

## REPORT UNDER SECTION 38 OF THE ROAD TRAFFIC ACT 1994

### GRANGE CASTLE BUSINESS PARK: For Noting

#### Introduction

Section 38 of the Road Traffic Act 1994 empowers a Roads Authority to provide traffic calming measures in respect of roads in their charge

The objective of the proposed upgrade scheme is to improve the condition and functionality of the existing civil infrastructure within Grange Castle and Grange Castle South Business Parks while enhancing pedestrian and cycling infrastructure. The works will provide safer and more accessible routes for users transversing through the area and support the promotion of active travel.

The project primarily comprises remedial upgrades within the existing road corridor. The proposed works address deterioration in the current infrastructure while improving conditions for pedestrians, cyclists and vehicular traffic accessing both Grange Castle Business Parks.

#### Existing Condition of Infrastructure within Grange Castle Business Parks

The existing infrastructure within Grange Castle and Grange Castle South Business Parks comprises of both single and dual carriageway construction, concrete footways and red bituminous cycleways serving pedestrians, cyclists and vehicular traffic. The road network within the business parks accommodates a high level of daily activity associated with commercial and industrial premises, including employees, visitors and service vehicles.

Across the business parks, sections of the infrastructure exhibit deterioration affecting safety and usability. The key existing conditions are summarised below:

- **Carriageway and Cycle Tracks:** Localised cracking, rutting and isolated potholes are present, with variations in the cycle track surface affecting ride quality.
- **Footways:** Concrete footways show cracking and settlement in places, resulting in uneven pedestrian surfaces.
- **Kerbing and Utility Surrounds:** Sections of kerbing and concrete surrounds to manholes and chambers are cracked or deteriorated.
- **Drainage:** Localised settlement has occurred around some gullies and surface water manholes.
- **Signage and Road Markings:** Road markings are faded in areas and some signage requires replacement.
- **Vegetation:** Vegetation and moss encroachment in some areas reduce the effective width of pedestrian and cycle facilities.

These conditions highlight the need for remedial works to improve the safety, accessibility and overall functionality of the infrastructure within the business parks.

## **The Proposed Scheme**

The Proposed Upgrade Scheme for Grange Castle and Grange Castle South Business Parks seek to improve existing infrastructure for pedestrians, cyclists, motorists and business park users, with particular emphasis on enhancing active travel facilities.

The existing pedestrian and cycling infrastructure generally comprise generally comprises of ex. 1.5m wide concrete footways and 1.5m wide bituminous (red) cycle tracks, which in several locations are narrow and show signs of deterioration. Under the proposed scheme, these facilities will be replaced with a 3.0 m wide shared bituminous pedestrian and cycle path, providing a safer and more consistent route for active travel users.

The scheme aims to improve connectivity and accessibility throughout the business parks while enhancing safety for pedestrians and cyclists travelling between businesses, public transport stops and surrounding employment areas. The proposed works are confined within the existing road corridor, **with no significant widening** beyond the current road, verge, footpath or cycle track footprint.

The key elements of the proposed scheme include:

- **Upgrade of Pedestrian and Cycle Infrastructure**

Site Clearance of existing 1.5 m wide footpaths and 1.5 m wide cycle tracks and construction of a 3.0 m wide shared pedestrian and cycle path with bituminous surfacing and concrete kerb edging within the existing road corridor.

- **Pedestrian and Cyclist Crossings**

Introduction and upgrading of controlled and uncontrolled raised pedestrian and cyclist crossings to improve accessibility and enhance safety for vulnerable road users.

- **Traffic Calming Measures**

Implementation of traffic calming measures through the provision of raised pedestrian and cyclist crossings (controlled and uncontrolled) and the installation of solar-powered traffic calming signage to encourage reduced vehicle speeds within the business parks.

- **Tree Protection Measures**

Installation of tree protection systems (Geocell membrane with stone backfill) where works may interact with existing tree root systems in-situ across both Grange Castle Business Parks.

- **Carriageway Repairs and Resurfacing**

Localised carriageway repairs and shave and pave resurfacing works, including cold milling of the existing surface and installation of approximately 45–50 mm bituminous surface course.

- **Kerbing and Refuge Islands**

Removal and reconstruction of sections of existing carriageway kerbing, including the extension or modification of pedestrian refuge islands where required.

- **Signage and Road Markings**

Installation of new traffic signage and wayfinding signage, together with the provision of new road markings, including pedestrian crossing markings and general traffic markings.

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