

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**

**R445 Newhall Junction Improvement Project Co. Kildare**

**Appropriate Assessment (AA) Screening Determination**

Pursuant to the requirements of the above, Kildare County Council is proposing to carry out R445 Newhall Junction Improvement project. The proposed development comprises the construction of a roundabout on the R445 at the same location as Newhall Crossroads. The Local Roads L6064 and L2031 will receive minor realignment required for the entry and exit geometry at the roundabout. Significant verge widening will be required on the realigned local roads to provide appropriate forward visibility on the local roads. These works will also involve associated removal of existing roadways and roadway infrastructure, cutting and filling of areas and the installation of new infrastructure or upgrading to existing roadway infrastructure. A detailed description of the proposed development has been provided in the Section 1 of the Screening for Appropriate Assessment Report with drawings provided with 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 prepared by Flynn Furney, Environmental Consultants for Kilgallen & Partners Consulting Engineers on behalf of Kildare County Council, as the Competent Authority, determines that the proposed R445 Newhall Junction Improvement Project 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 – 6 no. Natura 2000 sites occur within the likely zone of impact (15km) of the proposed development (The nearest SAC within the 15km distance from the proposed development site is Mouds Bog SAC and lies at a distance of 4.2km from the proposed site. The 6 no. Natura 2000 sites are not hydrologically or directly linked by habitat connectivity to the area of the proposed development site at Newhall, Co. Kildare. No risks to the conservation objectives of any other Natura 2000 sites are considered likely due one or more of the following, lack of 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.

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.

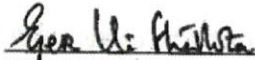
Therefore a Stage 2: Appropriate Assessment will not be required to inform the project appraisal either alone or in combination with other plans or projects, with respect to any Natura 2000 sites and their Conservation Objectives.

Signed:



A/Senior Executive Planner

06/04/2021



**Emer Uí Fhátharta**  
Senior Planner

April 6<sup>th</sup> 2021

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**ORDER:** That Kildare County Council as the Competent Authority, having considered the Screening for Appropriate Assessment Report, by prepared by Flynn Furney, Environmental Consultants for Kilgallen & Partners Consulting Engineers on behalf of Kildare County Council, makes a determination that a Stage 2: Appropriate Assessment will not be required to inform the R445 Newhall Junction Improvement Project, either alone or in combination with other plans or projects, with respect to any Natura 2000 sites and their Conservation Objectives.

Date: 6/4/21

  
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Chief Executive

