



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

Proposed Abandonment of the Slip lane from the N25 to the R676 at Lemybrien Waterford and the extinguishment of the Public Right of Way over that section of road.

It is proposed to extinguish the public right of way over the slip lane from the N25 to the R676 at The Vee junction, Lemybrien, Waterford, abandon that section of road, and replace it with a grassed and landscaped area.

A number of issues have been raised about road safety at Lemybrien for many years. Waterford City and County Council proposed a new traffic calming scheme to address those and create a safe and more attractive village for all. The implementation of the traffic calming scheme with an intensive landscape strategy will create a safe environment for all road users with a strong emphasis on non-motorised road users.

Part 8 planning of the proposed development was approved by the Comeragh District Council at a Special Meeting held on 18th December, 2018. The traffic calming scheme drawings prepared for the Part 8 were subject to Road Safety Audit. Drawing No. MRG-4/17/002-DWG-03R1, which is attached, shows the existing road. Drawing No. MRG-4/17/002-DWG-04R1 shows the Part 8 layout. When the road safety audit was carried out it raised a concern regarding the layout of the junction between the N25 and the R676. The proposed scheme is acceptable in principle to Transport Infrastructure Ireland (TII) and they have allocated funding for it to be constructed in 2021. However, they require that Waterford City and County Council amend the scheme slightly, as follows, before they can approve the scheme namely:

- To remove the slip lane to the Carrick road to make the junction safer for cyclists, non-motorised road users, and pedestrians at junction and to give consistency of crossing facilities at all junctions.

The reasons for the revision of the junction are as follows:

- Slip roads in urban areas are not appropriate as they are conducive to high vehicular speed and increased risk to vulnerable road user. They are not, as such, an appropriate layout in urban

areas. Drawing No. MRG-4/17/002-DWG-06R1 shows that the measured speeds exceed the speed limit and confirms that the speeds are high.

- Consistency of treatment at junctions for crossing cyclists; As the layout proposed is not consistent for cyclists through all the junctions in that at some junctions they have right of way and at others they don't. This is inconsistent and leads to confusion for all road users. Consistency in road layouts is vital to road safety.
- Inclusion of the slip road within proposed traffic calming measures is considered to be a departure from standards. TII have indicated that this departure from standard will not be approved because of the significant implication regarding the safety of all road users especially non-motorised road users in urban area. The main goal of the scheme is to promote traffic calming on the approach to Lemybrien and maintain reduced speeds through the village.
- Removal of the slip road will be required to finalise detailed design and to receive all required approvals from TII to develop and implement the scheme. This will have a positive effect on development of the scheme and minimise both the risk to cyclists and pedestrians in addition to the risk of any further delays in bringing this scheme to Construction stage.

It is therefore proposed to extinguish the public right of way over the slip lane from the N25 to the R676 at Lemybrien Waterford and abandon that section of road under Section 73 of the Roads Act 1993. It is proposed that it will form part of a grassed and landscaped area. Drawing No. MRG-4/17/002-DWG-05R1 attached shows the proposed revised junction layout without the slip road.

Attached drawings for The Vee Junction:

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| • Existing Layout | Drawing No. MRG-4/17/002-DWG-03R1 |
| • Proposed Layout (Part 8) | Drawing No. MRG-4/17/002-DWG-04R1 |
| • Proposed Layout (PDR) | Drawing No. MRG-4/17/002-DWG-05R1 |
| • Speed Survey Results. | Drawing No. MRG-4/17/002-DWG-06R1 |

Your approval to proceed with the abandonment of the road is requested.

**Gabriel Hynes,
Senior Engineer,
Roads Department.
10th February, 2021.**