

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**

Proposed Active Travel Scheme at Captain's Hill, Leixlip, Co. Kildare

Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Screening Determination

Pursuant to the requirements of the above, Kildare County Council is proposing an active travel scheme which seeks to introduce high-quality active travel facilities along this corridor, with design solutions tailored to the local needs. Interventions will range from minor improvements, such as upgraded signage, road markings, raised crossing points, to more major interventions including carriageway realignment and junction reconfiguration to improve safety and efficiency.

The proposed development consists of:

Active travel facilities will include the following:

- Cycle lanes on the reconfigured River Forest & Newtown Glendale junctions
- Segregated cycle tracks separated from both the footpath and carriageway by kerbs or verges
- Shared active travel facilities at interfaces with the pedestrian crossing points, side roads, junctions and existing carriageway, and available to all active travel users.

Raised pedestrian crossing points will be incorporated to strengthen connectivity with the existing footpath network and any new active travel links. The scheme design has been developed to minimise impact, with the realignment and works confined as far as possible to existing public land. Active travel facilities along designated routes will be generally segregated, with the cycling and pedestrian facilities clearly identified, or shared facilities, to provide wide routes for all active travel users.

The proposed development will be aligned with the redevelopment of Cope Bridge. The redevelopment of Cope bridge will remove the existing single carriageway 'stop/go' arrangement of the bridge: removing the existing traffic signals, provide widened carriageways, in both directions, and provide dedicated active travel facilities over the Royal Canal and the railway line to the Confey Lands, further improving active travel facilities to Confey Lands Masterplan and enhancing local connectivity.

A detailed description of the proposed development, along with images of the site outline, location and general arrangement plans has been provided in the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Screening Report, prepared by ORS Consultancy, on behalf of Kildare County Council and with drawings provided with the Part 8 application.

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 EIA Screening report prepared by ORS Consultants, Kildare County Council, as the Competent Authority, determines that the proposed development at **Captain's Hill, Leixlip, 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.

The proposed development does not trigger any thresholds for mandatory EIA/EIAR as set in EU Directive 2011/92/EU, as amended and transposed into Irish Law by the Planning and Development Regulations 2001-2025 (as amended).

In addition, the development does not trigger any of the sub-threshold criteria for EIA / EIAR as per Section 50 of the Roads Act 1993 (as amended) and Article 8 of the Roads Regulations 1994.

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 with no significant effects anticipated following the implementation of suitable mitigation measures associated with best practice construction procedure. It is therefore 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.

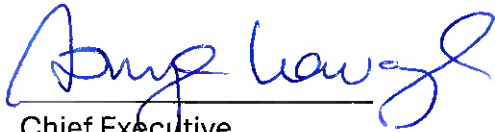


Martin Ryan
Senior Executive Planner
04/06/2026



J. O'Reilly
A/Senior Planner
05/06/2026

ORDER: That Kildare County Council as the Competent Authority having considered the AA Screening Report prepared by ORS Consultancy, on behalf of Kildare County Council, hereby makes a determination that the proposed development at Captain's Hill, Leixlip, 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.



Chief Executive

Date: 5/6/2026

Kildare County Council Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Screening Determination

