

Drogheda's Traffic Congestion Problem and How Addressing It Could Help Against Climate Change

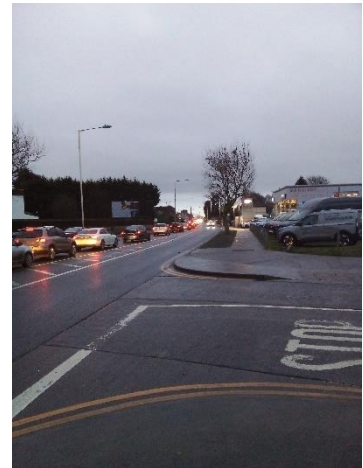
By The Climate Crusaders

One day, after a long day of school I asked my mother to come pick me up with her car, heading back home we noticed there was quite a lot of traffic congestion for a small Irish town like Drogheda which isn't a normal or good thing.

By quite a lot I mean a two kilometre convoy of cars on a single road, it took us significantly longer to get back home from a short distance of around 3km.

I'm certain that I am not the only person living in Drogheda who is aware of the traffic congestion, especially during rush hours, as people have tried to fix this problem before a main example being [Port Access Northern Cross Route](#) or [Active Travel Measures](#) but frequent traffic congestion still occurs.

The issue with this is that cars use up a lot of energy, mainly fossil fuels like petrol or diesel and burning them produces Carbon Dioxide (CO₂) and other harmful chemicals which go into the air which leads to pollution and noise, when there's traffic congestion, this gets amplified way more, data from Chinese research institutions indicate that [when vehicle speeds decline from 50 km/h to 20 km/h during congestion, emissions such as CO₂ and CxHy can surge by approximately 50 %](#)



It's evident that the outputs vehicles produce are significant, [according to SEAI statistics in 2022, 40% of Irish emissions came from the transport sector.](#)

Here, we propose solutions for traffic congestion facing our local area.

1. Replacing Traffic Lights with Roundabouts

Drogheda has a huge lack of roundabouts and they're [more effective](#) than traffic lights when it comes to the movement of traffic and safer for drivers and pedestrians who are trying to cross the road.

2. Removing the North Link M1 Toll / Decreasing toll charges

The North Link M1 Toll is a [toll plaza](#) located on the M1 Motorway near Drogheda town, while it has its own benefits [it leads to truck drivers and commuters to divert into the town to save on money](#), leading to more traffic congestion.

3. Improving Public Transport

There's already lots of bus usage in [Drogheda](#) but it should be improved even more by connecting other transport means to it, like in [Vienna](#), one ticket is used for multiple methods of transport (e.g. taxi or bus)

If there's solutions for a small town like Drogheda, then there are solutions for battling climate change!