

## **Board Direction**

## Ref: PL91.245676

The submissions on this file and the Inspector's report were considered at a Board meeting held on February 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2016.

The Board decided to refuse permission (by a 2:1 majority) generally in accordance with the Inspector's recommendation, subject to the amendments to the Inspector's draft reasons and considerations set out below.

## **REASONS AND CONSIDERATIONS**

The Sisters' of Mercy National School (the former St. Joseph's Secondary School) is identified in the National Inventory of Architectural Heritage as being of local architectural, artistic and social interest, and constitutes part of an assemblage of buildings that includes the Sisters of Mercy Convent and Chapel. In the absence of a more detailed architectural, conservation and cultural heritage assessment of the buildings, which is supported by maps and drawings showing the evolution of the school buildings 1 and 2 in particular, the Board is not satisfied that the proposed development would not be detrimental to the architectural heritage of the area, would not damage the integrity of the historic streetscape and would not contravene Objective EH 037: General Protection of Architectural Streetscapes as set out in the Limerick County Development Plan 2010-2016. The proposed development would, therefore, be contrary to the proper planning and sustainable development of the area.

**Board Member:** 

Date: March 1<sup>st</sup>, 2016

Nicholas Mulcahy