Balrothery Active Travel Study
Stage 1 - Understanding Balrothery
What you've told us so far...

Fingal County Council is developing an active travel plan for Balrothery that will identify measures to support and encourage walking, wheeling and cycling.

The first stage of the study gathered information from over 120 community members at an event on Tuesday, 27 February 2024 and online. People were asked to share information about their travel behaviours, challenges they face when walking, wheeling, or cycling and opportunities for increasing active types of travel. The survey found that despite the challenges identified in the survey, **over 50%** of respondents **walk in and around Balrothery every day.** However, cycling was less common with **43%** of respondents saying **they never cycle at all**.

Key challenges and **key opportunities** were identified and summarised in this newsletter (right). Other common themes included the R132 separating the village from surrounding areas, connectivity to other nearby destinations, access for agricultural machinery, public realm and road safety upgrades.

For more detailed information an **Engagement Summary Report** is available from the web page at the address at the bottom of the newsletter.

From our analysis of the responses, the 5 most common themes identified by people are:

1. The existing road network is car dominated rather than people oriented. This leads to issues such as vehicles travelling too fast through the village so people feel unsafe when walking and cycling.
2. Cars parking on the footpaths are blocking pedestrians causing people to step out onto the road, close to fast moving traffic e.g. at hairdressers, near the school and on Darcystown Road etc.
3. Pedestrian infrastructure is missing within the village at key points. This includes opportunities for people to cross the road (e.g. outside the pharmacy or near the Heritage Centre) or missing /discontinuous footpaths making journeys by foot difficult e.g. along the R132 and Inch Road.
4. Cycling in the Village wasn't seen as safe or convenient due to a lack of cycle lanes / safe and quiet routes or facilities such as bike parking
5. The Village centre feels like a place to pass through rather than a place to visit, meet people or spend time.

Activities to date in 2024

You may have seen people and survey equipment in the village over the past few months. This is because we have been undertaking traffic and movement surveys to better understand how vehicles and people travel **in, around** and **through** Balrothery.

It was clear from the feedback during Stage 1 that a number of issues affect the village so we have been undertaking vehicle counts, pedestrian counts, turning counts and parking utilisation surveys at key locations to better understand the issues you told us about and to **test new ideas** to help solve these problems.

Next Steps

The project team has used the feedback from the first stage, along with our own analysis of Balrothery, to identify ideas for improvements. We've prepared a long-list of ideas and are now reviewing these to come up with a specific set of proposals that we can test and develop.

We will provide a **new online survey** this month for you to give us your feedback on what we have gathered to date, and if we are hearing the people of Balrothery and interpreting that information in the right way. You will also be able to have your say on the **future vision** (below) for active travel in Balrothery and **tell us your priorities** for the project's key principles. We will use these to create ideas for how to make active travel better in Balrothery and present these back to the community and stakeholders later in the year.

An Active Travel Vision for Balrothery: **"A unique and vibrant village, focussed on community and connectivity"**

Staidéar ar Thaisteal Gníomhach Bhaile an Ridire
Céim 1 — Tuiscint ar Bhaile an Ridire
An méid a dúirt tú linn go dtí seo...

Tá plean taistil ghníomhaigh á fhorbairt ag Comhairle Contae Fhine Gall do Bhaile an Ridire a aithneoidh bearta chun tacú le níos mó siúlóide, rothaí agus rothaíochta agus iad a spreagadh.

Bhailigh an chéad chéim den staidéar eolas ó bhreis agus 120 pobal ag imeacht Dé Máirt, 27 Feabhra 2024 agus ar líne. Iarradh ar dhaoine eolas a roinnt faoina n-iompraíochtaí taistil, dúshláin a bhíonn rompu agus iad ag siúl, ag úsáid rothaí nó ag rothaíocht agus deiseanna chun cineálacha taistil ghníomhaigh a mhéadú.

Fuarthas amach sa suirbhé d'ainneoin na ndúshlán a aithníodh ann, go siúlann os cionn 50% de fhreagróirí i **gcomharsanacht Bhaile an Ridire gach lá**. Mar sin féin, ní raibh an rothaíocht chomh coitianta agus dúirt 43% de fhreagróirí **nach mbíonn siad ag rothaíocht ar chor ar bith**.

Aithníodh **príomhdhúshláin** agus **príomhdheiseanna** agus rinneadh achoimre orthu sa nuachtlitir seo (ar dheis). I measc na dtéamaí coitianta eile bhí an R132 a scarann an sráidbhaile ó na ceantair máguaird, nascacht le cinn scríbe eile in aice láimhe, rochtain d'innealra talmhaíochta, uasghráduithe maidir leis an ríocht phoiblí agus sábháilteacht ar bhóithre.

Chun eolas níos mionsonraithe a fháil, tá **Tuarascáil Achoimre Rannpháirtíochta** ar fáil ón leathanach gréasáin ag an seoladh ag bun na nuachtlitreach.

Ónár n-anailís ar na freagraí, is iad seo a leanas na 5 théama is coitianta a shainaithin daoine:

1. Tá an gréasán bóithre atá ann faoi láthair dírithe ar charranna seachas ar dhaoine. Fágann sé sin go mbíonn fadhbanna ar nós feithiclí ag taisteal róthapa tríd an sráidbhaile ionas go mbraitheann daoine neamhshábháilte agus iad ag siúl agus ag rothaíocht.
2. Tá carranna ag páirceáil ar na cosáin ag cur bac ar choisithe a chuireann daoine amach ar an mbóthar, gar do thrácht atá ag gluaiseacht go tapa e.g. ag gruagairí, in aice leis an scoil agus ar Bhóthar Bhaile an Darcy, srl.
3. Tá bonneagar coisithe ar iarraidh laistigh den Sráidbhaile ag príomhphointí. Áirítear leis seo deiseanna do dhaoine dul trasna an bhóthair (e.g. lasmuigh den chógaslann nó gar don Ionad Oidhreachta) nó cosáin ar iarraidh/ neamhleanúnacha ag déanamh turais de shiúl na gcos e.g. feadh an R132 agus Bhóthar na hInse.
4. Níor measadh go raibh rothaíocht sa Sráidbhaile sábháilte ná áisiúil mar gheall ar easpa lánaí rothaíochta/bealaí sábháilte agus ciúine nó áiseanna ar nós páirceáil rothar.
5. Mothaíonn ionad an tSráidbhaile gur áit é le dul tríd seachas áit le cuairt a thabhairt air, bualadh le daoine nó am a chaitheamh.

Gníomhaíochtaí go dtí seo i 2024

Seans go bhfaca tú daoine agus trealamh suirbhéireachta sa sráidbhaile le cúpla mí anuas. Is é an fáth atá leis seo ná go bhfuil suirbhéanna tráchta agus gluaiseachta á ndéanamh againn chun tuiscint níos fearr a fháil ar conas a thaistealaíonn feithiclí agus daoine **isteach i, timpeall** agus **trí** Bhaile an Ridire.

Ba léir ón aiseolas le linn Chéim 1 go bhfuil roinnt saincheisteanna ag cur isteach ar an sráidbhaile agus mar sin táimid ag tabhairt faoi chomhaireamh feithiclí, comhaireamh, coisithe, comhaireamh gluaiseachta casaidh, agus suirbhéanna ar úsáid pháirceála ag príomhshuíomhanna chun tuiscint níos fearr a fháil faoi na saincheisteanna a chuir tú in iúl dúinn agus chun **triail a bhaint as smaointe** nua chun cabhrú leis na fadhbanna seo a réiteach.

Na Chéad Chéimeanna Eile

D'úsáid foireann an tionscadail an t-aiseolas ón gcéad chéim, mar aon lenár n-anailís féin ar Bhaile an Ridire, chun smaointe maidir le feabhsuithe a aithint. Táimid tar éis liosta fada smaointe a ullmhú agus táimid ag déanamh athbhreithniú orthu anois chun teacht ar shraith sonrach moltaí ar féidir linn iad a thástáil agus a fhorbairt.

Cuirfimid **suirbhé nua ar líne** ar fáil an mhí seo le gur féidir leat d'aiseolas a thabhairt dúinn ar an méid atá bailithe againn go dtí seo, agus cíbe an bhfuilimid ag éisteacht go géar le muintir Bhaile an Ridire agus ag baint brí as an eolas ar an mbealach ceart. Beidh tú in ann do thuairim a chur in iúl freisin ar an **bhfís don todhchaí** (thíos) do thaisteal gníomhach i mBaile an Ridire agus **do thosaíochtaí** do phríomhphrionsabail an tionscadail a **insint dúinn**. Úsáidfimid iad seo chun smaointe nua a chruthú maidir le conas taisteal gníomhach a fheabhsú i mBaile an Ridire agus cuirfimid iad seo i láthair an phobail agus na bpáirtithe leasmhara níos déanaí sa bhliain.

Fís Taistil Ghníomhaigh do Bhaile an Ridire:
"Sráidbhaile uathúil agus bríomhar, atá dírithe ar an bpobal agus ar nascacht"

Comhairle Contae Fhine Gall
Fingal County Council

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Chun tuilleadh eolais a fháil ar an tionscadal seo, cuardaigh **www.fingal.ie/activetravel/balrothery** nó seol ríomhphost chuig **balrotheryATP@ramboll.com** le do thoil.