

**Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown County Council
Municipal Services Department**



**Stillorgan Park Road
Cycle Improvement Scheme
Report**



**Presentation to the Dún Laoghaire Area Committee
May 2021**

Introduction

In April 2013, Clifton Scannell Emerson Associates Consulting Engineers were appointed to prepare a design and tender documents for Stillorgan Park Road (from N11 to Carysfort Avenue) to improve cycle and pedestrians facilities along the route. A report on the Stillorgan Park Road Cycle Track Improvements was brought to the Dún Laoghaire Area Committee on June 5, 2013, including drawings, and following a period of public consultation in the summer of 2013, a report further to public consultation was brought to the Dún Laoghaire Area Committee on September 2, 2013. As part of the public consultation process, an open evening was held on the scheme in the Stillorgan Library. Part of the scheme was progressed towards the end of 2013/early 2014 with a number of trees planted in advance of construction works, as requested by Councillors.

The estimated cost of the overall scheme at that time was about €1.8million. Funding of €200,000 was allocated by the National Transport Authority (NTA) in 2014 to fund the detailed design of the scheme and part funding was provided by the NTA in 2015 to progress part of the scheme, namely the provision of a toucan crossing on Stillorgan Park Road near the roundabout that provided a link between Stillorgan Grove and Grove Avenue. No funding was allocated by the NTA in the following years to commence the construction of the scheme. NTA Funding is now available to proceed with the design and construction of the scheme as part of the annual STMG Funding programme. .

Government and Council Policy

The development of improved facilities for pedestrian and cyclists form part of Government Transportation and Climate Change policy, as set out in the Transport Strategy for Greater Dublin Area 2016-2035 (currently being reviewed), Smarter travel the National Cycle Policy Framework and the Climate Action Plan 2019. They also form part of Council policy as set out in the County Development Plan and Climate Action Plan as follows:

DLR County Development Plan 2016-2022

- Policy ST5: Walking and Cycling

It is Council Policy to secure the development of a high quality walking and cycling network across the County in accordance with relevant Council and National policy and guidelines.

- Policy ST7: County Cycle Network

It is Council policy to secure improvements to the County Cycle Network in accordance with the Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown Cycle Network Review whilst supporting the NTA on the development and implementation of the Cycle Network Plan for the Greater Dublin Area.

Climate Change Action Plan 2019-2024:

- Action T4 Develop and expand the County walking network
- Action T7 Develop and expand the cycle network
- Action T8 Support the Greater Dublin Cycle Plan
- Action T13 Road maintenance improvements

Updated Scheme

In 2020, the NTA allocated funding of €500,000 under the Sustainable Transport Measures Grants programme to progress the design and construction of the scheme. As Clifton Scannell Emerson Associates Consulting Engineers had developed the scheme up to draft detailed design stage, a quote was sought from them to update the original design, complete the detailed design and prepare tender documents.

The main features of the original schemes have not changed and these are as follows:

1. The provision of raised and adjacent or fully off-road cycle tracks on both sides of the road. The development of segregated cycle routes will provide a safer environment for cyclists.
2. The provision of two new controlled pedestrian crossings along the route near to Stillorgan Park Avenue and Coppinger Glade junctions.
3. A new footway in Patrician Villas to provide a link to the underpass leading to the N11.
4. Smoother transitions for cyclists through junctions and through the roundabout at Park Villas.
5. Better access to side roads from the off-road cycle tracks using a cyclist ramp.

Arising from discussions with the NTA, a number of changes have been made to the original scheme. These are detailed in the scheme drawings and are as follows:

1. Remove the left turn slip traffic lane on Stillorgan Park Road at the junction with the N11. This will result in a reduced crossing width at the junction and this will help pedestrians to cross Stillorgan Park Road at the junction and will assist cyclists approaching and crossing the junction with the N11.
2. Tie in with the new two-way cycle route on Carysfort Avenue that was developed in 2020.
3. Removal of right turning traffic lanes at various junctions from the roundabout to Carysfort Avenue to make it easier for cyclists to cross and access the side roads by reducing the width of the road.
4. Junction plateau (raised junctions) to be provided at main junctions along the route to reduce speeds.

The updated scheme will provide significant benefits for pedestrian and cyclists using route and, in particular, for pedestrians and cyclists looking to cross this highly trafficked route. However, it is likely that the proposed improvements will result in additional queuing of traffic along the route.