COMHAIRLE CONTAE FHINE GALL

FINGAL COUNTY COUNCIL

Fingal Development Plan 2017-2023

Tuesday, 27 September 2016

Motion from Councillor David Healy: cycle/pedestrian route Balgriffin to Teagasc Kinsealy. AI028694

Add indicative cycle/pedestrian route as shown on the attached map – Balgriffin to Teagasc Kinsealy

REPORT:
This motion is similar in content to Motion No. **AI028690** (Councillor Healy).

This motion seeks to add an indicative cycle / pedestrian route from Balgriffin to Teagasc Kinsealy.

In this regard it should be noted that Objective MT09 of the Draft Plan currently reads as follows:
'Promote walking and cycling as efficient, healthy, and environmentally-friendly modes of transport by securing the development of a network of direct, comfortable, convenient and safe cycle routes and footpaths, particularly in urban areas. The Council will work in cooperation with the NTA to implement the Greater Dublin Area Cycle Network Plan subject to detailed engineering design and the mitigation measures presented in the SEA and Natura Impact Statement accompanying the NTA Plan.'

The Draft Plan supports and promotes the provision of safe cycling and the Plan notes the following in this regard:

'...To promote the development of cycling in the County, a comprehensive network of cycle routes will be established throughout the County with the emphasis on promoting direct, comfortable, convenient, and safe routes. The NTA has published a Greater Dublin Area Cycle Network Plan which identified:
- *The Urban Cycle Network (including primary, secondary and feeder routes)*
- *The Inter-urban Cycle Network*

• *The Green Route Network*

The NTA Network has been prepared at a strategic level. Implementation of the network will require more detailed engineering design on a route by route basis.
The promotion of walking and cycling as an efficient, healthy and environmentally friendly sustainable mode of transport is explicit in the Draft Plan. The objectives of the *National Cycle Policy Framework (NCPF) (2009)* and the NTA's *Greater Dublin Area Cycle Network Plan* are incorporated into the Draft Plan and are promoted in a number of policies and objectives. The Council will work in co-operation with the NTA to implement the *Greater Dublin Area Cycle Network Plan* subject to detailed engineering design and the mitigation measures presented in the SEA and Natura Impact Statement accompanying the NTA Plan.

Indicative cycle and pedestrian routes are shown on the Development Plan maps across the County. However, these routes are indicative and will require more detailed design on a route by route basis and will be subject to a public consultation process.

Objective ED64 of the Draft Plan also promotes and facilitates a co-ordinated network of walking trails in the County through the development of a 'Recreational Trails Plan' within the lifetime of the Development Plan (2017-2023). This Trails Plan will include provision for a variety of walking trails including strategic greenways and localised trails within low lying agricultural areas. A comprehensive and co-ordinated approach to way-marking and signage will also be included in this plan. The development of the Recreational Trails Network Plan will include a public consultation process where relevant stakeholders and interested parties will have an opportunity to make submissions. Objective ED64 seeks to *'Develop a Recreational Trails Plan for the County in conjunction with relevant stakeholders, landowners and various community interest groups within the lifetime of this plan. This plan shall set out a coordinated strategic framework for future recreational trail development in the County.'*

While the intention included in this motion is welcomed, it is considered that the content of this motion is adequately addressed within existing Draft Plan Objectives, in particular Objective MT09 and ED64.

Accordingly, it is not considered appropriate to identify a specific route from Balgriffin to Teagasc Kinsealy or to reserve the corridors of these cycle / pedestrian routes free of development, as routes are indicative at this stage. The proposed network of walking and cycling routes throughout the County, will require more detailed design on a route by route basis and will be subject to a

public consultation process. It would therefore be premature at this stage to reserve certain corridors free from development until such time as route locations and alignments have been finalised.

RECOMMENDATION:
It is recommended that no change is made.