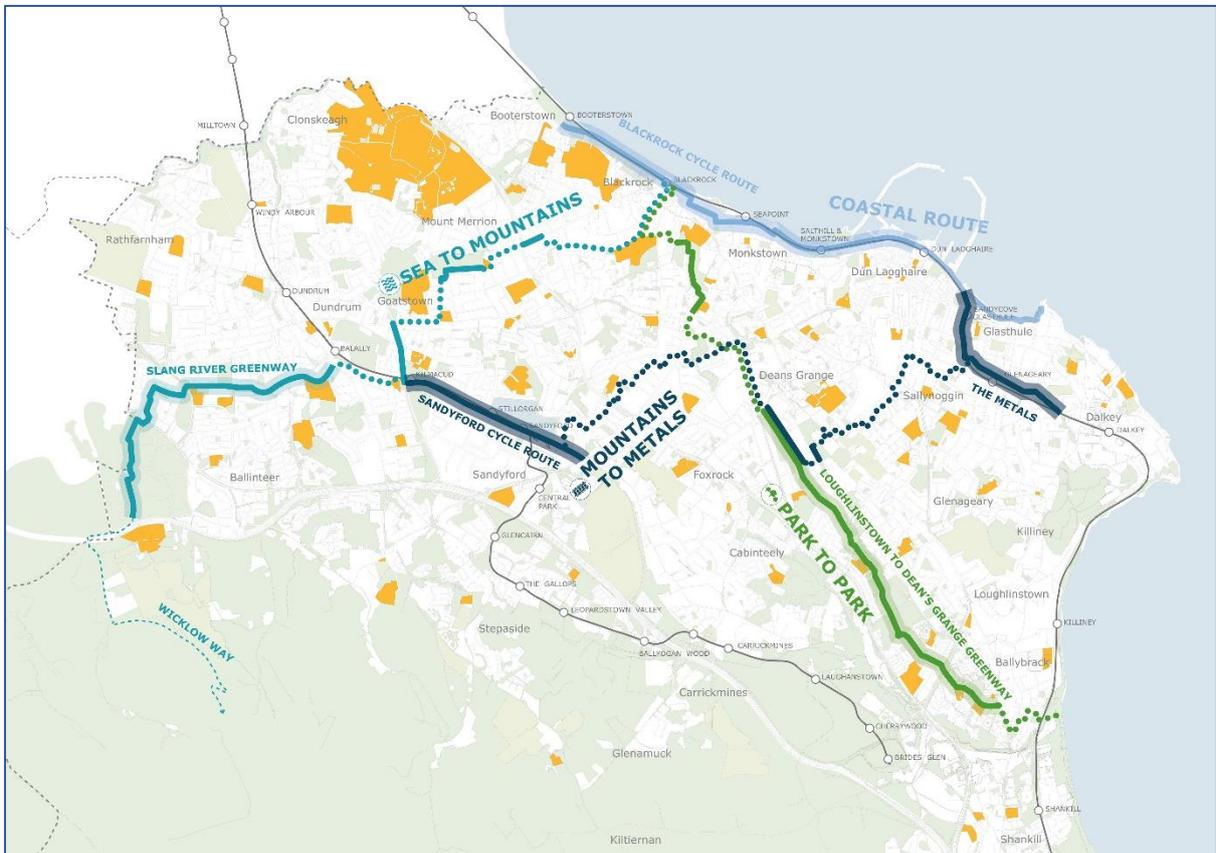


# Active School Travel: Deansgrange Road

## Project Update September 2023



## Background:

The Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown County Council (DLR) Active School Travel project is centred on the concept of providing a connected and safe network of walking and cycling routes to schools across the county, and this concept has been emphasised from project inception in August 2020.

The **Sea to Mountains route** 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.

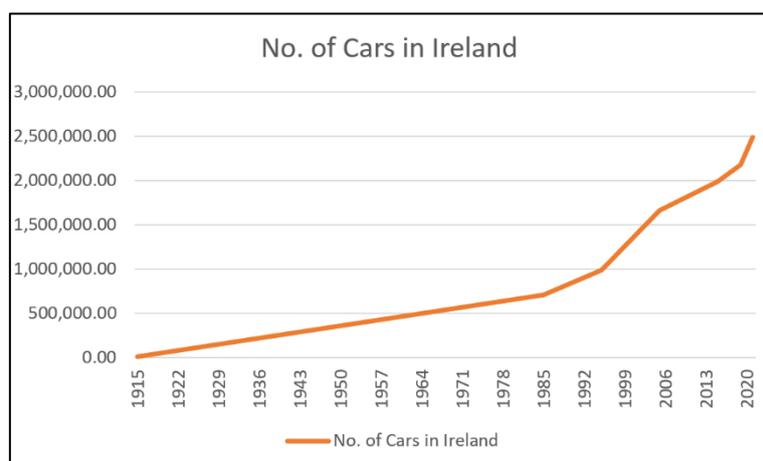
The **Park to Park route** will link north to south across the county. Starting at the coast at Blackrock Dart Station then joining to the existing pathways in Rockfield Park. From there it will continue south along Deansgrange Road linking to the Loughlinstown to Deansgrange Greenway and ending by linking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

The **Mountains to Metals route** 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 to the Park to Park route, north through residential areas and new developments and on to the Metals.

The proposed routes aim to connect quiet residential streets with existing safe walking and cycling infrastructure, to create a joined-up network.

## Need for this project:

Dublin is the 17<sup>th</sup> most congested city in the world. Car ownership levels in Ireland have risen exponentially over the last 30 years.



\*Source CSO

No new roads are being built to keep up with this increased demand and there are no options to increase traffic capacity on the existing roads. This means that congestion levels will continue to deteriorate if alternatives are not provided. Both local and national policies are directing that we reduce CO2 emissions by half in the next 7 years. This means that almost half of the current car trips need to be converted to sustainable traffic trips to meet these objectives. The Bus Connects plan is proposing high quality public transport for DLR which will provide improved public transport. For other areas a high-quality walking and cycling network is required.

### **Current Project Status:**

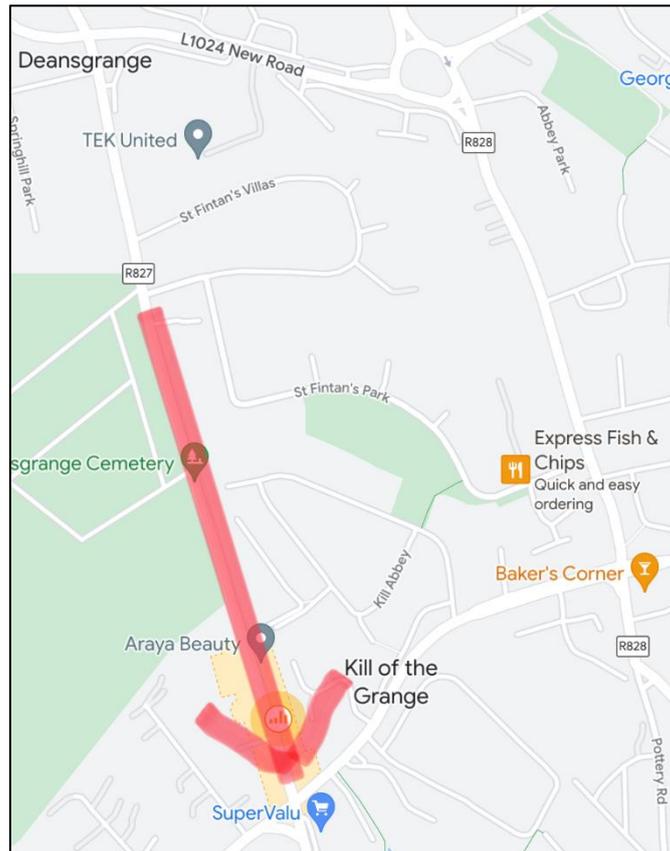
Over the last 3 years DLR have been implementing the Active School Travel network. The last remaining section to be completed is Deansgrange Road. During this time DLR had proposed a variety of different design options for Deansgrange Road. There has been a series of public engagements both statutory and non-statutory. In March 2023 the Elected Members of DLR voted to approve a scheme on Deansgrange Road that provides for two-way traffic and two-way cycling on the road. This design requires the removal of public parking along Deansgrange Road.

### **FAQs:**

- 1. Where can I see information relating to the consultation for this scheme?** Information relating to the Part 8 process for this scheme is available here: <https://dlrcoco.citizenspace.com/transportation/active-travel-improvements-deansgrange-cycle-route/>
- 2. How long will the works take?** The works are programmed to take approximately 8 months.
- 3. Why is a one-way system traffic management plan being used?** The provision of the cycle facility requires a new concrete kerb at the edge of the car lanes. This will require a trench to be dug along Deansgrange Road and the kerb poured into the trench. The trench needs to be wider than the kerb to facilitate the machine access and extra space is required to allow safe space for workers. This leaves insufficient space to maintain two way traffic (even if the parking is removed)
- 4. Why don't you use stop / go?** The use of stop/go set up would result in more significant congestion in this area. For example, if the section of Deansgrange Road was done in 100m sections using stop/go this system this would usually take 3-5mins between 'go' cycles. The junction at Deansgrange Road typically cycles every 2 mins. This means that there would be two changes of the lights at the junction before you get a 'go' at the stop/go system. This would quickly backlog traffic in both directions on Deansgrange Road. The use of stop/go would also not resolve the issue around having to keep the trench for the kerb open until the kerb is poured. The use of stop/go

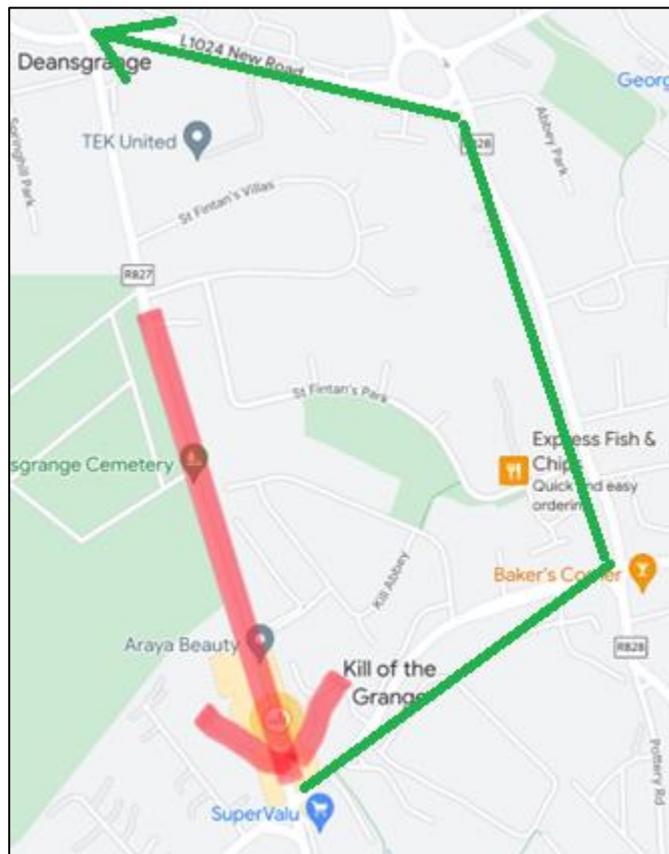
would also require the removal of parking on Deansgrange Road once setup. The provision of a one-way system allows for the retention of parking for a longer period.

- 5. What is the extent of the one-way system?** The one-way system will be installed on Deansgrange Road south of St Fintan's Villas and continuing up to junction with Kill Lane. This will be in place for 6 months. The section between St Fintans Villas and the Rowanbyrn junction will be done as a subsequent traffic management phase.



- 6. What are the diversion routes?** Vehicles travelling north on the N11 will be diverted initially via Johnstown Road / Pottery Road. For vehicles that continue past this junction they will be diverted via the N11 – Newtownpark Ave. Vehicles approaching the works from Clonkeen Road will be diverted left via the N11.
- 7. Will this mean a lot of additional traffic locally?** Data collection noted that 75% of the northbound traffic on Deansgrange Road drives through the area. This means that 75% of the existing traffic starts and ends their journeys outside these areas. If these vehicles follow the signed diversion route this will result in less traffic in this area.

8. **Is the 84 and 84a bus impacted?** Yes, the northbound bus service is diverted via Abbey Road for the duration of the works:



The bus will stop at the bus stops along the diversion route. There are bus stops on Kill Lane close to the NCT centre here:

<https://www.google.com/maps/@53.2793962,-6.1621844,3a,75y,35.07h,85.98t/data=!3m6!1e1!3m4!1sN7uyyMRdWc4hDIL3BShow!2e0!7i16384!8i8192?entry=ttu>

9. **Why didn't DLR provide cycle tracks on Abbey Road instead?**

Abbey Road is part of the proposed cycle network and requires high quality facilities in addition to Deansgrange Road. A network of cycle routes is required to provide sustainable options for users.

10. **I live in the following area; how does the one-way system affect me:**

- **St Fintans Park / Villas:** These exits onto Deansgrange Road are outside the one-way system so movements are unrestricted. When exiting onto Deansgrange Road you will be permitted to turn left and right. When returning via Deansgrange Road you must enter via the northern end.
- **Brookville Park / Grange Grove:** These exits onto Deansgrange Road are outside the one-way system so movements are unrestricted. When exiting onto Deansgrange Road you will be permitted to turn left and right. When returning via Deansgrange Road you must enter via the northern end

- **Grange Terrace:** You must enter Deansgrange Road from the northern end and exit through the one-way system.
- **Deansgrange Cemetery:** You must enter Deansgrange Road from the northern end and exit through the one-way system. In addition, the northern entrance to the Cemetery will be closed for the duration of the works. Vehicular access to the cemetery will be via the main entrance. This has been communicated to the funeral directors.
- **Kill Lane area east of Deansgrange Road:** There is an existing no right turn ban at this location so access is unchanged.
- **Kill Lane area west of Deansgrange Road:** There are two diversion options for local residents, via the N11 / Newtownpark Ave or via Kill Lane / Abbey Road
- **Clonkeen Road Area:** There are two diversion options for local residents via the N11 / Newtownpark Ave or via Kill Lane / Abbey Road

**11. I am a pedestrian; how will the traffic management affect me?**

Pedestrian access will be maintained throughout the works.

**12. I am a pedestrian or cyclist who uses the cemetery. Will this be still available?** Yes, pedestrian and cycle access are maintained but the northern entrance will be restricted. The pedestrian / cycle and vehicular gates at the tea rooms will be available. Signage will be provided directing people to the alternative routes.

**13. I am a cyclist how will the traffic management affect me?** Cyclists access to Deansgrange Road northbound will be diverted for the duration of the one-way system similar to the vehicular traffic.

**14. I have a query related to the construction works who do I contact?**

You can contact:

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