

Looking Forward

# Managing Visitor Safety

Presented by:  
Waterways Ireland





# Agenda.

- Overview of Waterways Ireland.
- Plan for our site visit today May 15<sup>th</sup> at Grand Canal Dock – Shane Foley.
- Discuss issues involving the management of visitors and the public – Jill Griffith
- Systems in place to protect visitor's, the public and our staff. – Sharon Callanan





# WHO ARE WE?

## - ABOUT WATERWAYS IRELAND



**Largest of six North/South Implementation Bodies** established under the British-Irish Agreement of 1998. We celebrated our 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary on 2<sup>nd</sup> December 2024.



Accountable to the **North South Ministerial Council (NSMC)** and on an operational basis reports to **Dept. Housing Local Government & Heritage** in Ireland and **Dept. for Infrastructure** in Northern Ireland.



Responsible for the management, maintenance, development & restoration of **1,100 km of inland navigable waterways** principally for recreational purposes, and the **leading provider of Greenways with 650km** of trails (inc. Blueways).



Employ **C. 350 permanent staff** located at offices and sites close to our inland waterways who are assisted by a team of seasonally recruited staff.



Waterways Ireland Headquarters are in **Enniskillen**, with regional offices in **Carrick-on-Shannon, Dublin** and **Scariff**.



Approximately **3.5 million\*** users of our waterways annually including **800k** who are **classified as cross border visitors**. (Walking/cycling, commercial boating, rowing, angling, sailing, canoeing, activity centres, etc) \* based on research carried out in 2024



The current valuation of the rebuild costs of infrastructure is estimated in excess of **€1 billion**.

## IRELAND'S WATERWAYS

- 1 LOWER BANN NAVIGATION
- 2 ERNE SYSTEM
- 3 SHANNON-ERNE WATERWAY
- 4 SHANNON NAVIGATION
- 5 ROYAL CANAL
- 6 GRAND CANAL
- 7 BARROW NAVIGATION
- 8 ULSTER CANAL





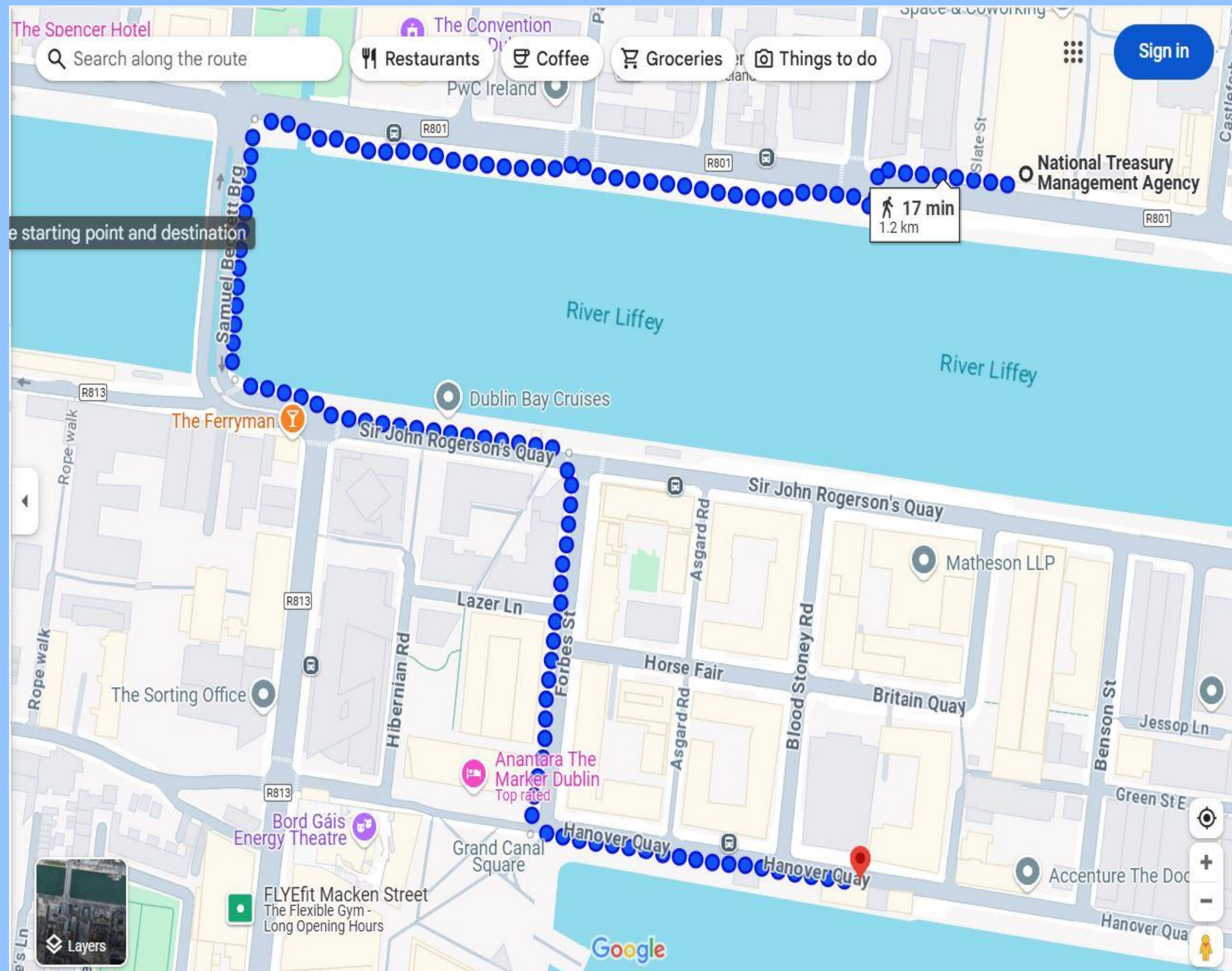
# DELIVERING GIANT SCALE AMENITY





# The Plan for today.

- ✓ The group shall split into teams with one leader.
- ✓ Walk from this building to the Grand Canal Dock area.
- ✓ Walk around the perimeter of inner and/or outer basin.
- ✓ Take notes on observations of issues with public safety and recommendations for discussion later.





# Health and Safety Considerations.

- ✓ Please stay in your groups and follow the agreed route.
- ✓ Be aware of live traffic & cyclists.
- ✓ A leading edge exists around the perimeter of the Grand Canal Dock basin which is barrier free.
- ✓ Potential for slip, trip, falls exists in these areas.

