



Department for
Infrastructure

An Roinn
Bonneagair

Department für
Infrastruktur

A4 Enniskillen Southern Bypass Social Value Information Booklet

April 2024



**ENNISKILLEN
SOUTHERN BYPASS**



The Department of Infrastructure (DfI) is responsible for the maintenance and development of critical infrastructure in Northern Ireland.

With a focus on water, transport and planning, it is the sole authority responsible for the road network in the region.

Infrastructure Minister John O'Dowd has welcomed confirmation of funding for the A4 Enniskillen Bypass which will allow the scheme to progress to public procurement (process of public sector bodies, government agencies procuring or buying goods, works or services). He highlighted the importance of major road schemes as part of the work delivered by the Department to reduce journey times, increase reliability and improve road safety.

To maximise the social, economic and environmental benefits of the A4 Enniskillen Bypass DfI have prepared an engagement survey for local residents, businesses users and interested parties in the local community in order to collect feedback on what Social Value you would like to see during construction.

This is a significant milestone in this important project, which will be welcome news for the local community and businesses in Enniskillen who are supportive of this much needed project.

**John O'Dowd
Infrastructure Minister**

Construction of the A4 Enniskillen Southern Bypass is due to commence in late spring/early summer 2025. In preparation for the appointment of the main contractor responsible for construction, DfI are seeking feedback from residents and businesses impacted by the scheme on the Social Value which could be delivered during the construction period.

Please note that activities will be delivered by the main contractor as part of the scheme and will be proportionate.

What is the scheme?

The A4 at Enniskillen forms part of the southwestern Key Transport Corridor, which provides a link between the east of the province, the Fermanagh Lakelands and cross border regions. The purpose of the scheme is to provide a direct link between the A4 Dublin Road to the east of the town, and the A4 Sligo Road to the west, via the A509 Derrylin Road, and onwards to Sligo.

The plan for the proposed bypass includes the following:

- Construction of 2.1km single carriageway with overtaking lanes provided at each end.
- Construction of two roundabouts at the Dublin Road and Derrylin Road.
- Construction of two new river bridges over the River Erne and River Sillees.
- Provision of a 3.5m cycleway / footway along the full length of the Bypass and extending along the Dublin Road and Derrylin Road to connect into existing non-motorised user infrastructure, such as facilities that cater for pedestrians, cyclists, equestrians, and disabled users.
- Enhancement of non-motorised user facilities to include the provision of a Toucan crossing (a pedestrian crossing with traffic lights which go green again only when no more pedestrians are detected on the crossing by infrared detectors and mats) on the Derrylin Road.

We are constructing the bypass to improve journey times, reliability of the transport network and road safety for all motor and non-motor users.

Other benefits that the scheme aims to deliver are:

- A strategic link for traffic wishing to bypass Enniskillen Town Centre.
- Reduce town centre congestion and enhance the environment.
- Provide a positive return on investment.
- Improved maintenance of the environment surrounding the bypass.

Purpose of this engagement

To maximise the social, economic and environmental benefits of the A4 Enniskillen Bypass, the DfI has prepared an engagement survey for residents, businesses users and interested parties in the local community, to collect feedback on what Social Value they would like to see during construction.

This input will help DfI to tailor meaningful Social Value outcomes as part of the scheme. This engagement is intended to be a first step prior to appointment of a construction contractor, who will be responsible for delivery of the agreed activities.

Social Value: A new requirement

A new requirement of the procurement process is to include Social Value; the extra value generated by an organisation through the delivery of a project which has a wider community benefit. This requirement became mandatory in Northern Ireland public procurement in June 2022 through the introduction of [PPN01/21](#). Ultimately, this allows Government Departments and their stakeholders to find new and far-reaching methods to deliver on the outcomes of the Programme for Government.

In Northern Ireland Social Value aims to maximise the social, economic and environmental benefits through the public procurement process.

What is Social Value?

Social Value allows organisations to consider how their activities can create positive benefits for residents, businesses and stakeholders that may be impacted by their construction projects.

Social Value is recorded and measured based on set themes and indicators which determine the outcomes that can be achieved via the contract. The indicators describe activities which can be delivered to achieve the Social Value outcomes.

There are four main themes under which Social Value can be delivered and measured.

1. Increasing Secure Employment and Skills

This theme aims to create employment and training opportunities, contribute to in-work progression and skills development, create opportunities for entrepreneurs and support economic growth.

The ways in which a contractor can deliver on this theme are:

- Paid employment for people belonging to different priority groups.
- Paid employment apprenticeships.
- Student placements.
- Educational attainment and skill development.

2. Building an Ethical and Resilient Supply Chain

This theme aims to tackle employment inequality, reduce the risk of modern slavery and human rights abuses within the supply chain, and promote diverse and secure supply chains.

Some ways in which we can deliver on this theme are:

- Tackling modern slavery training for employees engaged on the contract.
- Including social and micro enterprises on the supply chain.
- Supply Chain Resilience and Capacity Action Plan.

3. Delivering Zero Carbon

This theme aims to promote environmental benefits, influence environmental protection and improvement and work towards net zero (achieving a balance between the carbon put into the earth's atmosphere and the carbon taken out of it) sometimes referred to as 'greenhouse gas emissions'.

Some ways in which we can deliver on this theme are:

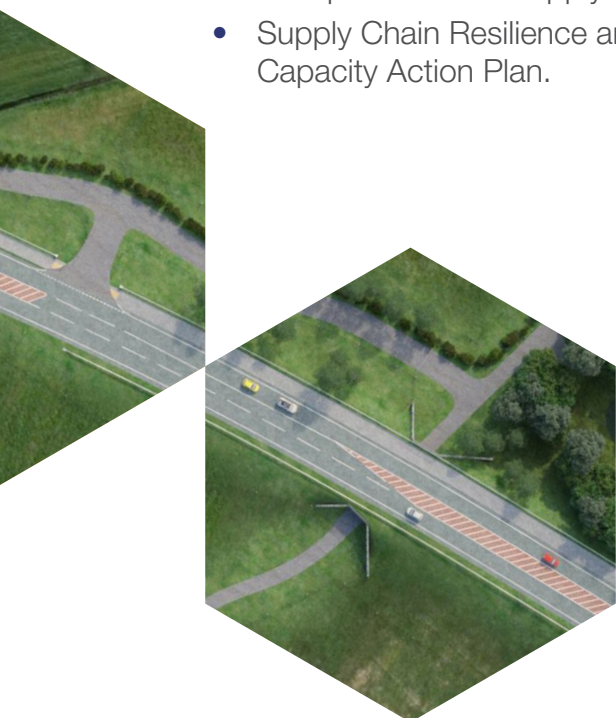
- Waste and Resource Efficiencies in the delivery of the contract.
- Environmental Initiatives delivered to local communities, Voluntary Community and Social Enterprise/ education establishments.
- Contract specifications in the supply chain that include environmental sustainability commitments.
- Climate change and carbon reduction training for staff.

4. Promoting Wellbeing

This theme aims to improve the health and wellbeing of the contract workforce, tackle employment inequality, contribute to in-work progression and skills development, and improve community cohesion.

Some ways in which we can deliver on this theme are:

- Health and Wellbeing initiatives to support employees including those working remotely on the contract.
- Initiatives to influence suppliers, customers and communities to support health and wellbeing, including physical and mental health.
- Initiatives to improve good relations between people from different religious, political, racial and ethnic backgrounds.
- Community engagement activities related to artwork or cultural activities.





What does this mean for the Enniskillen area?

Social value should be bespoke to communities and support addressing local needs, even as they change over time.

A local needs analysis has been undertaken to better understand the local community's needs in Enniskillen Town and Fermanagh and Omagh district.

The local needs analysis considers:

- A review of the key socio-economic conditions in Fermanagh and Omagh across three cross-cutting themes as set out in the Vision for Fermanagh and Omagh in the Statement of Progress.¹
- Each theme evaluates key indicators with these indicators being updated to include the latest data available. The data uses a range of sources including the Northern Ireland Statistics and Research Agency.²
- A comparison of the socio-economic indicators for Fermanagh and Omagh compared to Northern Ireland across the four Social Value themes.
- Analysis of Northern Ireland deprivation measures (Northern Ireland Multiple Deprivation Measure). This analysis ranks the Super Output Areas (SOAs) for Northern Ireland and defines an Enniskillen study area.³ The Enniskillen study area consists of 12 SOAs in Enniskillen Town and the surrounding area, with all SOAs being within a five mile radius of Enniskillen Town Centre.
- A review of priority groups listed in Northern Ireland Social Value Guidance to determine which priority groups should be considered for the Enniskillen Bypass procurement process.⁴ This involves a review of the local needs analysis based on key indicators.
- Shortlist of the Social Value initiatives which will be included in the Enniskillen Bypass procurement process.⁵ These have been shortlisted based on of the local needs analysis and a comparison of socioeconomic indicators for Fermanagh and Omagh district and Northern Ireland.

1 [Statement-of-Progress-2023.pdf \(fermanaghomagh.com\)](#)

2 [Statistics | Northern Ireland Statistics and Research Agency \(nisra.gov.uk\)](#)

3 [Northern Ireland Multiple Deprivation Measure 2017 \(NIMDM2017\) | Northern Ireland Statistics and Research Agency \(nisra.gov.uk\)](#)

4 [Working-with-Brokers-Guidance-for-Suppliers.pdf \(socialvalueni.org\)](#)

5 [Scoring-Social-Value-guidance-Selecting-Social-Value-Indicators.docx \(live.com\)](#)

Information from the Fermanagh Omagh Local Community Plan has been mapped against the four Social Value themes:

1. Increasing Secure Employment & Skills

Fermanagh and Omagh has a slightly lower unemployment rate than the national average,⁶ along with a lower level of young people who are not in education,⁷ and people claiming Employment, Education and Disability Living Allowance.⁸

However, there is a lower job density in Fermanagh and Omagh than the national level⁹ and the district sees lower levels of employment in professional, manager, director or senior job roles.¹⁰ There is also a higher percentage of the population aged 16-64 with no qualifications (NVQ).¹¹

The assessment of publicly available information tells us that Enniskillen has mild to low levels of deprivation, for both employment and education, skills and training domains.

However, there are areas of severe and high levels of deprivation in both within Enniskillen Town.¹²

2. Building Ethical & Resilient Supply Chains

Workers and residences in Fermanagh and Omagh are on average paid less than the rest of Northern Ireland.¹³ There are higher levels of agriculture and construction employment in the district than the national level.¹⁴ The business base has a SME (small and medium enterprise) focus, with 94% employing fewer than 10 employees, and a high level of self-employment driven by the high level of agriculture employment in the district.¹⁵

Enniskillen study area is an area of high to mild levels of income deprivation, with Enniskillen Town containing areas of severe income deprivation.¹⁶



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- 6 NISRA Labour Force Survey, 2022
 - 7 NISRA Labour Force Survey, 2020
 - 8 NISRA Disability Living Allowance Statistics, 2023
 - 9 NOMIS Job Density, 2022
 - 10 NISRA Labour Force Survey, 2022
 - 11 NISRA Labour Force Survey, 2022
 - 12 NIMDM Employment, Education, Skills & Training Domains, 2017
 - 13 NISRA Annual Survey of Hours and Earnings, 2023
 - 14 NISRA Labour Force Survey, 2022
 - 15 Fermanagh & Omagh Population Cards, 2020
 - 16 NIMDM Income Domain, 2017



3. Delivery Zero Carbon

There are significantly higher levels of carbon emissions per capita in Fermanagh and Omagh district than the rest of Northern Ireland.¹⁷ There is also a lower proportion of journeys made on public transport and active travel, like cycling.¹⁸ Enniskillen study area is an area of severe deprivation when considering access to services, except for Enniskillen Town, which has only mild to low levels of access to services deprivation.¹⁹ The study area also has mild to low levels of living environment deprivation, except for one area in Enniskillen Town and one to the north of the town which have high levels of living environment deprivation.²⁰

The delivery of this scheme would help increase the proportion of journeys made on public transport by making it more reliable.

4. Promoting Wellbeing

Fermanagh and Omagh district has a lower annual population growth rate than the national average.²¹ Residents within the district also have a higher life satisfaction score and feel less lonely.²² There is also a higher proportion of population who identify as “white”.²³

There is a lower engagement in the arts, culture, heritage and sports industry compared to the national average.²⁴ Enniskillen study area has low levels of health and crime deprivation, except for areas in Enniskillen Town which have severe levels of both deprivation domains.²⁵

17 ONS Greenhouse Gas Emissions, 2023
 18 Fermanagh & Northern Ireland Population Cards, 2020
 19 NIMDM Access to Services Domain, 2017
 20 NIMDM Living Environment Domain, 2017
 21 NISRA Population Estimates Mid-2022
 22 Estimates of Wellbeing in Northern Ireland, 2022/23
 23 United Kingdom Census, 2021
 24 NISRA Continuous Household Survey 2022/23
 25 NIMDM Health & Crime Domains, 2017

Feedback

A link to the survey is available on our website, our social media pages and is also accessible via the link <https://forms.office.com/e/tzpuhGNuPB>



www.infrastructure-ni.gov.uk/articles/a4-enniskillen-southern-bypass-overview



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The survey will run from 17 April to 5 May at 5pm.