

An
Bord
Pleanála

Our Case Number: ABP-317742-23

Planning Authority Reference Number:

Senator Barry Ward
Dun Laoghaire Constituency
Seanad Eireann
Leinster House
Kildare Street
Dublin 2

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 observation or submission in relation to the case mentioned above 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 be advised that copies of all submissions / observations received in relation to the application will be made available for public inspection at the offices of the Local Authority and at the offices of An Bord Pleanála when they have been processed by the Board.

For further information on this case please access our website at www.pleanala.ie and input the 6-digit case number into the search box. This number is shown on the top of this letter (for example: 303000).

Yours faithfully,

Sarah Caulfield
Executive Officer
Direct Line: 01-8737287

BL50A

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AN BORD PLEANÁLA
LDG- 067498-23
ABP- BL-002335-23
10 OCT 2023
Fee: € 50.00 Type: CHA.
Time: 13:12am By: Hence



SENATOR
BARRY WARD

9 October 2023.

Re: Observation – BusConnects Bray to City Centre Core Bus Corridor Scheme

Dear Sir/Madam,

I wish to make an observation on this corridor insofar as it relates to Shankill between the roundabouts at Loughlinstown Hospital and the M11 Bray North. I support the objections of many Shankill residents to the destruction of their village by this scheme and I request that minimal (if any) measures are permitted by you in this section.

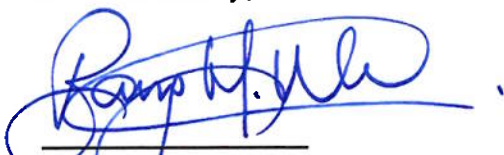
I would make the following points:

1. The loss of trees to facilitate road widening is undoubtedly the most severe loss across the entire BusConnects project and is very environmentally damaging. The planning application discloses significant bat presence. The loss of these trees, many aged over 100 years, will destroy the most attractive visual feature of the village.
2. Most of the proposed scheme will widen the road in the village to three or four traffic lanes splitting the village in two and seriously prejudicing connectivity between the two sides.
3. Under the revised bus routes, the current 145 service from Ballywaltrim, and the 155 from Bray DART Station, will be consolidated into one route with a reduced level of service. It is hard to reconcile a service reduction with a need for major road engineering in Shankill.
4. It is now proposed to have a bus lane on the M11 motorway as it by-passes Shankill. Residents reasonably feel that the option of running some Bray buses on this route, as an alternative, has not been adequately examined since that decision was made; this should have happened before this application.
5. There is opposition to the removal of the small roundabout at St Anne's church which is valuable in slowing traffic and useful to residents in accessing adjacent areas.
6. The overall time savings of approximately 6-7 minutes, claimed in the document are insignificant in the context of an hour's journey time to the city for buses destined for Finglas. Obviously only a fraction of that saving happens in Shankill. The damage is out of proportion to the time saving.

The six assessment criteria – economy, integration, accessibility and social inclusion, safety, environment and physical activity – are not well met by this route, since it will substantially and negatively impact on Shankill residents, way out of proportion to any wider benefits.

The NTA consultation process has been inadequate and non-compliant with the Aarhus Convention. It seems that, no matter how many sensible or reasonable points are made to NTA, they are not accepted. Residents feel that they either have not been heard or are being ignored.

Yours faithfully,



Barry Ward

Dún Laoghaire Constituency

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