

**Director of Services,
Planning and Enterprise Department,
Dun Laoghaire Rathdown County Council,
County Hall,
Marine Road
Dun Laoghaire,
Co Dublin.**

3rd February 2014

Re: Blackrock Local Area Plan Issues Paper (2014)

Dear Sir/ Madam,

The National Transport Authority (“the Authority”) welcomes the opportunity to comment on the Blackrock Local Area Plan (LAP) Issues Paper. The Authority raises the following issues for consideration as part of the preparation of the Blackrock LAP.

Land use Issues

Given that the Blackrock LAP area is well served by frequent rail and bus services, the Authority supports increased development densities, including, where appropriate, the redevelopment of existing development sites and infill developments. This is consistent with the trip destination/origin principles contained in the Authority’s Integrated Implementation Plan 2013-2018.

There is significant potential to increase the mode share for walking and cycling in Blackrock. Improving the links between Frascati Shopping Centre and Blackrock Dart Station is important for reinforcing the function of Blackrock as a public transport accessible town centre and a key bus/rail interchange point. This should be considered in any future redevelopment proposals relating to the shopping centres either side of Frascati Road.

Bus Movement

In preparing the Blackrock LAP, consideration should be given to improving bus journey times and reliability through Blackrock and securing an appropriate environment for passengers waiting for buses. The LAP should also consider the requirement to serve orbital bus routes and interchange within the Blackrock LAP area.

Cycle and Pedestrian Issues


The Authority has recently published the Greater Dublin Area Cycle Network Plan which identifies the regional urban/interurban cycle network and green route network. This Plan facilitates the prioritisation of cycle infrastructure investment across the region. It is recommended this network is reflected in the Blackrock LAP.

The Authority will continue to invest in improving the cycling environment in the Blackrock area. In partnership with Dun Laoghaire Rathdown County Council, the Authority is funding the construction of significant cycling and pedestrian infrastructure between Frascati Road and Temple Hill. This should result in a significant improvement in the pedestrian, cycling and public transport environment along this corridor.

As part of the implementation of the GDA cycle network, the Authority is funding the design of upgraded cycle infrastructure along the Rock Road, to the north of the Blackrock LAP. A further priority for the Authority is the provision of enhanced walking and cycling facilities along the corridor between Blackrock Park and the Blackrock Dart Station (as provided for by the existing Development Plan). It is recommended that these objectives are reflected in the Blackrock LAP.

The National Transport Authority requests your consideration of the above comments.

Yours sincerely,



Hugh Creegan

Director of Transport Investment and Taxi Regulation