

Board Direction BD-009166-21 ABP-310096-21

The submissions on this file and the Inspector's report were considered at a Board meeting held on 20/09/2021.

The Board decided to refuse permission, generally in accordance with the Inspector's recommendation, for the following reasons and considerations.

Reasons and Considerations

Having regard to the nature and extent of the proposed development and the location of the site, it is considered that the proposed development would pose an unacceptable risk to the water quality of the Watergrasshill Public Water Supply Inner Source Protection Area and of the Barnetstown and Glashaboy Rivers, both of which are Irish Water drinking sources with abstraction points downstream of the proposed site. The proposed development would be prejudicial to public health and would, therefore, be contrary to the proper planning and sustainable development of the area.

Note: the Board noted and shared the views expressed by the Inspector in his report; that from an ecological perspective further information would be required to ensure a fuller understanding of the site's ecology; that with regard to Environmental Impact Assessment, Schedule 7A information should be requested from the applicant, and that clarification would be required regarding the applicant's ability to provide a northern sightline for the access point. In addition, the Board had concerns as to the potential ecological effect of improvements to the bridge on local road L5808. However, given the substantive reason for refusal set out above, it was decided that a request for further information with regard to the issues set out above, was not warranted in the context of this current appeal.

Board Member

Chris McGarry

Date: 28/09/2021