



National Transport Authority
Dún Scéine, Iveagh Court,
Harcourt Lane, Dublin 2

Executive Manager
Planning Department
Dublin City Council
Block 4, Floor 3
Civic Offices
Dublin 8

14th June 2011

Re. Grangegorman Draft Planning Scheme 2011

Dear Sir/Madam,

The National Transport Authority (the “Authority”) welcomes the publication of the draft Planning Scheme prepared as part of the Strategic Development Zone (SDZ) process for Grangegorman (hereafter referred to as the draft Planning Scheme), and would like to submit the following comments.

It is the view of the Authority that the development of the Grangegorman site as proposed in the draft Planning Scheme, is consistent with, and supports, the policies and objectives set out in the draft NTA Transport Strategy, (which is on the point of submission to the Minister of Transport, Sport and Tourism). In particular, the Authority acknowledges that the draft Scheme will facilitate the development of the Grangegorman site in a way which will;

- Complement the draft NTA Transport Strategy and Regional Planning Guidelines objectives to consolidate future population and employment growth within the Metropolitan Area,
- Complement existing and proposed investments in public transport,
- Allow for the achievement of development intensification within an Inner City location and within the local walking catchment of the proposed Broombridge Luas (line BXD) stops of Broadstone and Grangegorman,
- Demonstrate a high quality of urban design, and
- Present an opportunity to deliver a high quality public domain within the Plan area and associated with this:
 - higher levels of permeability within the Planning Scheme area, with good connections to the surrounding area, and
 - the potential to achieve a high mode share for cycling and walking.

Pedestrian environment

The Authority supports the walking and cycling objectives in the Planning Scheme. Although outside the direct remit of the draft Scheme, the Authority is conscious of the necessity for a complimentary high quality pedestrian environment in the vicinity of, and directly accessing, the Planning Scheme area, particularly in the vicinity of new and existing public transport nodes. To this end the Authority will work in liaison with Dublin City Council in developing complementary measures outside the Grangegorman site.

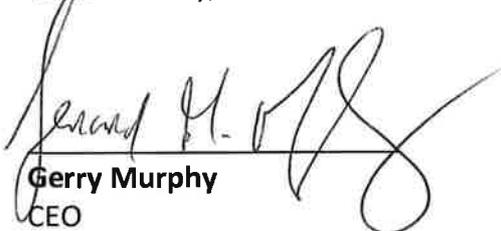
The Authority are working closely with Grangegorman Development Agency, Dublin City Council and other stakeholders within the remit of the Broadstone Gate Working Group to establish an agreed approach to developing a key long term connection between the Grangegorman Site and Constitution Hill (which will provide direct access to the proposed Broadstone Luas stop, and O'Connell Street via King's Inn). The Authority would suggest that within the overall timeframe of the SDZ, this access point will become an important element in ensuring that the level of accessibility and mode share envisaged in draft Planning Scheme can be achieved. In this regard, the Authority supports the principles set out in Section 5.4.1 of the draft Planning Scheme, which identifies the long term opportunities at Broadstone and at other access points to the Grangegorman site.

Car Parking Provision

The Authority supports the level of car parking provided for in the draft Planning Scheme, due to the high level of accessibility by walking, cycling and public transport, the limited available capacity of the local road network, and the need to minimise the discretionary use of the car for trips to the site. In this regard, the Authority supports the phased supply of car parking commensurate with the quantum of occupied development on the site at that time.

Where temporary car parking is to be provided as an interim solution, the draft Planning Scheme should ensure that any car park access arrangements do not interfere or compromise the overall Planning Scheme's commitment to accessibility by walking and cycling within and in the environs of the site, or the achievement of a high quality public realm within and in the environs of the site.

Yours sincerely,



Gerry Murphy
CEO