



Castletroy Greenway
Castletroy, Co. Limerick

Screening for Environmental Impact
Assessment

Doherty Environmental Consultants Ltd.

April 2019

Castletroy Greenway

Castletroy, Limerick

Screening for Environmental Impact Assessment

Document Stage	Document Version	Prepared by
Final	1	Pat Doherty MSc, MCIEEM

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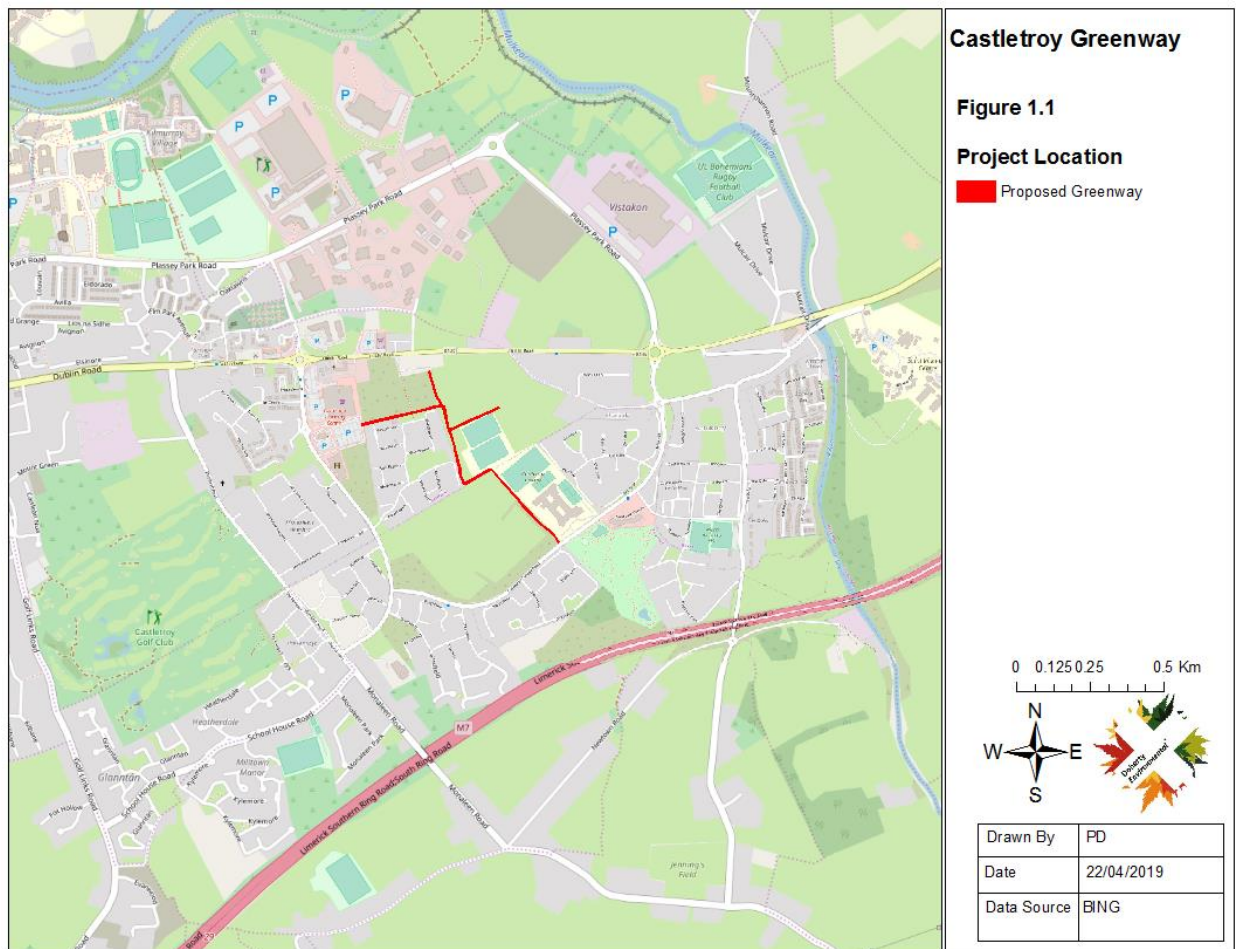
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Table of Contents

<u>1.0</u>	<u>INTRODUCTION</u>	<u>4</u>
1.1	PURPOSE OF THIS REPORT	4
<u>2.0</u>	<u>LEGISLATIVE CONTEXT</u>	<u>5</u>
<u>3.0</u>	<u>CHARACTERISTICS OF THE PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT</u>	<u>11</u>
3.1	OVERVIEW	11
3.2	SURFACE WATER DRAINAGE	12
3.3	PLANT & CONSTRUCTION MATERIALS REQUIRED	12
3.4	DURATION OF THE WORKS	13
3.5	CONSTRUCTION COMPOUND	13
3.6	ASSESSMENT OF THE CHARACTERISTICS OF THE PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT	15
<u>4.0</u>	<u>LOCATION OF THE PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT</u>	<u>24</u>
4.1	OVERVIEW OF SITE LOCATION	24
4.1.1	NATURAL HERITAGE	24
4.1.2	CULTURAL HERITAGE & LANDSCAPE	28
<u>5.0</u>	<u>CHARACTERISTICS OF POTENTIAL IMPACTS</u>	<u>31</u>
<u>6.0</u>	<u>CONCLUSION</u>	<u>38</u>

1.0 INTRODUCTION

Doherty Environmental Consultants (DEC) Ltd. have been commissioned by Limerick City and County Council to undertake an Environmental Impact Assessment Screening Report for proposed greenway walking and cycle route at Castletroy, Limerick (see Figure 1.1 for project location).



The findings of the EIA Screening assessment for the proposed greenway (i.e. the project) are presented in this report.

1.1 PURPOSE OF THIS REPORT

This EIA screening report contains necessary information to enable the competent authority, in this case Limerick City & County Council, to undertake an EIA screening assessment and determine whether an EIA is required for the proposed greenway development. The findings of

the EIA screening assessment are presented in this report and will inform the determination by Limerick City & County Council for the proposed greenway development at Castletroy, (to be referred to throughout this report as “the project”).

The purpose of this Report is to determine whether or not the project is likely to have significant effects on the environment and, as such, requires an EIA to be carried out and an EIAR to be prepared. This Report provides an overview of the project (section 3), the existing baseline environment (section 4) and then assesses the potential environmental impacts (Section 5) posed by the proposed project.

2.0 LEGISLATIVE CONTEXT

Directive 2011/92/EU as amended by Directive 2014/52/EU (the EIA Directive) sets out the requirements for environmental impact assessment (“EIA”), including screening for EIA. Projects listed in Annex I of the EIA Directive require a mandatory EIA while projects listed in Annex II require screening to determine whether an EIA is required. The proposed development does not require a mandatory EIA under the provisions of the EIA Directive as it is not a project listed in Annex I.

The prescribed classes of development and thresholds or criteria that trigger the need for an EIA are set out in Schedule 5 of the Planning and Development Regulations, 2001, as amended. A review of the classes of development was carried out to determine whether the proposed development falls into any of the development classes which require an EIA. The proposed development does not fall into any of the classes described in Schedule 5 of the Planning and Development Regulations, 2001. The need for an EIA has therefore not been triggered under the requirements of the Planning and Development Regulations, 2001, as amended.

The proposed development also falls under the EIA requirements of the Roads Act 1993 as amended by the Planning and Development Acts (2000-2011) and the Roads Act (2007) as well as regulations made under the Roads Acts, The European Communities (Environmental Impact Assessment) (Amendment) Regulations 1989-2001, and EC Directives 85/337/EC and 97/11/EC referenced above. A road within the 1993 act is defined to include:

- (a) any street, lane, footpath, square, court, alley or passage,

(b) any bridge, viaduct, underpass, subway, tunnel, overpass, overbridge flyover, carriageway whether single or multiple, pavement or footway,

(c) any weighbridge or other facility for the weighting or inspection of vehicles, toll plaza or other facility for the collection of tolls, services area, emergency, telephone, first aid post, culvert, arch, gully, railing, fence, wall, barrier, guardrail, margin, kerb, lay-by, hard shoulder, island, pedestrian refuge, median, central reserve.

Furthermore Cycleway is referred to in Section 68 of the 1993 Act as follows:

(1) In this section “cycleway” means a public road or proposed public road reserved for the exclusive use of pedal cyclists or pedal cyclists and pedestrians.

(2) (a) A road authority may construct (or otherwise provide) and maintain a cycleway.

(b) Where a road authority constructs or otherwise provides a cycleway it shall by order declare either – (i) the cycleway is for the exclusive use of pedal cyclists, or

(ii) that the cycleway is for the exclusive use of pedal cyclists and pedestrians.

(c) any person who uses a cycleway in contravention of an order under paragraph

(b) shall be guilty of an offence.

Section 50 of the Roads Act 1993 (as amended) outlines the requirements for EIA for “proposed road developments”. An overview of the legislative requirements of section 50 of the Roads Act 1993 (as amended), and its applicability to the proposed greenway are outlined in Table 2.1 below.

Table 2.1: Screening for Mandatory EIA

Screening Question	Regulatory Reference	Response
Does the project comprise the construction of a motorway,	S.50(1)(a) of the Roads Act,	The proposed greenway development is not a

<p>busway or service area?</p>	<p>1993, as amended.</p>	<p>motorway, busway or service area.</p> <p>This requirement for mandatory EIA is not triggered.</p>
<p>Is the project representative of a prescribed type of proposed road development consisting of the construction of a proposed public road or the improvement of an existing public road, where the prescribed types of road development comprise:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The construction of a new road of four or more lanes, or the realignment or widening of an existing road so as to provide four or more lanes, where such new, realigned or widened road would be eight kilometres or more in length in a rural area, or 500 metres or more in length in an urban area. • The construction of a new bridge or tunnel, which would be 100 metres, or more in length. 	<p>Article 8 of the Roads Regulations, 1994 (Road development prescribed for the purposes of S. 50(1)(a) of the Roads Act, 1993</p>	<p>The proposed greenway development does not involve the provision of a road of four or more lanes for a distance of 8km or more in a rural area or 500m or more in an urban area.</p> <p>The proposed development does not involve the construction of a bridge or tunnel.</p> <p>These requirements for mandatory EIA are not triggered.</p>
<p>Has a direction been issued by An Bord Pleanála (ABP) to the Road Authority to prepare an Environmental Impact Assessment Report (EIAR)?</p>	<p>S.50(1)(b) of the Roads Act, 1993</p>	<p>ABP has not directed the Road Authority (Limerick City & County Council) to prepare an EIAR for the proposed greenway development.</p>

<p>Where the road authority consider that the proposed road development would be likely to have significant effects on the environment it shall inform ABP in writing and where ABP concurs, it shall direct the road authority to prepare an EIAR?</p>	<p>S.50(1)(c) of the Roads Act, 1993</p>	<p>Where Limerick City & County Council considers the proposed greenway development would be likely to have significant effects on the environment, Limerick City & County council is to inform ABP in writing of this and await direction from the Board.</p>
<p>Is the proposed road development located on ‘certain environmental sites’ and has the road authority determined whether any significant effects are likely on the environment as a result?</p>	<p>S. 50(1)(d) of the Roads Act, 1993, as amended by reg. 56(7) of the European Communities (Birds and Natural Habitats) Regulations 2011)</p>	<p>No.</p> <p>An Appropriate Assessment Screening Report has been undertaken for the project and this Report concluded that the proposed greenway will not have any likely significant effects, whether on its own or in combination with other plans or projects, on any European sites based on the best scientific evidence and taking into account the conservation objectives of the European sites.</p> <p>The project will not have the potential to interact with or adversely affect the conservation status of any Natural Heritage Areas in the wider area surrounding the project site.</p> <p>No geological heritage sites are located in close proximity to the project site.</p>

Pursuant to section 50(1)(c) of the Roads Act 1993 (as amended), Limerick City & County Council are required to turn their attention to whether the proposed greenway is likely to have significant effects on the environment, such that an EIAR is required.

Section 50(1)(e) of the Roads Act, 1993 (as amended) states “Where a decision is being made pursuant to this subsection on whether a proposed road development would or would not be likely to have significant effects on the environment, An Bord Pleanála or the road authority concerned (as the case may be) shall have regard to the criteria specified for the purposes of article 27 of the European Communities (Environmental Impact Assessment) Regulations, 1989.”

The purpose of this EIA Screening Report is to assist Limerick City & County Council in determining whether the proposed greenway is likely to have significant effects on the environment.

According to European Commission Guidance (2017¹)

“Screening has to implement the Directive’s overall aim, i.e. to determine if a Project listed in Annex II is likely to have significant effects on the environment and, therefore, be made subject to a requirement for Development Consent and an assessment, with regards to its effects on the environment. At the same time, Screening should ensure that an EIA is carried out only for those Projects for which it is thought that a significant impact on the environment is possible, thereby ensuring a more efficient use of both public and private resources. Hence, Screening has to strike the right balance between the above two objectives.”

Recent guidelines from the Department of Housing, Planning and Local Government (2018)² in relation to screening state:

¹ **Environmental Impact Assessment of Projects Guidance on Screening (Directive 2011/92/EU as amended by 2014/52/EU). European Commission 2017. Page 23.**

“3.1. Screening is the initial stage in the EIA process and determines whether or not specified public or private developments are likely to have significant effects on the environment and, as such, require EIA to be carried out prior to a decision on a development consent application being made. A screening determination is a matter of professional judgement, based on objective information relating to the proposed project and its receiving environment. Environmental effects can, in principle, be either positive or negative.

3.2. Screening must consider the whole development. This includes likely significant effects arising from any demolition works, which must be carried out in order to facilitate the proposed development. In the case of transboundary developments, screening must consider the likely significant effects arising from the whole project both sides of the boundary. A screening determination that EIA is not required must not undermine the objective of the Directive that no project likely to have significant effects on the environment, within the meaning of the Directive, should be exempt from assessment.”

Annex III of the EIA Directive (as amended)/Schedule 7 to the Planning and Development Regulations 2001, as amended, lists the criteria for determining whether a project should be subject to EIA.

Annex IIA of the EIA Directive (as amended)/Schedule 7A to the Planning and Development Regulations, 2001, as amended, set out the information to be provided for the purposes of EIA Screening. The information set out in Schedule 7A is grouped together under 3 main headings:

Annex IIA requirements	Relevant section of this screening report
A description of the proposed development, including in particular – a description of the physical characteristics of the whole proposed development and, where	Section 3 of this Report describes the characteristics of the project and provides an assessment against the criteria contained in Schedule 7A under this category heading

² Guidelines for Planning Authorities and An Bord Pleanála on carrying out Environmental Impact Assessment

<p>relevant, of demolition works, and a description of the location of the proposed development, with particular regard to the environmental sensitivity of geographical areas likely to be affected</p>	
<p>A description of the aspects of the environment likely to be significantly affected by the proposed development</p>	<p>Section 4 of this Report describes the aspects of the environment that may be affected by the proposed development</p>
<p>A description of any likely significant effects, to the extent of the information available on such effects, of the proposed development on the environment resulting from— (a) the expected residues and emissions and the production of waste, where relevant, and (b) the use of natural resources, in particular soil, land, water and biodiversity</p>	<p>Section 5 of this Report describes the characteristics of the project and provides an assessment against the criteria contained in Schedule 7A under this category heading.</p>

During the assessment of the aspects of the environment likely to be significantly affected by the proposed development and the description of any likely significant effects on the environment current Transport Infrastructure Ireland (TII) assessment guidelines have been relied upon to inform these assessments. While it is acknowledged that the proposed greenway does not represent a national road scheme the various environmental assessment guidelines published by TII represent best practice guidance for the assessment of road schemes in Ireland. As such these guidelines have been relied upon during the preparation of this Screening Report.

3.0 CHARACTERISTICS OF THE PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT

3.1 OVERVIEW

The proposed works will consist of a new 3.5m wide cycleway alongside a new 2.5m wide footpath, enclosed by 1m grass verges, with the main spine extending for approx. 820m linking Castletroy College Road with the Access road to the Gaelscoil. Secondary spines will link to proposed future residential development to the east (approx. 170m in length) and Castletroy Shopping Centre (Town Centre) to the west (approx. 260m). Appropriate access points to the Greenway will be provided along its length. The proposed works also include for the installation of LED public lighting, security fencing where appropriate, tree and shrub planting areas as well

as surface water drainage. Accommodation works will be undertaken as required including improvement works and car park alterations as necessitated for Castletroy Gaelscoil.

3.2 SURFACE WATER DRAINAGE

An existing drainage ditch occurs to the west of the main spine of the proposed greenway. This drainage ditch will be culverted for approximately 170m from the entrance to Castletroy College. A bottomless box culvert will be used to culvert this drainage ditch. The remaining section of the drainage ditch that run parallel to the proposed greenway between approximate chainage 170m to 450m will be retained as existing.

3.3 PLANT & CONSTRUCTION MATERIALS REQUIRED

The type of plant and machinery required will be typical road construction plant for earthworks and paving, and is likely to include:

- 360 degree 20 tonne Excavators (track machines)
- Rubber tyred Excavators 6t JCB
- 3t Mini Digger
- 30t Dump Trucks
- 6t Dumpers
- 7.5 tonne multi-purpose truck
- 20 tonne and 30 tonne delivery trucks (importation of rock and bitumenous paving materials)
- Teleporter for erection of lighting columns
- Site Vehicles
- Compactor plates
- 6t vibrating Rollers
- 10t rollers
- Paving Machine

- Bitumen Boiler/Hot Box
- Road Planing Machine
- Extruded Kerb Laying Machine
- Road Saws/Con Saws/chain saws
- Compressors,
- Jack Hammers
- Stihl Saws
- Small tools/hand tools
- Traffic Management Signs, Cones & Barriers
- Traffic Lights
- Road Sweeper &
- PPE

All machinery will be inspected and certified to be free of leaks and weeps prior to mobilisation on site.

3.4 DURATION OF THE WORKS

It is estimated that the works will be completed within a 6 month time frame.

3.5 CONSTRUCTION COMPOUND





The construction compound will be located in an area adjacent to the Gaelscoil towards the north of the main spine of the proposed greenway. The indicative location of the construction compound is shown on. No surface watercourses such as drains or streams are located in the vicinity of the construction compound.

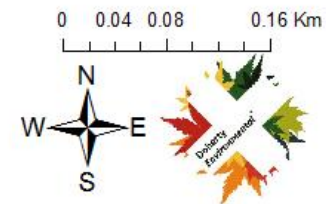


Castletroy Greenway

Figure 3.1

Aerial View of Project

-  Proposed Greenway
-  Construction Compound
-  Chalybeate Spa
-  Fulacht Fia



Drawn By	PD
Date	22/04/2019
Data Source	BING

3.6 ASSESSMENT OF THE CHARACTERISTICS OF THE PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT

An assessment of the potential characteristics of the Proposed Development as described above against the criteria outlined in Schedule 7 of the Planning and Development Regulations 2001 to 2018 are outlined in Table 3.1 below and conclusion and rationale is provided to determine whether these characteristics have the potential to result in likely significant effects to the environment.

Table 3.1: Characteristics of the Proposed Development

Screening Question	Response
1. Characteristics of projects The characteristics of projects must be considered, with particular regard to:	
(a) the size and design of the whole project	<p>The project site is approximately 1.1 Ha in size. All construction works will be largely restricted to the footprint of the project site and will be completed within a 6-month period. The construction phase will be guided by a Construction and Environmental Management Plan (CEMP) that will seek to ensure the construction phase is completed in line with best practice and does not result in adverse effects to surrounding receptors.</p> <p>The final footprint of the development within the project site will be less than 1 ha.</p> <p>A landscape design has been prepared for the project, which includes for the provision of boundary treatments and the landscaping within the project site. The scale of the proposed development is in keeping with the scale of surrounding land use in terms of size and design. The project site is located within the residential and urban fabric of Castletroy and will add to pedestrian and cycling mobility and connections within the Castletroy area.</p>
(b) cumulation with other existing and/or approved	<p>A review of Limerick City & County Council's EPlan online planning viewer identified recently granted or applied for (within the</p>

Screening Question	Response
<p>1. Characteristics of projects The characteristics of projects must be considered, with particular regard to:</p>	
<p>projects;</p>	<p>last five years) planning applications in the immediate vicinity of the project site. These are as follows:</p> <p>Planning Reference No. 181214: This granted planning application consists of a proposal to alter land levels within the proposed project site. The project site for this planning application overlaps with the proposed greenway footprint between approximate Chainage 500m and 700m. This approved project will not result in significant negative effects to the environment and the location of the proposed greenway in this area will not have the potential to result in any significant cumulative negative effects to the environment.</p> <p>Planning Reference No. 18526: This project, which has been granted planning permission, consists of a minor alteration to a previously permitted development under planning reference 13/7094. This project involves minor alterations to fencing and will not have the potential to combine with the proposed greenway to result in cumulative negative effects to the environment.</p> <p>Planning Reference No. 181104: This planning application consists of a proposed residential development comprising 99 no. residential units accessed via an existing entrance onto the Castletroy College road and all ancillary site development works. This proposed residential development is located approximately 200m to the west of the project site. A Screening for EIA has been prepared for this project and it has found that the project will not have the potential to result in significant negative effects to the environment. The proposed greenway will not have the potential to combine with this project to result in significant negative effects to the environment.</p> <p>Planning Reference No. 18698: This recently granted project comprises the development of 38 no. residential units, approximately 250m to the west of the project site. This project will not result in significant negative effects to the environment and will not combine with the proposed greenway to result in significant negative cumulative effects to the environment.</p>

Screening Question	Response
<p>1. Characteristics of projects The characteristics of projects must be considered, with particular regard to:</p>	
<p>(c) the nature of any associated demolition works</p>	<p>No demolition works are associated with the proposed greenway.</p>
<p>(d) the use of natural resources, in particular land, soil, water and biodiversity;</p>	<p>Construction related activities will be largely restricted to the footprint of the project site. Soil that will be excavated within the project site will be reused for landscaping and filling. Where surplus soil material is generated it will be disposed of at an approved facility.</p> <p>Water required for the construction phase of the project will be supplied by the existing mains water supply.</p> <p>No significant effects to biodiversity are predicted to arise as a result of the construction or operation of the project. No protected Annex I habitats occur along the proposed greenway footprint. The habitats that do occur along the footprint of the proposed greenway are of at most local value. The fauna supported by the footprint of the proposed greenway is limited. Soprano pipistrelle and Common pipistrelle bat species forage along the treeline in the vicinity of the greenway. Public lighting provided along the greenway will have the potential to result in the loss of bat foraging habitat at this location. While not representative of a significant negative environmental effect the loss of a some bat foraging habitat along the greenway route will have the potential to result in a minor negative effect to pipistrelle bat species.</p> <p>Natural resources in the form of hydrocarbons will be required for energy and electricity during the construction phase of the project. Other building raw materials will be required during the construction phase. However the natural resources required will be typical of those required for the development and their provision will not have the potential to result in significant negative effects.</p>
<p>(e) the production of waste;</p>	<p>Solid inert waste in the form of soil and stone will be produced during construction but materials will be only ordered as required. Any wastes from the construction process will either be reused within the scheme, or recycled/disposed of at an authorised waste</p>

Screening Question	Response
<p>1. Characteristics of projects The characteristics of projects must be considered, with particular regard to:</p>	
	<p>facility. During the construction phase the waste management hierarchy will be implemented onsite, which prioritises the prevention and minimisation of waste generation.</p> <p>The operation phase is not anticipated to generate large volumes of waste. Litter prevention measures will be put in place along the proposed greenway.</p>
<p>(f) pollution and nuisances;</p>	<p>The construction phase presents the greatest risk of pollution to water resources. Potential sources of water pollution to both surface and groundwater include fuel, lubricants, suspended solids and concrete. Silt-laden surface runoff could arise during vegetation stripping. However as the site compound will be located at a remote distance from any surface water features and as all machinery will be inspected and confirmed to be free of leaks and weeps prior to use on site the risk of hydrocarbon contamination on site will be not be likely.</p> <p>The potential for contamination of surface waters downstream of the project site as a result of suspended solids generated by the project will be low and imperceptible. Where possible the vegetation stripping will be completed in dry conditions and the time frame for which denuded soils will be exposed will be minimised.</p> <p>In addition a silt fence will be provided along the western boundary of the greenway footprint through the construction phase to minimise the transport of any sediment to the drainage ditch to the west of the greenway and downstream along the Garraunykée Stream.</p> <p>The construction phase has the potential to result in nuisance to surrounding receptors as a result of noise, vibrations and dust generated during construction activities.</p> <p>In order to minimise any potential for noise and vibration nuisance mitigation measures will be implemented during the construction phase. These measures will adhere to the best practice guidelines outlined in BS5228: Code of Practice for Noise and Vibration</p>

Screening Question	Response
<p>1. Characteristics of projects The characteristics of projects must be considered, with particular regard to:</p>	<p>Control on Construction and Open Sites – Part 1 Noise (2009 + A1 2014). These standard guidelines offer detailed guidelines on the control of noise and vibration from construction activities. The following mitigation measures will be implemented during the construction phase of the proposed development to ensure noise and vibration limit values are complied with:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The hours during which site activities are likely to create high levels of noise will be limited to a set time period; [L] [SEP] • During the construction phase a clear line of communication will be established between the contractor/developer, Local Authority and residents; [L] [SEP] • A site representative will be appointed to take responsibility of all matters relating to noise and vibration; [L] [SEP] • Noise monitoring will be undertaken during the construction phase, particularly during critical periods and at sensitive locations; [L] [SEP] • All site access roads will be kept even to mitigate the potential for noise and vibration [L] [SEP] from lorries. [L] [SEP] • Plant with low inherent potential for generating noise and/ or vibration will be selected for construction; [L] [SEP] • Where required noise barriers will be erected around items such as generators or high duty compressors; [L] [SEP] • Noisy plant will be sited as far away from sensitive properties as permitted by site constraints. [L] [SEP] • Construction site hoarding will be erected along noise sensitive boundaries where works [L] [SEP] are taking place in proximity to existing residential properties where no

Screening Question	Response
<p>1. Characteristics of projects The characteristics of projects must be considered, with particular regard to:</p>	<p>substantial screening exists. [SEP]</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • With the implementation of the measures it is predicted that the nuisance impact of noise generated during the construction phase will be of a short-term, slight, negative nature. <p>There is the potential for dust emissions arising during construction, particularly during dry and/or windy weather conditions. Dust emissions may also be exacerbated by the presence of dry surfaces and uncovered stockpiles during the construction. The quantity of dust is likely to be relatively small and dust emissions would be temporary in nature. Dust effects are likely to create nuisance in the immediate locale rather than significant environmental effects. Best practice mitigation measures will be put in place to minimise adverse effects. The measures will include the following:</p> <p>A dust minimisation plan will be finalised and implemented for the construction phase of the project, as construction activities are likely to generate some dust omissions. In order to minimise dust omissions during construction the following measure will form part of that plan and will be implemented during the construction phase:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hard surface roads will be swept to remove mud and aggregate materials from their surface while any un-surfaced roads will be restricted to essential site traffic. • Furthermore, any road that has the potential to give rise to fugitive dust must be regularly watered, as appropriate, during dry and/or windy conditions. • Bowsers or suitable watering equipment will be available during periods of dry weather throughout the construction period. • Access gates to the site shall be located at least 10m from sensitive receptors where possible • Vehicles using site roads will have their speed restricted,

Screening Question	Response
<p>1. Characteristics of projects The characteristics of projects must be considered, with particular regard to:</p>	<p>both on un-surfaced site roads and on hard surfaced roads, as site management dictates.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • During periods of very high winds (gales), activities likely to generate significant dust emissions shall be postponed until the gale has subsided. • Material handling systems and site stockpiling of materials will be designed and laid out to minimise exposure to wind. Water misting or sprays will be used as required if particularly dusty activities such as rock blasting or demolition are necessary during dry or windy periods. • Before entrance onto public roads, trucks will be adequately inspected to ensure no potential for dust emissions and cleaned as necessary. • The Principal Contractor or equivalent will be obliged to monitor the contractors' performance to ensure that the proposed mitigation measures are implemented and that dust impacts and nuisance are minimised; • During working hours, dust control methods will be monitored as appropriate, depending on the prevailing meteorological conditions; • The name and contact details of a person to contact regarding air quality and dust issues shall be displayed on the site boundary, this notice board should also include head/regional office contact details; • Community engagement will be undertaken before works commence on site explaining the nature and duration of the works to local residents and businesses; • A complaints register will be kept on site detailing all

Screening Question	Response
<p>1. Characteristics of projects The characteristics of projects must be considered, with particular regard to:</p>	
	<p>telephone calls and letters of complaint received in connection with dust nuisance or air quality concerns, together with details of any remedial actions carried out;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • It is the responsibility of the contractor at all times to demonstrate full compliance with the dust control conditions herein; • At all times, the procedures put in place will be strictly monitored and assessed. <p>At all times these procedures will be strictly monitored and assessed. In the event of dust nuisance occurring outside the site boundary, movements of materials likely to raise dust will be curtailed and satisfactory procedures, such as the covering of all dust-emanating materials, will be implemented to rectify the problem before the resumption of construction operations.</p> <p>With the implementation of these dust minimisation measures in addition to a construction management plan including dust mitigation fugitive emissions of dust from the site will be insignificant and will not pose a nuisance at nearby sensitive receptors.</p>
<p>(g) 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;</p>	<p>Provided that all measures to be outlined in the CEMP, which will be based on best practice mitigation measures, for the project are implemented and that all associated building and environmental regulations are adhered to it is not predicted that the project will not have the potential to result in a major accident or disaster.</p>
<p>(h) the risks to human health (for example due to water contamination or air</p>	<p>Section 2 above details measures that are to be implemented to ensure that the project does not result in pollution to waters or air or nuisance generated by noise, dust or vibration emissions. All best practice mitigation measures outlined in this screening report will</p>

Screening Question	Response
<p>1. Characteristics of projects The characteristics of projects must be considered, with particular regard to:</p>	
<p>pollution).</p>	<p>represent a minimum requirement to be implemented as part of the CEMP for the construction phase of the project. With the implementation of these measures the construction phase will not represent a significant risk to human health.</p> <p>During the operation phase the development will be connected to the existing public water and sewer infrastructure and will not result in the release of untreated foul effluent.</p> <p>Other emissions generated during the operation phase will relate to air conditioning and heating units. The emissions to atmosphere from such units are not predicted to have the potential to result in significant adverse environmental effects.</p>

Conclusion: No significant effects likely to arise associated with the characteristics of the proposed development.

Rationale: The scale and extent of the works proposed are representative of a small to medium scale project and are proposed on habitats of low ecological value in an area contiguous with established residential land use and high levels of human activity. Design measures that form part of the project will also ensure protection of the receiving environment. These design measures include the implementation of SUDs and the landscaping of the project site boundary with the planting of grass verges and hedging. Design measures for lighting will minimise the potential for disturbance to woodland habitats and the fauna supported by them. The implementation of targeted mitigation measures to minimise noise levels at sensitive receptors will also ensure that the project does not result in nuisance to the receiving population.

4.0 LOCATION OF THE PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT

4.1 OVERVIEW OF SITE LOCATION

The project site is located within Castletroy in Limerick City. Figure 3.1 provides an aerial view of the project site. The southern section of the proposed greenway is situated within the Castletroy Community College and it extends north to the Gaelscoil Chaladh na Treoigh. The lands in which the proposed greenway is situated subject to development management as provided by the draft Castletroy Local Area Plan 2019 – 2025. The land zoning for this plan has zoned existing agricultural fields to the west of the proposed greenway for residential development. The lands associated with the northern half of the proposed greenway form part of the Site Development Brief (SDB) No. 4 as outlined in the draft LAP. SDB No. 4 provides for the development of educational and community facilities within this area and specifically includes for the provision of pedestrian and cycleways.

4.1.1 *Natural Heritage*

The following habitats, as categorised in Fossit (2000) occur at and adjacent to the project site:

Drainage Ditch (FW4). A drainage ditch flows parallel to the proposed greenway along its section parallel to the Castletroy College access road and along the east to west orientated section at the northwest corner of the college. This drainage ditch drains surface water from agricultural fields to the west of the proposed greenway. The drainage ditch is ephemeral and was noted to be dry during a site visit in March 2019. The section of the drainage ditch nearer the Castletroy College Road (i.e. adjacent to Chainage 0m – approximate 200m of the proposed greenway) is mapped by the EPA as the Garraunykkee Stream. However the channel at this location is more representative of an artificial drainage ditch rather than a stream. The drainage ditch feeds the Garraunykkee Stream, which forms part of the Mulkear River catchment. The Garraunykkee Stream is culverted under the Castletroy College Road and is also culverted for large sections of its course downstream to its confluence with the Mulkear River. The confluence of this stream with the main channel of the Mulkear is located approximately 1.1km downstream from the Castletroy College Road and the southern end of the proposed greenway.

The Mulkear River forms part of the Lower River Shannon SAC and is a designated salmonid river. It is also known to support otters and lamprey species and alluvial woodland, an Annex I habitat listed as qualifying habitat of the Lower River Shannon SAC, also occurs along the Mulkear downstream of the Garraunykkee and Mulkear confluence.

The section of the Mulkear River at and downstream of its confluence with the Garraunykkee Stream has been assessed at “Good” Water Framework Directive (WFD) status. The lower section of the river downstream of the R445 and the main channel of the River Shannon immediately downstream of its confluence with the Mulkear have not been assigned a water quality status under the WFD. The pathway between the drainage ditch along and adjacent to the project site, the Garraunykkee Stream and the Mulkear River and the Lower River Shannon SAC is shown on Figure 4.1. The project site is located in an area of limestone bedrock of the Rathkeale formation and the underlying aquifer has been categorised as an aquifer of Moderate vulnerability.

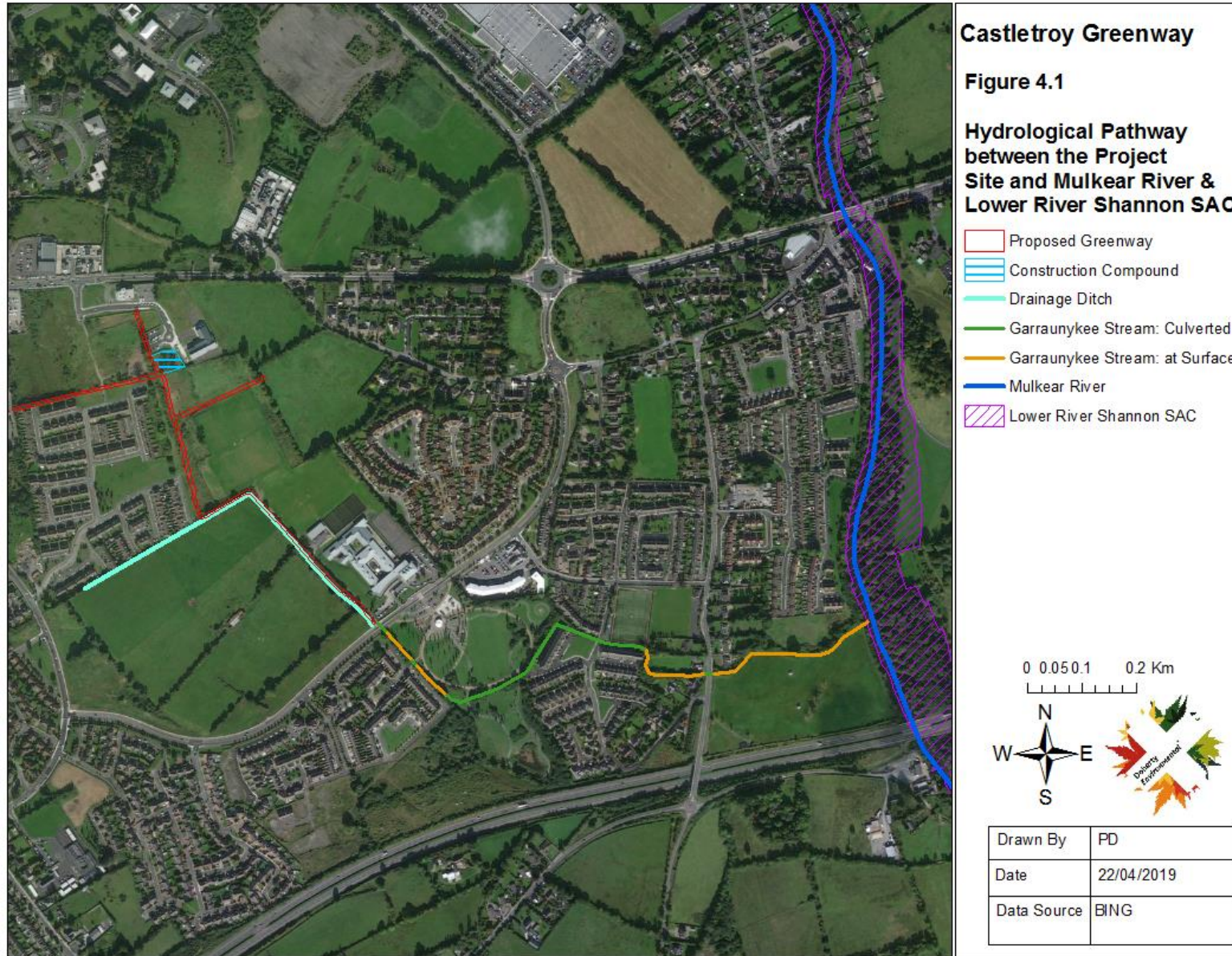
Building and Artificial Surfaces (BL3): this habitat dominates the land cover to the east of the project site as it passes adjacent to Castletroy College.

Grassy Verge (GS2): grassy verge habitat occurs along the footprint and to the west of the project site as it runs north to south parallel to the existing Castletroy College access road.

Treeline (WL2): An existing treeline, which will be retained, occurs to the west of the proposed greenway. This treeline supports mature ash, oak and sycamore trees along with small hawthorn, blackthorn and willows. A mature beech treeline occurs along the east to west alignment of the proposed greenway between the Alder Homes entrance and the Castletroy Shopping centre entrance.

Scrub (WS2): Scrub habitat occurs along the section of the proposed greenway to the east of Woodhaven. The scrub habitat consists of spreading and maturing willow scrub and gorse scrub.

Dry Neutral Grassland (GS1). Examples of dry neutral grassland occur along the section of the proposed greenway to the east of Woodhaven.



During a field visit to the proposed greenway site in March 2019 no signs of breeding or resting places for protected ground dwelling mammals such as badgers or otters were noted. Bat species were observed and recorded foraging along the existing treeline at the northwest corner of the Castletroy College playing pitches. At least four Soprano pipistrelle were observed foraging at this location in late March. Common pipistrelle and Soprano pipistrelle were also recorded foraging at lower activity levels within the grassland and scrub habitat to the east of Woodhaven.

Table 4.1 below provides information on the location of the proposed development with respect to the assessment criteria provided in Schedule 7 of the Planning and Development Regulations 2001 to 2018.

4.1.2 Cultural Heritage & Landscape

One protected structure, a Chalybeate spa well (CDP Reg. No. 1662), is located to the west of the proposed greenway. A fulacht fia national monument is located to the west of approximately Chainage 550. The location of the spa well and the fulacht fia are shown on Figure 3.1 above.

The project site is not located within a protected landscape area and no scenic routes are located in the vicinity of the project site.

Table 4.1: Location of the Proposed Development

Screening Criteria <i>The environmental sensitivity of geographical areas likely to be affected by projects must be considered, with particular regard to:</i>	Response
(a) the existing and approved land use;	The existing land use within the project site is dominated by existing artificial surfaces, grassland and scrub habitats. The project site is located within an area otherwise dominated by

<p>Screening Criteria</p> <p><i>The environmental sensitivity of geographical areas likely to be affected by projects must be considered, with particular regard to:</i></p>	<p>Response</p>
	<p>residential land use. Lands to the west of the project site are zoned for residential development under the draft Castletroy LAP 2019 - 2025. Lands towards the north of the proposed greenway are zoned as Special Development Brief Area 4 which includes for the provision of the greenway.</p> <p>The proposed development is in line with approved zoning land use for the project site.</p>
<p>(b) the relative abundance, availability, quality and regenerative capacity of natural resources (including soil, land, water and biodiversity) in the area and its underground</p>	<p>The project site is currently representative of a part existing developed site and part greenfield site. The greenfield land cover within the project site is not sensitive in terms of natural resources.</p> <p>The overall design of the project has included a design that aims to blend the development into the existing urban fabric surrounding the project site.</p> <p>The proposed development will not have a significant effect on the relative abundance, availability, quality and regenerative capacity of natural resources.</p>
<p>(c) the absorption capacity of the natural environment, paying particular attention to the following areas:</p> <p>(i) wetlands, riparian areas, river mouths;</p>	<p>The potential for the proposed development to significantly effect the absorption capacity of the environment, with respect to the parameters listed in Column 1 opposite are outlined below.</p> <p>(i) no works are proposed that will affect wetlands, riparian areas or river mouths.</p> <p>(ii) not applicable, the project is located at a remote distance from the coastal zone.</p>

<p>Screening Criteria</p> <p><i>The environmental sensitivity of geographical areas likely to be affected by projects must be considered, with particular regard to:</i></p>	<p>Response</p>
<p>(ii) coastal zones and the marine environment;</p> <p>(iii) mountain and forest areas;</p> <p>(iv) nature reserves and parks;</p> <p>(v) areas classified or protected under national legislation; Natura 2000 areas designated by Member States pursuant to Directive 92/43/EEC and Directive 2009/147/EC;</p>	<p>(iii) not applicable, the project is located at a remote distance from mountainous and forested areas.</p> <p>(iv) not application, the project is located at a remote distance from any nature reserves and parks.</p> <p>(v) The Screening Statement in support of Appropriate Assessment that accompanies the proposed development application has assessed the likely significant effects of the proposal on the conservation objectives of European Sites within a 15km buffer of the development and has concluded in a finding of no likely significant effects. In addition no NHAs or pNHAs are located in the vicinity of the project site and there will be no potential for the project to interact with such areas.</p>
<p>(vi) areas in which there has already been a failure to meet the environmental quality standards, laid down in Union legislation and relevant to the project, or in which it is considered that there is such a failure;</p>	<p>(vi) Surface water quality within the wider area (i.e. along the Mulkear River downstream of the project site) has been assessed to be of Good status.</p> <p>Environmental Quality Standards for Noise and Air have been reviewed as part of this EIA Screening and no existing exceedances in these standards have been reported.</p> <p>The Groundwater Body in the surrounding area has been assigned Good status.</p> <p>The design of the project and the best practice measures that will be required to be implemented during the construction phase will ensure that the project does not perturb the long-term quality of the</p>

Screening Criteria <i>The environmental sensitivity of geographical areas likely to be affected by projects must be considered, with particular regard to:</i>	Response
	environment in the wider area surrounding the project site.
(vii) densely populated areas;	The subject lands are located within Limerick City and the environs of Castletroy. The surrounding area is representative of a densely populated area and the provision of the proposed greenway will provided enhanced pedestrian and cycling permeability in the area, thereby contributing to sustainable modes of movement and transport.
(viii) landscapes and sites of historical, cultural or archaeological significance	The footprint of the proposed development is not located within an area of high landscape value and the design of the proposed development has sought to compliment the existing built form in the surrounding area.

Conclusion: No significant effects likely to arise associated with the location of the proposed development.

Rationale: The proposed development relates to a relatively small area of less than 1 ha contiguous with an area of existing and/or zoned residential land use in Castletroy and Limerick City. A Screening Statement for Appropriate Assessment has determined a finding of no likely significant effects on the conservation management objectives of European Sites within a 15km radius of the study area. The proposed development will represent a positive development for permeability and sustainable movement and transport in the area and is consistent with the land use zoning of this location.

5.0 CHARACTERISTICS OF POTENTIAL IMPACTS

Having considered the above environmental factors the aim of t this section is to address likely impacts on the environment by the implementation of the proposed development.

Whether an EIA would be deemed necessary relevant to the scale of the project and the environment will then be determined.

The 2014 EIA Directive requires that an assessment of the likely significant effects of a project on the environment must be considered with regard to the factors specified in Article 3(1) of the Directive and Section 171A(b)(i)(I) to (V) of the Planning and Development Regulations 2001 to 2018, taking into account:

- (a) the magnitude and spatial extent of the impact (for example geographical area and size of the population likely to be affected);
- (b) the nature of the impact;
- (c) the transboundary nature of the impact;
- (d) the intensity and complexity of the impact;
- (e) the probability of the impact;
- (f) the expected onset, duration, frequency and reversibility of the impact;
- (g) the cumulation of the impact with the impact of other existing and/or approved projects;
- (h) the possibility of effectively reducing the impact.

The factors outlined in Article 3(1) of the Directive are presented in Table 5.1 below under the heading of “Environmental Factor”. The results of the assessment provided in Table 5.1 are then used to inform an assessment against the criteria evaluating the characteristics of potential impacts.

Table 5.1: Characteristics of Potential Impacts on Environmental Factors

Environmental Topic	Potential Impact
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Environmental Topic	Potential Impact
Populations & Human Health	Some short-term local effects from noise and air emissions of the construction phase are expected however all construction activities will have to comply with best practice measures as outlined in this screening report. All relevant best practice mitigation measures required for avoiding likely significant effects to populations and human health through potential effects to soils, water, noise, air etc will be required to be implemented as part of a CEMP for the construction phase of the project. No operational impacts are identified for human beings.
Biodiversity	As the habitats present relate to habitats of low to local value no significant negative impacts are identified for habitats within the project site at construction or operation in this regard.
Soil and Geology	There will be no significant impact to soils or geology.
Water	<p>The project site is not located in close proximity to any major watercourse. A drainage ditch which feeds the Garraunykkee Stream will be culverted to the south of the project. This is an ephemeral drain that does not have the potential to support fish, otters or other sensitive species. The Garraunykkee Stream is culverted for significant stretches of its corridor downstream of the project site and the provision of an additional short section of culvert upstream of the Castletroy College road will not represent a significant negative effect to this surface water feature.</p> <p>The culverting of this ephemeral stream will be undertaken in dry conditions using precast box culverts. This will minimise the potential for the emission of potentially polluting material such that there will be no perceptible change in water quality downstream along the Garraunykkee Stream or the Mulkear River.</p> <p>All design and mitigation measures outlined in this screening report with regard to managing water on site during the construction phase will be implemented. These measures are representative of best practice guidelines for preventing pollution to water and their implementation will eliminate or at minimum reduce to an insignificant level the risk of</p>

Environmental Topic	Potential Impact
	<p>pollution to waters.</p> <p>The project site is not located within a flood zone and is not at risk of flooding.</p>
Air Quality and climate	<p>The potential will exist for localised, temporary impacts associated with dust generated from construction plant and machinery such as diggers or excavators. Emissions during works phase will be minimised through the implementation of best practice mitigation techniques as outlined in this Screening Report.</p>
Noise and Vibration	<p>Noise during the construction phase may result in nuisance however, noise and vibration during works phase will be minimised through best practice and the implementation of mitigation measures outlined in this screening report. With the implementation of these measures the construction phase will not result in significant noise nuisance to sensitive receptors and will be minimised to a short term, slight negative impact.</p> <p>Traffic noise and vibration during the operation phase are not considered likely to be significantly increased as a result of the project.</p>
Cultural Heritage	<p>The Chalybeate spa and the fulacht fia are both located to the west of the project site outside the footprint of all works associated with the project. There will be no potential for the project to result in negative impacts to these features of cultural heritage.</p>
Landscape & Visual	<p>The proposed development is not located in an area of high landscape value and will not have any perceptible changes to the local landscape and visual setting.</p>
Interrelationship between parameters	<p>The key interrelationship arises between air quality and noise associated with traffic emissions and excavation during construction and human health. The implementation of mitigation measures outlined in this Screening Report will ensure that these emissions are minimised to a</p>

Environmental Topic	Potential Impact
	level that will not result in significant noise, vibration or dust nuisance to surrounding sensitive receptors.

Table 5.2: Characteristics of the potential impacts

Characteristics of potential impacts (The potential significant effects of proposed development in relation to criteria set out below are informed by the results of the assessment provided in Table 5.1 above)	Potential Impact
(a) the magnitude and spatial extent of the impact (for example geographical area and size of the population likely to be affected);	Minor and localized temporary impacts are identified primarily at construction stage only.
(b) the nature of the impact;	The nature of the impact associated with the proposed development to environmental parameters have been set out in Table 5.1 above. It has been concluded that provided all best practice and mitigation measures as outlined in this Screening Report are implemented the project will not have the potential to result in significant environmental effects.
(c) the transboundary nature of the impact;	Given the size, scale and location of the proposed development potential transfrontier impacts will not arise.
(d) the intensity and complexity	The project is representative of a small to medium scale

of the impact;	pedestrian and cycle way development. The construction phase will be of a short-term duration being completed within an estimated timeframe of 6 months. With the implementation of best practice measures and associated mitigation it will not result in intense or complex impacts to the receiving environment.
(e) the probability of the impact;	Potential impacts during the construction phase associated with nuisance to sensitive receptors at adjacent dwellings and schools are probable, but the implementation of best practice measures and associated mitigation will ensure that these effects are of a short term and slight negative impact.
(f) the expected onset, duration, frequency and reversibility of the impact;	<p>It is estimated that impacts associated with the construction phase will commence within 3 months of planning approval and will last for approximately 6 months. This will represent a short-term impact. No long-term or permanent significant negative impacts are predicted to arise as a result of the construction phase.</p> <p>There will be an irreversible and permanent loss of grassland, and scrub to the footprint of the project. The conversion of this land to a greenway will not represent a significant negative environmental effect.</p>
(g) the cumulation of the impact with the impact of other existing and/or approved projects;	As outlined in Table 2.1 an assessment of the potential for cumulative negative impacts to arise in combination with other existing or approved projects has been provided and it has been determined that the proposed greenway will not have the potential to combine with these other projects to result in significant negative cumulative effects to the environment. It is further noted that the provision of the proposed greenway is in line with the planning policy of the area as set out in the Castletroy LAP 21019 – 2025.
(h) the possibility of effectively reducing the impact.	Measures to minimise any adverse effects to the environment are detailed in this screening report and are derived from best practice guidelines. These measures have been implemented as a best practice approach for the proposed development and are proven to be effective at reducing the potential for adverse environmental impacts to occur.

Conclusion: No significant effects likely to arise associated with the potential impacts on environmental parameters.

Rationale: As outlined in Table 5.1 the proposed development will not have the potential to result in significant adverse effects to biodiversity, soils and geology, water, landscape and cultural heritage. There will be potential for impacts to human beings as a result of noise and air emissions during the construction phase of the proposed development. However these impacts have been assessed as being of low significance and measures have been outlined to ensure that these potential impacts are mitigated to an insignificant level. As such no significant residual impacts to environmental parameters as outlined in Table 5.1 are predicted to arise as a result of the proposed road development.

Conclusion: No significant effects likely to arise associated with the characteristics of the potential impacts.

6.0 CONCLUSION

The proposed greenway development at Newtown Castletroy does not trigger the threshold for mandatory EIA/EIAR as set out in the 2001 Regulations (as Amended) and has been assessed as a sub-threshold EIA development. This EIA Screening Assessment has determined that the characteristics of the proposed development are considered not significant due to the scale and nature of the proposed development and its footprint, which is confined to an area of approximately 1.1ha, the characteristics and sensitivities of the receiving environment and design and mitigation measures that will be implemented as part of the construction phase and operation phase of the proposed development.

The European Guidance on EIA Screening provides a checklist to assist with the decision of whether an EIA is required based on the characteristics of a project and its environment. This screening checklist is presented in Table 5.1 below and have been informed by the various assessments that have been set out in Sections 2, 3 and 4 above.

Table 6.1: Screening Checklist

Questions to be Considered	Yes / No? Briefly describe	Is this likely to result in a significant effect? Yes/No/? – Why?
1. Will construction, operation or decommissioning of the Project involve actions which will cause physical changes in the locality (topography, land use, changes in waterbodies, etc.)?	Yes	No. The construction of the proposed development will involve a minor change in land cover within sections of its footprint. This will involve a small area of physical land cover change. The project has been designed to be in keeping with the surrounding landscape.
2. Will construction or operation of the Project use natural resources such as land, water, materials or energy, especially any resources which are non-renewable or in short supply?	Yes	No. The proposed development will require natural resources in the form of standard construction materials. The quantities to be used as part of the proposed development will be relatively small given the scale of the proposed development.

<p>3. Will the Project involve use, storage, transport, handling or production of substances or materials which could be harmful to human health or the environment or raise concerns about actual or perceived risks to human health?</p>	<p>Yes</p>	<p>No. Standard construction materials for a proposed project will be used during construction, however it is unlikely that this would include any quantity of materials that could be harmful to human health or the environment. Best practice construction will be implemented during the construction phase and all such materials will be stored in secure locations and will be handled in accordance with accepted construction procedures.</p>
<p>4. Will the Project produce solid wastes during construction or operation or decommissioning?</p>	<p>Yes</p>	<p>No. Waste in the form of construction material wrappings and pallets etc. will be generated during the project. In addition waste generated by site operative at the site canteen etc. will be generated. All solid waste will be managed in accordance with relevant waste legislation and all waste would be removed by the site by a licensed contractor and disposed of at a licensed facilities.</p> <p>Efforts will be made to reuse as part of the project's construction phase wherever possible soil material generated during excavations at the project site. Where materials cannot be reused they will be transferred off site by a licensed contractor and disposed of at a licensed facilities. The movement of a soil material from the project site will be subject to the control measures.</p>
<p>5. Will the Project release pollutants or any hazardous, toxic or noxious substances to air?</p>	<p>Yes</p>	<p>No. It is expected that dust and emissions from construction vehicles, plant and equipment may be released temporarily during construction. Mitigation measures as outlined in this Screening Report will be implemented to minimise emissions and prevent discharge. All emissions will be kept within standard air quality limits outlined in the relevant legislation.</p>
<p>6. Will the Project cause noise and vibration or release of light, heat energy or electromagnetic radiation?</p>	<p>Yes</p>	<p>No. It is expected that noise and vibration will occur during construction of the project. Mitigation measures have been outlined this Screening Report to minimise the potential impact of noise and vibration.</p> <p>The project site is located within an urban environment with existing night time lighting. The project will not change the extent of night time lighting in the area.</p>
<p>7. Will the Project lead to risks of contamination of land or water from releases of pollutants onto</p>	<p>Yes</p>	<p>No.</p> <p>All potential polluting substances would be stored</p>

the ground or into surface waters, groundwater, coastal waters or the sea?		and managed appropriately by the contractor to reduce the risk of accidental spillages and/or discharges. There will be no discharge to surface water; groundwater, coastal waters or the sea and appropriate measures to ensure effective incident control will be provided for the construction phase of the project. The operation phase of the project will not pose a risk of contamination of waters.
8. Will there be any risk of accidents during construction or operation of the Project which could affect human health or the environment?	Yes	No. Construction activities would be undertaken with due regard to occupational health and safety. The site manager would be responsible for the management of health and safety on site during construction.
9. Will the Project result in social changes, for example, in demography, traditional lifestyles, employment?	No	No. The project is not predicted to have the potential to result in social changes in demography, traditional lifestyles or employment.
10. Are there any other factors which should be considered such as consequential development which could lead to environmental effects or the potential for cumulative impacts with other existing or planned activities in the locality?	Yes	This Report undertook a review of the Limerick City & County Council planning portal to identify other existing and approved projects within the wider surrounding area. Projects were identified and an assessment for cumulative effects has been completed. This assessment has found that the proposed greenway will not have the potential to combine with these other projects to result in significant negative impacts to the environment.
11. Are there any areas on or around the location which are protected under international or national or local legislation for their ecological, landscape, cultural or other value, which could be affected by the project?	No	No protected natural areas such as European Sites or NHAs occur in the vicinity of the project site. the Mulkear River which forms part of the Lower River Shannon SAC is located downstream of the project site. A Screening for Appropriate Assessment for the project has been completed and has found that the proposed greenway is not likely alone or in combination with other projects result in significant effects to this SAC. Cultural Heritage Receptors have been identified to the west of the project, beyond the project's footprint. There will be no potential for the project to interact with areas designated for cultural heritage. The project site is not located within an area of high landscape value and will not result in any perceptible changes to the landscape and visual setting. The project will not have any potential to diminish the value of the landscape in the

		surrounding area.
12. Are there any other areas on or around the location which are important or sensitive for reasons of their ecology e.g. wetlands, watercourses or other waterbodies, the coastal zone, mountains, forests or woodlands, which could be affected by the project?	No	The habitats occurring within and in the vicinity of the project are dominated by artificial man-made structures or grassland and scrub habitats of low to local value. They are not representative of sensitive ecological receptors.
13. Are there any areas on or around the location which are used by protected, important or sensitive species of fauna or flora e.g. for breeding, nesting, foraging, resting, overwintering, migration, which could be affected by the project?	No	The project site and surrounding area does not support habitats that are relied upon by important or sensitive species of fauna or flora.
14. Are there any inland, coastal, marine or underground waters on or around the location which could be affected by the project?	Yes	No.
15. Are there any areas or features of high landscape or scenic value on or around the location which could be affected by the project?	No	No.
16. Are there any routes or facilities on or around the location which are used by the public for access to recreation or other facilities, which could be affected by the project?	Yes	No.
17. Are there any transport routes on or around the location which are susceptible to congestion or which cause environmental problems, which could be affected by the project?	Yes	No. The construction phase will be of a short-term duration and will involve a low number of construction vehicular movements that are not predicted to have the potential to result in significant traffic volumes that could lead to congestion. The provision of the project will have positive implications for traffic and transport congestion by offering alternative pedestrian and cycling permeability in the surrounding area.
18. Is the project in a location where it is likely to be highly	Yes	Yes. During the construction phase mitigation measures will be put in place to minimise the visual

visible to many people?		disturbance caused by the construction works. Once constructed the project will blend in with the surrounding built landscape.
19. Are there any areas or features of historic or cultural importance on or around the location which could be affected by the project?	No	Yes. Cultural Heritage Receptors have been identified to the west of the project, beyond the project's footprint. There will be no potential for the project to interact with areas designated for cultural heritage.
20. Is the project located in a previously undeveloped area where there will be loss of greenfield land?	Yes	No. The project is representative of a brownfield site.
21. Are there existing land uses on or around the location e.g. homes, gardens, other private property, industry, commerce, recreation, public open space, community facilities, agriculture, forestry, tourism, mining or quarrying which could be affected by the project?	Yes	No. As outlined in this Report the potential exists for disturbance and nuisance to properties occurring adjacent to the project site. Mitigation measures have been outlined in this Report and it is predicted that, with the implementation of these mitigation measures, potential for disturbance and nuisance to these properties will be minimised.
22. Are there any plans for future land uses on or around the location which could be affected by the project?	No	No.
23. Are there any areas on or around the location which are densely populated or built-up, which could be affected by the project?	Yes	No. The construction phase will be restricted to the project site and with the implementation of a best practice approach to the construction phase and all measures outlined in this Report there will be no potential for significant effects to the population occurring in the surrounding area.
24. Are there any areas on or around the location which are occupied by sensitive land uses e.g. hospitals, schools, places of worship, community facilities, which could be affected by the project?	Yes	Yes. Schools are located in the vicinity of the project site. However the construction phase will be restricted to the project site and with the implementation of a best practice approach to the construction phase and all measures outlined in this Report there will be no potential for significant effects to the population occurring in the surrounding area.
25. Are there any areas on or around the location which contain	No	No.

important, high quality or scarce resources e.g. groundwater, surface waters, forestry, agriculture, fisheries, tourism, minerals, which could be affected by the project?		
26. Are there any areas on or around the location which are already subject to pollution or environmental damage e.g. where existing legal environmental standards are exceeded, which could be affected by the project?	No	No.
27. Is the project location susceptible to earthquakes, subsidence, landslides, erosion, flooding or extreme or adverse climatic conditions e.g. temperature inversions, fogs, severe winds, which could cause the project to present environmental problems?	Yes	No.

Given the scale and nature of the project and taking account of all available information, the overall probability of impacts on the receiving environment arising from the proposed development (during the construction or operational phases) is considered to be low, as summarised in Table 5.3 above.

No significant environmental impacts will occur once mitigation measures outlined in this Report are implemented. These mitigation measures are representative of standard industry environmental management that are implemented to minimise the impact of projects to the environment.

The information provided in this EIA Screening Report can be used by the competent authority, Limerick City & County Council, to conclude and determine that an EIA is not required for the proposed greenway at Newtown, Castletroy as there will be no significant environmental effects.

