



Board Direction

Ref: 03.JN0013

The documentation on this file and the Inspector's report were considered at a Board meeting held on September 21st, 2016.

The file was considered in conjunction with HD0037 – an application from the road authority as to whether the subject development requires environmental impact assessment (and the submission of an EIS).

The Board decided to direct the Road Authority that no Stage 2 Appropriate Assessment (or the submission of NIS) is required in respect of the proposed development generally in accordance with the Inspector's recommendation, subject to the amendments to the Inspector's draft reasons, considerations and conditions set out below.

At a further meeting on September 27th, 2016 the Board approved the following direction.

REASONS AND CONSIDERATIONS

Having regard to:

- (i) the nature, modest scale and town centre location of the proposed development;
- (ii) the separation distance between the subject development site and a European site, namely Inagh River Estuary Special Area of Conservation (site code 000036) and the coastal nature of the qualifying interests in the Inagh River SAC (Site Code 000036),
- (iii) the clear span design of the bridge which avoids the need for construction works in the main river channel;
- (iv) the proposed construction management approach, including the measures to ensure that surface water run-off and construction materials are not discharged to the River Inagh during either the construction or operational phases of the scheme,

- (v) the low potential for in-combination effects arising from other proposed and permitted development in the vicinity,
- (vi) the Appropriate Assessment Screening Report submitted to An Bord Pleanála by the local authority, and
- (vii) 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, the proposed development, individually and in combination with other plans or projects, would not be likely to have a significant effect on any European sites, in particular the Inagh River Estuary Special Area of Conservation (site code 000036), in view of the sites conservation objectives and, therefore, the submission of a Natura impact statement for the proposed development is not required.

Board Member: _____ Date: September 27th,2016
Nicholas Mulcahy