

## **Blanchardstown transport**

### **Student Council Notes:**

While public and private bus services are available in the broader Blanchardstown area, students face difficulties commuting to the TU Dublin Blanchardstown campus due to inadequate connectivity between the Blanchardstown campus and the public transport routes serving key student catchment areas. The results of the 2022 TU Dublin Smarter Travel Staff and Student Survey, published in May 2023, highlight that 68% of students use public transport to travel to the Blanchardstown campus. Statistics show that 6% of students travel distances of less than 3km, 30% travel distances of between 3km and 10km, 36% of students travel distances ranging between 10 – 30km, and 28% travel distances greater than 30km. This illustrates the large number of students who require the regular use of public transport.

### **Student Council Also Notes:**

The combination of escalating inflation, the ongoing housing crisis, and the lack of on-campus accommodation has forced numerous students to travel extensive distances to reach campus. Some students are required to take up to three buses each way in their pursuit of education. This has created a two-tiered system in TU Dublin, between those who can afford private rented accommodation nearby, versus those who spend hours commuting daily, and are removed from the so-called 'college experience'.

### **Student Council believes:**

Students and Staff at TU Dublin require reliable public transport to the Blanchardstown Campus. Accessibility to the Blanchardstown campus is a right for students and staff. Furthermore, it would assist TU Dublin in achieving its Sustainability Goals, and improve the overall student satisfaction rate (recorded most recently in ISSE).

### **Student Council Therefore Mandates:**

The Campus VP for Blanchardstown to lobby the NTA, BusConnects and the Irish Government to increase bus service reliability, including more frequent and transparent updates on bus schedules and routes (38, 38a, 139, N4), to expedite the 'BusConnects' Network Redesign for 2025, and to redesign the bus routes so that at least one bus enters the actual campus.

### **Student Council further Mandates:**

The Campus VP for Blanchardstown to lobby TU Dublin for an improved shuttle bus service (in the interim) alongside reduced pricing for students (currently more expensive than TFI Buses).

### **Student Council further Mandates:**

The Campus VP for Blanchardstown to email all current councillors & relevant TD's in the area regarding the above demands, and for the President to lobby the VP for Sustainability in TU Dublin to create a joined media campaign, and all other actions deemed necessary.

**Proposed by: Jeremy Lawler, Campus VP for Blanchardstown**

**Seconded by: Peter McCann, Campus VP for City**