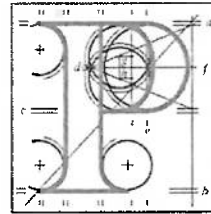


**Our Case Number:** ABP-317742-23

Simon Geelon  
Mellary  
3 Dublin Road  
Shankill

D18 E2R0



**An  
Bord  
Pleanála**

**Date:** 12 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 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](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

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The Secretary,  
An Bord Pleanála,  
64 Marlborough Street,  
Dublin 1,

Simon Geelon,  
Mellary,  
3 Dublin Road,  
Shankill,  
D18 E2R0

October 10, 2023

**Ref: BRAY SCHEME No 317742 (Bray to City Centre Bus Corridor)**

Dear Sir/Madam,

I am writing to make a number of observations regarding the proposed Bray to City Centre Bus Corridor and would urge the Bord to reject certain elements of the proposal and to consider an oral hearing without delay. The process thus far has been neither transparent or inclusive and has been specifically designed to confuse the public. An oral hearing is also necessary as members of the public affected by the scheme have found it exceptionally (and inappropriately) difficult to access and review information on the specifics of how the proposed scheme will affect them and their community.

BusConnects have engaged in the process of planning with little regard for the impact on Shankill as a community and seem, at every turn, to have disregarded informed counsel, independent advice, data and facts that all indicate how wholly inappropriate the proposed scheme is. They are now pursuing a scheme that will be economically expensive, environmentally disruptive and most importantly – will in fact - result in a diminished bus service between Bray and the City Centre! In reviewing the scheme, I would respectfully ask the Board to consider the following points:

- The scheme as proposed will have a materially negative impact on the setting and amenity of a protected structure ('St. Anne's', Dublin Road). Only recently (Jul 2023), the Department of Housing, Local Government, Heritage and Gaelteach raised concerns regarding a proposed development on this site. DLRCOC refused permission and the application is currently under appeal with ABP.
- The plan as presented is to remove 420 healthy and mature trees along the Shankill section of the corridor – this is environmental vandalism and must not be allowed happen.
- BusConnects provide little evidence of specific plans to remedy the proposed tree loss – regardless it is a fact that re-planting is not only difficult (as new planting faces challenges in an urban setting) but any re-planting program will take decades to provide any benefit versus that which our existing trees offer.
- DLRCOCs "Tree strategy 2023-2030" brings clear focus to the role of trees and the urban forest in our County. It states that trees play a significant role in climate action, mitigation, adaption and biodiversity. The role of trees as carbon sequesters and other tree benefits relating to Climate mitigation, air quality and health and wellbeing.
- The proposal as presented will have a significant and negative impact on the flora and fauna of Shankill.
- Route selection is based off 2017 data which is out of date and requires immediate revision/updating.
- Proposed works will create traffic bottlenecks (4 lane carriageways proposed on some sections).
- The plans are unnecessary and will actually result in a diminished bus service for Shankill residents.
- No time will be saved on the bus route under the proposed significant works through Shankill.
- Scheme is contrary to the County Development Plan 2022-2028
- The selected route will have a major environmental impact while a revised Option 2A avoids the high cost, environmental impact and social disruption of the current proposal.
- No comprehensive cycle plan for Shankill area and the current proposal seems to contain a series of unconnected mini cycle lanes.
- Proposed removal of roundabouts at each end of Shankill village will compound (not reduce) congestion
- The closing off of Corbawn Lane is ill conceived and has been tried previously with the decision being reversed because of its impracticality.

For all of the above reasons, I would urge ABP to refuse the application and recommend oral hearings ASAP.

Yours sincerely,

Simon Geelon