



An
Bord
Pleanála

Inspector's Report ABP-320145-24

Development	Junction Layout Improvement Scheme
Location	Junction of N59 and L-5381, in townlands of Kentfield and Gortacleva, Co. Galway
Planning Authority	Galway County Council
Type of Application	Application for approval made under Section 177(AE) of the Planning and Development Act, 2000 (local authority development requiring appropriate assessment)
Prescribed Bodies	Dept of Housing, Local Government and Heritage, DAU
Observers	None
Date of Site Inspection	15/05/25
Inspector	Adrian Ormsby

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1.0 Introduction

- 1.1. Galway County Council is seeking approval from An Bord Pleanála to undertake junction layout road improvement works in close proximity to the Lough Corrib SAC (000297) and the Lough Corrib SPA (04042) which are designated European sites.
- 1.2. There are several other designated European sites (SPAs and SACs) in proximity to the proposed works (see further analysis below). A Natura Impact Statement (NIS) and application under Section 177AE was lodged by the Local Authority on the basis of the proposed development's likely significant effect on a European site.
- 1.3. Section 177AE of the Planning and Development act 2000 (as amended) requires that where an appropriate assessment is required in respect of development by a local authority, the authority shall prepare an NIS and the development shall not be carried out unless the Board has approved the development with or without modifications.
- 1.4. Furthermore, Section 177V of the Planning and Development Act 2000 (as amended) requires that the appropriate assessment shall include a determination by the Board as to whether or not the proposed development would adversely affect the integrity of a European site and the appropriate assessment shall be carried out by the Board before consent is given for the proposed development.

2.0 Proposed Development

- 2.1. The application comprises of-
 - the realignment of approx. 245m section of the N59 and approx. 50m section of the L-5381 local road
 - an improved junction layout of the L-5381/N59
 - online realignment works
 - associated drainage including underground settlement attenuation tank,
 - fencing, kerbs, footpath, signage, and all site development and landscaping works, utility diversion works, landowner accommodation works, and
 - all other ancillary roadworks.

2.2. This application is accompanied by the following documents:

- Application Cover Letter to An Bord Pleanála.
- Appropriate Assessment related-
 - Galway County Council Appropriate Assessment Screening Determination Statement.
 - Appropriate Assessment Screening Report
 - Natura Impact Statement
- Environmental Impact Assessment related-
 - Galway County Councils Environmental Impact Assessment Screening Determination Statement.
 - Environmental Impact Assessment Screening Report
- Ecological Impact Assessment Report
- Design Report
- Appendix A- Drawings
- Appendix B- Road Safety Audit (Stage 1)
- Appendix C- Cost Estimate
- Appendix D- PABS (Project Appraisal Balance Sheet)
- Appendix E- Drainage Design Report
- Appendix F- Hydrology & Drainage Assessment Report
- Appendix G- Environmental Assessment Report- Construction Environmental & Management Plan (CEMP)
- Appendix H- Impact Assessment Report on Cultural Heritage
- Appendix I- Departure from Standard

3.0 Site and Location

- 3.1. The site is located on the N59 National Secondary road linking Galway City to Moycullen c. 4.5km northwest of Galway City and on to Oughterard and Clifden in West County Galway. The site also includes a small section of the L-5381 local road which runs almost perpendicular and southwards from the N59. The junction is known as the Gortacleva junction¹.
- 3.2. The N59 stretch or road located within the site boundary is within the 80kph speed limit. The section of road can be described as suffering from poor vertical and horizontal alignment particularly the northwestern side of the junction with the L-5381. There is an existing vehicular entrance to a domestic property and boundary wall, piers and gate to the northern side of the N59 within the site boundary. There is an existing footpath on the southern side of the N59 and to the south eastern side of the junction.
- 3.3. The L-5381 is a typical country road with a 50kph speed limit and one vehicular entrance to a rural house adjoining the site boundary.
- 3.4. Glenloe Abbey Hotel and its grounds are located just to the east of the application site on the north side of the N59. Glenloe Abbey Hotel is identified as a country house on the Record or Protected Structures as No. 3441. A freestanding gable-fronted Church also described as Glenloe Abbey Hotel is identified on the RPS as number 3952. This is located within the same grounds as the hotel/country house
- 3.5. Glenloe Abbey House and the Church (Abbey) are also identified as Recorded Monuments under reference numbers GA082-047001- : House - 18th/19th century KENTFIELD and GA082-047002- : Chapel : KENTFIELD.
- 3.6. Killeen House and its grounds are located c. 400m to the northwest of the site on the north side of the N59. This is also a protected structure under reference number 3440.
- 3.7. A small drainage ditch flows from the road junction north towards the River Corrib along the boundary of the hotel lands. The ditch appeared dry at the time of

¹ As detailed in section 2 of the submitted Road Safety Audit.

inspection. This ditch is described in the application documentation as an unmapped watercourse referred to as the Knocknacarragh Stream².

- 3.8. The application documents detail a site area of 0.6957ha and a temporary compound area of 0.17 ha³.

4.0 Planning History

- None Relevant

5.0 Legislative and Policy Context

5.1. The EU Habitats Directive (92/43/EEC)

- 5.1.1. This Directive deals with the Conservation of Natural Habitats and of Wild Fauna and Flora throughout the European Union. Article 6(3) and 6(4) require an appropriate assessment of the likely significant effects of a proposed development on its own and in combination with other plans and projects which may have an effect on a European Site (SAC or SPA).

5.2. European Communities (Birds and Natural Habitats) Regulations 2011

- 5.2.1. These Regulations consolidate the European Communities (Natural Habitats) Regulations 1997 to 2005 and the European Communities (Birds and Natural Habitats) (Control of Recreational Activities) Regulations 2010, as well as addressing transposition failures identified in CJEU judgements. The Regulations in particular require in Reg 42(21) that where an appropriate assessment has already been carried out by a 'first' public authority for the same project (under a separate code of legislation) then a 'second' public authority considering that project for appropriate assessment under its own code of legislation is required to take account of the appropriate assessment of the first authority.

² See section 5.1 of the submitted EclA.

³ EIA Screening Report Page 5

5.3. National Nature Conservation Designations

5.3.1. The Department of Culture, Heritage and the Gaeltacht and the National Parks and Wildlife Service are responsible for the designation of conservation sites throughout the country. The three main types of designation are Natural Heritage Areas (NHA), Special Areas of Conservation (SACs) and Special Protection Areas (SPAs) and the latter two form part of the European Natura 2000 Network.

5.3.2. Relevant European sites located in proximity to the subject site include:

- Lough Corrib SAC (000297)
- Galway Bay Complex (000268)
- Lough Corrib SPA (04042)
- Inner Galway Bay SPA (004031)

5.4. Planning and Development Act 2000 (as amended)

5.4.1. Part XAB of the Planning and Development Acts 2000-2017 sets out the requirements for the appropriate assessment of developments which could have an effect on a European site or its conservation objectives.

5.4.2. 177(AE) sets out the requirements for the appropriate assessment of developments carried out by or on behalf of local authorities.

5.4.3. Section 177(AE) (1) requires a local authority to prepare, or cause to be prepared, a Natura impact statement in respect of the proposed development.

5.4.4. Section 177(AE) (2) states that a proposed development in respect of which an appropriate assessment is required shall not be carried out unless the Board has approved it with or without modifications.

5.4.5. Section 177(AE) (3) states that where a Natura impact assessment has been prepared pursuant to subsection (1), the local authority shall apply to the Board for approval and the provisions of Part XAB shall apply to the carrying out of the appropriate assessment.

5.4.6. Section 177(V) (3) states that a competent authority shall give consent for a proposed development only after having determined that the proposed development shall not adversely affect the integrity of a European site.

5.4.7. Section 177AE (6) (a) states that before making a decision in respect of a proposed development the Board shall consider the NIS, any submissions or observations received and any other information relating to:

- The likely effects on the environment.
- The likely consequences for the proper planning and sustainable development of the area.
- The likely significant effects on a European site.

5.5. Policy and Guidelines of Relevance

5.5.1. The following policy and guidelines are considered relevant to the proposed development:

- Project Ireland 2040: National Planning Framework (NPF), First Revision of the NPF and the National Development Plan (NDP 2018-2027)
- Climate Action Plan 2024 (“CAP24”) and 2025 (“CAP25”)
- The National Biodiversity Action Plan 2023-2030
- The Northern and Western Regional Spatial and Economic Strategy, 2020-2032
- Galway County Development Plan 2022-2028

6.0 Consultations

6.1. Consultees Circulated

6.1.1. The application was circulated to the following bodies:

- Department of Environment, Climate and Communications
- Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage (Development Applications Unit- DAU)

- Department of Tourism, Culture, Arts, Gaeltacht, Sports & Media
- Inland Fisheries Ireland
- The Heritage Council
- An Chomhairle Ealaíon
- Fáilte Ireland
- An Taisce
- Transport Infrastructure Ireland (TII)
- Health Service Executive (HSE)
- Commission for the Regulation of Utilities
- Northern and Western Regional Assembly
- Uisce Éireann
- Galway County Council

6.2. Responses Received from Consultees

6.2.1. A response has been received from the following-

- Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage- (DAU)

6.2.2. Their 'Heritage' related Observations/Recommendations can be summarised as follows-

- The proposed development is located in proximity to a number of Recorded Monuments which are subject to statutory protection under Section 12 of the National Monuments (Amendment) Act 1930-2014.
- The submitted Archaeological Impact Assessment (AIA) acknowledges the potential for previously unknown sub-surface archaeological features or deposits which may be present within the proposed development site.
- No advance archaeological investigations have been carried out to inform the AIA, other than a walkover survey.

- Advance archaeological test excavation should be carried out in advance of any development.
- It is recommended conditions should be attached to any grant of permission.
- The recommended conditions align with Sample Conditions C3, C5 and C6 as set out in OPR Practice Note PN03: Planning Conditions (October 2022), with appropriate site-specific additional/adaptions based on the particular characteristics of this development.

6.3. **Public Submissions**

- None

6.4. **Response of Galway County Council to the Submission**

- The DAU's requirements are noted and there is no objection to same.
- Archaeologist Jerry O'Sullivan has been nominated to perform the role of Project Archaeologist for the scheme.

7.0 **EIA Screening**

- 7.1. The proposed development is not a class for the purposes of EIA as per the classes of development set out in Schedule 5 of the Planning and Development Regulations 2001, as amended (or Part V of the 1994 Roads Regulations). No mandatory requirement for EIA therefore arises and there is also no requirement for a screening determination. Refer to Appendix 1 Form 1 of this report.

8.0 **Assessment**

The assessment will be undertaken in three parts as per the requirements of Section 177AE as follows:

- The likely effects on the environment.
- The likely consequences for the proper planning and sustainable development of the area.

- The likely significant effects on a European site.

8.1. The likely effects on the environment.

- 8.1.1. The application is accompanied by 'Galway County Councils Environmental Impact Assessment Screening Determination Statement'⁴ Council in which it is considered the proposed N59 Kentfield Road Safety Junction Improvement would not be likely to have significant effects on the environment.
- 8.1.2. The application is also accompanied by an EIA Screening Report prepared by MKO the project consultants engaged by the Council. This concludes after preliminary examination formal EIA Screening is not required.
- 8.1.3. Notwithstanding the above and as set out in section 9 of this report the proposed development is not a class for the purposes of EIA as per the Planning and Development Regulations 2001, as amended (or Part V of the 1994 Roads Regulations). No mandatory requirement for EIA therefore arises and there is also no requirement for a screening determination.
- 8.1.4. Having regard to the nature of the proposed development and the site context, I consider that the likely effects of the proposed development on the environment can be assessed under the following headings-
 - Roads and Traffic
 - Ecology
 - Cultural Heritage

These will be considered as set out below.

8.1.5. Roads and Traffic

- 8.1.5.1. The application is accompanied by the following roads and traffic related documents-
 - Design Report
 - Road Safety Audit Stage 1 report (RSA) prepared by PMCE dated February 2024.

⁴ As titled in the application cover letter

- Stage 1 Road Safety Audit Exception Report (RSAER dated 20/02/2024) prepared by TII.
- Road Safety Exception Report Decision Form signed 09/04/24

8.1.5.2. Section 7 of the Design Report details the RSA was completed in accordance with TII's DN-REQ-03034. It also details certain recommendations of the RSA were not accepted by Galway County Council and an exception report was therefore required and accepted by TII's Director of Overseeing Organisation on the 09/04/2024.

8.1.5.3. The RSA details the proposal involves the reconstruction of an existing section of the N59, as well as offline realignment to improve sections of sub-standard alignment and provide a new improved junction with L-5381. The existing alignment has a sub-standard cross section, and substandard Stopping Sight Distance. The poor vertical and horizontal alignment of the N59 requiring the works was clearly evident on site.

8.1.5.4. It is also noted the Design Report⁵ and Section 1.1 of the RSAER details the site was identified as having road safety problems needing further assessment to identify if there is a treatable engineering solution resulting in the proposed scheme to be undertaken by Galway County Council.

8.1.5.5. Section 2 of the Design Report is titled Collision History and details the site was considered as having road safety problems arising from an unimproved legacy road with junction in sag curve, with limited forward visibility and an identified collision pattern associated with the junction layout and a hidden dip on approach to the junction. An examination of collisions is set out in Tables 2.1 – 2.3 with Road Safety Authority data discussed in section 2.3.2 and highlighted in Table 2.4.

8.1.5.6. Section 2.2 states-

“This section of the N59 falls below the standard of the TII Publications (Standards) in terms of horizontal and vertical alignment, visibility and cross-section, and safety on the route is compromised as a result.”

⁵ Executive Summary

8.1.5.7. The overall 'Safety Scheme Objectives' are discussed in section 3.2 including

- addressing deficiencies in terms of alignment, cross-section width, curvature and visibility
- improving the consistency, accessibility and safety of the junction and carriageway on the N59,
- provide an improved section of road that is 'fit for purpose' for contemporary needs and is consistent with contemporary design standards,
- improve the safety standards and reduce collision risks by developing a design to contemporary standards, improving and standardising direct private accesses, providing a forgiving roadside and providing appropriate safety systems where required,
- provide passively safe boundary fences and walls throughout the scheme, replacing like for like to areas where boundaries are moved or set back,
- provide safer and more efficient accessibility to the N59 route for the local community accommodated along this section and to minimise disturbance and severance impacts to both residential and agricultural holdings,
- and to improve facilities for vulnerable road users (longer term).

8.1.5.8. Section 4 of the Design Report discusses 'Existing Conditions' including-

- the existing situation and compromised safety on the route
- speed
- traffic volumes
- horizontal alignment which is considerably below the TII standard required
- vertical alignment considerably below the TII standard required
- cross section- carriageway varies from 5.9 m to 6.8m wide with no hard shoulder and verge width varying from 0.3m to 1.2m.
- crossfall varies from 1.5% to 3% with 2.5% normal camber expected
- superelevation is not developed consistently and varies from 2% to 3.5% in an inconsistent manner

- existing junction and accesses
- facilities for Vulnerable Road Users- none for pedestrians or cyclists
- visibility and sightlines with forward visibility limited due to the horizontal and vertical curves. Stopping sight distance as low as 45m equating to design speed of 42km/ph. Sight lines from private accesses limited with some as low as 20m representing hazard for both access users and mainline users.

8.1.5.9. The proposed design is discussed in section 6 in which the *“provision of a safe and efficient network of national roads is a key function of TII and local authorities”* is stated. Three route options were considered ranging from the proposed 245m length and 350m & 945m lengths. While option 2 was the preferred option, it is option 1 that received funding and therefore subject to this application.

8.1.5.10. ‘Land Acquisition’ is discussed in Section 6.2 with requirements shown in Figure 6.1. Other impacts are detailed ranging from encroachments onto property lines and minor alterations of existing direct accesses from the proposed realignment. This section also details methods to be utilised to minimise these impacts. Impacted property owners are detailed in Table 6.1 with permanent and temporary land take requirements set out. It is not clear from the information submitted how or when such lands will be acquired.

8.1.5.11. Section 6.3 - 6.16 sets out proposed measures for the following-

- Horizontal alignment with departures from standards required
- Vertical alignment with departures from standards required
- Cross section-
 - The N59 road will consist of two lanes of 3.5m, a hard strip 0.5m and verge width varies up to 3m wide verge on RHS and up to 8m verge width on LHS for the full scheme where possible. The design speed of 85km/h will be adopted for the Type 2 section of the full scheme which is consistent with National Roads.

- The L-5382 road will consist of two lanes of 3.0m, a hard strip 0.5m and verge width varies from 0.3m to 4m. The radii curve connecting the L-5381 with the N59 will be 13m on either side.
 - departures from standards required
- A normal camber of 2.5% will be provided at the straight section and as the default crossfall.
- Superelevation of 3.5% will be applied at the 255m and 510m radii curves. The desirable minimum superelevation for the applied radii is 7%, therefore a departure from standard is required.
- Aquaplaning- the geometric maximum water film depth of 3.3mm shall apply to new single carriageway roads and road surface geometry shall be such that drainage paths are limited to a length of approximately 60m
- The application proposes an extended footpath from the N59 around the corner with the L-5381. No cycle track is proposed. A wide verge will be provided on the LHS of the scheme along this part of the N59 which could facilitate the potential future incorporation of dedicated cycle way along the route. A Departure from Standard is required.
- No requirement for a safety barrier has been identified
- Required width of clear zone based on design speed detailed as 6.5m (inside bend) and 9.6m (outside bend).
- Side slopes designed with 1:2 side slopes in fill and 1:2 side slopes in cut into clear zone.
- Junction- The L-5381 will be realigned and upgraded for approx. 45m in length to a Type 3 single carriageway. A nearside passing bay to the northside of the N59 shall be provided to allow through traffic travelling east on the N59 pass a vehicle while waiting to turn right onto local road.
- Field access- Two existing gates are to be set back from road edge a minimum of 10m. The corner radii for the typical field entrance is 9m as per figure 5.9 of DN-GEO-03060

- Residential access- boundary walls and piers will be set back and repositioned to provide the minimum sight distances for an 85km/h speed design. The corner radii for the typical domestic entrance is 6m. The dwell area on the Gortacleva road will be +4% gradient with a length of 11m which are both relaxations
- Visibility and sightlines
 - Full overtaking sight distance is not achievable.
 - Stopping sight distance (SSD) of 160m is achievable for all the scheme at high object height of 1.05m, however a relaxation of one step below desirable minimum is required within the scheme for a low object height of 0.260m
 - Clear visibility splays are provided at the junction looking both North and South along the N59. The achievable sight distance is greater than the required 160m.
 - Sightlines at the domestic access and the simple priority junction have been provided to meet with the requirements of DN-GEO-03060
 - full sightlines couldn't be achieved at field entrances for a design speed of 85km/h. Gates at direct accesses have been maintained in their current location
 - Stopping Sight Distance in forward and reverse direction for Object Height of 0.26m set out in Table 6.7 and 6.8
 - Stopping Sight Distance in forward and reverse direction for Object Height of 1.05m set out in Table 6.7 and 6.8
- Drainage-
 - A sustainable drainage system is proposed in the form of kerb and gully system connected to an underground tank to control the quantity and quality of runoff. A petrol interceptor located upstream from the outfall which is the Knocknacarragh stream providing connectivity into the local watercourse at the river Corrib

- the proposed road drainage system will replace the current one where the road run-off is discharging directly over the edge which filters through grass verge and side slopes.
- The proposal is designed to ensure the speedy removal of surface water to provide safe driving conditions and to minimise the impact of runoff on the receiving environment.
- The drainage design is proposed not to increase flooding. The attenuation storage is sized based on the 100 year rainstorm event + 20% climate change discharging at greenfield flood rate of 5l/s per ha (see section 6.12.4).
- Pavement
 - The road pavement design option for the N59 Kentfield realignment has been completed in accordance with TII publications PE-SMG-020002 and DN-PAV-03021. The pavement is designed for a 40-year design life in accordance with regular recommendations outlined in TII publications.
 - The footpath design will be 2m wide with a minimum separation distance of 1.5m provided in accordance with TII Specification
- The Road Traffic Signing and Road Markings for the scheme will be designed and implemented primarily in accordance with the Traffic Signs Manual. See also drawing RS-01-GC/19/18753.
- Accommodation works, boundary treatment and existing entrance works etc.
- Existing Services and Utilities intercepted along the proposed application route. See Table 6.17, 6.18 and 6.19
- Lighting- none proposed.

8.1.5.12. As discussed above a number of relaxations from standards are required. The Design Report details TII allows for a flexible approach to be applied to a range of design standards, including Rural Road Link Design DN-GEO-03031, for situations where strict application of the desirable minimum standards would lead to disproportionately high construction costs or severe environmental impacts upon

people, property, and the landscape. Approval of such departures is required by TII. In this context such departures are justified given the fact that the scheme consists primarily of online upgrade and is located within a particularly sensitive environment. The Design Report details "Departure Application Number 36295 submitted in accordance with TII Publications GE-GEN-01005 from Standards has received full approval from TII." These are discussed further in Tables 6.20-6.22 and included in Appendix I.

8.1.5.13. A number of road safety 'problems' with the proposed development and subsequent recommendations are set out in section 3 of the submitted Road Safety Audit (RSA). The following are highlighted-

- a right turn lane from the N69 should be provided for eastbound traffic.
- superelevation commensurate with the design speed of the N59 should be provided, with appropriate transitions at the start and end of the scheme.
- The northern pavement edge of the N59 is indicated as being set back from the main N59 alignment to provide additional width for eastbound traffic wishing to pass on the inside of a right turning vehicle. A combination of the pavement widening, and the proposed kerb may increase the risk of wheel strikes and possible loss of control collisions.

8.1.5.14. The Road Safety Audit Exceptions Report (RSAER) identifies particular issues where the road design team has responded to the RSA recommendations with either alternative measures or reasons for not accepting the recommendations. The following exceptions and reasons are noted-

- The problem requiring a right turning lane from the N59 is accepted, however the recommend measure of a right turning lane was not accepted.
- The reason given for this is the existing local road is too narrow to facilitate increased volumes of traffic likely to use it if the turning lane was implemented.
- The problem regarding superelevation commensurate with the design speed of the N59 is accepted. However the solution is not possible as the curve is too short to apply recommended 5% for 85kph design speed.

- The problem requiring a right turning lane from the L-5381 local road is again accepted. However the existing local road is not capable of facilitating high volumes of traffic due to its narrow pavement width for full length of local road. Such a recommendation would increase use of the local road potentially increasing collisions.

8.1.5.15. The measures proposed by the design team are justified as including-

- Priority Junction with nearside passing bay will be provided, as per Figure 5.5 of DN-GEO-03060⁶ with 10m tapers length on either end.
- Superelevation is reduced to 3.5% due to the short length of the curve and to provide driver comfort.

8.1.5.16. The exemption report is then accepted. The decision of the authorising 'Director' argues the risk of rear end collisions at the junction will be significantly reduced by the package of measures proposed in the scheme. The introduction of a formal right turn lane is likely to increase the volume of right turning traffic, introducing increased risk on the local road network. Nearside passing width will be provided, and overall the current design, with no right turn lane, presents the lesser risk. It also details an increased superelevation would not give an acceptable profile because of the short length of the curve. It contends an increased superelevation results in increased speed, which would increase risk for the road user.

8.1.5.17. Having reviewed the information set out above and on the file, I am satisfied the submitted documentation relevant to roads and traffic provides a detailed, robust and thorough consideration and overall conclusion of all such matters in the context of the proposed development. Having carried out a site inspection and considered the case put forward by the local authority, it is evident the proposed junction improvement works are necessary in order to improve the existing functioning of the junction and the overall wider road safety of this section of national and local roads. In this regard, the proposal is consistent with County Development Plan Policy

⁶ <https://cdn.tii.ie/publications/DN-GEO-03060-03.pdf>

objectives NR 1 Protection of Strategic Roads and NNR 2 Safeguard Regional and Local Roads⁷.

8.1.6. **Ecology**

8.1.6.1. The application is accompanied by an Ecological Impact Assessment (EclA) complied by Ecologists of MKO Planning and Environmental Consultants and dated 10/06/2024. The methodologies employed are set out in section 3 of the EclA and include a desk study, field surveys, faunal surveys and bat surveys etc.

8.1.6.2. Relevant considerations within the EclA are detailed as including-

- 'Guidelines for Assessment of Ecological Impacts of National Roads Schemes' (NRA, 2009)
- CIEEM's 'Guidelines for Ecological Impact Assessment in the UK and Ireland' (2018 as amended)
- Information to be included in Environmental Impact Assessment Reports (EPA, 2022)

8.1.6.3. The potential for the proposed development to impact on sites that are designated for nature conservation including SAC's SPA's, NHA's and pNHA's are considered in section 4 of the EclA and displayed on figures 4.1 and 4.2. Other identified matters of conservation interest include considerations of-

- Plant species of conservation concern section 4.2
- NPWS records for rare and protected species in section 4.3
- The National Biodiversity Data Centre (NDBC) records for protected fauna, birds and records of invasive species in section 4.4 and
- Water quality and status of watercourses in section 4.5.

8.1.6.4. Field study results are discussed in section 5. The habitats recorded are listed in Table 5-1 with a habitats map provided in Figure 5-1. These are consistent with my

⁷ See also section 8.2.4 of this report.

observations during my site inspection save for the category of 'Upland eroding River (FW1)' which at the time appeared dry given the weather conditions. In relation to fauna and Birds no evidence of species of conservation concern such as otter or badger or Special Conservation Interest (SCI) bird species were recorded within the site boundary and the site does not provide supporting habitat for protected bird species.

8.1.6.5. Bats are considered in section 5.2.3. In summary 258 bat passes were recorded during the dusk emergence and transect surveys with results presented in figure 5-2. Ground level Static Surveys over 15 nights recorded 9,545 bat passes with activity recorded as moderate. Species type and passes per night are presented in plates 5-9 and 5-10.

8.1.6.6. Section 5.3 discusses 'Importance of Ecological Receptors and identifies those considered as 'Key Ecological Receptors' (KER) i.e. Natura 200 sites, Ramsar sites, National sites, watercourse, habitats, Bat and bird species.

8.1.6.7. Section 6.2 discusses impacts during the construction stage and proposed mitigation measures. Impacts include effects on-

- rivers, streams and Sensitive Aquatic Faunal Species arising from polluting contaminants
- loss of Linear Habitats: Hedgerows (WL1) and Treeline (WL2)- permanent loss of approx. 130m of hedgerow habitat and approx. 70m of treeline habitat
- Loss of small number of potential bat roosting habitat within the site
- Loss of Bat foraging and commuting habitat from loss of trees within the site and
- Habitat Loss/ Degradation, Disturbance to birds potential for mortality.

Mitigation measures include-

- Construction stage-

- Environmental measures set out in section 2.3 of the EclA and those in the submitted CEMP which sets out measures to block pathways for impacts to aquatic receptors.
- Erection of new set back grassed area boundary with 200m of native hedgerow to be planted adjacent to new boundary wall to offset loss.
- Felling operations will be carried out outside of the bat activity season (May to October) to limit the potential for direct bat mortality.
- New hedgerow to offset loss, construction operations during daylight hours, low intensity lighting with motion sensors if required/unavoidable, designed to minimise spillage, directional accessories, protection measures to existing trees etc.
- New hedgerow to offset loss, Site clearance to be undertaken outside of the nesting bird season (1st March – 31st August) to ensure compliance with the Wildlife Act. If clearance required during nesting season a nesting bird survey will be conducted with supervision by qualified ecologist.

8.1.6.8. Section 6.3 discusses impacts during Operation Stage and proposed mitigation measures. Impacts detailed include-

- Degradation of water quality effecting aquatic habitats from surface water run-off.
- None to fauna
- None to bats
- None to Natura 2000 sites
- None to Lough Corrib pNHA and Galway Bay Complex p(NHA)
- None to Ramsar site i.e. Inner Galway Bay

Mitigation measures proposed are-

- the use of attenuation systems and hydrocarbon interceptors proposed with the development and as detailed in Section 2.2.1 of the EclA.

8.1.6.9. Cumulative Impact Considerations are set out in section 7 of the EclA. A number of other projects are detailed including the planning application for the Galway Ring Road (ABP-318217-23⁸) which is not yet decided by the Board. Relevant ecological plans and policies such as the County Development Plan etc are discussed in section 7.2 of the EclA. Overall, no residual cumulative impacts were identified with regard to the biodiversity, flora, and fauna of the existing environment.

8.1.6.10. Having reviewed the information set out above and on the file, I am satisfied the submitted EclA provides a detailed, robust and thorough consideration and overall conclusion of all matters pertinent to an EclA in the context of the proposed development. Subject to the mitigation measures proposed as set out in the EclA, the CEMP and the NIS I am satisfied the proposed development would not have significantly adverse impacts upon local ecology or the Key Ecological Receptors identified.

8.1.7. Cultural Heritage

8.1.7.1. The application is accompanied by an 'Impact Assessment Report on Cultural Heritage' (IARCH) prepared by Jerry O'Sullivan TII Archaeologist and dated January 2020. The report includes an email from the author dated 24/01/2024 detailing updated conclusions and recommendations based on a reduced extent of the proposed scheme.

8.1.7.2. The Board will also note the report received from Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage Development Application Unit (DAU) in which its Heritage Section have recommended inclusion of a number of Archaeological related conditions.

8.1.7.3. The IARCH details the proposed development would have no impact upon known archaeological sites or monuments but there is potential for previously unrecorded sites to be discovered during the works. It proposes test excavations on a precautionary basis. The email dated 24/01/24 provided with the IARCH refers to the smaller amount of land now being acquired for the development and as such there is

⁸ Originally ABP-302855-18

no need for archaeological intervention other than recorded site visits during ground breaking works. This update to the IARCH does not appear to be reflected in the DAU submission. However the Council's response to the submission offers no objection to the DAU requirements and therefore conditions similar to those recommended by the DAU are considered appropriate in this regard.

- 8.1.7.4. The IARCH details potential for impacts to the boundaries of two protected structures. These are detailed as Glenloe Abbey Hotel RPS No. 3441 and Killeen House RPS No. 3440. I note the freestanding gable-fronted Church described as Glenloe Abbey Hotel is also identified on the RPS as number 3952 and this would appear to share the same curtilage as RPS No. 3441. The IARCH details affected boundaries should be recorded and replaced like with like on the new road alignment. The email dated 24/01/24 details the project will impact on short sectors of the existing stone walls and the council should aim to replace these like for like.
- 8.1.7.5. Drawing number DP-01-GC/19/18753 shows the extent of proposed works and these do not encroach upon the properties of the protected structures. A new set back 1.2m high stone wall and hedge is proposed along the northern side of the proposed works with existing piers and access gates to a residential property remaining. Works just east of this gate also includes a 1.2m wall, removal of existing trees and a 1.2m wide gate to match the existing main entrance gates. This will adjoin the boundary of lands that include RPS No. 3441 and 3952 i.e. the grounds of Glenloe Abbey Hotel. 23m of a new entrance splay wall is also proposed to an existing entrance on the southern side of the N59 with field gate repositioned.
- 8.1.7.6. These works will not significantly detract from either protected structure. The extent of works to the northwest boundary of the site will not significantly impact upon Killeen House or its curtilage.
- 8.1.7.7. The IARCH details the proposal will have an adverse impact on the traditional stonewalls and mature trees that form the boundaries of the existing road. This includes the boundaries to Albano House along the southern side of the N59 which is considered of historical significance but is not a Protected Structure. The IARCH suggests the proposal should seek to retain the traditional character of the existing

boundaries by replicating the stone walls like for like and replacing affected trees and hedgerows.

- 8.1.7.8. The submitted drawings do not clearly identify the extent of existing roadside boundaries such as the existing stone walls. However they were observed on site albeit grown over in many places and the character of same was not overly evident. Noting the clearly visible stone wall boundary to Glenloe Abbey Hotel and its grounds, it is recommended that the stone material of the existing roadside boundary should not just be replaced but should be reused as much as practicable in the new set back stone wall boundary and this should be applied as a condition.
- 8.1.7.9. Subject to conditions as discussed above the proposed development will not adversely impact upon cultural heritage.

8.2. The likely consequences for the proper planning and sustainable development of the area.

- 8.2.1. The submitted Design Report details the site was considered as having road safety problems arising from an unimproved legacy road with junction in sag curve, with limited forward visibility and an identified collision pattern associated with the junction layout and a hidden dip on approach to the junction . A treatable engineering solution is required. The proposal has incorporated TII design standards and technical guidance to develop a scheme that is fit for purpose and satisfies the schemes objectives.
- 8.2.2. The proposed development involving road and junction improvements works along this stretch of national secondary road and local road. It has clear and evident benefits consistent with proper planning and sustainable developments. Such benefits including road safety and enhanced regional accessibility the latter being recognised in NS02 of the NPF.
- 8.2.3. Chapter 6 of the RSES for the Northern & Western Region is titled 'Growth Ambition 3: Connectivity – Connected Region'. The road network is discussed from page 219. The following is stated-

“Improving and maintaining the assets of all national roads is critical and the efficiency, capacity and safety of the existing national road network within the region must be maintained, including the requirement to safeguard the strategic links into urban centres identified as key economic drivers in the region.

The accessibility of our region also depends upon appropriate management and investment in the supporting regional and local roads”

- Regional Policy Objective RP0 6.5 states-

“The capacity and safety of the region’s land transport networks will be managed and enhanced to ensure their optimal use, thus giving effect to National Strategic Outcome No.2 and maintaining the strategic capacity and safety of the national roads network including planning for future capacity enhancements.”

8.2.4. Chapter 6 of the Galway County Development Plan (CDP) deals with ‘Transport and Movement’. The following policy objectives are considered relevant-

- NR 1 Protection of Strategic Roads

“To protect the strategic transport function of national roads and associated national road junctions, including motorways through the implementation of the ‘Spatial Planning and National Roads Guidelines for Planning Authorities’ DECLG, (2012) and the Trans- European Networks (TEN-T) Regulations.”

- NNR 2 Safeguard Regional and Local Roads-

“To safeguard the carrying capacity and safety of the County’s regional and local road network.”

8.2.5. Having regard to the above and having visited the site and observed the poor vertical and horizontal alignment of the road, I consider that the proposed development is acceptable in principle and generally accords with national, regional and local planning policy in terms of enhanced accessibility, protection of national roads and general road safety. Accordingly the proposal is considered in accordance with the proper planning and sustainable development of the area.

8.3. The likely significant effects on a European site.

The areas addressed in this section are as follows:

- Compliance with Articles 6(3) of the EU Habitats Directive
- The Natura Impact Statement
- Appropriate Assessment

8.3.1. Compliance with Articles 6(3) of the EU Habitats Directive

- 8.3.1.1. The Habitats Directive deals with the Conservation of Natural Habitats and of Wild Fauna and Flora throughout the European Union. Article 6(3) of this Directive requires that any plan or project not directly connected with or necessary to the management of the site but likely to have a significant effect thereon, either individually or in combination with other plans or projects shall be subject to appropriate assessment of its implications for the site in view of the site's conservation objectives. The competent authority must be satisfied that the proposal will not adversely affect the integrity of the European site.

8.3.2. The Natura Impact Statement

- 8.3.2.1. The application was accompanied by a Stage 1 Appropriate Assessment Screening Report (AASR) which concluded that a Stage 2 Appropriate Assessment was required. A Natura Impact Statement (NIA) was also submitted which described the proposed development and the receiving environment. The NIS outlined the methodology used for assessing potential impacts on the habitats and species within identified European Sites that have the potential to be affected by the proposed development. It identifies the potential impacts for these sites and their conservation objectives, it suggests mitigation measures to address impacts, assessed in-combination effects with other plans and projects and it identifies any residual effects on the European sites and their conservation objectives.
- 8.3.2.2. The NIS was informed by:
- An ecological walkover survey

- A desk top study to identify European Sites Within the Likely Zone of Impact and those screened out at screening stage
- A hydrological desk study

8.3.2.3. The NIS concludes as follows-

“This NIS has provided an assessment of all potential direct or indirect adverse effects on European Sites, whether considered individually, or in combination with other plans and projects.

Where the potential for any adverse effect on any European Site has been identified, the pathway by which any such effect may occur has been robustly blocked through the use of avoidance, appropriate design, and mitigation measures, as set out within this report. The measures ensure that the construction and operation of the Proposed Development will not adversely affect the integrity of European Sites.

Therefore, it can be objectively concluded that the Proposed Development, individually, or in combination with other plans or projects, will not adversely affect the integrity of any European Site.”

8.3.2.4. Having reviewed the NIS and the supporting documentation, including the screening report, I am satisfied that it provides adequate information in respect of the baseline conditions, does clearly identify the potential impacts, and does use best scientific information and knowledge. Details of mitigation measures are provided and they are summarised in Section 6.3 of the NIS. I am satisfied that the information is sufficient to allow for appropriate assessment of the proposed development (see further analysis below).

8.3.3. Appropriate Assessment

8.3.3.1. I consider that the proposed development i.e. the L-5381/N59 Junction Layout Improvement Scheme is not directly connected with or necessary to the management of any European site.

8.3.3.2. The submitted AASR considers European Sites which are described as within the 'Likely Zone of Impact. These are identified as follows-

- SAC's
 - Lough Corrib (000297) c. 0.6 km to the north
 - Galway Bay Complex (000268) c. 4.4km to the south
 - Connemara Bog Complex (002034) c. 9.3 km to the west
 - Ross Lake and Woods (001312) c. 9.6km to the north west
 - Gortnandarragh Limestone Pavement (001271) c. 12.8km to the north west
- SPA's
 - Lough Corrib Spa (004042) c. 0.6km to the north
 - Inner Galway Bay (004031) c. 4.6km to the south
 - Cregganna Marsh (004142) c. 12.4km to the south east
 - Connemara Bog Complex (004181) c. 14.2km to the west

8.3.3.3. Each site is further considered based on the source pathway receptor model to identify potential for direct and indirect connectivity via possible connectivity pathways. No direct or indirect impact and no connectivity was identified for the following sites–

- SAC's
 - Connemara Bog Complex (002034)
 - Ross Lake and Woods (001312)
 - Gortnandarragh Limestone Pavement (001271)
- SPA's
 - Cregganna Marsh (004142)
 - Connemara Bog Complex (004181)

and therefore these sites were not considered further.

8.3.3.4. Having considered the above, the information on file, the nature, size and location of the proposed development and its likely direct, indirect impacts and cumulative effects, the source pathway receptor principle and sensitivities of the ecological receptors, the following European Sites are considered relevant to include for the purposes of initial screening for the requirement for Stage 2 appropriate assessment on the basis of likely significant effects.

8.3.3.5. European sites considered for Stage 1 screening:

European site (SAC/SPA)	Qualifying Interests	Distance
Lough Corrib SAC (000297)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Oligotrophic waters containing very few minerals of sandy plains (Littorelletalia uniflorae) [3110] • Oligotrophic to mesotrophic standing waters with vegetation of the Littorelletea uniflorae and/or Isoeto-Nanojuncetea [3130] • Hard oligo-mesotrophic waters with benthic vegetation of Chara spp. [3140] • Water courses of plain to montane levels with the Ranunculion fluitantis and Callitricho-Batrachion vegetation [3260] • Semi-natural dry grasslands and scrubland facies on calcareous substrates (Festuco-Brometalia) (* important orchid sites) [6210] • Molinia meadows on calcareous, peaty or clayey-silt-laden soils (Molinion caeruleae) [6410] • Active raised bogs [7110] • Degraded raised bogs still capable of natural regeneration [7120] • Depressions on peat substrates of the Rhynchosporion [7150] • Calcareous fens with Cladium mariscus and species of the Caricion davallianae [7210] • Petrifying springs with tufa formation (Cratoneurion) [7220] • Alkaline fens [7230] • Limestone pavements [8240] • Old sessile oak woods with Ilex and Blechnum in the British Isles [91A0] • Bog woodland [91D0] • Margaritifera margaritifera (Freshwater Pearl Mussel) [1029] • Austropotamobius pallipes (White-clawed Crayfish) [1092] 	c.0.5km

European site (SAC/SPA)	Qualifying Interests	Distance
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Petromyzon marinus (Sea Lamprey) [1095] • Lampetra planeri (Brook Lamprey) [1096] • Salmo salar (Salmon) [1106] • Rhinolophus hipposideros (Lesser Horseshoe Bat) [1303] • Lutra lutra (Otter) [1355] • Najas flexilis (Slender Naiad) [1833] • Hamatocaulis vernicosus (Slender Green Feather-moss) [6216] 	
Galway Bay Complex SAC (000268)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mudflats and sandflats not covered by seawater at low tide [1140] • Coastal lagoons [1150] • Large shallow inlets and bays [1160] • Reefs [1170] • Perennial vegetation of stony banks [1220] • Vegetated sea cliffs of the Atlantic and Baltic coasts [1230] • Salicornia and other annuals colonising mud and sand [1310] • Atlantic salt meadows (Glauco-Puccinellietalia maritimae) [1330] • Mediterranean salt meadows (Juncetalia maritimi) [1410] • Turloughs [3180] • Juniperus communis formations on heaths or calcareous grasslands [5130] • Semi-natural dry grasslands and scrubland facies on calcareous substrates (Festuco-Brometalia) (* important orchid sites) [6210] • Calcareous fens with Cladium mariscus and species of the Caricion davallianae [7210] • Alkaline fens [7230] • Limestone pavements [8240] • Lutra lutra (Otter) [1355] • Phoca vitulina (Harbour Seal) [1365] 	c. 4.5 km
Lough Corrib SPA (004042)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Gadwall (Anas strepera) [A051] • Shoveler (Anas clypeata) [A056] • Pochard (Aythya ferina) [A059] • Tufted Duck (Aythya fuligula) [A061] • Common Scoter (Melanitta nigra) [A065] 	c. 0.5 km

European site (SAC/SPA)	Qualifying Interests	Distance
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hen Harrier (<i>Circus cyaneus</i>) [A082] • Coot (<i>Fulica atra</i>) [A125] • Golden Plover (<i>Pluvialis apricaria</i>) [A140] • Black-headed Gull (<i>Chroicocephalus ridibundus</i>) [A179] • Common Gull (<i>Larus canus</i>) [A182] • Common Tern (<i>Sterna hirundo</i>) [A193] • Arctic Tern (<i>Sterna paradisaea</i>) [A194] • Greenland White-fronted Goose (<i>Anser albifrons flavirostris</i>) [A395] • Wetland and Waterbirds [A999] 	
Inner Galway Bay SPA (004031)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Black-throated Diver (<i>Gavia arctica</i>) [A002] • Great Northern Diver (<i>Gavia immer</i>) [A003] • Cormorant (<i>Phalacrocorax carbo</i>) [A017] • Grey Heron (<i>Ardea cinerea</i>) [A028] • Light-bellied Brent Goose (<i>Branta bernicla hrota</i>) [A046] • Wigeon (<i>Anas penelope</i>) [A050] • Teal (<i>Anas crecca</i>) [A052] • Red-breasted Merganser (<i>Mergus serrator</i>) [A069] • Ringed Plover (<i>Charadrius hiaticula</i>) [A137] • Golden Plover (<i>Pluvialis apricaria</i>) [A140] • Lapwing (<i>Vanellus vanellus</i>) [A142] • Dunlin (<i>Calidris alpina</i>) [A149] • Bar-tailed Godwit (<i>Limosa lapponica</i>) [A157] • Curlew (<i>Numenius arquata</i>) [A160] • Redshank (<i>Tringa totanus</i>) [A162] • Turnstone (<i>Arenaria interpres</i>) [A169] • Black-headed Gull (<i>Chroicocephalus ridibundus</i>) [A179] • Common Gull (<i>Larus canus</i>) [A182] • Sandwich Tern (<i>Sterna sandvicensis</i>) [A191] • Common Tern (<i>Sterna hirundo</i>) [A193] • Wetland and Waterbirds [A999] 	c. 4.5km

8.3.3.6. Based on my examination of the NIS report and supporting information (including the submitted Ecological Impact Assessment), the NPWS website, aerial and satellite imagery, the scale of the proposed development and likely effects, separation distance and functional relationship between the proposed works and the European sites, their conservation objectives and taken in conjunction with my assessment of the subject site and the surrounding area, I tend to agree with the contentions of the applicant and conclude that a Stage 2 Appropriate Assessment is required for the European sites referred to above.

8.3.3.7. All other European Sites in the wider area can be screened out from further assessment because of the scale of the proposed works, the nature of the Conservation Objectives, Qualifying and Special Conservation Interests, the separation distances and the lack of a substantive linkage between the proposed works and the European sites.

8.3.4. **Relevant European sites**

The following Natura 2000 sites are considered-

- SAC's
 - Lough Corrib (000297) c. 0.6 km to the north
 - Galway Bay Complex (000268) c. 4.4km to the south
- SPA's
 - Lough Corrib Spa (004042) c. 0.6km to the north
 - Inner Galway Bay (004031) c. 4.6km to the south

8.3.5. **Lough Corrib SAC (000297)**

<https://www.npws.ie/protected-sites/sac/000297>

8.3.5.1. **Description of site**

- This site synopsis for this SAC details it is the second largest lake in Ireland, with an area of approximately 18,240 ha (the entire site is 20,556 ha). The main threats to the quality of this site are detailed as-

- water polluting activities resulting from intensification of agricultural activities on the eastern side of the lake,
- uncontrolled discharge of sewage, which is causing localised eutrophication of the lake,
- and housing and boating development, which is causing the loss of native lakeshore vegetation.
- The raised bog habitats are susceptible to further degradation and drying out due to drainage and peat cutting and, on occasions, burning.
- Peat cutting threatens Addergoole Bog and already a substantial area of it has been cut away.
- Fishing and shooting occur in and around the lake.
- Introduction of exotic crayfish species or the crayfish fungal plague (*Aphanomyces astaci*) could have a serious impact on the native crayfish population.
- The bat roost is susceptible to disturbance or development.
- The application site is located c. 0.6km to the south of the SAC. Potential connectivity between the site and the SAC is considered to arise via an unmapped watercourse (Knocknacarragh Stream) draining from the site and via groundwater. Impacts may arise from contaminants during construction.

8.3.5.2. Conservation Objectives

- To restore the favourable conservation condition of-
 - Oligotrophic waters containing very few minerals of sandy plains (*Littorelletalia uniflorae*) in Lough Corrib SAC (3110)
 - Oligotrophic to mesotrophic standing waters with vegetation of the *Littorelletea uniflorae* and/or *Isoëto-Nanojuncetea* (3130)
 - Hard oligo-mesotrophic waters with benthic vegetation of *Chara* spp. (3140)

- Active raised bogs (7110) and re-established of peat-forming capability linked to active raised bogs (7120)⁹
- Sea Lamprey (1095)
- Lesser Horseshoe Bat (1303)
- Slender Naiad (1833)
- To maintain the favourable conservation condition of-
 - Water courses of plain to montane levels with the *Ranunculus fluitantis* and *Callitriche-Batrachium* vegetation (3260)
 - Semi-natural dry grasslands and scrubland facies on calcareous substrates (*Festuco-Brometalia*) (* important orchid sites) (6210)
 - *Molinia* meadows on calcareous, peaty or clayey-silt-laden soils (*Molinia caerulea*) in Lough Corrib SAC (6410)
 - Calcareous fens with *Cladium mariscus* and species of the *Caricion davalliana* (7210)
 - Petrifying springs with tufa formation (*Cratoneurion*) (7220)
 - Alkaline fens (7230)
 - Limestone pavements (8240)
 - Old sessile oak woods with *Ilex* and *Blechnum* in the British Isles (91A0)
 - Bog woodland (91D0)
 - Freshwater Pearl Mussel (1029)
 - White-clawed Crayfish (1092)
 - Brook Lamprey (1096)
 - Atlantic Salmon (1106)
 - Otter (1355)

⁹ a separate conservation objective has not been set for the habitat of the *Rhynchospora* (7150) as depressions on peat substrates is an integral part of good quality Active raised bogs (7110)

- Slender Green Feather-moss (1393)

8.3.5.3. Potential direct effects

- None

8.3.5.4. Potential indirect effects:

Potential effects to certain QI's of this SAC are identified in section 5.1.1.1 of the NIS and can be summarised as follows-

- potential for deterioration of water quality in the River Corrib via the runoff of pollutants into surface water systems arising from the construction phase.
- potential for deterioration of water quality via the percolation of pollutants into ground water systems arising from the construction phase.
- The only Annex I habitats and II species considered at risk are-
 - Annex 1 Habitats- 3260, 7210, 7220 and 7230
 - Annex 2 Species- 1092, 1095, 1096, 1106 and 1355

8.3.5.5. Site Specific threats

- These are detailed in Table 5.2 of the NIS and include pressures and threats inside, outside and both of the SAC.

8.3.5.6. Potential in-combination effects

- The submitted NIS considers these in section 8. It considers the proposal against other plans and projects including the Galway County Council Development Plan 2022-2028, the Northern and Western Regional Assembly – Regional Spatial and Economic Strategy 2020 – 2032 and Ireland's 4th National Biodiversity Action Plan 2023-2030. No in-combination effects were identified.
- It also considers the proposal with other projects identified from online National Planning Application and An Bord Pleanála Map Viewers were consulted on the 17/05/2024 for the area surrounding the site of the Proposed Development and considered all projects including exempted

developments, SIDs, road schemes and anything else that may have cumulative impacts. A number of planning applications are detailed but no in-combination effects were identified.

- Having considered the contents of the NIS and carried out my own review of plans and projects I am satisfied there are no in-combination impacts to the SAC that can be considered at this time.

8.3.5.7. Mitigation measures

- These are set out in section 6.3.1.1 of the submitted NIS and in Appendix 1 of the accompanying CEMP¹⁰. During construction stages they include the following-
 - Site Set Up measures including silt fencing to site and compound boundaries
 - Environmental Monitoring
 - Pollution prevention measures
 - Cement Based Product measures
 - Refuelling, Fuel and Hazardous Materials Storage measures
 - Spill Control Measures
 - Waste Management
 - Wastewater Disposal measures
- No mitigation measures are proposed for the operational stage with surface water drainage systems incorporated into the design of the proposal. Surface water will be attenuated prior to discharge with a petrol interceptor installed and discharge limited to greenfield rates.

8.3.5.8. Residual effects/Further analysis

- These are discussed in section 7 of the NIS. Section 7.5 concludes the Proposed Development will not adversely affect the Qualifying

¹⁰ CEMP is Appendix G of Application Documentation

Interests/Special Conservation Interest associated with this or any European site.

8.3.5.9. **NIS Omissions**

- None noted.

8.3.5.10. **Conclusion**

- I am satisfied that the proposed development individually or in combination with other plans or projects would not adversely affect the integrity of this European site in light of its conservation objectives (subject to the implementation of mitigation measures outlined above).

8.3.6. **Galway Bay Complex SAC (000268)**

<https://www.npws.ie/protected-sites/sac/000268>

8.3.6.1. **Description of site**

- This site synopsis for this SAC describes it comprising the inner, shallow part of a large bay which is partially sheltered by the Aran Islands. A diverse range of marine, coastal and terrestrial habitats, including several listed on Annex I of the E.U. Habitats Directive, occur within the site, making the area of high scientific importance.
- The main concerns to this European site are detailed as-
 - sewage effluent and detritus of the aquaculture industry could be deleterious to benthic communities
 - Reef and sediment communities are vulnerable to disturbance or compaction from tractors accessing oyster trestles
 - Vulnerability to overfishing
 - Extraction of maerl is a threat
 - pressure from urban expansion and recreational activities.
 - Eutrophication is probably affecting some of the lagoons and is a continued threat.

- Drainage is a general threat to the turlough and fen habitats.
- Bird populations may be disturbed by aquaculture activities.
- The application site is located c. 4.5 km to the north of the SAC. Potential connectivity between the site and the SAC is considered to arise via an unmapped watercourse (Knocknacarragh Stream) with a hydrological distance of c. 5.3km downstream. draining from the site and via groundwater. Impacts may arise from contaminants during construction.

8.3.6.2. **Conservation Objectives**

- To maintain the favourable conservation condition of-
 - Mudflats and sandflats not covered by seawater at low tide (1140)
 - Large shallow inlets and bays (1160)
 - Reefs (1170)
 - Perennial vegetation of stony banks (1220)
 - Salicornia and other annuals colonising mud and sand (1310)
 - Turloughs (3180)
 - Semi-natural dry grasslands and scrubland facies on calcareous substrates (Festuco Brometalia)(*important orchid sites) (6210)
 - Calcareous fens with *Cladium mariscus* and species of the *Caricion davallianae* (7210)
 - Alkaline fens (7230)
 - Harbour seal *Phoca vitulina* (1365)
- To restore the favourable conservation condition of-
 - Coastal lagoons (1150)
 - Atlantic salt meadows (*Glauco-Puccinellietalia maritimae*) (1330)
 - Mediterranean salt meadows (*Juncetalia maritimi*) (1410)

- Juniperus communis formations on heaths or calcareous grasslands (5130)
- Otter (Iutra Iutra) (1355)

8.3.6.3. **Potential direct effects**

- None identified

8.3.6.4. **Potential indirect effects**

Potential effects to certain QI's of this SAC are identified in section 5.1.2.1 of the NIS and can be summarised as follows-

- potential for deterioration of water quality in the River Corrib via the runoff of pollutants into surface water systems arising from the construction phase.
- potential for deterioration of water quality via the percolation of pollutants into ground water systems arising from the construction phase.
- The only habitats and species considered at risk are-
 - Annex 1 Habitats- 1140, 1150, 1160, 1170, 1310, 1330, 1410
 - Annex 2 Species- 1355, 1365

8.3.6.5. **Site Specific threats**

- These are detailed in Table 5.4 of the NIS and include pressures and threats inside, outside and both of the SAC.

8.3.6.6. **Potential in-combination effects**

- The submitted NIS considers these in section 8. It considers the proposal against other plans and projects including the Galway County Council Development Plan 2022-2028, the Northern and Western Regional Assembly – Regional Spatial and Economic Strategy 2020 – 2032 and Ireland's 4th National Biodiversity Action Plan 2023-2030. No in-combination effects were identified.
- It also considers the proposal with other projects identified from online National Planning Application and An Bord Pleanála Map Viewers were

consulted on the 17/05/2024 for the area surrounding the site of the Proposed Development and considered all projects including exempted developments, SIDs, road schemes and anything else that may have cumulative impacts. A number of planning applications are detailed but no in-combination effects were identified.

- Having considered the contents of the NIS and carried out my own review of plans and projects I am satisfied there are no in-combination impacts to the SAC that can be considered at this time.

8.3.6.7. Mitigation measures

- These are set out in section 6.3.1.1 of the submitted NIS and in Appendix 1 of the accompanying CEMP. During construction stages they include the following-
 - Site Set Up measures including silt fencing to site and compound boundaries
 - Environmental Monitoring
 - Pollution prevention measures
 - Cement Based Product measures
 - Refuelling, Fuel and Hazardous Materials Storage measures
 - Spill Control Measures
 - Waste Management
 - Wastewater Disposal measures
- No mitigation measures are proposed for the operational stage with surface water drainage systems incorporated into the design of the proposal. Surface water will be attenuated prior to discharge with a petrol interceptor installed and discharge limited to greenfield rates.

8.3.6.8. Residual effects/Further analysis

- These are discussed in section 7 of the NIS. Section 7.5 concludes the Proposed Development will not adversely affect the Qualifying

Interests/Special Conservation Interest associated with this or any European site.

8.3.6.9. **NIS Omissions**

- None noted.

8.3.6.10. **Conclusion**

- I am satisfied that the proposed development individually or in combination with other plans or projects would not adversely affect the integrity of this European site in light of its conservation objectives (subject to the implementation of mitigation measures outlined above).

8.3.7. **Lough Corrib SPA (004042)**

<https://www.npws.ie/protected-sites/spa/004042>

8.3.7.1. **Description of site**

- This site synopsis for this SPA describes Lough Corrib as the largest lake in the country and is located, for the most part, in County Galway, with a small section in the north extending into County Mayo. The site is also of special conservation interest for holding an assemblage of over 20,000 wintering waterbirds. The E.U. Birds Directive pays particular attention to wetlands and, as these form part of this SPA, the site and its associated waterbirds are of special conservation interest for Wetlands & Waterbirds.
- The application site is located c. 0.6km to the south of the SPA. Potential connectivity between the site and the SAC is considered to arise via an unmapped watercourse (Knocknacarragh Stream) draining from the site and via a shared groundwater body. Impacts may arise from polluting contaminants during construction.

8.3.7.2. **Conservation Objectives**

- To restore the favourable conservation condition of-
 - Gadwall *Anas strepera* (A051)

- Shoveler *Anas clypeata* (A056)
- Pochard *Aythya farina* (A059)
- Tufted Duck *Aythya fuligula* (A061)
- Hen Harrier *Circus cyaneus* (A082)
- Coot *Fulica atra* (A125)
- Black-headed Gull *Chroicocephalus ridibundus* (A179)
- Common Gull *Larus canus* (A182)
- Common Tern *Sterna Hirundo* (A193)
- Arctic Tern *Sterna paradisaea* (A194)
- Greenland White-fronted Goose *Anser albifrons flavirostris* (A395)
- To maintain the favourable conservation condition of-
 - Common Scoter *Melanitta nigra* (A065)
 - Golden Plover *Pluvialis apricaria* (A140)
 - Wetlands (A999)

8.3.7.3. **Potential direct effects**

- None identified

8.3.7.4. **Potential indirect effects**

Potential effects to QI's of this SPA are identified in section 5.1.3 of the NIS and can be summarised as follows-

- potential for deterioration of water quality in the River Corrib via the runoff of pollutants into surface water systems arising from the construction phase.
- potential for deterioration of water quality via the percolation of pollutants into ground water systems arising from the construction phase.
- The only qualifying Interest considered at risk are-
 - A999 Wetlands habitat

8.3.7.5. **Site Specific threats**

- These are detailed in Table 5.6 of the NIS and include pressures and threats inside, outside and both of the SPA.

8.3.7.6. **Potential in-combination effects**

- The submitted NIS considers these in section 8. It considers the proposal against other plans and projects including the Galway County Council Development Plan 2022-2028, the Northern and Western Regional Assembly – Regional Spatial and Economic Strategy 2020 – 2032 and Ireland’s 4th National Biodiversity Action Plan 2023-2030. No in-combination effects were identified.
- It also considers the proposal with other projects identified from online National Planning Application and An Bord Pleanála Map Viewers were consulted on the 17/05/2024 for the area surrounding the site of the Proposed Development and considered all projects including exempted developments, SIDs, road schemes and anything else that may have cumulative impacts. A number of planning applications are detailed but no in-combination effects were identified.
- Having considered the contents of the NIS and carried out my own review of plans and projects I am satisfied there are no in-combination impacts to the SPA that can be considered at this time.

8.3.7.7. **Mitigation measures**

- These are set out in section 6.3.1.1 of the submitted NIS and in Appendix 1 of the accompanying CEMP. During construction stages they include the following-
 - Site Set Up measures including silt fencing to site and compound boundaries
 - Environmental Monitoring
 - Pollution prevention measures
 - Cement Based Product measures

- Refuelling, Fuel and Hazardous Materials Storage measures
- Spill Control Measures
- Waste Management
- Wastewater Disposal measures
- No mitigation measures are proposed for the operational stage with surface water drainage systems incorporated into the design of the proposal. Surface water will be attenuated prior to discharge with a petrol interceptor installed and discharge limited to greenfield rates.

8.3.7.8. **Residual effects/Further analysis**

- These are discussed in section 7 of the NIS. Section 7.5 concludes the Proposed Development will not adversely affect the Qualifying Interests/Special Conservation Interest associated with this or any European site.

8.3.7.9. **NIS Omissions**

- None noted.

8.3.7.10. **Conclusion**

- I am satisfied that the proposed development individually or in combination with other plans or projects would not adversely affect the integrity of this European site in light of its conservation objectives (subject to the implementation of mitigation measures outlined above).

8.3.8. **Inner Galway Bay SPA (004031)**

<https://www.npws.ie/protected-sites/spa/004042>

8.3.8.1. **Description of site**

- This site synopsis for this SPA describes the Inner Galway Bay SPA as a very large, marine-dominated site situated on the west coast of Ireland with the

Bay protected from exposure to Atlantic swells by the Aran Islands and Black Head.

- The application site is located c. 4.6 km to the north of the SPA. Potential connectivity between the site and the SPA is considered to arise via the unmapped watercourse (Knocknacarragh Stream) draining from the site. Impacts may arise from polluting contaminants during construction impacting upon the supporting wetland habitat of the SCI.

8.3.8.2. Conservation Objectives

- To maintain the favourable conservation condition of-
 - Great Northern Diver *Gavia immer* (A003)
 - Cormorant *Phalacrocorax carbo* (A017)
 - Grey Heron *Ardea cinerea* (A028)
 - Brent Goose *Branta bernicla hrota* (A046)
 - Wigeon *Anas penelope* (A050)
 - Teal *Anas crecca* (A052)
 - Shoveler *Anas clypeat* (A056)
 - Red-breasted Merganser *Mergus serrator* (A069)
 - Ringed Plover *Charadrius hiaticula* (A137)
 - Golden Plover *Pluvialis apricaria* (A140)
 - Lapwing *Vanellus Vanellus* (A142)
 - Dunlin *Calidris alpina alpina* (A149)
 - Bar-tailed Godwit *Limosa lapponica* (A157)
 - Curlew *Numenius Arquata* (A160)
 - Redshank *Tringa tetanus* (A162)
 - Turnstone *Arenaria interpres* (A169)
 - Black-headed Gull *Chroicocephalus ridibundus* (A179)
 - Common Gull *Larus canus* (A182)

- Sandwich Tern *Sterna sandvicensis* (A191)
- Common Tern *Sterna Hirundo* (A193)
- Wetlands (A999)

8.3.8.3. **Potential direct effects**

- None identified

8.3.8.4. **Potential indirect effects**

Potential effects to certain QI's of this SAC are identified in section 5.1.4 of the NIS and can be summarised as follows-

- potential for deterioration of water quality in the River Corrib via the runoff of pollutants into surface water systems arising from the construction phase.
- potential for deterioration of water quality via the percolation of pollutants into ground water systems arising from the construction phase.
- The only qualifying Interest considered at risk are-
 - A999 Wetlands habitat

8.3.8.5. **Site Specific threats**

- These are detailed in Table 5.8 of the NIS and include pressures and threats inside, outside and both of the SPA

8.3.8.6. **Potential in-combination effects**

- The submitted NIS considers these in section 8. It considers the proposal against other plans and projects including the Galway County Council Development Plan 2022-2028, the Northern and Western Regional Assembly – Regional Spatial and Economic Strategy 2020 – 2032 and Ireland's 4th National Biodiversity Action Plan 2023-2030. No in-combination effects were identified.
- It also considers the proposal with other projects identified from online National Planning Application and An Bord Pleanála Map Viewers were consulted on the 17/05/2024 for the area surrounding the site of the

Proposed Development and considered all projects including exempted developments, SIDs, road schemes and anything else that may have cumulative impacts. A number of planning applications are detailed but no in-combination effects were identified.

- Having considered the contents of the NIS and carried out my own review of plans and projects I am satisfied there are no in-combination impacts to the SPA that can be considered at this time.

8.3.8.7. Mitigation measures

- These are set out in section 6.3.1.1 of the submitted NIS and in Appendix 1 of the accompanying CEMP. During construction stages they include the following-
 - Site Set Up measures including silt fencing to site and compound boundaries
 - Environmental Monitoring
 - Pollution prevention measures
 - Cement Based Product measures
 - Refuelling, Fuel and Hazardous Materials Storage measures
 - Spill Control Measures
 - Waste Management
 - Wastewater Disposal measures
- No mitigation measures are proposed for the operational stage with surface water drainage systems incorporated into the design of the proposal. Surface water will be attenuated prior to discharge with a petrol interceptor installed and discharge limited to greenfield rates.

8.3.8.8. Residual effects/Further analysis

- These are discussed in section 7 of the NIS. Section 7.5 concludes the Proposed Development will not adversely affect the Qualifying

Interests/Special Conservation Interest associated with this or any European site.

8.3.8.9. NIS Omissions

- None noted.

8.3.8.10. Conclusion

- I am satisfied that the proposed development individually or in combination with other plans or projects would not adversely affect the integrity of this European site in light of its conservation objectives (subject to the implementation of mitigation measures outlined above).

8.3.9. Appropriate Assessment Conclusion

8.3.9.1. Having regard the foregoing assessment and the nature of the proposed development, I consider that it is reasonable to conclude on the basis of the information on the file, which I consider adequate in order to carry out a Stage 2 Appropriate Assessment, that the proposed development, subject to conditions, individually or in combination with other plans and projects would not adversely affect the integrity of European sites no's. 000297, 000268, 004031, 004042 or any other European site, in view of the site's Conservation Objectives.

9.0 Recommendation

On the basis of the above assessment, I recommend that the Board approve the proposed development subject to the reasons and considerations below and subject to conditions including requiring compliance with the submitted details and with the mitigation measures as set out in the NIS.

Reasons and Considerations

- a) the EU Habitats Directive (92/43/EEC),
- b) the European Union (Birds and Natural Habitats) Regulations 2011-2015,
- c) the likely consequences for the environment and the proper planning and sustainable development of the area in which it is proposed to carry out the proposed development and the likely significant effects of the proposed development on a European Site,
- d) the conservation objectives, qualifying interests and special conservation interests for the Lough Corrib SAC (000297), the Galway Bay Complex SAC (000268), the Lough Corrib SPA (004042) and the Inner Galway Bay SPA (004031),
- e) the policies and objectives of the Galway County Development Plan, 2022-2028,
- f) the nature and extent of the proposed works as set out in the application for approval,
- g) the information submitted in relation to the potential impacts on habitats, flora and fauna, including the Natura Impact Statement,
- h) the submission received in relation to the proposed development and
- i) the report and recommendation of the person appointed by the Board to make a report and recommendation on the matter

Appropriate Assessment Screening-

The Board agreed with and adopted the screening assessment and conclusion carried out in the Inspector's report that the Lough Corrib SAC (000297), the Galway Bay Complex SAC (000268), the Lough Corrib SPA (004042) and the Inner Galway Bay SPA (004031) are the only European Sites in respect of which the proposed development has the potential to have a significant effect.

Appropriate Assessment

The Board considered the Natura Impact Statement and associated documentation submitted with the application for approval, the mitigation measures contained therein, the submission on file, and the Inspector's assessment. The Board completed an appropriate assessment of the implications of the proposed development for the affected European Sites, namely the Lough Corrib SAC (000297), the Galway Bay Complex SAC (000268), the Lough Corrib SPA (004042) and the Inner Galway Bay SPA (004031) in view of those site's conservation objectives. The Board considered that the information before it was adequate to allow the carrying out of an appropriate assessment. In completing the appropriate assessment, the Board considered, in particular, the following:

- i. the likely direct and indirect impacts arising from the proposed development both individually or in combination with other plans or projects,
- ii. the mitigation measures which are included as part of the current proposal, and
- iii. the conservation objectives for the European Sites.

In completing the appropriate assessment, the Board accepted and adopted the appropriate assessment carried out in the Inspector's report in respect of the potential effects of the proposed development on the integrity of the aforementioned European Sites, having regard to the site's conservation objectives.

In overall conclusion, the Board was satisfied that the proposed development, by itself or in combination with other plans or projects, would not adversely affect the integrity of the European Sites, in view of the site's conservation objectives.

Proper Planning and Sustainable Development/Likely effects on the environment

It is considered that, subject to compliance with the conditions set out below, the proposed development would not have significant negative effects on the environment or the community in the vicinity, would not give rise to a risk of pollution, would not be detrimental to the visual amenities of the area, would not seriously injure the amenities of property in the vicinity, would not adversely impact upon

cultural heritage of the area, would not interfere with the existing land uses in the area and would not interfere with traffic and pedestrian safety. The proposed development would, therefore, be in accordance with the proper planning and sustainable development of the area.

Conditions

1. The development shall be carried out and completed in accordance with the plans and particulars lodged with the application, except as may otherwise be required in order to comply with the following conditions. Where any mitigation measures set out in the Natura Impact Statement or any conditions of approval require further details to be prepared by or on behalf of the local authority, these details shall be placed on the file and retained as part of the public record.

Reason: In the interest of clarity and the proper planning and sustainable development of the area and to ensure the protection of the environment.

2. The mitigation and monitoring measures identified in the Natura Impact Statement submitted with the application shall be implemented in full. Prior to the commencement of development, details of a time schedule for implementation of mitigation measures and associated monitoring shall be prepared by the local authority and placed on file and retained as part of the public record.

Reason: In the interest of protecting the environment, the protection of European Sites and in the interest of public health.

3. A suitably qualified ecologist shall be retained by the local authority to oversee the site set up and construction of the proposed development and implementation of mitigation measures relating to ecology. The ecologist shall be present during the works. Upon completion of works, an ecological report

of the site works shall be prepared by the appointed ecologist to be kept on file as part of the public record.

Reason: In the interest of nature conservation and biodiversity.

4. Prior to the commencement of development, the local authority, or any agent acting on its behalf, shall prepare in consultation with the project ecologist and relevant statutory agencies, a Construction Environmental Management Plan (CEMP), incorporating all mitigation measures indicated in the Natura Impact Statement the Ecological Impact Assessment and demonstration of proposals to adhere to best practice and protocols. The CEMP shall include:
 - a. all mitigation measures indicated in the Natura Impact Statement and the Ecological Impact Assessment,
 - b. location and extent of silt fencing to be installed on site
 - c. specific proposals as to how the measures outlined in the CEMP will be measured and monitored for effectiveness.

Reason: In the interest of protecting the environment and the European Site.

5. The following nature conservation requirements shall be complied with:
 - a. No vegetation removal shall take place during the period of the 1st day of March to the 31st day of August (inclusive) without the written approval of the Ecological Clerk of Works. Such approval shall be placed on the public file.
 - b. A pre-construction bat survey shall be carried out by a suitably qualified ecologist during the active bat season, and any destruction of bat roosting sites or relocation of bat species shall be carried out by a suitably qualified ecologist under a Derogation Licence granted by the Minister of Housing, Local Government and Heritage.

Reason: In the interests of biodiversity and nature conservation.

6. The Local Authority and any agent acting on its behalf shall ensure that all plant and machinery used during the works should be thoroughly cleaned and washed before delivery to the site to prevent the spread of hazardous invasive species and pathogens.

Reason: In the interest of the proper planning and sustainable development of the area and to ensure the protection of the European sites

7.

- a. All mitigation measures in relation to archaeology and cultural heritage as set out in 'Impact Assessment Report on Cultural Heritage' prepared by Jerry O'Sullivan TII Archaeologist and dated January 2020 shall be implemented in full, except as required by condition 7 b of this Order.
- b. All stone material recovered from existing stone boundary walls to be demolished shall be reused in the construction of new stone wall boundaries as much as practicable.
- c. A Project Archaeologist shall be appointed to oversee and advise on all aspects of the scheme. The Project Archaeologist shall liaise with the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage to agree in advance an overall strategy for archaeological works to be carried out both in advance of and in parallel with construction of the development. This shall include the scope of all Advance Archaeological Test Excavation and Archaeological Monitoring as well as any additional mitigation measures that may be required to protect archaeological heritage.
- d. If, during the course of site works any archaeological material is discovered, the National Monuments Service, Dept. of Housing, Heritage and Local Government and the National Museum of Ireland shall be notified immediately.
- e. The Construction Environment Management Plan (CEMP) shall include the location of any and all archaeological or cultural heritage constraints relevant to the proposed development as set out in the

'Impact Assessment Report on Cultural Heritage' and by any subsequent archaeological investigations associated with the project. The CEMP shall clearly describe all identified likely archaeological impacts, both direct and indirect, and all mitigation measures to be employed to protect the archaeological or cultural heritage environment during all phases of site preparation and construction activity.

- f. The Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage shall be furnished with a final archaeological report describing the results of all archaeological monitoring and any archaeological investigative work/excavation required, following the completion of all archaeological work on site and any necessary post-excavation specialist analysis. A copy of same shall be placed on the public file.

Reason: To ensure the continued preservation (either in situ or by record) of places, caves, sites, features or other objects of archaeological interest.

I confirm that this report represents my professional planning assessment, judgement and opinion on the matter assigned to me and that no person has influenced or sought to influence, directly or indirectly, the exercise of my professional judgement in an improper or inappropriate way.

Adrian Ormsby
Senior Planning Inspector

30th of May 2025

10.0 Appendix 1 Form 1 EIA Pre-Screening

Case Reference	ABP-320145-24
Proposed Development Summary	Road junction Improvement Works
Development Address	Junction of N59 and L-5381, in townlands of Kentfield and Gortacleva, Co. Galway
1. Does the proposed development come within the definition of a 'project' for the purposes of EIA? (For the purposes of the Directive, "Project" means: - The execution of construction works or of other installations or schemes, - Other interventions in the natural surroundings and landscape including those involving the extraction of mineral resources)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes, it is a 'Project'. Proceed to Q2. <input type="checkbox"/> No, No further action required.
2. Is the proposed development of a CLASS specified in <u>Part 1</u>, Schedule 5 of the Planning and Development Regulations 2001 (as amended)?	
<input type="checkbox"/> Yes, it is a Class specified in Part 1.	N/A
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No, it is not a Class specified in Part 1. Proceed to Q3	
3. Is the proposed development of a CLASS specified in Part 2, Schedule 5, Planning and Development Regulations 2001 (as amended) OR a prescribed type of proposed road development under Article 8 of Roads Regulations 1994, AND does it meet/exceed the thresholds?	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No, the development is not of a Class Specified in Part 2, Schedule 5 or a prescribed type of proposed road development under Article 8 of the Roads Regulations, 1994.	No Screening required.

Inspector: _____

Date _____