

Board Direction BD-015891-24 ABP-318279-23

The submissions on this file and the Inspector's report were considered at a Board meeting held on 21/03/2024.

The Board agreed with the Inspector and determined that the restoration and upgrade of the existing visitor experience at Fort Dunree, Dunree, Buncrana, Co. Donegal and associated site works, would not be likely to have significant effects on the environment and Donegal County Council be advised that the preparation and submission of an Environmental Impact Assessment Report is not required for the reasons and considerations set out below.

## Reasons and Considerations

Having regard to:

- (a) the location of the site on lands that are covered by the Donegal County Development Plan 2018-2024 (As Varied), and the results of the strategic environmental assessment of this plan undertaken in accordance with the requirements of the SEA Directive,
- (b) the nature, scale and location of the proposed development,
- (c) the design and construction methodology response to the natural heritage in the surrounding area,
- (d) the project details provided by Donegal County Council,
- (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,
- (f) to the criteria set out in Schedule 7 and 7A of the Planning and Development Regulations 2001 (as amended), and

(g) to the report and recommendation of the Inspector,

Martina Hennessy

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.

**Board Member** 

Date: 21/03/2024