



Governing Board
An Coimisiún Pleanála
64 Marlborough Street
Dublin 1
D01 V902

November 20th, 2025

Our Reference
60735051

Re: Formal request under Section 37B of the Planning and Development Act 2000 (as amended) / Section 116 of the Planning and Development Act 2024 to engage in pre-application consultations with An Coimisiún Pleanála

Proposal: Proposed Redevelopment of Newcastle West Wastewater Treatment Plant (WwTP)

Dear Sir / Madam

AECOM are acting as agents on behalf of the prospective applicant, Uisce Éireann, for the proposed redevelopment of Newcastle West Wastewater Treatment Plant (WwTP), in County Limerick. The proposed upgrade consists of an increase in treatment capacity at the existing plant from the current 12,368 P.E. (Population Equivalent) to a proposed 23,700 P.E. – a proposed increase of 11,332 P.E.

The redevelopment of the WwTP will include the following works:

- New inlet works;
- New storm tank;
- New Activated Sludge Plant (ASP) tank;
- Two new clarifiers;
- New tertiary treatment via two cloth filters;
- New picket fence thickener (sludge particle treatment);
- New sludge dewatering building;
- Refurbished control building;
- New Final effluent/storm pumping station;
- Compensatory flood storage on an adjacent site;
- A new 350m outfall to the River Deel (to replace existing); and,
- All ancillary works.

Ancillary works will include ground mounted solar panels (location TBC) (accounting for 10% of onsite energy generation) across 2no. arrays, additional internal roads and resurfacing for maintenance and the replacement of perimeter fencing.

A determination is requested as to whether the proposed development falls within the scope or meaning of Strategic Infrastructure Development (as defined in both the current Planning and Development Act 2000, as amended, and the forthcoming Planning and Development Act 2024) and confirmation on the planning process that would apply to any future planning application in this regard. The following documents and particulars are enclosed in line with An Coimisiún Pleanála's Strategic Infrastructure Development (SID) Guidelines, in order to assist with the determination process:

- Pre-application planning report which defines the proposal;
- Associated drawings;
- The application fee (€4,500.00) was paid via Electronic Funds Transfer on November 13th, 2025 (ref: **1030208**)

It is considered there is sufficient information available in the accompanying drawings and report for the Commission to determine whether the Proposed Development falls within the definition of Strategic Infrastructure Development. We therefore request the Commission serve a notice at their earliest convenience on the prospective applicant, stating that it is of the opinion that the proposed development does or does not constitute a Strategic Infrastructure Development. Accordingly, an application for the approval of the proposed strategic infrastructure development will be made directly to the Commission or directly to the local planning authority in Limerick City and County Council, depending on the Commission's determination.

If acceptable and of necessity to the Commission, the prospective applicant is content to undertake a pre-application meeting to cover the proposals further.

We look forward to hearing from you in relation to the above. Should you have any queries or require further information, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Stephen Hughes'.

Stephen Hughes MIPI MRTPI
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