



## DÚN LAOGHAIRE CENTRAL RESIDENTS ASSOCIATION

11/04/2025

Ref: Proposed Development St. Michael's Church Square & Environs PC-PKS-01-25

Dear Sir/Madam

We are writing to you about the Proposed Development and to make some observations.

The landscaping of the area is a positive development and landscaping this area when the Living streets pedestrianisation and resurfacing of Georges St is taking place is very beneficial to the heart of the town.

However, there are some concerns about the design that we feel need to be highlighted

### 1) **Garda Camera**

There is a Garda camera mounted on a pole across from this area outside CORE Credit Union, 5 Upper Georges St. There is concern that this camera will not be able to see into the new area due to new planting. It is important that the Garda camera can see the whole of the seating area and particularly the area in the corner where Dun Laoghaire Tidy Towns have their shed.

The camera is the first way that the Gardaí are able to monitor for anti-social behaviour.

### 2) **Blind spot in the corner**

The area in the far corner of the site, furthest from street is where Dún Laoghaire Tidy Towns have their HQ shed and is where they meet on the days they do work in the town. The images of the proposed development include what looks like a freestanding greenwall that blocks off visibility into this area. The seated area is already at a height which will close this area off and potentially create problems.

See below two images that highlight the area and the green wall.



*Figure 1 Green wall covering corner area:*



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*Figure 2: Corner area where entrance to TT shed is located*

Visibility is the key issue. Landscaping and increased planting is welcome but creating blind spots in the centre of the town, 100 metres from an Addiction Services Centre, will only create potential problems. We spoke with Garda James Malone, Divisional Crime Prevention Officer, DMR East and after reviewing the plans using CPTED (Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design) principles he felt that there were concerns regarding the natural surveillance of the proposed plan. An Garda Síochána would have concerns that the current configuration could lead to an increase in anti-social behaviour in this area. An Garda Síochána also have concerns that any planting of additional vegetation would block the views of the Garda CCTV camera.

We agree that there is a significant potential for an increase in anti-social behaviour if the development creates blind spots.

We are requesting that the development is altered to ensure that the whole area is visible to the garda camera and to passersby. Particularly the area by the Tidy Towns shed in the corner.

Thank you for taking the time to read this submission.

Best Regards

Paul Coffey  
Secretary  
DLCRA