

Appendix G

Agriculture Report

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ROUTE SELECTION – AGRICULTURAL ASPECT

OF THE

R407 SALLINS BYPASS

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1. METHODOLOGY

The route options area surveyed included

1. Farming landowners were either met or interviewed by phone.
2. Examination of maps including Drawing Reference Numbers 2006/114/02/SK03 and 2006/114/02/SK04.
3. General inspection of the lands by a driveby survey using local roads and vantage points.
4. Meeting with County Council personnel.

2. ASSESSMENT OF THE ROUTE OPTIONS AREA

2.1 The study area is located to the north of Naas town with Sallins central to the area. The N7 forms the southern boundary while the River Liffey is located at the western side of the area. The Grand Canal and Cork Dublin railway line run through the centre of the area.

2.2 Within the study area

- Twenty eight farm properties are affected by the different routes.
- There are approximately 200 field divisions.
- There is a good network of local roads.
- There is easy access to Naas and to the N7.
- The area of the holdings affected is 694 Ha (1715 acres).

2.3 The land use affected by the different routes is mainly in permanent grassland with cereals making up the balance as follows:-

	<u>Ha</u>	<u>Per Cent</u>
Grassland	630	90.77
Cereals	<u>64</u>	<u>9.23</u>
TOTAL	<u>694</u>	<u>100.00</u>

2.4 The land is of good quality well farmed and sheltered with bush and tree lined boundary and internal fences.

2.5 There is a wide variation in the size of the farm holdings along the various routes.

Farm Size Ha	No. of Properties
Up to 10	7
10.1 to 20	11
20.1 to 30	1
30.1 to 40	2
40.1 to 50	2
Over 50	5

2.6 The main land type within the study area is a dry mineral soil with the parent rock being carboniferous limestone. This land is fertile, free draining, easily worked and suitable for a wide range of grassland and tillage. The topography of the land is flat to undulating with very little marginal land in the study area.

2.7 Cattle and sheep enterprises are the main grassland based enterprises operated in the area. There is also one dairy and a number of stud farms within the area.

3. **ROUTES**

There are six routes identified within the study area and are as published in the public consultation brochure entitled "Public Consultation Constraints and Route Corridor Options Study R407 Sallins Bypass Scheme"

These routes are colour coded and are described as

<u>Route</u>	<u>Length Metres</u>
Green	4,600
Cyan	3,500
Red	3,300
Blue	2,150
Purple	4,100
Orange	4,700
Yellow	3,200
Red Option A	900
Purple Option A	550

4. IMPACT OF THE PROPOSED BYPASS

4.1 The impact of the proposed bypass on agriculture will result in

- Loss of usable farmland
- Severance of land holding
- Loss of trees, hedgerows and shelter
- Access problems
- Injurious Affection
- Temporary and Permanent Disturbance

4.2 Details of the farms impacted are summarised in TABLE 1.

TABLE 1 SUMMARY OF FARM PROPERTIES AFFECTED BY SIX ROUTES

Route Colour Code	No. of Farmers	Land Ha	Main Farm Enterprise						
			Dairy	Cattle	Sheep	Horses	Let	Other	Cereals
Green	12	315	1	5	2	1	1	1	1
Cyan	4	118		2	1		1		
Red	2	99		1	1				
Blue	1	53		1					
Purple	8	181		5	1		1	1	
Orange	8	261		3	2		2		1
Yellow									
Red Option A									
Purple Option A	1	10.5					1		

4.3 Green Route

This is the most westerly of the six routes with a length of 4.6km.

It affects the greatest number of properties and the largest area.

The impact of the route on the farm properties classified on a scale of 1 – 5 where 1 is low impact and 5 is high impact.

<u>Impact Scale</u>	<u>No. of Farm Properties</u>
1	3
2	1
3	-
4	3
5	5

Seven farm residencies will also be impacted by the route.

4.4 Cyan Route

This route is 3.5km in length and shares part of its length with the road route at the southern end and the green route at its northern end.

The impact of the route on the farm properties classified on a scale of 1-5 (1 lowest 5 highest) is as follows:-

<u>Impact Scale</u>	<u>No. of Farm Properties</u>
1	-
2	-
3	1
4	-
5	3

4.5 **Red Route**

This route is 3.3km in length and runs north south from the proposed Millenium Junction and it also has an east west Option A link.

The impact of the main red route is summarised as follows:-

<u>Impact Scale</u>	<u>No. of Farm Properties</u>
1	-
2	-
3	1
4	-
5	1

The red route Option A runs through lands owned by a developer and is presently used for cereals and cattle/sheep grazing.

4.6 **Blue Route**

The blue route is 2.15km in length and shares the northern end in common with part of the red route.

The impact of this route on the farm properties is classified on a scale of 1-5 as follows:-

<u>Impact Scale</u>	<u>No. of Farm Properties</u>
1	-
2	-
3	1
4	-
5	-

4.7 Purple Route

This route extends to 4.1km and affects a total of eight farm properties. At the south eastern end, there is a small length of route described as Purple Route Option A.

The impact of the purple route on the farm properties is classified as follows:-

<u>Impact Scale</u>	<u>No. of Farm Properties</u>
1	-
2	1
3	1
4	1
5	5

4.8 Orange Route

The orange route is the most easterly and is 4.7km in length. Approximately forty per cent of this route is through a golf course property.

The impact of this route on the farm properties is classified as follows:-

<u>Impact Scale</u>	<u>No. of Farm Properties</u>
1	2
2	-
3	1
4	3
5	2

4.9 Yellow Route

This route extends to 3.2km and shares part of its length in common with the northern section of the purple route.

The impact of this route on the four farm properties affected is classified as follows:-

<u>Impact Scale</u>	<u>No. of Farm Properties</u>
1	-
2	1
3	1
4	-
5	2

4.10 Red Option A

This route runs parallel to the N7 and is 900 metres in length. It affects two properties owned we believe by developers and presently used for grassland and cereal farming.

4.11 Purple Option A

This route is 550 metres in length and impacts on one farm property and lands we understand which are owned by a developer.

4.12 Multiple Route Impact

Some farms are impacted by more than one route, a factor which is summarised as follows:-

<u>Impacted By</u>	<u>No. of Farm Properties</u>
Two Routes	3
Three Routes	1
Four Routes	1

SIGNED: _____
WILLIAM J. MARTIN M.AGR.SC.

DATE: _____