



# DART+

PROGRAMME

**PIN Brochure** | December 2024



# The DART+ Programme Introduction



This brochure, which accompanies the published Periodic Indicative Notice (PIN), is to provide the market with an overview of the DART+ Programme, and give potential bidders an idea of the scale, scope, complexity and timelines of the DART+ Programme.

DART+ is a transformative programme of projects that aims to modernise and improve existing rail services in the Greater Dublin Area (GDA). The DART network will increase from 50 kilometres to 150 kilometres transforming commuter train travel in the Greater Dublin Area. It will provide a sustainable, electrified, reliable and more frequent rail service improving capacity in all rail corridors serving Dublin, bringing DART travel with all its benefits to new and existing communities. The provision of a new electrified fleet will improve capacity and reduce greenhouse gas emissions.

The Board of Iarnród Éireann has given approval for the procurement, packaging and contracting strategy for the DART+ Programme and it is anticipated that the formal stages of the procurement process will commence in early 2025.

DART+ Programme is being developed and promoted by Iarnród Éireann (IÉ) and National Transport Authority (NTA) to meet the aims of the National Development Plan (NDP), the Transport Strategy for the Greater Dublin Area 2016 – 2035 and the All-Island Strategic Rail Review.

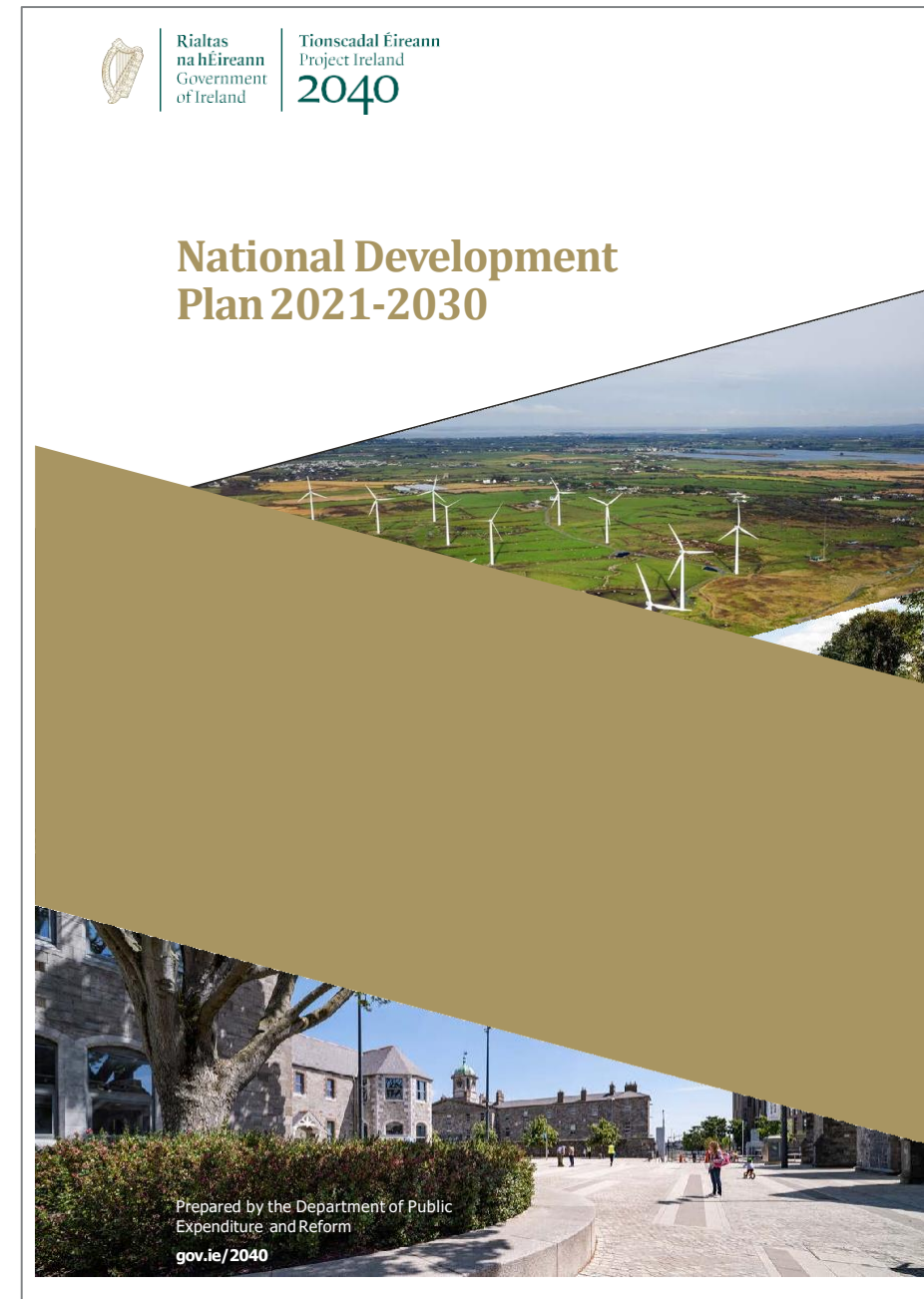




# DART+ Investing in the future

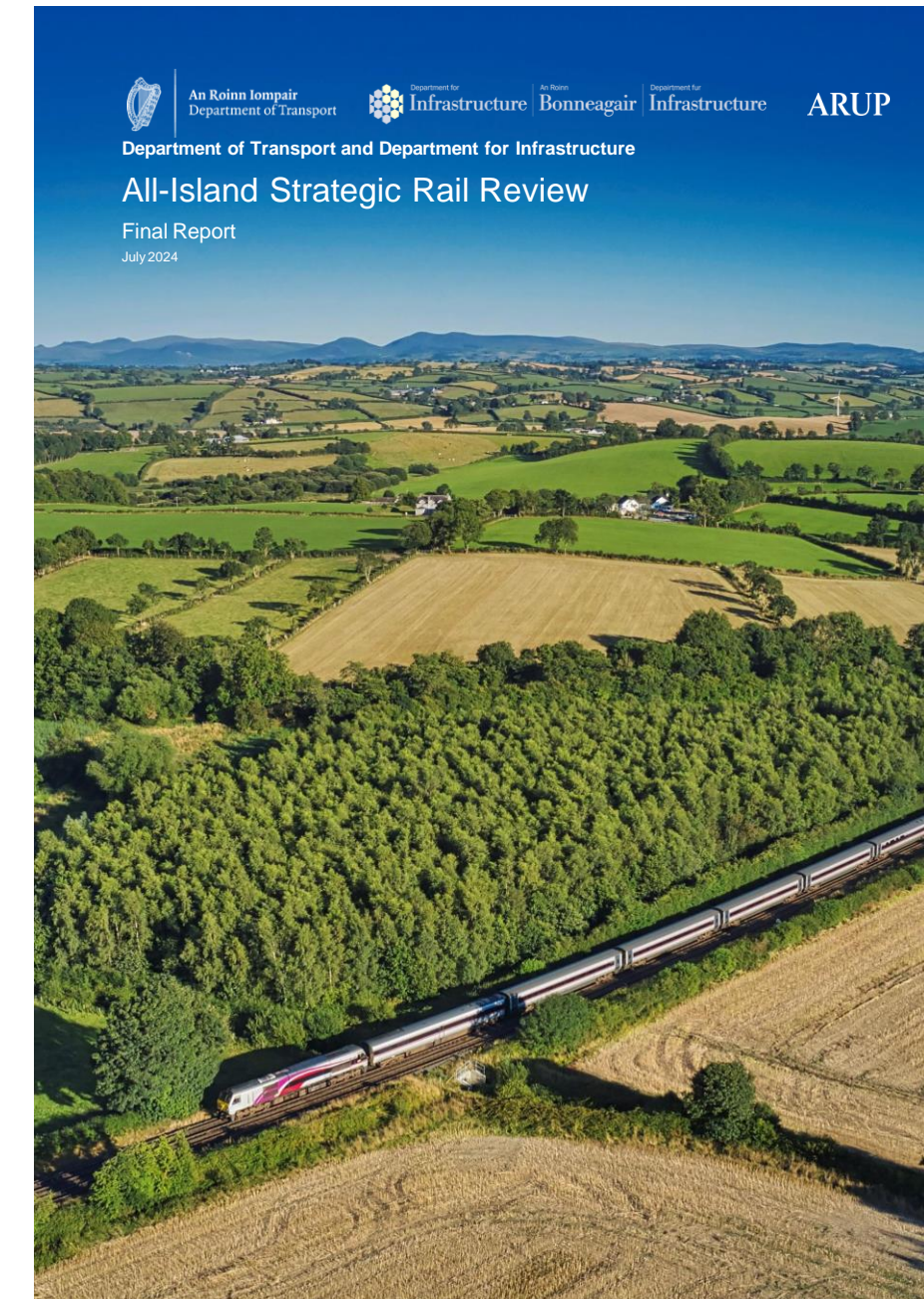
The National Development Plan (NDP) 2021-2030 for Ireland places the DART+ Programme at the centre of rail investment within the lifetime of Project Ireland 2040.

This commitment is reinforced by the Government of Ireland through the inclusion of DART+ Programme in the All-Island Strategic Rail Review report which was published in July 2024.



[gov - National Development Plan 2021-2030 \(www.gov.ie\)](http://www.gov.ie)

## National Development Plan 2021-2030 (NDP)



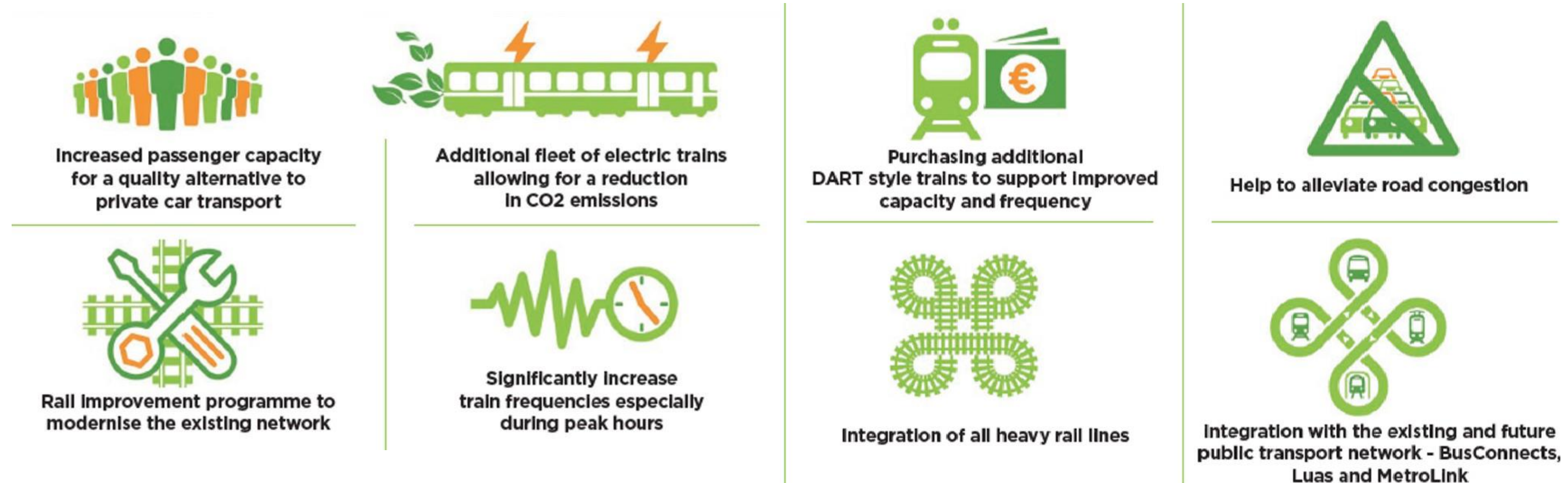
[gov - All-Island Strategic Rail Review \(www.gov.ie\)](http://www.gov.ie)

## All-Island Strategic Rail Review 31 July 2024



# DART+ Objectives and Benefits

The overall objective of the DART+ Programme is a sustainable, electrified, reliable and more frequent rail service, improving capacity on rail corridors serving Dublin. The benefits of delivering the DART+ Programme are illustrated below.





# Overview of the DART+ Programme

The DART+ Programme consists of five infrastructure projects in addition to the procurement of new DART+ fleet.

1. **DART+ West:** Maynooth and M3 Parkway to the City Centre
2. **DART+ South West:** Hazelhatch & Celbridge to the City Centre
3. **DART+ Coastal North:** Drogheda to the City Centre
4. **DART+ Coastal South:** Greystones to the City Centre
5. **DART+ Depot**

Each project while standalone, will tie into the existing railway network. Subject to the approval of Railway Orders (planning permissions), each infrastructure project can be advanced sequentially or concurrently, dependent on available funding.

The DART+ Programme will let contracts across Signalling and Telecoms, Electrification, Permanent Way, Route wide Civils, Enabling Works, Depot and Stations. System design integration is being conducted at a programme level to ensure full integration of all DART+ projects. Appropriate associated maintenance contracts may also be awarded.

The current estimate for the DART+ Programme procurements is circa €2.2bn (*excluding VAT and client costs*). An estimated value per procurement is provided with high-level scopes in this brochure.



# DART+ Future Network – Passenger Capacity Enhancements



**DART+ West**  
4.5K → 14K

**DART+ Coastal North**  
11.4K → 13.7K

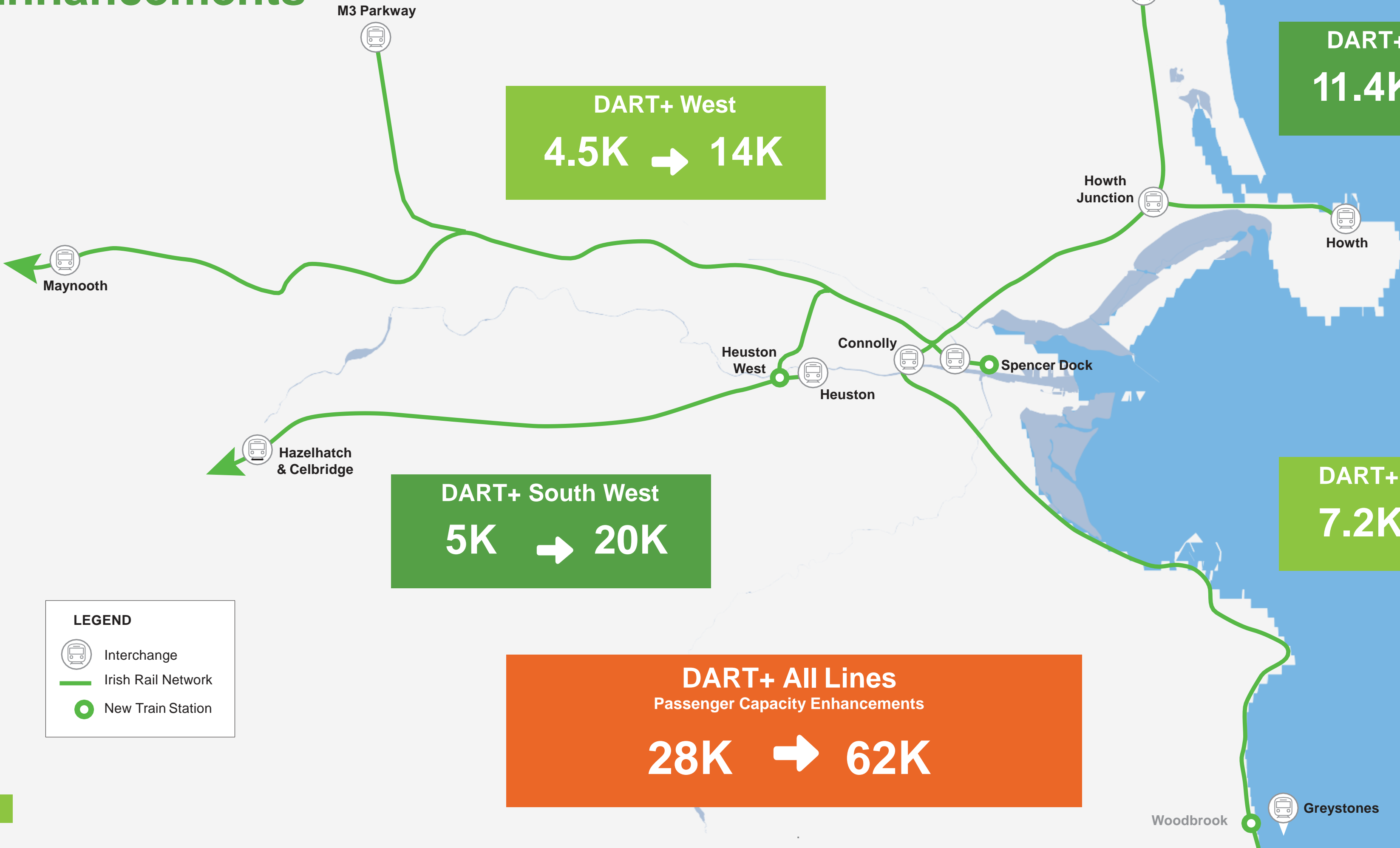
**DART+ South West**  
5K → 20K

**DART+ Coastal South**  
7.2K → 14.4K

**DART+ All Lines**  
Passenger Capacity Enhancements  
28K → 62K

**LEGEND**

- Interchange
- Irish Rail Network
- New Train Station





In relation to progressing the statutory planning process:

## Railway Order approval:

- > In July 2024, An Bord Pleanála granted the Railway Order for the DART+ West project
- > In November 2024, An Bord Pleanála granted the Railway Order for the DART+ South West project

## Railway Order applications:

- > The Railway Order application was submitted for DART+ Coastal North in July 2024. A decision is expected in 2025
- > DART+ Depot will be progressed as a new Railway Order application

## Appointments:

- > AtkinsRéalis have been appointed as the Multi Disciplinary Consultants (MDC) for the development of the tender and contract documentation for DART+ West and DART+ South West



# Anticipated Procurement and Contracting Approach

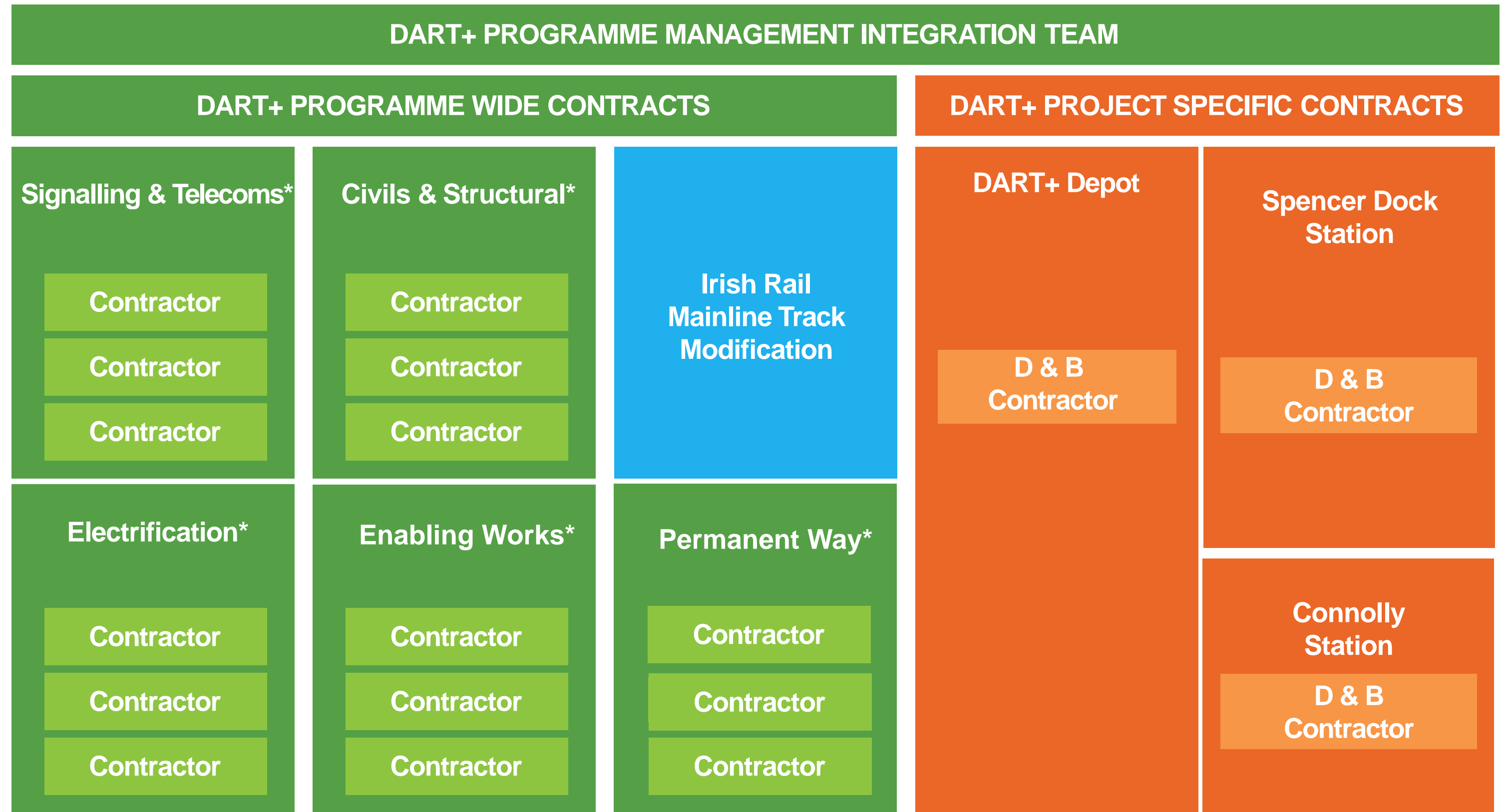
It is the intention of Iarnród Éireann to establish Qualification Systems for the following discipline packages:

- Signalling & Telecoms
- Electrification
- Civils & Structural
- Enabling Works
- Permanent Way

Iarnród Éireann also intends to issue standalone DART+ specific contracts for Design & Build works at

- Connolly Station
- DART+ Depot
- Spencer Dock Station

It is anticipated that as part of the delivery of the DART+ Programme, Iarnród Éireann will undertake some of the mainline track modification works.



*\*Number of contractors shown indicative only*



# The DART+ Qualification System Operation



To deliver the DART+ programme, Iarnród Éireann will have an ongoing need to procure a variety of works contracts. Iarnród Éireann's current intention is to establish qualification systems with a pool of qualified parties, who may be invited to specific competitions under the relevant qualification system in relation to execution of works packages.

To be admitted to the qualification system applicants will be required to fulfil the selection criteria. The qualification system will always be open to new applicants with no deadline for submitting an application for admission to the qualification system.

In the event that Iarnród Éireann determines (in its sole discretion) that the qualification system will no longer be effective it will provide notice of such discontinuance to the qualified applicants as soon as reasonably practicable.

Iarnród Éireann may issue competition materials in respect of competitions for specific works packages from time to time and only qualified applicants that were admitted to the qualification system at the time when Iarnród Éireann issues such competition materials may participate in such competition. Consequently, Iarnród Éireann encourages applicants to apply for admission to the qualification system as soon as reasonably practicable.

For the avoidance of doubt, any qualification system that Iarnród Éireann establishes in connection with DART+ Programme is not exclusive. Consequently, Iarnród Éireann is not obligated to use the qualification systems when procuring any works connected with DART+ and Iarnród Éireann may use alternative sourcing methods such as other qualification systems, contract notices or existing contractual arrangements when entering contracts covered by the scope of the DART+ Programme.

Furthermore, Iarnród Éireann cannot guarantee the size or number of contracts to be tendered for under the qualification systems as this will depend on numerous factors outside of Iarnród Éireann's control. Iarnród Éireann does not make any guarantee or representation relating to the volume of contracts which may be procured under any qualification system.



# The DART+ Qualification System Operation



## SME Participation

Iarnród Éireann encourage participation on a fair and equal basis by Small and Medium Enterprises (“SMEs”). The contract packages propose a range of contract values which may be suitable for SMEs if they believe the scope of this potential opportunity may be beyond their technical or business capacity are encouraged to explore the possibilities of forming relationships with other SMEs or with larger enterprises.

Through such relationships they can participate and contribute to the successful implementation of any Contracts that may result from the established Qualification Systems and therefore increase their social and economic benefits.

Larger enterprises are also encouraged to consider the practical ways that SMEs can be included in their proposals to maximise the social and economic benefits of any Contracts that may result from the established Qualification Systems.

## Timetable

The date relates to the publication of the first notice, is tentative and may be subject to change. All future tender documentation will be made available on the Official Journal of the European Union (OJEU) and on [www.etenders.gov.ie](http://www.etenders.gov.ie) and potential tenderers should register on this website to ensure they have access to tender documentation when the tender opportunity is published.

The information provided in this brochure is supplementary to the published Periodic Indicative Notice (PIN).

**This is not a call for competition and therefore no tender documents are available.**

No competitive process will result from this advertisement; any future competitions will be subject to appropriate advertisement via the Official Journal of the European Union (OJEU) and on [www.etenders.gov.ie](http://www.etenders.gov.ie).

Organisations or service providers will be required to satisfy the requirements and criteria to be advertised in any subsequent tender competition in order to be selected to proceed to tender.



# Scope of DART+ Programmes



## The Signalling & Telecoms package includes:

- > Computer Based Interlocking for the DART+ areas and associated interfaces
- > New signalling system to facilitate increased capacity
- > Implementation of European Train Control Systems (ETCS) Level 1
- > New copper and fibre telecommunications networks for signalling, electrification and connectivity to SCADA systems
- > New low voltage (LV 650v) infrastructure
- > Associated lineside equipment to facilitate new signalling and telecommunications requirements
- > Associated civil works e.g., signal foundations, equipment bases, cable management system etc.

Estimated value of Qualification System €300,000,000  
With contract values ranging from €40,000,000 to €150,000,000

## The Electrification package includes:

- > Installation of new OHLE equipment (1500V DC), masts and associated cabling to connect into traction substations, and lineside feeds
- > Associated civil works to facilitate connections, masts and lineside feeds
- > Electrification (traction power), construction and fit out of 25 No. 38kV substations and compound, and electricity supply interface
- > New SCADA system

Estimated value of Qualification System €550,000,000  
With contract values ranging from €120,000,000 to €245,000,000



# Scope of DART+ Programmes continued

## The Civils & Structural package includes:

- > Bridge, platform and station reconstructions / modifications
- > Earth retaining and embankment works
- > Closure of level crossings, provision of replacement access infrastructure (road bridges and/or pedestrian and cycle bridges) and road reconfiguration as applicable
- > Interventions including track lowering / track works, bridge modifications
- > Modification at Heuston Yard to create a DART+ train station including construction of a canopy structure and access ramps
- > Potential construction of additional train stations (requirement currently under review)
- Construction and programme management services under consideration

Estimated value of Qualification System €600,000,000

With contract values ranging from €74,000,000 to €230,000,000.

However, further disaggregation of the civils & structures packages, may be determined, leading to smaller individual contract values ranging from €5,000,000 to €20,000,000.



## The Permanent Way package includes:

- > Four-tracking from Parkwest to Heuston station and associated civil works
- > Interventions including track lowering, track realignment and track drainage
- Installation of turnouts/points and crossovers

Estimated value of Qualification System €200,000,000

With contract values ranging from €15,000,000 to €130,000,000

## The Enabling Works package includes:

- > Utility diversions; route clearance works, diversion / relocation of existing cables and containment infrastructure and fencing
- > Minor civils works including site clearance

Estimated value of Qualification System €150,000,000

With contract values ranging from €15,000,000 to €40,000,000.

However, further disaggregation of the enabling works packages, may be determined, leading to smaller individual contract values ranging from €1,000,000 to €5,000,000.

# Scope of DART+ Programmes continued



## The DART+ Depot package, subject to planning approval, includes:

- Construction of a new electrified railway depot and stabling and maintenance compound including associated civil, permanent way, OHLE, building(s) and landscaping works
- S&T and E&M Systems including operational and non-operational signalling, electrification, telecoms and mechanical
- Supply, install and commission a new 38kv traction power substation, including associated compounds and electrical interface works with energy provider (ESB)

Estimated value €250,000,000.

## The new DART+ train station at Spencer Dock includes:

- > Construction of a new DART+ train station building with sub-surface platforms requiring secant piling to obtain below ground track alignment
- > Associated civil work for both the structure and railway systems, and landscaping works
- > Slab track leading into the station
- > Utility diversions

Estimated value €130,000,000.

## The Capacity Enhancement Works at Connolly Station include:

- > Refurbishment of existing historic vaults and creation of new pedestrian access to upper platform level via new station entrance

Estimated value €20,000,000.



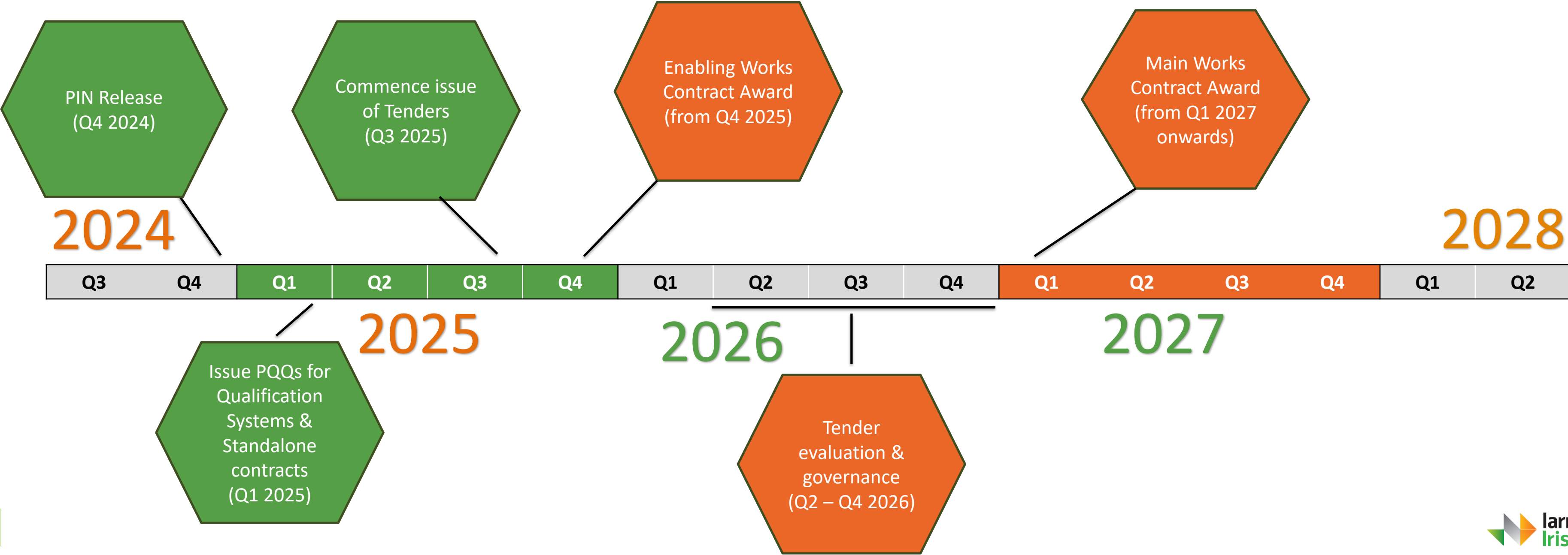
# DART+ Programme Timelines



This PIN serves to inform the market that a call for competition for the DART+ Programme is anticipated to commence in Quarter 1 of 2025.

It is expected that tenders for elements of the DART+ West and South West main works packages will issue by the end of 2025, subject to funding allocation.

The tenders for Coastal North and Coastal South will follow from 2026 onwards, subject to planning approval and funding availability.



Further information on the project can be found at the DART+ Programme website: [www.dartplus.ie/en-ie/home](http://www.dartplus.ie/en-ie/home)

