



WATERFORD
North Quays

NORTH QUAYS

PUBLIC INFRASTRUCTURE PROJECT



Project Partners

The North Quays Public Infrastructure Project is being developed in partnership between the Urban Regeneration & Development Fund (URDF), the National Transport Authority (NTA) and Waterford City & Council. The overall level of public infrastructure investment is €207m. Kilkenny County Council & Iarnród Éireann are also key partners in the delivery of the project.

Harcourt Developments is engaging with Waterford City & County Council in the delivery of the mixed used SDZ development.

Contact us

Public Infrastructure Project

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As the project develops, we will continue to provide general updates via the project website, newsletters and Waterford City & County Council social media.

Dear reader,

Over the summer the North Quays infrastructural works have progressed well and are readily visible from various vantage points both north and south of the river.

With the return of schools after the summer holidays, this newsletter focuses on the improvements being made in the Abbey Road area and the new access arrangements for the two schools on Abbey Road. The works on Abbey Road are significant in their own right, representing an investment of around €8m on new infrastructure for roads, bridges, greenways and active travel.

The works, when fully delivered in 2025, will provide improved accessibility, safety and connectivity for schools, the local community and commuters alike.

Yours sincerely,



Comhairle Cathrach & Contae Phort Láirge
Waterford City & County Council

New Abbey Road Layout

The design plans for Abbey Road were initially developed over five years ago with a vision to deliver a sustainable multi-modal local transport network with high quality walking and cycling facilities. With the parallel development of the South East Greenway, Waterford, Kilkenny & Wexford Councils have worked together with their funding agency partners to realise this vision. As well as realising local improvements, the works are a key part of the overall North Quays development and the delivery of a sustainable multi-modal transport network for the whole City and beyond.

The works on Abbey Road incorporate best practice design for urban streets with a focus on safety and accessibility, and a particular emphasis on achieving a better balance between the needs of all road users. The new layout will lower traffic speeds and make journeys safer and more pleasant for everyone, and with direct links to the greenway, Transport Hub and Sustainable Transport Bridge, will encourage more people to walk and cycle.

The new layout also delivers the objectives of the NTA's 'Safe Routes to School Programme' by improving safety at the school gate. By improving active travel routes to school, the new layout will increase the opportunities for students to safely walk or cycle to school.



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North Quays SDZ

In June 2024 Harcourt Developments (t/a Hopcast Ltd) submitted a planning application to Waterford City & County Council for the North Quays Strategic Development Zone (SDZ) for a mixed use SDZ development. Phase 1 of the mixed-use development includes significant residential, hotel, office and public realm space as well as some retail and food & beverage outlets. Further information on the proposed development was requested on 30th July and the developer has six months to submit the further information to enable a decision to be made on the application. The proposed development will provide direct connectivity and accessibility between the City Centre, the SDZ site and the Ferrybank environs to meet the future growing needs of the City and the Region.



1- Realigned four lane Abbey Road
2- Abbey Road Roundabout (with future access to the SDZ site)
3- Slip road for direct access to schools & community facilities
4- School Set-Down Area

5- School Car Park
6- Access Rd to Abbey Community College
7- Greenway Underpasses & Access
8- New Ferrybank pump station
9- Enlarged Bus Eireann Depot

New Abbey Road Layout (cont.)

A new realigned section of Abbey Road is being created with greater capacity and enhanced facilities for pedestrians and cyclists. By moving Abbey Road, space is created to provide improved safety at the school gate by providing improved and segregated 'front of school' facilities to improve access and safety and alleviate congestion. These include dedicated school access lanes, set-down areas, pedestrian & cycling links and crossings, and direct connectivity with the new greenway. A new staff parking area and play courts are also being provided for the girl's National School as well as new entrance walls and gates.

The aerial image above illustrates the significant progress and improvements that have taken place on Abbey Road over the summer and identifies the various different elements that make up the overall layout.

Progress of Abbey Road Works

Over the last year there has been a progressive evolution of the infrastructure along Dock Road, Fountain Street and Abbey Road. The works have been particularly intensive on Abbey Road as they are confined within a small working space, and this was recognised when the works were being planned. For example, accommodation works for the schools have been implemented during the summer holidays in 2023 & 2024 to reduce the interference with school activities. The full closure of Abbey Road for a period was also unavoidable due to deep opening works required for a foul sewer and other services. This closure was also deliberately planned during the summer holidays to minimise disruption.

The Abbey Road closure will remain in place for the first few days of the new school year. During this time, pedestrian access will continue to be facilitated from both Fountain Street and the Christendom Junction and vehicular access will be provided from Fountain Street. A new road layout will be in place and a new dedicated school access lane and set down area will be in operation. The new layout will be unfamiliar for those returning to school. Road signage will be in place and traffic management attendants will be available during busy drop-off and collection times.



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Educational Outreach

In collaboration with the South East Technological University (SETU) the project is being utilised as a living laboratory for SETU students via Bam's 'Building a Bridge to Education' programme. This programme enriches engineering students' hands-on construction experience in parallel with their academic modules. A learning area board has been erected on the south plaza to provide some information on the design and construction of the bridge.

Progress of Abbey Road Works (cont.)

Abbey Road will reopen to traffic from the 29th August. Limited and localised traffic management measures will continue to be needed at times until all the works are complete. All road users are urged to be aware of changes to traffic management over the coming weeks, abide to the speed limits through the works, and to follow the directional signage and dedicated pedestrian crossings to ensure safety of all users. Your continued patience is greatly appreciated, and your continued cooperation is of great assistance in the successful and safe completion of the works.

Other Project Works

Site works in the River Suir for the Sustainable Transport Bridge are being finalised for the delivery of the bridge from Belgium in the coming months. Works are also progressing well on the new public plaza on the South Quays which will form a feature gateway for the new bridge at the Clock Tower.

Works to the Transport Hub building have progressed to roof level and the overall building composition is taking shape. The main concourse with ticketing, offices and conveniences will be located on the first floor, above the platforms and rail track infrastructure at ground level. The next significant element of the works will begin in the coming months with the construction of a new railway flood defence system. This system will protect the existing and new rail infrastructure from the increasing impacts of flooding, and ensure future proofed and climate resilient commuter rail services for the South East regions capital City and freight rail services for Waterford Port.

The new Ferrybank Pump Station, also delivered as part of the North Quays project, is now in operation improving wastewater capacity & sustainability for the rapidly growing Ferrybank area.



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