

COMHAIRLE CONTAE CHILL DARA

KILDARE COUNTY COUNCIL

Record of Executive Business and Chief Executive's Orders

**Planning and Development Act 2000 (as amended) – Part XAB  
Planning and Development Regulations 2001 (as amended) – Part 8**

**Meadowbrook Cycle Scheme**

**Appropriate Assessment (AA) Screening Determination**

Pursuant to the requirements of the above, Kildare County Council is proposing to construct a cycle scheme at Meadowbrook Road and Beaufield Close, Maynooth, Co. Kildare. The Scheme, known as the 'Meadowbrook Cycle Scheme', shall consist of the following:

Meadowbrook Road

The construction along Meadowbrook Road will involve the installation of northbound and southbound to standard Raised Cycle Lanes / Tracks (as per National Cycle Manual (NCM) 4.3.2/4.3.4), parallel to the carriageway, with parallel to-standard footpaths; with sections of realigned footpath to reduce the impact on trees insofar as possible.

Beaufield Close

The construction along Beaufield Close will consist of northbound and southbound cycle tracks behind verges, parallel to the carriageway with generally parallel footpaths, with sections of realigned footpath to reduce the impact on trees where possible, while providing a facility along the route which is in accordance with current standards

A detailed description of the proposed development has been provided in the Section 1.1 of the Appropriate Assessment Screening Report prepared by Atkins with full drawings and details provided in the Part 8 file.

Having regard to Article 6(3) of the Habitats Directive and Part XAB of the Planning and Development Act 2000 (as amended), the guidance contained in the document entitled "*Appropriate Assessment of Plans and Projects in Ireland Guidance for Planning Authorities*" (published by the Department of Environment, Heritage and Local Government in 2009) and following an examination of the objective information provided in the "*Meadowbrook Cycle Scheme – AA Screening*" (the Screening Report) prepared by Atkins, Kildare County Council, as the Competent Authority, determines that the Meadowbrook Cycle Scheme, individually or in combination with other plans and projects, does not have the potential to give rise to likely significant effects on European sites, their conservation objectives or integrity, and therefore does not require an Appropriate Assessment.

Key points in the determination

- The potential for impacts has been assessed using the source – pathway – effect model.
- One Special Area of Conservation – the Rye Water Valley/Carton SAC Site Code:001398 is approximately 2km from the site and it occurs within the potential zone of influence of the proposed development.
- The proposed route alignment does not intersect the Rye Water Valley/Carton SAC. The alignment of the proposed route does not encroach into any of the qualifying interest habitats associated with the SAC nor does it encroach on habitats that would be utilised by the Narrow mouthed Whorl Snail and the Desmoulin's Whorl Snail. As such there will be no direct impacts, such as loss of SAC habitat, as a result of the construction of the project on the qualifying interest habitats and species of the SAC.
- Surface water drainage from the hard-standing areas of the route will utilise existing or new gullies and existing or new road drainage networks where appropriate. The alignment of the route is along existing roadways and footpaths and as such significant impacts on surface water drainage flows are not anticipated from the construction of the route. Some areas of

the grass verge will need to be removed to facilitate the new footpath on the Meadowbrook Road and Beaufield Close. The excavations of the grass verges may provide a pathway for entry of soil, silt or sediment to the stream. However, given the nature and scale of the proposed scheme, significant effects upon the water quality of the Taghadoe stream – a tributary of the SAC – are not considered likely.

- There is no potential for significant effects on the local groundwater flow regime and subsequently on any associated qualifying interest of the Rye Water Vally Carton SAC Site Code:001398
- There is no potential for cumulative impacts on the Rye Water Valley/Carton SAC Site Code:001398 or any other European Site.

Therefore a Stage 2: Appropriate Assessment will not be required to inform the project appraisal either alone or in combination with other plans or projects, with respect to any Natura 2000 sites and their Conservation Objectives.



Eoghan Lynch  
Senior Executive Planner

  
Emer Uí Fhátharta  
Senior Planner

March 21<sup>st</sup> 2022

21<sup>st</sup> March 2022

**ORDER:** That Kildare County Council as the Competent Authority, having considered the AA Screening Report prepared by Atkins, makes a determination that a Stage 2: Appropriate Assessment will not be required to inform the Meadowbrook Cycle Scheme project, either alone or in combination with other plans or projects, with respect to any Natura 2000 sites and their Conservation Objectives.

21/3/2022 | 3:41 PM GMT

Date: \_\_\_\_\_



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Chief Executive