

Statement on Traffic Issues in Sandyford Business Park

18/01/2013

What has happened?

Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown County Council has recently completed a number of improvements to the footpaths, road surfacing and accessibility measures for pedestrians and cyclists, as well as upgrading a number of signalised traffic junctions, into and within the Sandyford Business Park. Included in these changes was the reverting of the short section of Blackthorn Road, between Burton Hall Road and Blackthorn Avenue, from one-way to two-way traffic.

Why have these changes been made?

The modifications are based on the Mobility Policies outlined in the Council's Development Plan 2010 – 2016 and in the Sandyford Urban Framework Plan 2011 – 2016. They aim to alter the industrial appearance of the Estate to a Business Park and to provide a more user friendly and safe environment for pedestrians and cyclists while being mindful of improving permeability for vehicular users internally within the Business Park.

The change to the one-way system was a response to the many complaints received about traffic speeding and criss-crossing as drivers approach Blackthorn Avenue, which in turn made it very dangerous for pedestrians to cross the roadway safely and the lack of pedestrian priority at Burton Hall Road and Blackthorn Avenue junctions.

We must also stress that the one way system that was in place (prior to 28th November 2012) was provided as a traffic management measure to cater for the enormous traffic flows and volumes prior to the completion of the SEM/M50 but it was never intended that it would remain in place permanently.

What has been the result of these changes?

We acknowledge that the new two way system on Blackthorn Road is causing significant delays for drivers using the road in the evening peak travel time.

What are we doing now?

Following a comprehensive review, including engagement with the Sandyford Business District Association (SBEA), the Council is currently developing and testing a number of solutions to address the problem and reduce evening travel times. We will be in a position to present the preferred solution before the end of January.

Dún Laoghaire Rathdown County Council apologises for any inconvenience caused and would appreciate your patience in relation to this issue which we are working on resolving as soon as possible. A top priority for this Council is ensuring that Sandyford remains among Ireland's top business districts and employers and our work in Sandyford is at all times to support this goal.