

COMHAIRLE CONTAE FHINE GALL

FINGAL COUNTY COUNCIL

Fingal Development Plan 2017-2023

Tuesday, 27 September 2016

Motion from Councillor David Healy: public transport reservation Balgriffin to Portmarnock. AI028823

Add public transport reservation Balgriffin to Portmarnock- as shown on the attached map.

REPORT:

This motion seeks to add a public transport reservation from Balgriffin to Portmarnock. The following is noted in the Draft Plan relating to Public Transport:

'For high volumes of travellers and for medium- to long-distance trips, the various modes of public transport are the most efficient modes of travel in terms of use of road-space, and the most sustainable in terms of environmental impacts. The National Transport Authority (NTA) and Transport Infrastructure Ireland (TII), are primarily responsible for the funding, planning and implementation of public transport infrastructure in the Greater Dublin Area. However, the Council has an important role to play in promoting and facilitating public transport. In particular, the Council advises the NTA and TII on the locations of public transport routes and stops, reserves planned routes free from development, and allows high-density development along existing and planned public transport corridors. The NTA and TII have strategic responsibilities, for the Greater Dublin Area and nationally. The Council shall ensure that the policies, objectives and requirements of the County are fully understood and appreciated by NTA and TII. The Council shall continue to promote public transport connectivity between key urban settlements within the County.'

Objective MT12

Support and advise the NTA and TII on the planning and implementation of public transport infrastructure, in particular by providing an understanding of Fingal's policies, objectives and requirements, including environmental sensitivities.'

It should be noted that this proposal for public transport reservation depends on the proposed reservation from Metro West to Balgriffin. This option was assessed as part of the NTA's Fingal-North Dublin Transportation Study and it was excluded at the first stage of the study. Furthermore, in the context of this motion it is envisaged that public transport facilities will be delivered as part of the Moyne Road upgrade.

The intention included in the motion, to make provision for a public transport reservation from Balgriffin to Portmarnock is considered to be a positive proposal. However, it is considered that the specification of a public transport reservation is inappropriate at this time until sufficient analysis has been completed on the most efficient / optimum routes and alignment. Furthermore, the Moyne Road upgrade will be subject to detailed engineering design and public consultation, prior to the confirmation of a finalised alignment / detailed scheme.

Furthermore, in response to NTA and TII concerns, it was recommended that a new Objective be included within the Draft Plan, to prepare a study for the South Fingal area. The following recommendations CE NTA 1.8 and CE CH 7.10 were included within the CE Report:

'Include a new objective after MT02: 'Carry out a comprehensive feasibility study of the South Fingal area to advise on a strategic 'vision' and overall strategy for the proper planning and sustainable development of the study area. This will be carried out in consultation with necessary statutory agencies and relevant stakeholders.'

Motion No. AI028724 sought to amend the wording of this Objective, to read as follows:

'Carry out a comprehensive feasibility of the South Fingal area to produce a strategic 'vision' and overall strategy for the proper planning and sustainable development of the study area, based on a sustainable transport and smarter travel approach, planning for all transport modes and needs. This will be carried out in consultation with statutory agencies and relevant stakeholders.'

Further feasibility studies and analysis is required to determine the optimum route and future extension of any proposed public transport links to from Balgriffin to Portmarnock and accordingly the inclusion of this reservation is considered premature at this time.

RECOMMENDATION:

It is recommended that no change is made.