



[Residents Alliance Group](#) Nov 2021

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The focus of the New Children's Hospital build is slowly shifting from the building itself to the impact of the building on the surrounding area and with that the focus is shifting from the builder BAM to the National Paediatric Hospital Development Board and Dublin City Council who are the main players particularly Dublin City Council. This is reflected in the pieces below.

## Work Plan over the coming quarter

At the recent Residents Monitoring Committee BAM provided an update on work done and what remains to be done. What is apparent, is that finishing lines are in sight, by July- Aug 2022 the NCH will be completely weather proofed and all external work will be completed bar some paving and landscaping.

A date for completion was tentatively given as Autumn 2023.

The New Children's Hospital continues to emerge as scaffolding is removed, first along the southern flank by the LUAS stop and along the SCR to the entrance. Window insertion is

near completion around the rest of the building and weatherproofing and cladding is continuing at a pace and will continue to the end of the year.



*Figure 1 Drone shot November 21*

## Work to Christmas;

As well as working systematically around the building (glazing, weather proofing, cladding, roof works etc) the builders are also working the floors, from ground floor up, so on the Luas side, the lower floors are on second fix i.e., most of the theatres will have electrical and machinery in place, doors are being fitted while on the upper floors, they are still at first fix and the final bit finishing the roof.

- The red outcrop along the LUAS line will be finished with anodised aluminium that will weather to yellow.
- Strip lighting that runs around the building will also be installed.
- Scaffolding from the Finger Four on SCR will be completely down.

## Gate 3

The construction of the basement for the Family Accommodation Unit has commenced and will continue to March of next year.

The construction of the basement is part of the NCH brief and it is required to connect to the tunnel that will eventually service the hospital. BAM expect to have the basement excavated over a week in early to mid-December and to pour a concrete slab this side of Christmas.

A mitigation package will be in place for residents including, wheel wash, street wash and acoustic barriers

A separate tender for the FAU is to be issued by HSE for its construction, no dates are available.

### Workforce

Currently there are 1400 staff on site on any given day with 1000 to 1100 of those construction workers, significantly below planned levels.

The co-vid measures outlined previously continue, with temperature checks on entering the site, mandatory wearing of face masks, handwashing, social distancing and antigen testing all going on. In addition, because of the low levels of vaccination among staff (estimated at 50%) particularly among eastern Europeans, BAM have retained a Romanian advocate to reassure workers that the tests are safe etc, in addition, the HSE are installing a pop-up vaccination centre on site to promote uptake.

## Traffic Management Plan

The chairperson of the Residents Monitoring Committee, Peter Finnegan, made a strong statement about transport and the need for DCC to be proactive on this issue. He reminded the meeting that the DCC City Manager agreed to undertake a Traffic Management Audit of the area as part of the build and the James's Mobility plan would feed into this. This has not happened and for over two years now the RMC has been informed that DCC does not have the staff, then it was co-vid and now the prioritisation of cycles ways are all the reasons why such an audit has not happened.

A number of members pointed out that the St James's Hospital complex that includes the NCH is also a priority and that access to and

from the facility needs to be urgently reviewed to ensure that public can obtain timely access to it.

The [EIS Traffic Plan](#) drawn up as part of the NCH Planning Application is out of date, the traffic flow projections in it are understated. It did not take account new developments in the area, nor the impact of cycle ways or the looming Bus Connect .

As part of the traffic plan discussion, parking was also recognised as intrinsic to any Traffic Management Plan for the area. The cost of parking inside the hospital must relate to the cost outside. In addition there is a need to review the current parking zone to a higher level.

Live Calendar of Work  
Notices

Check the RAG website for all BAM  
published work notices

[Calendar of Work Notices](#)

## Linear Park

DCC Parks organised a webinar on the 23<sup>rd</sup> of November to update people on the Linear Park devilmint into the future.

Phase 1 – MISA entrance on site Q4 2021, to be completed Q4 2021. DCC Parks delivery

Phase 2 – Basin lane -Fatima - Detail design with further consultation Q1 2022. On site Q4 2022. Will include hertiaga study & works on the North east side of Rialto bridgeleading to NCH entrance. DCC Parks delivery

Phase 3 – Suir Road bridge, canal side. Consultant appointed to do feasibility study, complete in May 2022. Waterways Ireland with DCC South Central Area office

Phase 4 – NTA cycleway, programme to be confirmed by DCC E&T

Phase 5 – Rialto Bridge to Fatima Luas stop - reinstatement of hospital wayleaves in Q3 2024. BAM on behalf of the NCH

The update was attended by DCC personnel from Parks and the Area Management group as well as local councillors and various interested groups and individuals.

There is a link to the full webinar below.

What was clear that the Linear Park will not be fully restored until Q3 2024, that is when BAM move their compound from the site and are to restore the park to an agreed specification.

In the meantime, there is a budget set aside for work around the Basin Lane end of the Park in 2022 and also along the footpath from Rialto Bridge to the Luas stop. .... and that's it .

All other parts of the Parks' redevelopment is contingent on other agencies making decisions, assigning budgets, undertaking works or letting Parks know what they are doing.

There is clearly no agency or department LEADING this development.

Questions still remain;

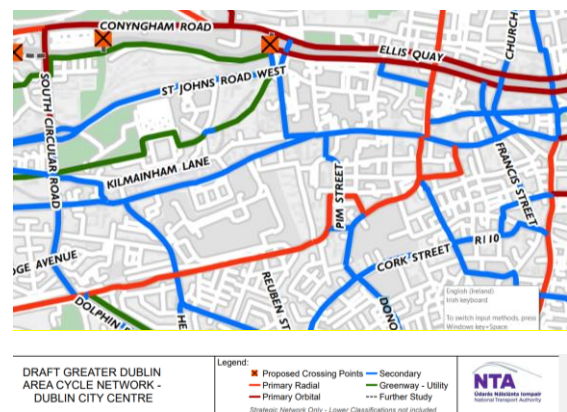
- What budgets are in place for work to be done in 2022?
- How does the park physically interface with surrounding areas and communities?
- What negotiations have occurred with other stakeholders abutting the Linear Park?
- What is happening with the Rialto Bridge ?
- Where is the cycle way going?

Obviously, the Suir Bridge to Rialto Bridge is the section that is currently available for upgrade. What are the plans and the time lines for development there? There are none, to date DCC Parks are saying that they can't do anything until they know where the NTA cycle route is going.

What about the SUIR RD end of the Park, again DCC are waiting on some other agency completing a separate piece of work before anything will happen to the park, in this case a feasibility study being undertaken for

Waterways Ireland looking at the possible commercial and social uses that the Grand canal from Suir Bridge down to Portobello and as a part of that, the consultants will look at the viability of the canoe marina and holding pen at SUIR Rd . This report is due for completion next March 22.

Below is the MAP of the planned cycle routes in southwest Dublin. The red line on the lower left that is the proposed cycle route through the Linear Park .



It travels through the Linear Park from Suir Road at New Ireland and Mountshannon but where along the park? How does the cycle route cross the SCR? Does it run along the footpath on James's Walk or in the park itself?

The UPDATE answered none of these questions other than informing the meeting that it will 2024 -25 before the park returns and a question remains how much will be a park and how much will be entrances to the hospitals with LUAS stops and cycle access?

- [Current Update Nov 21 Here](#)
- [Linear Park Draft Masterplan](#)

**Feedback /Complaints to BAM/NCH**

If you are unhappy or concerned by something you see or experience as part of the construction, please contact the 24/7 helpline. Your concern can relate to damage to your house, noise, dirt, traffic, out of hours works etc....." **If you don't report it, it didn't happen"**

 RESIDENTS HELPLINE  
01 531 1110