

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

Construction of a new trailhead parking and amenity area adjacent to the newly constructed towpath on the northern bank of the Grand Canal Barrow Line at Canalside, Athy, Co Kildare.

EIA ASSESSMENT SCREENING DETERMINATION

Pursuant to the requirements of the above, Kildare County Council is proposing a **new trailhead parking and amenity area** at Athy, comprising:

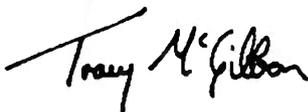
1. A new shared surface access road,
2. Parking facilities including:
 - a. seventeen car parking spaces (including two accessible bays),
 - b. sixteen bicycle spaces (including two accessible spaces),
3. Three bicycle storage lockers,
4. One pedestrian access link to the Barrow Blueway towpath south west of the site,
5. Ancillary greenway amenities including:
 - a. lighting,
 - b. play area,
 - c. benches,
 - d. picnic tables,
 - e. bins, and
 - f. associated signage.
6. Drainage designed and delivered in compliance with Sustainable Urban Drainage methods including:
 - a. the construction of a tree pit,
 - b. rain garden,
 - c. permeable pavements, and
 - d. a swale drain with full on-site infiltration of all surface water.

7. Traffic control measures such as kerb buildouts on the access road, height restriction barrier on the entrance, installation of traffic bollards and all associated site works.

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 the *Environmental Impact Assessment Screening Report* prepared by *Fehily Timoney*, Kildare County Council, as the Competent Authority, determines that the proposed development of a new trailhead parking and amenity area, adjacent to the newly constructed towpath on the northern bank of the Grand Canal Barrow Line at Canalside, Athy, Co Kildare, individually, and in combination with other plans and projects, does not require an Environmental Impact Assessment.

As the proposed development **is sub-threshold**, a Schedule 7 Assessment was carried out. It was determined by *Fehily Timoney and Company* that the proposed Athy Trailhead and Car Park development did not require sub-threshold EIAR, as it is not likely to result in significant environmental effects when considered against the criteria in Schedule 7 of the Planning and Development Regulations 2001 (as amended), and Annex III of Directive 2014/52/EU

Having regard to the foregoing it is considered that the environmental effects arising from the proposed project, will be short-term and not likely to be significant within the meaning of the Directive and 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.



Tracy McGibbon
Senior Executive Planner
26/02/2026



J.O'Reilly
Acting Senior Planner
27/02/2026

ORDER: That Kildare County Council as the Competent Authority hereby makes a determination that the proposed **trailhead parking and amenity area development adjacent to the newly constructed towpath on the northern bank of the Grand Canal Barrow Line at Canalside, Athy, 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.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Angela', written over a horizontal line.

Chief Executive

Date: 2/3/2026