact, loss of trees/greenery, increased noise, more pollution, less character impacting the natural environment, natural habitat for birds, nests, bats and associated impact on wellbeing for residents.
- Two local primary schools directly impacted; most students walk to school, but the plans will make school commutes by foot more dangerous for the young students.
- The plans completely ignore the monumental shift in work and learning patterns which are now hybrid for the foreseeable future.
- Doesn't seek to consider or utilise alternative solutions of use of the neighbouring motorway road for more direct commute options from Bray, avoiding village centres and trying to remove heavy vehicles from these settings. In fact this detail of plans underway to introduce a bus corridor on the M11 route is completely undisclosed and is clearly a material fact for these alternative plans. Withholding or not designing plans with consideration for this fact is gross misleading and flawed.
- It completely ignores trying to support maintaining the integrity of the impacted area, applying a solution suited to an urban main artery route onto a small village environment.
- Directly impacts the Woodbank estate through loss of land and trees where are children (Leya and Esme play), reducing the green space available to them.

- Solutions should be tailored to the environment and not apply a one size fits all approach. Bus stop bays along the road through Shankill would support free flow of traffic preventing back ups when buses are stopped.

In light of these serious concerns, we urge An Bord Pleanála to reject the proposed Bus Connects plans for Shankill. I strongly believe that a more sustainable and community-oriented approach is necessary to protect our rights and wellbeing as residents. We ask that a comprehensive study to assess the current and future needs of Shankill, engaging with residents, businesses and local stakeholders, and exploring alternative transportation solutions, such as the currently planned M11 bus corridors, plans that prioritise sustainability and community well-being.

Also enclosed is an objection raised by our daughter Leya (8) who together with her friends are really upset at the thought of their home losing the green space they play in daily.

Yours sincerely,

**Alison and Mark Fallon  
and our daughters, Leya Fallon (8) and Esme Fallon (3)**