

Community Update

Sustainable Swords

December 2025





Agenda

1. Intro
2. Swords is Going Places
3. Swords Cultural Quarter – North Street works
4. The R132 Connectivity Project
5. Seatown Road Active Travel
6. Transport modelling
7. Ongoing communications
8. Community collaboration
9. Q&A

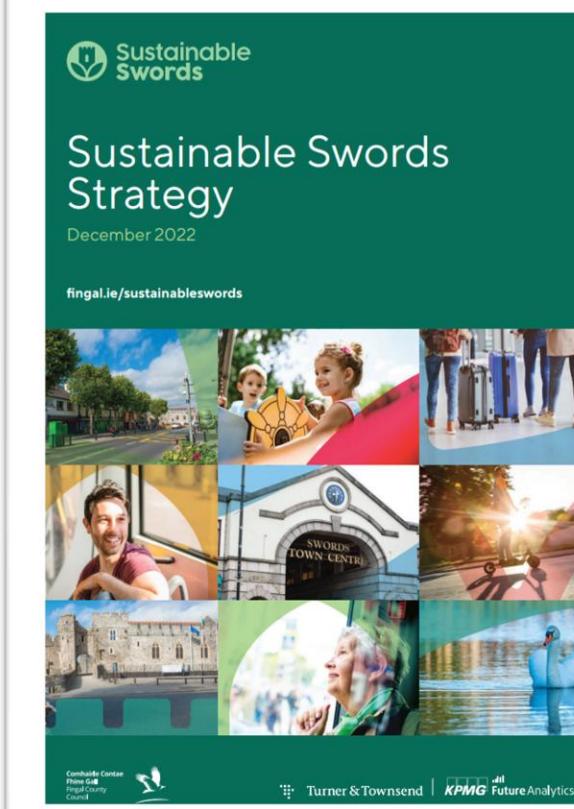


Swords is Going Places



“Swords is a dynamic town that has rapidly grown in recent decades...”

Sustainable Swords 2022



“Sustainable Swords aims to make Swords a better place to live, work and visit, positioning it for the future as a more attractive, vibrant, and resilient town”



Sustainable Swords

Key Themes

THEME	DESCRIPTION
Swords Main Street Transformation	This significant project will see Main Street, the heart of Swords, transformed and enhanced into a more attractive and vibrant place.
Reimagining Our Public Realm	This envisages a step change in the quality of the urban realm in Swords town centre.
Improving Access, Permeability, and Connectivity	These interventions will seek to showcase Swords' rich natural and built heritage, and capitalise on investment in MetroLink, Bus Connects, the R132, and the Ward River Valley Park.
Protecting and Promoting Our Heritage	These projects enhance and protect our heritage for future generations, and encourage increased tourism spend in the town.
Supporting and Celebrating a Sustainable Community	The aim is to support our thriving community and position Swords as the best place to live, work, and visit in County Dublin.



Sustainable Swords Projects for 2026

THEME	DESCRIPTION
Protecting and Promoting Our Heritage	Swords Cultural Quarter <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Culture House - (ongoing – end 2026)- North Street Public realm – (March 2026 – end 2026)
Improving Access, Permeability, and Connectivity	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Seatown Road Active Travel – (Jan 2026 – end 2026)- R132 – (March 2026 – 25 month construction).

Project Map



UPCOMING PROJECTS

Swords Projects

- R132 Connectivity Project
- Cultural Quarter
- Bus Connects
- Seatown Road Active Travel
- Better Pedestrian Links
- MetroLink



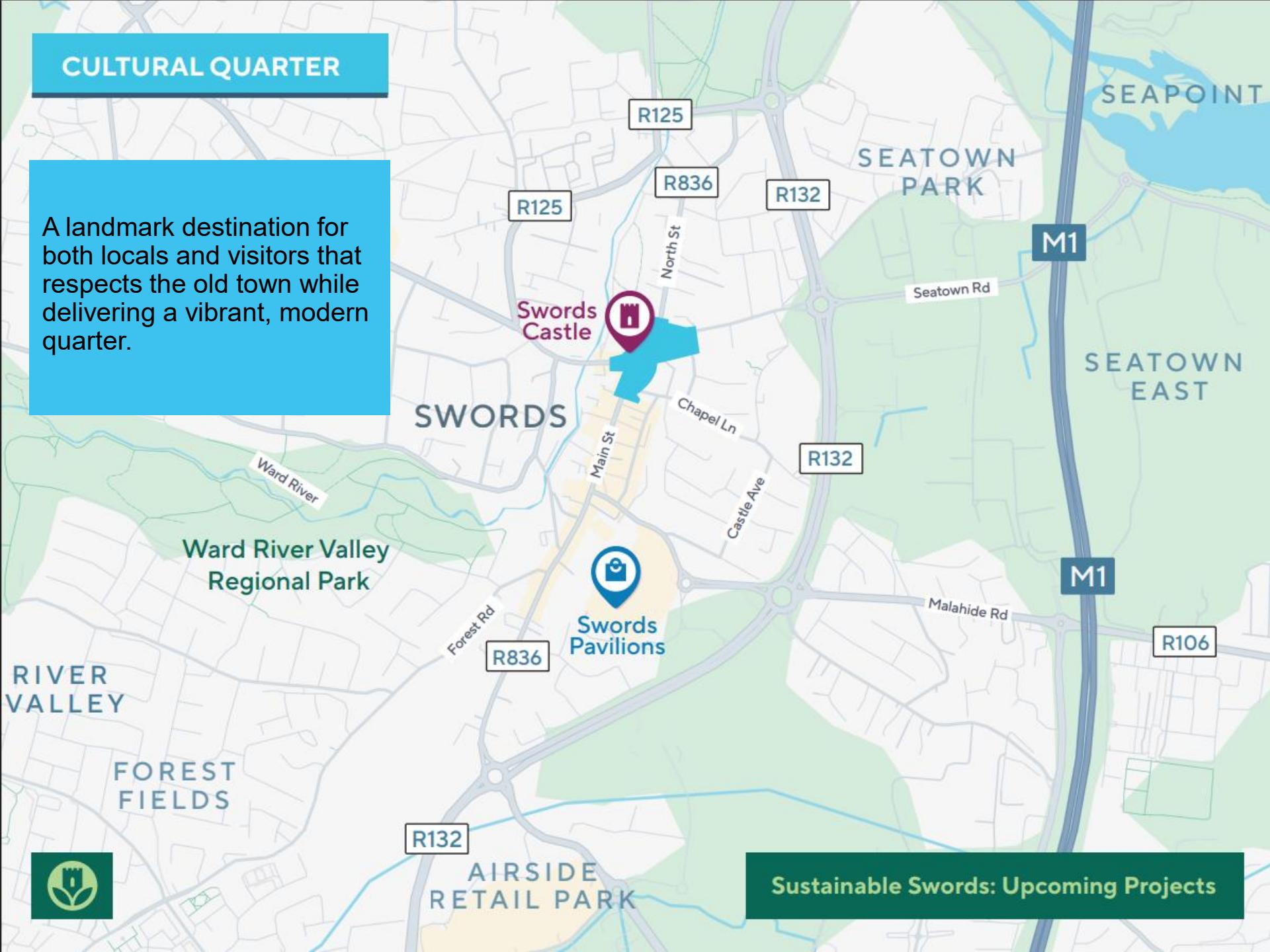


Swords Cultural Quarter



CULTURAL QUARTER

A landmark destination for both locals and visitors that respects the old town while delivering a vibrant, modern quarter.



Sustainable Swords: Upcoming Projects



In the heart of the town, extending from the top of Main Street onto North Street and Seatown Road

SCQ is a key project in the delivery of Sustainable Swords vision to engage citizens, promote enterprise and attract visitors.





SCQ Culture House

Ongoing works

Culture House

- Includes Library, theatre, art gallery, makerspace, studios, café.
- Currently under construction with completion expected November 2026.

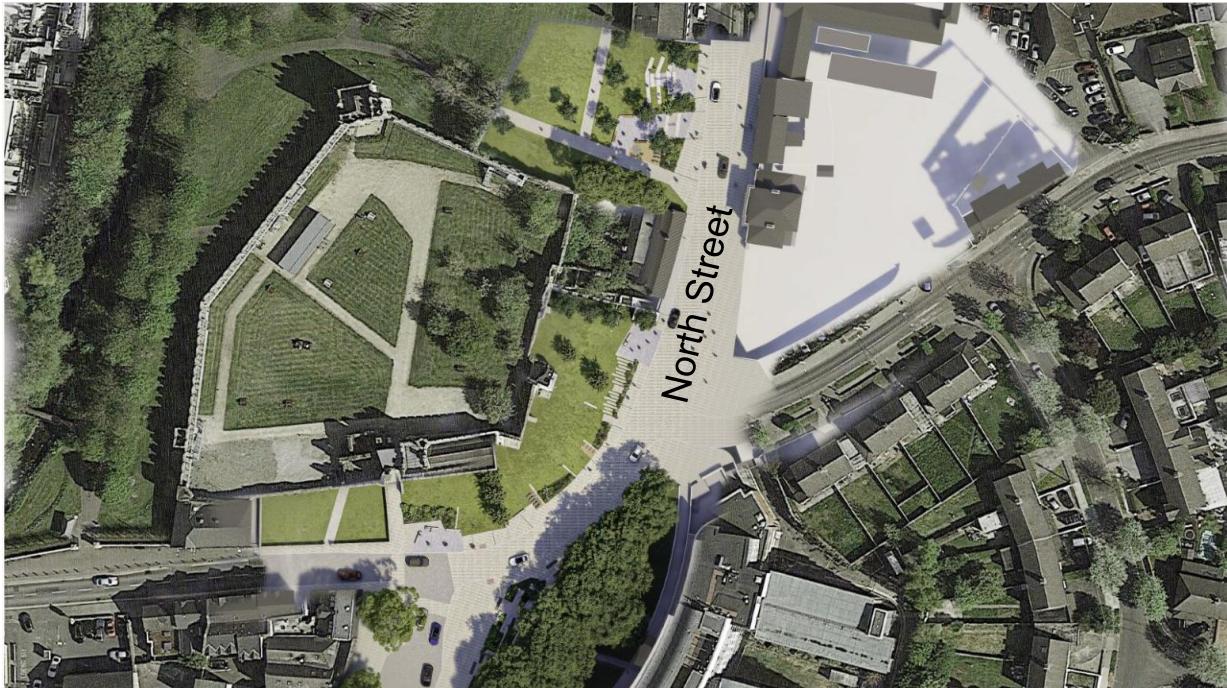




SCQ Public Realm

March 2026

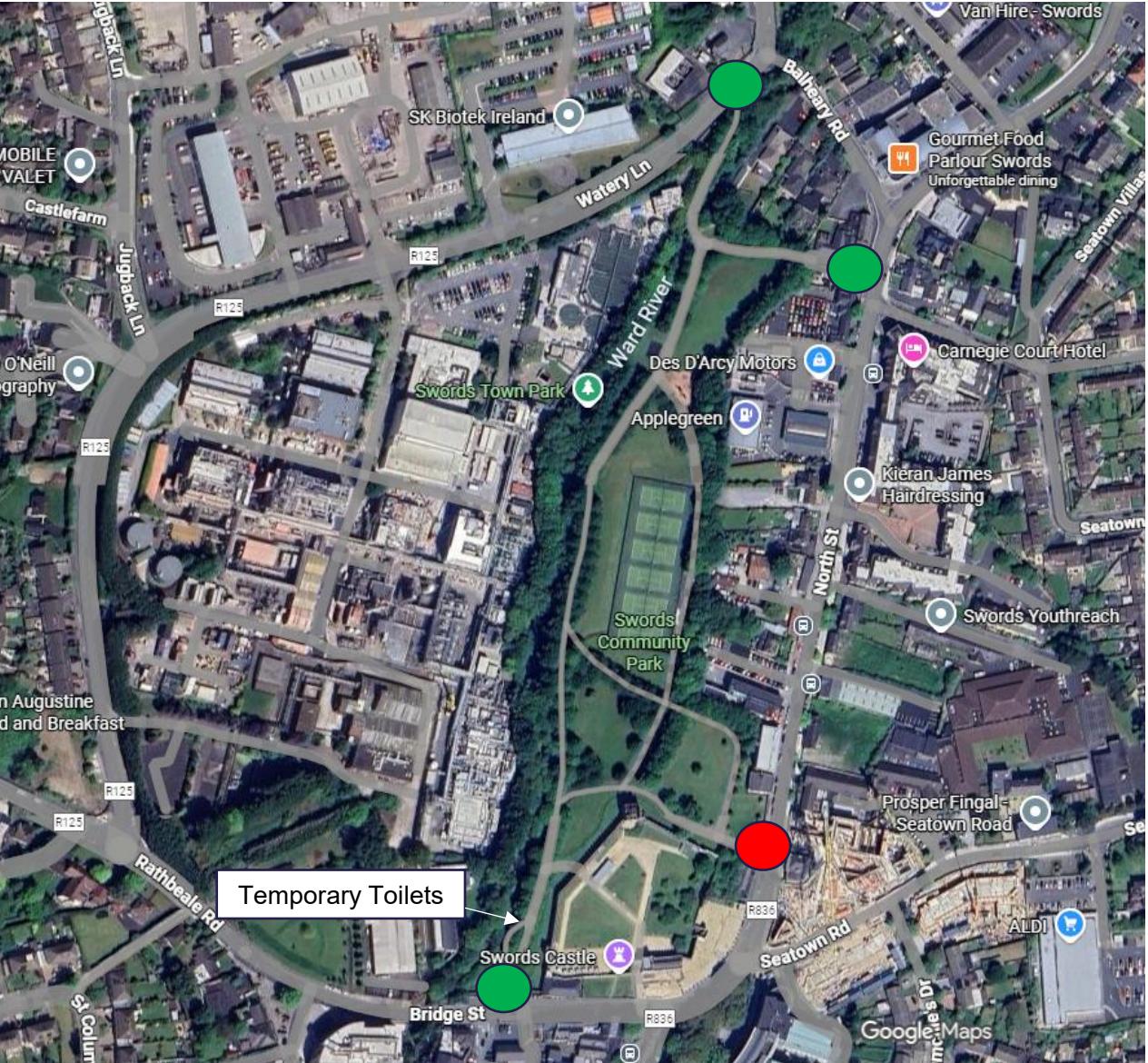
- Public spaces around North Street / Seatown Road and Main Street will be improved with new surfaces and planting.
- Work on this area will begin in March 2026.
- We are working with contractors to minimise impact and to help ensure destination traffic continues to flow easily.





SCQ Public Realm Park access

- To facilitate advanced enabling works contract, there will be changes to Town Park access.
- The gate at the south end of North Street will close in January 2026 and remain closed until the end of the year.
- Gates remaining open are marked in green.
- Gate closing marked in red.
- Access to castle will be maintained.





SCQ Public Realm



Terraces at Main Street County Hall



SCQ Public Realm



View of North Street, taken from Seatown Road Junction showing green space around Swords Castle.



Amphitheatre on North Street (taken from Court House)

The R132 Connectivity Project

R132 CONNECTIVITY PROJECT

KEY

R132 Phases

M - Metro Stops

Delivering an integrated transport system for Swords including MetroLink.

Safer road junctions, more convenient crossing points, cycle paths and new bus lanes.

R
VALLEY

FOREST
FIELDS



R125

R836

R132

M1

R132

M1

R106

Swords Central Station



R836

R132



Fosterstown
Station

R125



AIRSIDE
RETAIL PARK

SEATOWN
PARK

SEAPPOINT

Estuary Roundabout
incl. Bostik

M

Seatown Station



Seatown Roundabout
incl. Chapel Lane

M

Swords
Pavilions



O3

O4

Malahide Rd.
Roundabout

Pinnock Hill

Sustainable Swords: Upcoming Projects

R132 CONNECTIVITY PROJECT

KEY

R132 Phases

M - Metro Stops

Two lanes of traffic during peak times.

One lane of traffic off-peak.

Journeys can continue as normal.

R132 works need to be completed in order to build MetroLink

R125

R836

R132

01
Estuary Roundabout incl. Bostik

6 months

M1

02
Seatown Roundabout incl. Chapel Lane

6 months

M1

03
Malahide Rd. Roundabout

6 months

R106

04
Pinnock Hill

4 months

R836

R132



The R132 Connectivity Project Programme

- Subject to contractor appts
- Phase 1 on site March – September
- One available during off-peak times
- Two lanes available during peak times
 - 06:30 – 10:00
 - 16:00 – 19:30
- Q2 2028 – Estimated Substantial Completion
- Estimated Construction Period 25 months approx.





Phase 1 R132 Estuary Junction Before





Phase 1 R132 Estuary Junction After



This image represents the geometric layout of the junction. The location and design of street furniture such as street lighting, signals and signs and the colour and type of cycle markings is indicative only and will be subject to detailed design and finalisation of the plans.



Why the R132 Connectivity Project is Needed



Figure 3.14: Lack of Safe Pedestrian Crossing Points on Desire Lines



Figure 3.15: Lack of Safe Pedestrian Links to Bus Stops

Seatown Road Active Travel Scheme





Seatown Road to Estuary Roundabout Active Travel Scheme

Where? The stretch of Seatown Road between Seatown Roundabout and Estuary Road.



When will works happen?

- Starting January 2026.
- Happening in phases with limited traffic restrictions.
- 11 months construction.



Seatown Road to Estuary Roundabout Active Travel Scheme

This scheme includes:

- Resurfaced roads
- Safer pedestrian crossings
- New protected cycle lanes on each side of Seatown Road
- Cycle-friendly roundabout at Estuary Road Roundabout
- Sheltered bus stops, segregated from cycling facilities
- Environmental impacts minimised

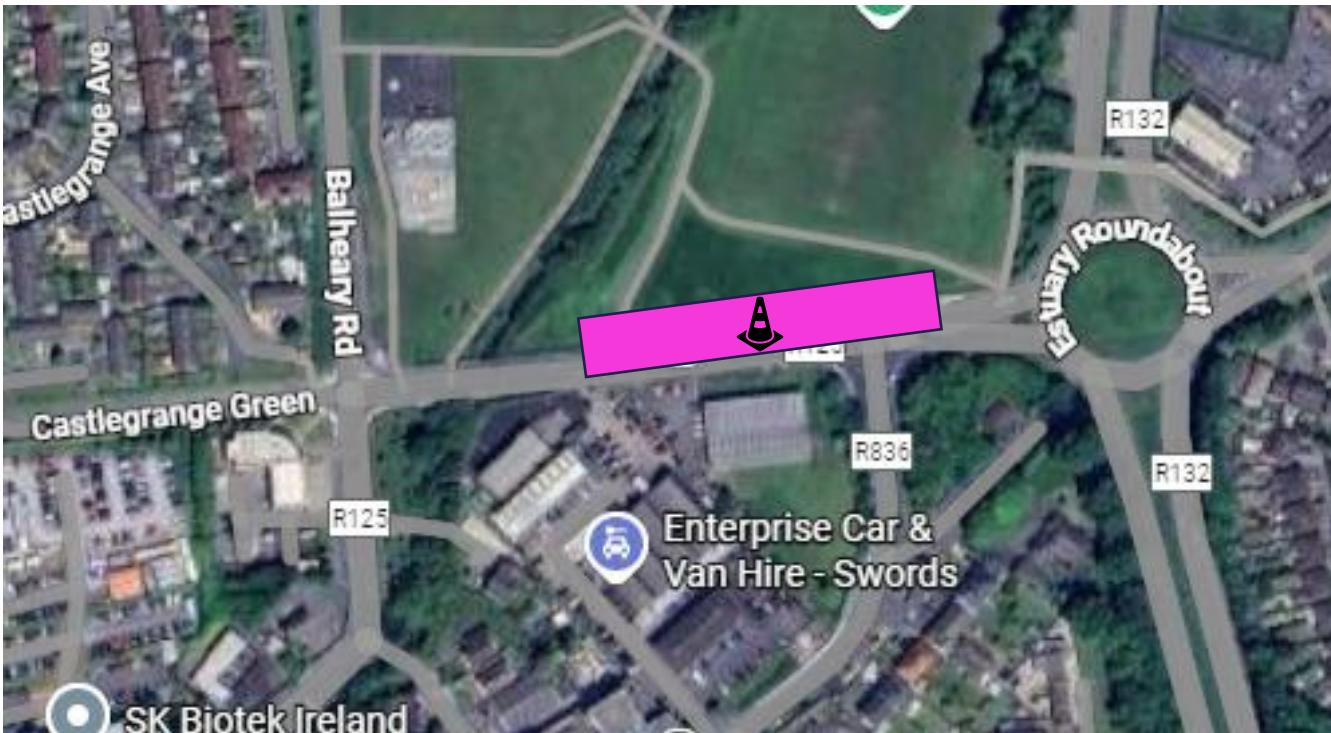




Uisce Éireann Works

Where? R125

When will works happen? 06 January – end February 2026



- Uisce Éireann are installing a new section of foul sewer line along the R125.
- This will increase capacity within the network to serve additional homes in the area.
- There will be limited impacts on traffic during the works.

Transport Modelling



Transport Modelling

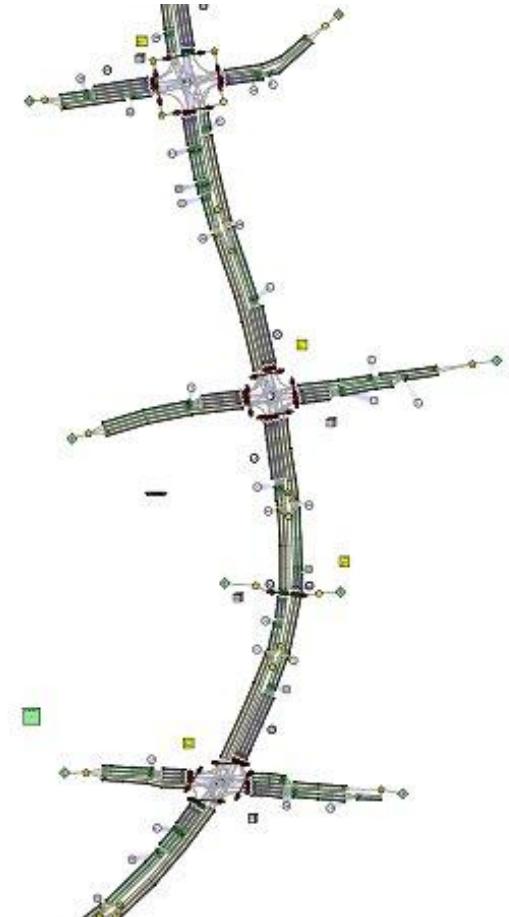
A comprehensive modelling assessment was undertaken to investigate the cumulative traffic impacts of the proposed projects.

The assessment involved:

- Data from a Local Regional Model built in SATURN
- Designing a Microsimulation Model to study traffic impacts
- Developing 13 potential scenarios
- Creating a junction capacity analysis using TRANSYT

DBFL, in conjunction with FCC were then able to:

- Understand the potential impacts of the various projects
- Determine the best scenario for construction management
- Model the future operations of the affected junctions





Transport Modelling





Transport Modelling Findings

Northbound One-Way System Performs Best:

- Shorter average journey times for general traffic.
- Improved mean speeds across town centre links.
- Manageable queuing at key junctions without causing gridlock elsewhere in the network.

Shuttle Systems Are Operationally Weak:

- Scenarios involving shuttle systems, produced excessive delays and queuing.
- Main Street and Bridge Street mostly affected.
- Long signal cycle times required for this junction can cause delays

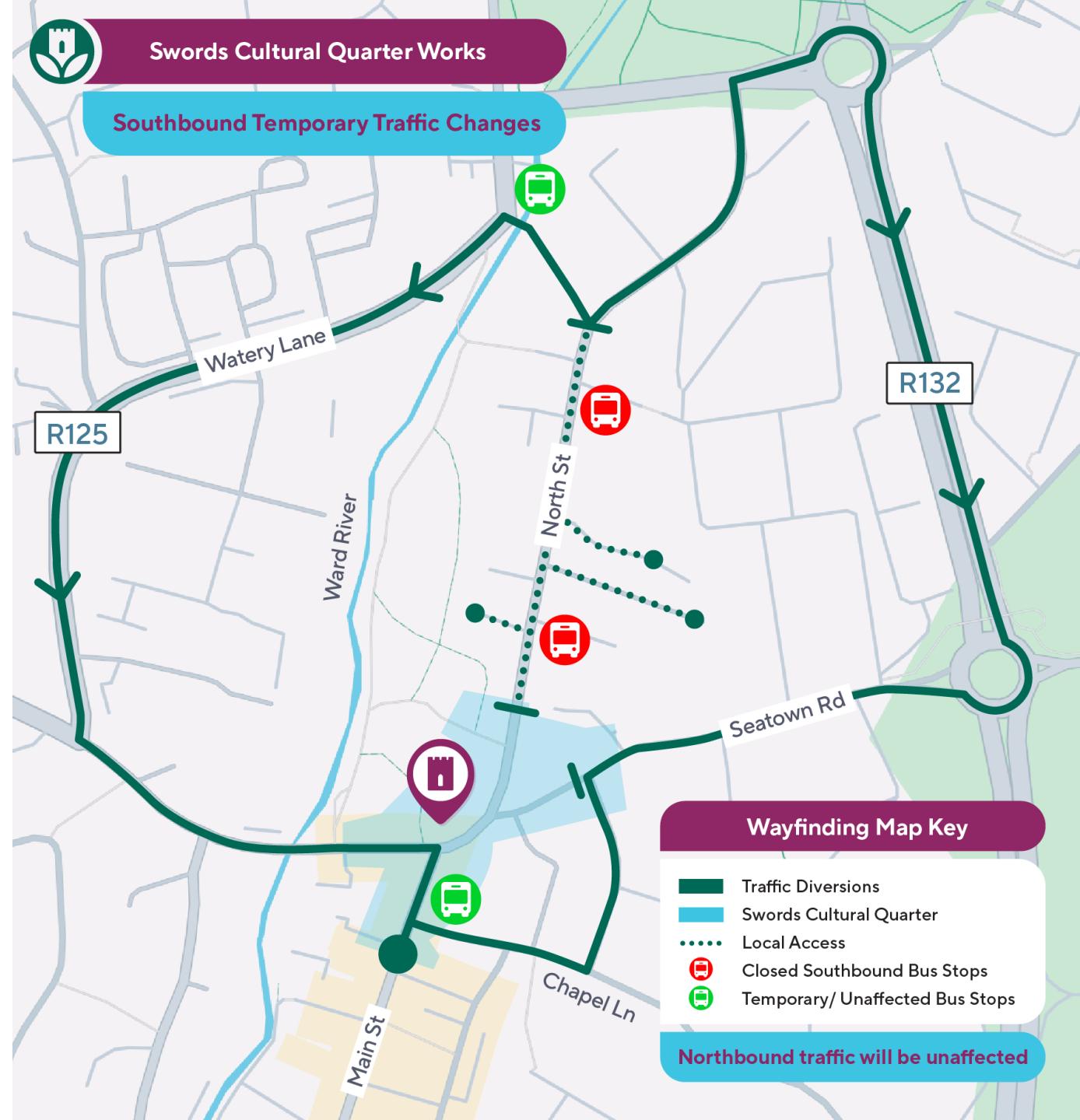


Photomontage of Potential Estuary Junction



Re-routing of south-bound traffic during construction

- Static graphic for use on leaflet, digital



Overview of projects

UPCOMING PROJECTS

Swords Projects

- R132 Connectivity Project
- Cultural Quarter
- Bus Connects
- Seatown Road Active Travel
- Better Pedestrian Links
- MetroLink





Ongoing Communications



Ongoing Communications- Jan 2026

- **Leaflet Drop**
- **Walkabout & leaflet drop**
- **On-Street Posters**
- **Social media wayfinding video & posts**
- **Meetings with key stakeholders**
- **Pop-up**
- **Sustainable Swords Community Forum - Pilot**



Sustainable Swords Community Forum

Fingal County Council plan to pilot a 'Sustainable Swords Community Forum' in 2026 to bring together a cross-section of community members to share updates on projects, discuss priorities, and foster collaboration.



How it would work

- Invite will go to PPN Groups for expression of interest.
- 10-12 representatives will be sought from a cross-section of community groups.
- First meeting will be convened in January.
- The Forum would meet 4-5 times during the year.
- FCC will communicate project updates, members will share information with their networks and can raise related queries or concerns.
- Following this initial Pilot year, Fingal County Council will review the approach and explore establishing a more permanent, representative Forum for the town.



Minimising Disruption, Maintaining Access

- Our priority is to ensure the town remains open for business and people can make their daily journeys.
- All traffic modelling has been completed with consideration for the interactions between the upcoming projects.
- We will work closely with the community to ensure people know **what** is happening, **why**, and **when**.
- We are proposing a '**Sustainable Swords Community Forum**' to provide updates and listen to feedback.





Thank You!