



ENVIRONMENTAL CONSULTANTS

Environmental Impact Assessment Screening Report

Newport Ball Ally Footbridge

Document Details

Client: Tipperary County Council

Scheme Name: Newport Ball Ally Footbridge

Document Title: Environmental Impact Assessment Screening Report

Rev	Status	Date	Author(s)	Approved by
00	FINAL	20/10/2025	CP	JN

Table of Contents

1. Introduction	3
2. Description of proposed project	4
2.1 Description of the Works	4
2.2 Project Location	4
3. Relevant legislation	7
4. Screening and assessment	8
4.1 Mandatory EIAR	8
4.2 Project Class	8
Sub-threshold EIA Screening Assessment	10
4.4 Summary of Potential Impacts by EIA Topic	11
5. Conclusions	14
6. References	15
7. Appendix	17

1. Introduction

This project involves the development of a footbridge in Newport, Co. Tipperary.

Flynn Furney Environmental Consultants Ltd has been engaged by Tipperary County Council for the provision of an environmental impact assessment screening report for the proposed works. The principal requirement for these services is to assist the relevant authorities in forming an opinion as to whether or not the proposed works should be subject to Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) and if so whether an Environmental Impact Assessment Report (EIAR) should be prepared in respect of it.

The screening process includes an assessment of the details of the proposal with reference to the relevant EIA legislation including the Planning & Development Regulations 2001 (as amended by Planning and Development Regulations 2015), the EIA Directive 2011/92/EU (as amended by Directive 2014/52/EU) and relevant EU Guidance including Interpretation of definitions of project categories of annex I and II of the EIA Directive, EU, 2015 and Environmental Impact Assessment of Projects Guidance on Screening, EU, 2017. The report provides a conclusion of the process and finally a recommendation.

2. Description of proposed project

2.1 Description of the Works

The development will consist of the construction of a pedestrian bridge across a minor tributary of the Newport River, called the Small River, to link the park at the Newport Ball Alley to Pound Street L2110 in the town of Newport (Fig. 1, 2). The proposed bridge is approximately 20 m in length, 1.8 m width, spanning the Small River in a North-South orientation between a wooded area at the southern bank to a raised area of parkland on the northern bank (Fig. 2). Mid-Range Future Scenario (MRFS) water level at the proposed bridge deck location is 52.939mOD, accounting for 1:100-year (1% AEP). The works also include the installation of a broadly circular path extending from the northern end of the bridge into the adjoining park, and a new path linking the bridge to Pound Street to the south. Associated drainage and lampposts will also be installed along the pathways. The works are likely to necessitate the removal of a small number of trees growing on both riverbanks. No in-stream works are envisaged. The bridge will fully span the river with the excavation and formation of bridge abutments c. 2 m back from the channel and built to engineers' specification and details. Proposed access to the site is along the trackway to the east of the park that runs broadly parallel and to the north of the Small River to where it joins Pound Street via a bridge over the river (Fig. 1). No vegetation clearance around or amendments to this track are anticipated to conduct the works.

2.2 Project Location

The site is located in Newport, Co. Tipperary, at grid reference R 72584 62297. The proposed footbridge will span the River Small, connecting Pound Street to the green area historically known for the three handball alleys. The surrounding habitats include Mixed Broadleaved Woodland (**WD1**), the River Small and Newport River (both classified as **FW2**), Amenity Grassland (**GA2**), and Buildings and Artificial Surfaces (**BL3**). The site is situated within the urban context of Newport, with residential and recreational areas dominating the immediate landscape. The closest designated conservation site is the Lower River Shannon SAC (002165), which encompasses both rivers and is hydrologically connected to the works area.

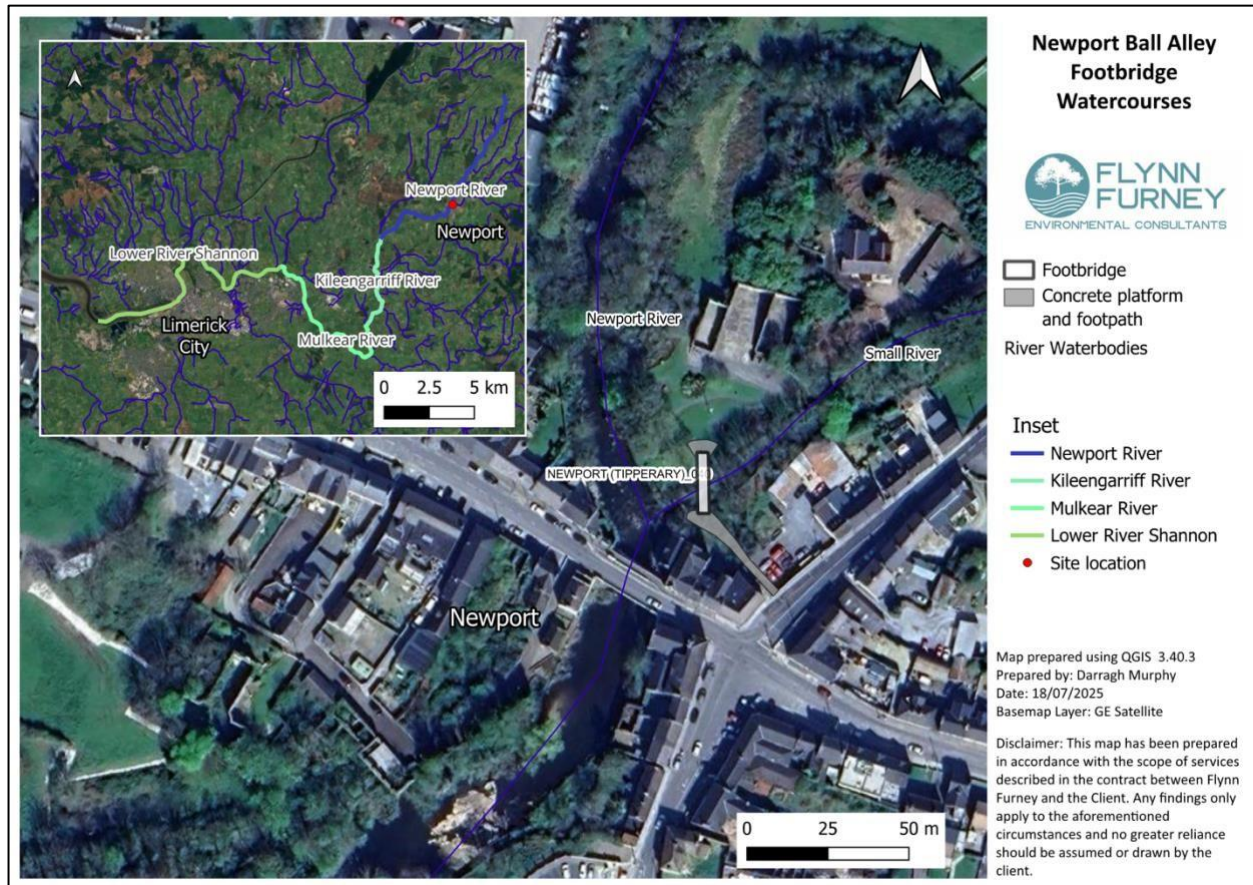


Figure 1. Overview of the proposed works area.

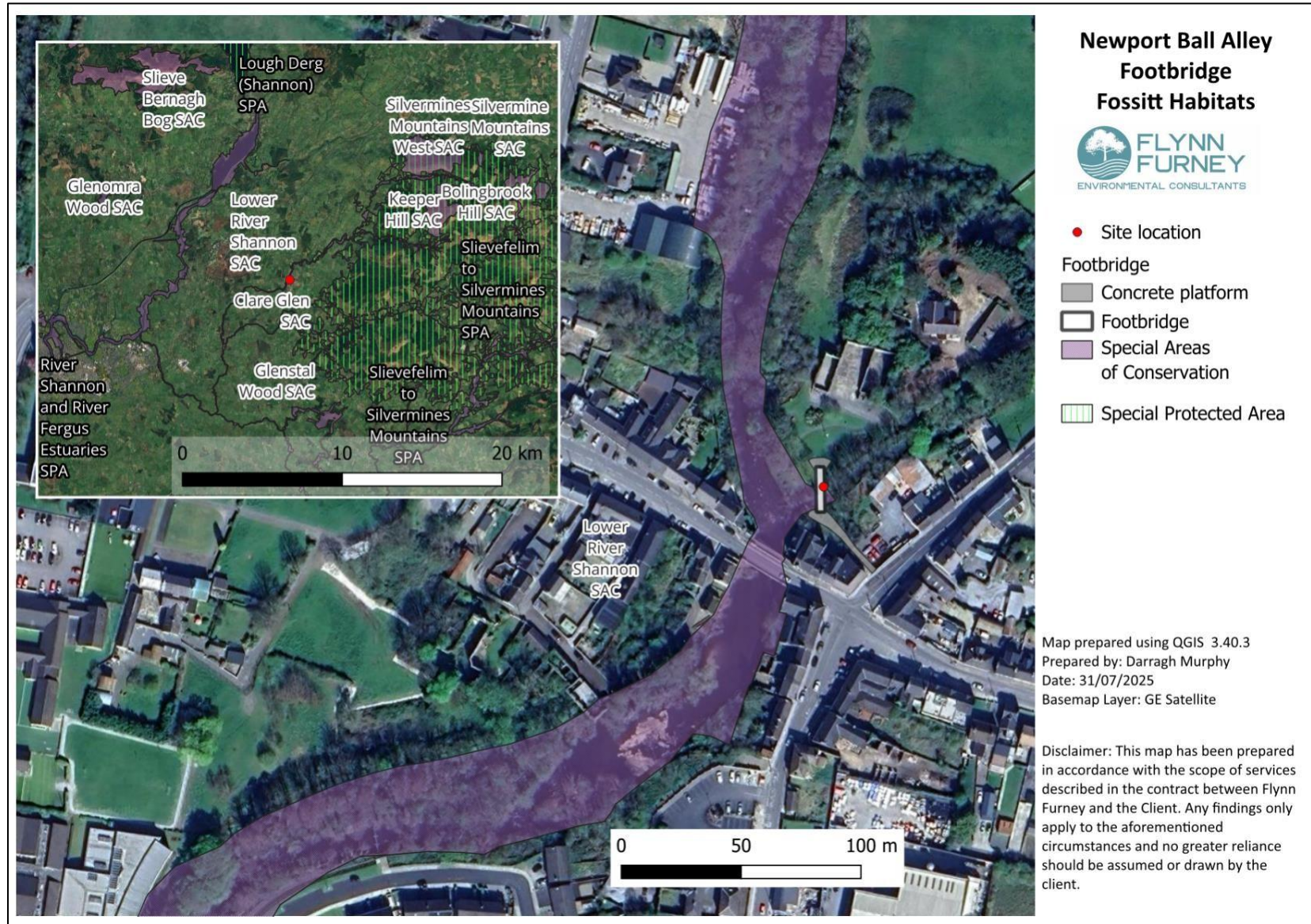


Figure 2. Designated sites in the proximity of the proposed works area

3. Relevant legislation

Screening represents the initial phase of the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) process, during which a determination is made regarding the necessity of conducting an EIA. The requirements for EIA are established by the EIA Directive (Directive 2011/92/EU, as amended by Directive 2014/52/EU). The amendments to the Directive took effect on May 16, 2017, and the corresponding regulations have been implemented into national law. The amended Directive does not alter the specified project types or thresholds, thus maintaining the classifications and thresholds outlined in the 2001-2010 Regulations. The legislation governing EIA in relation to the planning process has been consolidated primarily within Part X of the Planning and Development Acts 2000-2018, as well as Part 10 and Schedules 5, 6, and 7 of the Planning and Development Regulations 2001-2018. Schedule 5, Part 1, enumerates project types listed in Annex I of the Directive, which are automatically subject to EIA. Conversely, Part 2 of the same Schedule identifies project types in Annex II. Developments that align with these project types are required to undergo EIA if no threshold is specified or if they surpass a designated threshold. For developments categorized under Part 2 that fall below the specified threshold, a screening process is necessary to ascertain whether an EIA is warranted, based on the criteria outlined in Schedule 7.

EIA legislation delineates the types of projects that require an Environmental Impact Assessment Report (EIAR). Annex I specifies projects that are mandatory for an EIAR, while Annex II categorizes projects that are evaluated according to established mandatory thresholds for each project class. The EIA screening exercise initially assesses the development for Mandatory EIA using classifications defined in the appropriate legislation. If no mandatory requirement is identified, the screening proceeds to sub-threshold development assessment, wherein the competent authority determines the likelihood of significant environmental effects, taking into account the project's scale, nature, location, and context.

This document outlines the findings of the Screening Assessment conducted in accordance with the aforementioned legislation.

4. Screening and assessment

4.1 Mandatory EIAR

An Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) is mandatory for certain project categories that are likely to significantly affect the surrounding environment. These categories are listed in Annex I of the EIA Directive and are incorporated into Part 1 of Schedule 5 of the Planning and Development Regulations 2001, as amended. These are reported in Table 1 below.

Table 1. Project categories requiring mandatory EIA.

Projects referred to in article 4(1)
Crude-oil refineries and installations for the gasification and liquefaction of materials
Thermal power and nuclear power stations Installations for the processing of irradiated nuclear fuel
Integrated works for the initial smelting of cast iron and steel, and installations for the production of non-ferrous crude metals from ore, concentrates or secondary raw materials
Installations for the extraction of asbestos and for the processing and transformation of asbestos and products containing asbestos
Integrated chemical installations
Construction of railway lines, airports, motorways, express roads, construction of new road with four or more lanes Inland waterways and ports, trading ports, and piers
Waste disposal installations for the incineration and chemical treatment
Groundwater abstraction or artificial groundwater recharge schemes
Works for the transfer of water resources between river basins
Waste water treatment plants
Extraction of petroleum and natural gas for commercial purposes
Dams or other installations designed for the holding back or permanent storage of water
Pipelines with a diameter of more than 800 mm of more than 40 km
Installations for the intensive rearing of poultry or pigs
Industrial plants
Quarries and open-cast mining
Construction of overhead electrical power lines Installations for storage of petroleum, petrochemical, or chemical products
Storage sites Installations for the capture of CO ² streams for the purposes of geological storage

Conclusions: The proposed development in Newport does not fall within the list of activities requiring discretionary EIA as set out in the legislation. Therefore, the development proposed will be evaluated according to established mandatory thresholds for each project class in section 4.2.

4.2 Project Class

EIA legislation defines the types of projects that may require an Environmental Impact Assessment Report (EIAR). Annex I specifies the projects that require mandatory EIAR, while Annex II details those projects that are evaluated according to set mandatory thresholds applicable to each project class. While the

proposed development does not fall within the categories listed in Annex I and does not necessitate a mandatory Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA), it is however prudent to confirm that the proposed development does not fall within any of the project classes listed in Part 2 of Schedule 5 of the Planning and Development Regulations 2001 as amended, or if it does, that the project is unlikely to result in significant environmental effects. Project classes are reported in Table 2 below.

Table 2. Project categories.

Schedule 5, Part 2	Class of Development
1	Agriculture, silviculture and aquaculture
2	Extractive industry
3	Energy industry
4	Production and processing of metals
5	Mineral industry
6	Chemical industry
7	Food industry
8	Textile, leather, wood and paper industries
9	Rubber industry
10	Infrastructure projects
11	Other projects
12	Tourism and leisure
13	Changes, extensions, development and testing
14	Works of demolition
15	Any other project

Schedule 5 Part 2 of the Regulations identifies where EIA must be carried out where such development would equal or exceed, as the case may be, any relevant quantity, area or other limit specified or, where no quantity, area or other limit is specified in the Part in respect of the development concerned. No development types listed in Schedule 5 Part 2 apply to this current proposed development.

Conclusion: A mandatory EIA under Schedule 5 Part 2 is not required.

The next section assesses the likely impacts of the Newport Footbridge Scheme on the surrounding environment. It provides a brief overview of key sensitivities and potential impacts, and considers whether the scale and context of the proposed works would warrant the need for Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA). The EIA Screening is presented in the following sections, structured in accordance with the criteria set out in Schedule 7A of the Regulations, and are specified as follows:

- The characteristics of the proposed development;
- The location of the proposed development, particularly regarding the environmental sensitivity of the geographical areas that may be impacted;

- The characteristics of the anticipated impacts, focusing on the potential significant effects of the proposed development.

Sub-threshold EIA Screening Assessment

A key determinant of the necessity for Environmental Impact Assessment of sub-threshold projects is whether or not such works are likely to have significant effects on the environment. The 1997 amending Directive (97/11/EC) introduced guidance for Member States in terms of deciding whether or not a development is likely to have a “significant effect on the environment”. These criteria have been transposed fully into Irish legislation in the third schedule of the European Communities Environmental Impact Assessment (Amendment) Regulations 1999, (SI No.93 of 1999) and in Schedule 7 of the Planning & Development Regulations 2001 (SI No 600 of 2001) as amended by Planning & Development Regulations 2008. This has been updated by transposition of the 2014 EIA Directive (2014/52/EU) which amends Directive 2011/92/EU1). Guidance is provided by use of criteria set out in Annex III of the new Directive. These criteria as transposed in Irish legislation are grouped under three headings and are used to assist the screening process in determining whether a development is likely to have a significant effect on the environment. These are detailed in Table 3-5 below:

Table 3. Review of the characteristics of the proposed development.

Characteristics of the proposed development		
Screening Questions	Relevance	Is it likely to result in significant effects on the environment?
<i>Is the scale of the project considered significant?</i>	The proposed works aim to develop the public domain of the town of Newport, Co. Tipperary. The main habitats present on site consist of upland eroding river (FW1), which the bridge is proposed to cross over, and Mixed Broadleaved Woodland (WD1), which forms the riparian areas. The surrounding landscape primarily consists of built land with residential and commercial development.	Given the nature of the proposed development, it is not anticipated that impacts in terms of scale of the project will be significant.
<i>Is the size of the project considered significant when considered cumulatively with other adjacent developments?</i>	No permitted or proposed projects were identified which in combination with the proposed development would give rise to significant cumulative impacts.	It is not anticipated that the project will give rise to significant impacts in combination with adjacent developments.
<i>Will the project utilize a significant quantity of natural resources, in particular land, soil, water, or biodiversity?</i>	No. The footprint of the proposed development is small in scale and will not require any natural resource for its completion. The project will involve minimal clearance of vegetation, and it is therefore deemed that no significant impacts to land or land area will occur. While soil excavation will be required for the installation of bridge abutments this are not considered to constitute a significant effect with the appropriate mitigations as outlined in the relative NIS. No water will be abstracted from any watercourses during the construction or operation of this development. No water quality impacts are predicted. Evidence of otters, one of the qualifying interests associated with the Lower River Shannon SAC was found in proximity of the subject site. The site is considered to be within the foraging corridor of the species, although no otter holts or couches were identified within 150m of the	Given the size and nature of the proposed development, and with the appropriate mitigations (to be outlined at a later date in the relevant NIS) this project will not constitute a significant effect on natural resources.

	proposed works area. This was considered while investigating the possible impacts to the European Designated sites, which were assessed during an Appropriate Assessment Screening Report for the proposed development (FFEC, 2025). Given that works will take place within the Lower River Shannon SAC, the report concluded that progression to Stage 2 Appropriate Assessment is required. However, it is deemed that with the appropriate mitigations, this project is unlikely to have a significant effect on the environment.	
<i>Will the project produce a significant quantity of waste?</i>	During the construction phase, normal construction waste will be produced, segregated where possible and sent to an appropriately permitted waste or materials recovery facility. The waste management hierarchy will be implemented onsite, which prioritises prevention and minimisation of waste, followed by reuse and recycling. During the operational phase, waste will be sorted and collected by a suitably licensed contractor and sent to an appropriately permitted waste or materials recovery facility.	Given the size and nature of the proposed development, it is not anticipated that this project will produce significant quantities of waste.
<i>Will the project create a significant amount or type of pollution?</i>	No significant water or air-borne pollution is envisaged. The proposed development is not a project type that will give rise to significant emissions or pollution.	Given the size and nature of the proposed development, it is not anticipated that this project will create a significant amount or type of pollution.
<i>Will the project create a significant amount of nuisance?</i>	Limited disruption to local receptors may arise during the construction phase but this will be short-term in duration.	Given the size and nature of the proposed development, it is not anticipated that this project will produce significant amount of nuisance.
<i>Will there be a risk of major accidents?</i>	The proposed development is not of a type that poses a risk of major accidents, having regard to substances or technologies used. The proposed construction works will employ best practice methodologies and be subject to the contractor's safety statements and risk assessments.	Given the size and nature of the proposed development, it is not anticipated that this project will pose a risk of major accidents.

<i>Will there be a risk of natural disasters, including those caused by climate change?</i>	Based on flood analysis data from Floodinfo.ie the site is found within an area subjected to flooding (Map in appendix). In terms of fire risk, the proposed development will comply with all relevant health and safety legislation.	It is considered that the risk of significant flooding or fire occurring, affecting the proposed development and causing it to have significant environmental effects, is limited.
<i>Will there be a risk to human health (for example due to water contamination or air pollution)?</i>	There is limited potential for negative effects on human health during the construction phase as a result of potential emissions to air, or the potential emissions to land and water. Best construction site practices will prevent any risk of pollution running off the site.	The potential for negative health effects associated with the proposed development is negligible.
<i>Is the combination of the above factors likely to have significant effects on the environment?</i>	There are no factors above which when combined would result in any significant effect on the environment.	

Table 4. Review of the location of the proposed development.

Location of the proposed development		
Screening Questions	Relevance	Is it likely to result in significant effects on the environment?
<i>Is the existing land use of the project considered significant?</i>	The site consists of built land (BL3) and wet grassland (GS4), with several areas that have so far succeeded to Scrub (WS1). While land use will be modified, no adverse lasting impacts are predicted that could trigger an EIAR.	Given the nature of the proposed development and the existing conditions of the site, it is not anticipated that impacts in terms of land use will be significant.

<i>Is the project likely to affect the relative abundance, availability, quality and regenerative capacity of natural resources in the area and its underground?</i>	The development will not entail works that have the potential to affect the relative abundance, availability, quality and regenerative capacity of natural resources.	No significant impacts are anticipated given small scale and the nature of the project. No impacts on groundwater may be anticipated.
<i>Is the project likely to affect the absorption capacity of the natural environment, paying particular attention to the following areas:</i> -Wetlands, riparian areas, river mouths; -Coastal zones; -Mountain and forest areas; - Nature Reserves and National Parks; -Areas classified or protected under legislation, including special protection areas designated pursuant to Directives 79/409/EEC and 92/43/EEC; -Areas in which the environmental quality standards laid down in legislation of the EU have already been exceeded; -Densely populated areas -Landscapes of historical cultural or archaeological significance;	The proposed development is intended to improve accessibility, connecting different areas of Newport. The closest Natura 2000 site is Lower River Shannon SAC (002165) located directly within the proposed works area. Possible impacts to the European Designated site were assessed during an Appropriate Assessment Screening Report for the proposed development (FFEC, 2025). The report concluded that progression to Stage 2 Appropriate Assessment is required. However, despite the proximity of the designated site, it is deemed that with the appropriate mitigations, this project is unlikely to have a significant effect on the environment. The site overlaps with the Newport Architectural Conservation Area (ACA). While this ACA comprises numerous structures, the two that are relevant for this project due to their nature and proximity are RPS S785 (the Tullow Bridge, which flows over the Newport River) and RPS S784 (three handball alleys located upstream of the works along the Small River). Despite the spatial overlap of the proposed works area and the ACA, the project does not involve any works that may result in the alteration, extension or demolition of these structures, ensuring that the overall character of the buildings in the area is maintained. Moreover, as outlined in volume 3 of the Tipperary County Development Plan 2022-2028, “the historical architectural features of	Given the size and nature of the proposed development, and with the appropriate mitigations (to be outlined at a later date in the relevant NIS) this project is not likely to affect the absorption capacity of the natural environment.

	the towns and especially the central areas are highly valuable to the character of the towns and should be maintained and made accessible where possible"; hence the project is in keeping with the objective of said plan.	
<i>Will there be a risk of natural disasters, including those caused by climate change?</i>	Based on flood analysis data from Floodinfo.ie, the site is within an area subjected to flooding (Map in appendix). In terms of fire risk, the proposed development will comply with all relevant health and safety legislation.	It is considered that the risk of significant flooding or fire occurring, affecting the proposed development and causing it to have significant environmental effects, is limited.
<i>Will there be a risk to human health (for example due to water contamination or air pollution)?</i>	There is limited potential for negative effects on human health during the construction phase as a result of potential emissions to air, or the potential emissions to land and water. Best construction site practices will prevent any risk of pollution running off the site.	The potential for negative health effects associated with the proposed development is negligible.

Table 5. Review of the characteristics of the potential impacts of the proposed development.

Characteristics of the potential impacts		
Screening Questions	Relevance	Is it likely to result in significant effects on the environment?
<i>Is the magnitude and spatial extent of the impact (geographical area and size of the affected population) of the project considered significant?</i>	The main habitats present on site consist of highly modified built land habitat and wet grassland. The small scale of the proposed project is in keeping with the scale of the receiving setting and surrounds in terms of size and design and is therefore not considered significant.	Given the nature of the proposed development, it is not anticipated that impacts in terms of their magnitude and spatial extent will be significant.
<i>What is the nature of likely impacts?</i>	Limited disruption to local receptors may arise during the construction phase but this will be short-term in duration. Temporary visual and noise impacts may be anticipated during construction phase. These will be highly localised and temporary in nature. A long-term positive impact on human welfare may be anticipated.	
<i>Is any transboundary impact predicted?</i>	No	It is not anticipated that the project will give rise to significant transboundary impacts.
<i>Are any predicted impacts considered significant in terms of their intensity and complexity?</i>	No.	Given the size and nature of the proposed development, any impacts are considered insignificant in terms of their intensity and complexity.
<i>Are any predicted impacts considered significant in terms of their expected onset, duration, frequency and reversibility?</i>	No	Given the size and nature of the proposed development, any impacts are considered insignificant in terms of their expected onset, duration, frequency and reversibility

<i>Are any predicted impacts considered significant in combination with the impact of other existing and/or approved projects?</i>	A number of other projects have been considered as part of the screening process. A review of planning applications submitted within the past ten years was undertaken using the Tipperary County Council planning website, with a focus on developments upstream and downstream of the proposed works area on the River Small and the Newport River. Upstream of the works, relevant applications included: App. 18600458 (2018), for the demolition of part of an existing dwelling and construction of a single- and two-storey extension with associated site works; App. 23145 (2023), for the erection of a steel frame sensory room and associated site development; App. 10510480 (2016), which proposed 15 dwellings forming part of a larger residential development originally approved for 95 houses, 39 apartments and a crèche, including roads, footpaths, cycle lanes, and services; and App. 19600386 (2019), for the installation of four floodlights and green mesh perimeter fencing at an existing sportsfield approximately 0.5 km from the proposed works. Downstream, on the Newport River, App. 201447 (2020) was noted for the interconnection of two existing buildings to extend a pharmacy and create a two-bedroom apartment. None of the developments reviewed are deemed likely to create in- combination effects with the Newport Footbridge Scheme, either during the construction or operational phases.	No projects are known at time of writing that may result in cumulative impacts.
---	---	--

4.4 Summary of Potential Impacts by EIA Topic

Table 6. Review of potential impacts by EIA topics.

Topic	Comment
<i>Population and Human Health</i>	The potential impacts of the construction phase on human beings are not considered to be significant. During construction, there is the potential for temporary minor impacts related to dust and noise. However, the work will be short-term in duration. Standard best practice construction methodologies will limit disturbance to people in the area. Once completed, the proposed development will provide new accessibility in keeping with the plans outlined in the Tipperary County Development Plan 2022-2028. This is considered a significant positive impact, adding value to the infrastructure available in the area.
<i>Biodiversity/ Species and Habitats</i>	The potential impacts of the construction phase on biodiversity are not considered to be significant. The site was surveyed by FFEC Ecologists as part of survey works for an Appropriate Assessment Screening Report (FFEC, 2025) for the proposed development. While the report concluded that Stage 2 Appropriate Assessment is required, it is deemed that with the appropriate mitigations any potential impacts upon any designated site that exists will become nil. Evidence of Otter (<i>Lutra lutra</i>) was recorded in the area. Both the river Small and Newport River represent commuting and foraging corridors for the species; however, no holt was identified within 150m of the proposed works site. Bats were also observed foraging in proximity of the existing Newport bridge; however, following a bat survey, no bat was observed emerging from the trees directly surrounding the proposed works area, or foraging in their proximity. No other protected mammal species were found to occur within or surrounding the proposed development area. No Annex II (Birds Directive) bird species or red-listed species were recorded during field surveys of the site and surrounds. Four invasive species listed on the first schedule were recorded to be directly within the footprint of the proposed works site, however an Invasive Species Management Plan has been devised and accompanies this application.

<i>Land and soil</i>	No significant impact; the development will be constructed in accordance with best practice environmentally sensitive methods and environmental management systems.
<i>Water</i>	The River Small and River Newport are found within the footprint of the proposed development. Potential impacts to water quality have been considered in the relevant Appropriate Assessment Screening Report (FFEC, 2025). While the report concluded that Stage 2 Appropriate Assessment is required, it is deemed that with the appropriate mitigations any potential impacts upon this watercourse will become nil. Furthermore, with best practices incorporated into the design and the construction works, the potential for significant run-off of pollutants is either eliminated or greatly reduced, and no significant residual impacts on water are anticipated.
<i>Air and climate</i>	During construction, there is the potential for short- term minor negative impacts related to dust to occur, however, this will be short-term in duration and limited to the works area. Best practice construction site management will minimise emissions.
<i>Noise and vibration</i>	Potential short-term noise impacts may arise during construction activities however this will be managed through best practice measures. No significant impacts are anticipated.
<i>Material Assets: Built Environment</i>	No significant impact that could trigger the requirement for an EIAR is predicted.
<i>Material assets: transportation</i>	There will be no significant long-term impacts on local traffic movements due to the nature of the proposed development. During the construction phase, appropriate traffic management and signage will be in place to ensure safe access and egress from the site, and the safety of other road users.
<i>Waste management</i>	The development will involve limited excavation and land re-shaping. Possible effects include the re-use / recycle / disposal of excavated material as well as other waste generated on-site i.e. construction and demolition waste, and domestic waste once occupied. Any effects will be mitigated by the implementation of best practices in construction and demolition and operational waste management procedures.
<i>Cultural heritage</i>	The proposed development will not give rise to any significant impacts on cultural heritage.

<i>Landscape</i>	No significant impact. The proposed development is located within an urban area and will not give rise to any significant landscape or visual impacts that could trigger the requirement for EIAR.
------------------	--

5. Conclusions

The proposed project is not a development for which an EIA is mandatory. Similarly, the proposed project does not fall under the category of Infrastructure Projects as listed in Schedule 5, Part 2 of the Regulations. Nonetheless, the project was subjected to screening with regard to the criteria set out in Schedule 7. The sub-threshold EIA Screening exercise was carried out to determine the potential for the proposed development to have significant environmental effects or not and further inform the relevant authority.

Following the screening exercise, it was concluded that the type and characteristics of the proposed development and of the potential impacts would not be considered likely to have significant effects on the environment given that the appropriate mitigation measures are followed during the construction phase of the project, as advised in the conclusion of the Appropriate Assessment Screening Report (FFEC, 2025). No negative impacts are anticipated from the operational phase of the project; similarly, no significant cumulative impacts are considered likely and no negative transboundary impacts are anticipated.

Evidence of Otter (*Lutra lutra*) was recorded, with both the River Small and Newport River acting as foraging and commuting corridors; no holts were found within 150 m of the works. Bats were observed foraging near Newport Bridge; however no emergence or foraging activity was recorded within the immediate works area. No other protected mammal species were identified nearby. Similarly, while four invasive species listed in the first schedule were found directly within the proposed works site, these have been addressed in a dedicated invasive species management plan.

Given the size and scale of the proposed development and the absence of other projects or plans that could interact with the present proposal known at time of writing, no significant cumulative impacts are considered likely.

The overall conclusion of this screening exercise is that there should be no specific requirement for a full Environmental Impact Assessment of the proposed development.

6. References

- CIEEM (2018) Guidelines for Ecological Impact Assessment in the UK and Ireland: Terrestrial, Freshwater, Coastal and Marine. Chartered Institute of Ecology and Environmental Management, Winchester. <https://cieem.net/wp-content/uploads/2019/02/Combined-EcIA-guidelines-2018-compressed.pdf>
- Curtis, T.G.F. & McGough, H.N. (1988) The Irish Red Data Book 1: Vascular Plants. The Stationery Office, Dublin.
- Department of the Environment, Community & Local Government (2013). Guidelines for Planning Authorities and An Bord Pleanála on carrying out Environmental Impact Assessment.
- Department of the Environment, Heritage and Local Government (2003). Guidance for Consent Authorities regarding sub-threshold Development. Published by the Stationery Office.
- Department of Housing, Planning and Local Government (2018). Guidelines for Planning Authorities and An Bord Pleanála on carrying out Environmental Impact Assessment.
- EIA Guidance for Consent Authorities regarding Sub-threshold Development (DEHLG, 2003), Guidelines on information to be contained in EIA (EPA, 2002)
- European Commission Environmental Impact Assessment of Projects, Guidance on Screening (2017).
- Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Guidance for Consent Authorities regarding Sub-threshold Development 2003
- Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), 2022. 'Revised Guidelines on the Information to be contained in Environmental Impact Assessment Reports.'
- Environmental Protection Agency, Appropriate Assessment Tool: <https://gis.epa.ie/EPAMaps/AAGeoTool>
- European Commission (2015). Environmental Impact Assessment –EIA, Overview, Legal Context. European Council Directive (EU) 2014/52/EU of 16 April 2014 amending Directive 2011/92/EU on the assessment of the effects of certain public and private projects on the environment.
- Flood info website (n.d.). Online, available at: <https://www.floodinfo.ie/map/floodmaps/>
- Fossitt, J.A. (2000) A Guide to Habitats in Ireland. The Heritage Council, Kilkenny.
- Geological Survey of Ireland (accessed 2024) Maps and Data: <https://www.gsi.ie/en-ie/data-and-maps/Pages/default.aspx>
- JNCC (2010) Handbook for Phase 1 Habitat Survey. Joint Nature Conservation Committee, Peterborough, UK.
- Kelly, J., O'Flynn, C., and Maguire, C. 2013. *Risk analysis and prioritisation for invasive and non-native species in Ireland and Northern Ireland*.
- Tipperary Planning Application Website (n.d.), online available at: <https://tipp.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=6617778db1a24e5dad1367668cea2eca>
- National Biodiversity Data Centre (accessed September 2024) Biodiversity Maps: <https://maps.biodiversityireland.ie/>
- National Planning Application Map Viewer: <https://myplan.ie/national-planning-application-map-viewer/>
- National Roads Authority (2005) Guidelines for the Crossing of Watercourses during the Construction of National Road Schemes

- National Roads Authority (2009) Ecological Surveying Techniques for Protected flora and fauna during the Planning of National Road Schemes. NRA (now Transport Infrastructure Ireland), Dublin.
- NRA (2008) Environmental Impact Assessment of National Roads Schemes – a practical guide. National Roads Authority (Now Transport Infrastructure Ireland), Dublin.
- Parnell, J. & Curtis, T. (2012) Webb's An Irish Flora. Cork University Press, Cork.
- Scannell, M J P and Synott, D M, 1987, Census Catalogue of the Flora of Ireland. Stationary Office, Dublin.
- Smith, G.F., O'Donoghue, P., O'Hora, K. and Delaney, E., 2011. Best practice guidance for habitat survey and mapping. The Heritage Council: Ireland.
- Tipperary County Development Plan 2022 – 2028 Appendix 3 Landscape Character Assessment and Schedule of Views and Routes. Online: <https://www.tipperarycoco.ie/sites/default/files/2022-09/Volume%203%20Landscape%20Character%20Assessment%20%26%20Schedule%20of%20Views%20and%20Routes.pdf>
- Wyse Jackson, M., FitzPatrick, Ú., Cole, E., Jebb, M., McFerran, D., Sheehy Skeffington, M. & Wright, M. (2016) Ireland Red List No. 10: Vascular Plants. National Parks and Wildlife Service, Department of Arts, Heritage, Regional, Rural and Gaeltacht Affairs, Dublin, Ireland.

7. Appendix

This Past Flood Event Summary Report summarises all past flood events within 2.5 kilometres of the map centre.

This report has been downloaded from www.floodinfo.ie (the "Website"). The users should take account of the restrictions and limitations relating to the content and use of the Website that are explained in the Terms and Conditions. It is a condition of use of the Website that you agree to be bound by the disclaimer and other terms and conditions set out on the Website and to the privacy policy on the Website.

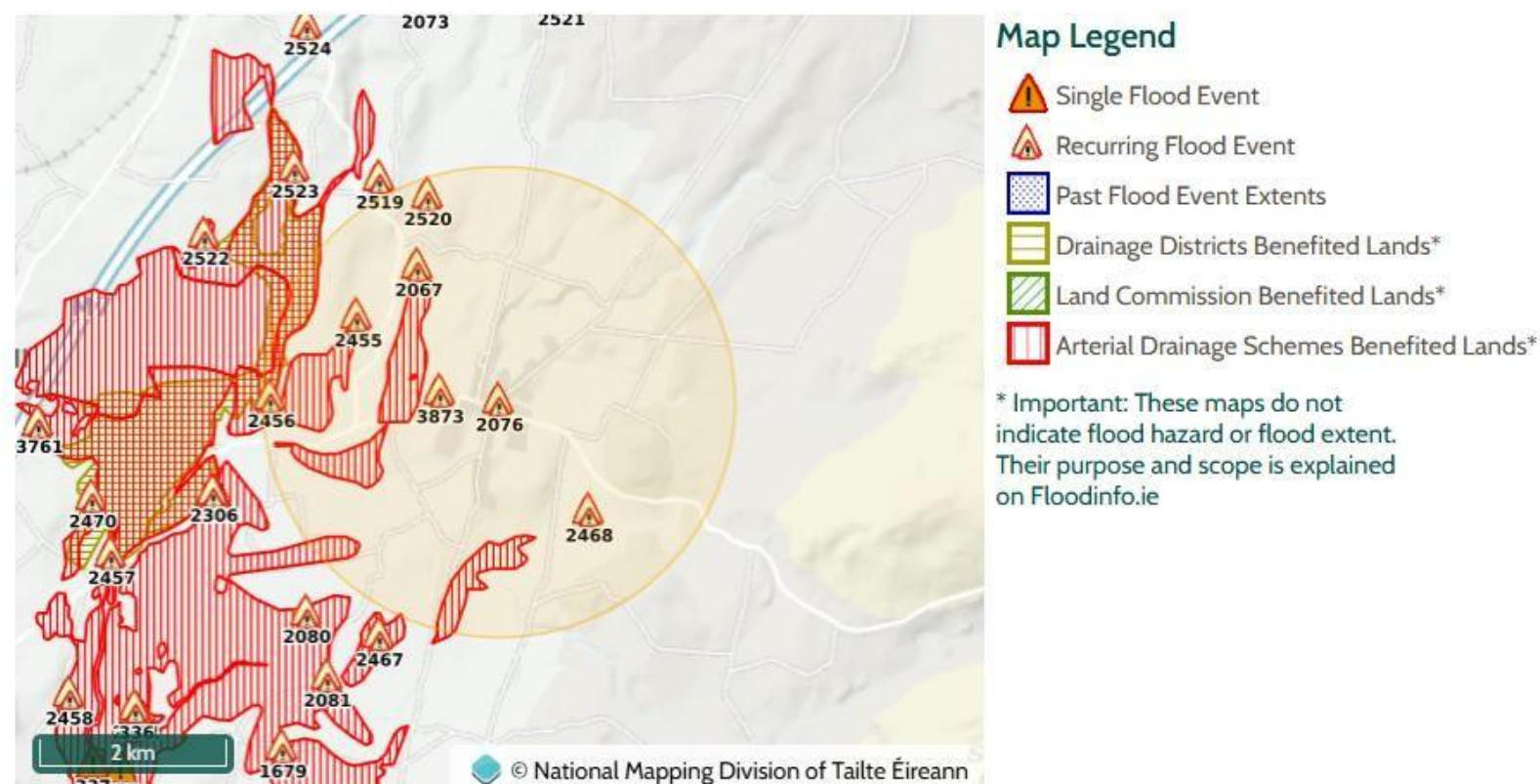


Figure 3. Map of flood events in the Newport area (point 2076) - Credit: Floodinfo.ie

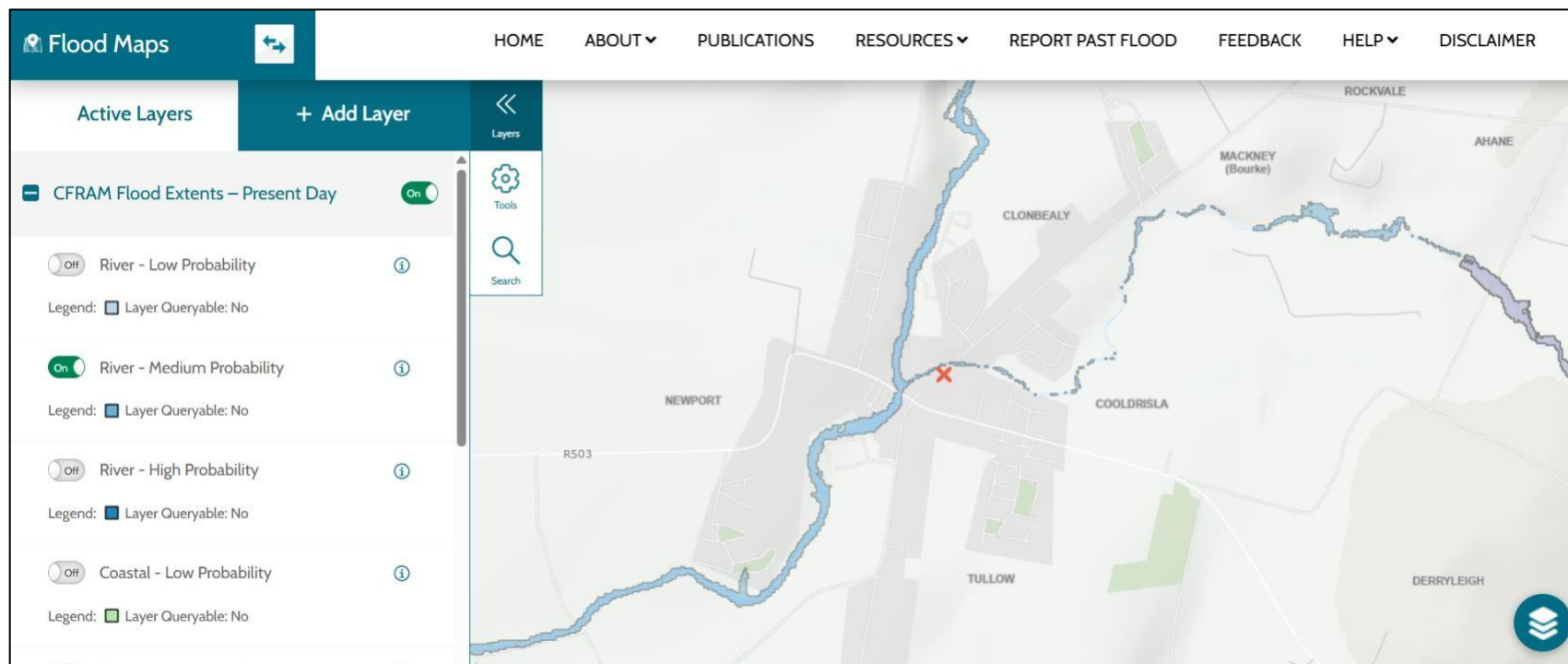


Figure 4. Map of flood probability in the Newport area - Credit: Floodinfo.ie

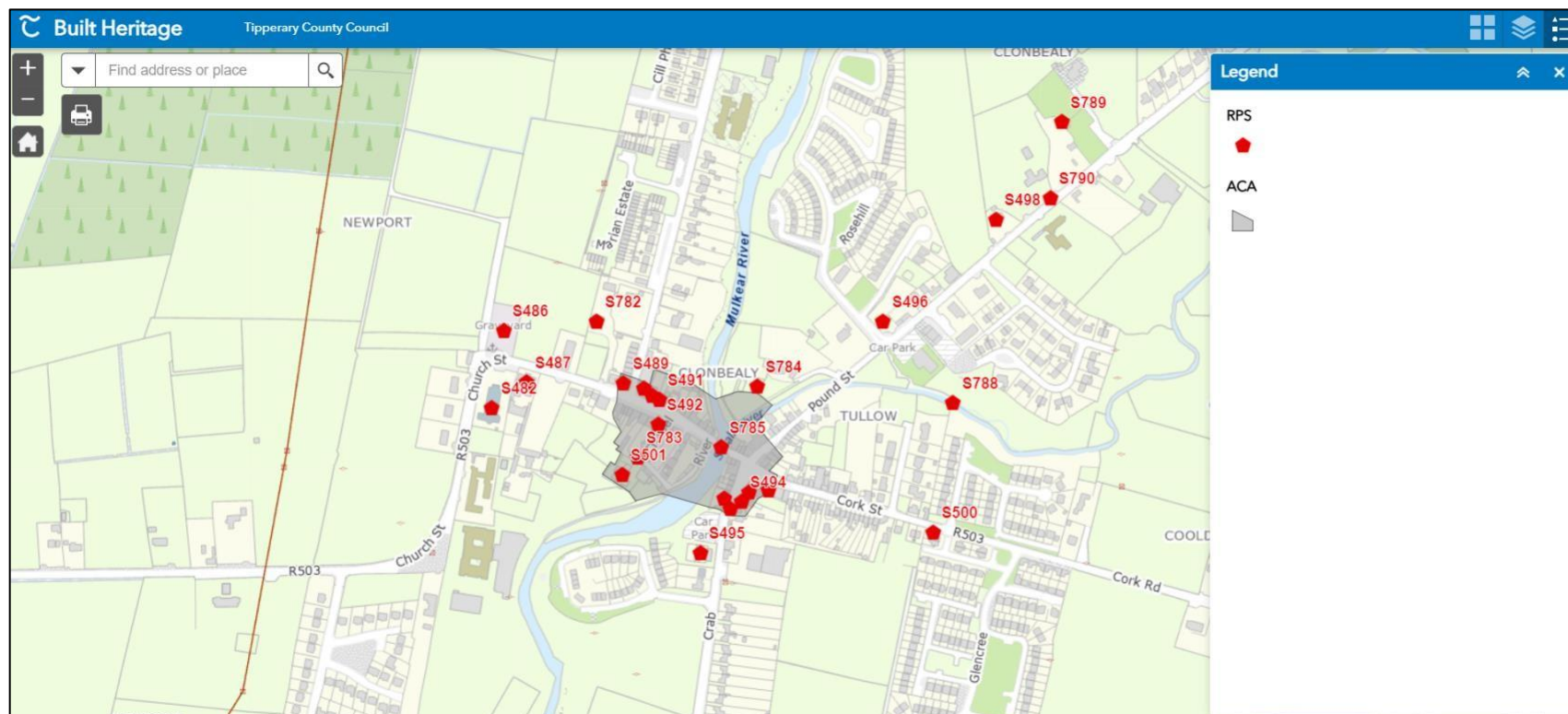


Figure 5. Map of records of protected structures and architectural conservation areas in the Newport area - Credit: Tipperary Viewer Planning Enquiry Tool