



An
Bord
Pleanála

Board Direction
BD-005365-20
ABP-306348-20

At a meeting held on 11/03/2020, the Board considered the submissions and reports on the file, and the report of the Inspector, in the context of the request for a determination by An Bord Pleanála as to whether an environmental impact assessment would be required in respect of the proposed development of a new canal bridge to provide two-way traffic flow between Canal Bank, Park Road and Lower Park Road in Limerick City.

The Board decided that the proposed development would not be likely to have significant effects on the environment, based on the reasons and considerations set out below.

Reasons and Considerations

Having regard to the following:

- a) The criteria set out in Schedule 7 of the Planning and Development Regulations 2001, as amended
- b) The limited nature and scale of the proposed development,
- c) The location of the site and the existing pattern of development in the vicinity,
- d) The limited potential for significant impacts arising from the proposed development,

e) The guidance set out the 'Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Guidance for Consent Authorities regarding Sub-threshold Development' issued by the Department of the Environment, Heritage and Local Government, in August 2003,

f) The submissions made in this case by the applicant for screening determination and by the planning authority, and

g) the report and recommendation of the Inspector,

It is considered that the proposed development would not be likely to have significant effects on the environment and therefore, that the preparation and submission of an environmental impact report is not required.

Board Member:

Date: 11/03/2020

Dave Walsh

Note:

Having regard to the location of the proposed development and works adjacent to and crossing the Lower River Shannon SAC (002165), and noting the extent of construction work on the canal banks, including the installation of sheet piling and vegetation removal, it is suggested that the planning authority must fully satisfy itself and be able to demonstrate that the proposed works would not adversely affect the integrity of the European Site, in view of the site's conservation objectives and should consider preparing a Stage 2 Appropriate Assessment where it is proposed to implement mitigation measures to protect the integrity of the European Site.