

Portarlinton Main Street lights finally finished for Christmas

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Long awaited works to underground cables and install new lights have finally been completed on Main Street in Portarlinton.

The works began in 2021 but were stopped before Christmas as there was concern the work might impact Christmas trade in the town. Work resumed again this summer but paused until the autumn.

The work was carried out by the ESB and contractors operating on behalf of Laois County Council.

The completion of the work was welcomed by Cllr Aidan Mullins. He had raised the issue with the council on multiple occasions and was

critical of delays. He said the people of Portarlinton and the traders in particular, were relieved to finally have the work completed.

"It's all looking well and all good now," he remarked.

An ESB spokesperson last week said: "ESB Networks has completed all works in Portarlinton associated with the removal of overhead networks and replacing them with an underground system, as planned."

"The installation of the public lighting standards and their final connection is the responsibility of Laois CoCo's public lighting contractor," they said.

"ESB Networks will energise the new public lighting system connection points when Laois Co Co's contractor certifies the work



The old lighting poles were removed and replaced from Main Street last week. Picture: Pat Burbage

as having been completed – this is a requirement in the interest of contractors and public safety."

"The project in question has been complex, ESB Networks wishes to thank the multiple business owners

who we engaged with throughout for their cooperation," the ESB spokesperson concluded.

Kicking toll can down road not good enough

People and business in Laois and Offaly who must use the motorways are going to bear a big impact of rising toll costs on motorways that run through both counties.

So insists Sinn Féin TD Brian Stanley who believes the increases should be totally scrapped rather than being delayed.

"Any increase in toll charges on the M7, M4, M50 or M1 will hit motorists and hauliers in Laois/Offaly hard. Those who use these routes for work or regular hospital visits etc will feel the impact most," said the TD.

"Workers and families across the State are in a cost-of-living crisis and the Government's only solution is to kick the can down the road until July," said Dep Stanley.



COMHAIRLE CHONTAE LAOISE
LAOIS COUNTY COUNCIL

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NA NACHTANNA UM PLEANÁIL AGUS FORBAIRT 2000 (ARNA LEASÚ) AGUS RIALACHÁIN PLEANÁLA AGUS FORBARTHA 2001 (ARNA LEASÚ) FÓGRA FORBARTHA BEARTAITHE Ó CHOMHAIRLE CONTAE LAOISE

De réir Chuid XI, Alt 179 den Acht um Pleanáil agus Forbairt 2000 (arna leasú) agus Cuid VIII, Airteagal 80 & 81 de na Rialacháin um Pleanáil agus Forbairt 2001 (arna leasú) tugann Comhairle Contae Laoise leis seo fógra go bhfuil sé ar intinn aici tabhairt faoi. an fhorbairt seo a leanas:

| Location | Nature of Development |
|--|--|
| Comhairle Contae Laoise, Páirc Gnó agus Teicneolaíochta Phort Laoise, Bóthar Mhaighéan Rátha, Port Laoise, Co. Laoise. R32 WKE0. | Beidh an obair seo a leanas san fhorbairt-- • Struchtúr.Réamhdhéanta atá ann cheana a scartáil agus a bhaint • Tógáil Ceanncheathrú Cosanta Sibhialta do Chontae Laoise. • Gach oibreacha coimhdeacha suimh maidir le tógáil Ceanncheathrú na Cosanta Sibhialta |

Tá Tuarascáil Scagthástála EIA ullmhaithe ag Comhairle Contae Laoise de réir cheanglais na Rialachán um Pleanáil agus Forbairt 2001 (arna leasú). Bunaíthe ar an Tuarascáil Scagthástála seo, chinn Comhairle Contae Laoise nach bhfuil aon dóchúlacht ann go mbeidh tionchar suntasach ar an gcomhshaoil (Airteagal 120 de na Rialacháin um Pleanáil agus Forbairt, leasaithe 2018). Dá réir sin, socraíodh nach bhfuil EIA ag teastáil i leith na forbairt seo a bheartaítear.

Féadfaidh aon duine, ón 8ú Nollaig 2022 go dtí an 26ú Eanáir 2023 san áireamh, iarratas a dhéanamh chuig an mBord Pleanála ar chinneadh scagtha maidir le cé acu an dóigh go mbeadh éifeachtaí suntasacha ag an bhforbairt ar an gcomhshaoil.

Is féidir pleananna agus sonraí na forbairt molta thuas a fheiceáil ar ár dtairseach comhairliúcháin ar líne ag <https://consult.laois.ie> ón 8ú Nollaig 2022 go dtí an 26ú Eanáir 2023 san áireamh. Tá pleananna agus sonraí ar fáil freisin le hiniúchadh ag oifigí Chomhairle Contae Laoise, Áras an Chontae, Ascaill JFL, Port Laoise, le linn gnáthuaireanta oifige, ó 8ú Nollaig 2022 go 26ú Eanáir 2023 san áireamh.

Féadfar aighneachtaí nó tuairimí maidir leis an bhforbairt bheartaithe, a phléann le pleanáil cheart agus le forbairt inbhuanaithe an cheantair ina mbeadh an fhorbairt suite, a dhéanamh ar líne ag <https://consult.laois.ie> 5.00 i.n. ar an 9ú Feabhra, 2023.

Is féidir aighneachtaí nó tuairimí maidir leis an bhforbairt bheartaithe, ag déileáil le pleanáil cheart agus le forbairt inbhuanaithe an cheantair ina mbeadh an fhorbairt suite, a dhéanamh i scríobh chuig: Simon Walton, Stiúrthóir Seirbhísí, Comhairle Contae Laoise, Áras an Chontae, Port Laoise, Co. Laoise le bheith roimhe 5.00 p.m. ar an 9ú Feabhra, 2023.

Ba chóir aighneachtaí a mharcáil go soiléir: Ceanncheathrú Nua Cosanta Sibhialta – Port Laoise – Cuid VIII. Nóta: Ní dhéanfar ach aighneachtaí a dhéantar ar an mbealach thuas a mheas mar aighneachtaí bailí chun críocha Thuarascáil an Phróimhfheidhmeannaigh a chuirfear faoi bhráid na Comhairle.

Tá an Chomhairle faoi réir fhorálacha an Achte um Shaoráil Faisnéise (SF). Má mheasann tú go bhfuil aon chuid den fhaisnéis a sholáthair tú lochair ó thaobh na tráchtála de nó faoi rún, ba chóir é sin a aibhsú agus na cúiseanna lena íogaireacht a shonrú. I gcásanna den sórt sin, scrúdófar an t-ábhar ábhartha, mar fhreagra ar iarratais SF, i bhfianaise na ndólúintí dá bhforáiltear san Acht um SF.

Simon Walton,
Stiúrthóir Seirbhísí

PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT ACTS 2000 (AS AMENDED) AND PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT REGULATIONS 2001 (AS AMENDED) NOTICE OF PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT BY LAOIS COUNTY COUNCIL

In accordance with Part XI, Section 179 of the Planning and Development Act 2000 (as amended) and Part VIII, Article 80 & 81 of the Planning and Development Regulations 2001 (as amended) Laois County Council hereby gives notice of its intention to carry out the following development:

| Location | Nature of Development |
|--|--|
| Laois County Council Depot, Portlaoise Business and Technology Park, Mountrath Rd., Portlaoise, Co. Laois. R32 WKE0. | The development will consist of the following work-- • Demolition and Removal of an existing Prefabricated Structure • Construction of Civil Defence Headquarters for County Laois • All ancillary site works in relation to the construction of a Civil Defence Headquarters |

Laois County Council has prepared an EIA Screening Report in accordance with the requirements of the Planning and Development Regulations 2001 (as amended). Based on this Screening Report, Laois County Council has determined that there is no likelihood of significant effects on the environment (Article 120 of Planning and Development Regulations, amended 2018). Accordingly, it has been determined that an EIA is not required in respect of this proposed development.

Any person may, from 8th December 2022 to 26th January 2023 inclusive, apply to An Bord Pleanála for a screening determination as to whether the development would be likely to have significant effects on the environment.

Plans and particulars of the above proposed development are available for viewing on our online consultation portal at <https://consult.laois.ie> from 8th December 2022 to 26th January 2023 inclusive. Plans and particulars are also available for inspection at the offices of Laois County Council, Áras an Chontae, JFL Avenue, Portlaoise, during normal office hours, from 8th December 2022 to 26th January 2023 inclusive.

Submissions or observations with respect to the proposed development, dealing with the proper planning and the sustainable development of the area in which the development would be situated, may be made online at <https://consult.laois.ie> 5.00 p.m. on 9th February, 2023.

Submissions or observations with respect to the proposed development, dealing with the proper planning and the sustainable development of the area in which the development would be situated, may also be made in writing to: Simon Walton, Director of Services, Laois County Council, Áras an Chontae, Portlaoise, Co. Laois to be received not later than 5.00 p.m. on 9th February, 2023.

Submissions should be clearly marked: New Civil Defence HQ – Portlaoise – Part VIII.

Note: Only submissions made in the above manner will be considered as valid submissions for the purposes of the Chief Executive's Report that will be presented to Council.

The Council is subject to the provisions of the Freedom of Information (FOI) Act. If you consider that any of the information supplied by you is either commercially sensitive or confidential in nature, this should be highlighted and the reasons for its sensitivity specified. In such cases, the relevant material will, in response to FOI requests, be examined in light of exemptions provided for in the FOI Act.

Simon Walton,
Director Of Services

LAOIS COUNTY COUNCIL
"IN PARTNERSHIP WITH THE COMMUNITY"