Niamh Lambert,
Planning and Economic Development Department,
Civic Offices,
Wood Quay,
Dublin 8.

06th December 2012

Re: Proposed Material Alteration of the Draft Naas Road Lands Local Area Plan

Dear Sir/ Madam,

The National Transport Authority ("the Authority") welcomes the opportunity to comment on the proposed Material Alteration of the draft Naas Road Lands Local Area Plan (LAP). The Authority acknowledges, also, the consideration of its submission of 5th September 2012 on the draft LAP.

Movement and Transport

In its submission of 5th September 2012, the Authority suggested incorporating a policy limiting additional vehicular access points onto the Naas Road, in order to protect the role of this key strategic road within the LAP area. The Authority therefore welcomes the amendment (in bold) of Movement and Access Policy MA3, which now reads:

To protect the role of the key strategic roads within the LAP area so that they continue to serve and benefit the city economically, whilst also seeking visual improvements to these routes so that they are more urban in character and provide better movement for the public bus services utilising them. New vehicular access points onto the Naas Road cannot be accommodated as this would impact on the strategic role of this important route.

The Authority notes that within the Key Strategic Site Frameworks for four large sites with frontage on the Naas Road, vehicular access to/from the Naas Road is mainly avoided, with only pedestrian and cycle access being provided. Whilst the Authority would support this, a number of these sites currently have direct access on to the Naas Road. We would ask that consideration be given to the addition of a further stipulation to Policy MA3 to state that:

Where any site with direct access to the Naas Road is the subject of development proposals which would result in any increase in vehicular activity at these access points (on the basis of current access arrangements), measures should be included in the design and access arrangements of such developments, which manage through condition, either the closure of such assess points, or that no additional vehicular access, egress or new turning movements would result from such development.
This stipulation should apply to all development proposals, including to developments of a temporary nature, or the partial/ phased redevelopment of all sites which currently have direct access onto the Naas Road, including any of the Key Strategic Sites to which this applies.

The inclusion of the above requirement would strengthen the LAP’s consistency with the draft Transport Strategy for the Greater Dublin Area 2011-2030.

Yours sincerely,

Hugh Creegan
Director of Transport Investment and Taxi Regulation