

An
Bord
Pleanála

Board Order ABP-312428-22

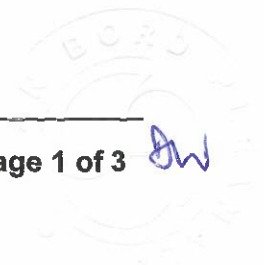
Planning and Development Acts, 2000 to 2021

Planning Authority: Limerick City and County Council

Application by Limerick City and County Council requesting An Bord Pleanála to exercise its powers under article 250(3)(a) of the Planning and Development Regulations, 2001, as amended, whether Limerick City and County Council should be directed to prepare a Natura Impact Statement in respect of the Castletroy Link Road Scheme - Distributor Road linking Golf Links Road, Castletroy with Kilbane Roundabout on Groody Road, Ballysimon, County Limerick.

Decision

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.



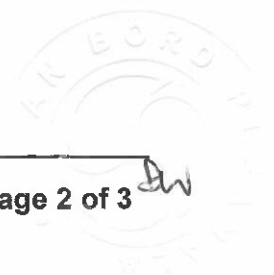
Matters Considered

In making its decision, the Board had regard to those matters to which, by virtue of the Planning and Development Acts and Regulations made thereunder, it was required to have regard.

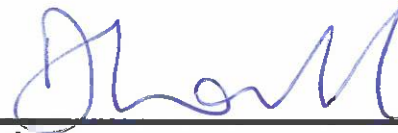
Reasons and Considerations

Having regard to:

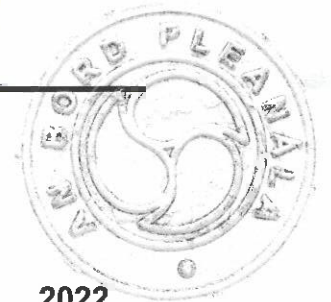
- (a) The location of the proposed development and the separation distance with the adjoining river which provides a hydrological connection to the Lower River Shannon Special Area of Conservation (Site Code: 002165) and its qualifying interests,
- (b) the nature and scale of the proposed development including excavation and earthwork operations, importation of construction materials, road and embankment construction works, the undertaking of works to existing watercourses and the installation of new drainage systems,
- (c) the proximity of the proposed development to the River Groody,
- (d) the uncertainty with regards to in-combination effects with other plans and projects,
- (e) the submission made on behalf of the local authority, including the Appropriate Assessment Screening Report received by the Board on 10th day of January, 2022,
- (f) 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 it cannot be ruled out that the proposed development, either individually and in combination with other plans or projects, would not be likely to have a significant effect on Lower Shannon Special Area of Conservation (Site Code 002165), in view of the Conservation Objectives of the site and that a Stage 2 Appropriate Assessment and the submission of a Natura impact statement for the proposed development is, therefore, required.



Dave Walsh
Member of An Bord Pleanála
duly authorised to authenticate
the seal of the Board.



Dated this 21st day of March 2022