

Urban Land Use | A1 Sample answer

Dublin Docklands

Dublin began as capital of the English colony which was ruled from Dublin Castle. During this time major landmarks such as the GPO the Four Courts were built. Dublin became the centre of road and rail routes. Dublin became Ireland's most important port supplying the British market and also became a distribution centre transporting imported goods from Britain. The retail sector also expanded in the city. After the 1950s the demand for manual labour declined this was due to the growth of truck transport and roll on roll off Ferries.

Heavy crane equipment also decreased the need for manual labour. Oil and gas became more popular which decreased coal imports. The Port then became the focus of canals and railway networks. In the 19th century the Royal and Grand Canal had large docks. The land was given over to rail connections and warehouses such as the point depot were built. The port then moved away to modern facilities at the mouth of the river where they are still there today. This led to industrial decline as the old port became derelict. High unemployment was prominent in 1987. The IFSC was opened to rejuvenate the area. This contained office Blocks which were built for companies in the banking, financial trading and financial services. The Dublin Docklands Authority (DDA) was established in 1997 which is in charge of the physical social and economic renewal of the Docklands.

The National College of Ireland, the convention centre, the Samuel Beckett Bridge, the Grand Canal Theatre and shopping areas were built. There are also many hotels and restaurants. The Three arena was built where the point depot previously was. It is hoped to repopulate the Docklands. Many apartment blocks were built to house young workers. In 2011 the population of North dock B increased from 4000 to 7000. There are many community training schemes in place to upskill local people for employment.