

Comhairle Contae Chill Dara
Kildare County Council



23rd July, 2018

MAYOR AND EACH MEMBER OF THE COUNCIL


Re: Grand Canal Greenway – Proposed Section 85 Agreement between
South Dublin County and Kildare County Council

Kildare County Council have been actively engaged in discussions with Waterways Ireland, South Dublin County Council and Offaly County Council regarding the possibility of upgrading the existing 117km long Grand Canal National Waymarked Trail into a high quality Greenway right across the centre of the country between Lucan Bridge in West Dublin to Shannon Harbour.

South Dublin County Council will be responsible for progressing this project from Lucan Bridge as far as the Kildare county boundary at Aylmer Bridge. However, a very short section of the Grand Canal between Lucan Bridge and Hazelhatch Bridge crosses over the county boundary into County Kildare in the townlands of Balscott and Stacumny Cottage. There is no public access to this section of canal bank other than along the canal bank which runs through the functional area of South Dublin County Council and the total length of canal bank in County Kildare is just short of 500 metres in length at this location.

Given the relatively short section of canal bank involved, and given the fact that South Dublin County Council will be progressing the project on either side of this short section, the most efficient approach would be one where South Dublin County Council and Kildare County Council enter into a Section 85 Agreement to allow South Dublin County Council to take responsibility for delivery of that portion of the project from Lucan Bridge to Aylmer Bridge, including the short section in County Kildare to the east of Aylmer Bridge.

I recommend that the members favourably consider this request.


Peter Minnock,
Director of Services

