

Letter to Dublin Transportation Office concerning QBC strategy - 25-08-00

To: John Henry
Chief Executive
Dublin Transportation Office

Dear Mr. Henry,

My name is Eoin Costello and I am councillor with Dun Laoghaire Rathdown County Council. I am writing in connection with the QBC strategy of the DTO.

The QBC from Foxrock Church to Donnybrook has been a great success in terms of the number of people carried. The downside has been a large increase in all day commuter parking along the route. As a result Foxrock Church has been forced to lock the gates to its car park and Stillorgan Shopping Center has been forced to introduce monitored 3 hour parking.

Your office is now proposing to extend this QBC from Foxrock Church to Bray. A number of sites have been identified by the Council for Park & Ride facilities along this route however none of these sites are the subject of an application for funding to your office or have been progressed to the planning stage. The building of this QBC with no provision whatsoever for Park & Ride facilities will have very damaging effects on two villages on this route, Cabinteely and Cornelscourt, which will effectively become Park & Ride car parks for the new QBC. These villages already have chronic parking problems (please see Document A enclosed).

There simply will be no spaces for commuters to park in.

As far as I am aware in the year since the establishment of the QBC route from Foxrock Church to Donnybrook no Park & Ride facilities have been provided along the route. This reduces the potential of the service as the commuter has a daily struggle to find somewhere to park to get on the bus. It also causes major problems in residential and business areas along the route. This is a weakness of the DTO's strategy. If the Foxrock Church to Donnybrook experience is anything to go by there is no linking by your office between the provision of QBC routes and a commensurate provision of Park & Ride facilities to allow the maximum number of people to use this facility.

From talking to officials within our council I get the impression that the pressure to plough on with the QBC's is coming from your

office. My purpose in writing to you is to request that the DTO in future, in the interests of making the QBC's an unqualified success, make it a condition of their funding by your office,

A. That a specified minimum number of Park & Ride facilities are progressed to planning stage in connection with each QBC.

B. That, in conjunction with the application for funding for the construction of a QBC, a concurrent application must be made by the local authority for funding of a minimum number of Park & Ride facilities at the same time.

I look forward to receiving your response.

Yours Sincerely,

Eoin Costello

CC

- Minister Dempsey, Minister for the Environment
- Senior Administrative Officer, Roads Policy Section, Department of the Environment
- John Guckian Senior Administrative Officer, Dun Laoghaire Rathdown County Council
- Foxrock South Residents Association
- Cabinteely Residents Association
- The Park Cabinteely Residents Association
- Shrewsbury Lawn Residents Association
- Cabinteely Retailers & Traders Association
- Fr. Tom O'Keefe, Cabinteely Church
- Councillor Donal Marren
- Councillor Bernie Lowe
- Councillor Larry Butler
- Councillor Denis O'Callaghan
- Sean Barrett TD
- Councillor Frank Smyth
- Councillor Olivia Mitchell
- Councillor Willie Dockrell
- Councillor Betty Coffey
- Councillor Pat Hand
- An Cathaoirleach
- Councillor Olivia Mitchell TD
- Councillor Victor Boyhan
- Councillor Eamon Gilmore TD
- Councillor Fiona O' Malley
- Sean Barrett TD
- An Cathaoirleach

- Councillor Helen Keogh
- Councillor Eamon Gilmore