



c/o 35 Castle Avenue, Clontarf, Dublin, D03 K5N7.

6th March 2020

Dear Mr Crean

Thank you for your letter of 20th February 2020.

The role of the Clontarf Residents' Association (CRA) is to work in consultation with residents and local groups on matters that impact on the wider Clontarf community. The Association has been doing this for almost 50 years. We do not set out to find a cause, rather, we take our lead from the community.

In 2018, following the Board's grant of permission for development on these playing fields the community demanded that the grounds for taking a JR be investigated. The legal advice received at that time was that the Board had erred in law in making that decision, that a JR should be pursued and that the CRA was the most appropriate entity to take that action on behalf of the community. As you are aware, we were successful in that action, evidenced by the Board seeking leave from the High Court to reconsider the application and further demonstrated by their subsequent decision to refuse permission.

A decision as to whether we take a JR in this instance will again be based on those two things - legal advice that the Board have failed to apply the law correctly and a mandate from the community that such an action be taken. We would agree that it would be preferable not to have to tie up the Courts time in relation to these matters, however, the SHD legislation gives the public no alternative form of appeal.

While the current scheme may, as you say, differ from previous iterations, it still involves development on sports fields which were actively used and have been clearly demonstrated to be environmentally sensitive and integral to the protected Dublin Bay Biosphere.

It is our understanding that the community view is that these fields should not be built on under any circumstances.

Given that we take our lead from the community, we do not see the value in meeting with you privately, however, should you wish to meet and discuss the current iteration of your plans with the wider community we would suggest that you call a public meeting to do so.

Yours sincerely,

Deirdre Tobin

On behalf of Clontarf Residents' Association

