



An
Bord
Pleanála

Board Direction
BD-010361-22
ABP-311412-21

The submissions on this file and the Inspector's report were considered at a Board meeting held on 25/03/2022.

The Board decided not to direct the road authority to prepare an environmental impact assessment report in respect of the above proposed road development based on the reasons and considerations set out below.

Reasons and Considerations

Having regard to:

- (a) the information provided by the road authority to An Bord Pleanála,
- (b) the provisions of the Roads Act 1993, as amended,
- (c) the nature and scale of the proposed development, which is below the thresholds for mandatory Environmental Impact Assessment set out in section 50(1)(a) of the Roads Act 1993, as amended, and article 8 of the Roads Regulations 1994, as amended,
- (d) Annex III of EU Directive 2014/52/EU of 16th April 2014, amending Directive 2011/92/EU (the EIA Directive) on the Assessment of the Effects of Certain Public and Private Projects on the Environment,
- (e) the document 'EIA of Projects - Guidance on Screening' (2017) issued by the European Commission,
- (f) the document 'Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Guidance for Consent Authorities regarding Sub-Threshold Development' issued by the

Department of Environment, Heritage and Local Government in August 2003,

- (g) the characteristics of the proposed development, including the use of an existing disused railway alignment and the proposed use of off-site manufactured lightweight steel bridges, where required, to avoid in-stream works and retain existing bridge structures,
- (h) the nature and characteristics of the receiving environment and surrounding area, and
- (i) the report and recommendation of the Board's Inspector.

It is considered that the proposed development would not be likely to have significant effects on the environment and that the preparation and submission of an Environmental Impact Assessment Report is not, therefore, required.

It is further considered that the likely significant effects on European sites, the likely effects on the environment and the likely consequences for the proper planning and sustainable development of the area can be addressed in an application to the Board for approval under section 177AE of the Planning and Development Act 2000, as amended.

Board Member

Maria FitzGerald

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Date: 25th March 2022