Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown County Council

Active School Travel

New Safe Walking and Cycling Routes Public Consultation and Engagement

Summary Document

For full details please refer to the Executives Report and Recommendations document.
Why?

The benefits of being able to walk and cycle for our physical and mental health, the environment and the economy show that taking steps to implement a joined up safe network for walking and cycling can bring about a positive change in our local communities.

Process

Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown County Council undertook public engagement on three proposed New Safe Walking & Cycling Routes, titled Sea to Mountains, Mountains to Metals and Park to Park. This was a non-statutory public consultation and engagement process, which was undertaken from Friday 25th September to Friday 6th November 2020.

Engagement

Alongside a range of consultation meetings and events, a total of 6,388 representations were received; with an additional 43 representations received after the closing date. All 6,431 representations have been individually reviewed, considered and included in the full report and summarised here.

Outcome

The consultation identified a significant level of support for the proposed measures. Of the 6,431 representations received, 63% confirming their support for the proposals while 35% did not support the proposals. Many respondents offered suggested amendments and extensions to the proposals, all of which have been reviewed and considered.
6431 representations

One of the most significant pieces of engagement and public consultation completed by DLR either as statutory or a non-statutory process

Each representation includes a signature on a letter, email, CRM submission (dlr website contact form) or Citizen Space submission.

Data Integrity: Within the Citizen Space portal 2.8% of supportive representations were received from the same respondent. 1.6% of non-supportive responses where received from the same responders’s duplicate e-mail addresses.

Within the postal, email and CRM responses a percentage of respondents were identified as having the same name and address as representations made via the Citizen Space portal.

The information provided in the postal, email and CRM responses is not sufficient to declare, with absolute certainty, that respondents have made multiple representations but it is noted as highly likely. For example, 23% of objecting postal submission had a duplicate name and address to a Citizen Space representation. In the interests of conservatism postal, email and CRM responses have been assumed to be disparate from Citizen Space representations. This potentially weights the overall statistics toward not being supportive. Despite these occurrences, the suspected numbers of duplicates are small in the overall context. Rather than disregard potential duplicates all responses have been included. This increases the percentage of people opposed to the scheme by an estimated 3% - 5%.
Supported by every age and interest demographic

The majority of respondents fell between the ages of 25 to 64 and identified themselves as local residents. 81% of Citizens Space representations stated they were local residents. There was no evidence of mass submissions from areas outside of Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown.
The majority of the respondents walk or cycle often and so could be potential users of the proposed scheme.

68% WOULD WALK OR CYCLE MORE

90% WALK OR CYCLE OFTEN

8% WALK OR CYCLE OFTEN

68% OF respondents would consider walking/cycling more often if these routes were in place.

From Citizen Space respondents.
Responses fell into 22 categories with over half of all representations supporting the scheme with no adjustments.

| Category                                      | Supportive Without Qualification | Supportive with Adjustments | Vehicular Traffic | Project Development | Avoca Avenue | Deansgrange & Kill Lane | Accessibility | Parking & Deliveries | Behaviour of all Users | Road Space | Ambitions of the Proposals | Emergency Vehicle Access | Autumn and Winter Use | Coastal Mobility Route | Suggested Extensions | Lower Kilmacud Road | Quiet Streets | Residential Estates | Glenageary Woods | George’s Avenue | Upgrades and Maintenance |
|-----------------------------------------------|----------------------------------|-----------------------------|------------------|---------------------|--------------|------------------------|---------------|-----------------------|------------------------|-----------|------------------------|------------------------|----------------------|-------------------|------------------|------------------------|----------------|----------------|--------------------------|
| 3612 Supportive without qualification         |                                  |                             | 1606 Vehicular Traffic |                     |              |                        |               |                       |                        |           |                        |                        |                     |                   |                 |                        |
| 803 Supportive with adjustments               |                                  |                             |                   |                     |              |                        |               |                       |                        |           |                        |                        |                     |                   |                 |                        |
| 775 Project Development                       |                                  |                             |                   |                     |              |                        |               |                       |                        |           |                        |                        |                     |                   |                 |                        |
| 639 Avoca Avenue                              |                                  |                             |                   |                     |              |                        |               |                       |                        |           |                        |                        |                     |                   |                 |                        |
| 577 Deansgrange & Kill Lane                  |                                  |                             |                   |                     |              |                        |               |                       |                        |           |                        |                        |                     |                   |                 |                        |
| 314 Accessibility                             |                                  |                             |                   |                     |              |                        |               |                       |                        |           |                        |                        |                     |                   |                 |                        |
| 299 Belmont Lawn/Ardagh Crescent             |                                  |                             |                   |                     |              |                        |               |                       |                        |           |                        |                        |                     |                   |                 |                        |
| 268 Parking & Deliveries                     |                                  |                             |                   |                     |              |                        |               |                       |                        |           |                        |                        |                     |                   |                 |                        |
| 266 Behaviour of all users                   |                                  |                             |                   |                     |              |                        |               |                       |                        |           |                        |                        |                     |                   |                 |                        |
| 242 Road Space                                |                                  |                             |                   |                     |              |                        |               |                       |                        |           |                        |                        |                     |                   |                 |                        |
| 227 Ambitions of the Proposals               |                                  |                             |                   |                     |              |                        |               |                       |                        |           |                        |                        |                     |                   |                 |                        |
| 114 Emergency Vehicle Access                 |                                  |                             |                   |                     |              |                        |               |                       |                        |           |                        |                        |                     |                   |                 |                        |
| 94 Autumn and Winter Use                     |                                  |                             |                   |                     |              |                        |               |                       |                        |           |                        |                        |                     |                   |                 |                        |
| 75 Coastal Mobility Route                    |                                  |                             |                   |                     |              |                        |               |                       |                        |           |                        |                        |                     |                   |                 |                        |
| 67 Suggested Extensions                      |                                  |                             |                   |                     |              |                        |               |                       |                        |           |                        |                        |                     |                   |                 |                        |
| 57 Lower Kilmacud Road                       |                                  |                             |                   |                     |              |                        |               |                       |                        |           |                        |                        |                     |                   |                 |                        |
| 51 Quiet Streets                              |                                  |                             |                   |                     |              |                        |               |                       |                        |           |                        |                        |                     |                   |                 |                        |
| 48 Residential Estates                       |                                  |                             |                   |                     |              |                        |               |                       |                        |           |                        |                        |                     |                   |                 |                        |
| 13 Glenageary Woods                           |                                  |                             |                   |                     |              |                        |               |                       |                        |           |                        |                        |                     |                   |                 |                        |
| 13 George’s Avenue                           |                                  |                             |                   |                     |              |                        |               |                       |                        |           |                        |                        |                     |                   |                 |                        |
| 11 Upgrades and Maintenance                  |                                  |                             |                   |                     |              |                        |               |                       |                        |           |                        |                        |                     |                   |                 |                        |
The public engagement on the proposed three safe walking and cycling routes showed broad support for the scheme and it is recommended that the three routes proceed with the following qualifications, divided into general and location specific recommendations. More detail on each of the recommendations can be found in section 4.2.2 of the full report.

**General Recommendations**

**Monitoring Plan**
A cohesive Monitoring Plan should be put in place to gather a baseline data and measure impacts of the pilots and the three routes. The proposed pilot phase shall be extended to 6 months to fully enable this monitoring plan.

**Maintenance and upgrades**
DLRCC will enable maintenance and upgrades of existing walking and cycling infrastructure to ensure safe and equitable access is facilitated.

**Accessibility and inclusive design**
As the design for the proposed routes are refined and piloted DLRCC should ensure that the proposals meet with the required standards and are monitored and evaluated to ensure equitable usage and access.

**Emergency Vehicle Access**
DLRCC should ensure that Emergency Vehicle Access is provided and not hindered in the installation and piloting of the three proposed routes.

**Residential Spaces**
In implementing the three routes in residential spaces DLRCC should work closely with residents to refine and implement a design that works for all.

**Suggested Extensions to the scheme**
DLRCC should review all suggested extensions to the scheme and seek to broaden the access to active travel modes in particular for schools.

**Cycling Education**
DLRCC should make available resources, share links to cycling education programmes and promote schemes available in the county.

**Location Specific Recommendations**

**George’s Avenue**
The proposal should be implemented while liaising with local businesses to refine the options for safe loading on the street.

**Avoca Avenue**
It is recommended that the proposals on Avoca Avenue are refined to deliver the outcome of a safe street for pedestrians and cyclists whilst taking into account vehicular access for residents onto the N11 and Mount Merrion Avenue.

**Deansgrange Road and Kill Lane**
It is recommended that the original proposal and 2 alternative routes at Deansgrange Road and Kill Lane are reviewed. The proposal which best facilitates the objectives of the Active School Travel initiative shall be implemented. This will include an analysis of traffic impacts through modelling.

**Belmont Lawn/Ardagh Crescent**
It is recommended that the proposals at Belmont Lawn and Ardagh Crescent are implemented along with additional safety measures, and ongoing engagement on project delivery with local residents.

**Belmont Terrace**
The proposals for a cycleway at Belmont Terrace should be refined to minimise the impact on informal parking whilst mitigating environmental impacts.

**Eden Park, Knocknashee and Lower Kilmacud**
The proposals for Eden Park, Knocknashee and Lower Kilmacud should proceed with input into the placemaking design and additional safety measures from local residents.
Next Steps

The above recommendations will be implemented, with the review of route alternatives concerning the Deansgrange interventions and associated traffic impact assessment and modelling subject to further review and approval by DLRCC.

It is proposed that the scheme will progress to the detailed design phase, with contractors and materials procured and measures implemented and constructed, at which point the pilot phase will commence.

The pilot phase will be for 6-months after which the routes will be assessed based on how people have experienced them. Feedback will be invited in the pilot phase, further details will be shared in due course.

The Sea to Mountains route which will link east to west across the county. Starting at Blackrock Dart Station, crossing the N11 to Deerpark. It will then continue south linking to the Sandyford Cycle Route and Kilmacud Luas Stop and on to the Slang River Greenway and Wicklow Way.

The Park to Park route, which will link north to south across the county. Starting at the coast at Blackrock Dart Station then joining the existing pathways in Rockfield Park. From there it will continue south along Deansgrange Road linking to the Loughlins-town to Deansgrange Greenway and ending by linking south to the coast.

The Mountains to Metals route, which will link east west across the county. Starting at the Sandyford Cycle Route, linking to the Sea to Mountains Route, the route also links up the Park to Park route, north through residential areas and new developments and on to the Metals.

Through the wider Active School Travel initiative; local schools are invited to identify local travel and transport issues, where the Council can provide assistance and support in overcoming. These issues and hazards can include, things such as the need for cycle parking, deteriorated footpaths, traffic pinch points, and pedestrian crossing issues.

Schools can raise these issues by using the Council’s ‘Report It’ tool, available at: https://www.dlrcoco.ie/en/report.

Submissions from schools should reference this Active School Travel initiative.

The three proposed routes

By designing for children and their parents, routes were developed that are suitable for everyone, including children, the elderly, and/or people with disabilities. Everyone would be invited to use and could benefit from these routes.