

# Royal Canal Phase 4 Amending Part VIII

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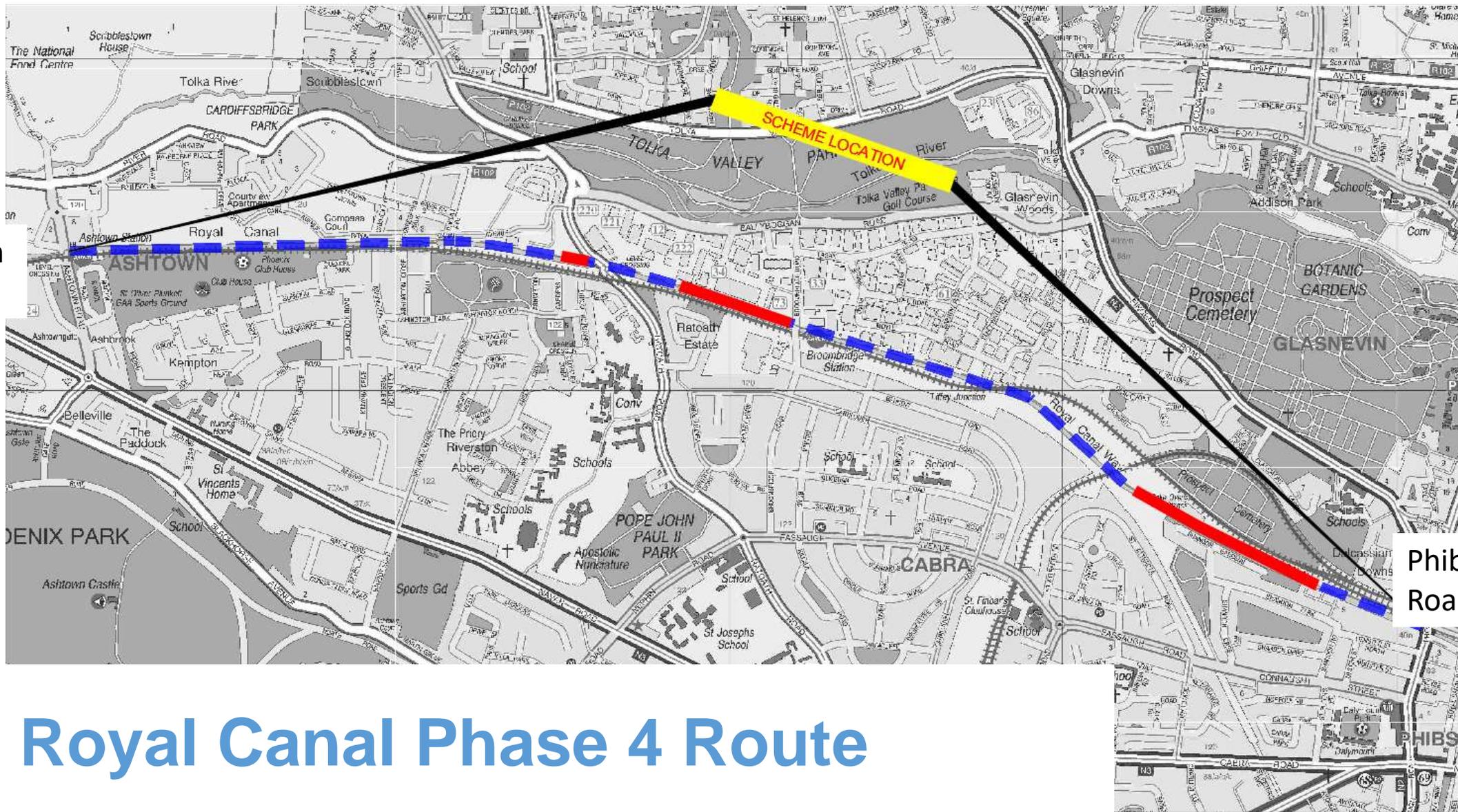
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Ashtown  
Road



Phibsborough  
Road

# Royal Canal Phase 4 Route

# Existing Approved Part VIII- 2015 Planning Ref. 2870/15

**Approval was obtained for Royal Canal Phases 2, 3 & 4 simultaneously in 2015.**

## **Phase 4 Approved Proposals**

- Covers the development of the full 4.2km scheme from Phibsborough to Ashtown.
- Approval to widen the path to 4.5m
- Land acquisition was proposed to overcome the various pinch points along the scheme.
  - Part VIII application allows for the greenway to be constructed in two phases.
  - Phase 1-The first would be the construction of the greenway in areas where land is already available.
  - Phase 2 -The second phase would be completed after land is acquired in the areas where widening is needed.
- Greenway for cyclists, pedestrians, and provision for residents and access vehicles.

# Royal Canal Phase 4 Status

- Phase 4A:            -Broombridge Road Contra-Flow-Complete Q4 2020  
                          - Additional Works Carried out in Q1 2023
- Phase 4B:            -Main Greenway Route  
                          Amending Part VIII Submission
- Phase 4C:            -Rail Underpass & Pinch points on Main Greenway Route  
                          Ground Investigation Contract ongoing to guide Options
- Phase 4D:            Tolka Valley Greenway to Phoenix Park (via Ashtown)  
                          Option Selection Ongoing

Broombridge Road



# Current Amending Part VIII Rationale

- Allows acceleration of towpath widening at pinch points – Long CPO process avoided
- Waterways Ireland – In agreement to allow canal narrowing (subject to dredging).
- Amending Part VIII required as changes are considered a “material change”
- Coke Oven Cottages – needs not met by existing Part VIII approval.
- Inclusion of ESB infrastructure

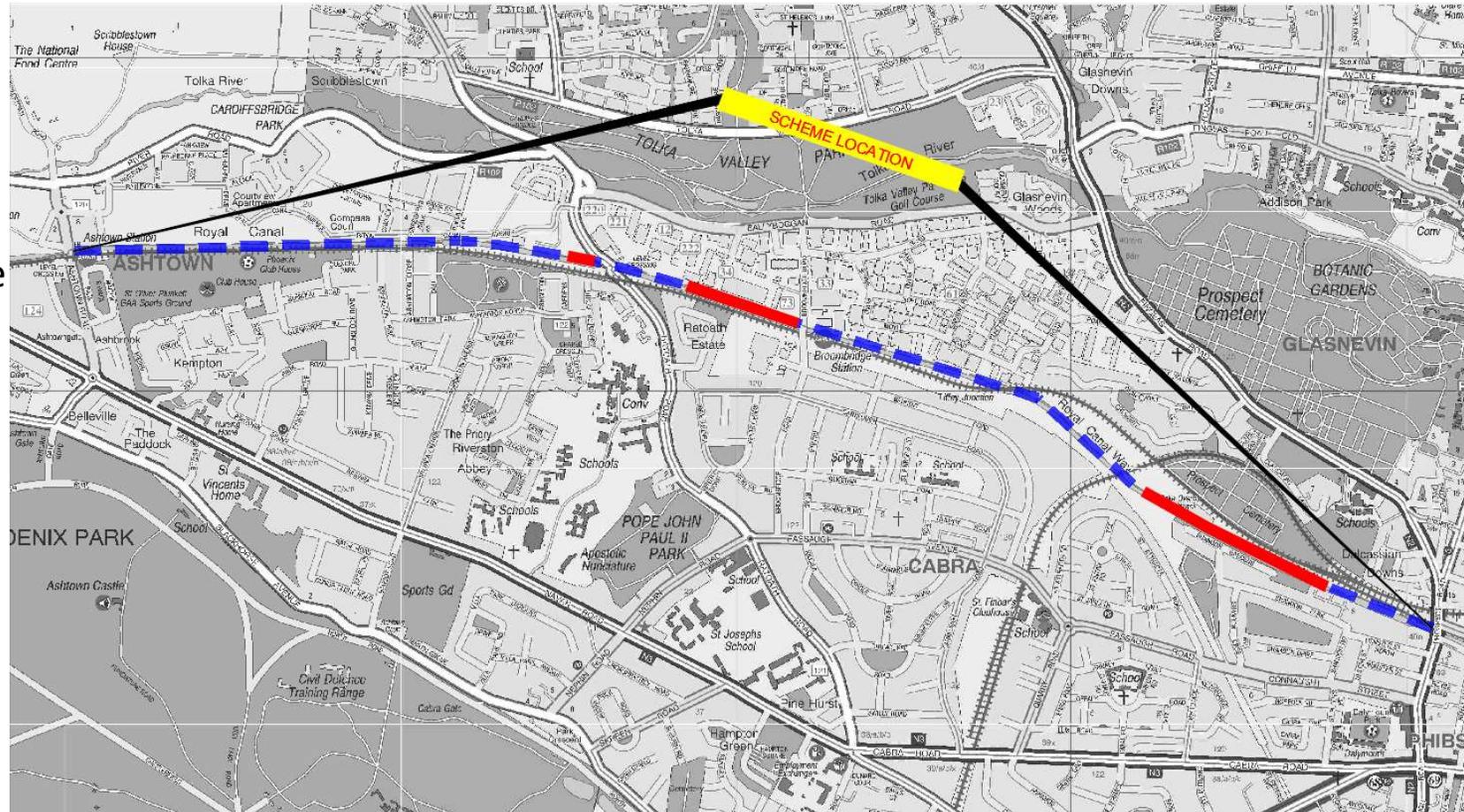
# Amending Part VIII Proposals

## Proposal

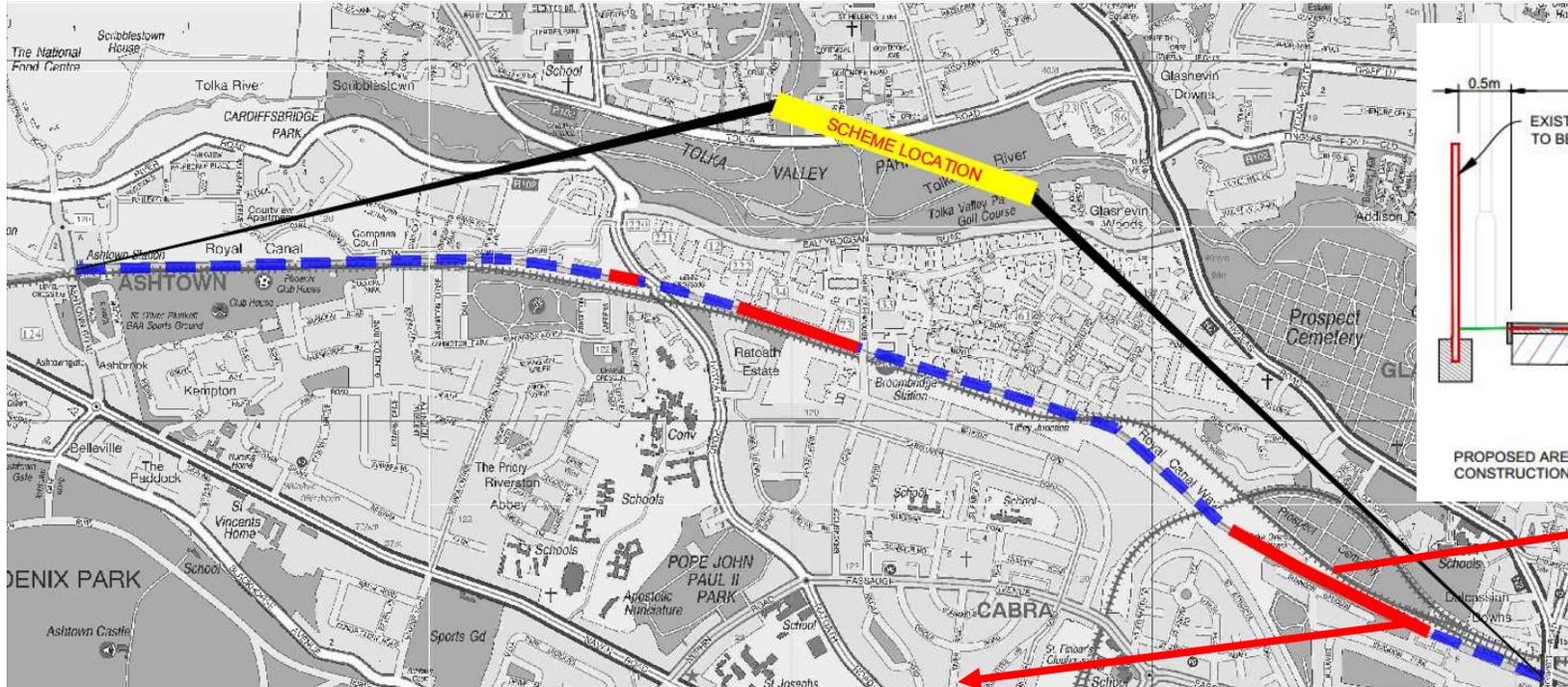
- Widen the towpath by realigning the northern bank of the canal at 3 locations.
- Removes the requirement for third party land acquisition
- ESB Infrastructure installation along route

## Canal Reconfiguration Locations

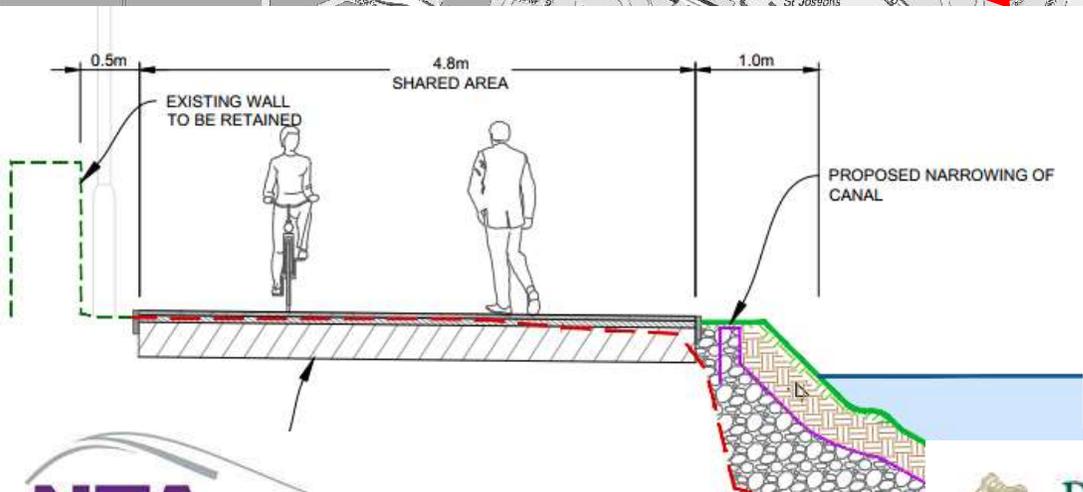
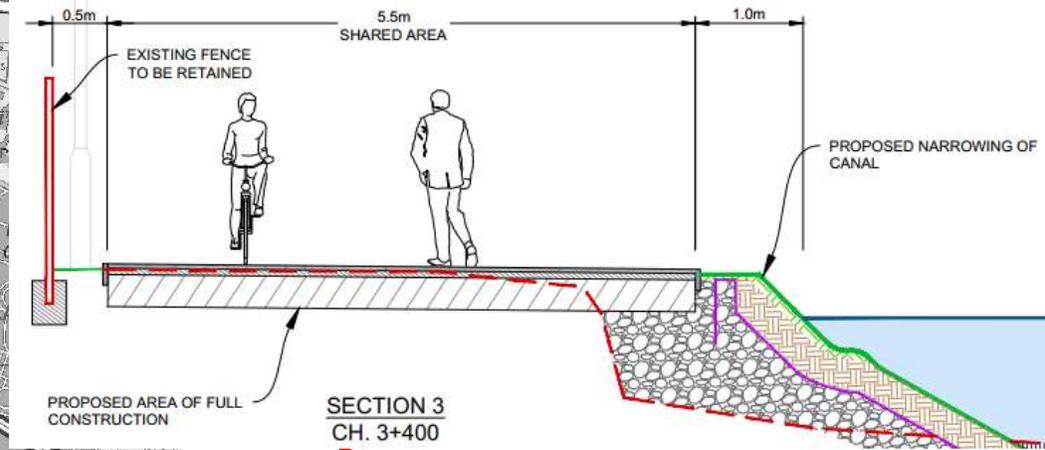
1. West of Lock 6 for approximately 600m, realigning by up to 2.15m
2. West of Broombridge for approximately 345m, realigning by up to 1.4m
3. West of Lock 8 for approximately 85m, realigning by up to 1.75m



# Section 1-West of Lock 6

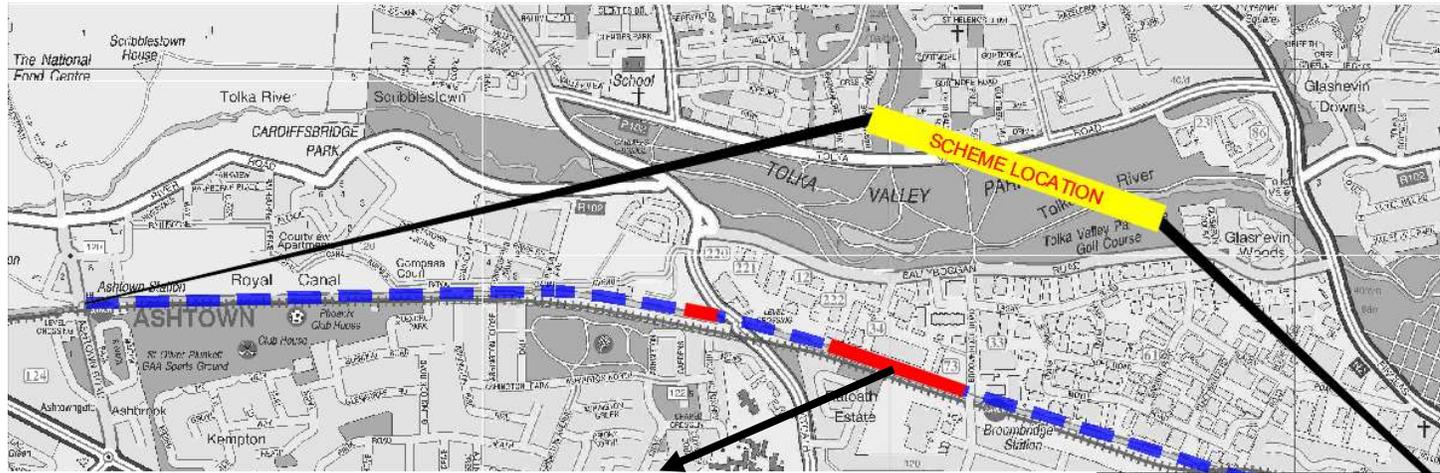


Section view outside Coke Oven Cottages

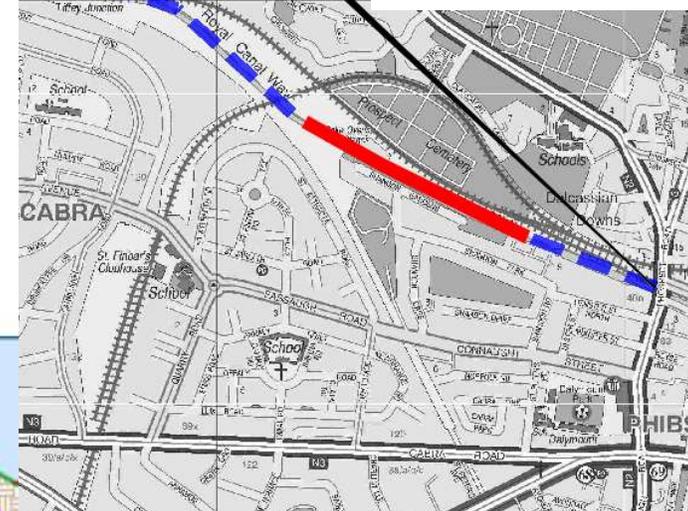
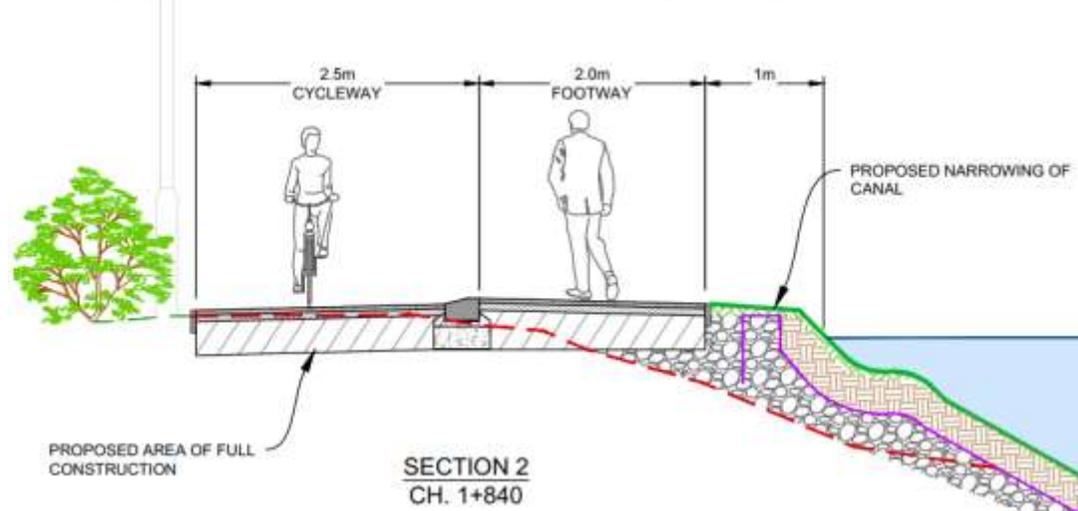


- Length of canal narrowing ≈ 600m
- Lock 6 along length of Calp wall, canal narrowing by 1.4m to provide 4.8m wide path and 1m canal side green verge
- Outside Coke Oven Cottages, Canal Narrowing up to 2.4m to provide 5.5m shared route/service vehicle parking & 1.5m canal side verge

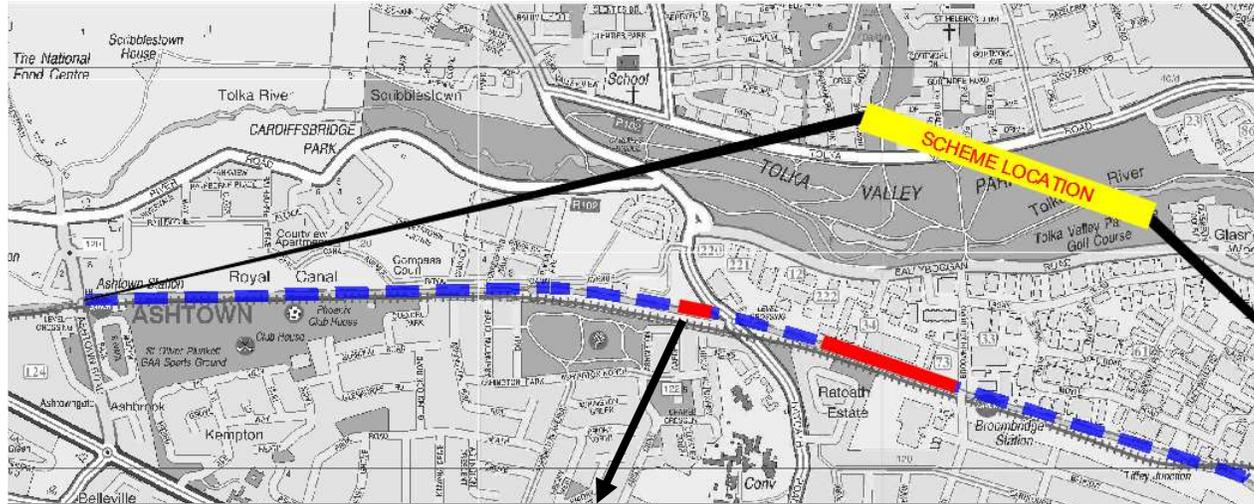
# Section 2- West of Broombridge



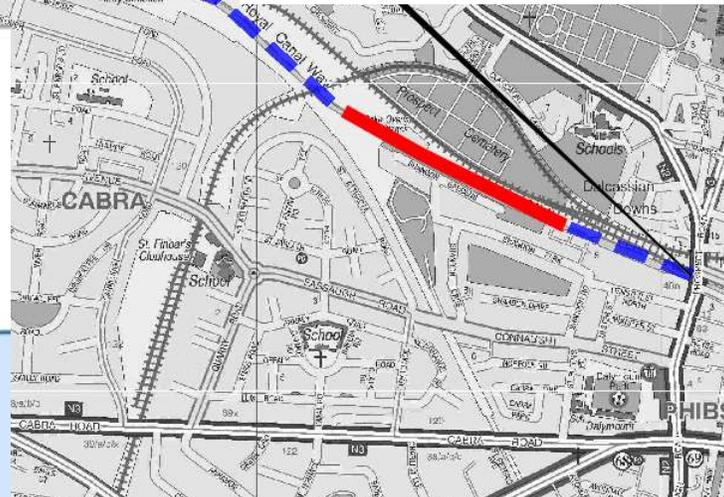
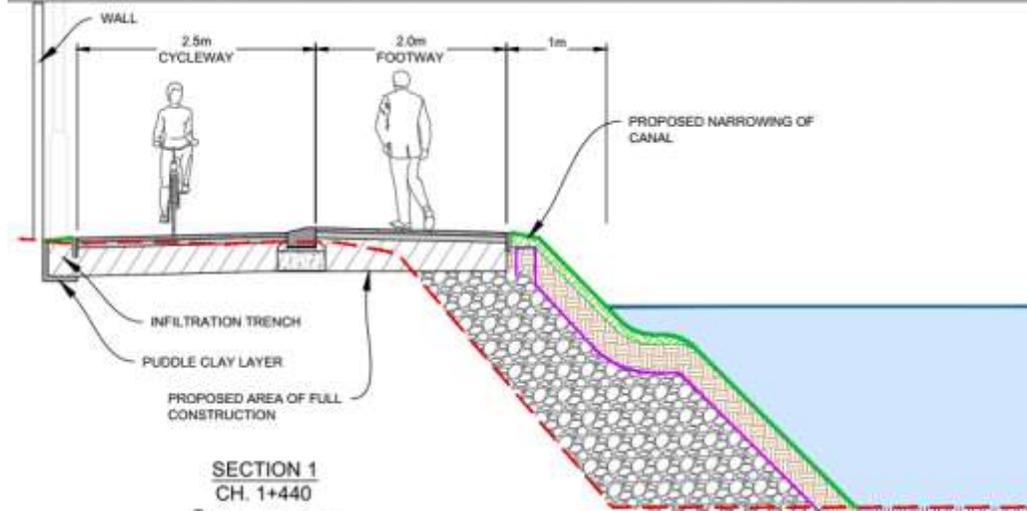
- Length of canal narrowing  $\approx$  345m
- Canal narrowing by up to 1.4m
- Facilitate widening towpath from 1.8m at its narrowest to 4.5m segregated Greenway
- 0.5m wide verge on either side of Greenway



# Section 3-West of Lock 8



- Length of canal narrowing  $\approx$  85m
- Canal narrowing by up to 1.75m
- Facilitate widening towpath from 2.85m at its narrowest to 4.5m segregated Greenway
- 0.5m wide verge on either side of the Greenway



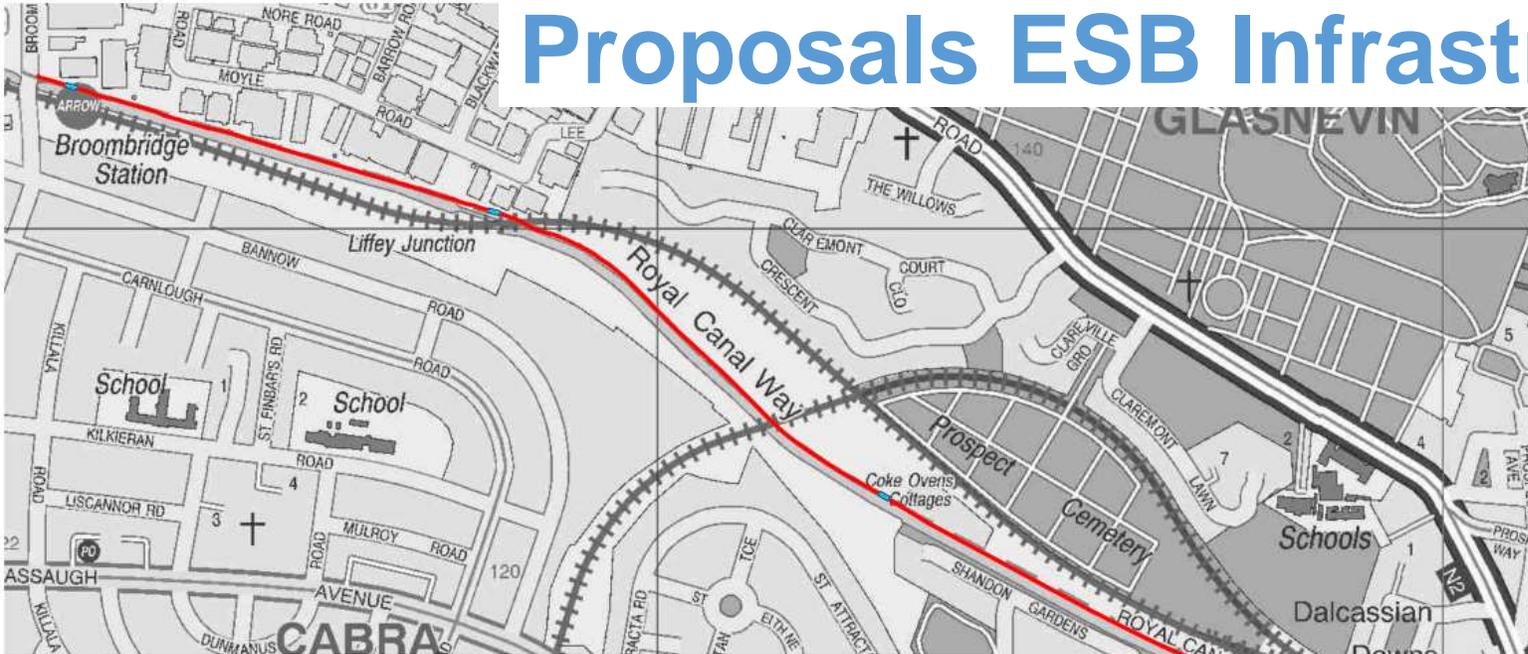
# Narrowing Construction Method

- Agreed with Waterways Ireland and will be as follows:
- Remove existing planting and sod on the northern bank - set aside for re-use
- Dewater the canal at the section where narrowing takes place
- Temporary watertight dams and by opening the locks at the downstream end where possible. Dewatered by pumping where required
- Electro fishing will be carried out prior to dewatering-Relocate fish from dewatered areas to watered areas.
- Installation of additional fill material to narrow the canal; boulders and crushed stone
- Install new puddle clay and HDPE lining over the crushed stone(waterproofing)
- Install topsoil layer to the new embankment
- Reinstate planting from wet bed
- Existing Contaminated material within the canal (Creosote) will be removed and disposed of off site
- **These narrowing works will be fully reversible, if required. The new material can be stripped back to the original lining material and the sod / planting reinstated once again**

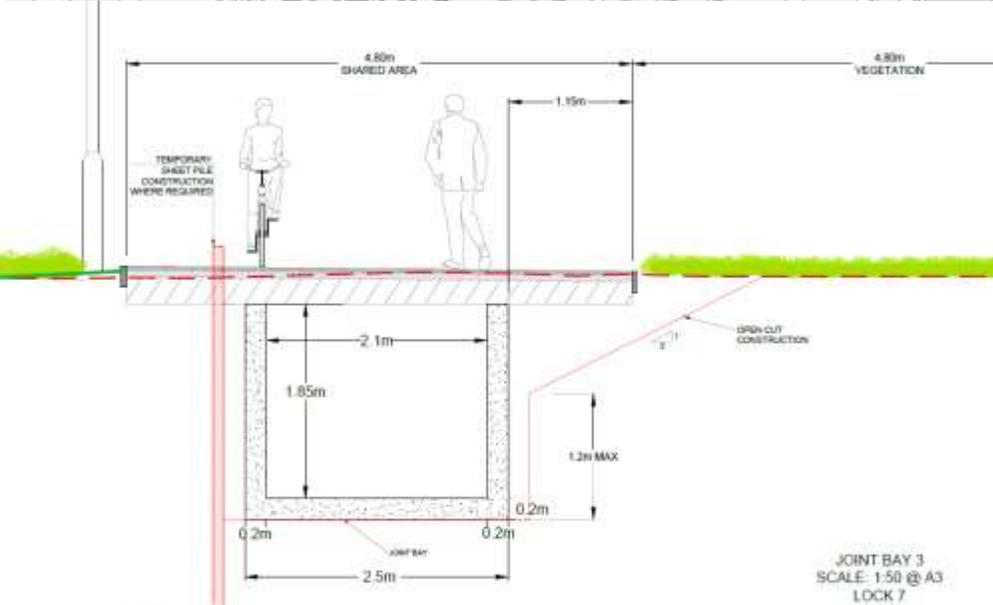


Previous Works within the Canal Channel east of Coke Oven Cottages

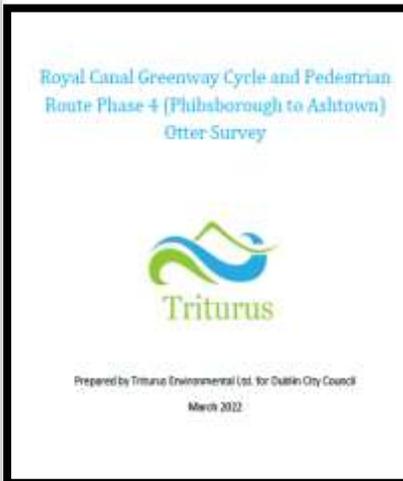
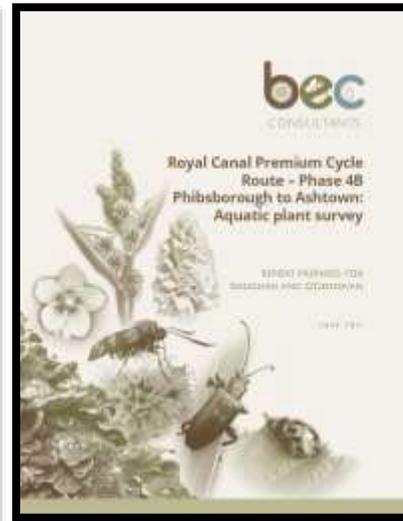
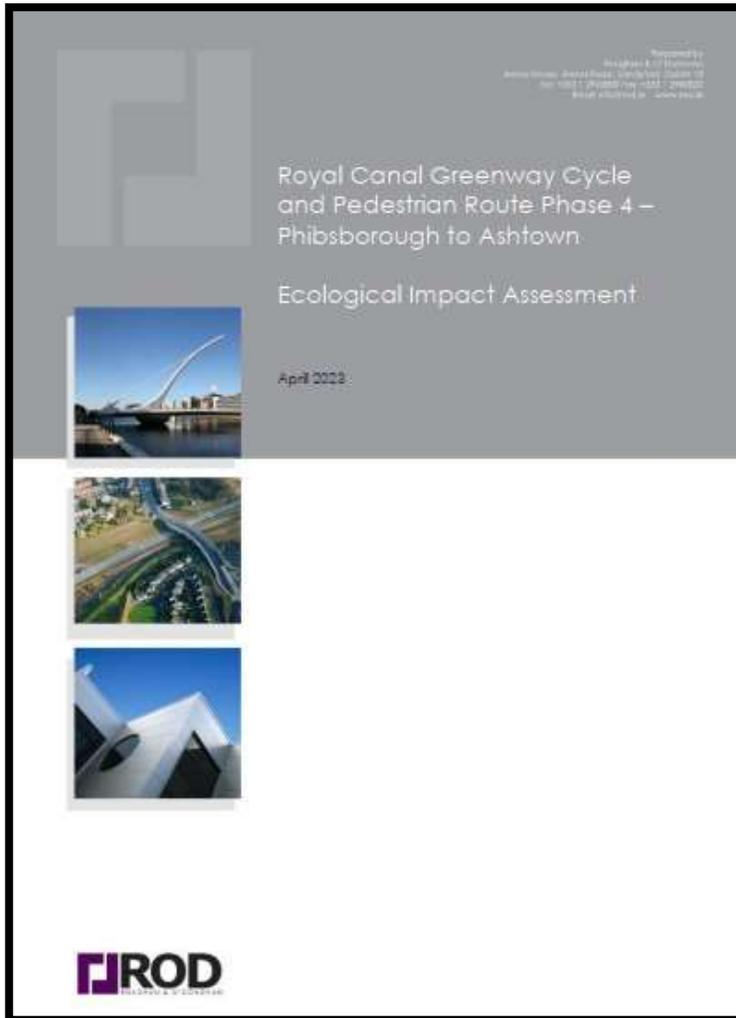
# Proposals ESB Infrastructure



- The ESB has a significant programme of works to upgrade existing oil filled high voltage electricity cables throughout Dublin City. (Fluid Insulated Cables)
- Modern plastic insulated cables will replace existing Fluid Insulated cables in the city.
- Potential environmental impacts of cable fluid leakage removed.
- ESB ducting and associated chambers to ESB standard are proposed as part of the Royal Canal Phase 4 Works
- Future proof the project against disruption in the event that such infrastructure has to be retrofitted in future.

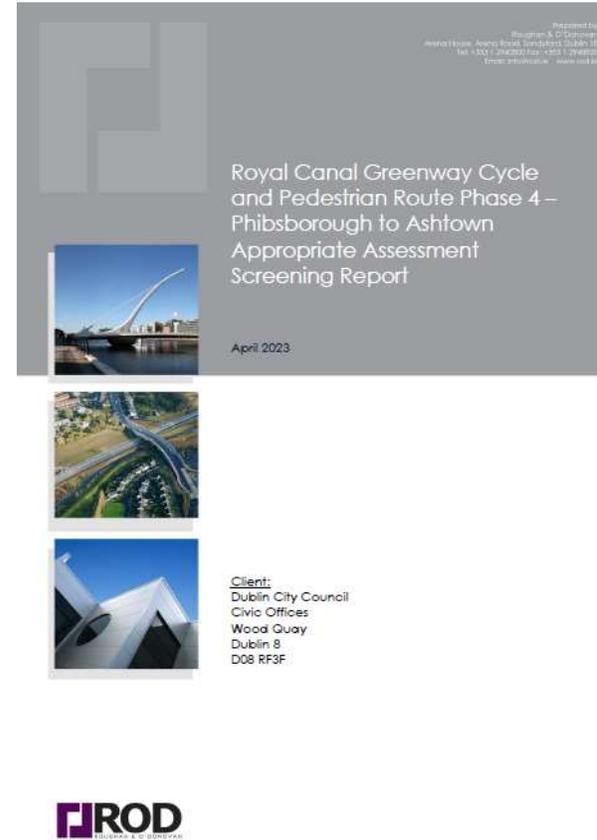
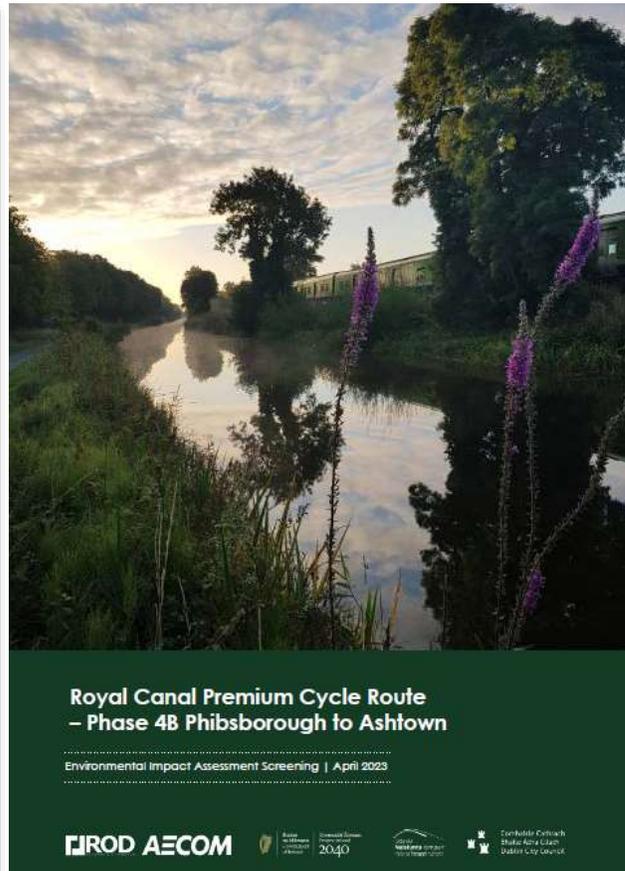
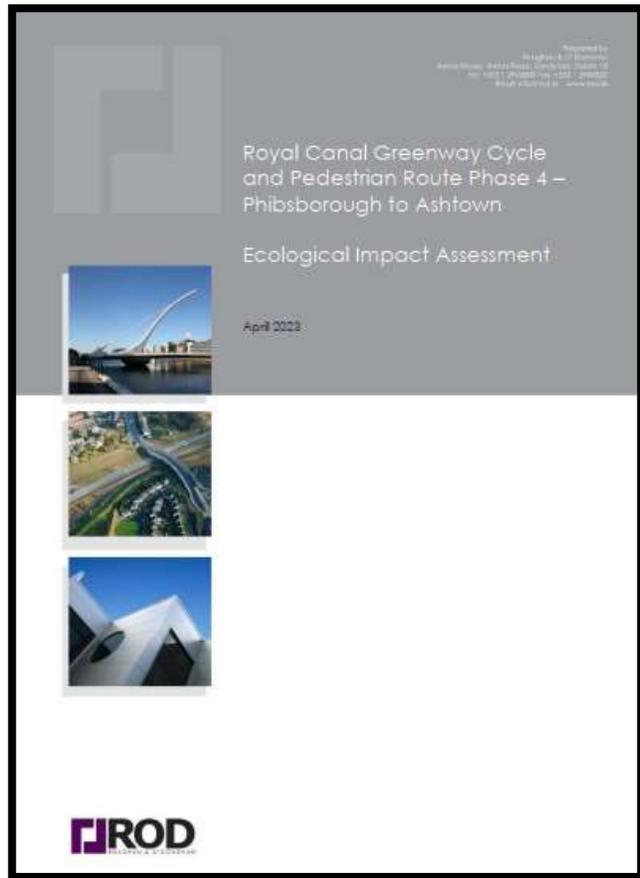


# Ecological Impact Assessment



- EclIA was undertaken to assess potential impacts on Key Ecological Receptors and to propose mitigation measures.
- EclIA included:
  - ✓ Otter Surveys (January 2022)
  - ✓ Bat Activity Surveys (May 2021 & September 2022)
  - ✓ Badger Surveys (March 2021)
  - ✓ Habitat, Botanical & Invasive Species Surveys (May 2021)
  - ✓ Aquatic Plant Surveys (May 2021)
  - ✓ Invertebrate Surveys (May 2021)

# Environmental Assessments Complete



- European Environmental Assessments conclude that an Environmental Impact Assessment Report and an Appropriate Assessments are not required.

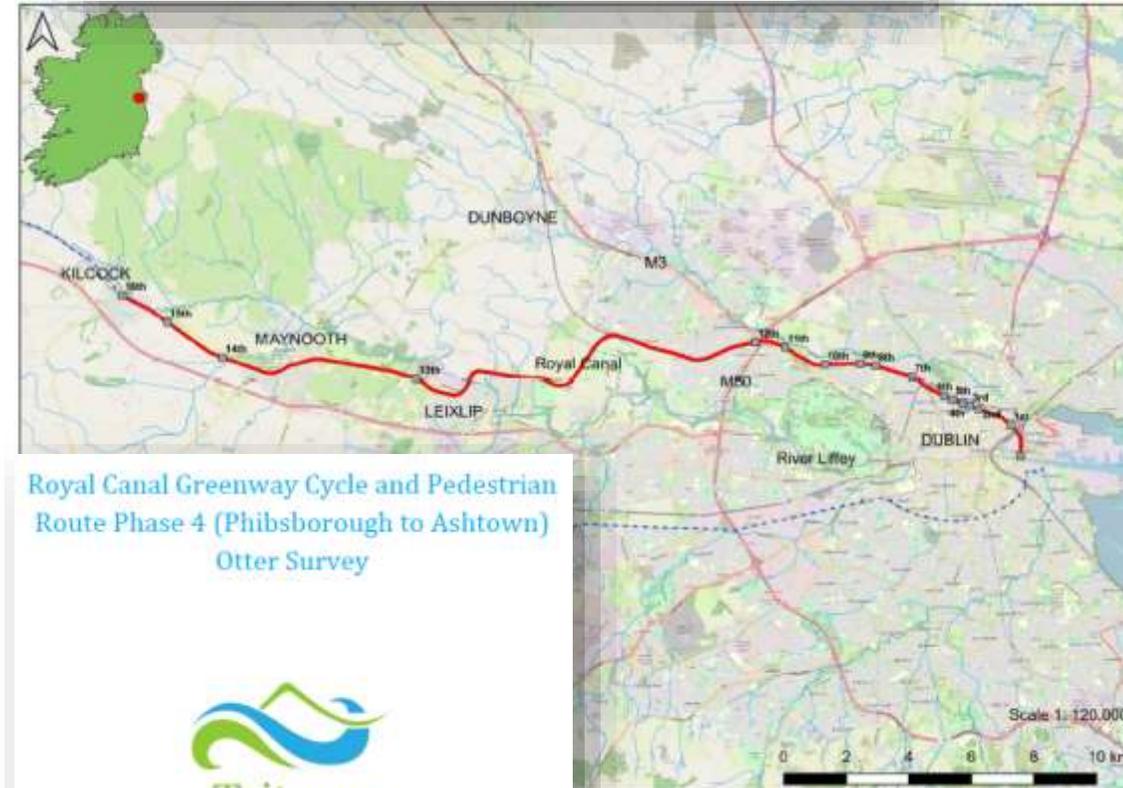
# Protected Species - Otters

- Ongoing engagement with the NPWS
- An Otter Derogation licence application was made to the NPWS in Feb 2023
- Commitment given to a four year Multi-annual programme of surveys along the Royal Canal between Kilcock and the River Liffey (33Km)
- Inform transportation projects in the area -Royal Canal Greenway (DCC,FCC,KCC), Metrolink, DART+, BusConnects etc.
- Annual ecological assessment includes:
  - Otter Survey
  - Otter DNA Collection
  - Molluscan Invertebrate Survey(snails, clams, or squids)
  - Macrophyte Surveys (aquatic plants growing in or near water)



An Roinn Tithíochta,  
Rialtais Áitiúil agus Oidhreachta  
Department of Housing,  
Local Government and Heritage

## Application for Derogation Licence Under the European Communities (Birds and Natural Habitats) Regulations 2011 – 2021



Prepared by Triturus Environmental Ltd. for Dublin City Council



# Protected Species - Bats

- Bat Survey Conducted
- A bat roost suitability assessment was conducted to identify built or natural features within close proximity to the construction envelope of the Project.

## Lighting Requirements for Bats

- Daubenton's Bats were recorded along the canal
- Scheme to incorporate lighting sensitive to needs of these bats
- Lighting Trial proposed to establish lighting design-timing, colour and lux levels.
- Potential lighting similar to that in place on Dodder Greenway in SDCC

## Construction Phase

- Usage of artificial lighting limited to the works areas during construction.
- Preferred lighting regime will be agreed with DCC public lighting in consultation with the NPWS.

Extract from 2022 Bat survey report

Species	No. calls (9 <sup>th</sup> June)	No. calls (8 <sup>th</sup> August)	No. calls (17 <sup>th</sup> August)	No. calls (1 <sup>st</sup> September)	No. calls (22 <sup>nd</sup> September)	No. calls (29 <sup>th</sup> September)
Daubenton's Bat	2	2	8	1*	0*	90*
Leisler's Bat	40	4	4	3*	18*	4*
Common Pipistrelle	29	238	237	254*	11*	7*
Soprano Pipistrelle	5	586	1035	204*	168*	185*
Pipistrelle (unknown)	2	1	2	0*	13*	1*

# Heritage Impact Assessment

**lotts** architecture and urbanism ltd  
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 Tel/fax 01 677 1006 www.lotts.ie

ARCHITECTURAL HERITAGE IMPACT ASSESSMENT  
 for  
 THE ROYAL CANAL IMPROVEMENT SCHEME &  
 CYCLEWAY



for  
 Dublin City Council  
 March 2023  
 Rev. A: 3 April 2023

Feature:	Longford Bridge	A	
Location:	Ashtown		
Protected:	RPS: 907 NIAH: 11362066	Date:	1790 - 1830
	 		
	<p>Fig. 39: Photo of Longford Bridge</p> <p>Fig. 40: Modern pedestrian bridge directly to the east of Longford Bridge</p>		
Description:	Single-arch humpback stone road bridge over Royal Canal, c.1810, located beside lock gates. Rubble limestone; cut limestone voussoirs and string course; oval limestone name plaque. (NIAH)		
Significance:	An early canal bridge at Ashtown. Built in a typical late eighteenth-century style to serve rural traffic over the Royal Canal, the early features and masonry skills are still evident. The bridge and the lock to the west of it are an appealing historic feature in the cityscape.		
Proposed Alterations	None		

- Architectural Heritage Impact Assessment undertaken to assess impacts on archaeological, architectural and industrial heritage
- Royal Canal channel is a Dublin City Industrial Heritage recorded site (DCIHR ref. 18-02-001 and 18-03-001)
- The report concludes that the proposed scheme will not have a negative impact on the historic canal setting.

# Photomontages- View At Royal Canal Avenue

Existing



Proposed



# View at Lock 8

Existing



Proposed



# View at West of Broombridge

Existing



Proposed



# View between Rathoath Road & Broombridge Road

Existing



Proposed



# View near Broombridge Station

Existing



Proposed



# View at Coke Oven Cottages



# Thank You