

Mr. Marc O'Morain
20 The Close,
Mount Merrion,
Co. Dublin.

Eamonn O'Hare,
Director of Transportation,
Level 2,
County Hall,
Marine Road,
Dun Laoghaire.

9th May 2005

Re: Footpath Re-Surfacing, Roebuck Avenue and The Close, Mount Merrion

Dear Mr. O'Hare,

I would like to complain about the quality of work that is being done in re-surfacing the footpath on Roebuck Avenue and The Close in Mount Merrion. There are three areas that concern me about this project.

Firstly, and of least importance, is the speed at which the work is being done. There is a single contractor laying the pavement. Each day this person pours about 2-3 metres of concrete in the morning, and he returns the next day to pour the next section. Roebuck Avenue and The Close are little more than 100 metres each. The re-surfacing work has been going on for some months at this stage, and the work has barely started on The Close.

Secondly, the quality of work is of concern to me. A very similar re-paving job has been done in and around the Deerpark Road / St. Teresa's church area. The new pavement in this area is flat, it is smooth, the curb is rounded. The pavement has a very professional look. The work on Roebuck Avenue and The Close is quite the opposite. The surface is uneven, and horribly rough. There are holes in the footpath. The concrete has been poured over the existing manhole covers. The footpath does not meet the front wall of the houses on the street in a lot of areas. The concrete in each 3 metre section of the footpath is a different colour. If a child were to fall on this new footpath, the rough surface would cause some very nasty cuts. I am not exaggerating - the surface on the footpath is more like pebble-dash than concrete.

Thirdly, almost every new 3 metre section of the pavement is covered in graffiti. Every day after the concrete is laid, people come along and write their names, draw and walk in the concrete. There is a three foot penis drawn on the pavement on Roebuck Avenue. Remember that this work is being done at a snail's pace, a few metres per week. I can understand that after laying the first section of concrete, someone may have come along and vandalised the drying concrete. The next day any competent contractor would have covered the concrete while the sections are drying. Each day the concrete is vandalised, and the concrete has never been covered. One section on Roebuck Road had particularly deep footprints in the concrete, which were about 3 inches deep. This section of concrete was removed and re-poured. None of the other sections with footprints, writing or penises have been replaced. I was expecting the contractor in question continue with his terrible work until completion, and ignore the poor quality of his work. However, the fact that he has acknowledged the problem, and replaced one bad section of pavement, and still continues to lay pavement that gets

vandalised nightly baffles me.

I would appreciate a swift reply to this matter, so that it may be dealt with before the work has been completed. I would like the entire pavement to be replaced by the obviously competent company that laid the pavement in the Deerpark area.

Yours Faithfully,

Marc O'Morain