

**COMHAIRLE CONTAE FHINE GALL
FINGAL COUNTY COUNCIL**

**BALBRIGGAN/RUSH-LUSK/SWORDS AREA COMMITTEE MEETING
[SERVICES A – OPERATIONAL MATTERS]**

THURSDAY 12TH MARCH 2026

ITEM NO. 66

TRAFFIC MANAGEMENT IMPACTS IN SWORDS - AI107284

Question: Councillor J. Humphreys

"To ask the Chief Executive to provide a report on why the traffic management impacts arising from the current wastewater works on the R125 Balheary Road were not identified as requiring a higher level of intervention at the planning and approval stage, particularly in light of the traffic surveys and studies undertaken in Swords during the summer of 2025 in preparation for a range of connectivity and transport projects, and to confirm what engagement, if any, took place between the Council and Uisce Éireann in advance of approving the traffic management arrangements for these works?"

Reply:

The works currently being carried out by Uisce Éireann on the R125, between Estuary Roundabout and R125/Balheary Road/Watery Lane junction, is for the essential extension of 360m of the wastewater network in Swords. This upgrade of the wastewater network is strategic infrastructure works which will facilitate the construction of over 3,000 much needed housing units in the Swords area.

Engagement was carried out with Uisce Éireann with regards the wastewater works during 2025 with Operations and Infrastructure. Operations held a number of meetings with Uisce Éireann as part of the T1 Notification and meetings have been held during the course of the works. Due to the deep open excavation

required to the road to facilitate the works it was not possible for the works to be done at nighttime.

As with all large-scale projects, the traffic impacts are monitored and since its original implementation, the Traffic Management Plan has been changed in response to difficulties observed with stacking of vehicles on the roundabout back onto the R132. An eastbound lane closure on the R125 has now been implemented. In addition, traffic lights timings were changed and right turn/left turn filters removed at the Fire station traffic lights. It was also found that motorists were not using the signed diversion routes which then impacts on their journey times leading to traffic build up. The Uisce Eireann works were commenced in January 2026 and Uisce Eireann has confirmed the works will be completed by the end of March prior to the commencement of the Fingal County Council's R132 Road Connectivity Project.

As with any large-scale construction works, unfortunately delays or diversions are a result. Fingal County Council both internally and externally are coordinating with all stakeholders to minimise the disruption as much as feasibly possible.

Source of Reply: Ms. Áine Donlon Kavanagh, Senior Executive Officer, Operations Department.