



Grangegorman  
Development Agency  
Gníomhaireacht Forbartha  
Ghráinseach Ghormáin

## **Minutes of Consultative Group Meeting held on Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> December, 2010 at the GDA's offices**

**Present:** , Mr. Joe Costello T.D, Mr. Eamonn Cusack, Mr. Derek Dockrell, Mr. Eoin Farrell, Ms. Gabrielle McKeown, Dr. Noel O' Connor, Ms. Kaethe Burt O' Dea, Mr. Ciaran Nevin, Ms. Melda Slattery, Mr. Sean Tone.

**Apologies:** Mr. Cyprian Brady T.D, Mr. Kevin Doyle, Mr. Barry Hurley Mr. Barry Kearney, Mr. Andrew Myler, Cllr. Ray McAdam, Mr. Ken McCue, Cllr. Claire O' Regan, Mr. Raymond Turner, Ms. Annemarie Smith.

**In Attendance:** Mr. Ger Casey, Mr. Ronan Doyle (GDA staff).

Mr. Doyle began the meeting by introducing Mr. Eoin Farrell of the National Transport Authority to the group. Mr. Farrell will be replacing the Department of Transport representatives, Ms. Annemarie Smith and Mr. Kevin Doyle, on the group. This decision was taken at a recent meeting between the two organizations and is seen as being more appropriate to the transport planning aspects of the project.

### **1. Minutes of meeting held on 12<sup>th</sup> October, 2010**

The Minutes from last meeting were agreed.

### **2. Project update**

Mr. Casey gave his update under the following headings

- Draft Strategic Plan Consultation
- SDZ
- Community
- Employment Study
- Key Project Tasks & Programme
- HSE Replacement Facilities
- Public Realm / Site Infrastructure

Mr. Dockrell commented that the GDA had done very well getting to this point with the Mental Health Replacement facilities to this point and that final approval is due from the HSE Board in February 2011.

Mr. Casey made a note in relation to Luas line BXD that there will be a preliminary hearing in the New Year which we will be presenting at. We have new issues which we hope to raise.

Dr. O' Connor welcomed Mr. Farrell to the Group. He said that it was vital that transport is taken into consideration in the project.

Ms. Burt O' Dea said that she and her group had been liaising with the RPA in relation to their Life Line project. The group is going to make an application for Life Plus funding and they believe that this project will add value to the Luas line.

Mr. Eoin Farrell noted that the NTA is currently preparing its Strategic Plan and Luas line BXD is included in it. He clarified that the NTA will be supporting the line as part of the strategy. He went on to say that how Grangegorman is linked to the city is very important for the NTA.

Deputy Costello said that public transport is key and should be in place early and put in as an add on to the project. The DART interconnector is being debated and the GDA should be making a submission on it and Luas BXD. However, it seems that the DART and Luas may be put on the long finger and METRO north front loaded. The GDA should be pushing for DART and Luas to be done first and we should take every opportunity to put our opinion across. The GDA should not be just allowing Luas to come in due course, we should be pushing for it.

Mr. Farrell said that the NTA strategy at the moment has a long term outlook and is looking at transport on a citywide level. There will also be an implementation plan developed after the Strategic plan. The GDA should take the opportunity to state their case during the public consultation.

Mr. Farrell went on to say that there is funding available for smarter travel initiatives. Normally local authorities apply for this.

Mr. Casey said that DIT were currently involved with Smarter travel initiatives but he wasn't sure about the HSE.

Dr. O' Connor commented that there is huge merit in Luas Line BXD. There is an existing line there and it could really open up the city. . The possibility of using land along the line for the life line project could offer something new and different. We need to watch how Luas progresses carefully and lobby where necessary.

Ms. Burt O' Dea said that if there were any money available for walking or cycling to be included with Luas it would fit in with what the Lifeline was trying to achieve. She also said that the Institute of Public Health would be interested in this.

Ms. Slattery noted that one strand of research in PRTL (Programme for Research in Third Level Institutions) was on Environmental Health and Lifestyle and this could tie in with what may happen on Luas BXD and the Life line.

Mr. Dockrell commented that Broadstone is an issue. If this could be pushed forward independently of Luas that would be important.

### **3. Any other business**

Mr. Casey informed the group that a new Chief Executive Officer had been appointed by the Board. The person would be starting in the Agency in the new year.

Dr. O' Connor thanked Mr. Casey for all the work he had done in the interim and a god job had been done holding the project together.

Ms. Slattery asked about the draft Strategic Plan. Mr. Casey said that the executive were currently compiling a response report on the submissions received and that the Board would be examining the report in January 2011.

Deputy Costello asked if it would be possible to do a survey of residential and non-residential buildings in the area. He said that it is important that the GDA doesn't miss out any areas in relation to communication and consultation.

Dr. O' Connor said that this had been a significant issue for DIT. There is evidence in other areas of surrounding properties being bought up when a new institution is to open. He went on that onsite accommodation has always been a priority for DIT, the aim is for 20% of the full time cohort to be accommodated here. However transport links need to be emphasised in relation to accommodation also. If there are good transport links then students will be able to live in a broader area. Also a lot of the student cohort is from the Dublin area (60%). DIT is hoping to relocate an accommodation person to Grangegorman in order to start preparing for the move.

Deputy Costello asked where the Agency was in relation to Employment.

Dr. O' Connor gave an update on the Employment Group which had started meeting again.

Deputy Costello asked who the public should contact in relation to Employment. Mr. Doyle said that he could be contacted in relation to this from the Agency side.

**Next meeting to be confirmed.**