



Response to Dublin City Development Plan 2022-2028 Public Consultation (on the pre-draft stage of the plan) Strategic Issues Paper

19th February 2021

Background

Trinity is the largest trip attractor in Dublin City Centre. The majority of our 16,000 students and 4,000 staff, study or work on our College Green Campus. Whilst the central work of the university is education and research, Trinity also has 661 on campus student beds on College Green/Pearse Street, approximately 1 million visitors per year to the Book of Kells exhibition and multiple cafes and gift shops open to the public. Our conference, private dining and banqueting services are busy year-round and from mid-May to mid-August we operate as the largest accommodation provider in Dublin with over 1,500 beds a night across our College Green and Trinity Hall campuses¹.

Trinity is a global leader in sustainable transport use with only 1% of our students and staff commuting by private car². In 2019, Trinity, PPI Ignite (a research project in Trinity) and BYCS Amsterdam (a Dutch not for profit organisation that promotes cycling) worked with the support of Dublin City Council to facilitate a city-wide debate on how Dublin can become more liveable. During the LiveableDublin events, participants defined and explored the question, “How can we speed up change in Dublin to make it more liveable?”³. Trinity made a submission to Dublin City Council on travel during COVID-19 restriction calling for wider footpaths and safer cycling⁴. Trinity believes this work demonstrates that we are committed to working for and with the city to make Dublin more sustainable and liveable.

Response to Consultation

Where Trinity has a response to the questions asked in the Strategic Issues Paper, they are outlined below. Trinity’s has four priority routes namely:

- From College Green to Trinity Hall
- From College Green to the Grand Canal Basin along Pearse Street
- From College Green to St. James’s Hospital
- Nassau Street

Question 2. Climate Action – protecting our city against pollution, flooding and other climate risks. How should we protect the city’s natural environment?

Trinity response: We are aware that Dublin City Council has installed many wildflower meadows in the city. Wildflower meadows are soon to be installed in the grounds of the Dáil and in other public

¹ <https://www.tcd.ie/corporate-services/assets/pdf/annual-report-2018-2019.pdf>

² <https://www.tcd.ie/healthytrinity/travel/Stats.php>

³ <https://www.tcd.ie/healthytrinity/liveabledublin/>

⁴ <https://www.tcd.ie/healthytrinity/assets/documents/Covid-19/TCD%20DCC%20Covid%2019%20Submission%20Final.pdf>

spaces in Dublin. It is suggested that this approach be adopted into the Dublin Development Plan, especially the incorporation of pollinator-friendly species a list of which is available in Trinity's initiative – All Island Pollinator Plan.

Question 3: Quality Housing and Sustainable Neighbourhoods – providing quality housing and sustainable neighbourhoods. How do we improve our neighbourhoods?

Trinity response: In and around Trinity's four priority routes, Trinity would like to see:

- Speed limits of 30km per hour
- Wider footpaths
- The installation of segregated bike lanes and widening of footpaths where they are too narrow
- Prioritisation of walking and cycling at junctions
- Where feasible, greening features i.e. planters and shrubs
- Research into the effects of changes to neighbourhood layouts on transport use and quality of life
- A focus on travel time between destinations by foot, bicycle or public transport.

Question 5: Sustainable Movement and Transport – promoting and using more environmentally-friendly transport options. How do we encourage more people to walk and cycle and to use more public transport?

Trinity response: Trinity would like to see walking, cycling and public transport (in that order) prioritised.

Trinity has always been a firm supporter of increasing public transport options in Dublin City and as such welcome the plans for Metrolink, BusConnects and Luas expansion. As almost 60% of our staff and students travel to our campus by public transport, we will strongly support any efforts to increase and improve these modes.

Contact Details

For questions/comments on this submission please contact:

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