

Board Direction BD-018030-24 ABP-317223-23

At a meeting held on 31/10/2024, the Board considered:

- (a) the objections made to the Compulsory Purchase Order,
- (b) the report of the Inspector and
- (c) the documents and submissions on file generally.

The Board decided to confirm the Order without modification based on the reasons and considerations set out below:

Having considered the objections made to the compulsory purchase order, the written submissions, the report of the Inspector and the purpose of the Compulsory Purchase Order to provide for flood defence works at Deerpark Athlone and also having regard to

- (i) The constitutional and Convention protection afforded to property rights,
- (ii) The community need, public interest served and overall benefits, especially in terms of providing long term protection to local residents from severe flood events in the areas, and providing a safer living environment, to be achieved from the proposed works,
- (iii) The design response, which has been appropriately tailored to the identified need,
- (iv) The suitability of the lands and the necessity of their acquisition to facilitate the provision of Athlone Flood Alleviation Scheme Flood Cell 1 Deerpark.

- (v) The policies and objectives of the Athlone Town Development Plan 2014-2020 including policy P-FL4 To implement the recommendations of the Shannon CFRAM study, when published.
- (vi) The report and recommendation of the Inspector.

it is considered the the permanent acquisition of the land in question and the permanent wayleave, as set out in the Order, Schedule (Parts I, II and III) and on the deposited map by Westmeath County Council, is necessary for the purpose stated, which is a legitimate objective being pursued in the public interest, and that the CPO and its effects on the property rights of affected landowners are proportionate to that objective and justified by the exigencies of the common good.

Board Member:

Date: 31/10/2024