

MAYNOOTH & ENVIRONS JOINT LOCAL AREA PLAN 2024 - 2030

Unique Reference Number: MJLAP-C1-57 **Author:** Maynooth Access Group

Status: Submitted **Submission:**

Maynooth Access Group Submission on Maynooth & Environs

Local Area Plan 2024 - 2030

Consultation:

Maynooth and Environs Joint Local Area Plan 2024-2030

Observations:

Theme: Movement and Transport

The Group supports and encourages the inclusion of safe, secure, segregated cycle lanes so to ensure that we do not bring vulnerable pedestrians into conflict with cyclists, e-cyclists and e-scooter users.

The Group encourages the provision of sufficient bike stands to eliminate the locking of bikes to poles, public seating and railings which restrict access for persons with mobility impairment or families with buggies or visually impaired pedestrians or wheelchair users, etc.

Footpath space of 2m width to be available at all times. It is timely now to raise the available footpath width currently existing in Maynooth's main street. There is an urgent requirement to rectify the current situation. At present there are sections of the Maynooth main street where vulnerable pedestrians, families with buggies and young children are obliged to walk on the road or encroach on the mandatory cycle lane.

The completion of the orbital ringroad together with a second M4 motorway interchange west of Junction 7 (to allow access to the west of Maynooth town) to allow for the orderly development of the town and would divert traffic from the town centre and current approach roads, leaving the town more accessible for those who need to use the services available I the town centre.

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Theme: Infrastructure

All roads, infrastructure, public seating, water refill stations, EV charging bays, disability parking bays, parks and recreational spaces, etc., within the Public Realm to strictly adhere to the principles of Universal Design and Universal Access for All and embed the Principles of Accessibility and Inclusion. All disability parking bays must be fit for purpose and fully comply with the Irish Wheelchair Association guidelines. These and other related issues are described in: https://ilmi.ie/ilmi-open-letter-sustainable-inclusive-towns-and-cities/

All facilities such as public waste bins, recycling banks and other similar resource facilities to be universally accessible.

The current practice of storing waste bins on footpaths (particularly on Parson's Street and Doctor's Lane) which serve to block the footpath forcing pedestrians, families with buggies and wheelchair users onto the road need to be resolved and a workable solution put in place that complies with the Principles of Universal Design

Provision of EV charging stations for persons with disabilities need to be incorporated into the plan.

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Theme: Home and Communities

It is imperative that the Social Infrastructure deficit in Maynooth is addressed comprehensively in this plan to allow for sustainable orderly growth of the town.

Provision must be made for inclusive community sporting infrastructure together with the provision of a community centre to provide opportunities for community groups to meet and to encourage social interaction in the town and a new library with increased floor space, digitally enabled and accessible with a Changing Places facility and a sensory cubbie.

Adequate provision at preschool, primary and second level must be provided to address the educational needs of all students. This provision to include both physical infrastructure and resources together with professional human resources in order to fully enable and utilise this educational paradigm such that the educational needs of all students, irrespective of their abilities are fully and comprehensively met thereby allowing each child to achieve their full potential.

Theme: Climate Action

As a community we should strive to support disability inclusive climate action and support people with disabilities to adopt a greener lifestyle. The voices of disabled people need to be heard and need to be seen to be heard in the promotion and development of climate action initiatives. Maynooth Access Group support and encourage the town planners to take into account the opinion and views articulated in ILMI open letter sustainable inclusive towns and cities which can be found; https://ilmi.ie/ilmi-open-letter-sustainable-inclusive-towns-and-cities/

Documents Attached: No

Boundaries Captured on

No

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