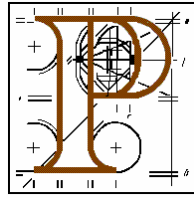


# An Bord Pleanála



## PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT ACTS 2000 TO 2011

### Mayo County Council

**An Bord Pleanála Reference Number: 16.JP0015**

**APPLICATION** by Mayo County Council for approval under section 177AE of the Planning and Development Act 2000, as amended, in accordance with plans and particulars, including a Natura impact statement, lodged with An Bord Pleanála on the 8<sup>th</sup> day of March, 2013.

**PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT:** Improvement of the existing R319 Regional Road National Secondary Route comprising the construction of a single carriageway road (7.0 metres carriageway with 0.5 metre hard strips and verges of approximately 2.0 metres to 3.0 metres) for a distance of approximately one kilometre. Enhancements to the existing Great Western Greenway by constructing a 2.5 metre wide cycleway. Associated earthworks, drainage, landscaping, diversion of services and ancillary works. The widening/reconstruction of three number existing culverts. All located in the townlands of Owenduff and Tonragee East in the D.E.D of Corraun, Achill, County Mayo.

### DECISION

**APPROVE, subject to conditions, the proposed development based on the reasons and considerations set out under.**

## **MATTERS CONSIDERED**

In making its decision, the Board had regard to those matters to which, by virtue of the Planning and Development Acts and Regulations made thereunder, it was required to have regard. Such matters included any submissions and observations received by it in accordance with statutory provisions.

## **REASONS AND CONSIDERATIONS**

In coming to its decision the Board had regard to the following:

- (a) Fáilte Ireland policy on cycling tourism as set out in the 'A Strategy for the Development of Irish Cycle Tourism, 2007';
- (b) national and regional policies aimed at securing the establishment and development of a national cycleway network;
- (c) the nature and extent of the proposed development as set out in the application for approval to provide for road improvements to the R319 Regional Road and consolidation of the Greenway as a permissive route which is largely removed and separated from the main road networks;
- (d) the established pattern of development along and in the vicinity of the route;
- (e) the policies and objectives of the Mayo County Development Plan 2008-2014;
- (f) the information submitted in relation to potential impacts on habitats, flora and fauna, including the Natura impact statement, and
- (g) the submissions made to the Board.

The Board completed an appropriate assessment in relation to the potential impacts on Natura 2000 Sites and, having regard to the Natura impact statement submitted, the submissions on file and the report and recommendation of the Inspector, the Board concluded that, on the basis of the information available, the proposed development, either individually or in combination with other plans or projects, would not adversely affect the integrity of any European site in view of the sites' conservation objectives.

It is considered that, subject to compliance with the conditions set out below, the proposed development would comprise and consolidate a sustainable form of tourism infrastructure in accordance with national policy, would not seriously injure the visual amenities of the area, would not interfere unduly with existing land uses in the area, would be acceptable in terms of traffic safety and convenience and would, therefore, be in accordance with the proper planning and sustainable development of the area.

### Conditions

1. The proposed development shall be carried out and completed in accordance with the plans and particulars, including the Natura impact statement, lodged with An Bord Pleanála on the 8<sup>th</sup> day of March, 2013, and the further information received by An Bord Pleanála on the 23<sup>rd</sup> day of April, 2013, except as may otherwise be required in order to comply with the conditions set out below.

**Reason:** In the interest of clarity.

2.
  - (1) The mitigation measures identified in the Natura impact statement submitted with the planning application shall be implemented in full by the local authority, except as may otherwise be required in order to comply with the following conditions.
  - (2) The local authority shall engage the services of a project ecologist for the duration of the construction period. A protocol shall be drawn up following consultation with the National Parks and Wildlife Service of the Department of the Arts, Heritage and the Gaeltacht to establish inspection and monitoring procedures to be implemented.

**Reason:** In order to minimise the impact of construction activity on species and habitats of conservation interest in the interest of the proper planning and sustainable development of the area.

3. The sources of all aggregate to be used in the proposed development shall be selected following consultation with the National Parks and Wildlife Service of the Department of Arts Heritage and the Gaeltacht.

**Reason:** In the interest of the conservation and protection of habitats and species of conservation interest.

4. The local authority shall facilitate the preservation, recording and protection of archaeological materials or features that may exist along the route or lands immediately adjoining the route. In this regard, the local authority shall:
  - (a) employ a suitably-qualified archaeologist who shall monitor all site investigations and other excavation works along the route, and
  - (b) provide arrangements for the recording and for the removal of any archaeological material which the local authority considers deemed appropriate to remove.

**Reason:** In order to conserve the archaeological heritage of the route and to secure the preservation and protection of any remains that may exist within site along the route.

5. The design and construction of culverts and stream crossings shall have regard to the provisions of National Roads Authority publication 'Guidelines For the Crossing of Watercourses During the Construction of National Road Schemes' and the Eastern Regional Fisheries Board, Fisheries Protection Guidelines 'Requirements for the Protection of Fisheries Habitat during the Construction and Development Works at River Sites'.

**Reason:** In the interest of ecological protection.

6. All signage and notices to be erected along the route of the Greenway within the Gaeltacht area shall be bilingual.

**Reason:** In the interest of protecting cultural and linguistic heritage.

7. Existing trees and hedges which are to be removed as part of the development works shall be replaced with suitable new planting along the roadside boundary.

**Reason:** In the interest of visual amenity.

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**Member of An Bord Pleanála  
duly authorised to authenticate  
the seal of the Board.**

**Dated this            day of            2013.**