

Proposed Redevelopment of the Riverbank Arts Centre

Riverbank Arts Centre and Kildare County Library Head Quarters, and immediate public realm to Main Street and Liffey Terrace, Newbridge, Co. Kildare.

Part VIII Reference No. P82026.09



Please note that the above images are for illustration purposes only.

The proposed development will comprise of the following:

Refurbishment and extension of the existing Riverbank Arts Centre and Kildare County Library Head Quarters. Existing total gross floor area measures 1361sqm and proposed gross floor area is 1932sqm. At the Riverbank Arts Centre the proposal involves the demolition of the existing external podium and access routes, and construction of extensions to Main Street and Liffey Street, including overhang at the entrance, and increased height at the theatre space. The main entrance is to be relocated to street level.

The proposed development will range from one to two and a half storeys in height and include a new fly-tower to the theatre space and external signage. At Library Headquarters the proposed works include changes to fenestration and facades and new internal layouts. Works include energy upgrades to NZEB standard, green and blue roof systems, and improved accessibility. Landscaping and ancillary external works are also proposed as part of the development. External Public Realm works include new hard landscaping works to Liffey Terrace (178sq.m) to provide a new footpath and 4 accessible car parking spaces, and to Main Street (183sqm) to provide for stepped and gently sloping access from the public footpath to the main entrance.

The proposal has undergone Appropriate Assessment Screening under the Habitats Directive (92/43/EEC), and the relevant provisions of the Planning and Development Act 2000, as amended, and the Planning and Development Regulations 2001, as amended, and the European Communities (Bird and Natural Habitats) Regulations 2011 – 2015. Kildare County Council has determined that the proposed development will not have a significant effect on a European Site and an Appropriate Assessment is not required.

The proposal has also undergone screening for Environmental Impact Assessment under the EIA Directive 2011/92/EU as amended by Directive 2014/52/EU and the relevant provisions of the Planning and Development Act 2000, as amended, and the Planning and Development Regulations 2001, as amended. Having regard to the provisions of the legislation, the nature and scale of the proposed development, the information provided in accordance with Schedule 7A of the Regula-

tions, and having regard to the scale, nature and location of the proposed impacts, the potential impacts and proposed mitigation measures and the results of any other relevant assessments of the effects on the environment, Kildare County Council has determined that there is no real likelihood of significant effects on the environment arising from the proposed development and that an Environmental Impact Assessment is not required.

Plans and particulars of the proposed development, Ref. No. P82026.09, will be available for inspection or purchase at a fee not exceeding the reasonable cost of making a copy during normal opening times at **Level 1, Kildare County Council, Áras Chill Dara, Devoy Park, Naas, Co. Kildare, W91 X77F from 9.00 a.m. to 5.00 p.m. Monday to Friday for a period of 6 weeks from 10th day of August 2026 to 22nd day of September 2026 (inclusive).**

To facilitate public access, a copy of the plans and particulars will be available for viewing only at Riverbank Arts Centre, Main Street, Newbridge, Co. Kildare from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Monday to Friday for a period of 6 weeks from 10th day of August 2026 to 22nd day of September 2026 (inclusive).

Details of the proposed development are also available on Kildare County Council's website online at:
<https://kildarecoco.ie/AllServices/Planning/Part8Schemes/StrategicProjectsandPublicRealm/index.html> or from the QR code on this notice.

Submissions or observations with respect to the proposed development, dealing with the proper planning and sustainable development of the area in which the development will be situated, may be made to:

Senior Executive Officer, Strategic Projects and Public Realm Team, Housing and Regeneration Department, Level 5, at the address below or online at <https://consult.kildarecoco.ie/en/consultation/part-8-proposed-county-library-archives-and-cultural-centre-newbridge> or by email to sprrpart8@kildarecoco.ie



Submissions must be made no later than 5:00 p.m. on the 22nd day of September 2026. All submissions and observations should be headed: **Part 8 Proposed Redevelopment of the Riverbank Arts Centre P82026.09**

All comments, including names of those making comments submitted to the Council regarding the scheme as outlined above, will form part of the statutorily required report to be presented at a meeting of the elected members. Accordingly, they will also be included in the minutes of that meeting and may appear in the public domain.

Please note that the data collected from this consultation will be shared by Kildare County Council with their Consultants. Any information which you submit via Kildare County Council's website will be treated with the highest standards of security and confidentiality, strictly in accordance with the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) and the Data Protection Act 2018. Please refer to the Privacy Statement included with the plans and particulars of the proposed development and to the Kildare County Council Consultation Portal Privacy Policy.

Strategic Projects and Public Realm Team, Housing and Regeneration Department, Kildare County Council, Áras Chill Dara, Devoy Park, Naas, Co. Kildare, W91 X77F.