



Information Note Regarding Draft Bye-Laws for the M1 Motorway (Gormanston to Monasterboice) Scheme

In August, 2001, the National Roads Authority published the Draft Toll Scheme for the M1 Motorway (Gormanston to Monasterboice). Following public consultation and the holding of an Oral Hearing, the Draft Toll Scheme was adopted by the Board of the Authority in May, 2002.

In accordance with the Roads Act, 1993, as amended, the Toll Scheme does not come into effect until bye-laws are made. Prior to making the bye-laws the Authority is required to consult with the Garda Commissioner and the relevant road authorities. In addition, draft bye-laws are subject to a public consultation process involving one month's public display and a further two week period for making objections/representations.

The draft bye-laws will be on public display from Wednesday 5th February to Thursday 6th March, 2003. Objections or representations in relation to the draft bye-laws may be made in writing to the **National Roads Authority, St. Martin's House, Waterloo Road, Dublin 4** so as to be received not later than 5.00pm on Wednesday 26th March, 2003.

Tolling Arrangements

A mainline toll plaza, consisting of 5 lanes per direction, is under construction between the Duleek Road (R152) junction and Gormanston interchange. Two subsidiary toll plazas are being constructed at the Donore Road junction, one on the southbound exit from the motorway and one on the northbound entry to the motorway. These subsidiary plazas are intended for road users travelling south who use the new Boyne Bridge and exit the motorway before reaching the main toll plaza on the motorway itself and also for road users travelling north who join the motorway after the main plaza and avail of the new bridge.

Road users will pay only one toll per directional journey. All existing alternative routes will continue to be available free of charge for road users who do not wish to avail of the new tolled facility.

The draft bye-laws provide for resolutions made by the Board of the Authority in May 2002, in adopting the Toll Scheme, as follows:

- that where a user has paid the toll charge and enters a second toll payment area relating to the same direction of travel within a short, for example three hour, period and the user can produce evidence, or such evidence is available to the operator, of that previous payment for the vehicle a second toll payment shall not be required in respect of such vehicle., and

- while the Board noted that the existing N1 would continue to operate as an alternative toll-free public road for users and that the charges published in the Draft Toll scheme were maximum charges, the bye-laws were to include a toll discount scheme such that the toll operator shall provide a discount of at least 10 per cent in respect of the prevailing toll charge for pre-payment for 20 journeys so as to cater for frequent users of the tolled facility.

The First Schedule of the draft bye-laws indicates the base toll charges expressed in August 2000, prices (excluding VAT). The maximum allowable toll charge in any given year is determined by updating the base toll charge in accordance with the Consumer Price Index, applying VAT at the standard rate and rounding to the nearest 10 cent.

Details of the actual tolls to be charged in the opening year 2003 are listed below.

Applicable 2003 Toll Charges for M1 Motorway (Gormanston – Monasterboice)

CLASS OF TRAFFIC	TOLL RATES	
	Euro (€) (excluding VAT)	€ (Including VAT @ 21%) (*)
Motor Cycles (exceeding 50 c.c)	€ 0.66	€ 0.80
Motor Cars	€ 1.26	€ 1.50
Buses or Coaches	€ 2.24	€ 2.70
Goods Vehicles with a design gross vehicle weight not exceeding 3,500 kilograms	€ 2.24	€ 2.70
Goods Vehicles with a design gross vehicle weight exceeding 3,500 kilograms and having 2 or 3 axles	€ 3.17	€ 3.80
Goods Vehicles with a design gross vehicle weight exceeding 3,500 kilograms and having 4 or more axles	€ 4.04	€ 4.90

(*) VAT paid on tolls by VAT registered entities can be recouped in accordance with normal taxation arrangements.