

Comhairle Contae Fine Gall Fingal County Council

Minutes of Balbriggan/Rush-Lusk/Swords Area Committee (Services B - Strategic and General Matters)

Thursday, 9th October, 2025

PRESENT

Councillors:

Butler, Darragh

Corkery, Luke

Dockrell, Eoghan

Humphreys, James

Johnston, Corina

Maguire, Grainne

Councillors:

Mulligan, Dean

Murphy, Tony

Newman, Joe

O'Leary, Tom

Quinn, Malachy

Ryan, Brendan

Smyth, John

Apologies were received from the following Councillors: Mark Boland, Darren Jack Kelly

The Area Chair, Councillor Luke Corkery, presided

OFFICIALS PRESENT

Brian Murray (Senior Executive Officer), Aoife Sheridan (Senior Executive Officer) Roisin Burke (Senior Planner), Kevin Halpenny (Senior Parks and Landscape Officer), Fearghal McSweeney (Administrative Officer) Ciaran Staunton (Administrative Officer), Emily Crawley (Sports Programme Administrative Manager), Mortimer Loftus (Executive Scientist), Aaron O'Callaghan (Executive Engineer), David Daly (Assistant Staff Officer), Jack O'Grady (Clerical Officer) Ciara McGowan (Clerical Officer)

BSB/485/22 (Agenda Item No 1)

Confirmation and Re-Affirmation of Minutes of Balbriggan/Rush-Lusk/Swords Services B (Strategic and General Matters) meeting held on Thursday the 11th of September 2025

It was **PROPOSED** by Councillor J. Newman, seconded by Councillor M. Quinn and **RESOLVED** –

“That the minutes of the Balbriggan/Rush-Lusk/Swords Services B (Strategic and General Matters) meeting held on Thursday 11th September 2025 be **ADOPTED**.”

QUESTIONS

It was proposed by Councillor, J. Smyth, seconded by Councillor J. Newman and
RESOLVED-

“That pursuant to Standing Order No. 51, Questions 2 – 46 inclusive be **ADOPTED**.”

BSB/487/22 (Agenda Item No 2)

Councillor E. Dockrell - Update on Phase 2 of Donabate Distributor Road - AI104038

BSB/488/22 (Agenda Item No 3)

Councillor E. Dockrell - Update on Nature Education Centre - Turvey Park -
AI104577

BSB/489/22 (Agenda Item No 4)

Councillor E. Dockrell - Installation of School Safety Measures - Naul National
School - AI104584

BSB/490/22 (Agenda Item No 5)

Councillor E. Dockrell - Converting Rush Library to a "My Open Library" - AI104588

BSB/491/22 (Agenda Item No 6)

Councillor E. Dockrell - Increase Visits of Mobile Library - Lusk - AI104589

BSB/492/22 (Agenda Item No 7)

Councillor C. Johnston - Provision of Wildlife, Education and Rehabilitation Centre -
Turvey Nature Reserve, Donabate - AI104334

BSB/493/22 (Agenda Item No 8)

Councillor C. Johnston - Healthy Steps Community Walk - Newbridge Demesne,
Donabate - AI104534

BSB/494/22 (Agenda Item No 9)

Councillor C. Johnston - Safe Routes to School - Donabate/Portrane Educate
Together - AI104537

BSB/495/22 (Agenda Item No 10)

Councillor C. Johnston - Report on Trial One-Way System - Ballisk, Donabate -
AI104539

BSB/496/22 (Agenda Item No 11)

Councillor C. Johnston - Progress Report on the Portrane Road Enhancement
Scheme - AI104540

BSB/497/22 (Agenda Item No 12)

Councillor C. Johnston - Taking in Charge - Weston Park Estate, Oldtown -
AI104548

- BSB/498/22** (Agenda Item No 13)
Councillor C. Johnston - Progress Report on the Turvey Loop Walk/Cycle Way - Donabate - AI104549
- BSB/499/22** (Agenda Item No 14)
Councillor M. Quinn - Update on Castle Mill Link Road, Balbriggan - AI104486
- BSB/500/22** (Agenda Item No 15)
Councillor M. Quinn - Update on Taking in Charge of New Haven Court, Flemington Lane, Balbriggan - AI104490
- BSB/501/22** (Agenda Item No 16)
Councillor M. Quinn - Report on Abandoned Vehicles in this LEA - AI104562
- BSB/502/22** (Agenda Item No 17)
Councillor J. Smyth - Tenant Actions regarding Mould and Damp Issues - AI104499
- BSB/503/22** (Agenda Item No 18)
Councillor J. Smyth - Updated Road Safety Assessment - Applewood Community Centre, Swords - AI104500
- BSB/504/22** (Agenda Item No 19)
Councillor J. Smyth - Update on Tenant-in-Situ Scheme in LEA - AI104502
- BSB/505/22** (Agenda Item No 20)
Councillor J. Smyth - Unauthorised Construction/Tree Felling - Ward River Valley Regional Park - AI104591
- BSB/506/22** (Agenda Item No 21)
Councillor D. Kelly - Update on the Protection of the Well at the Lord Mayor's Site, Swords - AI104508
- BSB/507/22** (Agenda Item No 22)
Councillor L. Corkery - Update on Playground - Ward River Valley Park, Swords - AI104509
- BSB/508/22** (Agenda Item No 23)
Councillor J. Newman - Link Glasmore Abbey to St. Cronan's Well, Swords - AI104519
- BSB/509/22** (Agenda Item No 24)
Councillor J. Newman - Update on Forest Management Plans - AI104520
- BSB/510/22** (Agenda Item No 25)
Councillor B. Ryan - Report on Bathing Water Analyses - Balbriggan, Skerries and Loughshinny - AI104550
- BSB/511/22** (Agenda Item No 26)
Councillor B. Ryan - Update on Use of CCTV for Illegal Dumping - Balbriggan - AI104551

- BSB/512/22** (Agenda Item No 27)
Councillor B. Ryan - Notices Served on Derelict Sites and Buildings - Balbriggan - AI104552
- BSB/513/22** (Agenda Item No 28)
Councillor B. Ryan - Update on Loughshinny Playground - AI104553
- BSB/514/22** (Agenda Item No 29)
Councillor B. Ryan - Update on Active Travel Plan - Skerries - AI104554
- BSB/515/22** (Agenda Item No 30)
Councillor B. Ryan - Report on Land Adjacent to Loughshinny Beach - AI104555
- BSB/516/22** (Agenda Item No 31)
Councillor B. Ryan - Four-Bedroomed Social Houses - Balbriggan - AI104556
- BSB/517/22** (Agenda Item No 32)
Councillor B. Ryan - Pond Maintenance at Skerries Mills - AI104558
- BSB/518/22** (Agenda Item No 33)
Councillor M. Boland - Taking in Charge - Forge Estate, Lusk - AI104569
- BSB/519/22** (Agenda Item No 34)
Councillor M. Boland - Update on Lusk Sports Hub - AI104570
- BSB/520/22** (Agenda Item No 35)
Councillor M. Boland - Update on Sports and Indoor Facility Audit - Lusk and Rush - AI104571
- BSB/521/22** (Agenda Item No 36)
Councillor M. Boland - Opening of Rogerstown Park on Sundays - AI104573
- BSB/522/22** (Agenda Item No 37)
Councillor M. Boland - Update on Sports Pitches at the Proposed Rush Sports Hub - AI104575
- BSB/523/22** (Agenda Item No 38)
Councillor P. Mulville - Commencement Notice CN0125059FL - AI104599
- BSB/524/22** (Agenda Item No 39)
Councillor P. Mulville - Update on Skerries Harbour Part VIII Public Realm Improvements and Active Travel Measures Scheme - AI104600
- BSB/525/22** (Agenda Item No 40)
Councillor P. Mulville - Update on Pedestrian and Cycle Safety - Blake's Cross - Lusk - AI104601
- BSB/526/22** (Agenda Item No 41)

Councillor P. Mulville - Homeless Family Emergency Accommodation Facilities in this LEA - AI104602

BSB/527/22 (Agenda Item No 42)

Councillor P. Mulville - Update on Children's Play Space - Portrane - AI104603

BSB/528/22 (Agenda Item No 43)

Councillor P. Mulville - Update on Murtagh's of Ballough - AI104604

BSB/529/22 (Agenda Item No 44)

Councillor P. Mulville - Update on Dedicated Space for Donabate Youth Service - AI104605

BSB/530/22 (Agenda Item No 45)

Councillor J. Humphreys - Update on Western Distributor Road - Swords - AI104610

BSB/531/22 (Agenda Item No 46)

Councillor J. Humphreys - Update on Primary Care Centre - Seatown, Swords - AI104611

BSB/532/22 (Agenda Item No 47)

Applications for Funding

a Applications for Community Funding

It was proposed by Councillor J. Newman and seconded by Councillor M. Quinn and AGREED:

"That this Committee recommends that the County Council **APPROVE** of the Activity Funding Grants Applications in the attached report."

BSB/533/22 (Agenda Item No 48)

Declaration of Roads/Taking in Charge

a Glaslinn, Donabate

The Report was Noted.

b Taylor Hill Phase 1 and 2, Balbriggan

The Report was Noted.

c Greenbrook, Rush

The Report was Noted.

BSB/534/22 (Agenda Item No 49)

Correspondence

a E-mail dated 18th September 2025 from MetroLink regarding Councillor L. Corkery - Motion - Invitation to MetroLink - AI102979

The correspondence from Metro Link was NOTED.

BSB/535/22 (Agenda Item No 50)

Councillor J. Smyth - Maintenance of Former Lord Mayor's Site, Swords - AI103892

The Motion in the name of Councillor J. Smyth was proposed by Councillor J. Smyth and seconded by Councillor M. Quinn.

The report by the Chief Executive, which had been circulated, was read and CONSIDERED and following discussion the report was ACCEPTED

BSB/536/22 (Agenda Item No 51)

Councillor D. Kelly - Report on Rivers and Streams - Swords - AI104504

In the absence of Councillor D. Kelly, it was AGREED to defer this motion until the next Area Committee Meeting

BSB/537/22 (Agenda Item No 52)

Councillor J. Newman - Request for Civic Reception - AI104521

The Motion in the name of Councillor J. Newman was proposed by Councillor J. Newman and seconded by Councillor J. Smyth

The report by the Chief Executive, which had been circulated, was read and CONSIDERED and following discussion the motion was Agreed.

BSB/538/22 (Agenda Item No 53)

Councillor C. Johnston - Meeting for Content and Location of Dublin Coastal Trail Signage - Donabate Peninsula - AI104541

The Motion in the name of Councillor C. Johnston was proposed by Councillor C. Johnston and seconded by Councillor E. Dockrell

The report by the Chief Executive, which had been circulated, was read and CONSIDERED and following discussion the report was ACCEPTED.

BSB/539/22 (Agenda Item No 54)

Councillor E. Dockrell - Community Space - R127 Rathmore Road - AI104586

The Motion in the name of Councillor E. Dockrell was proposed by Councillor E. Dockrell and seconded by Councillor C. Johnston

The report by the Chief Executive, which had been circulated, was read and CONSIDERED and following discussion the report was ACCEPTED.

BSB/540/22 (Agenda Item No 55)

Councillor P. Mulville/ Councillor E. Dockrell/ Councillor C. Johnston - 1916 Rising Memorial - The Hand, Donabate - AI104606

The Motion in the name of Councillors P. Mulville, E. Dockrell and C. Johnston was proposed by Councillor E. Dockrell and seconded by Councillor C. Johnston

The report by the Chief Executive, which had been circulated, was read and CONSIDERED and following discussion the motion was AGREED.

BSB/541/22 (Agenda Item No 56)

Councillor J. Humphreys - Report on Protection Measures of Swords Green Belt - AI104607

The Motion in the name of Councillor J. Humphreys was proposed by Councillor J. Humphreys and seconded by Councillor J. Newman

The report by the Chief Executive, which had been circulated, was read and CONSIDERED and following discussion the report was ACCEPTED.

BSB/542/22 (Agenda Item No 57)

Councillor J. Smyth - Provision of Cricket Pitch in this LEA - AI104495

The Motion in the name of Councillor J. Smyth was proposed by Councillor J. Smyth and seconded by Councillor J. Newman

The report by the Chief Executive, which had been circulated, was read and CONSIDERED and following discussion the report was ACCEPTED.

BSB/543/22 (Agenda Item No 58)

Councillor J. Humphreys - Report on Youth-Friendly Green and Recreational Spaces - Swords - AI104608

The Motion in the name of Councillor J. Humphreys was proposed by Councillor J. Humphreys and seconded by Councillor J. Smyth

The report by the Chief Executive, which had been circulated, was read and CONSIDERED and following discussion the report was ACCEPTED.

The meeting concluded at 14:38

AREA CHAIRPERSON

DATED

COMHAIRLE CONTAE FHINE GALL FINGAL COUNTY COUNCIL

BALBRIGGAN/RUSH-LUSK/SWORDS AREA COMMITTEE MEETING (Services B – Strategic & General Matters)

THURSDAY 13TH NOVEMBER 2025

ITEM NO. 02

UPDATE ON PLAYGROUND - BERESFORD ESTATE, DONABATE - AI104533

Question: Councillor C. Johnston

“To ask the Chief Executive to provide an update on the provision of the second playground in the Beresford Estate, Donabate given the delay in the provision of this much needed playground as all the units in the development are now occupied?”

Reply:

The developer’s representative of Beresford Estate has confirmed that a playground contractor has been appointed, and that the playground is due to commence on site this Winter.

Source of Reply: Gemma Carr, Senior Executive Parks and Landscape Officer, Planning and Strategic Infrastructure Division

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COMHAIRLE CONTAE FHINE GALL FINGAL COUNTY COUNCIL

BALBRIGGAN/RUSH-LUSK/SWORDS AREA COMMITTEE MEETING (Services B – Strategic & General Matters)

THURSDAY 13th NOVEMBER 2025

ITEM NO. 03

REPORT ON ACCESS TO RUSH/LUSK TRAIN STATION - AI105090

Question: Councillor C. Johnston

“To ask the Chief Executive to provide a report on what engagement the Planning and Strategic Infrastructure Department has had with Irish Rail in respect of proposals for improving safety for access and egress to the Rush /Lusk Railway Station?”

Reply:

As part of the application process for the Dart +North Railway Order, PSI engaged with Irish Rail. The permitted Railway order will result in a safer access and egress on the eastern side of the railway line at Rush/Lusk Railway Station, with improved pedestrian connectivity provided and enhanced sightlines for vehicular traffic.

Source of Reply: Linda Lally, A/Senior Engineer, Planning & Strategic Infrastructure Department

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COMHAIRLE CONTAE FHINE GALL FINGAL COUNTY COUNCIL

BALBRIGGAN/RUSH-LUSK/SWORDS AREA COMMITTEE MEETING (Services B – Strategic & General Matters)

THURSDAY 13th NOVEMBER 2025

ITEM NO. 04

REPORT ON RELOCATION OF LIBRARY FROM DONABATE PORTRANE COMMUNITY CENTRE TO BALLISK HOUSE, DONABATE - AI105095

Question: Councillor C. Johnston

“To ask the Chief Executive to provide a report on the relocation of the Library from Donabate Portrane Community Centre to Ballisk House, Donabate to include a timeline for the completion of the relocation?”

Reply:

Works are nearing completion at Ballisk House, with the Certificate of Compliance on Completion issued to Building Control for inclusion on the Register. Once this process is complete and snags are addressed, final Practical Completion of the contract will result in the handover of the building to the Libraries Department, which is anticipated before the end of November. A period of fitout works has been arranged (including loose furniture, facilities, and IT fitout), for late November and December.

The Library in the Community Centre will close for the month of December to facilitate the relocation of shelving, furniture, IT equipment, books and other resources to the new library, which will open in early January 2026. To avoid a complete interruption to the service, and to ensure borrowers have reading material for the Christmas period, a Mobile Library will visit the carpark of the Community Centre on two days in December – dates to be confirmed.

Source of Reply: Betty Boardman, County Librarian

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COMHAIRLE CONTAE FHINE GALL FINGAL COUNTY COUNCIL

BALBRIGGAN/RUSH-LUSK/SWORDS AREA COMMITTEE MEETING (Services B – Strategic & General Matters)

THURSDAY 13th NOVEMBER 2025

ITEM NO. 05

TIMELINE ON PORTRANE TO DONABATE CLIFF WALK PROJECT - AI105096

Question: Councillor C. Johnston

“To ask the Chief Executive to provide a report on the Portrane to Donabate cliff walk project and to include a timeline for the commencement and delivery of this project?”

Reply:

Fingal County Council has appointed a multi-disciplinary consultancy firm to provide engineering services for the initial phases of the Portrane to Donabate cliff walk project, as follows:

Phase 1: Scope and Purpose

Phase 2: Concept Development and Option Selection

Currently, the project is at the Option Selection stage with potential route options being assessed to identify the preferred route alignment. This work is expected to be completed in the coming weeks. The scope of the consultant's current appointment does not include completion of subsequent project phases.

Completion of subsequent project phases will be subject to approval to proceed, continued funding and further consultancy appointments, as appropriate.

Source of Reply: Linda Lally, A/Senior Engineer, Transport Planning, Planning and Strategic Infrastructure Department

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**COMHAIRLE CONTAE FHINE GALL
FINGAL COUNTY COUNCIL**

**BALBRIGGAN/RUSH-LUSK/SWORDS AREA COMMITTEE MEETING
(Services B – Strategic & General Matters)**

THURSDAY 13TH NOVEMBER 2025

ITEM NO. 06

**UPDATE ON RAHILLION LOOPED WALKWAY PROJECT, DONABATE -
AI105097**

Question: Councillor C. Johnston

“To ask the Chief Executive to provide an update on the Rahillion Looped Walkway Project which is an objective to be delivered in Phase 1 of the Donabate Local Area Plan 2016-2026?”

Reply:

There is currently no provision in the Capital Programme for this walkway. The walkway will be reviewed in future Capital Programmes.

Source of Reply: Kevin Halpenny, Senior Parks and Landscape Officer, Planning & Strategic Infrastructure Department.

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**COMHAIRLE CONTAE FHINE GALL
FINGAL COUNTY COUNCIL**

**BALBRIGGAN/RUSH-LUSK/SWORDS AREA COMMITTEE MEETING
(Services B – Strategic & General Matters)**

THURSDAY 13TH NOVEMBER 2025

ITEM NO. 07

**PROGRESS REPORT ON BALLYMASTONE EDUCATIONAL HUB,
DONABATE - AI105098**

Question: Councillor C. Johnston

“To ask the Chief Executive to provide a progress report on the Ballymastone Educational Hub in Donabate and to include a timeline for the delivery of this project?”

Reply:

There has been ongoing engagement between the Council and the Department of Education over the last 24 months regarding the potential delivery of education facilities in Donabate.

The Council is not in a position to provide a timeline for delivery of the Ballymastone Educational Hub at present as there has not been any significant engagement with the Department on the project since Q2 2025.

The Council has contacted the Department of Education for an update on the project and will provide an update to Councillors when a response is received.

Source of Reply: Aoife Sheridan, Senior Executive Officer, Economic, Enterprise, Tourism, Cultural Development.

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**COMHAIRLE CONTAE FHINE GALL
FINGAL COUNTY COUNCIL**

**BALBRIGGAN/RUSH-LUSK/SWORDS AREA COMMITTEE MEETING
(Services B – Strategic & General Matters)**

THURSDAY 13TH NOVEMBER 2025

ITEM NO. 08

**PLANNING APPLICATION FOR PORTRANE COASTAL PROTECTION
SCHEME - AI105099**

Question: Councillor C. Johnston

“To ask the Chief Executive to confirm when the planning application for the Portrane Coastal Protection Scheme will be submitted to An Coimisiún Pleanála?”

Reply:

Work is ongoing on the preparation of the planning application for the Portrane Coastal Flood and Erosion Risk Management Project scheme with a view to submitting it for approval to An Coimisiún Pleanála later this year.

Source of Reply: Kevin Halpenny, Senior Parks and Landscape Officer, Planning & Strategic Infrastructure Department.

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COMHAIRLE CONTAE FHINE GALL FINGAL COUNTY COUNCIL

BALBRIGGAN/RUSH-LUSK/SWORDS AREA COMMITTEE MEETING (Services B – Strategic & General Matters)

THURSDAY 13th NOVEMBER 2025

ITEM NO. 09

UPDATE ON BLAKE'S CROSS JUNCTION UPGRADE, LUSK - AI105101

Question: Councillor C. Johnston

“To ask the Chief Executive to provide an update on the Blake’s Cross junction upgrade and to include a timeline for the delivery of this project?”

Reply:

The Planning and Strategic Infrastructure Department are currently undertaking a project to upgrade Blakes cross Junction which will include for significantly improved connectivity across the junction for pedestrians' cyclists and vulnerable road users.

A Fingal County Council project team is in place, and the Council has appointed a leading multi-disciplinary consultancy firm, to assist the Council with the initial phases of the Blakes Cross Junction Upgrade project, such as feasibility and option selection.

As the project is a large-scale capital infrastructure project, it will take a number of years to bring the project from the initial stages through to completion of construction.

The current status of the project is as follows: data-gathering, traffic modelling and concept development have been carried out along with completion of various surveys (e.g. traffic surveys, topographical surveys, initial ecological surveys, road safety audit, etc.).

The Option Assessment stage of the project is nearing completion with the Council's project team currently examining landownership in the vicinity of the junction. Engagement is ongoing in this regard. Once the preferred junction option for Blakes Cross is identified, the project will proceed to non-statutory public consultation, expected in Q1 2026. The project will then proceed to preliminary design in 2026.

Subsequent years will see progress on further stages of work, such as environmental assessment, planning consent, construction, etc.

Source of Reply: Linda Lally, A/Senior Engineer, Planning & Strategic Infrastructure Department

COMHAIRLE CONTAE FHINE GALL FINGAL COUNTY COUNCIL

BALBRIGGAN/RUSH-LUSK/SWORDS AREA COMMITTEE MEETING (Services B – Strategic & General Matters)

THURSDAY 13TH NOVEMBER 2025

ITEM NO. 10

UPDATE ON TAKING IN CHARGE - OPEN SPACE IN GOLDEN RIDGE, RUSH - AI104866

Question: Councillor M. Quinn

“To ask the Chief Executive for an update on when the open spaces will be taken in charge in Phase 2 of the Golden Ridge Estate in Rush?”

Reply:

Incidental open space areas / grass margins located within Phase 2 of Golden Ridge estate were taken in charge by the Building Control Section as part of the roads and services of this estate in 2024.

The Public Open Space located between Golden Ridge estate and Kenure Park is currently being developed by Ballymore Homes Ltd. Once the park has been completed in accordance with Taking in Charge standard, the open space will be taken into maintenance by Fingal County Council.

Source of Reply: Gemma Carr, Senior Executive Parks and Landscape Officer, Planning and Strategic Infrastructure Department.

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COMHAIRLE CONTAE FHINE GALL FINGAL COUNTY COUNCIL

BALBRIGGAN/RUSH-LUSK/SWORDS AREA COMMITTEE MEETING (Services B – Strategic & General Matters)

THURSDAY 13th NOVEMBER 2025

ITEM NO. 11

TAKING IN CHARGE - CASTLEMILL ROAD, BALBRIGGAN - AI104889

Question: Councillor M. Quinn

“To ask the Chief Executive to advise why the Castlemill Road in Balbriggan has not been fully taken in charge by the Council rather than only maintenance of the road, as is the current situation?”

Reply:

Taking in Maintenance refers to roads/ housing estates constructed or provided under section (7) of the roads Act 1993

(7) Any road constructed or otherwise provided by a road authority after the commencement of this section shall, unless otherwise decided by such road authority, be a public road and it shall not be necessary for the authority to make an order under subsection (1) in relation to any such road.

These roads and estates are effectively “Taken in Charge” from the point of handover following construction. The "Taking into Maintenance" procedure is primarily an internal administrative process used to formally notify the Operations Department that these areas are now to be maintained by them. As part of this procedure, a precise drawing of the area to be maintained is prepared, and a health and safety file—including relevant maintenance requirements—is handed over to the Operations Department.

Source of Reply: Colin Gallagher, Senior Engineer, Planning and Strategic Infrastructure

COMHAIRLE CONTAE FHINE GALL FINGAL COUNTY COUNCIL

BALBRIGGAN/RUSH-LUSK/SWORDS AREA COMMITTEE MEETING (Services B – Strategic & General Matters)

THURSDAY 13th NOVEMBER 2025

ITEM NO. 12

PROPOSED SAFETY MEASURES - SCOIL RÉALT NA MARA, SKERRIES - AI105030

Question: Councillor M. Quinn

“To ask the Chief Executive to provide an update on any recommendations made by the Traffic Safety Officer following the visit to Réalt Na Mara School in Skerries and what measures are proposed to be undertaken to improve safety at the Skerries Rock entrance to the school?”

Reply:

The Road Safety Officer conducted a site visit to Réalt Na Mara School in Skerries on Friday, 24th October, and met with the principal and parent representatives. Following the meeting, the following is noted:

- Line Marking: Active Travel will request that Operations include the area in their future works programme for line marking.
- Safe Routes to School Programme (SRTS): Scoil Réalt na Mara is not included in the SRTS programme. SRTS is administered by An Taisce, grant funded by the National Transport Authority and delivered by Fingal County Council. An Taisce did a call out to all schools nationally in 2021 and Réalt Na Mara did not make an application at this time.
- The Active Travel Unit have carried out extensive works on Wild Cat Lane this year, to improve safe access to the school. This included resurfacing works and planting in the area including installation of bollards.
- The Active Travel Unit are currently going to non-statutory coaccumulation on the Skerries Active Travel Plan. This Plan includes SRTS proposals for all the schools in the Skerries Area that will be taken forward for implementation subject to available funding on the conclusion of the non-statutory public consultation and adoption of the plan in early 2026.

Source of Reply:
Larry Bergin, Senior Executive Engineer, Active Travel

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COMHAIRLE CONTAE FHINE GALL FINGAL COUNTY COUNCIL

BALBRIGGAN/RUSH-LUSK/SWORDS AREA COMMITTEE MEETING (Services B – Strategic & General Matters)

THURSDAY 13th NOVEMBER 2025

ITEM NO. 13

LIST OF VACANT ONE-BED HOUSING IN THIS LEA -AI105103

Question: Cllr M. Quinn

“To ask the Chief Executive to provide a list of vacant one-bedroom properties in this Committee’s Local Electoral Areas and to include how many in each specific area?”

Reply:

There are currently 18 vacant one-bed units in this LEA, with 9 located in Swords and 9 located in Balbriggan.

Status

In allocation process 13

Undergoing relet works 5

Source of Reply:

Emma Maxwell, Administrative Officer, Housing Department

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COMHAIRLE CONTAE FHINE GALL FINGAL COUNTY COUNCIL

BALBRIGGAN/RUSH-LUSK/SWORDS AREA COMMITTEE MEETING (Services B – Strategic & General Matters)

THURSDAY 13th NOVEMBER 2025

ITEM NO. 14

SCHOOL STREET INITIATIVE - THORNLEIGH EDUCATE TOGETHER NATIONAL SCHOOL, SWORDS - AI104959

Question: Councillor L. Corkery

“To ask the Chief Executive that the Active Travel Department gives consideration to repeating the School Street initiative at Thornleigh Educate Together National School?”

Reply:

As part of Mobility Week 2025, Fingal County Council’s Active Travel Office carried out a trial “School Street” outside Thornleigh ETNS. The trial scheme was well received by both the school and parents, and no negative feedback was reported.

The Active Travel Office now plans to progress the scheme through preliminary design, public consultation, and detailed design, with a view to implementing it on a permanent basis. This process is expected to take some time, with implementation anticipated in late Q4 of 2026.

Source of Reply:

Larry Bergin, Senior Executive Engineer, Active Travel

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COMHAIRLE CONTAE FHINE GALL FINGAL COUNTY COUNCIL

BALBRIGGAN/RUSH-LUSK/SWORDS AREA COMMITTEE MEETING (Services B – Strategic & General Matters)

THURSDAY 13th NOVEMBER 2025

ITEM NO. 15

SAFER ROUTES TO SCHOOL, BALROTHERY NATIONAL SCHOOL - AI105021

Question: Councillor T. Murphy

“To ask the Chief Executive if consideration can be given to provide an update on the progress of Balrothery National School on the list of 42 schools that have applied for the Safer Routes to School project?”

Reply:

Safe Routes to School (SRTS) is administered by An Taisce, grant-funded by the National Transport Authority (NTA), and delivered by Fingal County Council.

Currently, Fingal County Council has completed works at nine schools in Round 1, is at the consultation stage for five schools in Round 2, and is working with An Taisce, who are developing delivery plans for a further seven schools as part of Round 3 of the SRTS programme.

An Taisce select the schools for inclusion in each round using their national selection criteria. Balrothery National School remains on An Taisce’s list for inclusion in future rounds of the SRTS programme.

Source of Reply:

Larry Bergin, Senior Executive Engineer, Active Travel

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COMHAIRLE CONTAE FHINE GALL FINGAL COUNTY COUNCIL

BALBRIGGAN/RUSH-LUSK/SWORDS AREA COMMITTEE MEETING (Services B – Strategic & General Matters)

THURSDAY 13th NOVEMBER 2025

ITEM NO. 16

UPGRADE WORKS AT RIVERVALLEY/RATHINGLE, SWORDS - AI105035

Question: Councillor J. Smyth

“To ask the Chief Executive to advise when the agreed upgrade works will be carried out to the roundabout and crossings at the junction of Forest Boulevard, Rathingle Road cycle path from Ridgewood to said roundabout, e.g. improved mobility access and installation of a pedestrian crossing?”

Reply:

Consideration will be given to this and other projects in terms of seeking NTA funding in 2026. If successful a tender will be prepared with a view to appointing design consultants later in 2026 and construction in 2027.

Source of Reply:

Breen Doris, Senior Executive Engineer, Climate Action and Active Travel

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COMHAIRLE CONTAE FHINE GALL FINGAL COUNTY COUNCIL

BALBRIGGAN/RUSH-LUSK/SWORDS AREA COMMITTEE MEETING (Services B – Strategic & General Matters)

THURSDAY 13th NOVEMBER 2025

ITEM NO. 17

MOULD/DAMP IN THE COUNCIL'S HOUSING STOCK-AI105041

Question: Councillor J. Smyth

"To ask the Chief Executive to detail how many reports the Housing Department has received in relation to dampness or mould issues in its social housing stock in this Local Electoral Area in the past two years?"

Reply:

Mould is a significant and widespread issue in Irish homes due to our varied climate, often caused by excess moisture from activities like cooking, washing, poor ventilation, and cold surfaces.

Appropriate ventilation throughout the property daily is essential to help combat condensation and the build-up of mould.

All reports received by the Estate Management Section concerning mould or damp are thoroughly investigated and, on some occasions, issues relating to damp or mould can be a consequence of tenant behaviour.

The Council has approximately 2200 social units in the Balbriggan/Swords Area.
Complaints received 2024 - 2025

	Balbriggan Area 2024	Balbriggan Area 2025	Swords Area 2024	Swords Area 2025
Damp	8	13	10	16
Mould	17	16	26	17

Source of Reply: Joan Kernan, Administrator Officer, Housing Department

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COMHAIRLE CONTAE FHINE GALL FINGAL COUNTY COUNCIL

BALBRIGGAN/RUSH-LUSK/SWORDS AREA COMMITTEE MEETING (Services B – Strategic & General Matters)

THURSDAY 13th NOVEMBER 2025

ITEM NO. 18

NEW BUILD SOCIAL HOUSING IN THIS LEA –AI105104

Question: Councillor J. Smyth

“To ask the Chief Executive to outline when additional new build social housing units are expected to become available in this Local Electoral Area and the expected quantity of units?”

Reply:

Fingal County Council continues to maintain a strong pipeline of new-build social housing. To date, over 200 homes have been delivered, with approximately 160 additional units scheduled for completion by the end of this year. Further details on upcoming developments can be found in Appendix 4 of the monthly Chief Executive’s Report.

Development	Delivery Pipeline Q4 2025
Rush	24
Donabate	65
Lusk	3
Skerries	2
Santry	67

Source of Reply: Marina Rennicks, Administrative Officer, Housing Delivery

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COMHAIRLE CONTAE FHINE GALL FINGAL COUNTY COUNCIL

BALBRIGGAN/RUSH-LUSK/SWORDS AREA COMMITTEE MEETING (Services B – Strategic & General Matters)

THURSDAY 13TH NOVEMBER 2025

ITEM NO.19

PATH CHANGES IN THE WARD RIVER VALLEY PARK, SWORDS - AI105105

Question: Councillor J. Smyth

“To ask the Chief Executive to provide a report on the recent changes made to the various paths leading from Knocksedan Estate through the Ward River Valley Park including the reason for such changes and the time frame of these changes?”

Reply:

The changes in question relate to the removal of a section of timber boardwalk from a pathway linking Knocksedan Demesne to Swords Manor via the Usher's Lake section of the Ward River Valley. A number of months ago this boardwalk section was installed by the Council with the agreement of the landowner on privately owned land. In recent days, the boardwalk deck has been removed by unknown persons making this section of the pathway less accessible to the public. The Council has written to the landowner seeking permission to reinstate the boardwalk and offering to meet to discuss any relevant issues. A response to this request is awaited and pending this it is not possible for the Council to intervene further.

Source of Reply: Kevin Halpenny, Senior Parks & Landscape Officer, Planning & Strategic Infrastructure Department.

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**COMHAIRLE CONTAE FHINE GALL
FINGAL COUNTY COUNCIL**

**BALBRIGGAN/RUSH-LUSK/SWORDS AREA COMMITTEE MEETING
(Services B – Strategic & General Matters)**

THURSDAY 13th NOVEMBER 2025

ITEM NO. 20

**RESURFACING OF OLD RIVERVALLEY ALL-WEATHER PITCH -
RIVERVALLEY, SWORDS - AI105037**

Question: Councillor D. Butler

“To ask the Chief Executive to provide an update on the resurfacing of the old Rivervalley All-Weather pitch and if this can be completed over the winter months in order to be ready for next spring?”

Reply:

A contractor has been appointed to undertake these works and commencing in the coming weeks with a view to having the pitch resurfaced by next Spring.

Source of Reply: Kevin Halpenny, Senior Parks and Landscape Officer, Planning & Strategic Infrastructure Department.

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COMHAIRLE CONTAE FHINE GALL FINGAL COUNTY COUNCIL

BALBRIGGAN/RUSH-LUSK/SWORDS AREA COMMITTEE MEETING (Services B – Strategic & General Matters)

THURSDAY 13th NOVEMBER 2025

ITEM NO. 21

ROAD SAFETY MEASURES - SCOIL RÉALT NA MARA, SKERRIES – AI105055

Question: Councillor G. Maguire

“To ask the Chief Executive if consideration can be given to examine the area around Scoil Réalt na Mara, Skerries with a view to providing any safety measures that might be required?”

Reply:

The Road Safety Officer conducted a site visit to Réalt Na Mara School in Skerries on Friday, 24th October, and met with the principal and parent representatives. Following the meeting, the following is noted:

- Line Marking: Active Travel will request that Operations include the area in their future works programme for line marking.
- Safe Routes to School Programme (SRTS): Scoil Réalt na Mara is not included in the SRTS programme. SRTS is administered by An Taisce, grant funded by the National Transport Authority and delivered by Fingal County Council. An Taisce did a call out to all schools nationally in 2021 and Réalt Na Mara did not make an application at this time.
- The Active Travel Unit have carried out extensive works on Wild Cat Lane this year, to improve safe access to the school. This included resurfacing works and planting in the area including installation of bollards.
- The Active Travel Unit are currently going to non-statutory coaccumulation on the Skerries Active Travel Plan. This Plan includes SRTS proposals for all the schools in the Skerries Area that will be taken forward for implementation subject to available funding on the conclusion of the non-statutory public consultation and adoption of the plan in early 2026.

Source of Reply: Larry Bergin, Senior Executive Engineer, Active Travel

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COMHAIRLE CONTAE FHINE GALL FINGAL COUNTY COUNCIL

BALBRIGGAN/RUSH-LUSK/SWORDS AREA COMMITTEE MEETING (Services B – Strategic & General Matters)

THURSDAY 13th OF NOVEMBER 2025

ITEM NO. 22

CLEANING OF LANEWAY LAMBEECHER ESTATE BALBRIGGAN- AI105069

Question: B. RYAN: “To ask the Chief Executive if consideration can be given to arrange for the cleaning of the laneway that runs between (details supplied) Lambeecher, on one side, and (details supplied) Lambeecher on the other side, which is totally overgrown and unusable?”

Reply:

In 2019, a survey was conducted among residents of the Lambeecher, Bath Road Estate to gather their opinions on the gating of local laneways.

As a result of the survey and discussions with residents, gates were installed at seven laneway locations, and keys were distributed to all residents. Residents were notified that the laneways were now gated and that it would be their responsibility to maintain and look after these areas moving forward.

Nonetheless, in 2021 and 2022, the Council's Estate Management Team arranged for a clean-up of the laneways, despite prior commitments from residents regarding their maintenance.

Ongoing upkeep and clearing of these laneways within the Lambeecher Estate remain the responsibility of the residents, who are encouraged to keep the laneways clear of refuse and overgrowth.

Source of Reply:

Joan Kernan

Administrative Officer, Housing

**024COMHAIRLE CONTAE FHINE GALL
FINGAL COUNTY COUNCIL**

**BALBRIGGAN/RUSH-LUSK/SWORDS AREA COMMITTEE MEETING
(Services B – Strategic & General Matters)**

THURSDAY 13th NOVEMBER 2025

ITEM NO. 23

ISSUES WITH POLLING STATIONS IN THIS LEA - AI105084

Question: Councillor B. Ryan

“To ask the Chief Executive to indicate if any issues were reported directly to the Council in relation to any of the polling stations in this Local Electoral Area during the recent Presidential Election?”

Reply:

The selection and management of the polling stations for the recent Presidential Election was organised by Dublin County Sheriff's Office.

The Fingal County Council Register of Electors Team was not notified of any issues in relation to the polling stations.

Source of Reply:

Ciara O hAodha, Senior Executive Officer, Corporate Services

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COMHAIRLE CONTAE FHINE GALL FINGAL COUNTY COUNCIL

BALBRIGGAN/RUSH-LUSK/SWORDS AREA COMMITTEE MEETING (Services B – Strategic & General Matters)

THURSDAY 13TH NOVEMBER 2025

ITEM NO. 24

FLAVOURS OF FINGAL 2026 – AI105091

Question: Councillor B. Ryan

“To ask the Chief Executive to report on any discussions that have taken place, or are underway, with groups that may be excluded from the Flavours of Fingal event in Newbridge House, Donabate in 2026 or thereafter?”

Reply:

As agreed at the September meeting of the Economic, Enterprise & Tourism Development Strategic Policy Committee, advised to members during a briefing on Monday September 29th and agreed with the CPG, the Events team are currently preparing the 2026 programme on the basis of a re-organisation of events at Newbridge House and other locations around the county.

As part of this process discussions are ongoing with key stakeholders like the Fingal Farmers and Fingal Harriers.

As agreed with Members, an update on progress is arranged for each of the Area Committees regarding the programme for each area.

Source of Reply: Declan Power, Senior Executive Officer, Economic, Enterprise, Tourism, Cultural Development.

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COMHAIRLE CONTAE FHINE GALL FINGAL COUNTY COUNCIL

BALBRIGGAN/RUSH-LUSK/SWORDS AREA COMMITTEE MEETING (Services B – Strategic & General Matters)

THURSDAY 13th NOVEMBER 2025

ITEM NO. 25

REPORT ON BUSINESS ON MAIN STREET, SWORDS - AI105077

Question: Councillor P. Mulville

“To ask the Chief Executive, in relation to Swords Main Street, to provide a report on the total number of businesses located on it, the number and percentage of the total which are takeaways, the number and percentage which are betting shops and the number and percentage which are vacant units?”

Reply:

The Valuation List provided by Tailte Éireann (formerly the Valuation Office) records 107 Commercially Rated premises in Swords Village and with an address of Main Street.

There are 7 Takeaways; 2 Betting Shops & 3 Vacant properties within the listing. The relevant %s are as per the table shown below.

Description	No of Properties	% of all
Takeaways	7	6.5%
Betting shops	2	1.9%
Vacant units	3	2.8%

Source of Reply: George Curran, Administrative Officer, Finance

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COMHAIRLE CONTAE FHINE GALL FINGAL COUNTY COUNCIL

BALBRIGGAN/RUSH-LUSK/SWORDS AREA COMMITTEE MEETING (Services B – Strategic & General Matters)

THURSDAY 13TH NOVEMBER 2025

ITEM NO. 26

DIVERSITY OF TRADERS/BUSINESSES ON SWORDS MAIN STREET - AI105079

Question: Councillor P. Mulville

“To ask the Chief Executive to provide a report on plans to support an improvement in the diversity of traders/businesses along Swords Main Street in order for it to remain a vibrant, attractive and prosperous destination?”

Reply:

The Council is committed to ensuring that town centres in Fingal, including Swords Main Street, are vibrant, attractive, prosperous and economically sustainable.

Swords Main Street already provides a diverse offering with a mix of retail and convenience shops, pubs, restaurants, banks, hair/beauty salons, professional services including retail estate, accountancy, legal services, medical and dental services, gyms and education/training services.

The Council will continue to provide a combination of enterprise supports through Fingal LEO as well as business, tourism and community supports through the Economic, Enterprise, Tourism and Development Department, including supports available under the Town Centre First and Streetscape Enhancement frameworks.

The Council will continue to promote cultural events, markets and festivals, lead local initiatives in partnership with Fingal Chamber, use its powers as a statutory planning body for the effective implementation of retail planning guidelines for the provision of a balanced retail offering and continue to make strategic investments for

improvement of the public realm, driven by the Swords Cultural Quarter and the Sustainable Swords Projects to ensure that Swords Main Street is a vibrant, attractive, prosperous and economically sustainable destination.

Source of Reply: Aoife Sheridan, Senior Executive Officer, Economic, Enterprise, Tourism, Cultural Development.

COMHAIRLE CONTAE FHINE GALL FINGAL COUNTY COUNCIL

BALBRIGGAN/RUSH-LUSK/SWORDS AREA COMMITTEE MEETING (Services B – Strategic & General Matters)

THURSDAY 13TH NOVEMBER 2025

ITEM NO. 27

UPDATE ON PORTRANE COASTAL EROSION AND FLOODING PROTECTION SCHEME APPLICATION - AI105080

Question: Councillor P. Mulville

“To ask the Chief Executive to provide an update on the pending An Coimisiún Pleanála application for the Portrane Coastal Erosion and Flooding Protection scheme and when the application will be submitted?”

Reply:

Work is ongoing on the preparation of the planning application for the Portrane Coastal Flood and Erosion Risk Management Project scheme with a view to submitting it for approval to An Coimisiún Pleanála later this year.

Source of Reply: Kevin Halpenny, Senior Parks & Landscape Officer, Planning & Strategic Infrastructure Department.

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COMHAIRLE CONTAE FHINE GALL FINGAL COUNTY COUNCIL

BALBRIGGAN/RUSH-LUSK/SWORDS AREA COMMITTEE MEETING (Services B – Strategic & General Matters)

THURSDAY 13TH NOVEMBER 2025

ITEM NO. 28

PUBLIC CONSULTATION PROCESS FOR CHILDREN'S PLAY SPACE IN PORTRANE – AI105128

Question: Councillor P. Mulville

"To ask the Chief Executive, in relation to plans to provide a much needed children's play space for Portrane and in thanking the playgrounds team for undertaking recent and ongoing engagement with local residents, to outline when the formal public consultation process will commence?"

Reply:

On Saturday, 18th October last, staff from the Planning & Strategic Infrastructure Department facilitated an informal public consultation session with residents of Longstone Park regarding the proposed play facilities for Portrane. 12 people attended over the 2-hour slot which took place on the green space at Longstone park. The attendees were all from the residences immediately adjacent to the 2 sites where the information notices were erected one week before the consultation.

Below is a summary the concerns voiced

- *"The proposal will attract Anti-Social Behaviour"*
- *"There are no children in the 1km radius of the proposed locations."*
- *"The immediate residents are opposed to this proposal"*
- *"A more appropriate site could be found in Portrane"*

In response, the following points are relevant:

- The current proposal is in line with the Council's adopted Play Policy— 'Space for Play - a Play Policy for Fingal' which provides guidelines for planning and development of play provision aiming to ensure high-quality play environments are integrated into the county's infrastructure.
- Portrane has been identified as an area where there is currently no provision for play as part of the county wide audit of play provision
- The proposed location has been identified as the most appropriate from the limited number of open spaces available to the Council.
- The scale of the proposed playspaces is relatively modest and line with our Play Policy.
- The playspaces have been designed in such a way as to be at least 25metres from the nearest residence and both locations are relatively flat with good drainage.

It is now intended to proceed to the Part XI/8 process as outlined and a briefing on this matter will be provided at an upcoming Area Committee Meeting in the near future.

Source of Reply: Kevin Halpenny, Senior Parks & Landscape Officer, Planning & Strategic Infrastructure Department.

COMHAIRLE CONTAE FHINE GALL FINGAL COUNTY COUNCIL

BALBRIGGAN/RUSH-LUSK/SWORDS AREA COMMITTEE MEETING (Services B – Strategic & General Matters)

THURSDAY 13th NOVEMBER 2025

ITEM NO. 29

UPDATE ON DEFECTIVE BLOCKS SCHEME FOR LUSK RESIDENTS - AI105107

Question: Councillor E. Dockrell

“To ask the Chief Executive to provide an update on whether correspondence has been sent to Lusk residents whose homes are affected and in need of remediation through the Defective Blocks Scheme and has the Council contacted the Minister for Housing, on behalf of residents of Lusk, to urge the Department for an update, so residents will then be advised what steps they need take to access funding to repair their homes?”

Reply:

Fingal County Council carried out inspections of the properties in Lusk on the 10th August 2021. The issue at these properties was that the blocks at low level were disintegrating so it was considered not to be related to underground pyritic material (Pyrite Resolution Scheme) and more likely an issue with the manufacture of the concrete blocks. Fingal County Council was also investigating a number of other similar cases (11 affected properties in total). However, at the time, only specific counties were named under the Defective Concrete Blocks legislation (originally Donegal and Mayo, then in 2022, Clare and Limerick were added), but on 3rd July 2023, the Government introduced the 'Enhanced Defective Concrete Blocks Grant Scheme', which included a process where other Local Authorities could request consideration to be added to the list of approved Councils.

On the 21st September 2023, the Council formally requested the Housing Agency to consider making a recommendation to the Minister to designate Fingal County Council for its entire administrative area as a designated Local Authority for the purposes of the Enhanced Grant Scheme as per S.I. No. 347 of 2023, 'the Remediation of Dwellings Damaged by the Use of Defective Concrete Blocks Regulations 2023'. As part of this submission, the Council's opinion and the reports received from the house owners were forwarded to the Housing Agency for their consideration.

In 2024, the Housing Agency commenced its investigations and consultations required under the Act.

Last June 2025, the Housing Agency completed their report and sent it to the Minister for consideration. Once a decision is made, the Council will contact all the properties affected and inform them on what happens next. Should the Minister decide to include Fingal on the scheme, then residents affected by defective blocks will be able to make applications for funding through the Council for the rebuilding works.

On the 29th October 2025, the Council has requested an update from the Housing Agency in relation to the Minister's decision.

Source of Reply: Colin Gallagher, Senior Engineer, Planning and Strategic Infrastructure

COMHAIRLE CONTAE FHINE GALL FINGAL COUNTY COUNCIL

BALBRIGGAN/RUSH-LUSK/SWORDS AREA COMMITTEE MEETING (Services B – Strategic & General Matters)

THURSDAY 13th NOVEMBER 2025

ITEM NO. 30

RESURFACING OF ROAD - HAND'S LANE, LUSK - AI105110

Question: Councillor E. Dockrell

“To ask the Chief Executive if consideration can be given to resurfacing the lower end of Hand’s Lane, at the section between Ballaelly Rise and the GAA club, as significant damage was caused to the surface of this road as a result of heavy machinery used during the building of the new nearby housing estate?”

Reply:

Condition No. 28 of Planning Permission Register Reference F22A/0525 states that the developer shall comply in full with the following:

a) All necessary measures shall be taken by the applicant/developer to prevent the spillage or deposit of any materials including clay rubble or other debris on adjoining roads during the course of development. In the event of any such spillage or deposit, immediate steps shall be taken to remove the material from the road surface at the applicant/developers own expense.

b) The applicant/developer shall be responsible for the full cost of repair in respect of any damage caused to the adjoining public road arising from the construction work and shall either make good any damage to the satisfaction of Fingal County Council or pay the Council the cost of making good any such damage upon issue of such a requirement by the Council. REASON: To protect the amenities of the area.

The Planning Enforcement section are carrying out an investigation to determine if a breach of the Planning code has occurred in relation to this matter.

Source of Reply: Fearghal McSweeney, Administrative Officer, Planning and Strategic Infrastructure

COMHAIRLE CONTAE FHINE GALL FINGAL COUNTY COUNCIL

BALBRIGGAN/RUSH-LUSK/SWORDS AREA COMMITTEE MEETING (Services B – Strategic & General Matters)

THURSDAY 13th NOVEMBER 2025

ITEM NO. 31

ROAD SAFETY REVIEW - SEMPLE WOODS ESTATE, DONABATE - AI105112

Question: Councillor E. Dockrell

“To ask the Chief Executive if consideration can be given to carry out a road safety review at the entrance/exit at Semple Woods Estate in Donabate?”

Reply:

As part of the Taking in Charge process the developer must submit a Road Safety Audit for a development. A Road Safety Audit has been completed at Semple Woods and recommendations arising from this will be implemented by the developer prior to the estate being taken in charge. The Road Safety Audit did not recommend any alterations to the entrance/exit of the estate, and this has been constructed as per the granted planning permission.

Source of Reply: Colin Gallagher, Senior Engineer, Planning & Strategic Infrastructure

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COMHAIRLE CONTAE FHINE GALL FINGAL COUNTY COUNCIL

BALBRIGGAN/RUSH-LUSK/SWORDS AREA COMMITTEE MEETING (Services B – Strategic & General Matters)

THURSDAY 13th NOVEMBER 2025

ITEM NO. 32

REVIEW OF AREA BETWEEN KENURE WOODS AND THE GAELSCOIL IN RUSH - AI105113

Question: Councillor E. Dockrell

“To ask the Chief Executive if consideration could be given to reviewing the location between Kenure Woods and the GAA/Gaelscoil as this stretch requires several metres of pathway to be built on a small green area between two neighbouring estates, Kenure Lawns Estate and Kenure Park Estate and if the Active Travel Department could consider carrying out a feasibility study on whether this proposal could be an Active Travel project for Rush?”

Reply:

The Active Travel Unit will include this within the Permeability Connectivity Tracker for assessment purposes. The proposal will be assessed through multi-criteria analysis to examine its feasibility and if such a proposal can be delivered under an appropriate future programme of works subject to available funding.

Source of Reply:

Breen Doris, Senior Executive Engineer, Active Travel

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COMHAIRLE CONTAE FHINE GALL FINGAL COUNTY COUNCIL

BALBRIGGAN/RUSH-LUSK/SWORDS AREA COMMITTEE MEETING (Services B – Strategic & General Matters)

THURSDAY 13th NOVEMBER 2025

ITEM NO. 33

INSTALLATION OF PATHWAY THROUGH ASTOR PARK/GOLDEN RIDGE TO KENURE WOODS, RUSH - AI105114

Question: Councillor E. Dockrell

“To ask the Chief Executive if consideration could be given to installing a pathway between the gap through Astor Park/Golden Ridge at the side of Kenure Woods and the centre spine path of Kenure Woods, as this path is worn and becomes dangerous and muddy during inclement weather, this exit from the park may not have been in operation when the original orbital path was built in the woods?”

Reply:

The planning conditions for the Astor Park development include requirements for the development of paths in this area of Class 1 Open Space. It is expected that these works will be progressed by the developer over the coming year.

Source of Reply: Kevin Halpenny, Senior Parks & Landscape Officer, Planning & Strategic Infrastructure Department.

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COMHAIRLE CONTAE FHINE GALL FINGAL COUNTY COUNCIL

BALBRIGGAN/RUSH-LUSK/SWORDS AREA COMMITTEE MEETING (Services B – Strategic & General Matters)

THURSDAY 13TH NOVEMBER 2025

ITEM NO. 34

UPDATE ON ADDITIONAL SCHOOLS IN DONABATE - AI105115

Question: Councillor E. Dockrell

“To ask the Chief Executive to provide an update on any engagement or recent correspondence (in the last few months) with the Department of Education on the subject of plans to build additional schools in Donabate to meet the demand from a significantly increased population?”

Reply:

There has been ongoing engagement between the Council and the Department of Education over the last 24 months regarding the potential delivery of education facilities in Donabate.

The Planning Department advise that pre-planning discussions have taken place with representatives of St. Patrick's Boys National School and St. Patrick's Girls National School, Portrane Road, Donabate. The pre-planning file in this matter is now closed.

While there has not been any significant engagement with the Department on the provision of schools in Donabate since Q2 2025 the withdrawal of the Judicial Review on the Ballymastone lands has provided certainty regarding the future development of housing at the Ballymastone site and it is anticipated that the Department will complete its assessment in the coming months.

The Council has contacted the Department of Education for an update on plans for the provision of education facilities in Donabate and will provide an update to Councillors when a response is received.

Source of Reply: Aoife Sheridan, Senior Executive Officer, Economic, Enterprise, Tourism, Cultural Development.

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COMHAIRLE CONTAE FHINE GALL FINGAL COUNTY COUNCIL

BALBRIGGAN/RUSH-LUSK/SWORDS AREA COMMITTEE MEETING (Services B – Strategic & General Matters)

THURSDAY 13TH NOVEMBER 2025

ITEM NO. 35

UPDATE ON SPORTS HUB FOR DONABATE – AI105116

Question: Councillor E. Dockrell

“To ask the Chief Executive for an update on the Sports Hub for Donabate and an updated timeframe for completion of this project?”

Reply:

Tenders received for the planned works on Phases 2 & 3 of the Ballymastone Recreational Hub are currently being evaluated. Subject to the award of the relevant contract in the coming weeks, it is anticipated that the works on Phases 2 & 3 of the project will take approximately 18 months to complete.

Source of Reply: Kevin Halpenny, Senior Parks & Landscape Officer, Planning & Strategic Infrastructure Department.

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COMHAIRLE CONTAE FHINE GALL FINGAL COUNTY COUNCIL

BALBRIGGAN/RUSH-LUSK/SWORDS AREA COMMITTEE MEETING (Services B – Strategic & General Matters)

THURSDAY 13th NOVEMBER 2025

ITEM NO. 36

COMMUNITY INFRASTRUCTURE – LUSK – AI105120

Question: Councillor E. Dockrell

“To ask the Chief Executive for an outline of how the Council plans to ensure that there is adequate community infrastructure in Lusk to meet the demands of a growing population?”

Reply:

The Community Development Department adopts a structured approach to the provision of community facilities through new provisions or improvement of existing facilities, to support the ever-increasing demand from communities across the county as it continues to grow and thrive.

This approach needs based, encompassing consideration of several factors including existing facilities in the area, population dynamics, local specific considerations. This process is informed by appropriate National, Regional and Local policies including Fingal County Development Plan and is reflected in the Council's Capital Plan. By adopting this approach, the Council seeks to prioritise those areas in greatest need for receipt of community facilities across the county.

The Sports Audit which is currently being finalised and led by the Sports Office will provide information on sports facilities across Fingal including the Rush/Lusk LEA.

There will also be an upcoming Community Department Infrastructure Audit with a more specific focus on Community Facilities. It is recommended that Councillors await the full

findings of the above processes in order to have a more complete picture of the findings across the county.

Source of Reply:

Gene Griffin Administrative Officer, Community Department

COMHAIRLE CONTAE FHINE GALL FINGAL COUNTY COUNCIL

BALBRIGGAN/RUSH-LUSK/SWORDS AREA COMMITTEE MEETING (Services B – Strategic & General Matters)

THURSDAY 13th NOVEMBER 2025

ITEM NO. 37

PROPOSED WORKS ALONG GLEN ELLAN/BALHEARY ROAD, SWORDS - AI105132

Question: Councillor J. Humphreys

“To ask the Chief Executive to provide a report on the specific locations/sections where works, that are in the Capital Plan, are proposed along Glen Ellan/Balheary Road and advise the current project stage and a delivery timeline for the project?”

Reply:

The Upgrade of the Glen Ellan Road/Balheary Road Junction has been included in the Capital Works Programme. The over-arching objective of the upgrade will be to provide for improved public transport infrastructure such as bus priority and for improved active travel connectivity. The project has not as of yet commenced, however it is the intention of the Planning & Strategic Infrastructure department to appoint Consulting Engineers in the short term to begin work on the project.

Source of Reply: Linda Lally, A/Senior Engineer, Planning & Strategic Infrastructure

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COMHAIRLE CONTAE FHINE GALL FINGAL COUNTY COUNCIL

Meeting of BALBRIGGAN/LUSK/RUSH/SWORDS (SERVICES B – STRATEGIC & GENERAL MATTERS)

THURSDAY, 13th NOVEMBER 2025

ITEM NO. 38a

APPLICATIONS FOR FUNDING

Applications for funding under the Council's Community Funding Scheme have been received from the organisations listed below. It is proposed to make funding available to these organisations, in accordance with the conditions of the scheme up to the amount set out hereunder: -

ACTIVITY FUNDING GRANTS APPLICATIONS

Name of Applicant Group	Total Funding Amount Applied for in Respect of this Application.	Summary of What Funding is Required For and breakdown of Items	Has this Group Applied for Funding Previously? Y/N	Total Amount of Funding Group has Received to Date and Broken Down by Year	Total Amount of Funding Proposed by the Fingal Executive and rationale for Approval
Garristown Market GA-003620	€3000	4M x 8M Gazebo	N	N/A	€3000
Donabate Portrane Community First Responders GA003636	€2985	3x Defibrillators	N	N/A	€2985

Royal Oak Residents Committee GA-003648	€1320	Community Centre Santa Mince pies, biscuits, cakes Disco Kids - Entertainer Balloon Modeller Decoration Selection Boxes Insurance Tea, Coffee, Milk	Y	2025 €1095.46	€1299.25
The Bold Woman Association GA-003618	€396	Insurance	Y	2024 €2997.89	€395.94
Fingal Africa Association GA-003632	€1156	Dance class Instructor Public Liability insurance dance studio rental	N	N/A	€1156
Revival Social Active Retired Group GA-003647	€1684	Trolley Bus Hire	N	N/A	€1684
Cairde Balbriggan GA-003649	€2084	Chairs Tables and trolley Filing cabinet Flasks Printer	N	N/A	€2084

Balbriggan Womens Development Group GA-003650	€3000	5 new sewing machines. Maintenance of 7 old machines. Padded Chairs. Fabric. Sewing accessories	N	N/A	€3000
Sustainable Skerries GA-003631	€1226	Insurance	Y	2024 €3000	€1226
Ballyboughal Hedgerow Society GA-003646	€3200	Rob Birtwistle Emma Birtwistle David Thompson Ross Thompson	Y	2025 €600.00 2024 €3000.00	€2400
Rush Senior Citizens GA-003643	€1094	Band Burco Boiler Phone Two First Aid Online Courses First Aid Equipment	Y	2025 €1800 2024 €2,438.00	€1094
Ballyboughal Town of the Staff Council CLG GA-003654	€2918	Community storage shed	N	N/A	€2918

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COMHAIRLE CONTAE FHINE GALL FINGAL COUNTY COUNCIL

BALBRIGGAN/RUSH/LUSK/SWORDS AREA COMMITTEE MEETING (Services B - Strategic & General Matters)

THURSDAY 13th NOVEMBER 2025

ITEM NO. 38b

APPLICATIONS FOR SPORTS FUNDING

Applications for funding under the Council's Sports Funding Scheme have been received from the organisations listed below. It is proposed to make funding available to these organisations, in accordance with the conditions of the scheme up to the amount set out hereunder: -

ACTIVITY FUNDING GRANTS APPLICATIONS

Name of Applicant Group	Total Funding Amount Applied for in Respect of this Application	Summary of What Funding is Required For – Breakdown of Items	Has this Group Applied for Funding Previously? Y/N	Total Amount of Funding Group has Received to Date and Broken Down by Year	Total Amount of Funding Proposed by the Fingal Executive and rationale for Approval
Malahide Swords Canoe Club	€4,000	Seakayaks 2200 Paddles 1500 Buoyancy aids 1080 They will promote greater inclusion of children with disabilities and participation by disadvantaged groups in watersports	Y	2023 - €3,000 2021 - €2,000	€4,000 This equipment will allow the club to be more inclusive to people with additional needs and disadvantaged groups

Lir Swim club	€1,450	1 x Coaches Stop Watch €80.00 50 x Swim Caps €300.12 10 x Ankle Straps €69.99 20 x Kick Boards (Bundle Deal) 20 x Pull Buoys (Bundle Deal) 20 x Mess Bags (Bundle Deal) 20 x Snorkels (Bundle Deal) 999.00	Y	2021 - €425 2020 - €1,000	€1,450 This grant will be used to improve essential equipment and increase participation year round within the club for boys and girls.
Rush Boxing Club	€1,499	boxing gloves 10oz x 16 €413.16 boxing gloves 16oz x 25 €589.70 headgear x 12 €496.58	Y	2020 - €1,000	€1,499 this grant is essential in purchasing equipment that will improve both the participation and safety standards of young boys and girls in the club.
Skerries Badminton Club	€1,650	Badminton Shuttles x 50 boxes	N	N/A	€1,500 Due to the high amount of games and practice sessions there is continuous wear and tear on the club's Badminton Shuttles
Lusk United AFC	€1,500	Heavy duty nets x 4 €560	Y	2024 - €3,000 2020 - €1,000	€1,500 These goals posts and nets will

		16 x 6 goal posts x 1 set €980			enhance the clubs ability to increase capacity for training and games for both boys and girls juvenile teams It will also enhance the quality and safety from the current equipment.
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Quay Street & Environs Traffic Management Scheme - Balbriggan

Section 38 – Public Consultation

Page 89

Contents

- ❖ Scheme Objective
- ❖ Scope & Background
- ❖ Current Traffic Movements
- ❖ Proposed Traffic Management Scheme
- ❖ Proposed Changes by Street
- ❖ Next Steps

Scheme Objective

❖ To rationalise and coordinate traffic movements to align with the principles of the Our Balbriggan Public Realm, Active Travel Strategies, and the current Quay Street Scheme under construction. The Scheme extent includes the following streets:

Page 91

- ❖ George's Hill
- ❖ Mill Street
- ❖ Quay Street
- ❖ Seapoint Lane
- ❖ High Street



Scheme Objective

- ❖ The Scheme includes modifications to existing traffic movements and traffic calming features to improve traffic safety for all road users while preserving access to existing residents and businesses.

Page 92



Scope & Background

❖ Fingal County Council prepared a Public Realm & Active Travel Strategy for Balbriggan which included a number of improvements to the public realm including the approved *Part 8 Public Realm Redevelopment - Quay Street Scheme* currently under construction.



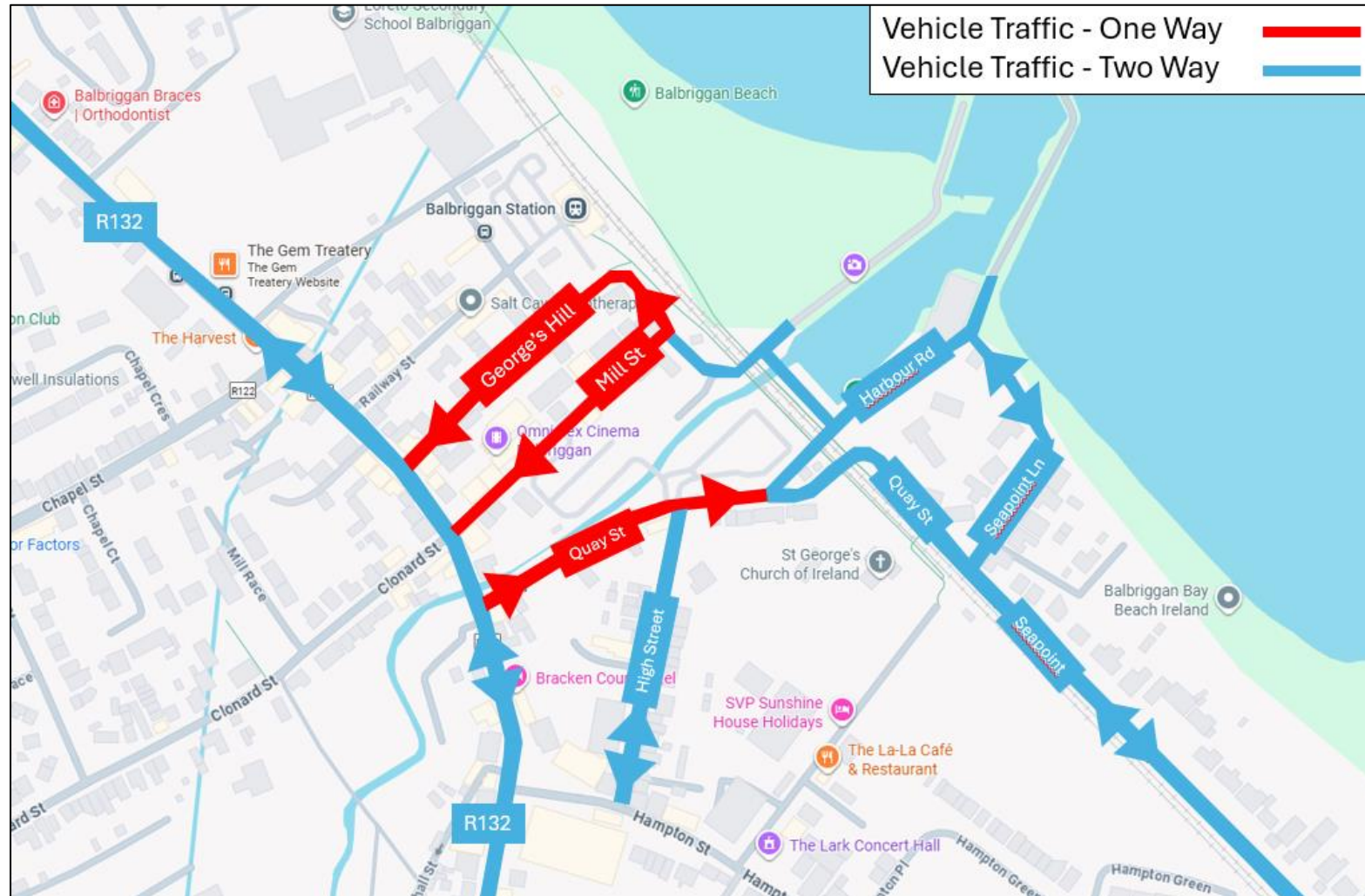
Scope & Background

- ❖ The transformation of Quay Street and the Harbour area is one of the flagship schemes of the Our Balbriggan Strategy.
- ❖ As per Fingal County Council's approved *Part 8 Public Realm Redevelopment - Quay Street Scheme* it is intended to:
 - Reverse one-way direction of vehicular traffic on George's Hill to create a one-way system with Mill Street and provide alternative access points to the Harbour and pier for local access.



Current Traffic Movements

Page 95



Proposed Traffic Management Scheme

- ❖ George's Hill vehicle traffic will be reversed travelling in a north east direction and a raised zebra crossing will be provided at the pedestrian crossing to Balbriggan Station. All line markings and signage will be updated to reflect this reversal.
- ❖ Mill Street vehicle traffic flow direction will remain as is. Line markings will be reinstated.
- ❖ Quay Street will be a one way road for vehicular traffic in a north east direction with a kerbed cycle track in a south west direction up to the Harbour Rd junction. After the Harbour Rd junction, continuing straight on Quay St towards Seapoint Ln, this section of road will remain as a two-way vehicle traffic flow. All line markings will be reinstated.
- ❖ High Street/ Quay Street junction will be one-way vehicle traffic in a north east direction. High Street will be one-way for 55m heading north towards Quay Street. All line markings and signage will be updated to reflect this change in the flow of vehicle traffic.
- ❖ Seapoint Lane will be changed to a one-way flow of vehicle traffic in a south east direction from Harbour Rd for 80m due to the narrowness of this section of road. All line markings and signage will be updated to reflect this change.
- ❖ All junctions onto Drogheda St will be upgraded as part of the future R132 Drogheda St Active Travel Scheme.



Proposed Traffic Management Scheme

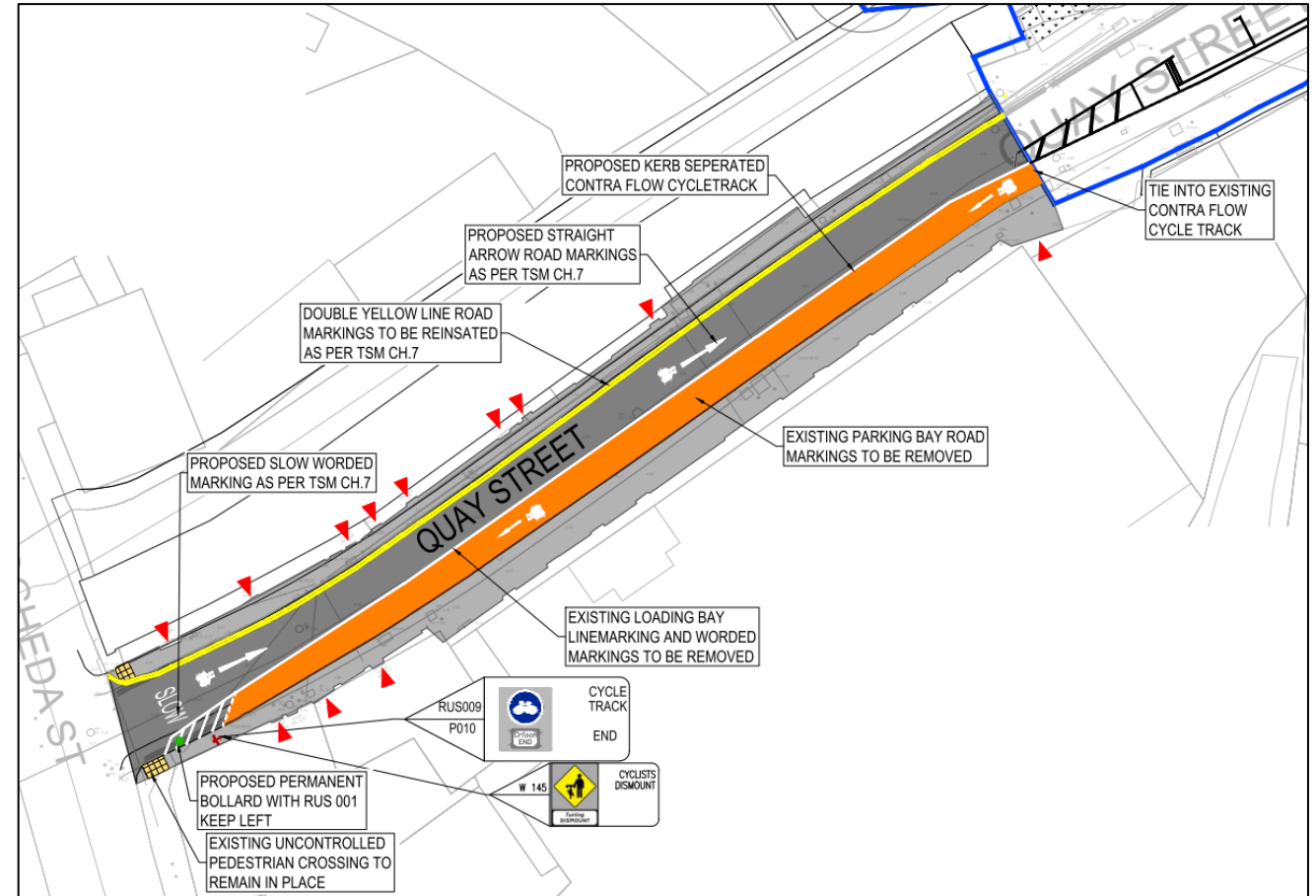


Page 97



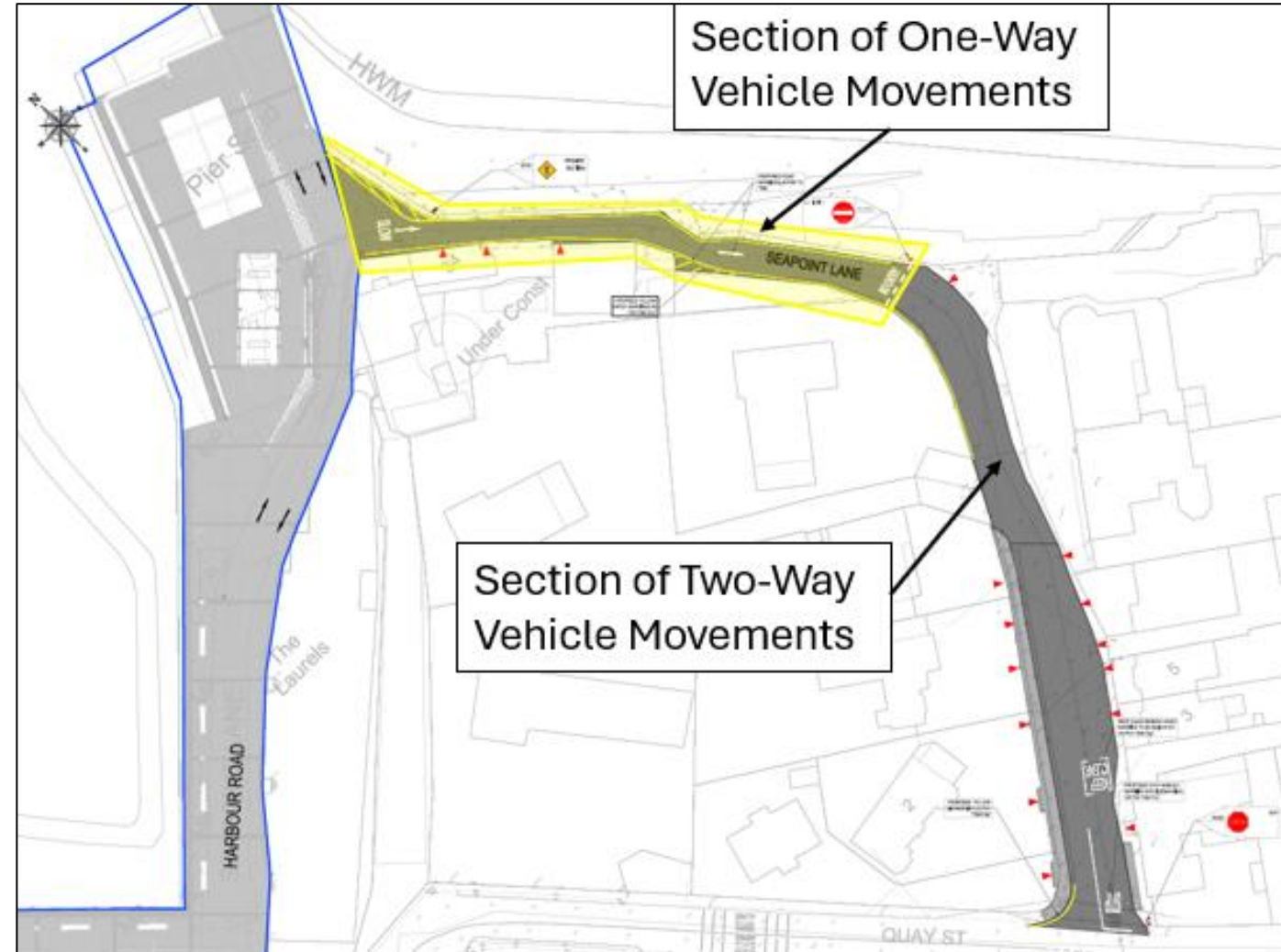
Proposed Changes by Street - Quay Street

- ❖ To tie-in with the current Quay St Scheme the contra flow kerbed cycle track in a north west direction will be brought down to the Drogheda St junction.
- ❖ All road worded markings and line markings will be reinstated with new.
- ❖ 6 no. car parking spaces and 1 no. loading bay to be removed to allow for the completion of the cycle track connecting to Drogheda Street.



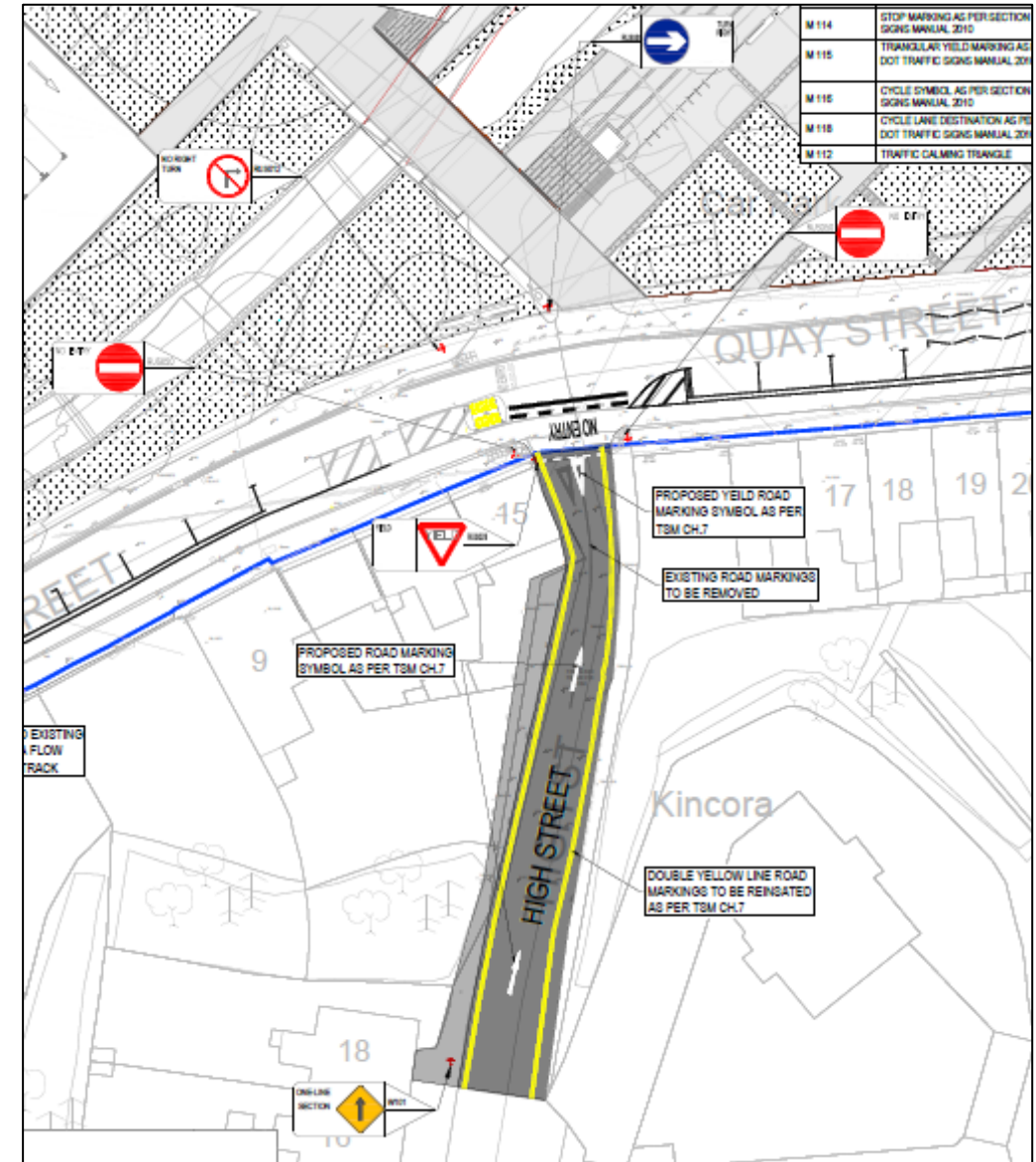
Proposed Changes by Street – Seapoint Lane

- ❖ Seapoint Lane will be changed to a one-way flow of vehicle traffic in a south east direction from Harbour Rd for 80m to tie-in with the Quay St Scheme.
- ❖ All road worded markings and line markings will be reinstated with new.
- ❖ Proposed Stop sign and road marking at Quay St junction.
- ❖ All existing pedestrian accesses and private access will remain in place.



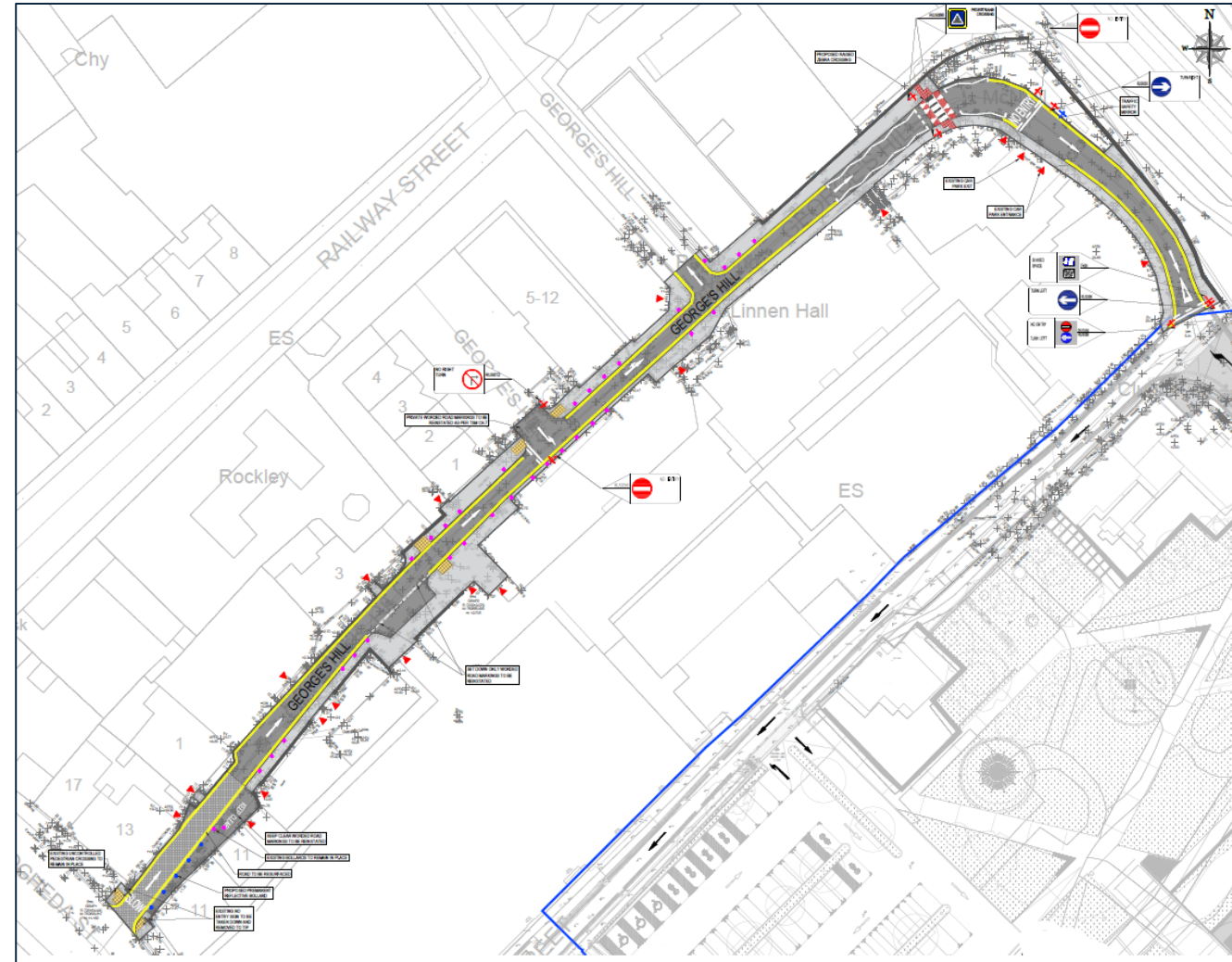
Proposed Changes by Street – High Street

- ❖ All road worded markings and line markings will be reinstated with new.
- ❖ 53m of High St will be a one-way road to the junction onto Quay St as the current road widths are unsafe for two vehicles to pass.
- ❖ No Entry worded road markings and signs are proposed at the junction onto Quay St.
- ❖ Quay St is one-way direction of traffic to the east, No Left Turn sign is proposed facing at the oncoming traffic from High St to tie-in with the current Quay St scheme.



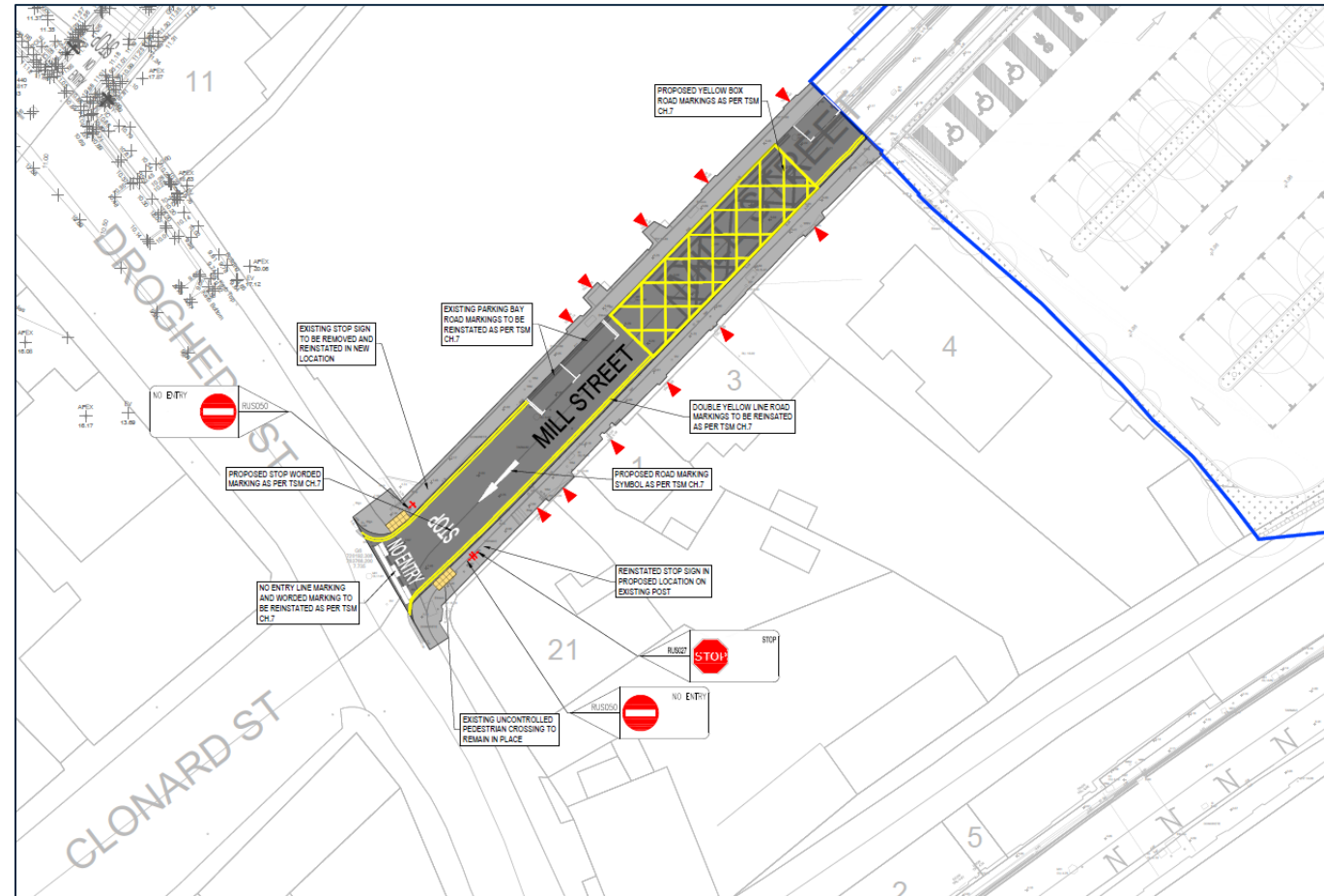
Proposed Changes by Street – George's Hill

- ❖ Reverse direction of vehicle movements to form a clockwise system with Mill Street.
- ❖ Vehicle movements along Harbour Rd will remain two-way.
- ❖ All direction road markings will be reversed.
- ❖ Existing road markings will be removed and new road markings reinstated.
- ❖ Permanent bollards will remain in place. With additional permanent bollards to be constructed for pedestrian safety.
- ❖ Existing pedestrian accesses and private access will remain in place.
- ❖ Proposed raised table zebra crossing to be installed at the existing pedestrian crossing.
- ❖ Existing car park exit will be right turn only.
- ❖ Proposed Right Turn sign will be installed and no entry road markings will be reversed, with additional No Entry sign
- ❖ The existing 50 kph zone on Georges Hill will remain as is but is subject to a future review to reduce to 30kph.



Proposed Changes by Street – Mill Street

- ❖ The one-way system will remain in place.
- ❖ All existing car parking and loading bays will remain in place.
- ❖ All road worded markings and line markings will be reinstated with new.
- ❖ Additional stop sign will be installed at the Drogheda St junction.



Next Steps

Page 104

- ❖ Publish for Non-Statutory Consultation under Section 38 of the Road Traffic Act
- ❖ 4-week Non-Statutory Consultation Period
- ❖ Review feedback & make amendments if required
- ❖ Report back to the ACM in February 2026
- ❖ Detailed design and procurement of Contractor – March/April 2026
- ❖ Implementation of measures April/May 2026 in readiness for completion of Quay Street scheme.

COMHAIRLE CONTAE FHINE GALL FINGAL COUNTY COUNCIL

BALBRIGGAN/RUSH-LUSK/SWORDS AREA COMMITTEE MEETING (Services B – Strategic & General Matters)

THURSDAY 13th NOVEMBER 2025

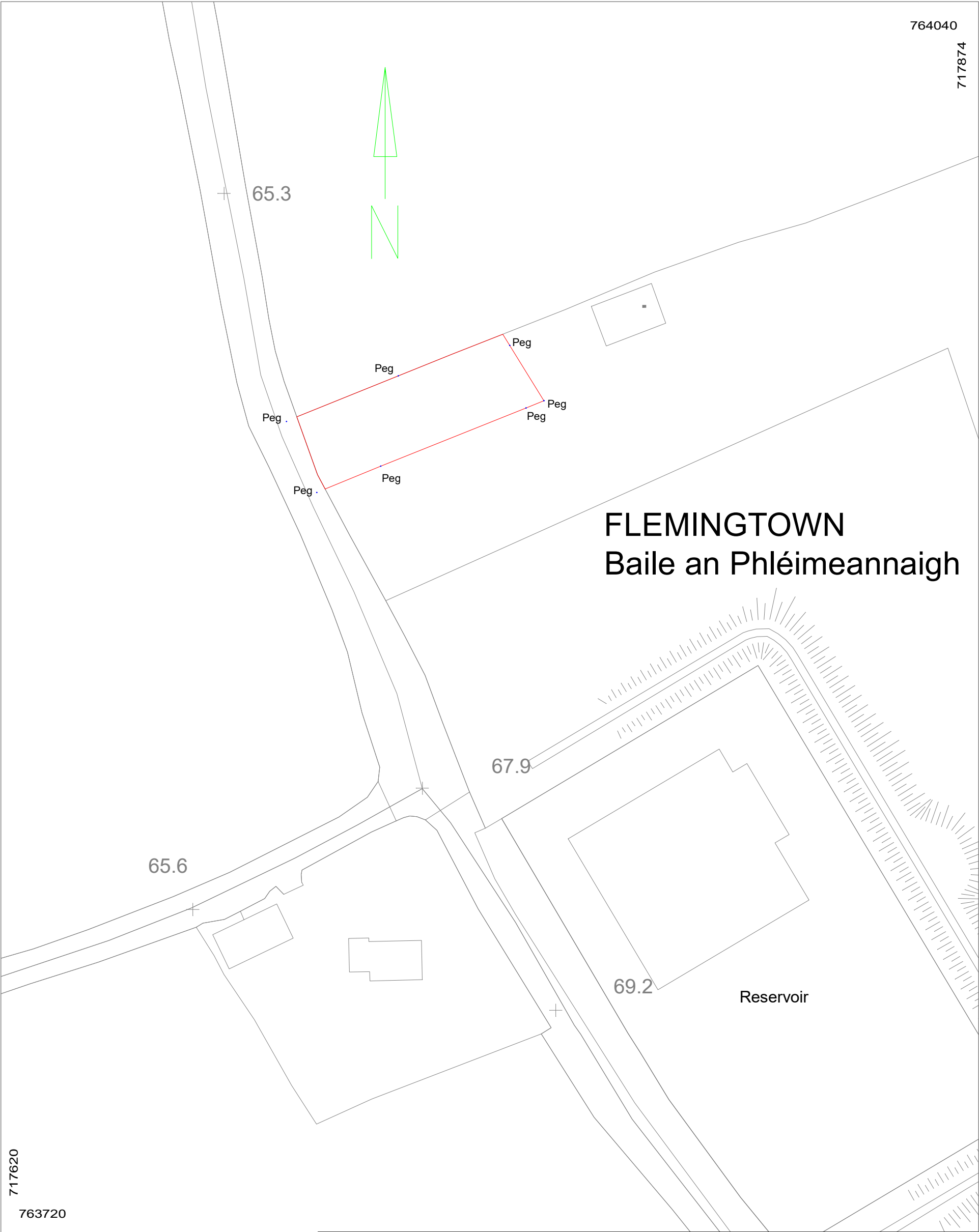
ITEM NO. 40a

NOTICE OF PROPOSED DISPOSAL OF LAND AT CLONARD ROAD, FLEMINGTOWN, BALBRIGGAN, CO. DUBLIN

It is proposed to issue Notice under Section 211 of the Planning & Development Act 2000 (as amended) and subject to the provisions of Section 183 of the Local Government Act 2001 (as amended) notifying the Council Members of the intention to dispose of land at Clonard Road, Flemingtown, Balbriggan, Co. Dublin, comprising an area of 1,200 square metres approximately as shown outlined in red on Drawing No. LA-4049-25 dated 28th April 2025 to Phoenix Tower Ireland III Ltd, Suite 311, Q House, Furze Road, Sandyford Industrial Estate, Dublin 18.

A formal notice of disposal in accordance with Section 183 of the Local Government Act, 2001, will be submitted to the Meeting of the Council scheduled to be held on Monday 8th December 2025

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Area of Land Delineated by center of red line surrounding the land 1200 m2 to be transferred by Fingal from folio number DN179979F	 Comhairle Contae Fhine Gall Fingal County Council Comhairle Contae Fhine Gall FINGAL COUNTY COUNCIL	Dwg No:	LA-4049-25	O.S.Ref:	
		Date:	28 APR 2025	Drawn By:	LJM
		Scale:	1/1000	Checked:	
		Dev. File No:	L.D. 1605	Job No.	SM/049/25
		Gross Area :			
	Project:	Land at Flemingtown Balbriggan Co Dublin			
		Nett Area :			
		C Ordnance Survey Ireland. All rights reserved. Licence number 2018/24/CCMAI/Fingal County Council.			

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**COMHAIRLE CONTAE FHINE GALL
FINGAL COUNTY COUNCIL**

**BALBRIGGAN/RUSH-LUSK/SWORDS AREA COMMITTEE MEETING
(Services B – Strategic & General Matters)**

THURSDAY 13th NOVEMBER 2025

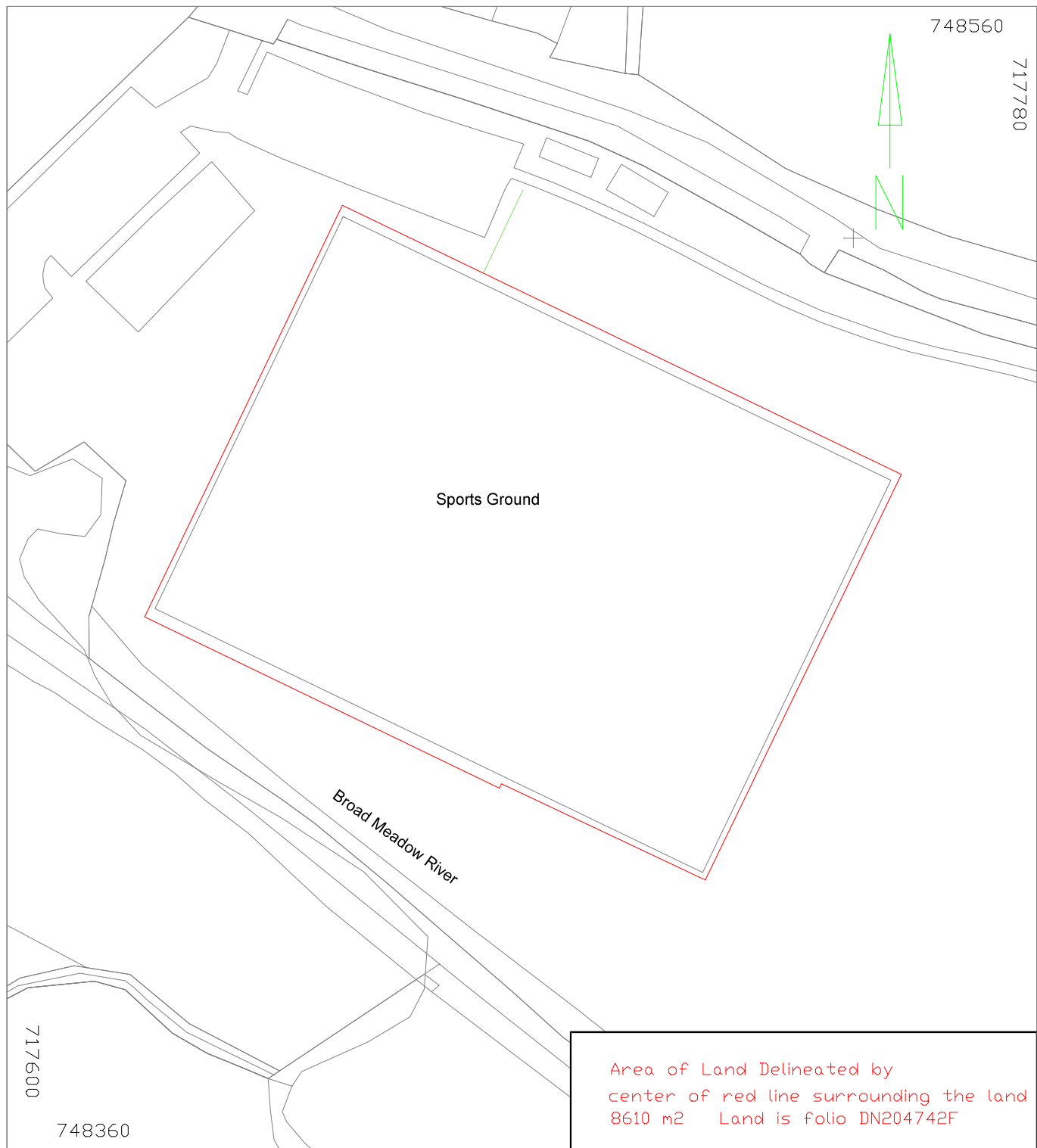
ITEM NO. 40a

**NOTICE OF PROPOSED LEASE OF LAND AT BALHEARY ROAD,
SWORDS, CO. DUBLIN TO
SWORDS CELTIC FOOTBALL CLUB, BALHEARY ROAD, SWORDS, CO.
DUBLIN**

It is proposed to issue Notice under Section 211 of the Planning & Development Act 2000 (as amended) and subject to the provisions of Section 183 of the Local Government Act 2001 (as amended) notifying the Council Members of the intention to grant a lease of land at Balheary Road, Swords, Co. Dublin, comprising an area of 8,610 square metres approximately as shown outlined in red on Drawing No. LA-4108-24 dated 11th December 2024 to Swords Celtic Football Club, Balheary Road, Swords, Co. Dublin

A formal notice of disposal in accordance with Section 183 of the Local Government Act, 2001, will be submitted to the Meeting of the Council scheduled to be held on Monday 8th December 2025

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 Comhairle Contae Fhine Gall FINGAL COUNTY COUNCIL	Dwg No: LA-4108-24		D.S.Ref:	
	Date: 11 Dec 2024		Drawn By: LJM	
Project: Land at Swords Celtic Grounds	Scale: 1/1000		Checked:	
			Job No. SM/108/24	
Land to be leased to : Swords Celtic	Gross Area :			
	Road Area :			
Ordnance Survey Ireland. All rights reserved. Licence number 2017/24/CCMAI/Fingal County Council.	Nett Area :			

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COMHAIRLE CONTAE FHINE GALL FINGAL COUNTY COUNCIL

BALBRIGGAN/RUSH-LUSK/SWORDS AREA COMMITTEE MEETING (Services B – Strategic & General Matters)

THURSDAY 13th NOVEMBER 2025

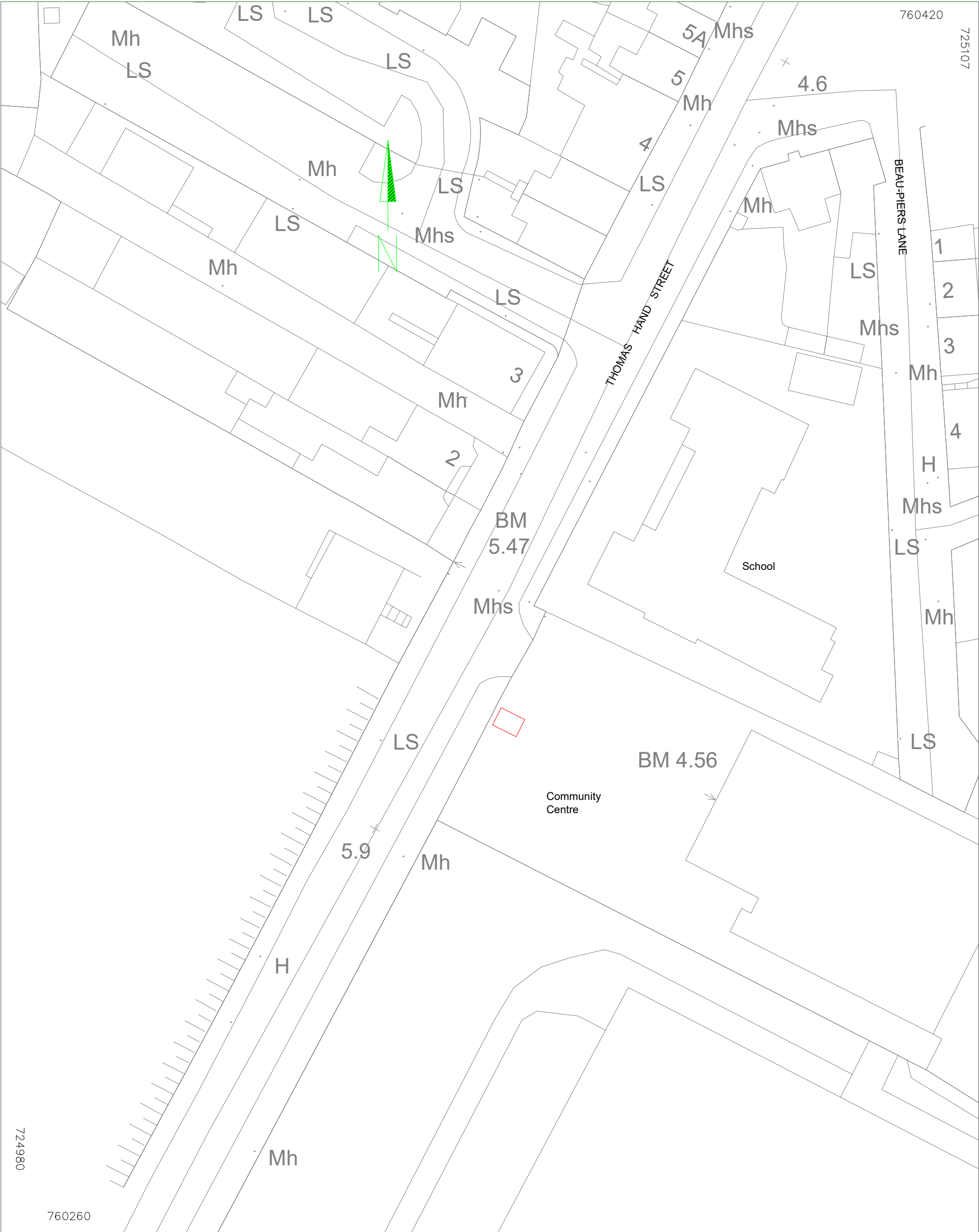
ITEM NO. 40c

NOTICE OF PROPOSED DISPOSAL OF LAND AT SKERRIES COMMUNITY CENTRE, THOMAS HAND STREET, SKERRIES, CO. DUBLIN TO GAS NETWORKS IRELAND

It is proposed to issue Notice under Section 211 of the Planning & Development Act 2000 (as amended) and subject to the provisions of Section 183 of the Local Government Act 2001 (as amended) notifying the Council Members of the intention to dispose of land at Skerries Community Centre, Thomas Hand Street, Skerries, Co. Dublin, comprising an area of 9 square meters approximately as shown outlined in red on Drawing No. LA-4036-25 dated 20th March 2025 to Gas Networks Ireland, P.O. Box 51, Gasworks Road, Cork.

A formal notice of disposal in accordance with Section 183 of the Local Government Act, 2001, will be submitted to the Meeting of the Council scheduled to be held on Monday 8th December 2025.

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Area of Land delineated by
center of red line surrounding the land
9 m2 from Folio DN32240F.



Comhairle Contae Fhine Gall
FINGAL COUNTY COUNCIL

Project: Land at Thomas Hand Street
Skerries, County Dublin

Transfer in respect of LD1598

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Dwg No:	LA-4036-25	O.S.Ref:	
Date:	20 Mar 2025	Drawn By:	LJM
Scale:	1/500	Checked:	
Dev. File No:	LD1598	Job No.	SM/036/25
Gross Area :			
Road Area :			
Nett Area :			

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Ciara O'hAodha, Senior Executive Officer,
County Hall,
Main Street,
Swords,
Co. Dublin.
K67 X8Y2



3 October 2025

Ref: Motion in relation to the entrance to the Rush and Lusk Train Station

Dear Ms. hAodha,

I refer to your correspondence dated 15 October 2025 in relation to a motion passed at a recent meeting of Balbriggan/Rush-Lusk/Swords Area Committee meeting regarding the entrance to the Rush and Lusk train station.

The resolution of the issues with the vehicular entrance to the Rush and Lusk train station is primarily a road realignment project, which would involve land acquisition. It is not a project that the NTA could take the lead on, given our particular remit.

However, I confirm that we are willing to engage with other parties – Fingal County Council and Iarnród Éireann – as required, in the event that the road project is being progressed.

I trust that the above is of assistance.

Yours sincerely,

Hugh Creegan

Hugh Creegan,
Chief Executive (Interim).

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Ms Ciara O'hAodha
Fingal County Council
Corporate Services
County Hall
Main Street
Swords
Co Dublin
K37 X8Y2

16th October 2025

Your Ref: 64/B/R/L/S/8May2025

Re: Swords College of Further Education and Training Progress Update

Dear Ms O'hAodha

In response to correspondence dated 30th May 2025 and 13th October 2025 from Fingal County Council.

The Department of Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science (DFHERIS), through SOLAS as the Further Education and Training Authority, has authorised Dublin and Dun Laoghaire Education and Training Board (DDLETB) to progress due diligence on a preferred site in Swords as a required step towards a potential purchase. The ETB is engaged in tendering activities to secure relevant consultant services to undertake legal, geospatial, archaeological, and environmental due diligence. Once this process is complete, the ETB will complete a Final Business Case in respect of the proposed purchase. The Final Business Case, which is a requirement under the Infrastructure Guidelines, will be appraised once received towards final approval to agree and sign contracts. Action on this matter is currently with DDLETB.

DDLETB has also been authorised by DFHERIS, via SOLAS, to procure the services of an integrated technical team to support their development of a Preliminary Business Case (PBC) for evaluation against Approval Gate 1 requirements of the Infrastructure Guidelines. Once the PBC has been submitted to SOLAS, an evaluation panel will be formed and a recommendation made to DFHERIS with potential outcomes of (a) progress through AG1 towards the Project Design, Planning and Procurement Strategy stage of the IG, or



(b) refinement or further development of the PBC required, or (c) abandonment of the proposal. Action on this matter is currently with DDLETB.

If the Committee or County Council require any further information, please do not hesitate to contact SOLAS or DDLETB.

Yours sincerely,

Avril Behan

Avril Behan (Oct 20, 2025 22:17:40 GMT+1)

Dr Avril Behan, FSCSI, FRICS
Director, FET College of the Future
SOLAS Climate & Sustainability Champion
Chartered Geomatics Surveyor

cc: DDLETB CEO - C Murphy
DFHERIS - A O'Callaghan

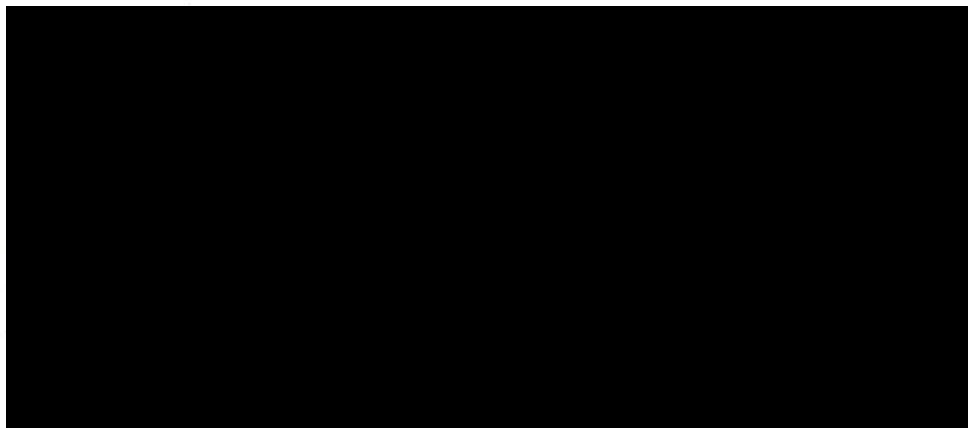
Progress Update on Sword CFE 16th October 2025

Final Audit Report

2025-10-20

Created:	2025-10-16
By:	[REDACTED]
Status:	Signed
Transaction ID:	CBJCHBCAABAAZB0xAbiQ68V50BPxBg4kMSoX2ggBlh31
Documents:	Progress Update on Sword CFE 16th October 2025.docx (2 pages)

"Progress Update on Sword CFE 16th October 2025" History



Dear Liz,

I am writing to you today regarding your correspondence on behalf of the Members of Fingal Council, regarding a meeting to present on upgrade and delivery of WW works in Balbriggan Rush Lusk Swords

Your Uisce Éireann reference number for same was 40795.

I am pleased to advise that my colleagues in our Communications Team at Uisce Éireann have reviewed your query and the following response has become available:

Uisce Eireann attended a workshop for all Councillors in Fingal County Council in January 2025 where an detailed update was provided on upgrades to water and wastewater infrastructure in Fingal and the Greater Dublin Area.

This is part of a series of annual water services workshops which Uisce Eireann is delivering in each local authority.

Outside of this annual engagement with Councillors, ongoing updates on specific projects are available on our website and are also provided through direct emails from project teams to stakeholders and elected representatives and through press releases to local media at key project milestone.

Any questions from Councillors in relation to specific projects can be submitted at any time through our local representative support desk.

Uisce Eireann has submitted its next Capital Investment Plan to 2030 for consideration to our economic regulator the CRU (Commission for Regulation of Utilities) to set out how we plan to meet the objectives of the governments water services policy statement across a range of priorities.

Recognising the specific need to support the governments commitments in relation to housing delivery, Uisce Eireann is also working on a separate proposal for additional government funding to specifically support housing and growth which will be submitted to government in the coming months.

As part of that work the utility will engage with local authority planning teams on priority areas for growth.

I trust that this update provides clarity to both you and your constituents. Should you have any further queries, please don't hesitate to contact us on the details below.

We would like to thank you for your correspondence, I trust that this update provides clarity to both you and your (District) members. Should you have any further queries, please don't hesitate to contact us on the details below.

Thank you for using Uisce Éireann's dedicated Council Meetings mailbox

Regards,

John

John Noone

LRSD / ERSD Analyst

Uisce Éireann

Teach Colvill, 24–26 Sráid Thalbóid, Baile Átha Cliath 1, D01 NP86, Éire

Uisce Éireann

Colvill House, 24–26 Talbot Street, Dublin 1, D01 NP86, Ireland

M +353 87 379 2807

john.noone@water.ie

www.water.ie

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COMHAIRLE CONTAE FHINE GALL FINGAL COUNTY COUNCIL

BALBRIGGAN/RUSH-LUSK/SWORDS AREA COMMITTEE MEETING (Services B – Strategic & General Matters)

THURSDAY 13th NOVEMBER 2025

ITEM NO. 42

REPORT ON RIVERS AND STREAMS - SWORDS – AI104504

Motion: Councillor D. Kelly

“That the Chief Executive provide a report from the Environment Department on the health standard of the rivers and streams of Swords.”

Report:

The quality of rivers and streams in Ireland is determined by the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) through an assessment and classification of each rivers Ecological Status and Ecological Potential.

The river assessment includes an analysis of each river’s biology, water chemistry and hydro-morphology versus stringent standards set out in the European Union Environmental Objectives (Surface Waters) 2009, as amended.

The EPA’s most recent completed assessment covers the period 2016-2021, however it is expected that a more up to date report is due from the EPA imminently.

When considering Swords, the town of Swords is primarily drained by two rivers and its tributaries namely the River Ward and the River Broadmeadow catchments.

The EPA’s most recent assessment of the River Ward in Swords found the river to be of Moderate Ecological Status, i.e. only slightly polluted with siltation and nutrients posing the major risks to the river. This assessment was an improvement on the previous assessment 2013-2018 which at that time found the river to be of Poor Ecological Status.

The EPA's most recent assessment of the River Broadmeadow in Swords found the river to also be of Moderate Ecological Status, reporting that the river is suffering from siltation and nutrient enrichment for the entirety of the river.

This rating was an improvement on the previous assessment 2013-2018 which found this river to be of Poor Ecological Status.

The objective for both these rivers under The EU Water Framework Directive is to achieve good water quality status by 2027.

In terms of addressing the issues identified in the EPA's assessments and endeavouring to help achieve Good Ecological Status for these rivers, Fingal County Council annually submits an RMCEI plan to the EPA which clearly identifies how it intends to achieve this objective.

The RMCEI plan includes water quality improvement measures such as Farm Inspections, Septic Tank Inspections, Misconnection Surveys, Trade Effluent Discharge Licence inspections all of which are been carried out within Fingal's River catchments.

Source of Report:

David Byrne, Senior Executive Engineer, ECAATS Department

**COMHAIRLE CONTAE FHINE GALL
FINGAL COUNTY COUNCIL**

**BALBRIGGAN/LUSK/RUSH/SWORDS
AREA COMMITTEE MEETING**

THURSDAY 13th NOVEMBER , 2025

ITEM NO. 43

Swords Autism Friendly Town - AI105007

Motion: Councillor D. Mulligan

“That this Committee invites Swords Autism Friendly Town to attend a deputation meeting to discuss how the Elected Members and Council officials can work together to make the local area more inclusive and neuro-affirmative.”

Report:

Requests for a deputation meeting are considered following receipt of a request made to community@fingal.ie. The group can apply for a deputation meeting via this e-mail address.

If this motion is passed, contact will be made with the group to advise of the above process.

Note there are no deputation meeting slots available until Spring 2026.

Source of Reply: Gene Griffin, Administrative Officer, Community Department

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COMHAIRLE CONTAE FHINE GALL FINGAL COUNTY COUNCIL

BALBRIGGAN/RUSH-LUSK/SWORDS AREA COMMITTEE MEETING

(Services B – Strategic & General Matters)

THURSDAY 13th NOVEMBER 2025

ITEM NO. 44

REQUEST FOR SCHOOL WARDEN - SCOIL RÉALT NA MARA, SKERRIES - AI105017A

Motion: Councillor T. O'Leary

"That the Chief Executive arrange to have a school warden appointed for Scoil Réalt na Mara at a location agreed with the school, most likely the Skerries Rock entrance."

Report:

The Active Travel/Road Safety Office carried out a school warden criteria inspection on 2 February 2024 at the Skerries Rock entrance to Scoil Réalt na Mara. The location was found not to meet the requirements for a school warden at that time.

Fingal County Council aspires to the provision of infrastructure which allows school goers to travel independently and more safely without the assistance of a school warden.

The Active Travel Unit are currently going to non-statutory coaccumulation on the Skerries Active Travel Plan. This Plan includes SRTS proposals for all the schools in the Skerries Area that will be taken forward for implementation subject to available funding on the conclusion of the non-statutory public consultation and adoption of the plan in early 2026.

Source of Report:

Larry Bergin, Senior Executive Engineer, Active Travel

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COMHAIRLE CONTAE FHINE GALL FINGAL COUNTY COUNCIL

BALBRIGGAN/LUSK/RUSH/SWORDS AREA COMMITTEE MEETING

THURSDAY 13th NOVEMBER, 2025

ITEM NO. 45

Meeting with Fingallians GAA Club - AI105049

Motion: Councillor C. Boland

"That the Chief Executive facilitates a deputation meeting with Fingallians GAA Football Club to allow the Club to fully inform the Elected Members and Council Officials what impact the works required to deliver on the TII proposals will have on the delivery of the Metro project and how the Club perceives the impact on their pitches may be minimised."

Report:

The Council's Planning and Strategic Infrastructure Department has already committed to holding a general meeting with Fingallians GAA club to discuss the impact of the works including the impact on playing pitches.

A specific deputation meeting can be requested by the club contacting community@fingal.ie . If the motion is passed, the club will be advised of the process to request a deputation meeting. Note there are no deputation meeting slots available until Spring 2026.

Source of Reply: Gene Griffin, Administrative Officer, Community Department

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COMHAIRLE CONTAE FHINE GALL FINGAL COUNTY COUNCIL

BALBRIGGAN/RUSH-LUSK/SWORDS AREA COMMITTEE MEETING (Services B – Strategic & General Matters)

THURSDAY 13th NOVEMBER 2025

ITEM NO. 46

PROCEDURES ON CASINOS AND GAMING ARCADES - SWORDS - AI105059

Motion: Councillor J. Smyth

“That the Chief Executive examines the current procedures and means open to the Council, for restricting further development of casinos and gaming arcades in Swords in light of recent rulings by An Coimisiún Pleanála.”

Report:

In terms of land use, planning applications for casinos/gaming arcades are assessed in accordance with the Fingal County Development Plan 2023-2029. The Development Plan outlines uses which are permitted/not permitted in the various land use zonings in place in the county. In addition, in order to protect and enhance the vitality and viability of the County's urban centres such as Swords, the Development Plan recognises the need to monitor the occurrence of non-retail uses (such as amusement centres). Objective EEO105 of the Plan specifically relates to this and states “Prevent an over-supply or dominance of fast food outlets, takeaways, off licences, adult shops, gaming arcades and betting offices in the main streets of towns and villages, shopping centres and local centres to ensure that injury is not caused to the amenities of these streets and centres through the loss of retail opportunities”. These provisions are implemented during the development management process when applications are being assessed.

Source of Report: Deirdre Fallon, Senior Planner, Planning and Strategic Infrastructure

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**COMHAIRLE CONTAE FHINE GALL
FINGAL COUNTY COUNCIL**

**BALBRIGGAN/RUSH-LUSK/SWORDS AREA COMMITTEE MEETING
(Services B – Strategic & General Matters)**

THURSDAY 13th NOVEMBER 2025

ITEM NO. 47

**NORTHERN COMMUTER LINE - CONSTANT DELAYS AND
OVERCROWDING IN THIS LEA - AI105130**

Motion: Councillor P. Mulville

“That the Chief Executive writes to the Minister for Transport asking for urgent action to address constant overcrowding and delays with the Northern Commuter line train service in this Local Electoral Area and also asking for additional emergency funding to the National Transport Authority and Irish Rail as a matter of priority.”

Report:

If the Motion is passed the terms therein will be forwarded to the Minister for Transport, when a reply is received the Area Committee shall be informed.

Source of Report:

Ciara O hAodha, Senior Executive Officer, Corporate Services

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**COMHAIRLE CONTAE FHINE GALL
FINGAL COUNTY COUNCIL**

**BALBRIGGAN/RUSH-LUSK/SWORDS AREA COMMITTEE MEETING
(Services B – Strategic & General Matters)**

THURSDAY 13th NOVEMBER 2025

ITEM NO. 48

**PRIMARY AND SECONDARY SCHOOL DELIVERY TIMELINES IN THIS
LEA - AI104852**

Motion: Councillor D. Kelly

“That the Chief Executive writes to the Department of Education to request a report on the delivery timelines of new primary and secondary schools in the Balbriggan/Rush-Lusk/Swords Local Electoral Area.”

Report:

If the Motion is passed the terms therein will be forwarded to the Department of Education, when a reply is received the Area Committee shall be informed.

Source of Report:

Ciara O hAodha, Senior Executive Officer, Corporate Services

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COMHAIRLE CONTAE FHINE GALL FINGAL COUNTY COUNCIL

BALBRIGGAN/RUSH-LUSK/SWORDS AREA COMMITTEE MEETING (Services B – Strategic & General Matters)

THURSDAY 13th NOVEMBER 2025

ITEM NO. 49

IMPROVED SAFE ACCESS TO SCOIL RÉALT NA MARA, SKERRIES - AI105017

Motion: Councillor T. O'Leary

"That the Chief Executive, in noting the health and safety risk for young children at Scoil Réalt na Mara National School at the entrance/exit at Skerries Rock, improve the safety at this location by installing pencil bollards and identifying a designated crossing location to and from the school and repaint the existing yellow lines as soon as possible.

Report:

The Road Safety Officer conducted a site visit to Réalt Na Mara School in Skerries on Friday, 24th October, and met with the principal and parent representatives. Following the meeting, the following is noted:

- Line Marking: Active Travel will request that Operations include the area in their future works programme for line marking.
- Safe Routes to School Programme (SRTS): Scoil Réalt na Mara is not included in the SRTS programme. SRTS is administered by An Taisce, grant funded by the National Transport Authority and delivered by Fingal County Council. An Taisce did a call out to all schools nationally in 2021 and Réalt Na Mara did not make an application at this time.
- The Active Travel Unit have carried out extensive works on Wild Cat Lane this year, to improve safe access to the school. This included resurfacing works and planting in the area including installation of bollards.
- The Active Travel Unit are currently going to non-statutory coaccumulation on the Skerries Active Travel Plan. This Plan includes SRTS proposals for all the schools in the Skerries Area that will be taken forward for implementation subject to available funding on the conclusion of the non-statutory public consultation and adoption of the plan in early 2026.

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COMHAIRLE CONTAE FHINE GALL FINGAL COUNTY COUNCIL

BALBRIGGAN/RUSH-LUSK/SWORDS AREA COMMITTEE MEETING (Services B – Strategic & General Matters)

THURSDAY 13TH NOVEMBER 2025

ITEM NO. 50

CONTINUED PROVISION OF PITCHES – FINGALLIANS GAA CLUB, SWORDS – A1105106

Motion: Councillor J. Smyth

“That the Chief Executive facilitate a meeting with club representatives from Fingallians GAA Club to discuss and develop short and long term plans, for adequate playing pitch provision in light of the likely changes to their available pitches at Balheary due to the development of the MetroLink.”

Report:

Relevant staff in the Council are available to meet with Fingallians GAA Club at a mutually convenient time to discuss their plans and concerns regarding the impact on their access to public pitches resulting from planned developments around Swords including MetroLink.

Source of Report: Kevin Halpenny, Senior Parks & Landscape Officer, Planning & Strategic Infrastructure Department.

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COMHAIRLE CONTAE FHINE GALL FINGAL COUNTY COUNCIL

BALBRIGGAN/RUSH-LUSK/SWORDS AREA COMMITTEE MEETING (Services B – Strategic & General Matters)

THURSDAY 13th NOVEMBER 2025

ITEM NO. 51

REPORT ON REPAIR AND UPKEEP AT ST. ITA'S HOSPITAL, PORTRANE - AI105131

Motion: Councillor P. Mulville

“That the Chief Executive reports on the Council’s engagement regarding the need for ongoing repair and upkeep of the historical buildings at St. Ita’s Hospital in Portrane pending any future plans being put in place for the old hospital.”

Report:

There has been no recent engagement between Fingal County Council and the HSE regarding the ongoing management and maintenance regime for the historic buildings within the St. Ita’s Complex.

Separately, work has begun on an updated Feasibility Study for St. Ita’s Campus which will in turn inform the Council’s and the HSE’s overall approach for the future development of the campus.

Source of Report:

Róisín Burke, Senior Planner, Planning & Strategic Infrastructure Department

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