

PC/IC/01/23

**Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Screening Determination
under the Planning and Development Regulations 2001 (as amended)
for
Living Streets - Blackrock
at
Blackrock District centre.**

Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown County Council is proposing to enhance the attractiveness, liveability, connectivity, and economic vibrancy of Blackrock District via the Living Streets: Blackrock public realm improvement project. The proposed scheme will upgrade the urban realm in Blackrock Village with new hard and soft landscaping, planting, and street furniture it will also enhance the pedestrian and cycle infrastructure in the village. The scheme will include works to the following roads:

- Rock Hill
- Main Street
- Georges Avenue
- Main Street East (Maretimo Terrace)
- Carysfort Avenue
- Temple Road

The project consists of:

- Replace existing finishes with high quality permanent materials to create a consistent look and feel to the village. This landscape upgrade will provide better seating, footpaths, and planting. The scheme will make it easier and safer to walk and cycle to and within the village with extended pedestrian and cycling infrastructure and enhanced connectivity between Blackrock Main Street, the seafront, and its surrounding areas.
- The scheme will provide high quality surfaces free of trip hazards and will remove any level differences between pedestrian areas.
- Permanent in ground planting, including approximately 70 new trees will be included in the works along with areas of low-level planting.
- Rain gardens will be introduced along Main St, these areas of vegetation will catch and store rainwater.
- New permanent seating areas will be included along the street, as well as the creation of an enclosed parklet at the area outside Bank of Ireland.
- The public lighting system will also be modified as part of the scheme.
- A new contraflow cycle lane will be provided linking Blackrock Main Street to Main Street East (passing alongside the library), this will require the removal of on-street parking spaces along this section of road, although additional parking spaces have been provided nearby on Temple Road.
- The scheme will facilitate the relocation of the bus terminus away from the Seafront in accordance with objectives from the Blackrock Local Area Plan, the new terminus will be located on Rock Hill

The total length of the proposed development is 1.2km of road surface.

Having regard to the EIA Directive 2011/92/EU as amended, Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown County Council determines that the scheme individually and in combination with other plans and projects, does not need to be subject to Environmental Impact Assessment and no Environmental Impact Assessment Report is required for it.

It is considered that the EIA Screening Report prepared by Barry Transportation (BT) gives full consideration to the Directive and in particular to the requirements set out in the Directive for mandatory and sub-threshold EIA.

It has been found that the proposed development does not correspond to any project type in the Planning and Development Regulations 2001 (as amended). The proposed scheme has nonetheless been assessed in accordance with the criteria given in Annex III of the Directive to determine whether or not it would be likely to have any significant effects on the environment.

It is considered that the EIA Screening Report contains a fair and reasonable assessment of the likelihood of significant effects on the environment having regard to the foregoing and in particular to:

- The characteristics of the proposed development
- The location of the proposed development
- The types and characteristics of potential impacts
- Cumulation of effects with those arising from other existing and/or proposed projects
- Measures to avoid or prevent what might otherwise have been significant adverse effects on the environment
- The Appropriate Assessment Screening Report (by MKO) carried out pursuant to the requirements of the Habitats Directive

It is considered that there is no real likelihood of significant effects on the environment arising from the proposed development.

Signature



Senior Engineer

Signatory (Approved Officer)



Date

24/03/2023