PRESS RELEASE

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Fingal County Council welcomes commencement of MetroLink’s public consultation phase

Fingal County Council welcomes today’s announcement that the public consultation phase of the MetroLink project is to commence next week as MetroLink has the potential to deliver on Project Ireland 2040’s vision for future growth and development in Swords and in the wider Fingal area.

Speaking after today’s press conference in the Conrad Hotel, Dublin, the Chief Executive of Fingal County Council, Paul Reid, welcomed the announcement. He said: “Fingal County Council has long advocated the strategic need for a metro link from Dublin City Centre to the Airport, Swords and North County Dublin and today’s announcement is welcome as it has brought some clarity in relation to the route and timelines. Fingal County Council will be working with Transport Infrastructure Ireland over the coming months to ensure that the final design is the one best suited to Fingal and the Metro Economic Corridor.”

Fingal’s role within Dublin is inevitably evolving to a future that sees the Airport and Swords develop in accordance with the best principles of sustainable growth and ensures Ireland remains within easy reach of Europe and the wider global economy. The future development of Swords and Fingal, in the context of the MetroLink and proximity to Dublin Airport, has been identified in Project Ireland 2040 as an extension where growth can be accommodated.

Already, in the vicinity of the proposed Fosterstown stop, people-intensive employers include Ryanair, Kellogs and Hertz. The recent announcement by pharmaceutical company MSD, to provide 350 jobs at a new manufacturing facility in Swords, further highlights the expanding employment levels within the town and the potential to maximise the use of metro stops as ‘Gateways’ into Swords. Delivering on the sustainable supply of homes and extensive residential development in Swords is ongoing. The future development strategy for Swords is to promote high density and people intensive uses in the immediate vicinity of MetroLink.

The key to the success of Swords will be the integration of Metro Link and Fingal County Council’s Director of Strategic Infrastructure and Planning, AnnMarie Farrelly, emphasised this, stating MetroLink is a key element of the Council’s planning for the sustainable development of Fingal. She said: “Our 2017-2023 County Development Plan has laid the roadmap for the strategic and sustainable development of the areas adjacent to the metro route which has the potential to deliver significant levels of housing choice and high-skilled employment opportunities from now to 2040.” The integration of economic, cultural and
social growth, while achieving necessary and sustainable densities within co-ordinated frameworks will be critical for the creation of a prosperous Swords.

The Mayor of Fingal, Cllr Mary McCamley, said: “Councillors on Fingal County Council have spent many years campaigning for a metro system out to Swords and North County Dublin and today’s announcement is a positive step on the road to this long-overdue project becoming a reality.”

The Council will work closely with the National Transport Authority and Transport Infrastructure Ireland and engage with all the many elements that go towards delivering sustainable mobility in an efficient and integrated way to leverage the potential in Swords and Fingal.

The Metro Link Public Consultations will commence next week in County Hall, Swords, as the following dates and venues were announced today:

**Tuesday, March 27:** Fingal County Council Offices, County Hall, Swords, 2pm - 8pm  
**Thursday, March 29:** Crowne Plaza Hotel, Northwood, Santry, 2pm - 8pm.  
**Wednesday, April 4:** Wood Quay Venue at Dublin City Council Offices, 2pm - 8pm.  
**Monday, April 9:** The Helix, Dublin City University, Collins Avenue, Dublin 8, 2pm - 8pm  
**Monday, April 16:** Hilton Hotel, Charlemont, Dublin 6, 2pm - 8pm.  
**Wednesday, April 18:** Clayton Hotel, Leopardstown, Dublin 18, 2pm - 8pm.

Further information on MetroLink is available from [www.metrolink.ie](http://www.metrolink.ie)

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For press queries, please contact press@fingal.ie