

**Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown County Council  
Transportation and Water Services Department**



**Cycle Counter Statistics 2012 – 2013**



**January 2014**

## 1. Introduction

Cycling is a key element of transportation policy in Dun Laoghaire-Rathdown County Council with a number of projects advanced in recent years in relation to the development of cycling infrastructure and cycle promotion. The County's vision set out in the Cycling Policy (June 2010) is as follows;

*To cultivate a cycling culture, through the implementation of appropriate infrastructure and promotional measures, that positively encourages all members of the community to cycle at all life stages and abilities as a mode of sustainable transport that delivers environmental, health and economic benefits to both the individual and the community.*

This vision is being achieved through the implementation of 19 objectives and associated interventions in line with the National Cycle Policy Framework objectives. Among the successes in recent years was the implementation of a number of cycle greenways, the development of a number of cycling leaflets and participation in National Bike Week annually.

## 2. Cycle Counters

Dún Laoghaire - Rathdown County Council installed a number of automatic permanent cycle counters in recent years along key routes in the County, as shown in Table 1.1.

	<b>Counter Location</b>	<b>Date of operation</b>
1	N11 Stillorgan Road Totem (1-way)	January 13, 2011
3	N11 Montrose (2-way cycle track)	January 25, 2012
2	The Metals, Glenageary Dart Station – (2-way cyclists)	November 24, 2010
4	Rock Road Bus lane (1-way)	January 25, 2012
5	Rock Road Inside park near the Dart (2-way)	January 24, 2012
6	Clonskeagh Road Totem – (2-way)	May 3, 2012
7	Rock Road Totem (1-way)	March 7, 2012

These cycle counters provide real time information on the number of cyclists at each location that can be accessed and analysed online. An inductive loop is inserted under the surface of the cycle lane/track and each time a bicycle goes over the loop, a system detects the two wheels' electromagnetic signature and registers a count. In addition, the totem cycle counter provides a visual display of the numbers of cyclists on that day and also displays the cumulative number of cyclists that passed over the loop during that year.

The cycle data from the counters is used mainly for the following reasons:

- To monitor cycle trends at key routes in the County.
- To check if new or upgraded cycle facilities result in more cyclists.
- To justify investment in cycling infrastructure by having robust cycling data available to facilitate before and after monitoring.

This report provides an overview of the cycling statistics relating to cycle counters in County for the year 2013.

## 2.1 N11 Cycle Counters

The first totem cycle counter in the County was installed on the city-bound side of the N11 on the approach slip road to UCD, as shown in Figure 2.1.



**Figure 2.1 N11 UCD Cycle Counter Location**

Table 2.1 provides a comparison of the number of cyclists passing the cycle counter on the N11 between 2012 and 2013.

<b>Table 2.1 Cycle numbers comparison - N11 Cycle Counter (1-way)</b>			
<b>Cycle numbers</b>	<b>2012</b>	<b>2013</b>	<b>% increase</b>
January	11120	9944	-11%
February	13255	12615	-5%
March	14141	9949	-30%
April	12056	13626	13%
May	13895	14356	3%
June	10618	10291	-3%
July	11285	11545	2%
August	11411	11197	-2%
September	15,367		
October	16549		
November	9685*		
December	6631		
<b>Total cyclists Jan-Aug</b>	<b>97781</b>	<b>93523</b>	<b>-4%</b>

A fault arose with the cycle counter in September 2013 and thus only data from January to August 2013 is available. Overall, it appears that the number of cyclists passing the counter on the N11 has decreased by 4% between 2012 and 2013.

In 2013, the busiest day of the week was Tuesday and the peak day was Tuesday April 23<sup>rd</sup> when 734 cyclists passed the cycle counter loop.

Since the cycle counter was installed, a number of improvements have been made to the cycle track on the N11 to improve the quality of service for cyclists along the route.

Two additional cycle counters using loops were installed where the Montrose Hotel slip road joins the N11 in 2012, as shown in Figure 2.2. Tables 2.2 and 2.3 provide a comparison of the number of cyclists passing both cycle counters between 2012 and 2013.



**Figure 2.2 N11 Montrose Cycle Counter Location**

The Cycle loops were installed on two cycle tracks (separated by a grass verge) that counted the number of cyclist in both directions.

<b>Table 2.2 Cycle numbers comparison N11 Montrose Cycle Counter out of City</b>			
<b>Cycle numbers outbound</b>	<b>2012</b>	<b>2013</b>	<b>%</b>
January	2579	13261	414%
February	12049	12619	5%
March	13633	9917	-27%
April	10973	14074	28%
May	12886	14289	11%
June	9852	13177	34%
July	10972	15455	41%
August	11133	13711	23%
September	15064	18642	24%
October	16001	18666	17%
November	14419	17397	21%
December	7626	9818	29%
<b>Total yearly cyclists</b>	<b>137187</b>	<b>171026</b>	<b>25%</b>

Overall, we see a high numbers of cyclists using the N11 for cycle trips to and from the City with cycle numbers increasing considerably in both directions in the summer. Cyclist numbers are significantly lower into the city as the majority of cyclists use the bike lane on the opposite side of the N11 near UCD for city bound journeys.

<b>Table 2.3 Cycle numbers comparison N11 Montrose Cycle Counter into City</b>			
<b>Cycle numbers inbound</b>	<b>2012</b>	<b>2013</b>	<b>%</b>
January	605	2671	341%
February	2679	2568	-4%
March	2892	1844	-36%
April	2219	2629	18%
May	2147	2335	9%
June	1545	2058	33%
July	1720	2272	32%
August	1591	2096	32%
September	2574	3291	28%
October	2773	3461	25%
November	3084	3234	5%
December	1532	1760	15%
<b>Total yearly cyclists</b>	<b>25,361</b>	<b>30,219</b>	<b>19%</b>

## 2.2 Rock Road Cycle Counters

A number of cycle counters were installed on the Rock Road and in Blackrock Park in 2012 as follows with the location shown in Figure 2.3:

- o Cycle counter loop placed in the bus lane on the outbound side of the Rock Road adjacent to Blackrock Park, south east of the junction with Booterstown Avenue.
- o Totem pole with a cycle counter loop placed in the cycle lane in the inbound side of the Rock Road, south east of the junction with Booterstown Avenue.
- o Cycle counter loop placed on the cycle lane in Blackrock Park near Booterstown Dart Station that counted the number of cyclists in both directions.



**Figure 2.3 Rock Road Cycle Counter locations and Totem**

Tables 2.4 and 2.5 provide a comparison of the number of cyclists passing the cycle counter on the Rock Road between 2012 and 2013:

<b>Table 2.4 Cycle numbers outbound Rock Road Bus Lane (One Way)</b>			
<b>Cycle numbers out of DLR</b>	<b>2012</b>	<b>2013</b>	<b>%</b>
January	2834	10693	277%
February	15001	10277	-31%
March	18914	9122	-52%
April	14467	14560	1%
May	19551	18376	-6%
June	15753	18049	15%
July	17619	22075	25%
August	17216	18145	5%
September	17065	18401	8%
October	15879	16279	3%
November	13325	14409	8%
December	8263	9294	12%
<b>Total yearly cyclists</b>	<b>175,887</b>	<b>179,680</b>	<b>2%</b>

<b>Table 2.5 Cycle numbers inbound Rock Road Totem (One Way)</b>			
<b>Cycle numbers out of DLR</b>	<b>2012</b>	<b>2013</b>	<b>%</b>
January		10800	
February		11609	
March	12008	9811	-18%
April	11485	12664	10%
May	15767	16949	7%
June	12708	15947	25%
July	14164	19581	38%
August	14384	16147	12%
September	15470	16455	6%
October	14465	14275	-1%
November	12291	13725	12 %
December	8116	8628	6%
<b>Total cyclists Mar-Dec</b>	<b>130,858</b>	<b>144,182</b>	<b>10%</b>

Overall, we see that the number of cyclists passing the counters on the Rock Road have increased in both directions and the busiest day of the week was Tuesday over the year.

For inbound and outbound cyclists, an alternative cycle route exists from Booterstown Dart Station to Blackrock via Blackrock Park with cycle numbers in both directions shown in Table 2.6 and 2.7.

<b>Table 2.6 Cycle numbers comparison Rock Road Park towards Blackrock</b>			
<b>Cycle numbers out of DLR</b>	<b>2012</b>	<b>2013</b>	<b>%</b>
January	638	3920	514%
February	3392	3860	14%
March	4743	2621	-45%
April	3303	4306	30%
May	5133	5370	5%
June	4079	6567	61%
July	4506	9833	118%
August	5066	7168	41%
September	4869	7108	46%
October	3981	5624	41%
November	3259	5218	60%
December	2225	3568	60%
<b>Total yearly cyclists</b>	<b>45,194</b>	<b>65,163</b>	<b>44%</b>

<b>Table 2.7 Cycle numbers comparison Rock Road Park towards Booterstown</b>			
<b>Cycle numbers out of DLR</b>	<b>2012</b>	<b>2013</b>	<b>%</b>
January	673	4086	507%
February	4380	4388	26%
March	5259	2822	-46%
April	3487	4342	25%
May	5658	5661	0%
June	4292	7004	63%
July	4716	11126	136%
August	5138	8407	64%
September	5064	8524	68%
October	4260	6959	63%
November	3495	6514	86%
December	2324	4596	98%
<b>Total yearly cyclists</b>	<b>47,846</b>	<b>74,429</b>	<b>56%</b>

This route through Blackrock Parks appears to be well used with a large increase in cycle numbers between 2012 and 2013. The introduction of the contra flow cycle track on Newtown Avenue in 2012 that allows cyclists to go from Blackrock to Seapoint Avenue along a low traffic route may have contributed to this increase.

### **2.3 Clonskeagh Road Cycle Counter**

A totem cycle counter was installed on the Clonskeagh Road early in May 2012 as shown in Figure 2.4. Tables 2.8 and 2.9 provide a comparison of the number of cyclists passing the cycle counter on Clonskeagh Road between 2012 and 2013:



Figure 2.4 Clonskeagh Road Cycle Counter Totem

<b>Table 2.8 Cycle numbers Clonskeagh Road Totem Cycle Counter into City</b>			
<b>Cycle numbers out of DLR</b>	<b>2012</b>	<b>2013</b>	<b>%</b>
January		17956	
February		22086	
March		17383	
April		21964	
May	19192	23942	25%
June	15466	19532	26%
July	16560	22051	33%
August	17070	20107	18%
September	25204	29548	17%
October	28688	31375	9%
November	18356	27931	52%
December	3416	17027	398%
<b>Total cyclists May-Dec</b>	<b>143,952</b>	<b>191,513</b>	<b>33%</b>

<b>Table 2.9 Cycle numbers Clonskeagh Road Totem Cycle Counter out of City</b>			
<b>Cycle numbers out of DLR</b>	<b>2012</b>	<b>2013</b>	<b>%</b>
January		16981	
February		21182	
March		16554	
April		20980	
May	18501	22533	22%
June	15027	18640	24%
July	15947	21516	35%
August	16510	19257	17%
September	23948	28099	17%
October	27924	30139	8%
November	17193	27926	62%
December	3543	15659	342%
<b>Total cyclists May-Dec</b>	<b>138593</b>	<b>183,769</b>	<b>33%</b>



It can be seen from the data from the Clonskeagh Road counters that there was an increase of 33% in the number of cyclists in each direction in 2013 compared to 2012. The busiest day of the week was Tuesday with a daily average of 1465 cyclists (two directions) over the year.

## 2.4 The Metals Cycle Counter

Cycle and pedestrian counters were installed along the Metals route (Dún Laoghaire to Dalkey) in November 2010 with the location shown in Figure 2.5.



**Figure 2.5 The Metals Counter Location**

Tables 2.10 and 2.11 provide a comparison of cycle numbers for the period between 2012 and 2013 for both directions:

<b>Table 2.10 Cycle numbers comparison Metals Cycle Counter – To Dún Laoghaire</b>			
<b>Cycle numbers Into</b>	<b>2012</b>	<b>2013</b>	<b>%</b>
January	1900	1710	-10%
February	2245	1652	-26%
March	3041	1758	-42%
April	2354	2698	15%
May	2923	3284	12%
June	2654	3996	51%
July	3110	4581	47%
August	3703	4378	18%
September	3395	3731	10%
October	2658	2811	6%
November	2094	2280	9%
December	1545	1776	15%
<b>Total yearly cyclists</b>	<b>31,622</b>	<b>34,655</b>	<b>10%</b>
Pedestrian yearly total	47,952	49,502	3%

<b>Table 2.11 Cycle numbers comparison Metals Cycle Counter – To Dalkey</b>			
<b>Cycle numbers out of DLR</b>	<b>2012</b>	<b>2013</b>	<b>%</b>
January	1780	1733	-3%
February	2023	1558	-23%
March	2643	1623	39%
April	2088	2245	8%
May	2533	2788	10%
June	2419	3194	32%
July	2719	3681	35%
August	3061	3758	23%
September	2908	3161	9%
October	2480	2458	-1%
November	2107	2326	10%
December	1593	1883	18%
<b>Total yearly cyclists</b>	<b>28,354</b>	<b>30,408</b>	<b>7%</b>
Pedestrian yearly total	45919	46918	2%

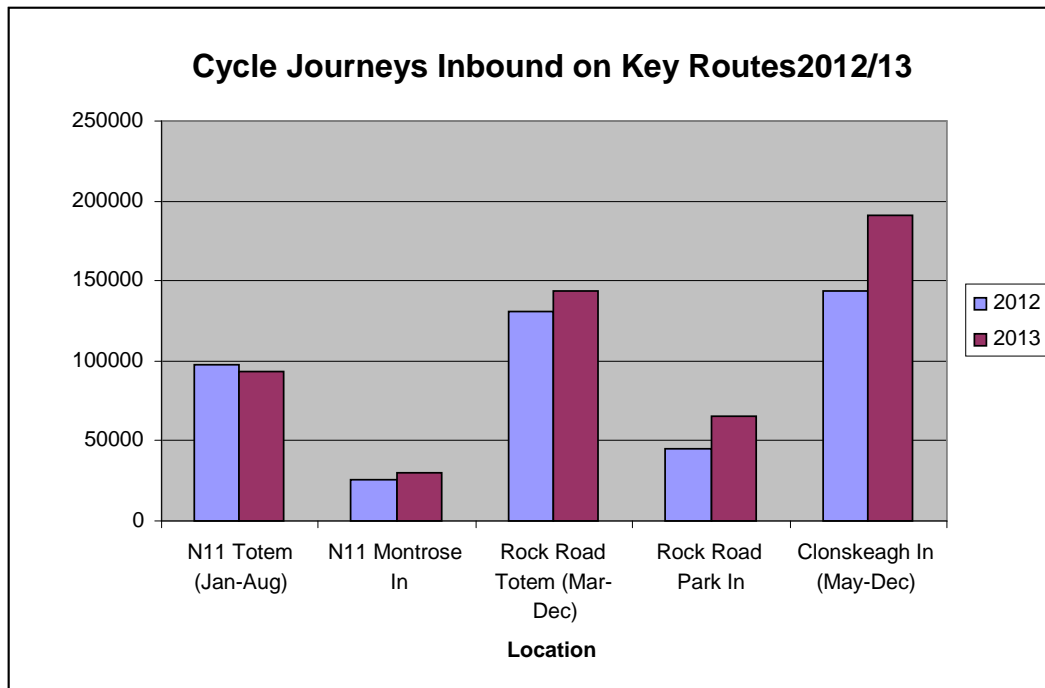
Cycle numbers increased in both directions along the Metals pedestrian and cycle route, with high increases in cycle numbers between some corresponding months in 2012 and 2013. Cycle numbers into Dún Laoghaire experienced an increase of 10%, while similarly cycle numbers out of Dún Laoghaire rose by 7%, with particularly high increases during the summer months. During the same period, it should be noted that there was an increase in pedestrian numbers by 3% to 9% in each direction. In total, over the 2 year period, 125,039 cyclists and 190,291 pedestrians have used the Metals route.

### 3.0 Data Analysis on Key Routes

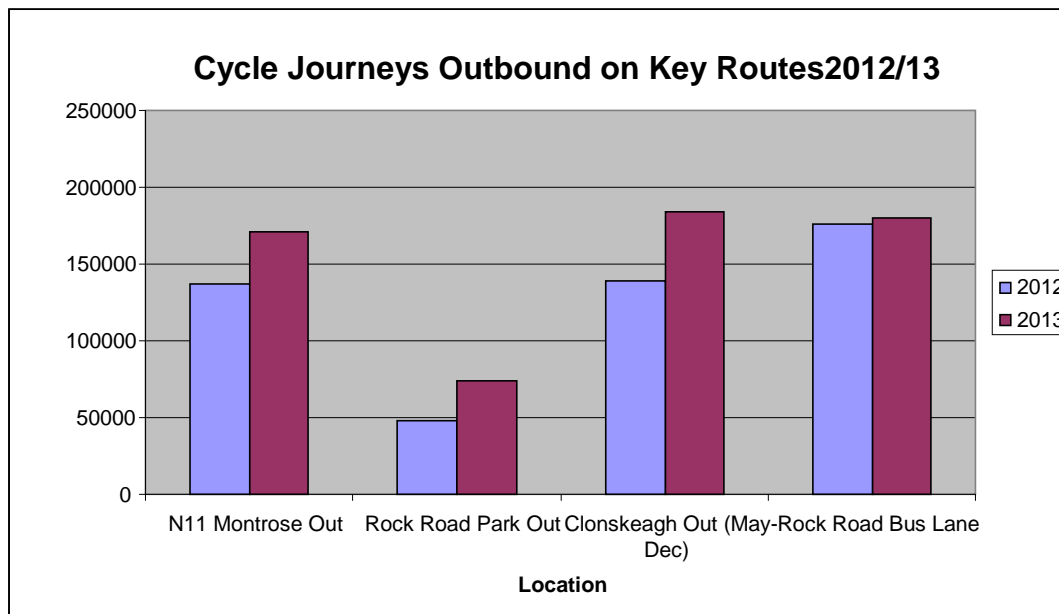
Using data from Section 2, Table 3.1 below shows the overall number of cyclists using three main routes into and out of the city, The Clonskeagh Road, the Rock Road and the N11. Overall the data shows that cycle numbers have increased along the three routes by about 20% with an 18% increase on routes into the city and a 21% increase on routes outbound from the city.

<b>Table 3.1 Cycle numbers on 3 key route in the County</b>			
<b>3 routes</b>	<b>2012</b>	<b>2013</b>	<b>% Increase</b>
Total Inbound	474768	559255	18%
Total Outbound	527867	639312	21%
<b>OVERALL</b>	<b>1002635</b>	<b>1198567</b>	<b>20%</b>

Figure 3.1 and Figure 3.2 show a comparison in the number of cyclists passing the various counters between 2012 and 2013. Overall there was a noticeable increase in usage for almost all of the different counters in both directions, particularly at the counter at Clonskeagh.



**Figure 3.1 Inbound Cycle Journeys 2012/2013 comparison**



**Figure 3.2 Outbound Cycle Journeys 2012/2013 comparison**

**4.0 Summary**

Seven cycle counters have been installed in the County on three main traffic routes (the N11, The Rock Road and Clonskeagh Road) and on The Metals Cycle and Pedestrian route during 2011 and 2012. These cycle counters provide real time information on the number of cyclists passing the counter at each location Table 3.1 provides a ranking of each cycle counter by direction using average daily cycle count data for 2013.

<b>Table 4.1 Average daily numbers in DLR 2013</b>		
	Counter Location	Daily cycle numbers
1	Clonskeagh Road Totem – To city	781
2	Clonskeagh Road Totem – From city	750
3	Rock Road Bus lane (1-way)	514
4	Rock Road Totem	460
5	N11 Montrose (southbound)	469
6	N11 Stillorgan Road Totem (1-way)	391
7	Blackrock Park Toward Booterstown	203
8	Blackrock Park towards Blackrock	178
9	The Metals – To Dun Laoghaire	94
10	The Metals – To Dalkey	83
11	N11 Montrose (city bound)	83