



ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT SCREENING

Project Reference	221138
Date & Time	07/08/2023
Subject	Proposed Riverside Park Kilmallock, Co. Limerick
Author(s)	Edward Ryan

The Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Directive (Directive 2011/92/EU) as amended by Directive 2014/52/EU, aims to determine the likely significant effects of a project on the environment. EIA screening determines whether an EIA is required for a specified project.

Schedule 5 of the Planning and Development Regulations 2001 (as amended) identifies development for the purposes Part 10 of the Planning and Development Act 2000 i.e. prescribed classes of development requiring EIA where a development meets or exceeds the thresholds set out under Schedule 5 (Part 1 and Part 2) mandatory EIA is required and, as such, there is no screening determination required. Where a development is of a class included for in Schedule 5 but is sub threshold the development shall be subject to a preliminary examination and if required, screening, to determine (i.e a Screening Determination) if it would or would not be likely to have significant effects on the environment. The Guidelines for Planning Authorities and An Bord Pleanála on carrying out Environmental Impact Assessment (August 2018) state:

- Where, based on a **preliminary examination** of the information submitted with the application and any other supplementary information received, the competent authority concludes that, having considered the nature, size and location of the proposed development, there is no real likelihood of significant effects on the environment, this should be recorded with reasons for this conclusion stated, and no EIA required or formal determination made. The recording of the competent authority's view should be brief and concise, but adequate to inform the public. In many cases this considered view will be included in the planner's/inspector's report on the planning application and this may be cross-referenced in the competent authority's decision. Normally, this will be published at the time of the decision of the competent authority.
- Where, based on the information submitted with the application and any other supplementary information received, and having considered the nature, size and location of the proposed development in the context of the criteria set out in Schedule 7 to the Planning and Development Regulations 2001 (as amended), **there is a real likelihood of significant effects on the environment, the competent authority must determine that an EIA is required.** The main reasons for this determination should be recorded.
- Where, based on the information submitted with the application and any other supplementary information received, the competent authority, having considered the nature,



size and location of the proposed development in the context of the criteria set out in Schedule 7 of the Planning and Development Regulations 2001 (as amended), forms the view that there is **significant and realistic doubt** in regard to the likelihood of significant effects on the environment, **the competent authority must proceed to a further examination to determine whether EIA is required**. This requires the applicant to submit the information specified in **Schedule 7a** to the Planning and Development Regulations 2001 (as amended) in order to facilitate a formal screening determination,

In the event that a formal screening assessment is required the Lead Section may need to engage the services of an appropriately qualified consultant (in this case, MKO) to assist with same. This EIA Screening Report has been prepared to assist the Lead Section in;

Step 1

Recording whether the project is of a class of development requiring EIA (Pre Screening).

Step 2

Considering by way of a preliminary examination if there is a likelihood of significant effects on the environment,

Step 3

Where necessary, undertaking a more detailed examination, based on the information specified in Schedule 7a in order to reach a formal screening determination.

This EIA Screening exercise has been prepared in accordance with the guidance set out in the Office of the Planning Regulator's 'Environmental Impact Assessment Screening' practice note.



Step 1 – Pre-Screening

Part 8 Ref:				
Part X. ABP Ref:				
Site Location		The proposed development is located in Kilmallock, Co. Limerick, adjacent to the River Loobagh Riverside Park (Grid Ref.: 561046, 627816). The proposed development is located approximately 0.2km north east of the centre of Kilmallock town. Access to the proposed development is via Wolfetone Street to the west, and the R515 to the east via the existing River Loobagh Riverside Park. The River Loobagh runs along the northern boundary of the site.		
Proposed Development		<p>The proposed development works will consist of the creation of Riverside Amenity Area on the site of recently demolished building at junction of Wolfetone Street and the River Loobagh, adjacent to the River Loobagh Riverside Park.</p> <p>The project includes improved access from Wolfetone Street to River Loobagh Riverside Walk and installation of lighting along the existing Riverside Walk.</p> <p>Proposed Works to include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Creation of Riverside Park on site of current derelict / vacant site • Upgrade to surfacing of River Loobagh River Walk • Installation of new amenity lighting local to the Riverside Amenity Area 		
1. Does the Development constitute a class of development requiring EIA having regard to Schedule 5 of the Regulations?		Yes:		
		No: ✓		
2. If YES, is the development meeting or exceeding a threshold set out in Part 1 or Part 2, Schedule 5 of the Planning & Development Regulations?				
Tick		Threshold	Comment	Result
No	✓			No EIA is Required
Yes		Exceeds/	n/a	EIAR Required
		Is Equal to	n/a	
		No Threshold	n/a	EIA Screening - Preliminary Examination or Screening Determination Required
		Sub Threshold	✓	
Conclusion				
Development is not within Part 1 or Part 2, Schedule 5. No EIA/Screening is required.		n/a		



Development is within Part 1 or Part 2 and is greater than, equal to, or there is no threshold EIA Required.	n/a
Development is within Part 1 or Part 2 but is less than the threshold. Preliminary Examination is required.	<p>The project is sub-threshold</p> <p>Class 10(b)(iv) in Part 2 of the Schedule 5 of the Planning and Development Regulations 2001 (as amended):</p> <p><i>“Urban development which would involve an area greater than 2 hectares in the case of a business district, 10 hectares in the case of other parts of a built-up area and 20 hectares elsewhere”,</i></p> <p>The proposed development site area is 0.76ha. This Urban development is below the threshold of 10 hectares for a development in a built – up area.</p> <p>A Preliminary Examination is being completed under the provisions of Article 103 and 120 of the Planning and Development Regulations 2001 (as amended)</p>
Name:	Date:
Position:	

If the proposed development is not of a class requiring EIA it is not necessary to proceed to Steps 2 and 3. The pre-screening exercise should be signed, printed and placed on the Part 8 file.

If the development requires a Preliminary Examination to determine if EIA Screening is required then proceed to Step 2.

Step 2 – Preliminary Examination

A preliminary examination should be based on professional expertise and experience, and having regard to the 'Source - Pathway - Target' model, where appropriate. The examination should have regard to the criteria set out in Schedule 7 to the Planning and Development Regulations 2001 (as amended).

Preliminary Examination		
The planning authority shall carry out a preliminary examination of, at the least, the nature, size or location of the development.		
	Yes / No / Uncertain	Comment
<p>Size of the development:</p> <p>Is the size of the proposed development exceptional in the context of the existing environment?</p> <p>Are there cumulative considerations having regard to other existing and/or permitted projects?</p>	No	<p>The proposed development works will consist of the creation of a new Riverside Amenity Area on the site of a recently demolished building, at the junction of Wolfetone Street and the River Loobagh, adjacent to the River Loobagh Riverside Park.</p> <p>The proposed development site area is 0.76ha. This Urban development is below the</p>



		<p>threshold of 10 hectares for a development in a built – up area. Therefore, the proposed development is not subject to an EIA.</p> <p>The size and design of the proposed development is in keeping with the urban scale of the surrounding environment.</p> <p>The Appropriate Assessment Screening Report (AASR) prepared as part of this application has examined plans and projects that may have the potential to result in cumulative and/or in-combination impacts on European Sites. The AASR provided a list of the projects that are considered cumulatively. These include projects such as the provision of and modification of residential dwellings, telecoms infrastructure and agricultural building. These projects have been considered cumulatively with the proposed development in terms of whether it would be likely to have significant effects on the environment. It can be concluded that there is no potential for the proposed development to contribute to any significant effects when considered cumulatively with any other development.</p>
<p>Location:</p> <p>Is the proposed development located on, in, adjoining or does it have the potential to impact on an ecologically sensitive site or location?</p> <p>Does the proposed development have the potential to affect other significant environmental sensitivities in the area?</p>	<p>No</p>	<p>The site is partially vacant towards the western section of the site with an existing amenity park connecting the site from Wolfetone Street to the R515 with some modified grassland habitats, ornamental planting and scattered trees.</p> <p>An Appropriate Assessment Screening Report (AASR) has been prepared. The AASR found that:</p> <p><i>“None of the habitats within or adjacent to the works areas correspond to those listed in Annex I of the EU Habitats Directive. No Annex II or Annex V species were recorded on site..”</i></p> <p>The AASR also concluded that:</p> <p><i>“beyond reasonable scientific doubt, in view of best scientific knowledge, on the basis of objective information and in light of the conservation objectives of the relevant European sites, that the proposed project, individually or in combination with other plans and projects, will not have a significant effect on any European Site.”</i></p>



<p>Nature of the development: Is the nature of the proposed development exceptional in the context of the existing environment? Will the development result in the production of any significant waste, or result in significant emissions or pollutants?</p>	<p>No</p>	<p>The proposed works will be required to be undertaken in accordance with detailed method statement. This will take account of, but not limited to the following;</p> <p>The proposed works will reuse excavated materials in the reinstatement of and landscaping areas where appropriate. Waste where it arises, will be source segregated to accommodate re-use and recycling opportunities with provisions implemented on site in waste management areas in accordance with a waste management plan which shall be prepared for the construction phase.</p> <p>The proposed development would not be considered a recognised emitter of greenhouse gases or a source of pollution. Plant and equipment utilised during construction or preparatory /enabling works will use fossil fuels, but the potential impact associated with this is immaterial due to the short-term scale of the works.</p>
<p>Conclusions</p>		
<p>Based on a preliminary examination of the nature, size or location of the development, is there a real likelihood of significant effects on the environment?</p>		
<p>There is no real likelihood of significant effects on the environment</p>	<p>EIA not required</p>	<p>✓</p>
<p>There is significant and realistic doubt regarding the likelihood of significant effects on the environment</p>	<p>Screening Determination Required</p>	<p>n/a</p>
<p>Request the applicant to submit the Information specified in Schedule 7A for the purposes of a screening determination.</p>	<p>Schedule 7A information required?</p>	<p>n/a</p>
<p>Name:</p>	<p>Date:</p>	
<p>Position:</p>		

The preliminary examination as required by Article 120 of the Planning and Development Regulations 2001 (as amended) has determined that formal EIA Screening Determination is not required therefore it is not necessary to proceed to Step 3.

