

Board Direction BD-014490-23 ABP-317131-23

The submissions on this file and the Inspector's report were considered at a Board meeting held on 07/11/2023.

The Board decided to not to direct the local authority to prepare a Natura Impact Statement in respect of the proposed development, based on the reasons and considerations set out below.

Reasons and Considerations

Having regard to:

- (a) the nature and scale of the proposed development;
- (b) the location of the proposed development and the separation distance from the European Sites;
- (c) the hydrological connection between the site and the European Sites via an adjacent watercourse;
- (d) the ecological connection between the site and the European Sites via an adjacent watercourse and treelines and vegetation;
- the submission made by the local authority, including the Appropriate Assessment Screening Report;
- (f) the submission made submissions made by the applicants requesting a determination; and
- (g) the report and recommendation of the Inspector

it is considered reasonable to conclude that on the basis of the information available, which is considered adequate to issue a screening determination, that the proposed

development, either individually or in combination with other plans or projects, would not be likely to have a significant effect on the identified European Sites in view of the conservation objectives of these sites and that a Stage 2 appropriate assessment and the submission of a Natura Impact Statement for the proposed development is, therefore, not required.

Board Member Eamonn James Kelly Date: 07/11/2023

Eamonn James Kelly

Note

The Board noted the Inspector's Report inter alia anticipated the North-West Irish Sea candidate Special Protection Area was considered in full.