



MAYNOOTH CYCLING CAMPAIGN NOTES

September 2018



Amendment No. 1 to Maynooth LAP

Maynooth Cycling Campaign supports Amendment No. 1 to Local Area Plan as it will allow for development of the ring road between the Celbridge and the Dublin Roads and facilitate the development of housing which is badly needed by many families. However, we made a number of points in a submission, two of which may not be universally supported.

One was in relation to 'decoupling' of the modes which in plain English means increasing the safety of vulnerable road users on the Straffan Road by diverting motorised traffic onto the Ring Road. It would also have the effect of improving Main Street by reducing motorised traffic and creating a more pleasant environment there for pedestrians and cyclists. Such traffic management has been part of the road safety strategy in the Netherlands since the 1970s.

The second point was that Maynooth Cycling Campaign strongly supported the proposed permeable walking and cycling links between the Railpark area and the existing Rockfield and Parklands residential estates. Streets were historically developed which would allow direct routes for pedestrians. The proposed permeable links complement the existing links of estates in Maynooth such as Parklands/Rockfield and Kingsbry/Beaufield. Maynooth is fortunate as many estates elsewhere in Kildare are completely segregated from one another as a result of pro-car layouts ie cul-de-sacs.

Dublin CyclingWorks

Last year, there was protests by some small business owners about the reallocation of road space from car parking to the provision of cycling facilities in Naas town centre. Coincidentally, the Dublin CyclingWorks website (<https://dublin.cyclingworks.org/>) was recently set up so that so that business leaders could show their support for the provision of high quality cycling infrastructure by calling for greater government investment in the Greater Dublin Cycle Network which includes Kildare. To date more than fifty businesses have come out in support including Trinity College Dublin, Dublin Institute of Technology, Goodbody, Workday, Siemens, CRBE, CPE and Dublin Chamber. This was to reinforce the message that cycling is good for business and that most businesses, large and small, support increased cycling.

Velo-City 2019

Velo-City 2018 which took place in Rio de Janeiro is over. Next year the international bike conference is coming back to Ireland. Planning has already started and the organisers of Velo-City 2019, the European Cycling Federation and Dublin City Council, has issued a call for submissions on the theme of Cycling for the Ages by October 22nd. So if anyone has ideas

about promoting cycling, more information is available at <https://www.velocity2019.com/abstract> .

Climate Change

The Climate Change Advisory Council's (CCAC) Annual Report 2018 was published at the end of July. The CCAC's role is to advise the government rather than to specify detailed policy decisions but there was explicit mention of the contribution of increased cycling to reduce the effects of climate change. Chairperson John Fitzgerald speaking at the launch of the report said -"Emissions are rising...we need major policy changes...government has not laid out pathways to decarbonise."

Maynooth Cycling Campaign is a non-party political cycling advocacy group. Further information on meetings and activities is available on our website.

We are affiliated to Cyclist.ie, the Irish Cyclist Advocacy Network and through it to the European Cycling Federation.