



Report on the Dublin Port Company Masterplan Review Consultation Process 2018

6th June 2018

1. Introduction

In 2017 Dublin Port Company (DPC) commenced a review of the Dublin Port Masterplan 2012 – 2040 (the Masterplan). When first published in 2012, the Masterplan made provision for periodic reviews to take account of changes in the demand for the use of port facilities and developments in port operations.

This first review of the Masterplan has involved a detailed public consultation process aimed at securing views from relevant stakeholders whose perspectives on the Port are important.

The consultation process took two distinct stages.

2. 2017 Masterplan Review Consultation Process

The 2017 Masterplan Review Consultation Process ran from January 2017 to March 2017 and involved the following elements:

- The publication of a detailed Masterplan Review 2017 Consultation Paper, outlining the issues that are being taken into consideration in the context of the review of the Masterplan.
- The initiation of a formal consultation process to secure submissions on the Masterplan Review.
- Extensive face to face briefings with key stakeholders prior to the launch of the Masterplan Review Consultation Paper.
- Presentations to the Central and South East Local Area Committees of Dublin City Council on the review of the Masterplan.
- A comprehensive media information campaign surrounding the Masterplan Review designed to generate interest and encourage participation in the master planning process.
- A public information campaign including advertisements, door to door leaflet drops and an information briefing published for local residents and stakeholders.
- Briefings with DPC staff on the review of the Masterplan.
- Social media campaign to drive awareness, engagement and attendance across Facebook and Twitter channels.
- A street team active over two days in areas directly adjacent to Dublin Port distributing 6,000 flyers, placing 300 posters and visiting over 260 individual commercial premises.
- Initiation of a distinct consultation process around the preparation of Environmental Assessments to inform the Masterplan Review.
- A series of events including
 - Local community briefings in Clontarf, East Wall and Ringsend.
 - Direct briefings with a selection of community and environmental groups.
- The publication of a Masterplan Review 2017 Environmental Report Consultation Paper by RPS Consultants.

3. Response to the 2017 Consultation Process

The 2017 Consultation Process led to a high level of participation from stakeholders with 130 people attending community briefings. 67 formal written responses were received from a broad range of respondents including individuals, residents groups, commercial interests, statutory bodies and environmental entities.

Following the 2017 Consultation Process a detailed report outlining the responses to the Consultation Process was prepared. This Report can be accessed at Masterplan Review Consultation Report.

As a consequence of the 2017 Consultation Process a number of specific issues and observations emerged from the submissions and responses received which fed into the Masterplan Review Process in the following ways;

- i. DPC decided to initiate a Strategic Environmental Assessment and an Appropriate Assessment of the proposals to revise the Masterplan. RPS were commissioned by DPC to carry out these assessments.
- ii. A Strategic Transportation Study was commissioned to determine how enhanced connectivity between the North and South Port areas could be provided and to explore connectivity for different transport modes within the Port estate in a context that is compatible with existing transportation strategies.
- iii. The existing Soft Values Programme of DPC was reviewed to determine opportunities for enhanced accessibility and integration between the Port and the City.
- iv. The approach of DPC to protecting and promoting cultural heritage and leisure aspects relevant to the Port was assessed to determine how best to facilitate both elements in the context of future developments at the Port.
- v. Additional meetings were arranged between DPC and a number of stakeholders who raised specific issues in the consultation process, including ESB, Birdwatch Ireland, TII, Poolbeg Yacht, Boat Club and Marina and Stella Maris Rowing Club.
- vi. The draft text of the Masterplan was reviewed and amended to reflect inputs and feedback by stakeholders to the consultation process.

4. 2018 Masterplan Review Consultation Process

In 2018 DPC undertook a further consultation process concerning the Masterplan which involved;

- Publication of a Strategic Environmental Assessment Environmental Report and a Natural Impact Statement on the Masterplan Review
- A full SEA scoping and screening process.
- Publication of a revised draft of the Dublin Port Masterplan 2040 (to take account of feedback secured during the 2017 Consultation Process and the findings of the SEA Environmental Report and the Natura Impact Statement).
- Further engagement with relevant statutory stakeholders in relation to the Masterplan Review.
- A public engagement process involving a mail drop concerning the Masterplan Review to all houses in the locality.
- A multi-channel public information campaign including a media communication exercise in April 2018 concerning the Masterplan Review.
- A public invitation to make submissions on the draft Masterplan or the related SEA and NIS which ran from 17th April 2018 to 25th May 2018.

5. Response to the 2018 Masterplan Review Consultation Process

The 2018 Masterplan Review Consultation Process drew 12 responses from a range of stakeholders, including residents groups, statutory authorities, individuals and commercial organisations.

The key observations emerging from the 2018 Consultation responses include the following:

- The importance of cycling and pedestrian access to and through the Port Estate.
- The need to factor the impact of proposed Masterplan development projects in the Port Estate on current commercial users operating from sites that are strategically important to their businesses.
- Welcome for the decision not to infill any additional land in the Tolka Estuary
- Support for the greater integration of Dublin Port with Dublin City and its people.

- The need to ensure that the operation of the Port takes account of residential amenity, particularly at night time.
- Requests for continued and ongoing engagement and communication between DPC and surrounding communities and statutory bodies on future projects.
- The importance of maintaining the current height limits and looking to improve the visual impact of Port operations on surrounding communities.
- The consistency of the Masterplan with the proposals relating to port development in the National Planning Framework 2040.
- The absence of transboundary effects arising from the Masterplan.
- The absence of recognition in the Masterplan of the potential for a film studio on DPC owned lands in Poolbeg West SDZ.
- The need for the Masterplan to take account of the objectives of the Planning Scheme for Poolbeg West SDZ.
- Support for the MP2 Community Gain proposal for an urban farm in East Wall.
- The need for the Masterplan to take account of the draft Water Animation Framework for the River Liffey and the Local Environmental Improvement Plan for Ringsend.
- The importance of improving public transport links between the Port and the City and effective mobility management within the Port to encourage a shift to more sustainable forms of travel for port users, including staff.
- The need to ensure that the Masterplan road proposals are consistent with the strategic road transport plans of DCC, TII and the NTA.
- The importance of managing impacts on structures of heritage value and maintaining the amenity value of the Pigeon House Harbour in the context of future Port development projects arising from the Masterplan.
- The importance of maintaining the existing amenity value of swimming areas off the North Bull Wall.
- Improving rail connectivity with Dublin Port and limiting the impact of the existing rail lines on road traffic.
- The importance of the Masterplan remaining consistent with national and regional planning and environmental plans.
- The integration of SEA and AA findings and mitigation measures in the Masterplan.
- A more frequent and fixed timeframe for reviewing the Masterplan should be considered.
- The need to give further consideration to climate change in the Masterplan and the SEA through the inclusion of a commitment in the Masterplan to reduce the Port's carbon footprint and promote low carbon alternatives through the supply chain.
- The importance of demonstrating the rationale behind the selection of alternatives in the context of the possible development options selected in the Masterplan.
- A commitment to prepare an Integrated Environmental Management Plan should be contained in the Masterplan.

DPC wishes to acknowledge the participation of the various stakeholders who took the time to engage with the consultation process on the Masterplan Review. All submissions made have been reviewed by DPC and will be taken into consideration in the finalisation of the review of the Masterplan.

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