

# DARRAGH O'BRIEN T.D.

## DUBLIN NORTH TRANSPORT UPDATE

**FIANNA FAÍL**  
THE REPUBLICAN PARTY  
WINTER 2009



### NORTHERN LINE TO RE-OPEN MONDAY 16<sup>TH</sup> NOVEMBER



DARRAGH O'BRIEN TD ON RECENT VISIT TO VIADUCT, TO INSPECT PROGRESS

As you may have heard, Iarnród Éireann have confirmed that the Rail line over the **Malahide** viaduct will re-open on Monday 16th November. I am obviously delighted with this news and that the rail line will be open ahead of schedule and within the agreed budget.

I think we will all agree that it is most welcome news for all commuters, particularly those from **Donabate, Rush/Lusk, Skerries** and **Balbriggan**, who have had to change their schedules and modes of transport. Whilst the re-opening of the line is very welcome, the safety of passengers remains the number one priority. I have raised

this very point at every meeting that I have had with Iarnród Éireann and the Department of Transport. I have been absolutely assured that the works are being carried out to the highest possible specification, with safety being the paramount consideration. I have also called for, and I am glad that it has been agreed to, that the reports of the viaduct collapse from Iarnród Éireann and the Rail Safety Authority be made public for all to see. Very important lessons in relation to the inspection regime need to be learned. It is only a miracle that we were all not dealing with a catastrophic tragedy.

### DIRECT BUSES MUST BE RETAINED

What the past few months have further proved to me, is that commuters need choice. The success of the direct buses from **Balbriggan, Skerries, Rush & Lusk** and **Donabate** via the Dublin Port Tunnel, to and from the city centre, clearly demonstrates to me that as many of these routes as possible need to be retained on a permanent basis. I would also like to see the retention of the school bus service from many of our towns. For example the direct bus from Donabate to **Malahide** and **Portmarnock** Community Schools.

I recently met with the Minister for Transport, Noel Dempsey and separately with the Chairman of C.I.E., and have formally called for the retention of these services. I am continuing to work on this on your behalf and will keep you informed of progress.



# FANTASTIC OPPORTUNITY TO DELIVER WALKWAY / CYCLEWAY

As I have stated previously every cloud has a silver lining. The retention of direct buses is one aspect of this. The other being to seize this opportunity and proceed with the building of the walkway/cycleway at the Broadmeadows Estuary, which will link **Donabate to Malahide** and open up the whole inner estuary, including **Swords** as a fantastic amenity for all the people of Fingal. Fingal County Council have long stated that they wish to provide this facility. It is my contention that the ground work to deliver this project is now in place, with the creation of the service roads adjacent to the train line. I have met with the County

Manager and Iarnród Éireann and have urged them to do everything in their power to proceed with these works, at what would be a greatly reduced cost for the long term benefit of the people in our area.

Finally, I would like to take this opportunity to thank all commuters for the patience and understanding that they have shown over the past few months. I would also like to put on record my sincere thanks to the staff in Dublin Bus, Bus Éireann and Iarnród Éireann for all the work that they have done to ensure that the contingency travel service, which they put in place went a long way to meeting the needs of commuters.



## PROFILE OF DARRAGH O'BRIEN T.D.

Elected T.D. for Dublin North to Dáil Éireann in 2007.

- Vice Chairman on the Dáil Committee of Public Accounts
- Convenor on Joint Committee on Foreign Affairs
- Member of Select Committee on Justice, Equality, Defence and Women's Rights

REGULAR CONTRIBUTOR TO DÁIL DEBATES PARTICULARLY IN THE AREAS OF FINANCE AND DISABILITY.

PLEASE FEEL FREE TO CONTACT US AT THE NUMBERS SHOWN BELOW IF THERE IS ANY ISSUE AFFECTING YOU OR YOUR AREA

## DARRAGH O'BRIEN T.D.

WORKING WITH

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CLINIC TIMES AT MALAHIDE CONSTITUENCY OFFICE  
MONDAY to FRIDAY (9AM - 6PM) SATURDAY (10AM - 3PM)  
EVERY FRIDAY AT RUSH COMMUNITY CENTRE (2PM - 5PM)

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