

Pedestrian and Cycling Facilities on the Eastham Road, Bettystown

Non–Statutory Public Consultation Emerging Preferred Design

Introduction

Meath County Council in conjunction with the National Transport Authority (NTA) is developing infrastructural improvements for walking and cycling on the Eastham Road, Bettystown. The route identified for the scheme is along the R150, Eastham Road from Bettystown Court Roundabout to the Roundabout at the Whitefield Estate (the Scheme).

Meath County Council is opening a process of non-statutory public consultation on Monday 24th April 2023 around proposed Design Options for a Pedestrian and Cycling facilities on the Eastham Road Bettystown, specifically between the Bettystown Court Hotel Roundabout and the Whitefields Roundabout on the R150 Eastham Road. Meath County Council are very keen to receive your feedback on the proposed scheme.

In advance of finalising an option for the project, we wish to consult with the public on the Emerging Preferred Option. If members of local communities, cyclists, pedestrians and other road users, interested individuals or groups have any comments in relation to the emerging preferred design option, we will use the submissions received to inform the final design Part 8 proposal for the overall scheme.

Scheme Introduction

The Emerging Preferred Option details have been prepared outlining the proposed cycle and pedestrian infrastructure along the identified 1,400m (1.400km) route corridor, from the roundabout at the junction of the R150 Eastham Road with the L5632 Narrowways Road and following the R150 northbound to Whitefield roundabout via a laneway between Whitefield Hall and Castlemartin estates.

Consulting Engineering firm Jacobs has been appointed by Meath County Council to assist in undertaking this preliminary design work, and to coordinate the planning application for the Scheme.

Scheme Objective and Aim

The objective of the Scheme is to deliver high quality cycle and pedestrian facilities along R150 provides improved linkages, connections, and access to public transport, especially by pedestrians and cyclists to facilitate the future and continued sustainable growth and success of Bettystown, Donacarney and Laytown.

The scheme aims to achieve the following:

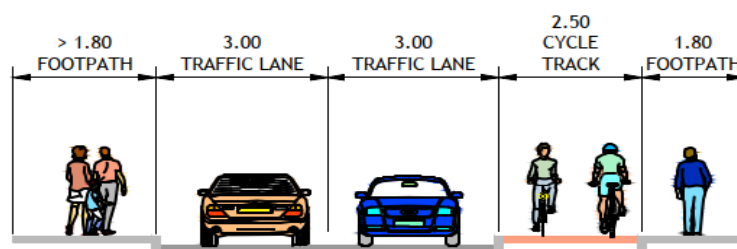
- Improved safety for pedestrians and cyclists through the introduction of dedicated walking and cycling facilities, where possible;
- Create a sustainable mode of active-travel access to the primary and secondary schools in the Donacarney, Laytown and Bettystown area;
- Provide safe and convenient junction layouts for pedestrians and cyclists.

The route will be continuous and consistent in terms of alignment and feel, and should be delivered to improve safety, reduced vehicle speeds, reduce journey times, and contribute towards increased numbers of trips being made by bicycle and by foot in the local catchments. This will also assist in encouraging a modal shift from vehicular traffic to healthier modes of travel such as walking and cycling for commute and leisure trips.

Scheme Overview

The Scheme is identified as part of the Route P1 in the Laytown and Bettystown Walking and Cycling Study and has been assigned a high priority in terms of schemes throughout the county. The Scheme involves upgrading of facilities for cyclists and pedestrians including raised cycle track, signalised toucan crossing, the provision of new and upgrades to existing bus stop, raised table, junction radii tightening, enhancement of the public realm and associated landscaping, and third-party utility improvements.

The geometric design of the Scheme is based on the 50km/hr speed limit and is in compliance with DMURS for a 6.0 m wide road carriageway and minimum of 1.8m wide footpath. It is proposed that a two-way segregated cycle track on the eastern/northern side of R150 with minimum width of 2.5m in accordance with the National Cycle Manual (NCM). A typical road cross section (Section XB-XB) is shown below:



TYPICAL SECTION XB-XB

Scheme Consultation & Submissions

We are eager to have as wide a range of views as possible, and we want to engage with as many people as possible in the consultation process, so that to have confidence that the proposals developed are the best way forward.

Details of the proposed scheme will be on display from **Monday 24th to Friday 28th April 2023** at the following locations:

- (a) Online on the Council's consultation website (<https://consult.meath.ie>),
- (a) Meath County Council, Planning Department, Buvinda House, Dublin Road, Navan, Co. Meath C15 Y291
- (b) Meath County Council, Laytown-Bettystown Municipal District, Duleek Civic Office, Main Street, Duleek, Co. Meath A92 R9KW.

A traditional, in-person public consultation event during this round of public consultation will be held from **2-9pm on Wednesday 26th April 2023 at the Village Hotel, Eastham Road Bettystown.**

Submissions should be made no later than 5.00p.m. on Friday, 28th April 2023 via

- (a) the Council's public consultation website <https://consult.meath.ie>
- (b) by email to activetravel@meathcoco.ie
- (c) by post to: Eastham Road Active Travel Scheme, Transportation Department, Meath County Council, Buvinda House, Dublin Road, Navan, County Meath, C15 Y291.