

An Bord Pleanála  
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AN BORD PLEANÁLA  
LDG- 030603-20  
REP-  
11 SEP 2020  
Fee: € Type:  
Time: 12:10 By: *[Signature]*

11 September 2020

**Construction of the Boyne Greenway Drogheda to Mornington, Co. Meath & Co. Louth (APB-307652-20)**

To whom it may concern,

The concept of a greenway/cycle/walking route between Drogheda to Mornington is to be welcomed. However, having reviewed the planning application I wish to make the following observations.

The planning application refers to the proposed greenway serving schools along its route (for example, para 6.3.13 of the Constraints & Preliminary Design Report). It is my opinion that this proposal will not serve the local schools of Donacarney G.N.S and Donacarney B.N.S. as the proposed route passes approximately 1.5km north of these schools limiting its benefit to the schools. Under the current proposal, staff and parents / pupils would have to walk / cycle along the R150 to connect with the greenway. The R150 has an intermittent footpath / sections with no footpath and does not provide a safe or appropriate connection for school users. In recent years there has been a significant increase in school going children along with a growth in housing development in the locality. The Donacarney schools cater for a wide area including Colpe, Mornington, Donacarney and Bettystown. There are approx. 900 pupils attending both schools

Both Donacarney schools have been involved with An Taisce's Green-Schools Programme. This programme promotes sustainable travel and encourages pupils to walk and/or cycle to school.

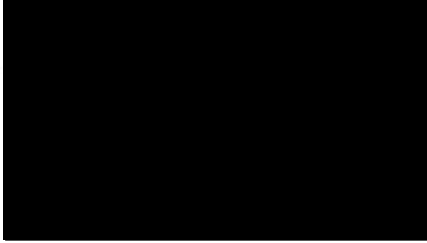
From a safety perspective, the schools would likely have to transport pupils by bus to the greenway to ensure safe access. I note no provision is provided in the proposal to accommodate school buses stopping adjacent to the greenway, to allow pupils to get on and off a bus safely.

The proposed greenway is 5.9km in length with approx. 4.1 km directly alongside the road. It is adjacent to the R151 a busy regional road serving the towns of Drogheda and the villages of Mornington, Bettystown, Donacarney and Laytown. Many residences and commercial businesses would exit directly onto the Greenway. School

children would not be fully aware of the dangers of vehicles crossing the greenway and are more likely at risk by the proposed design.

In my opinion the proposed design should prioritise a safe footpath and cycle track network that would connect the population centres of Colpe, Donacarney, Mornington, Bettystown, Laytown to and from school.

Yours sincerely,



**AN BORD PLEANALA**

11 SEP 2020

LTR DATED \_\_\_\_\_ FROM \_\_\_\_\_

LDG- \_\_\_\_\_

ABP- \_\_\_\_\_