

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
Change of Use from Vacant School House (Athy Model School RPS: AY133) to Food, Drinks and
Skills Innovation Hub
Appropriate Assessment (AA) Screening Determination

Pursuant to the requirements of the above, Kildare County Council is proposing to convert the Athy Model School, a protected structure reference AY133, NIAH reference 15506012, to a Food, Drinks and Innovation Hub with all associated site works.

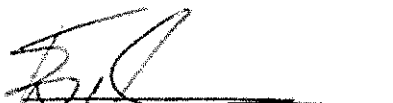
A detailed description of the proposed development has been provided in the accompanying documents including the Architectural Heritage Impact Assessment, the Environmental Impact Assessment Screening Report with drawings provided with the Part 8 application.

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 Appropriate Assessment "*Appropriate Assessment Model School Athy*" (the Screening Report) prepared by Environmental Consultant Gerry Tobin BSc MA, Kildare County Council, as the Competent Authority, determines that the proposed Change of Use at the Model School, Dublin Road, Athy, 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

- Two Natura Sites – River Barrow and River Nore SAC (900m west) and Ballyprior Grasslands SAC (10.5km west) – occur within the likely zone of impact (15km) of the proposed development.
- There is no direct hydrological links to either site.
- There is no potential for significant effects or cumulative impacts on the – River Barrow and River Nore SAC or Ballyprior Grasslands SAC or any other European Site.

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.



Eoghan Lynch

Senior Executive Planner

12th February 2021

ORDER: That Kildare County Council as the Competent Authority, having considered the AA Screening Report prepared by Environmental Consultant Gerry Tobin BSc MA, makes a determination that a Stage 2: Appropriate Assessment will not be required to inform the Proposed Change of Use from Vacant School House (Athy Model School RPS: AY133) to Food, Drinks and Skills Innovation Hub project, either alone or in combination with other plans or projects, with respect to any Natura 2000 sites and their Conservation Objectives.

Date: 18/2/21



Chief Executive