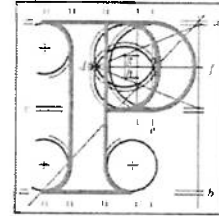


Our Case Number: ABP-320164-24



**An
Bord
Pleanála**

Robert Kenny
Townley Hall
Drogheda
Co. Louth

Date: 08 August 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. Please accept this letter as a receipt for the fee of €50 that you have paid.

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,


Eimear Reilly
Executive Officer
Direct Line: 01-8737184

RA03

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**Robert Kenny
Townley Hall
Drogheda
Co Louth**

087-2371025

**An Bord Pleanála
64 Marlborough Street
Dublin 1**

**Railway Order Application
DART + Coastal North Railway Order 2024 - Northern Line between Dublin City
Centre and Drogheda including the Howth Branch
NA29N.320164**

Dear Sirs

The extension of the DART to Drogheda is to be welcomed, however, the current proposal lacks ambition and foresight as it is proposed to terminate the service in Drogheda McBride Station rather than continuing across the River Boyne and providing a new station on the north side of the town.

Drogheda Town is divided by the River Boyne with only two bridges in the town leading to severe traffic congestion. The traffic congestion continues up the Dublin Road making vehicular access in and out of McBride Station difficult. It is currently quicker to go to Dublin on the motorway from the north side of the River Boyne than to drive through the centre of the town to the station and find parking and get the train.

Parking at McBride Station is limited with no room for additional parking to facilitate the new service.

Phase 2 of the proposed ring road or Port Access Route actually crosses the railway line on the north side of the town. There is ample space here to accommodate a new station and large park and ride facility. This would provide parking and access to the proposed DART service for commuters from the north side of the town, the hinterland to the north side of Drogheda and for the large number of commuters coming from the north of Ireland. Not to provide such a facility at this time would be a lost opportunity.

The single line track across the viaduct in Drogheda has been cited as a reason for not extending the DART to the north side. This could easily be dealt with properly designed signalling.

Looking forward to receiving your decision in due course.

Yours faithfully

Robert Kenny