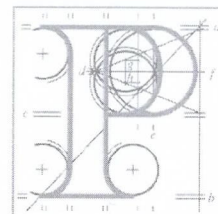


Our Case Number: ABP-318573-23



**An
Bord
Pleanála**

Fáilte Ireland
Environment & Planning Unit
88-95 Amiens St
North Dock
Dublin 1
D01 WR86

Date: 16 February 2024

Re: A proposed Road Development comprising of the N2 Slane By-Pass and Public Realm Enhancement Scheme
Within the Townlands of Slane, County Meath

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.

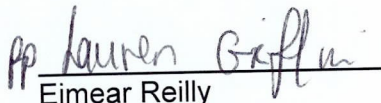
If you have any queries in relation to this matter please contact the undersigned officer of the Board at laps@pleanala.ie

Please quote the above-mentioned An Bord Pleanála reference number in any correspondence or telephone contact with the Board.

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

Yours faithfully,



Eimear Reilly
Executive Officer
Direct Line: 01-8737184

HA03A

Teil
Glao Áitiúil
Facs
Láithreán Gréasáin
Ríomhphost

Tel (01) 858 8100
LoCall 1800 275 175
Fax (01) 872 2684
Website www.pleanala.ie
Email bord@pleanala.ie

64 Sráid Maoilbhríde
Baile Átha Cliath 1
D01 V902

64 Marlborough Street
Dublin 1
D01 V902

Lauren Griffin

From: Lauren Griffin
Sent: Thursday 15 February 2024 14:40
To: John.Fallon@failteireland.ie
Subject: RE: HA17.318573- A proposed Road Development comprising of the N2 Slane By-Pass and Public Realm Enhancement Scheme

A Chara,

The Board acknowledges receipt of your email, official acknowledgment will issue in due course.

Kind Regards,

Lauren

From: John Fallon <John.Fallon@failteireland.ie>
Sent: Monday, February 12, 2024 5:00 PM
To: LAPS <laps@pleanala.ie>
Subject: HA17.318573- A proposed Road Development comprising of the N2 Slane By-Pass and Public Realm Enhancement Scheme

Caution: This is an **External Email** and may have malicious content. Please take care when clicking links or opening attachments. When in doubt, contact the ICT Helpdesk.

Dear Secretary,

Fáilte Ireland would like to take the opportunity to make a submission to a planning application which is currently lodged with An Bord Pleanála **HA17.318573- A proposed Road Development comprising of the N2 Slane By-Pass and Public Realm Enhancement Scheme**

The attached submission has been prepared by Fáilte Ireland, the National Tourism Development Authority.

I would be grateful if you could send a reply email acknowledging receipt of submission.

Regards,

John Fallon
Officer – Environmental Engineering | Fáilte Ireland

Currently working Remotely | **M** +353 (0)86 1654812



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**Fáilte
Ireland**

**Turasóireacht Náisiúnta
An tÚdara Eorbartha**
National Tourism
Development Authority

An Bord Pleanála,
Strategic Infrastructure Development Section,
64 Marlborough Street, Dublin 1,
D01 V902

13th February 2024

By email to: laps@pleanala.ie

Case reference: HA17.318573- A proposed Road Development comprising of the N2 Slane By-Pass and Public Realm Enhancement Scheme

Dear Sir/ Madam,

I refer to the above application for development consent for the N2 Slane Bypass and Public Realm Enhancement Scheme which is currently before An Bord Pleanála for approval.

Slane is a village renowned for its rich and varied cultural and built heritage. It is located adjacent to the River Boyne, an area of outstanding natural beauty which is a designated Special Area of Conservation and Special Protection Area, and is the gateway to the World Heritage Site, Bru na Bóinne. A key priority of Fáilte Ireland is improving the visitor experience within the region. To do this, improvements are needed in the existing road network in Slane to remove the current bottlenecks and increase and improve connectedness to and between key tourism destinations both north and south of the River Boyne.

Slane is a key tourism attraction as part of the Boyne Valley Drive with Slane Castle, the adjoining distillery, the industrial architecture of Slane Mill, along with village shops, restaurants and bars providing part of the overall visitor experience.

Therefore, it is considered that this project is strategically important for the sustainable development of tourism in Slane and the Boyne Valley region and will assist in delivering on the opportunity to *“Create the world’s most engaging cluster of Ancient Experiences that will be recognised as the Best Ancient Experiential Trail in The World in a UNESCO World heritage site through the enhancement of the Boyne Valley Drive”* as outlined in the May 2021 launched Ancient Destination Experience Development Plan.



**Fáilte
Ireland**

**Turasóireacht Náisiúnta
An tÚdara Eorbartha**
National Tourism
Development Authority

As a result of this, Slane is a key economic driver in the area and the By-Pass and Public Realm Enhancement Scheme will alleviate traffic congestion in the village, enhance the visitor experience and promote increased dwell time.

Fáilte Ireland also welcomes the accommodation of the proposed Boyne Greenway and Navigation Restoration route as part of the scheme by providing a link from the bypass cycling facility to the canal towpath. This will enhance Slane (and the region) as a cycling destination while also providing sustainable access to the wealth and diversity of ecological, cultural, industrial and historical heritage within the Boyne Valley.

Therefore, from a tourism perspective, Fáilte Ireland supports the proposed development in line with all proper planning and environmental requirements being met.

Yours Sincerely,

John Fallon

Officer – Environmental Engineering, Fáilte Ireland