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Land Use Planning & Transportation

1 8 FEB 2015

South Dublin County Council

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16th February 2015

Re: Re-opening of Phoenix Park Tunnel and Kishogue Rail Station

Dear Mr Curtin,

I refer to your letter of 28th January 2015 to the National Transport Authority, in relation to the above matter.

The development of the Phoenix Park Tunnel to bring commuter train services directly from the Kildare line into the heart of Dublin City Centre is a key project within the Integrated Implementation Plan. At this stage preliminary design works have been completed and a business case for the project is in preparation.

It is envisaged that services will start using the Tunnel in Q2/3 2016, following the completion of the City Centre Re-signalling Project which will increase capacity through the critical city centre section between Connolly and Grand Canal stations. There is also some work to be carried out to the Central Traffic Control Centre to facilitate the service.

It is anticipated that initially, there will be 4 services per hour from Kildare/Portlaoise through the Phoenix Park Tunnel, terminating in Grand Canal Dock in peak hours, with an hourly off peak service. Once established, the service pattern will be reviewed and amended to suit passenger needs as required.

The basis for the advancement of Kishogue Station was to service developments that were anticipated to occur within the catchment area of the Station. However, as you will be aware, most of those anticipated developments have not occurred to date. This weakens the case for further investment in a car park and access road to facilitate the opening of Kishogue Station at the present time, given that at least some of the needs of the area are currently served by Adamstown Station.

The Authority has a limited amount of capital funding available each year for the advancement of public transport and sustainable transport projects in the Greater Dublin Area. Given the competing demands for that limited investment expenditure, funding is not available for the necessary road and car park works at Kishogue Station to be constructed during 2015.

However, that position will be reviewed in 2016 in conjunction with the opening of the Phoenix Park
Tunnel Link, which will facilitate train services running from the Kildare line into Connolly, Tara,
Pearse and Grand Canal Dock stations.

I trust that the above information is of assistance.

Yours sincerely,

Hugh Greegan,

Director of Transport Investment and Taxi Regulation.