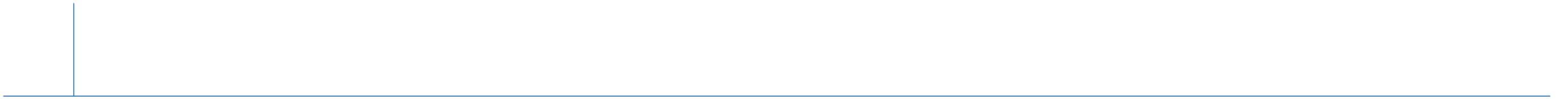


Swords Masterplans

Part D: Estuary West

Draft Masterplan
March 2019





Estuary West Draft Masterplan

Chief Executive
Paul Reid

Director of Services
AnnMarie Farrelly

Senior Planner
Matthew McAleese

Senior Executive Planner
Róisín Burke





Executive Summary	1
Masterplan lands	3
Issues & Opportunities	4
Vision and Principles	5
Transport and Movement	7
Green Infrastructure	9
Built Form	11
Commercial Typologies	15
Residential Typologies	17
Phasing and Implementation	19

This Masterplan forms Part D of the overall set of three Masterplans prepared for locations in Swords as follows:

- Barrysparks & Crowscastle
- Fosterstown
- Estuary West

The Masterplan should be read in conjunction with Part A, which sets out the background, context and key principles for the three Masterplan areas as well as in conjunction with Part E, which contains the appendices.

Executive Summary

Introduction

Swords is a settlement of 39,200 people and the administrative capital of Fingal. It is also the largest 'key town' in the Dublin Metropolitan Area, as defined in the Draft Regional Spatial and Economic Strategy (RSES).

Swords benefits from a range of amenities including the Pavilions Shopping Centre and has a high level of owner-occupied houses. As such, it is an attractive option for those seeking quality of life.

The Vision

Estuary West will become a vibrant residential and mixed-use community, with active and friendly streetscapes. The aim is to produce an exemplary environment; a place that is desirable to live and one which balances usable private space within an overall structure of high quality public spaces. The community will be prioritised, with parks, open space and public plazas filtered throughout.

A Growing Place

Swords has undergone a high level of growth in recent years, nearly doubling in size in the last two decades (+76%). On the basis of the population targets presented in the Draft RSES, it is likely to reach 50,000 people by 2031 and may exceed any existing targets, as new transportation infrastructure in the form of MetroLink is developed and as strategic employment and residential land banks are developed.

The *Your Swords: An Emerging City, Strategic Vision 2035* envisages Swords ultimately growing into a city of 100,000 people. This level of population growth will result in an increase in the resident worker population of approximately 20,000 people, up to a figure of 45-50,000 people.

A significant proportion of new employment in Swords will be provided in the Barrysparks & Crowscastle/ Lissenhall East

areas, however, the Estuary West area will also benefit from the development of additional commercial floorspace, with the potential to generate up to 1,500 new jobs.

A Connected Place

The MetroLink project is a high frequency/high capacity urban railway service that will run between Swords and Dublin City Centre, connecting key destinations such as Dublin Airport en route.

However, given that the Estuary Station will be approximately 1,500 metres from the Masterplan lands, creating pedestrian and cyclist friendly routes, over the shortest distance possible, will be critical to maximising the benefits of MetroLink.

At a glance...

Transport



1,500 m to Metro station

Education



1 new school
c. 400 pupils

Housing



Range of typologies including houses and apartments



Density
Net Density:
70-75/ha

Employment



18,000 - 20,000
sq.m commercial
floorspace
Up to 1,500 jobs



Open Space
Broadmeadow River
Corridor
Landscaped setting
Games areas

Note: All figures are indicative.



Existing and proposed elements:

- 1 Applewood
- 2 Thornleigh
- 3 Castleview Roundabout
- 4 Broadmeadow River
- 5 Swords Celtics FC
- 6 Glen Ellan Road, Balheary Road Junction
- 7 Jugback Lane
- 8 Glen Ellan Road
- 9 2 storey houses fronting Jugback Lane (10 no.)
- 10 Pedestrian and Emergency vehicle access to Jugback Lane
- 11 Open space/ green corridor to Broadmeadow River
- 12 Sustainable urban Drainage System featuring high quality landscaping and pedestrian/ cyclist paths
- 13 Local shop and open space based around Newtown House
- 14 Proposed school and open space
- 15 Commercial buildings fronting the Glen Ellan Road and Balheary Road junction
- 16 Residential fronting Glen Ellan Rd - 3-5 storey height
- 17 3 storey residential (houses or duplex) fronting Jugback Lane, with vehicular access from Glen Ellan Road
- 18 5 storey residential
- 19 4 storey residential
- 20 3 storey residential
- 21 2 storey residential



1 Masterplan Lands

Size & Location

The Masterplan incorporates approximately 19.4 ha of land to the north of Swords. The area is bounded by the Glen Ellan Road to the south, Jugback Lane to the west, Balheary Road to the east and the Broadmeadow River to the north.

Features

At present, the site is comprised of underutilised agricultural land, where some clearance has occurred. Also present is a disused industrial building and associated carpark which housed the National Monuments Archive. There is one recorded monument (Ring Ditch Ref. No. DU011-080) and one built heritage structure of note (Newtown House Ref. No. 11335009).

Adjoining land

The character of the surrounding area is primarily residential with some commercial uses also occurring. The residential estates of Thornleigh, Applewood, Ashton Broc and the Glebe Estate are located to the west and south of the Masterplan area. St. Colmcille's GAA Club is located to the south. The Swords Celtic Football Club and its associated sports grounds are located to the north, on the opposite side of the Broadmeadow River. The Swords Business Campus, which accommodates users such as the Central Statistics Office and Inland Fisheries Ireland, as well as a range of private businesses, is located to the east of the site.

Topography

The land generally slopes from south to north toward the Broadmeadow River.



Planned Infrastructure

The Masterplan lands will benefit from the proposed Estuary Metro stop, which is located approximately 1,500m from the Masterplan lands. With strong road links, the Estuary West lands are strategically located for businesses who depend on easy access to the national road network. Excellent transport links will also make the area accessible to a broad customer base.

Statistics

- 19.4 Hectares total site area
- Topography: 8 metre fall across site
- 4.5 km to Dublin Airport
- 6.5 km to Port Tunnel
- 12.5 km to City Centre



Issues	Opportunities
<p>Open Space/Recreational Amenity The Broadmeadow River is an underutilised asset at this location, and once improved will form a key recreational amenity for north Swords. While the immediate area has a number of sports clubs, dedicated public open spaces are relatively limited in the area.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide a green corridor along the Broadmeadow River to create an extension of the riverside park. • Incorporate two linear (north-south) green corridors, which will incorporate necessary SuDS infrastructure and will provide a high quality landscape that fosters biodiversity and provides for the enjoyment of residents. • Provide new sporting facilities (playing field/sports court) for the use of residents. • Potential to provide pedestrian/cycle links across the Broadmeadow River to connect with sports grounds at Swords Celtic. • Provide a 'nature playground' within the Broadmeadow Park.
<p>Local Centre A small local centre exists in neighbouring Applewood, however new local services will be required to support the new residential community that will live here. It will also support staff and students of the new school as well as the commercial development.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Create a local centre with retail and retail services to facilitate local needs. • Provide an opportunity for people to meet and gather through the provision of a civic square. • Incorporate Newtown House into the civic square and local centre.
<p>Commercial There is a lack of high quality, A-grade commercial development in the north Swords area. An opportunity exists to expand the existing commercial offer of Swords Business Park into the Masterplan lands.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide commercial uses to the south-east of the Masterplan lands, at the junction of the Glen Ellan/ Balheary Road. • A potential of c. 18,000 sq. m of commercial floorspace can be provided.
<p>Educational Facilities After recent residential development in the north Swords area, a shortage of school spaces for local children has become an issue. A new primary school in Estuary West will help support both the existing and new communities in this area.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide a new primary school in Estuary West to serve the growing population of the north-Swords area. • Provide additional sporting/recreational facilities to serve the primary school.
<p>Heritage Newtown House is on the National Inventory of Architectural Heritage and is currently vacant. An important heritage asset such as this should be protected and its reuse encouraged.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Newtown House will be protected and conserved. • Incorporate the public civic square with Newtown House and the local retail centre to promote this key heritage asset. • Encourage the reuse of Newtown House.
<p>Community/Neighbourhood It is envisaged that the population of Swords can reach 100,000 people. The growing population of Swords will require additional residential dwellings, and Estuary West can facilitate the development of a new community. The north-Swords area lacks higher density residential dwellings such as apartments.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide high quality residential accommodation which will cater to the changing needs of its future residents. • Provide a mix of apartments and houses, with a range of bedroom sizes to facilitate the growing population of Swords. • Ensure the provision of local services and amenities to support new residential developments.

3 Vision and Principles

The Vision
 Estuary West will become a vibrant residential and mixed-use community, with active and friendly streetscapes. The aim is to produce an exemplary environment; a place that is desirable to live and one which balances usable private space within an overall structure of high quality public spaces. The community will be prioritised, with parks, open space and public plazas filtered throughout.

Land Use
 The Masterplan lands shall be primarily residential in nature, with an element of commercial uses. The lands shall also facilitate community uses in the form of the proposed school and a local retail centre that will integrate Newtown House.

Local Centre/ Newtown House
 The Masterplan will encompass a new local centre, based around Newtown House, to provide a place for people to fulfill their daily shopping needs, have lunch, or meet and socialise.

Open Space
 Green corridors and public open space along the Broadmeadow River facilitate pedestrian and cyclist access and support long-term sustainability of the area. Additional green corridors are proposed north-south through the lands, providing recreational areas and walking/cycling routes.

Transport and Movement
 The Masterplan seeks to facilitate strong pedestrian and cyclist connections, as well as strong connections to the town centre and public transport infrastructure. Car dominance will be discouraged and active travel promoted. Pedestrian and cyclist connections have been incorporated to facilitate access to the Metro station and Swords Main Street.

Interface Areas
 The building heights and typology proposed have considered adjacent communities and structures. Density and height respectfully transitioning down towards Jugback Lane from the centre of the plan lands, with heights of 2-3 storeys to reflect the current scale of development.

Built Form, Typologies and Density
 This Masterplan envisions a community that can adapt and grow with the changing needs of its residents, and incorporates a mixture of houses and apartments, and a mixture of bedroom sizes. Lower density houses have been incorporated along Jugback Lane, while higher density apartments are located through the centre and south of the lands.

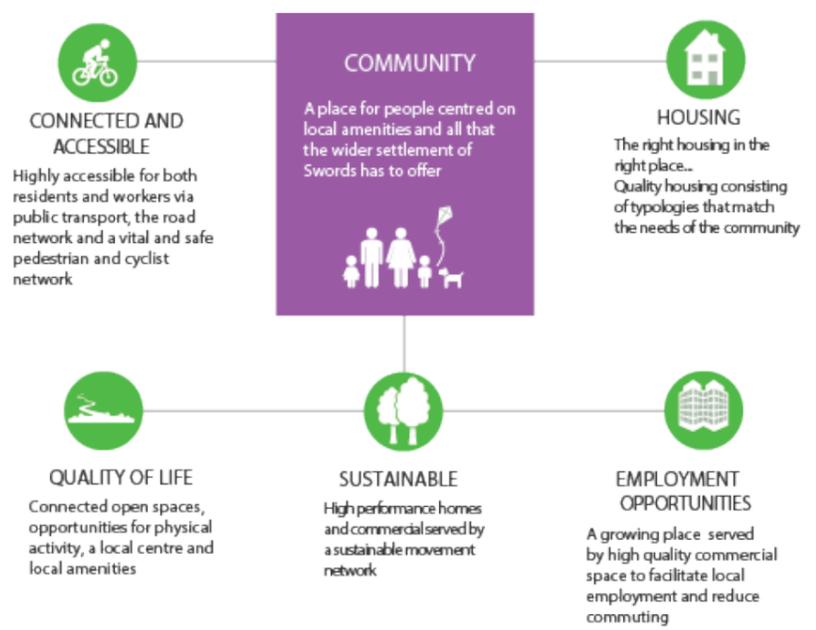
The development management process will ensure that an adequate mix is maintained throughout the Masterplan lands, which are anticipated to support between 900 and 1,000 residential units. However, the eventual developed figure may be greater.

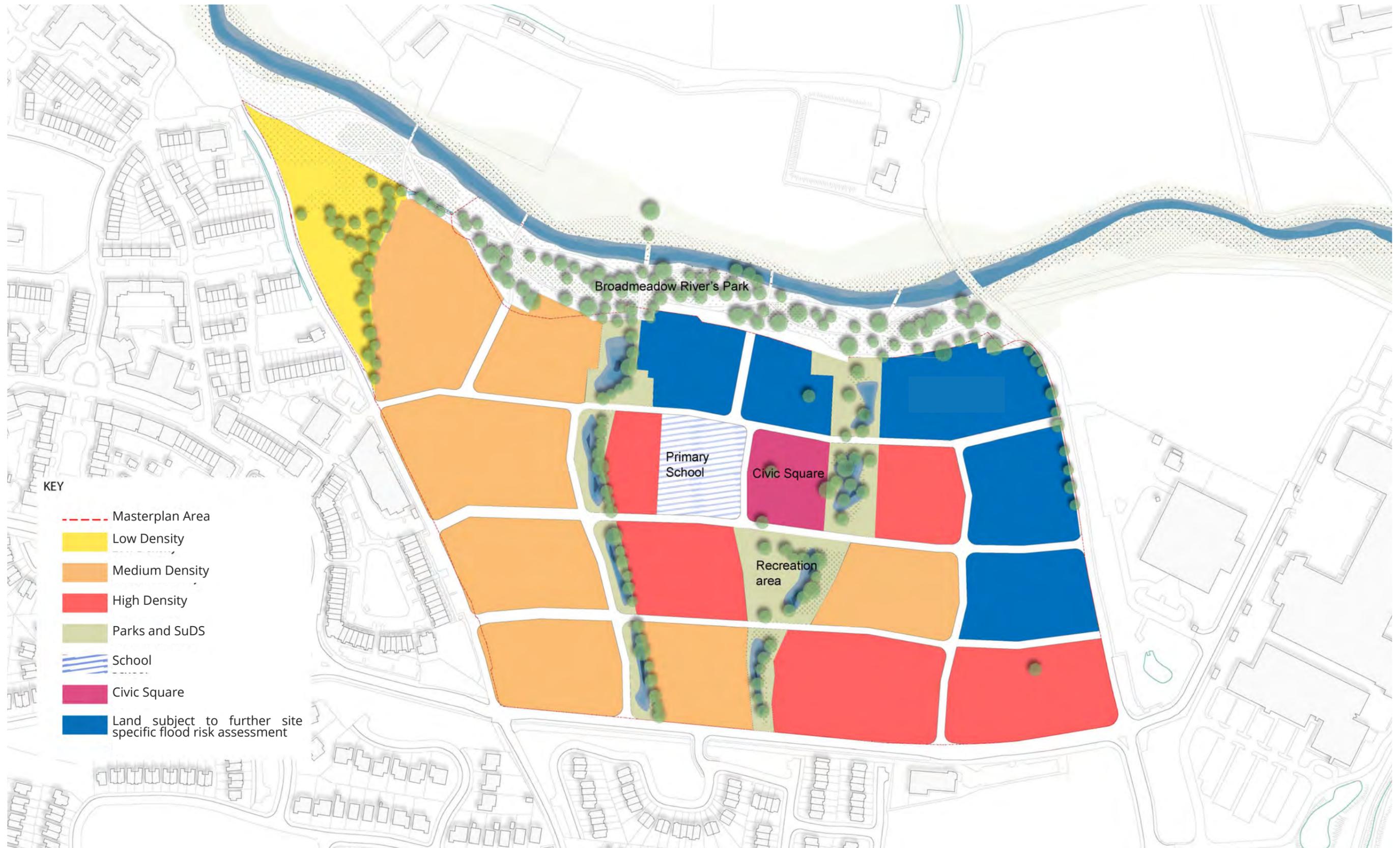
Heights
 Overall heights on the land will range from 2- to 6-storeys. Along Jugback Lane, heights will be 2-3-storeys, with higher buildings at more appropriate locations, such as along Glen Ellan Road and the Broadmeadow River, where landmark buildings can act to give a sense of place/identity to this new community.

Green Infrastructure
 Green Infrastructure is a key component of the design and layout of development, with flood risk mitigated by SuDS features. The extension to the Broadmeadow Riverside Park and other green corridors proposed will support a rich biodiversity in the area and support a reduced carbon footprint for new developments.

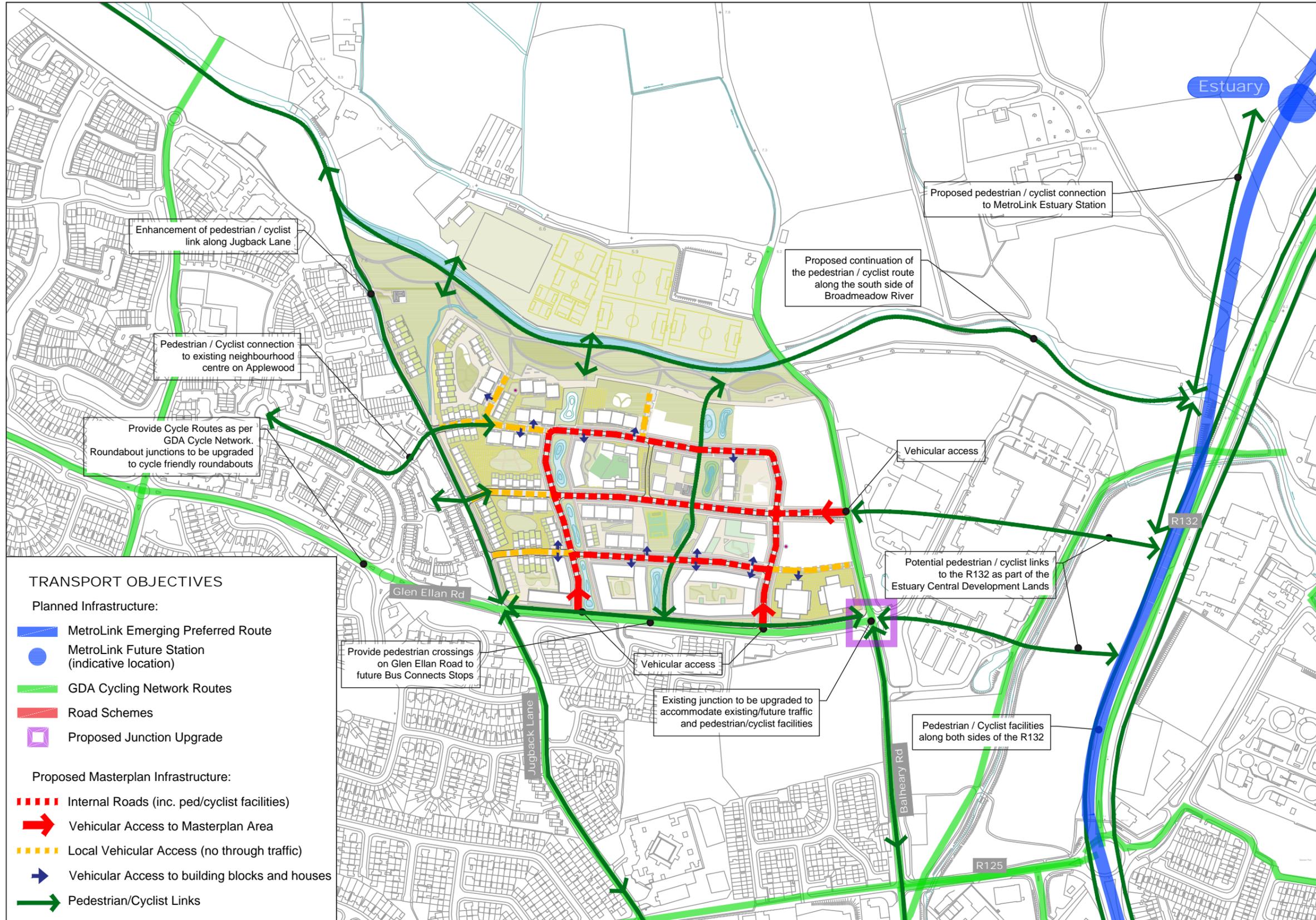
Strategic Flood Risk Assessment (SFRA) and Sustainable Urban Drainage Systems (SuDS)
 Roughan & O'Donovan (ROD) Consulting Engineers have prepared SFRA and SuDS assessments for each of the Masterplan areas, which are published alongside these Masterplans. The proposed layout of each Masterplan area has been fully informed by these assessments. All proposed development within the Masterplan lands shall be fully informed by the Strategic Flood Risk Assessment and the SuDS Strategy prepared in conjunction with the Masterplan. All developers shall comply with the SFRA Recommendations, the SuDS Protocol and the SuDS Recommendations.

The SFRA requires development within the Masterplan lands to reflect the flood mapping presented in the assessment and the recommendations set out in the Flood Risk Management Guidelines. All planning applications located within 40 metres of the identified floodplain in the Estuary West Strategic Flood Risk Assessment must include a detailed justification test in accordance with the Flood Risk Management Guidelines.





4 Transport and Movement



Transport and Movement

The following are the Key Transport and Movement Objectives for the Estuary West Masterplan lands:

- Main vehicular access to the Masterplan lands will be achieved via the Glen Ellan Road and the Balheary Road.
- Smaller grade local streets will facilitate access throughout the site.
- Pedestrian and cyclist connections shall be incorporated to promote a reduction in the use of the private car.

Car Parking

Through the development of a compact urban form centred on the MetroLink stations, coupled with strong pedestrian and cycle links to neighbouring centres; the Masterplan seeks to reduce the need for car-based journeys. Parking is an effective tool in managing travel demand which will also help encourage modal shift and reduce the impact of congestion on the network.

Within areas highly accessible to public transport (800m to a QBC or high quality bus service, or 1600m to an existing or planned Luas/DART/Metro/Rail station), the Fingal Development Plan seeks to encourage a mode shift in favour of public transport, by reducing the maximum car parking standard by 50%. In the case of commercial uses, this reduces the maximum parking ratios from 1 parking space per 30sq.m of commercial GFA, to 1 parking space per 60sq.m. It should be noted that these parking standards are still a 'maximum' and that further reductions in the provision of parking may be feasible within the Masterplan, subject to access to sustainable travel options and when supported by a Mobility Management Plan. Further reductions in parking provision will be at the discretion of the Local Authority.

To minimise the visual impact of parking, development parking will be provided in underground/under-croft parking. A quantum of parking will be permissible at surface level to facilitate visitors and disabled parking only. Hard and soft

landscaping and appropriate lighting will be required around surface carparking areas.

Prior to the delivery of MetroLink, it is acknowledged that the initial phases of commercial development will require parking in line with the maximum car parking standards set out in the Fingal County Council Development Plan. In this interim phase, 50% of the commercial parking requirement will be permitted in the form of temporary surface parking, adjacent to the buildings, with the remaining 50% accommodated in underground/under-croft parking. When the Metro becomes

operational, temporary surface parking areas will be reverted to designated green open spaces or alternative permissible uses.

Cycle Parking

Secure cycle parking is to be provided at each Metro Station to enable efficient interchange. Secure and easily accessible residential cycle parking is to be provided for each residential and commercial block in accordance with the minimum standards set out in the Fingal Development Plan.



5 Green Infrastructure

Key Objectives

The following are the Key Objectives for the Estuary West Masterplan lands:

- 1 Facilitate the extension of the Broadmeadow River Park along the Broadmeadow River immediately to the north of the Masterplan lands encompassing pedestrian and cyclist infrastructure.
- 2 Provide two north-south green corridors linking the proposed extension to the Broadmeadow River Park to the Glen Ellan Road.
- 3 Provide active open space facilities in the form of playing pitches adjacent to the school site and available for use by local residents outside of school requirements.
- 4 Provide a high quality landscaped space/ square based around Newtown House and the proposed local centre.
- 5 Ensure that the proposed link streets and local access streets as shown on the road hierarchy are lined with trees planted in constructed tree pits.
- 6 Provide an open space area that encompasses any required SuDS or flood mitigation measures adjacent to the Balheary Road/ Broadmeadow River, to coincide with the 1:1000 year flood risk area as identified in the accompanying Strategic Flood Risk Assessment. Any possible form of development in this area shall be subject to further site specific flood risk assessment.
- 7 Conserve, protect and enhance existing trees and hedgerows within the Masterplan lands to help foster biodiversity in the area.
- 8 Ensure that new or extended open space networks are designed to facilitate people with a broad range of ability.





6 Built Form

Key Objectives

The following are the Key Built Form Objectives for the Estuary West Masterplan lands:

- Facilitate pedestrian and cyclist connectivity through the site to minimise walking/ cycling distance to the proposed Estuary MetroLink station.
- Facilitate the provision of a school located centrally within the Masterplan lands, with accompanying open space/ play spaces.
- Provide a local centre, based around Newtown House, with c. 3,500 sq.m of retail/ retail services to serve the day-to-day needs of local residents and workers.
- Provide residential accommodation at a net density of 70-75 units per hectare, with an appropriate mix of houses and apartments to meet the needs of future residents of the area and to diversify Swords' existing housing stock.
- Densities will only be permitted at the higher end of the range where it can be demonstrated that the proposed development contributes substantially toward the achievement of the principles and objectives set out in this Masterplan and will result in a high quality living environment.
- Provide up to 18,000 sq.m of flexible commercial floorspace to facilitate a range of employment uses in keeping with the Metro Economic Corridor zoning of the lands.
- Commercial floorspace should be provided in a cluster to the south-east of the Masterplan lands, adjacent to the junction of the Balheary Road and Glen Ellan Road.
- Provide houses fronting Jugback Lane (primarily accessed from the Glen Ellan Road) to improve overlooking and passive surveillance.
- The overall unit-type mix of the Masterplan lands shall be broadly within the following parameters:
 - 20-25% 1 bedroom units
 - 45-55% 2 bedroom units
 - 20-30% 3 bedroom units

- The Development Management process will ensure that an adequate residential mix is maintained throughout the Masterplan lands.





6 Built Form

Key Objectives

The following are the Key Height Objectives for the Fosterstown Masterplan lands:

- Provide a variety of heights throughout the Masterplan lands to create visual interest and to facilitate access to light, generally in accordance with Figure 6.2.
- Provide lower heights adjoining existing residential areas in the form of 2-3 storey development along Jugback Lane.
- Provide a strong urban edge to the Glen Ellan Road, where heights ranging from 3 - 5 storeys will be supported.

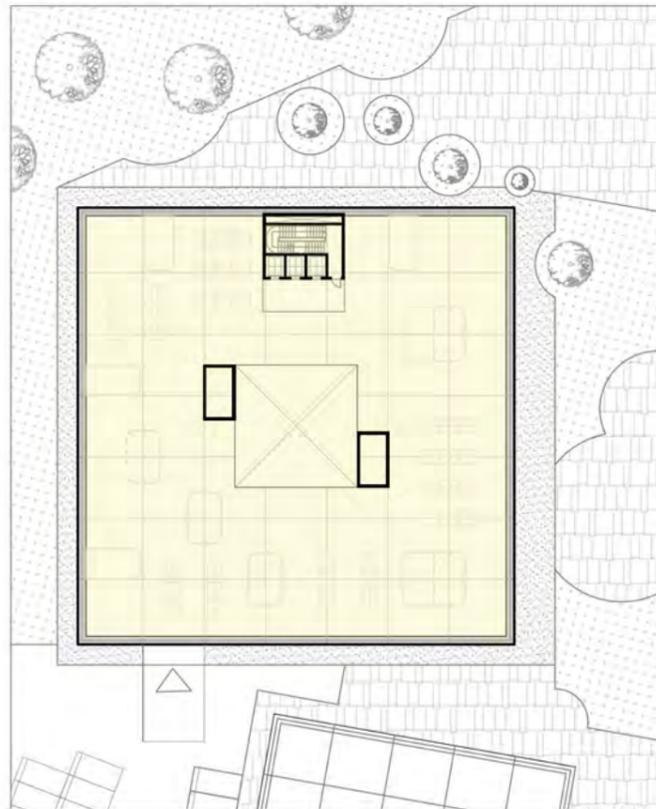


Figure 6.2: Height Objectives

Commercial/ Office Typologies

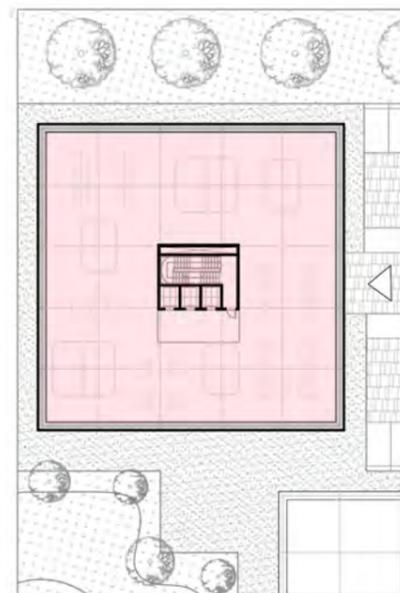
Commercial typologies of the nature and scale envisaged in the Masterplan are generally designed around three typologies and should be combined in clusters to create interesting environments.

All permanent parking for all commercial typologies shall be provided underground or under-croft, and not at surface level.



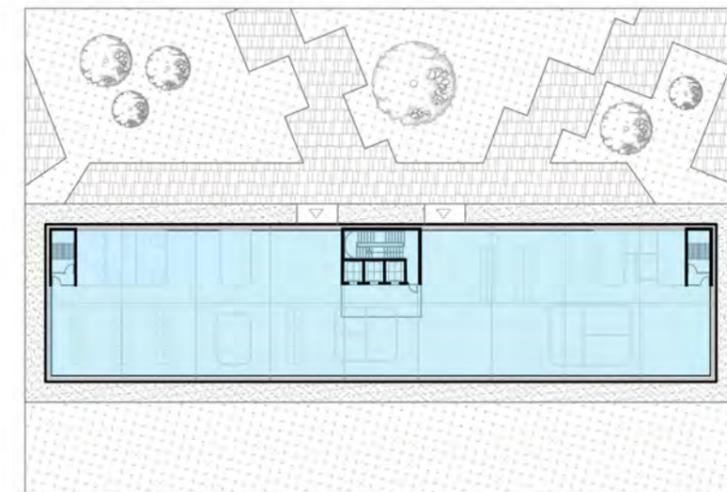
Type 1

- C. 1,750 sqm, two cores, deep workspace (11-19m) from core to perimeter
- High efficiency of usable area, high flexibility of space



Type 2

- C. 900 sqm, one core, medium depth workspace (6-11m) from core to perimeter
- High efficiency of usable area, high flexibility of space



Type 3

- C. 540 sqm, two/three cores, shallow depth workspace (4-6m) from core to perimeter
- Optimal daylight intake

8 Residential Typologies



Residential Typologies

It is envisaged that the Masterplan lands will consist of a range of recommended residential typologies which have been selected to achieve an appropriate mix, given the proximity of the Masterplans to future high frequency transport infrastructure.

The recommended typologies range from townhouses to duplex over duplex to high density apartment style blocks. The individual Masterplan documents set out appropriate locations within each area for the proposed typologies.



Typology 1: House over car parking
Typically 3 bedroom units over car parking. Three storey including car parking. Private balcony and front garden.



Typology 3: Duplex over Duplex
Two-bed duplex apartment over a 1-bed duplex. Four storey blocks with undercroft parking spaces as well as on-street parking. Private open space in the form of rear garden or private balcony.



Typology 4: Apartment Type 1/1b
Mix of bedroom sizes, with two to three units per block floor. Block heights range from three to six/nine storeys, with each apartment having a private balcony. Resident parking is provided underground, with ground level visitor parking.



Typology 4: Apartment Type 2a/2b
Mix of bedroom sizes, with two to three units per block floor. Block heights range from three to six/nine storeys, with each apartment having a private balcony. Resident parking is provided underground, with ground level visitor parking.



Typology 4: Apartment Type 4
Mix of bedroom sizes with five or six units per floor. Block heights range from three to six/nine floors, with private open space in the form of balconies. Resident parking is provided underground, with ground level parking for visitors.

9 Phasing and Implementation

Development within the Masterplan area shall be phased in order to manage the impact of development on the surrounding area and in particular on existing transport infrastructure throughout Swords. The phasing schedule also seeks to provide community infrastructure, such as schools and open space, in the earlier phases of development in order to create a high quality living and working environment.

Table 9.1 sets out the infrastructure required to both create a high quality living/ working environment and to manage development on the surrounding area. The table is broken down into both essential and non-essential infrastructure. Essential infrastructure must occur within the phase of development where it is listed before subsequent phases can be constructed and occupied. Non-essential infrastructure lists infrastructure that is anticipated to occur in Swords in the same timeframes, but will not hold back future phases of development of the Masterplan should it fail to materialise.

Key Objectives

The following are the Key Phasing and Implementation Objectives for the Estuary West Masterplan area:

- Development within the Masterplan area shall be phased in order to manage the impact of the development envisaged on the surrounding area.
- No more than 25-30% of the overall quantum of development envisaged shall be constructed and occupied prior to the operation of Metrolink.
- Development within the Masterplan area shall be phased in accordance with Table 9.1 and Figure 9.1 contained herein.

The Planning Authority may exercise discretion in respect of permitting future development on potential opportunity sites located within Phase 2 and 3, in order to allow appropriate development to proceed subject to a detailed Traffic Impact Assessment.

Table 9.1: Phasing Schedule

Phase 1 (Pre-Metrolink)

Strategic Infrastructure

Development to be undertaken during Phase 1 (essential infrastructure):

- Estuary Metrolink Station (located outside of the Masterplan lands)
- Upgrade to the Glen Ellan Road
- Provision of proposed school site and associated vehicular access.
- Walking and cycling links to town centre, along Balheary Road and Jugback Lane
- BusConnects service or similar enhanced bus service (required before commencement of Phase 2)
- Pedestrian access to designated BusConnects (or similar) stops (required before commencement of Phase 2)
- Linear SuDS facilities and associated amenity area to the west of the Masterplan area
- Broadmeadow River green corridor - initial stage (Broadmeadow River Park extension)

Development anticipated in the broader Swords area during Phase1 (non-essential development):

- Western distributor link road - Oldtown section
- Inner Ward River Crossing (Church Road)
- Town Centre Traffic Management (bus priority on main street and segregated cycle lanes)
- Upgrade to the R132 in the form of footpaths, segregated cycle paths
- Upgrade to Pinnock Hill roundabout (signalisation or similar)
- Green infrastructure link to connect the high amenity area of the Broadmeadow River with the Ward Valley River Park
- Green infrastructure link to the south-west of the Pavillions Shopping centre to provide connectivity to the Main Street
- Fosterstown Link Road (new access road from the Forest Road to connect with the Pinnock Hill Roundabout)
- Upgrades to the Dublin Road (R836) including pedestrian/ cyclist/ green infrastructure amenities
- Airside-Feltrim Link Road, including upgrading of existing roundabouts.

Masterplan Development

- 320-350 residential units
- School
- 3,000 - 4,000 sq.m local centre

Phase 2

Strategic Infrastructure

Development to be undertaken during Phase 2 (essential infrastructure):

- Green connection along the Broadmeadow River to connect the proposed regional park to the north-west of Swords to the Broadmeadow Estuary
- Upgraded green infrastructure link through the Estuary Central Masterplan area
- Completion of primary internal vehicular circulation area

Development anticipated in the broader Swords area during Phase2 (non-essential development):

- Western Distributor Link Road - Mooretown section
- Forest Road Bus and cycle scheme
- Rathbeale Road bus and cycle scheme
- Cycle lanes on Brackenstown Road
- Western Distributor link road extension to metrolink P&R
- Western Distributor link road to Brackenstown Road
- Barrysparks link road roundabouts to be upgraded to be cycle friendly
- R132 upgrade - replace existing roundabouts with signalised junctions
- R132 upgrade - provide segregated cycle lanes
- Malahide Roundabout signalisation
- Provision of Cyle lanes on Brackenstown Road
- Barrysparks link road roundabouts to be upgraded to be cycle friendly
- Construction of Western Distributor link road extension to metrolink P&R
- Construction of Western Distributor link road to Brackenstown Road

Masterplan Development

- 18-000 - 20,000 sq.m commercial floorspace
- 520-570 residential units

Phase 3

Strategic Infrastructure

Development to be undertaken during Phase 3 (essential infrastructure):

- Broadmeadow River green corridor - completion

Development anticipated in the broader Swords area during Phase2 (non-essential development):

- Upgrade to Balheary road including improvement of cycle lanes

Masterplan Development

- 60-80 residential units

9 Phasing and Implementation



