

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 Public Realm Improvement Works to Market Square, Kildare Town, Co. Kildare**

**Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Screening Determination**

Pursuant to the requirements of the above, Kildare County Council is proposing Public Realm Improvement Works to Market Square, Kildare Town comprising an area of c. 6540m<sup>2</sup> which incorporates the public areas both North and South of Bride Street (R415), Church Lane (known as Firecastle Lane) extending Westward to Heffernan's Lane and the pedestrian laneway to Nugent Street carpark (rear of Top Nolans).

The demolition and removal of existing redundant two-storey building and garden stores, and the construction of 2 no. apartment block buildings with ancillary infrastructure and associated site development works, consisting of:

**The development includes**

- Adjustments to the road network and parking arrangements .
- Re-grading Market Square, North of Bride Street, Bride Street and the Eastern roadway whereby kerbs are removed to bring the surface of the public realm to top of existing kerb levels.
- Re-grading the entrance area to Market House (RPS 822-42) to provide level access .
- Upgrading footpath surfaces throughout site area using high quality natural stone .
- Widening and revision of the footpath layouts along Dublin Street.
- Introduction of bollards to manage vehicular access at Church Lane (Firecastle Lane) and Market Square East.
- Repositioning of the Bus Shelter on the North side of Dublin Street to improve pedestrian movement and access around Market House .
- Consolidation of wayfinding and signage throughout the site area .
- Introduction of hard and soft landscaping (including 8no. additional street trees) throughout Market Square .
- Introduction of bespoke street furniture, seating, lighting and bicycle parking .
- Provision of 6no. Pedestrian crossings (1 no. controlled and 5 no. uncontrolled) and widening of existing 3no. controlled crossings .
- Removal of overhead cables and services and relocation underground .
- Upgrading of carriageways, signage, road markings and drainage works including implementation of Sustainable Drainage Systems .
- Provision of all utilities, necessary services and 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 of the objective information provided in the *Environmental Impact Assessment Screening Report* by MacCabe Durney Barnes, Kildare County Council, as the Competent Authority, determines that the proposed infill residential development in Market Square, Kildare Town, 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.

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 location and environmental sensitivities of the site including cultural heritage;
- 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);
- Proposed mitigation measures

It is considered that the environmental effects arising from the proposed project 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.



**Bébhinn O'Shea**  
**Senior Executive Planner**

16/01/2024



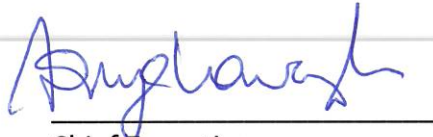
**Aoife Brangan**

A/SP

16/01/24

**ORDER:** That Kildare County Council as the Competent Authority hereby makes a determination that the proposed Public Realm Improvement Works to Market Square, Kildare Town, 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.

Signed:



Chief Executive

Date:

16/1/2024