



An
Bord
Pleanála

Board Order ABP-315259-22

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 Bloodmill Road Extension Scheme, Towleron, 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.

Reasons and Considerations

Having regard to:

- (a) the nature and scale of the proposed development,
- (b) the location of the proposed development and the separation distance from the Lower River Shannon Special Area of Conservation (Site Code: 002165),
- (c) the existence of a hydrological connection from the proposed development site to the Lower River Shannon Special Area of Conservation (Site Code: 002165),
- (d) the nature of the qualifying interests, some of which may be located along the section of the River Shannon in closest proximity to the proposed development,
- (e) the submission made by the local authority, including the Preliminary Screening Report for Appropriate Assessment Screening received by the Board on the 1st day of December, 2022, and
- (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 or in combination with other plans or projects, would not be likely to have a significant effect on a number of the qualifying interests associated with the Lower River Shannon Special Area of Conservation (Site Code: 002165) in view of the conservation objectives of these sites and that a Stage 2 appropriate assessment and the submission of a Natura Impact Statement for the proposed development is, therefore, required.

Peter Mullan



Peter Mullan
Member of An Bord Pleanála
duly authorised to authenticate
the seal of the Board.

Dated this *19th* day of *June*, 2023