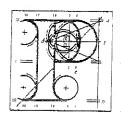
Our Case Number: ABP-317742-23



An Bord Pleanála

Nigel Kenning Thingwall Dublin Road Shankill D18 F8C3

Date: 13 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 <a href="mailto:laps@pleanala.ie">laps@pleanala.ie</a>

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

Observation on Bus Connects proposal Bray to City Centre, Submitted by

Nigel Kenning; Thingwall, Dublin Rd Shankill, Co Dublin D18F8C3

Observation; Bus Connects proposal Loughlinstown roundabout to Bray; (part of Bus Connects Bray to City Centre)

ABP reference HA27.317742

The benefit to be gained by installation of bus lanes in the section of the route from Loughlinstown roundabout to Wilford is questioned in this submission, with data provided which appears to demonstrate the development from Wilford to Loughlinstown Hospital roundabout does not contribute anything to the goal of achieving more reliable and reduced bus journey times.

If there are no benefits to improved bus journey times, then other aspects of the scheme must provide the benefits to be able to justify the expenditure and disruption associated with the scheme. The proposed scheme will apparently have "positive, not significant to moderate and long term benefits for cyclist accessibility" (ref section 8.5. This is not glowing recommendation for a key aim and objective of the scheme. There are also positive moderate long term benefits for private vehicles, which may be as a result of the scheme, though this is difficult to understand when the installation of bus lanes would appear to improve the potential flow rate of traffic throughout the Wilford to Loughlinstown section of the Bus Connects without providing a significant benefit for bus traffic.

During the operational phase of the scheme there are negative townscape and streetscape effects on the sections from Loughlinstown roundabout to Wilford and Wilford to Bray. (Townscape and Streetscape Character - Loughlinstown Roundabout to Wilford Roundabout Negative, Very Significant, Short-Term Negative, Moderate, Long-Term environmental impact townscape, (chapter 17 of the Bus Connects submission)

Community Accessibility (Bus Users): University (Newman) Church, Haddington Road, Rathmines, Donnybrook, Merrion Road, Booterstown, Mount Merrion, Kilmacud – Stillorgan, Foxrock, Cabinteely, Ballybrack – Killiney, Loughlinstown, Shankill and Little Bray Positive, Moderate to Profound and Long-Term Positive, Moderate to Profound and Long-Term Bus access (Not sure how this applies to Shankill where the bus service is high service level, possibly lacking in some reliability but nominally already a bus every 6 minutes )

From a bus journey time perspective, surveys carried out show that the benefits of the development in the Loughlinstown to Wilford section are likely to be negligible. This is in contrast to the section from Wilford to Bray, where the benefits are likely to be significant.

Image 2.18 in the Bus Connects submisson seems to indicate an expectation that the loading on public transport on the high quality bus scheme will increase in the section from Loughlinstown roundabout to Shankill from approx. 600 per hour to approx. 1200 per hour. This would suggest an expectation that the number of buses on the route section will increase for the current 10 or 11 per hour (scheduled route no.s 145 and 155 at peak hours and 84 and 143) to 20 per hour. With peak traffic volumes currently being approx. 600 traffic units per hour and expected to fall as a result of the scheme being implemented, the increase from the bus volume of 1.5% would probably have a negligible effect on congestion.

In summary, this observation provides data which seems to offer strong evidence that the scheme planned between Wilford and Loughlinstown is unnecessary. There will be negligible improvement in bus times through the proposed changes. This is in contrast to the Wilford to Bray section, where the changes would be expected to provide much of the improved reliability objective for the whole

scheme. The other benefits of the scheme would have to be significantly greater than the proposal identifies to justify the disruption to the social and environmental impacts of the scheme on the Shankill locale.

## Traffic data

Traffic data was measured visually at Kenfeld, north iof Rathmichae; I School. in March 2019 on week days, and showed a peak volume of 147 vehicles per 10 mins during the southbound peak (equivalent to 882 vehicles per hour) at 6pm

Morning peak northbound was 107 vehicles per 10 mins at 8am (equivalent to 642 vehicles per hour)

The equivalent figures measured in September 2023 5.40pm showed a peak of 123 vehicles per 10 mins southbound (equivalent to 738 vehicles per hour) and 97 vehicles per hour northbound at 8.50am (equivalent to 582 vehicles per hour). This seems to confirm the longer term expectations that traffic volumes will fall during the planning period. The data collected is shown in Appendix 1 and is summarised in the charts 1 and 2 below.

General conclusions from the very quick and limited survey seem to show that traffic volumes are stable at worst and may be reducing over time. There is adequate road capacity to accommodate any potential increase in bus traffic that may arise because of the Bus Connects development in the area without the necessity to install bus lanes.

Chart 1

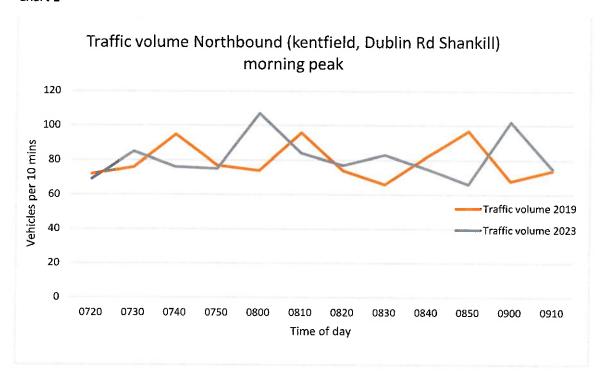
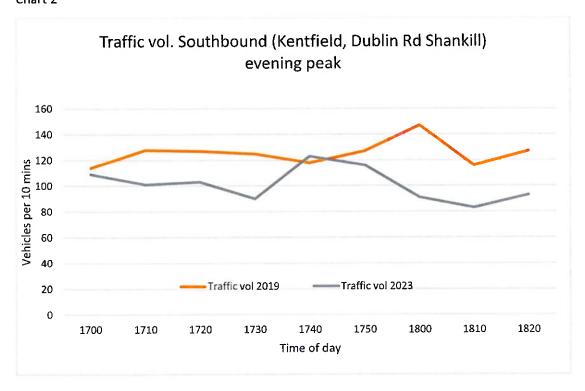


Chart 2



## Bus Journey time data, Bray to Loughlinstown section of Bus Connects

This data was generated by taking bus journeys on the days commencing Saturday 02Sep and ending 07Sep. A total of 6 journeys northbound were surveyed, with 2 starting from Bray at 7.43 am and 8.24am. For southbound journeys, a total of 7 were surveyed, with 3 starting at 4.12pm, 4.57pm and 5.57pm. The time as the bus arrived at or passed at each stop was recorded. Times were always recorded to the nearest lower minute. For a number of the journeys, an effort was made to measure the length of time the bus was stopped at bus stops. (The number of stops was used to plot journey times and number of stops, but no clear correlation is evident. As a result, stop time data is not included in this observation, but is available should it be required. No claim to precision is made but should be a reasonable reflection of actual performance). The data generated is shown in Appendix 2 and is summarised in the charts below which show journey times of sections of the journeys shown against the number of stops the bus made in that section of the journey.

General conclusions from this quick and simple survey seem to show the following

- The number of stops made does not seem to have great impact on journey times
- Journey times between Quinsboro Rd and Woodbrook varied from 4 to 9 mins northbound and 5 to 13 mins southbound. These are wide variations for a journey length of approx.
   1.2km and seem to offer significant opportunity for journey time improvement with appropriate design changes such as those proposed in Bus Connects.

 Journey times between Woodbrook and Loughlinstown Hospital varied from 7 to 9 mins northbound and 6 to 9 mins southbound, a much narrower variation for a journey length of approx. 2.3km, almost twice the distance form Woodbrook to Bray Quinsboro Rd.

Charts of journey times against stops

Chart 3

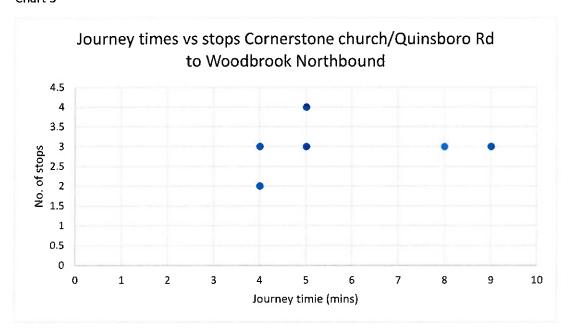


Chart 4

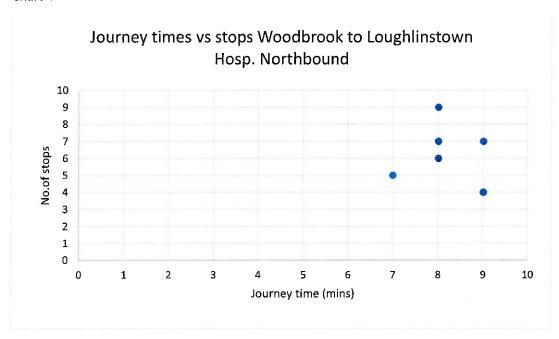


Chart 5

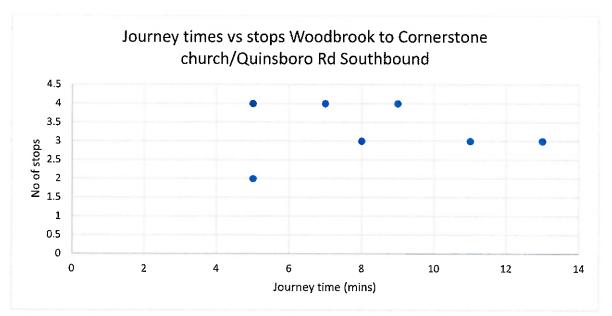


Chart 6



Journey time data is provided in Appendix 2

## Additional notes

The proposed Light controlled crossing to the north of Seaview Park appears to be incorrectly located. With a significant amount of bus users coming from the Shanganagh Rd area, the crossing should be located to the south of Seaview Park. (detail only). Doubling the width of the road and will tend to increase traffic speed, (despite the fact that the speed limit for the route remains unchanged at 50k/hr) adding to the dangers associated with crossing the road at non-light controlled crossings.

Dublin Bus appears to use Castle St. as a bus driver change point. On 2 of the journeys surveyed, drivers changed at this point, the changes taking 2 mins and 16 mins. There are opportunities here for journey times to be made more reliable. (The delays caused by the changes were removed from the data for the purpose of analysis.)

Most of the conclusions from the surveys would have confirmed anecdotal evidence. I must assume that Dublin Bus are aware of the congestion points and times of delays that occur in the section from Quinsboro Rd to Woodbrook in both directions. Similarly Dublin Bus should be aware that there are no (or negligible) traffic generated bus delays in the section from Woodbrook to Loughlinstown in either direction.

## Appendix 1

<u>Traffic flow data Kentfield, between Loughlinstown roundabout and Rathmichael NS</u>

Date	Time start	Time finish	Dir.	No.of vehicles	Date	Time start	Time finish	Dir.	No.of vehicles
	0600					1330			
	0610					1340	·		
08mar	0620	0630	n	32	12mar	1350	1400	n	60
Comar	0630	0000		1 -	ZZIIIGI	1400	1100		"
	0640			1	01mar	1410	1415	n	18
08mar	0650	0700	n	50	52	1420			
06mar	0700	0710	n	83	04mar	1430	1440	n	76
06mar	0710	0720	n	73	04mar	1440	1450	n	73
05mar	0720	0730	n	72	04mar	1450	1500	n	52
01mar	0730	0740	n	76	- United	1500	1300		
05mar	0740	0750	n	95		1510			
06mar	0750	0800	n	77		1520			1
01mar	0800	0810	<u>''</u>	74		1530	<del> </del>		
06mar	0810	0820	n	96	06mar	1540	1550	n	60
01mar	0820	0830	n	74	GOTTE	1550	1550		
05mar	0830	0840	n	66		1600			-
01mar	0840	0850	n	82		1610		<del></del>	
06mar	0850	0900	n	97		1620		-	
01mar	0900	0910		68		1630			
06mar	0910	0910	n	74	05mar	1640	1650		37
Oomar	0910	0920	n	74	USITIAL	1650	1030	n	37
07mar	0920	0935		22		1700			
U/mai	0930	0933	n	22		1710			
28feb	0940	1000		49		1710			
Zoleb	1000	1000	n	49		1730			
	1010				12mar	1740	1750		58
	1010				IZIIIdi	1750	1/30	<u>n</u>	70
	1030				+	1800			
	1040					1810			+
	1050 1100				+	1820 1830	-		
	1110				12mar	1840	1950		63
	1120				TZIIIdi	1850	1850	n	- 03
	1130	·				1900			
	1140					1910			
			<del></del>	<del> </del>	<del>_</del>	1910			<del>  -</del>
	1150								
04	1200	1220		F2	06	1930	1015		36
04mar	1210	1220	n	53	06mar	1940	1945	n	26
	1220			<del> </del>		1950			+
	1230					2000		<u></u>	
	1240	<u> </u>				2010			+
00	1250	1310		92		2020		<del>-</del>	+
06mar	1300	1310	n	82	12	2030	3050		44
	1310 1320				12mar	2040 2050	2050	n	41

Date	Time start	Time finish	Dir.	No.of vehicles	Date	Time start	Time finish	Dir.	No.of vehicles
	0600			10000		1330	1	1	Verneics
	0610				12mar	1340	1350	s	71
	0620				12mai	1350	1550	1	/ 4
08mar	0630	0640	s	18	04mar	1400	1410	s	70
0011101	0640	00 10		120	04mar	1410	1420	s	76
· <u>-</u> ·	0650			+ +	01mar	1415	1420	s	40
	0700			<del>                                     </del>	04mar	1420	1430	s	66
	0710			<del>                                     </del>	12mar	1440	1450	s	60
	0720				22,1101	1450	1130		
08mar	0730	0740	s	45		1500			
	0740	1	1	1 1		1510			
	0750				<u> </u>	1520			
	0800			† †	06mar	1530	1540	s	74
04mar	0810	0820	s	43		1540		<del>                                     </del>	1
05mar	0820	0830	s	44	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	1550			
04mar	0830	0840	S	69		1600			
04mar	0840	0850	s	53		1610			
04mar	0850	0900	S	75		1620			
04mar	0900	0910	s	58	05mar	1630	1640	s	102
04mar	0910	0920	s	65		1640			
04mar	0920	0930	s	45		1650			
	0930		1		04mar	1700	1710	s	114
07mar	0940	0950	s	77	04mar	1710	1720	s	128
	0950				04mar	1720	1730	s	127
06mar	1000	1010	s	52	04mar	1730	1740	S	125
	1010		Ų.		04mar	1740	1750	s	118
	1020				04mar	1750	1800	S	107
	1030				05mar	1800	1810	S	147
	1040				05mar	1810	1820	s	116
	1050				05mar	1820	1830	S	123
	1100					1830			
	1110					1840			
	1120				12mar	1850	1900	S	96
	1130					1900			
	1140					1910			
	1150					1920			
04mar	1200	1210	5	51	06mar	1935	1940	s	28
	1210					1840			
	1220					1950			
	1230					2000			
06mar	1240	1245	S	23	12mar	2010	2020	s	68
06mar	1250	1300	S	79		2020			
	1300					2030			
	1310					2040			
	1320					2050			

Date	Time start	Time finish	Dir.	No.of vehicles	Date	Time start	Time finish	Dir.	No.of vehicles
	0600					1330			
	0610					1340			
	0620					1350		_	
	0630					1400			
	0640		***************************************			1410			
	0650		· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·			1420			
	0700					1430			
	0710					1440			
13sep	0720	0730	n	69		1450			
13sep	0730	0740	n	85		1500		***	
13sep	0740	07550	n	76		1510			
13sep	0750	0800	n	75		1520			
13sep	0800	0810	n	107		1530			
13sep	0810	0820	n	84		1540			
13sep	0820	0830	n	77		1550			
13sep	0830	0840	n	53		1600		-	
13sep	0840	0850	n	75		1610			
13sep	0850	0900	n	61		1620			
15sep	0900	0910	n	102		1630			
15sep	0910	0920	n	75		1640			
15sep	0920	0930	n	66		1650			
•	0930					1700		,	
	0940					1710			
	0950					1720			
	1000					1730			
	1010					1740			
	1020					1750			
	1030					1800			
	1040					1810			
	1050					1820			
	1100					1830			
	1110					1840			
	1120					1850		_	
	1130					1900			
	1140					1910			
	1150					1920		-	-
	1200					1930			
	1210					1840			
	1220					1950			
	1230					2000			
	1240					2010			
	1250					2020			
	1300					2030			
	1310					2040			
	1320					2050			

Date	Time start	Time finish	Dir.	No.of vehicles	Date	Time start	Time finish	Dir.	No.of vehicles
	0600					1330			
	0610					1340			
	0620					1350			
	0630					1400			
	0640					1410			
	0650					1420			
	0700					1430			
	0710					1440			
	0720					1450			
	0730					1500			
	0740					1510			
	0750					1520			
14sep	0800	0810	S			1530	1540	S	84
14sep	0810	0820	S			1540			
14sep	0820	0830	s			1550			
14sep	0830	0840	s			1600			
14sep	0840	0850	s			1610			
14sep	0850	0900	S			1620			
14sep	0900	0910	s			1630			
14sep	0910	0920	s			1640			
14sep	0920	0930	s			1650			
	0930					1700	1710	S	109
	0940					1710	1720	s	101
	0950					1720	1730	s	103
	1000					1730	1740	S	90
	1010					1740	1750	S	123
	1020					1750	1800	S	116
	1030					1800	1810	S	91
	1040					1810	1820	S	83
	1050					1820	1830	S	93
	1100					1830			
	1110					1840			
	1120					1850			
	1130					1900			
	1140					1910			
	1150					1920			
	1200					1930			
	1210					1840			
	1220					1950			
	1230					2000			
	1240					2010		y	
	1250					2020			
	1300					2030			
	1310					2040		,	
	1320					2050			

Appendix 2

Bus journey time data between Bray Cornerstone Church / Quinsboro Rd and Loughlinstown roundabout

Southbound journey times; 2023

Day	Sat	Mon	Mon	Tue	Tue	Thu	Thu
Date	02/09	04/09	04/09	05/09	05/09	07/09	07/09
Loughlinstown Hosp	1424	1502	1612	1657	1757	0718	0802
Kentfield	1425	1503	1613	1658	1758	0719	0803
Station Rd	1427	1504	1614	1659	1759	0720	0804
Stonebridge Close	1428	1505	1616	1701	1800	0722	0806
Claremount	1429	1506	1617	1702	1801	0723	0807
Shanganagh Castle	1431	1507	1618	1703	1802	0724	0808
Shanganagh Cem.	1431	1508	1619	1703	1802	0725	0808
St.James Church	1432	1508	1620	1704	1803	0726	0809
Woodbrook	1433	1509	1621	1704	1803	0727	0810
Old Conna Av	1437	1513	1623	1708	1806	0728	0811
Castle St	1443	1518	1625	1711	1808	0730	0813
Dwyer Park	1443	1519	1626	1712	1809	0730	0813
Cornerstone Church	1446	1520	1628	1713	1811	0732	0815

Northbound journey times; 2023

Troit in Bourney clinics, 2025										
Day	Mon	Mon	Tue	Tue	Thu	Thu				
Date	04/09	04/09	05/09	05/09	07/09	07/09				
Cornerstone Church	1529	1632	1725	1813	0743	0824				
St.Cronan's Rd	1530/1546	1633	1726/1728	1815	0743	0827				
Roseville Court	1546	1634	1729	1815	0745	0829				
Old Conna Av	1551	1636	1730	1817	9746	0832				
Woodbrook	1552	1636	1731	1818	9748	0833				
St.James Church	1553	1637	1732	1819	0749	0834				
Shanganagh Cen.	1553	1638	1732	1819	0749	0835				
Shanganagh Castle	1554	1639	1732	1820	9750	0835				
Crinken Lane	1554	1640	1732	1821	0750	0835				
Claremount	1555	1640	1733	1821	0751	0836				
Stonebridge Close	1557	1641	1733	1822	0752	0836				
Station Rd	1558	1642	1734	1824	0753	0838				
Kentfield	1559	1643	1735	1824	0754	0840				
Loughlinstown Hosp	1601	1644	1736	1826	0756	0842				

Note 1

Note 1

Delays caused by driver changes dscounted in analysis