



Planning Authority's *Determination Statement* on the Appropriate Assessment (AA) Screening of the recontouring of agricultural lands by the deposition of inert (by-product) material from excavations associated with the approved R556 Rathscannell to Ballinclogher Cross Road Reconstruction Scheme, Abbeydorney, Co Kerry.

Appropriate Assessment Screening Determination Statement

It is noted that the Appropriate Assessment Screening Report dated July 2020 has been carried out giving full consideration to the plans and particulars of the proposed project and associated works, to European sites located in the vicinity and to all of the matters referred to in S177 (U) of the Planning and Development Act 2000, as amended.

The proposed project was screened for possible significant effects on European sites in view of the conservation objectives of these sites, alone or in combination with any other plans or projects. No significant effects were identified. An Appropriate Assessment/Natura Impact Statement (NIS) is not required.

It is considered that the report contains a fair and reasonable assessment of the likelihood of significant effects of the project on European sites. The assessment as reported is adopted as the assessment of Kerry County Council. Measures intended to avoid or reduce negative effects on the European sites have not been relied upon in reaching this determination.


Reason for the Determination:

- The location of the three land holdings outside and away from European sites,
- The nature and scale of the works. The works will occur on lands of low ecological value, namely improved agricultural grassland. Lands to be affected are not identified as supporting annexed habitats or species or being functionally linked habitat for birds of special conservation interest,
- The intervening distance from the works to significant waterbodies. Water features predominately consist of excavated field drains while the Brick_40 has been historically modified and cannalised and is located away from the works proposed,
- Overall a release of sediments to any watercourses or impacts to groundwater during the construction and/or operational phase, is not identified due to the nature of the inert material to be used and the works proposed; the nature of the local habitat and the ecological nature of the existing field drainage system and modified watercourses. No significant effects were identified on annexed habitat/species or birds of SCI for which a European site is designated, and



- no in combination or cumulative impacts were identified between this project and/or the previously assessed and approved R566 scheme or other proposed/foreseeable projects/plans in the vicinity. The works are proposed on lands of low ecological value with no potential to significantly effect a European site identified.

Signed



Date 31/7/20

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