



## Board Direction

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**Ref: 06F.PM0009**

At a meeting of the Strategic Infrastructure Division, held on 12<sup>th</sup> July 2016, it was decided that the proposed alteration would be material, and that consultation should be carried out.

At a further meeting held on 21<sup>st</sup> September 2016, the Board considered the documentation on file, including the submissions received arising from consultation with the public and with prescribed bodies, and the further report of the Inspector dated 9<sup>th</sup> September 2016. The Board decided, generally in accordance with the inspector's recommendation, as follows:

- that the making of the alteration would not be likely to have significant effects on the environment, and
- to make the alteration, and to amend related conditions 12 and 13.

### REASONS AND CONSIDERATIONS

In coming to its decision, the Board had regard to the following:

- (a) the nature and scale of the proposed alteration,
- (b) the documentation and submissions on file, including the submissions received in response to the public notice dated the 26<sup>th</sup> day of July 2016, and
- (c) the reports of the Inspector.

The Board was satisfied that the information before it was adequate to undertake a screening for appropriate assessment and a screening for environmental impact assessment in respect of the proposed alteration.

### Appropriate Assessment Screening

In conducting a screening exercise for appropriate assessment, the Board considered the nature, scale and context of the proposed alteration, the documentation on file, in particular the Appropriate Assessment screening report submitted in support of the proposal, the submissions on file – including those from of the planning authority - and the assessment of the Inspector in relation to the potential for effects on European Sites. In undertaking the screening exercise, the Board accepted the analysis and conclusions of the Inspector. The Board concluded that, by itself and in combination with other development in the vicinity,

the alteration would not be likely to have significant effects on any European Site in view of their conservation objectives.

### **Environmental Impact Assessment Screening**

Under file reference PA0037 approval was granted for the development of a major hospital complex at this existing campus, entailing a significant construction project. This proposal seeks to alter the approach to construction, in relation to the management of earthworks within the site. The Board considered the potential environmental impacts that might arise due to the proposed alteration, both by itself and in cumulation with other development in the vicinity. Having regard to the characteristics of the receiving environment, the planning history of the site, the characteristics of the proposed alteration - which amends the approach to earthworks management - and the submissions on file, the Board is satisfied that the proposed alteration would not be likely to have significant effects on the environment. The Board concurred with the analysis and conclusions of the Inspector in this matter. The Board, therefore, concluded that the preparation of an environmental impact statement is not required, either by means of any mandatory requirement or following sub-threshold analysis.

### **Conclusions on Proper Planning and Sustainable Development**

The Board concluded that the proposed alteration (including a revision of Condition Number 12 and Condition Number 13 as recommended by the Board's inspector) would represent an acceptable approach to managing earthworks in the course of the overall construction project. It is considered that the alteration

- would not have a significant effect on the landscape or upon the archaeological or cultural heritage of the area,
- would not give rise to any significant impact on the natural heritage of the area,
- would not seriously injure the amenities of the area or of property in the vicinity,
- would not be detrimental to the environment, and
- would be acceptable in terms of traffic safety and convenience,
- The Board concluded that making the proposed alteration would be in accordance with the proper planning and sustainable development of the area.

(Wording of amended conditions 12 (part (v)) and 13 (part (b)) to be generally as per inspector's recommendation. )

Board Member: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: 23<sup>rd</sup> September 2016  
Conall Boland