

Heather Cooke

From: Owen Byrne <[REDACTED]>
Sent: 08 January 2019 12:08
To: RSES
Subject: Submission/observation
Attachments: RSES_submission_OByrne.pdf

To whom it may concern,

Please find attached my submission/observation and supporting information in attached document.

Best regards,

Owen Byrne

[REDACTED]

8th January 2019

Re: Submission/Observation on the Draft Regional Spatial and Economic Strategy for the Eastern and Midland Region

To whom it may concern,

I wish to make a submission/observation for your consideration on two topics:

1) Increased bus lanes on the M4/N4: With >45% commuter flow (Fig 1.9) the whole way along the M4/N4 as far west as the Enfield region and the stated goal of the Draft Regional Spatial & Economic Strategy to encourage sustainable commuting through improved public transport facilities I submit that the plan should include for the provision for continuous bus lanes along the M4/N4 from Dublin to Kilcock/Enfield; I submit that the inclusion of a bus lane should be specifically stated as part of the aims of the “M4 Maynooth to Leixlip roads upgrades” (listed in Table 5.1 and elsewhere in the document).

2) Removal of the M4 toll for improved East-West connectivity and safety of schoolchildren: I propose that the Regional Spatial and Economic Strategy should aim to remove the M4 toll charge. The M4 toll road connects the N4 and N6 highways to the M4 motorway at Kilcock. The removal of the toll would greatly improve connectivity with the west of Ireland, allowing vehicles to freely use the existing motorway and improving journey times from Dublin by up to 20 minutes. In particular, the Regional growth centre of Athlone, and key towns of Mullingar and Longford would directly benefit by improved journey times and improved connectivity with Dublin. Specifically, removal of the toll would maximise Athlone’s potential for growth as a central and accessible location nationally and a key nodal point between Dublin and Galway.

Furthermore, the recently announced 500 pupil post primary school planned for Enfield to open in 2020 [A] will be located with its entrance on the R148 Enfield Bypass East roundabout [B]; this is the route used daily by a large number of heavy goods vehicles to avoid the M4 toll; with a current estimated traffic flow of 5,000-10,000 vehicles per day [C]. The large number of heavy good vehicles passing the new school will put children at risk; strong consideration should be given to removing the toll for the safety of children attending the new school.

It is noted that school locations are identified through Local Authority County Development Plans and Local Area Plan policy, with co-ordinated decision making between the Department of Education and Skills and Local authorities; however removal of the toll scheme requires a national level approach as the toll road is currently overseen by a national body thus it seems the Regional Spatial & Economic Strategy is the appropriate place for this strategy (rather than local authority development plans).

Best regards,

Owen Byrne

Supporting information / references

A]

Post-primary schools to be established over the next 4 years (2019 to 2022)

1.	School Planning Area	School Size*	Year to Open
1	Donaghmede_Howth_D12/Balmayne/Clongriffin	1,000 pupils	2019
2	GalwayCity & Oranmore (Regional Solution)	1,000 pupils	2019
3	Laytown & Drogheda (Regional Solution)	600 pupils	2019
4	Wicklow	600 pupils	2019
5	Blanchardstown_West D15 & BlanchardstownVge_D15 (Regional Solution)	800 pupils	2020
6	Goatstown_Stillorgan DLR	300 pupils	2020
7	Enfield (Kilcock school planning area)	500 pupils	2020
8	Citywest/Saggart (Tallaght & Newcastle_Rathcoole school planning areas) (Regional Solution)	1,000 pupils	2020
9	Dublin6_Clonskeagh & Dublin_SW (Regional Solution)	1,000 pupils	2020
10	Ballincollig	600 pupils	2021
11	Booterstown_Blackrock & Dunlaoghaire (Regional Solution)	1,000 pupils	2021
12	Donaghmede_Howth_D12/Saldioyie/Stepolin	300 pupils	2021

Available at (last accessed 8th Jan 2018): <https://www.education.ie/en/Press-Events/Press-Releases/2018-press-releases/PR18-04-13.html>

06 Community Facilities and Open Spaces

St. Mary's National School is located adjacent to the town centre off the Johnstown Bridge Road. The nearest secondary school is in Longwood approximately 8km from Enfield or Kilcock which is 15km distant. The provision of additional schools is being pursued in the Enfield Johnstownbridge area in line with the Department of Education and Skills Programme.

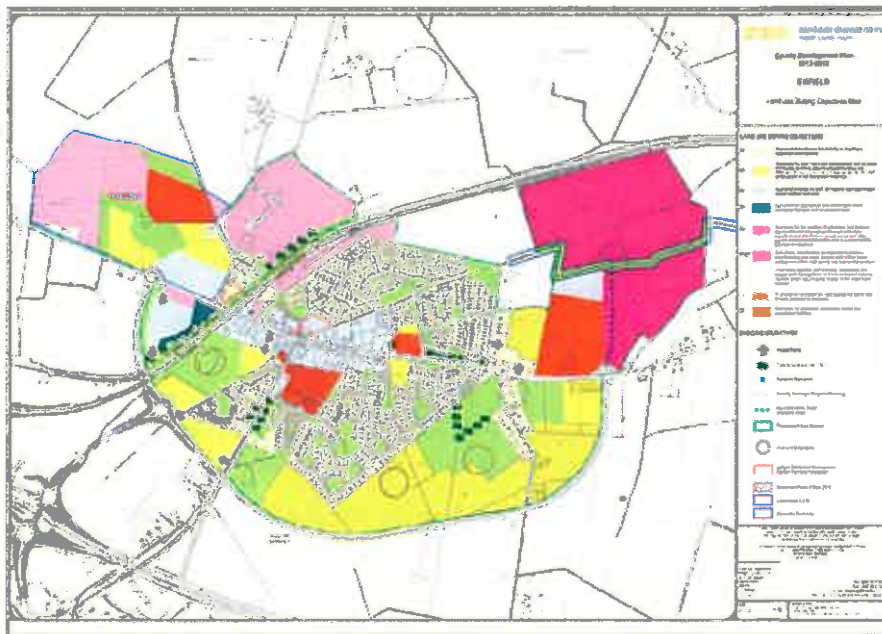
The 2011 Census of Population recorded the population of pre-school age (0 - 4 years) as 416, primary school going age (5 - 12 years) as 404 and secondary school going age (13 - 18 years) as 176. Having consulted with the Department of Education and Skills and having regard to the extent of residential zoned land being released over the lifetime of the plan (Phase 1 of the Order of Priority), the existing site of 5.85 hectares identified for community uses to the east of Enfield is considered adequate to accommodate both a primary and post-primary school. In this regard, it is considered that sufficient lands have been zoned to accommodate the projected educational requirements within the settlement.

The existing Roman Catholic Church is located 3km outside Enfield in the townland of Jordanstown. The parish office is located on the Main Street adjoining the town centre area. A site adjoining the parish office is identified for community uses. Na Fianna G.A.A sports ground and Enfield Celtic Football Club are located to the east of the town and are identified with appropriate land use zoning objectives accordingly. There is a medical centre located adjoining the town centre opposite St. Mary's National School. The Royal Canal is part of an attractive boating network and a long distance walking route which has been referred to in the preceding section. Coarse angling is also facilitated in the Royal Canal in Enfield.

The existing level of civic and community facilities should continue to be monitored to cater for the town's needs having regard to the population now resident and the additional population which has been projected. A site for a playground has been identified to the south of Enfield within an established wooded area. A site is also identified for community use opposite the industrial estate. Having regard to the existing population and the potential increase in population associated with the quantum of residential zoned land over the lifetime of the Plan, the Planning Authority is satisfied that the extent of lands identified for community uses is adequate for the life of this Plan.

The Royal Canal and the associated Leisure Activity Area is the primary open space in Enfield. It is part of an attractive boating network and a long distance walking route. An area beside the Park has been zoned (west of the canal and south of the R148) D1, 'To provide for visitor and tourist accommodation and leisure facilities'. It is envisaged that the area would be developed for accommodation, boating, or such other uses as will be necessary for the long term development of the Royal Canal as a linear amenity corridor. A secondary open space is on the eastern bank of the canal and includes the site of a Ringfort. Other open spaces include Na Fianna G.A.A and Enfield Celtic Soccer grounds located to the east of the town. There are existing open spaces within housing developments.

“Meath County Development Plan 2013-2019, Enfield Written Statement” available at (last accessed 8th Jan 2018): <https://meathcountydevelopmentplan.files.wordpress.com/2011/01/enfield-written-statement.pdf>



“Meath County Development Plan 2013-2019, Volume 5: Book of Maps” available at (last accessed 8th Jan 2018): https://meathcountydevelopmentplan.files.wordpress.com/2018/07/book-of-consolidated-maps_cdp-2013_2019_reduced.pdf

Full details at “Meath County Development Plan 2013-2019”, available at (last accessed 8th Jan 2018): <https://meathcountydevelopmentplan.files.wordpress.com/2011/01/meath-county-development-plan-2013-2019-consolidated-version-written-statement-december-2016.pdf>

c)

Ref	Description	Estimated Traffic Flow per Day	Inscribed Circular Diameter (m)	Max Number of Signs per Roundabout	Minimum Sponsorship Fee per Annum	MD	Current Treatment	Total For Duration of 3 Year Sponsorship
21	R155 Tesco, Ratoath	3-5k	30	4	€1,000	Ratoath	Grass and shrubs - work planned	€3,000 + Cost of Signage
22	R153/R125 Ratoath	5-10k	45	3	€2,000	Ratoath	Grass and shrubs	€6,000 + Cost of Signage
23	R132 Gormanston	5-10k	36	3	€2,000	Laytown/ Bettystown	Hard landscaped.	€6,000 + Cost of Signage
24	R150 Tesco, Bettystown	3-5k	30	4	€1,000	Laytown/ Bettystown	Hard landscaped.	€3,000 + Cost of Signage
25	R150 Whitefield Manor Bettystown	3-5k	30	3	€1,000	Laytown/ Bettystown	Grass and shrubs	€3,000 + Cost of Signage
26	R132 Colpe North (Southgate)	15-20k	50	3	€4,000	Laytown/ Bettystown	Grass	€12,000 + Cost of Signage
27	R132 Colpe South	15-20k	50	3	€4,000	Laytown/ Bettystown	Grass	€12,000 + Cost of Signage
28	R148 Enfield Bypass West	5-10k	55	3	€2,000	Trim	Hard landscaped. Some planting	€6,000 + Cost of Signage
29	R148 Enfield Bypass East	5-10k	55	3	€2,000	Trim	Hard landscaped.	€6,000 + Cost of Signage
30	R148 Enfield Bypass/R402	5-10k	55	3	€2,000	Trim	Hard landscaped. Some planting	€6,000 + Cost of Signage
31	R148 Kinnegad	5-10k	55	4	€2,000	Trim	Already landscaped. Hard landscaping no grass	€6,000 + Cost of Signage
32	R402 Johnstown Road	5-10k	40	1	€2,000	Trim	Hard landscaping and shrubs	€6,000 + Cost of Signage
33	R158 Kilcock North	3-5k	40	3	€1,000	Trim	Grass	€3,000 + Cost of Signage
34	R158/R196 Summerhill	3-5k	40	3	€1,000	Trim	Grass	€3,000 + Cost of Signage
35	R158/R160 Trim	3-5k	50	4	€1,000	Trim	Grass - shrubs/flowers	€3,000 + Cost of Signage
36	R154 Knightsbrook Trim	3-5k	30	3	€1,000	Trim	Grass - shrubs/flowers	€3,000 + Cost of Signage
37	R160/R154/Castle Street Trim	3-5k	32	4	€1,000	Trim	Grass - shrubs/flowers	€3,000 + Cost of Signage
38	Kilken Castle	3-5k	30	2	€1,000	Ratoath	Ornamental trees	€3,000 + Cost of Signage
39	Abbey Rd/Cannon Row/Boreen Keel	5-10k	30	4	€2,000	Navan	Hard landscaping /Flowers/Sculpture	€6,000 + Cost of Signage

"Meath County Council Roundabout Sponsorship Scheme Appendix A List of Roundabouts and Pricing Schedule" available at (last accessed 8th Jan 2018): <http://www.meath.ie/media/Media,67430,en.pdf>

