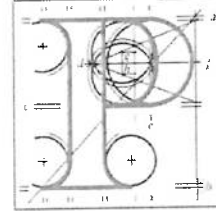


Our Case Number: ABP-317742-23



**An
Bord
Pleanála**

Wicklow County Council
Michael Flynn, Senior Engineer
County Buildings
Whitegates
Wicklow Town
Co. Wicklow
A67 FW96

Date: 11 October 2023

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

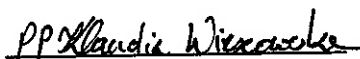
Please note that the proposed road development shall not be carried out unless the Board has approved it or approved it with modifications.

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,



Sarah Caulfield
Executive Officer
Direct Line: 01-8737287

HA03A

Teil	Tel	(01) 858 8100
Glaó Áitiúil	LoCall	1800 275 175
Facs	Fax	(01) 872 2684
Láithreán Gréasáin	Website	www.pleanala.ie
Ríomhphost	Email	bord@pleanala.ie

64 Sráid Maoilbhríde	64 Marlborough Street
Baile Átha Cliath 1	Dublin 1
D01 V902	D01 V902

Fw: Bray to city centre Core Bus Corridor Scheme.

Klaudia Wieszowska <klaudia.wieszowska@pleanala.ie>

Wed 10/11/2023 9:41 AM

To: Klaudia Wieszowska <klaudia.wieszowska@pleanala.ie>

From: Sarah Caulfield <s.caulfield@pleanala.ie>

Sent: Tuesday, October 10, 2023 4:04 PM

To: mflynn@wicklowcoco.ie <mflynn@wicklowcoco.ie>

Cc: Klaudia Wieszowska <klaudia.wieszowska@pleanala.ie>

Subject: RE: Bray to city centre Core Bus Corridor Scheme

Dear Michael,

The Board acknowledges receipt of your email and attached submission on behalf of Wicklow County Council.

Kind Regards,
Sarah

From: Michael Flynn <mflynn@wicklowcoco.ie>

Sent: Tuesday, October 10, 2023 3:46 PM

To: LAPS <laps@pleanala.ie>

Cc: Leonora Earls <LEarls@wicklowcoco.ie>

Subject: Bray to city centre Core Bus Corridor Scheme

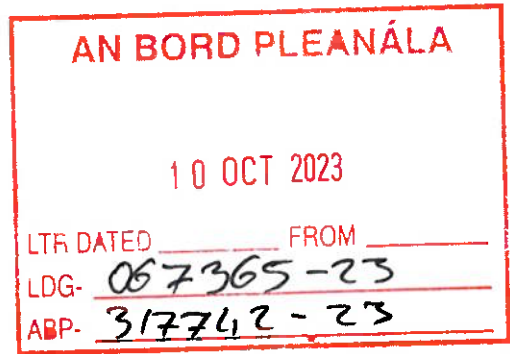
To whom it concerns

Please find attached observations in respect of the busconnects Bray to City centre Core Bus corridor scheme.

Regards,

Michael Flynn
Senior Engineer
Wicklow County council

Submission to An Bord Pleanála
BusConnects Dublin - Bray to City Centre
Bray to City Centre Core bus corridor scheme



Proposed Scheme

The Proposed Scheme has been designed to facilitate improved efficiency of the transport network through the improvement of the infrastructure for active (walking and cycling) and public transport modes making them attractive alternatives to car-based journeys.

The Proposed Scheme has an overall length of approximately 18.5km and approximately 750m of the bus corridor, between the junction with Old Connaught Ave and the Fran O'Toole Bridge is within the jurisdiction of Wicklow County Council.

Key Deliverables

The aim of the Proposed Scheme is to provide improved walking, cycling and bus infrastructure on this key access corridor in the Dublin region, which will enable and deliver efficient, safe, and integrated sustainable transport movement along the corridor. The Proposed Scheme is a key measure that delivers on commitments within the National Development Plan (2021-2030), the Transport Strategy for the Greater Dublin Area (2022-2042) the Climate Action Plan (2023) and the National Planning Framework 2040.

The proposed scheme also addresses key objectives set out in the Wicklow County Development Plan 2022-2028 and the Climate Adaptation Strategy for County Wicklow (2019).

The development and implementation of priority infrastructure on the Core Bus Network will ensure that delays are minimised, reliability is improved through peak and off-peak periods and mode shift from the private car is made more attractive.

The GDA Transport Strategy 2022-2042 states that key elements of the Cycling Network Plan for the GDA will be delivered as part of the Core Bus Corridor schemes.

As part of the BusConnects revised bus network proposals, the Proposed Scheme will serve the E Spine bus services.

The proposed scheme will significantly improve bus and cycle infrastructure on a very congested section of the Dublin to Bray access corridor. Most of this section will include a bus lane, general traffic lane and segregated cycle track in each direction.

Observations/Comments

- Roads will need to be widened through residential and business areas and there will be a need to reduce the amount of on-street parking and loading facilities to accommodate the new layout. Concerns have been raised throughout the various consultation phases regarding the potential impact on Castle Street and submissions to the public consultations are summarized as follows;
 - *Potential negative effects on local business in Bray due to removal of off-street parking to facilitate road widening.*

In response the following undertaking has been given.

Where there is a loss of on-street parking and loading facilities we will seek to provide, where feasible, alternative arrangements close by for residents and businesses.

Further efforts should be made to minimize the loss of parking spaces and engage further with affected businesses to identify alternative parking where possible.

- Wicklow County Council are presently developing a Bus Priority scheme on the Upper Dargle Road. This scheme is key to the provision of public transport options for the future development of the Fassaroe area of Bray. The Bus Connects design should consider the provision of Bus Priority at Sunnybank Junction.
- From Wilford Roundabout the Proposed Scheme will run south along the Dublin Road and Castle Street to the end of the Proposed Scheme, just north of Fran O'Toole Bridge. This section will include the upgrade of the Wilford Roundabout to a signalised junction. The impact of the changes at the Wilford roundabout on traffic flows in Bray need to be fully understood given the present levels of congestion affecting not only cars but also public transport services in the town centre.
- The core bus corridor scheme ends abruptly at the Fran O Toole bridge in Bray, while the proposed E spine services continue through the town centre to the bus depot at Ballywaltram. Consideration should be given to the extension of the core corridor through the town centre when planning for the E spine services.