



**PROPOSED CAMPUS ENTRANCE
UPGRADE AT EXISTING GOOGLE DATA
STORAGE FACILITY, GRANGE CASTLE
BUSINESS PARK SOUTH, BALDONNEL
ROAD, DUBLIN 22**

Traffic and Transport Assessment

PM Group, on behalf of Google Ireland Limited

September 2022

Contents

1. Introduction	3
2. Methodology.....	3
3. Description of Development	3
3.1 Existing Campus Entrance	4
3.2 Proposed Campus Entrance Upgrade.....	5
4. Existing and Future Baseline Conditions	6
4.1 Operations.....	6
4.1.1 Staff Flexitime.....	6
4.1.2 Staff Mobility Management.....	6
4.2 Traffic Volumes	6
5. Traffic and Transport Impacts.....	7
5.1 Construction Phase Impacts.....	7
5.2 Operational Phase Impacts	7
5.2.1 EPA EIAR Guidelines	7

Project No.	Doc. No.	Rev.	Date	Prepared By	Checked By	Approved By	Status
23260	6001	A	03/08/2022	S Quigley	S Quigley	S Quigley	DRAFT
23260	6001	B	01/09/2022	S Quigley	S Quigley	S Quigley	Planning

MWP, Engineering and Environmental Consultants
Address: Park House, Bessboro Road, Blackrock, Cork, T12 X251
www.mwp.ie



1. Introduction

This Traffic and Transport Assessment has been prepared on the instructions of PM Group, on behalf of Google Ireland Limited, for their proposed campus entrance upgrade at their existing data storage facility at Grange Castle Business Park South, Baldonnel Road, Dublin 22, D22 X602.

This Traffic and Transport Assessment is required for submission to South Dublin County Council, as part of the planning application for the proposed development.

2. Methodology

This Traffic and Transport Assessment (TTA) has been prepared in the context of the following:

- South Dublin County Council Development Plan 2016 - 2022;
- The South Dublin County Council permitted data storage development at the existing Google facility (planning reference: C3SD14A/0023). MWP prepared the TTA for the permitted development, which is completed and operational;
- The Transport Infrastructure Ireland (TII) Traffic and Transport Assessment Guidelines May 2014; and
- The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Guidelines on the Information to be contained in Environmental Impact Assessment Reports May 2022 (EPA EIAR Guidelines).

3. Description of Development

Google Ireland Limited's existing site facility is located at Grange Castle Business Park South, as shown in Figure 1.



Figure 1: Google Campus Facility Location Map

3.1 Existing Campus Entrance

The existing Google campus facility site is located at the east end of the IDA/South Dublin County Council Grange Castle Business Park South. Access to Grange Castle Business Park South is provided on the east side of Baldonnell Road, on the west side of the Park. The Google campus entrance is located at the east end of the cul-de-sac Business Park access road. The existing Google campus entrance plan is shown in Figure 2.

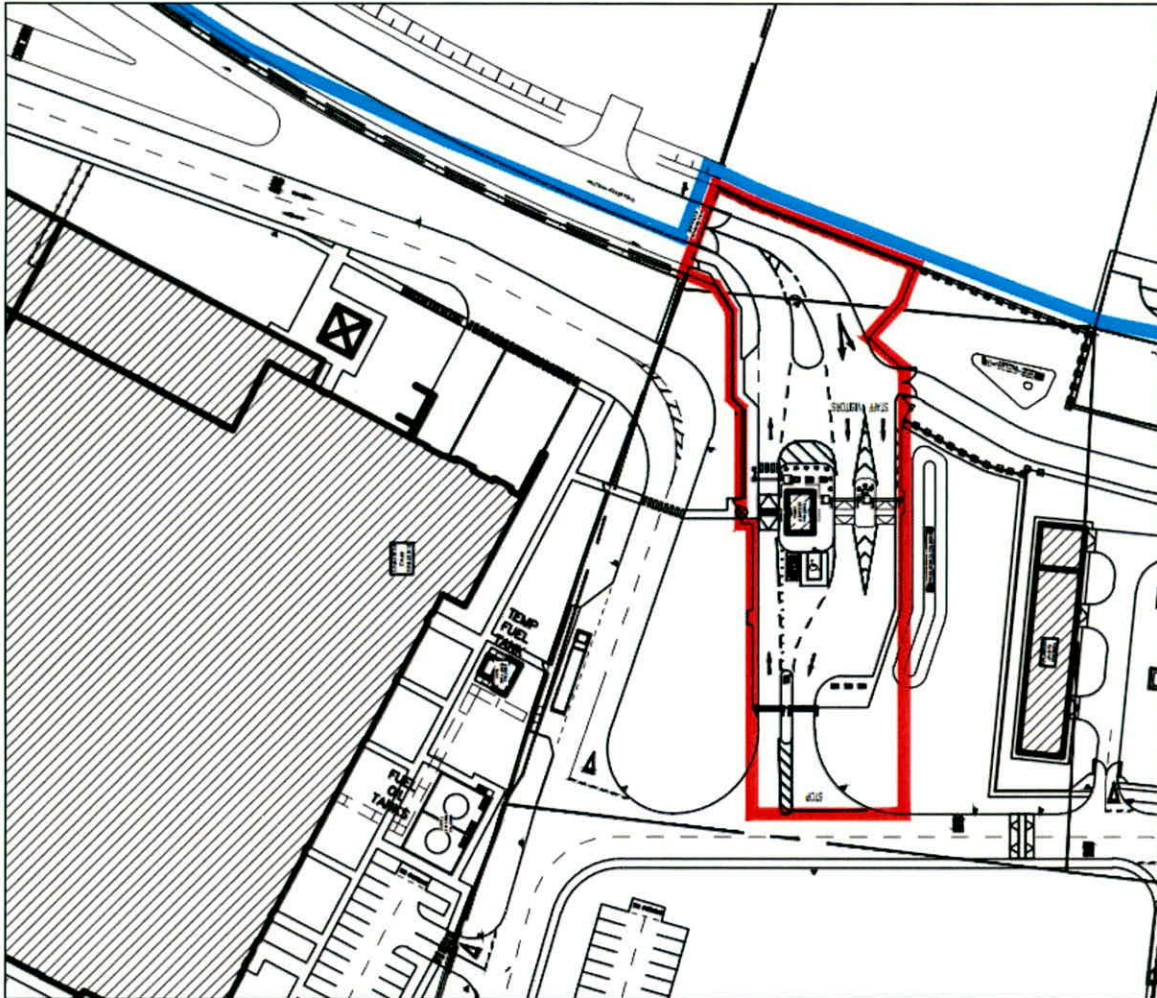


Figure 2: Existing Google Campus Entrance Plan

3.2 Proposed Campus Entrance Upgrade

The extent of the proposed campus entrance upgrade is located entirely within the Google campus site lands, as shown in the planning red line boundary plan for the extent of the proposed development provided in Figure 2 above, located at the end of the cul-de-sac Business Park access road. There will no works to the public Business Park road.

The existing and proposed entrance layout plans and cross sections drawing is included in the planning application submission with this Assessment report.

The proposed campus entrance upgrade will consist of the following:

- A traffic Island upgrade comprising the removal of the existing island and construction of a smaller central island in a new position and all ancillary works in relation to the upgrade;
- The replacement of 3 no. heavy duty barriers and controls with 3 no. new smaller traffic arms and 3 no. sub-surface lifting road blockers; and
- 2 no. 'Set-Down' spaces at the entrance to allow for visitors to park in while awaiting security clearance – they are not for general car parking.

The purpose of the entrance upgrade is to facilitate smoother traffic flows with staff using identification (ID) cards to raise standard traffic arm barriers, and to have a secure barrier deploy (sub-surface road blocks) should unauthorised persons/vehicles attempt to drive through the traffic arm barriers. Currently, there are delays in passing vehicles through the existing heavy barriers and security process at arrival times.

4. Existing and Future Baseline Conditions

4.1 Operations

The existing Google Ireland campus facility has an existing permitted total of circa 200 staff, with typically 140 to 160 daily staff, and up to 50 to 60 daily visitors. There will be no change to existing staff and visitor numbers and associated traffic generation with the proposed entrance upgrade in place.

4.1.1 Staff Shifts

Google Ireland operate staggered working for the vast majority of staff to facilitate staff travel outside peak traffic hours, and a distributed arrivals and departures time profile during the morning and evening peak commuter traffic periods.

4.1.2 Staff Mobility Management

Google Ireland currently facilitates the following existing mobility management measures at its campus site facility:

- Staggered shift patterns for the majority of staff to facilitate staff travel outside peak traffic hours, and a distributed arrivals and departures time profile during the commuter traffic peaks;
- Staff showers, changing areas and lockers;
- Covered secure cycle parking;
- Revenue's tax saver scheme for public transport; and
- Revenue's bike to work scheme.

4.2 Traffic Volumes

The existing traffic volumes on the local road network with the existing permitted Google Ireland campus site facility, on the basis of the TTA for the now completed and operational data storage development (planning reference: C3SD14A/0023), are provided in Table 1.

Road Link	Location	Peak Hour	
		AM	PM
Grange Castle Business Park South Access Road	At Baldonnell Road	296	276
Baldonnell Road	At Nangor Road	835	872

Table 1: Existing (2022) Peak Hour Link Traffic Volumes (Vehicles)

5. Traffic and Transport Impacts

5.1 Construction Phase Impacts

The proposed campus upgrade construction duration will be circa 12 weeks. All construction works, temporary construction parking, delivery compound and facilities will be located within the Google campus site. There will be no significant construction traffic volumes generated during the works, which will be carried out by specialist contractors. The campus entrance works will be carried out on a phased basis, to continuously maintain access for all operational staff, deliveries and visitors.

There will be no construction works to the public Business Park access road.

5.2 Operational Phase Impacts

As detailed in section 3.2 above, the proposed campus entrance upgrade will have a beneficial traffic and transport impact for existing campus entrance users by reducing existing delays at staff arrival times and enhancing security access for visitors.

5.2.1 EPA EIAR Guidelines

On the basis of the EPA EIAR Guidelines, the operational quality of effects of the proposed Google Ireland campus entrance upgrade will be positive. The positive effects will be long term.