



MAYNOOTH CYCLING CAMPAIGN



Re: Celbridge to Hazelhatch Link Road Public Consultation Scheme Options

I wish to state my support for the submission by the Celbridge Community Council that Kildare County Council is asking for the public to make a decision but fails to provide information to allow an informed choice.

In addition, I wish to point that

- Kildare County Council has failed to develop an overall transport strategy and walking/cycling plan which would present an integrated approach to the development of Celbridge.
- With a health and climate emergency, government has provided funding to prioritise active travel but the options fail to give any indication that Kildare County Council will avail of the opportunity to enable active travel particularly in the centre of Celbridge.
- The proposed road is primarily designed to facilitate vehicular traffic. In the absence of any detail, it is assumed that the new road will include high quality cycling facilities with a significant buffer between vulnerable road users and speeding traffic.
- The proposed routes show poor connectivity with existing walking /cycling infrastructure and do not reflect desire lines by people who choose active travel.
- Celbridge needs additional roads in order to manage existing levels of traffic but not to provide space for additional traffic. Across Europe, progressive cities and towns are restricting motorised traffic in town/cities centres – particularly those like Celbridge with historic cores.
- The options should include a Traffic Management Plan for the town which is in line with other planning objectives, in particular Climate Action objectives.
- In the case of options B, C and E, the extent of the scheme should be extended on the Clane Road from the petrol station to the junction with the Shackleton Road in order to provide a link to cycling facilities on the Shackleton Road.

Chair, Maynooth Cycling Campaign