

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**

Sallins Greenway Link

Appropriate Assessment (AA) Screening Determination

Pursuant to the requirements of the above, Kildare County Council is proposing a Greenway Link in Sallins that will act as a link between Phase 1 and Phase 2 of the Grand Canal Greenway. The Grand Canal Greenway is a 38.5km walking and cycling facility in Co. Kildare which follows the route of the existing Grand Canal towpath. The towpath stretches from Kildare's border with Dublin to Kildare's border with Offaly. The Grand Canal Greenway consists of two phases. Phase 1 stretches from Aylmers Bridge on the Kildare-Dublin border to the proposed pedestrian bridge in Sallins, Co. Kildare. Phase 2 stretches from Sallins to Clonkeen on the Offaly border. Phase 1 of the greenway route is currently under construction and is expected to be open to the public in 2024. Phase 2 is currently at the detailed design stage.

The proposed Sallins Greenway Link will rectify existing infrastructure deficiencies between Phase 1 and Phase 2 of the Grand Canal Greenway through the provision of pedestrian and cycle facilities. The proposed development also aims to improve greenway user connectivity to the town of Sallins, increasing footfall along Main Street and in central commercial areas. The proposed works consists of the following:

- Provision of pavement buildouts and a raised table at the R407 junction with Osberstown Road;
- Provision of traffic signals, warning signage, road markings, tactile paving, and a raised toucan crossing across the R407;
- Provision of a 4.0m wide shared space along the northern side of Osberstown Road;
- Removal of 4no. parking spaces along Osberstown Road to facilitate shared space;
- Extension of existing cycle lanes along the R407;
- Widening of existing footpaths along the R407 within the development boundary;
- Provision of traffic bollards alongside ramps and raised tables to prevent accidental vehicle access;
- Repair of existing tactile paving along the R407 within the development boundary;
- Removal of existing vehicular ramp and provision of pedestrian only ramp and reinforced concrete retaining walls to connect Canal View shared space to R407 shared space;
- Provision of 4.0m wide shared space along southern side of Canal View;
- Removal of 20no. parking spaces along Canal View to facilitate shared space;
- Extension and repair of existing footpath along northern side of Canal View;
- Provision of grass areas, planting, pavement buildouts, and cycle parking along Canal View;
- Provision of 'Pencil Bollards' to highlight proximity to school at Sallins Pedestrian Bridge;
- Closure of vehicular ramp at R407 junction with Church Avenue to remove a dangerous conflict collision zone between vulnerable road users and motorised vehicles, and;
- Make permanent temporary closure of western end of Church Avenue to enhance the public realm environment for the village community.

A description of the proposed development has been provided in the Screening for Appropriate Assessment Report prepared by Fehily Timoney Consultants forming part of the Part 8 application.

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 report (the Screening Report) prepared by Fehily Timoney Consultants, on behalf of Kildare County Council, as the Competent Authority, determines that the proposed development in Sallins 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.

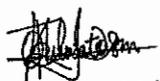
Key points in the determination – The nearest European sites to the Proposed Development are the Ballynafagh Bog SAC (Site Code 000391) and Ballynafagh Lake SAC (001387), which are located approximately 8.1km of the subject site. There are 4 other European Sites close to the proposed development namely, Mouds Bog SAC c. 8.8km (002331), Red Bog Kildare SAC c. 10.1km (000397), Poulaphouca Reservoir SPA c.12.5km (004063) and Pollardstown Fen SAC c. 13.2km (000396). There is no connectivity to any other European sites within or outside the guideline 15km potential Zone of Influence. The consideration of all potential direct and indirect impacts that may result in significant effects on the conservation objectives of a European site, taking into account the size and scale of the Proposed Development have been carried out in the AA Screening, prepared by Fehily Timoney Consultants, on behalf of Kildare County Council.

No risks to the conservation objectives of any other Natura 2000 sites are considered likely due to one or more of the following, lack of ecological or landscape connectivity between the proposed works areas and the designated area, significant buffer between the proposed works area and the designated area, the nature of the site's conservation objectives, no impact or change to the management of the designated area or; and no change to chemical or physiological condition of the designated site as a result of the proposed development.

Works are not proposed within or near European site. No direct or indirect connectivity exists from the project works areas to any European site. Given the lack of any potential connectivity and given the location of the works and the nature and scale any construction related impacts that the proposed project could potentially generate, it is considered that the proposed project will not result in any effects on any European sites.

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



Kehinde Oluwatosin
Senior Executive Planner

02/01/2024



Aoife Brangan
A/SP
02/01/24

ORDER: That Kildare County Council as the Competent Authority, having considered the Screening for Appropriate Assessment Report, prepared by Fehily Timoney Consultants on behalf of Kildare County Council, makes a determination that a Stage 2: Appropriate Assessment will not be required to inform the proposed Sallins Greenway link, either alone or in combination with other plans or projects, with respect to any Natura 2000 sites and their Conservation Objectives.

Date: 3/1/2024


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

Sallins Greenway Link

Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Screening Determination

Pursuant to the requirements of the above, Kildare County Council is proposing a Greenway Link in Sallins that will act as a link between Phase 1 and Phase 2 of the Grand Canal Greenway. The Grand Canal Greenway is a 38.5km walking and cycling facility in Co. Kildare which follows the route of the existing Grand Canal towpath. The towpath stretches from Kildare's border with Dublin to Kildare's border with Offaly. The Grand Canal Greenway consists of two phases. Phase 1 stretches from Aylmers Bridge on the Kildare-Dublin border to the proposed pedestrian bridge in Sallins, Co. Kildare. Phase 2 stretches from Sallins to Clonkeen on the Offaly border. Phase 1 of the greenway route is currently under construction and is expected to be open to the public in 2024. Phase 2 is currently at the detailed design stage.

The proposed Sallins Greenway Link will rectify existing infrastructure deficiencies between Phase 1 and Phase 2 of the Grand Canal Greenway through the provision of pedestrian and cycle facilities. The proposed development also aims to improve greenway user connectivity to the town of Sallins, increasing footfall along Main Street and in central commercial areas. The proposed works consists of the following:

- Provision of pavement buildouts and a raised table at the R407 junction with Osberstown Road;
- Provision of traffic signals, warning signage, road markings, tactile paving, and a raised toucan crossing across the R407;
- Provision of a 4.0m wide shared space along the northern side of Osberstown Road;
- Removal of 4no. parking spaces along Osberstown Road to facilitate shared space;
- Extension of existing cycle lanes along the R407;
- Widening of existing footpaths along the R407 within the development boundary;
- Provision of traffic bollards alongside ramps and raised tables to prevent accidental vehicle access;
- Repair of existing tactile paving along the R407 within the development boundary;
- Removal of existing vehicular ramp and provision of pedestrian only ramp and reinforced concrete retaining walls to connect Canal View shared space to R407 shared space;
- Provision of 4.0m wide shared space along southern side of Canal View;

- Removal of 20no. parking spaces along Canal View to facilitate shared space;
- Extension and repair of existing footpath along northern side of Canal View;
- Provision of grass areas, planting, pavement buildouts, and cycle parking along Canal View;
- Provision of 'Pencil Bollards' to highlight proximity to school at Sallins Pedestrian Bridge;
- Closure of vehicular ramp at R407 junction with Church Avenue to remove a dangerous conflict collision zone between vulnerable road users and motorised vehicles, and;
- Make permanent temporary closure of western end of Church Avenue to enhance the public realm environment for the village community.

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, Kildare County Council, as the Competent Authority, determines that the proposed development in Sallins, 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:

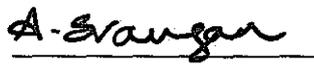
- The size and design of the whole project;
- Cumulation with other existing and/or proposed projects;
- The use of natural resources, in particular land, soil, water and biodiversity;
- The production of waste;
- Pollution and nuisance;
- The risk of major accidents and/or disasters which are relevant 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.



Kehinde Oluwatosin
Senior Executive Planner
02/01/2024



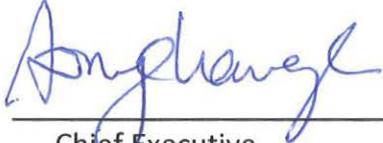
Aoife Brangan

A/SP

02/01/24

ORDER: That Kildare County Council as the Competent Authority hereby makes a determination that the proposed Greenway Link in Sallins, would not be likely to have significant effects on the environment and that the proposed project does not require an Environmental Impact Assessment.

Date: 3/1/2024



Chief Executive