



**Submission to the Irish Aviation Authority on the 2026 Draft Determination
On Maximum Levels of Airport Charges at Dublin Airport for 2027-2031**

INTRODUCTION

The Car Rental Council represents the major car rental companies in Ireland (see Appendix 1).

The car rental industry is an integral element of the Irish tourism industry, delivering 51% of overseas tourists to regional Ireland.

The car rental facilities at Dublin Airport are vital to the car rental and Irish tourism industries in that 83% of tourism rentals originate at Dublin Airport. Equally, the ongoing development of top-class car rental facilities at Dublin Airport is essential to match the passenger growth projections and ambitions of a world class international airport.

SUBMISSION

The Car Rental Council welcomes the following elements of the DAA Draft Capital Investment Programme 2027 – 2031 featured in the Draft Determination on the Maximum Levels of Airport Charges at Dublin Airport for 2027-2031:

- CIP27.03.02 – Car Rental Consolidation Centre
- CIP27.01.02A - Charging Network

Regarding CIP27.03.02 – Car Rental Consolidation Centre; ***it is essential above all else that this project is completed on schedule.***

Ongoing delays in the redevelopment of the Car Rental Consolidation Centre at Eastlands are causing capacity issues as well as presenting health and safety challenges and impairing the customer experience. In addition, anticipated growth in Airport passenger numbers can only be properly accommodated in a redeveloped Centre.

The project footprint has contracted considerably from the one proposed in CIP.20.04.002. While progressing the redevelopment at pace, the capacity of the project to deal with existing customer numbers and anticipated growth cannot be allowed to shrink any further. This applies equally to the satellite car rental storage area intended for the Red Car Park Expansion under CIP27.03.01A.

With regard to CIP27.01.02A - Charging Network; flexibility will be necessary regarding the planned car rental charging infrastructure, given the extremely dynamic nature of the rollout of EVs into the rental fleet and the legislation, existing and threatened, covering this area; as well as a severe ongoing shortfall in grid capacity to supply power to the Airport campus and to Eastlands in particular.

Thank you for the opportunity to make this submission.

Peter Boland
Car Rental Council of Ireland
18th September 2026

APPENDIX 1

The Car Rental Council of Ireland is the representative trade organisation for the car rental industry in Ireland.

The strategic importance of the car rental industry to the tourism and hospitality sector in Ireland has been widely acknowledged in recent years.

“The sector is an important part of wider tourism infrastructure.” “Tourists hiring cars are more likely than other visitors to visit regional locations. For many regional and rural locations car hire tourists represent a majority of visitors.” Ref: Indecon report to Fáilte Ireland “An Examination of Car Rental Taxation and Tourism in Ireland”

August 2021

“People who rent cars in Ireland spend longer in Ireland. They spend more money in Ireland; they visit places like Wexford, Kerry, all around the country and they require rental cars to do that.”

Paul Kelly, chief executive of Fáilte Ireland.

REF: <https://www.thetimes.co.uk/article/cheaper-to-buy-a-car-than---one-in-ireland-8krqf3hbz?t=ie> (subscription article, 16th June 2022)

The rental fleet also enables mobility replacement (in the case of breakdown or accident), fleet options for corporate and government bodies, in-work pool fleets (e.g. through dedicated car clubs), and mobility solutions for international business travellers, tradespeople, delivery businesses and many more commercial uses. The industry is also to the forefront in developing sustainable shared mobility solutions for the future, such as car sharing.

The Council is an active member of the Irish Tourist Industry Confederation. It is recognised by Ireland’s official agencies Fáilte Ireland and Tourism Ireland and contributes to the development of national tourism policies.

Membership of the Council is open to companies operating a year-round car rental business with a minimum fleet size of 500 vehicles. The 500-vehicle minimum may be waived in circumstances where the applicant serves specialist or niche markets. Membership is subject to acceptance of and compliance with the Council’s constitution and code of practice.

Our current membership includes:

Avis/Budget
Enterprise Mobility
Europcar
Hertz
Sixt

Website: <https://www.carrentalcouncil.ie/>