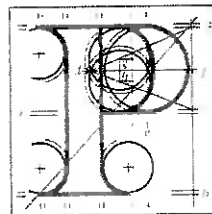


Our Case Number: ABP-320164-24



**An
Bord
Pleanála**

Baldoyle Active Retirement Association
c/o Robert Farrell
11 Seacliff Avenue
Baldoyle
Dublin 13

Date: 13 September 2024

Re: DART + Coastal North Railway Order 2024 - Northern Line between Dublin City Centre and Drogheda including the Howth Branch
Dublin City Centre and Drogheda, located in counties Dublin, Meath and Louth

Dear Sir / Madam,

An Bord Pleanála has received your recent letter in relation to the above mentioned case. The contents of your letter have been noted.

More detailed information in relation to strategic infrastructure development can be viewed on the Board's website: www.pleanala.ie.

If you have any queries in relation to the matter please contact the undersigned officer of the Board at laps@pleanala.ie

Please quote the above mentioned An Bord Pleanála reference number in any correspondence or telephone contact with the Board.

Yours faithfully,

Aisling Reilly
Executive Officer
Direct Line: 01-8737131

RA03

Tel	Tel	(01) 858 8100
Glaó Áitiúil	LoCall	1800 275 175
Facs	Fax	(01) 872 2684
Láithreán Gréasáin	Website	www.pleanala.ie
Ríomhphost	Email	bord@pleanala.ie

64 Sráid Maoilbhríde	64 Marlborough Street
Baile Átha Cliath 1	Dublin 1
D01 V902	D01 V902

Baldoyle Active Retirement Association

11 SEACLIFF AVENUE
BALDOYLE
DUBLIN 13
robertdfarrell@outlook.com

September 12, 2024

RE: DART+ Coastal North Planning Application

To whom it may concern,

On behalf of the members of the Baldoyle Active Retirement Association, I would like to submit the following observations on a Strategic Infrastructure Development Application, namely the extension of DART services to Drogheda (DART+ Coastal North) and the knock on effects this will have to the service currently in place for Dart customers in the Bayside/Baldoyle/Sutton/Howth areas.

- 1. Loss of direct DART services from Bayside, Sutton and Howth stations** - this will have a huge impact on the ability of our members to remain connected to the wider community. Our members rely on this access to the city and beyond for medical appointments, contact with friends and family and social engagements. Loss of this connectivity would have a hugely detrimental effect on the lives of our members and indeed the wider local community.
- 2. Level Crossings** - the proposed shuttle service from Howth to Howth Junction every 10 minutes will result in an increase in the need to close the level crossings. This will result in level crossings being in

effect for over half an hour each hour. The knock on effect of this will greatly affect the local community with regard to traffic, cyclist and pedestrians being impeding in navigating the local area. In addition and most worryingly to our members, it will greatly impede the ability of emergency services to respond to call outs, when speed and access to people in need is of the utmost importance.

3. **Accessibility** - our members are very concerned with the prospect of navigating the station at Howth Junction. In order to access services into the city centre it will be necessary for them to change platforms. The reality of this is that they will be depending on the lifts being in working order, which cannot be guaranteed, and when lifts are inevitably out of order our members will have no access to Dart services, further isolating them from the wider community.
4. **Anti Social Behaviour** - Howth Junction and Donaghmede is widely known to be a hot spot for anti social behaviour. Our members would feel extremely vulnerable being forced to use this station to access DART services. Even with a permanent full time security presence, we would feel very nervous about accessing this station.
5. **Overcrowding** - the reality of accessing DART services from Howth Junction/Donaghmede will result in our members attempting to join an already crowded train, particularly at peak times.

While we appreciate the intent to extend DART services to other communities we do not feel it is appropriate to do this at the expense of other communities who have become dependent on the service over the last 40 years.

Sincerely,

Robert D. Farrell

Chairperson

Baldoyle Active Retirement Association