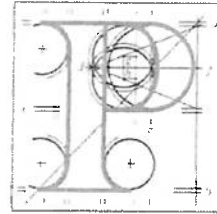


Our Case Number: ABP-318573-23



**An
Bord
Pleanála**

Treasa Keegan
9 Hazelwood Park
Celbridge
Co. Kildare
W23 XH11

Date: 15 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 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

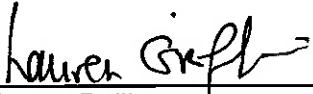
Please quote the above-mentioned An Bord Pleanála reference number in any correspondence or telephone contact with the Board.

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
Baile Átha Cliath 1
D01 V902

64 Marlborough Street
Dublin 1
D01 V902

Yours faithfully,



Eimear Reilly
Executive Officer
Direct Line: 01-8737184

HA02A

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12th February 2024

Re: HA17.318573, Slane Bypass

A chara,

In 2012, An Bord Pleanála refused permission for a bypass of Slane on the basis that an alternative option was available. The only suitable alternative option today is the same as it was then – to ban five-axle vehicles from the medieval village of Slane.

A senior engineer with Meath County Council said at the time that such a ban would see 800 heavy goods vehicles move to other roads, thereby alleviating traffic and safety concerns associated with their use of Slane village as a way to avoid tolls. That figure is over 10 years old - how many HGV's would be rerouted today if the ban was implemented, and is this not worth considering in the public interest?

It is proposed to trench a highway across the Boyne Valley and build a bridge 1.6 km west of Knowth when the M1 is only 6 miles to the east, and **at least 800 vehicles could use this alternative**. That's 11 minutes to reach a motorway with a 120km speed limit, ITS (intelligent transportation system) journey information, service and stop areas, and connectivity north and south.

It is difficult to overstate the transformative effect of removing HGV's from Slane, in terms of relief to the traffic congestion, improved safety, improved air quality, not to mention the visual amenity of the village and that sense of reclaiming the road for residents and local businesses.

From the National Planning Framework: Project Ireland 2040, objective 17 is to *"Enhance, integrate and protect the special physical, social, economic and cultural value of built heritage assets through appropriate and sensitive use now and for future generations."*

It defies all logic that a HGV ban has not already been implemented. Will ABP please consider the interests and wellbeing of the people of Slane, which is being abused by hauliers as a rat run for cost-saving purposes at the expense of the public.

I observe that Meath County Council have failed to do the obvious – **implement a HGV ban** to remedy the situation where the historic Slane village continues to take the fall for cost pressures experienced by the haulage industry.

Is mise le meas,



Treasa Keegan