



## Board Direction

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**Ref: PL.09246641**

The submissions on this file and the Inspector's report were considered at a Board meeting held on 12<sup>th</sup> December 2016.

The Board decided to refuse permission generally in accordance with the Inspector's recommendation, subject to the amendments shown below.

### REASONS AND CONSIDERATIONS

1. Having regard to the extent and characteristics of the sand and gravel quarry development proposed and to the site's location in and adjoining the Screen Hills pNHA, a "kettle and kame" post-glacial landscape of low hills and small lakes which is unique in and to County Wexford, wherein it is considered preferable in the current County Development Plan (Policy ED09) to take a precautionary approach to significant detrimental impacts by emphasising avoidance rather than mitigation. It is considered that the proposed development material contravenes policy ED09 and is, therefore, contrary to the proper planning and sustainable development of the area.
2. It is considered that the proposed development, by reason of its extent and its elevated and prominent location within the Screen Hills Landscape of Greater Sensitivity, would create a significant and unnatural feature in the landscape which would have a negative impact on the visual amenities of a wide area. The proposed development would be contrary to Objectives L03, L04, L06 and Section 18.16 of the current Wexford CDP and to the proper planning and sustainable development of the area.

Board Member: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: 12<sup>th</sup> December 2016  
G.J. Dennison