

N22 Farranfore|Killarney

CONSTRAINTS AND TRANSPORT OPTIONS



PUBLIC CONSULTATION 1

// PROJECT DESCRIPTION

Kerry County Council (KCC) is working in partnership with Transport Infrastructure Ireland (TII) and the Department of Transport to develop the N22 Farranfore to Killarney Project. The project involves the examination of feasible transport solutions including public transport and road-based solutions to improve connectivity between Farranfore and Killarney.

An online public consultation period will run for six weeks from **14th May to the 25th of June 2021** and KCC are seeking feedback on identifying the preferred option within the Study Area.

Submissions can be made using the feedback form in the online public consultation experience or alternatively sent in by Freepost or email.

As part of the road-based options a Southern Link Road between the N22 and the N71 Muckross Road is also being developed.

If a road-based solution is determined as the best performing option, this will form the Emerging Preferred Route Corridor. Once the Emerging Preferred Route Corridor has been selected, a Link to Killarney Town and a N23 Link in Farranfore will also be progressed.

This is an important project for the County of Kerry. The main objectives of the scheme are to improve reliability, reduce journey times, improve safety, enhance connectivity and improve traffic capacity, particularly at Farranfore and Killarney

KCC have appointed Jacobs Engineering Ireland Limited as Technical Advisors to progress to the planning and design phases of the scheme.

// PROJECT BACKGROUND

In 2003, a Preferred Route Corridor for an improved section of the N22 National Primary road between Farranfore and Killarney was identified.

Following a Peer Review process in 2008, some refinement areas were identified for re-assessment and a Refined Preferred Route Corridor was finalised in 2012.

However, this project was later suspended due to the prevailing economic circumstances at the time. Since the identification and appraisal of the Refined Preferred Route Corridor in 2012, several changes to European and National policy have occurred including in areas of Environmental Protection, Climate Adaptation and Transport Sustainability.

In 2019, KCC in consultation with TII commenced a review of the scheme in accordance with current National Guidelines to consider and assess all alternative modes and options which could potentially improve the transport connectivity between Farranfore and Killarney and onwards to Tralee and Cork.



// HOW DID WE GET HERE?

The scheme development is currently at **Options Selection stage**. Initial work undertaken was to develop the Study Area, where the proposed upgrades to the existing N22 corridor will take place and identify all the constraints. These were determined under three principal categories, namely:

- Natural Constraints (landscape and environment);
- Artificial Constraints (the built environment); and
- External Parameters (design standards, policy).

Several feasible road-based Route Corridor Options were then developed to avoid or minimise impacts on these constraints. Consideration was given to potential improvements along the existing N22 as well as other modes of transport (rail and bus). These initial options were assessed under three criteria: Engineering, Environment and Economy with the best performing options to be shortlisted for further consideration.

The best performing road-based options are being presented in the online public consultation experience as the Route Corridor Options.

During this public consultation we are inviting feedback on the options being proposed for further examination, including road and public transport modes. It should be noted the road options are being appraised based on corridors that are generally 400m wide within which route alignments have the potential to be developed. A corridor does not represent the actual width of the road scheme or the lands to be acquired – the corridor indicates the lands within which a road scheme could be developed. Such design development will be undertaken for the preferred option then the overall extent of the proposed works will be defined.



// OPTIONS

Public Transport Options:

Options for the improvement of capacity on the existing rail line between Killarney and Farranfore will be taken forward to the next stage of assessment. Options for the improvement of bus services within the study area will also be taken forward.

N22 Farranfore to Killarney:

Four N22 Route Corridor Options were shortlisted to proceed to the Options Selection stage. The routes all commence on the existing N22, approximately 2km north of Farranfore village and continue southwards, bypassing Farranfore village and Killarney town before terminating on the N22, south-east of Killarney town at Lissivigeen. The Route Corridor Options are typically 400m wide. A corridor does not represent the actual width of the road scheme or the lands to be acquired – the corridor indicates the lands within which a road scheme could be developed. It should be noted that the boundary of a route corridor may be subject to change as the project develops, to address any new or previously unidentified constraints emerging during the assessment process.

Link Roads Corridor Options:

N71 – N22 Southern Link Road:

Three Route Corridors were identified for this part of the scheme. The routes commence on the existing N71 Muckcross Road and continue north eastwards, crossing the Flesk River and the Tralee-Mallow railway line before terminating on the existing N22 to the south east of Killarney town near Lissivigeen.

N23 Link Road:

Options for an N23 link road in the vicinity of Kerry Airport will also be developed. The development of this route will need to be cognisant of the existing constraints in the area including but not limited to; property, the airport, the railway, the floodplain and other associated environmental constraints. An indicative area highlighted in blue on the map is where the route is likely to be developed.

Killarney Link Road:

A link road connecting the N22 Route Corridors to the existing road network will be developed in the vicinity of Killarney town. The development of this route will need to be cognisant of the existing constraints in the area including but not limited to, property, the railway, and environmental constraints. An indicative area highlighted in grey on the map is where the route is likely to be developed.

// LEGEND

Public Transport Options

Tralee to Mallow Rail Line 

N22 Mainline Options

Option A: Blue 

Option B: Orange 

Option C: Magenta 

Option D: Green 

Alternative Link i 

Alternative Link ii 

N71 - N22 Southern Link

Option A1: Blue 

Option B1: Orange 

Option C1: Magenta 

Alternative Link iii 

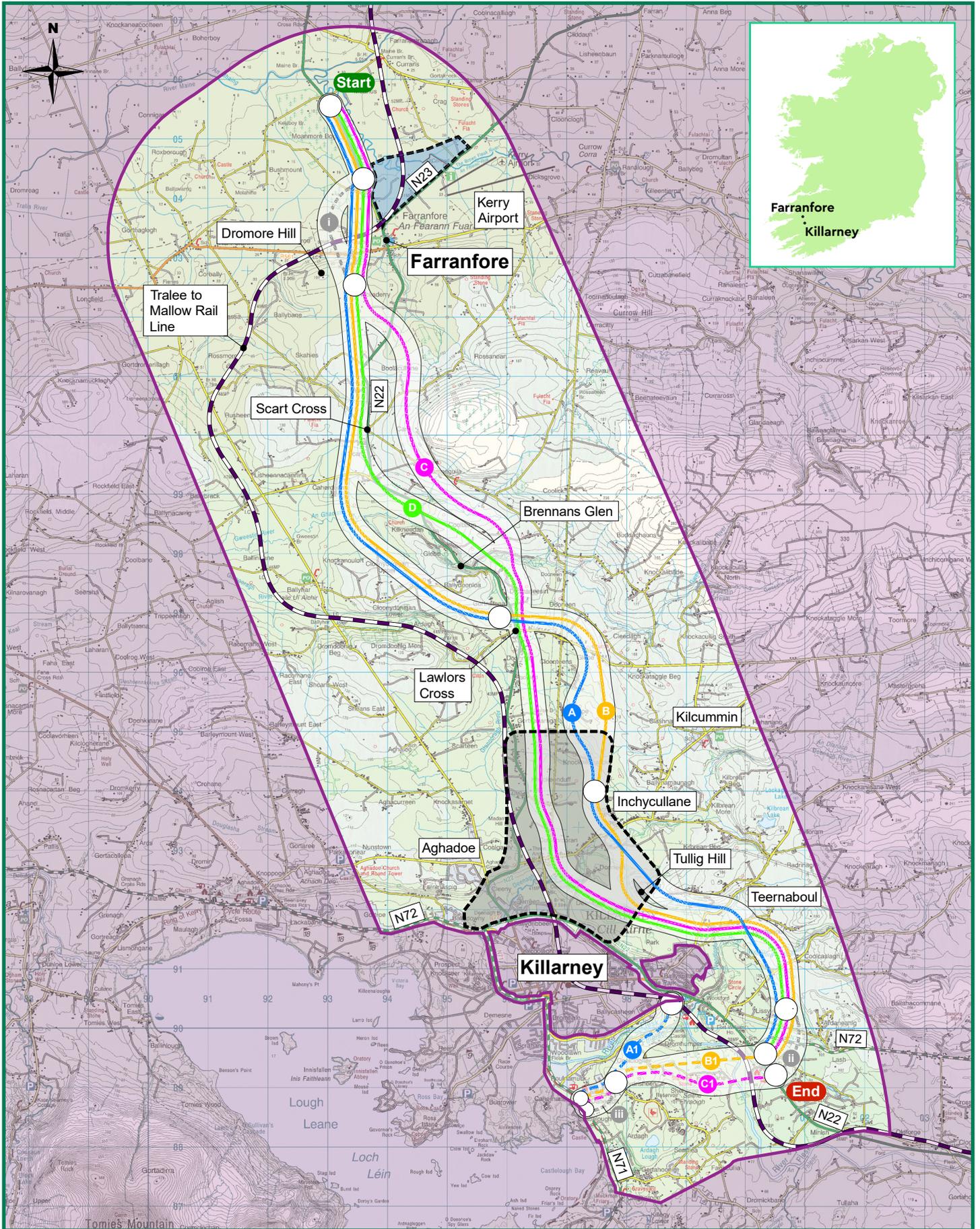
Study Area Boundary 

Interchange Node 

N22 Corridor Boundary 

Area For Future N23 Link 

Area For Future Killarney Link 



// PUBLIC CONSULTATION

The project team are now engaging with the public on the Study Area, the Route Corridor Options, Public Transport and Active Travel provisions identified for further assessment.

In response to the COVID-19 restrictions around holding public events and to improve the accessibility of the information, an online public consultation experience has been developed on the project website <https://n22.kerrycoco.ie/>

This online public consultation experience allows stakeholders and members of the public to view project information and to express their opinions in a safe and accessible environment.

The public consultation period will run for six weeks from 14th May to the 25th of June 2021 and we are seeking information on the key constraints in the Study Area, the Route Corridor Options, including Public Transport and Active Travel provisions being proposed.

Submissions can be made using the feedback form in the online public consultation experience. Alternatively, a submission can be sent in by Freepost or email.

During the consultation people can also book an appointment within the virtual room and request a call back to speak with a member of the project team by phone or video call.

This service will be available during the first 4 weeks of the public consultation period, 14th May to the 11th of June 2021.

KCC understands that not everyone has access to online information. For those who wish to speak to a member for the project team directly, request a copy of the feedback form or brochure, they can do so by calling 066 7183583.

A non-statutory public consultation period for the N22 Farranfore to Killarney Project took place between the 14th May to the 25th of June 2021 and is now closed. The next Public Consultation period is due to open in Q4 2022 when it is expected that the Emerging Preferred Corridor will be selected.



// NEXT STEPS

Feedback and submissions received through this public consultation will be considered by the Project Team as part of the Options Selection process. This will involve a detailed assessment of the options under the following criteria:

- Economy;
- Environment;
- Integration; and
- Safety;
- Accessibility & Social Inclusion;
- Physical Activity.

The outcome of the assessment will lead to the identification of the best performing option.

If a road-based option is the best performing option it will be taken forward as the Emerging Preferred Route Corridor Option and then be displayed at a future public consultation. Upon confirmation of the Preferred Route Corridor, this will be further developed, and an alignment design of the proposed main line road will be created within this corridor and taken forward through the planning and statutory processes. A public display of the Emerging Preferred Route Option would be expected to take place in Q2 2022. Updates and details of future public consultations will be published on

<https://n22.kerrycoco.ie/>

The indicative milestones set out below are if a road-based option is determined the best performing option.



// HOW TO MAKE A SUBMISSION

Submissions can be made using the feedback form in the online public consultation experience within the project website: <https://n22.kerrycoco.ie>

Please make submissions in relation to the Route Corridor Options by **Friday June 25th 2021**.

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