

**DO: GACH BALL DE CHEANTAR CATHRACH PHORT LÁIRGE  
TO: EACH MEMBER OF THE METROPOLITAN DISTRICT OF  
WATERFORD**

Re: Section 38 Road Traffic Act 1994 – Active Travel Scheme  
Bank Lane Improvements

The following proposed Active Travel scheme was advertised for public consultation from 21st September 2021 to 18th October 2021, inviting submissions before 1st November 2021.

- Waterford City & County Council proposes to undertake traffic calming at Bank Lane, The Mall, Waterford City.
- This work involves resurfacing and realigning the carriageway to create a raised shared surface area on Bank Lane. The footpath will be reconstructed as part of the works, and uneven surfaces and steps removed.
- The existing pedestrian railing to the side of Waterford Crystal/Menapia Building is to be extended.
- Existing line markings will be removed on Bank Lane/The Mall junction. The junction will be altered to be consistent with the National Cycle Manual including bringing the existing tactile paving in line with design standard.
- This work is consistent with the Active Travel programmes in its objective to improve pedestrian routes and linkages.
- The scheme is funded through the Additional Outdoor Infrastructure Fund 2021.

**Submissions:**

While no submission was received during the formal submission period the following comments were received following the distribution of the proposed scheme layout to the Members of the Metro District pre-advertising.

***Comment No. 1 – Councillor Mary Roche***

Councillor Roche's comment seeks clarity of the overall objective of the proposed works. Councillor Roche asks if traffic will be let use Bank Lane again in the future and suggests that Bank Lane should be permanently pedestrianised. Councillor Roche states that the closure of the road is not a major inconvenience for traffic and adds to the animation of the area.

## ***Response to Comment No. 1***

The proposed works are being funded by the Department of Transport 2021 Additional Outdoor Infrastructure Fund which funds measures which will help to provide safe outdoor urban spaces for the public. Bank Lane is currently closed to traffic until the 31<sup>st</sup> December 2021.

The proposed works are being delivered in a manner that will not prevent Bank Lane being opened to traffic if required while providing a space which will eliminate kerbs, steps, and drops for use as a safe outdoor area. It is also consistent with the Active Travel programmes in its objective to improve the safety of pedestrian routes and linkages.

The suggestion that Bank Lane should be permanently closed to traffic is noted.

## ***Comment No. 2 – Councillor Joe Kelly***

Cllr. Kelly's submission stated that he is not in favour of the retention of the road closure on Bank Lane. He feels that the lane was a useful route to the Bolton Street carpark, avoiding the junction of The Mall and Lombard Street.

## ***Response to Comment No. 2***

Cllr Kelly's comments are noted. However, as stated in response to Cllr Roche, the proposed works are being delivered in a manner that will not prevent Bank Lane being opened to traffic if required. This is a wider issue in respect the traffic management in the city centre. The scheme is consistent with the Active Travel programmes in its objective to improve the safety of pedestrian routes and linkages.

## **Recommendation:**

It is now proposed that the scheme should proceed as advertised under Section 38 Road Traffic Act 1994.

Your approval to proceed with the scheme is recommended and requested.

Fergus Galvin  
Director of Services  
Roads, Water and Environment  
05<sup>th</sup> November 2021