

COMHAIRLE CONTAE CHILL DARA

KILDARE COUNTY COUNCIL

Record of Executive Business and Chief Executive's Orders

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

**Development at Newbridge (County) Library, Main Street and Athgarvan Road,
Newbridge, Co. Kildare**

Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Screening Determination

Pursuant to the requirements of the above, Kildare County Council is proposing a development at Newbridge (County) Library, Main Street and Athgarvan Road, Newbridge, County Kildare.

The proposed development consists of refurbishment and extension of the existing Newbridge (County) Library, which is a Protected Structure, to create the new Kildare County Library, Archives and Cultural Centre. The proposal involves the demolition of the existing single storey 1970's extension to the Protected Structure and will include minor internal alterations to the Protected Structure. Landscaping, public realm works and ancillary external works are also proposed as part of the development. External works include the relocation of the vehicular entrance from Main Street to Athgarvan Road, landscaping works to create a new external courtyard (960 sqm) including 13 no. parking spaces, a bicycle parking store and a refuse store. Public Realm works (2270 sqm) include - new hard landscaping to the footpaths around the library, modifications to the Main Street public realm to provide a loading bay, bus stop, an age-friendly parking bay and 2 no. accessible car parking spaces alongside the provision of a new cycle lane.

Having regard to EIA Directive 2011/92/EU as amended by Directive 2014/52/EU (the EIA Directive), the guidance contained in: "*Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Guidance for Consent Authorities regarding Sub-Threshold Development*" (published by the Department of Environment, Heritage and Local Government in 2003); "*Environmental Impact - Assessment of Projects - Guidance on Screening*" (published by the European Commission in 2017); "*Guidelines for Planning Authorities and An Bord Pleanála on carrying out Environmental Impact Assessment*" (published by the Department of Housing, Planning and Local Government in 2018); and on the basis of an examination of the Part 8 drawings and documents and of the objective information and conclusions provided in the report: *Schedule 7A Information to support an EIA Screening Determination in Relation to Proposed redevelopment of Kildare County Library, Newbridge, Co. Kildare*, by MacCabe Durney Barnes, Kildare County Council, as the Competent Authority, determines that the proposed development at Newbridge (County) Library, Main Street and Athgarvan Road, Newbridge, Co. Kildare, individually, and in combination with other plans and projects, does not require an Environmental Impact Assessment.

Full consideration is given to the EIA Directive and in particular to Annex I, II and III of that Directive, which set out requirements for mandatory and sub-threshold EIA.

As the proposed development is sub-threshold, it has, therefore, been assessed on a case-by-case basis in accordance with the criteria for determining whether or not a development would or would not be likely to have significant effects on the environment as outlined within Annex III of the EIA Directive.

Having regard to the foregoing and in particular:

- The location and environmental sensitivities of the site;
- The size and design of the whole project;
- Cumulation with other existing and/or proposed projects;
- Nature of demolition works;
- The use of natural resources, in particular land, soil, water and biodiversity;
- The production of waste;
- Pollution and nuisance;
- The risk of major accidents and/or disasters which are relevant to the project concerned, including those caused by climate change, in accordance with scientific knowledge; and
- The risk to human health (for example due to water contamination or air pollution).

It is considered that the environmental effects arising from the proposed project will generally be localised and minor in nature. It is considered that the proposed development is not likely to give rise to significant environmental impacts and does not require an Environmental Impact Assessment Report to be prepared or an Environmental Impact Assessment to be conducted.


Bébhinn O'Shea
Senior Executive Planner

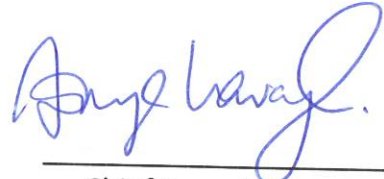
13/1/2023


Emer Uí Fhátharta
Senior Planner

January 16th 2023

ORDER: That Kildare County Council as the Competent Authority hereby makes a determination that the proposed development at Newbridge (County) Library, Main Street and Athgarvan Road, Newbridge, Co. Kildare would not be likely to have significant effects on the environment and that the proposed project does not require an Environmental Impact Assessment.

Date: 16.1.2023



Chief Executive

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

**Development at Newbridge (County) Library, Main Street and Athgarvan Road,
Newbridge, Co. Kildare**

Appropriate Assessment (AA) Screening Determination

Pursuant to the requirements of the above, Kildare County Council is proposing a development at Newbridge (County) Library, Main Street and Athgarvan Road, Newbridge, County Kildare.

The proposed development consists of refurbishment and extension of the existing Newbridge (County) Library, which is a Protected Structure, to create the new Kildare County Library, Archives and Cultural Centre. The proposal involves the demolition of the existing single storey 1970's extension to the Protected Structure and will include minor internal alterations to the Protected Structure. Landscaping, public realm works and ancillary external works are also proposed as part of the development. External works include the relocation of the vehicular entrance from Main Street to Athgarvan Road, landscaping works to create a new external courtyard (960 sqm) including 13 no. parking spaces, a bicycle parking store and a refuse store. Public Realm works (2270 sqm) include - new hard landscaping to the footpaths around the library, modifications to the Main Street public realm to provide a loading bay, bus stop, an age-friendly parking bay and 2 no. accessible car parking spaces alongside the provision of a new cycle lane.

A description of the proposed development and receiving environment has been provided in Section 2 of the Appropriate Assessment Screening Report

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 *Screening for Appropriate Assessment November 2022* by NM Ecology, Kildare County Council, as the Competent Authority, determines that the proposed re-development at Newbridge (County) Library, Main Street and Athgarvan Road, Newbridge, Co. Kildare, 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 proposed development site is not located within or adjacent to any Natura 2000 sites, so there is no risk of habitat loss, fragmentation or any other direct impacts.
- There are no pathways to the nearest Natura 2000 sites.

- The site consists almost fully of buildings and hard surfaces therefore impact via groundwater is ruled out. Foul and surface water is currently collected on what is a developed urban site and this will remain unchanged other than a possible slight increase in volume.
- The River Liffey provides a distance link to the Natural 2000 site in Dublin Bay, however given the distance involved any pollutants would be reduced to negligible concentrations before reaching Dublin Bay.

It is therefore highly improbable that a project of this nature and scale will have any measurable impact on the qualifying interests of Natura 2000 sites.

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.

Signed:


Bébhinn O'Shea
Senior Executive Planner


Emer Uí Fhátharta
Senior Planner

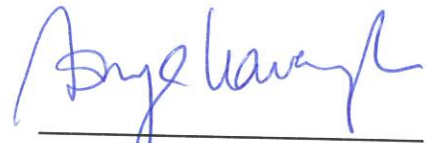
January 16th 2023

13/1/2023

ORDER:

That Kildare County Council as the Competent Authority, having considered the AA Screening Report prepared by NM Ecology on behalf of Kildare County Council, makes a determination that a Stage 2: Appropriate Assessment will not be required to inform the development at Newbridge (County) Library, Main Street and Athgarvan Road, Newbridge, Co. Kildare, either alone or in combination with other plans or projects, with respect to any Natura 2000 sites and their Conservation Objectives.

Date: 16.1.2023



Chief Executive