

COMHAIRLE CONTAE FHINE GALL

FINGAL COUNTY COUNCIL

Fingal Development Plan 2017-2023

Tuesday, 27 September 2016

Motion from Councillor David Healy: access to school sites. AI028660

Insert Objective after Objective PM72

"In tandem with identifying and procuring new school sites, plan safe walking and cycling routes to school from the residential areas to be served by the school. Where land must be acquired to provide these routes, acquire or arrange for the necessary land in tandem with the school site itself."

REPORT:

The merits of the submission are recognised and in this regard the Draft Plan recognises that it is important that schools are located on easily accessible sites.

Objective MT11 states:

Improve pedestrian and cycle connectivity to schools and identify and minimise barriers to children walking and cycling to primary and secondary schools throughout the County.

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.

Objective MT09 also states:

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.'

A number of local objectives in Chapter 4 and specific objectives within various LAPs provide for the improvement of identified local pedestrian and cycle routes and associated cycling facilities. In addition, there are a number of objectives throughout the Draft Development Plan which seek to promote and facilitate improved pedestrian and cycle networks and the recreational trails network throughout the County.

The intention included in this motion is welcomed and the Council will continue to promote and encourage the provision of safe walking and cycling routes to all new school sites, however, it is considered that the existing objectives adequately address the issue raised.

RECOMMENDATION:

It is recommended that no change is necessary in this instance.