Correspondence

November 2026 – Newcastle West Municipal District Meeting

Email received on 29th October, 2026, from Mr Darragh 'O'Brien TD, Minister for Transport, in reply to the correspondence on the Active Travel project – Bruff line link

From: Ministers Office
To: Supple, Heather
Subject:]Ref: TTAS-MO-05362-2026

Our Ref: TTAS-MO-05362-2026

Dear Ms. O' Doherty,

On behalf of the Minister for Transport, Darragh O'Brien T.D., thank you for your recent correspondence.

The Department of Transport has responsibility for policy and overall funding in relation to Active Travel infrastructure. The National Transport Authority (NTA) along with the relevant local authorities are responsible for the development and delivery of individual projects. As a result, the Department has no involvement with the selection of projects to be funded through the NTA's Active and Sustainable Transport Investment Programme.

In general, the main focus of active travel investment will be to support high quality walking and cycling infrastructure, for everyday trips, in villages, towns and cities, particularly in designated growth settlements, with a view to promoting the greatest potential modal shift to active travel.

Given the ramping up of activities over the last few years in the Active Travel area, the number of projects being progressed now exceeds the level of funding made available to the NTA. Accordingly, the NTA is unable to fully fund all proposed Active Travel projects and has to prioritise certain projects over others in order to remain within its allocated budget. While a project may not be selected by the NTA for funding in a particular year, it may be funded in subsequent years.

As part of the allocations determination, the NTA liaises with each local authority to fully understand the projects being proposed by the local authority and its considerations in terms of priorities. As such, I would advise the Council to liaise with the NTA in the context of future funding allocations.

I trust that this information is of assistance to you.

With best wishes,

Amanda Corley

Private Secretary to Minister O'Brien TD

The Minister is a Designated Public Official under the Regulation of Lobbying Act, 2015 (details available on www.lobbying.ie)

An Roinn Iompair

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