

Ms Mary Maguire  
Meetings Administrator  
Corporate Services Department  
South Dublin County Council  
County Hall  
Tallaght  
Dublin 24

25<sup>th</sup> January 2010

Your Ref: Q7/1209  
Our Ref: DU-0271

*Dear Ms Maguire,*

Thank you for your letter of 17<sup>th</sup> December 2009 informing me of the of the question approved at a meeting of South Dublin County Council on 14<sup>th</sup> December requesting you to write to Iarnród Éireann to get an update on when the DART Underground project will be delivered.

The project is currently at an advanced planning stage with a view to submitting a Railway Order Application by the end of March 2010. It is estimated that construction work will be completed by the end of 2017 and that services will commence by the end of 2018.

DART Underground will deliver a second high capacity DART line which will run underground through the heart of Dublin City Centre. The tunnel will be approximately 7.6 km in length and will connect the Northern and Kildare commuter lines, with underground stations at Docklands, Pearse, St. Stephen's Green, Christchurch and Heuston as well as a new surface station at Inchicore. It will link all rail modes- DART, Commuter, Intercity, Luas and Metro- to form an integrated transport network for Dublin.

Together with current rail investment such as the Kildare Route, DART Underground will treble the numbers travelling on the Greater Dublin rail network to over 100 million passenger journeys annually.

I would like to thank the Council for its continued interest in the project and should you require any further information please do not hesitate to contact the DART Underground Communications Manager, Tom Rowley, at [dartunderground@irishrail.ie](mailto:dartunderground@irishrail.ie)

Yours sincerely,



Richard Fearn,  
**Chief Executive**

