

EIAR FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF A HEALTHCARE WASTE MANAGEMENT FACILITY AT BLARNEY BUSINESS PARK

Volume 2 - Main Body of the EIAR Chapter 15 – Archaeological, Architectural and Cultural Heritage

Prepared for:

SRCL Ireland Ltd (T/A Stericycle)



Date: November 2025

Document No:

P23268-FT-EGN-XX-RP-EN-0015

Unit 3/4, Northwood House, Northwood Crescent,
Northwood, Dublin, D09 X899, Ireland

T: +353 1 658 3500 | E: info@ftco.ie

CORK | DUBLIN | CARLOW

www.fehilytimoney.ie

TABLE OF CONTENTS

15. ARCHAEOLOGICAL, ARCHITECTURAL AND CULTURAL HERITAGE	1
15.1 Introduction.....	1
15.2 Statement of Authority	1
15.3 Assessment Methodology	2
15.3.1 Relevant Guidance and Reference Documents/Data	2
15.3.2 Assessment of Impacts.....	3
15.4 Baseline Environment.....	6
15.4.1 The Development Site and Blarney Business Park.....	6
15.4.2 Archaeological and Historical Background	6
15.4.3 Blarney's Architecture Conservation Area.....	6
15.4.4 Blarney's Protected Structures	7
15.4.5 Archaeological Sites near the Proposed Development.....	7
15.4.6 Previous Archaeological Investigations.....	12
15.5 Potential Impacts.....	12
15.5.1 'Do Nothing' Impacts	13
15.5.2 Construction Phase Impacts.....	13
15.5.3 Operational Phase Impacts	14
15.5.4 Decommissioning Phase Impacts.....	14
15.5.5 Cumulative Impacts	14
15.6 Mitigation Measures	14
15.7 Residual Impacts.....	14
15.8 References.....	15

LIST OF FIGURES

Page

Figure 15-1:	Archaeological Sites and Monument Records Surrounding the Proposed Development	8
--------------	--	---

LIST OF TABLES

Page

Table 15-1:	Magnitudes of Effect on Cultural Heritage Assets	3
Table 15-2:	Factors applied for assessing the value of cultural heritage sites.....	4
Table 15-3:	Significance of Effects.....	5
Table 15-4:	Significance of Effects Matrix	6
Table 15-5:	Archaeological Sites and Monument Records	9
Table 15-6:	Summary of Archaeological Investigations	12



15. ARCHAEOLOGICAL, ARCHITECTURAL AND CULTURAL HERITAGE

15.1 Introduction

The proposed development is defined in Chapter 1 - Introduction and a detailed description of the proposed development is set out in Chapter 4 - Description of the Existing and Proposed Development.

This chapter has been prepared to examine the potential significant effects of the proposed Healthcare Waste Treatment and Transfer Facility regarding archaeological, architectural and cultural heritage on the surrounding environment.

The potential significant effects of the proposed development are assessed, having taken account of mitigation measures to reduce or eliminate any likely significant effects on cultural heritage during the construction phase.

15.2 Statement of Authority

This chapter has been prepared by Paul Nolan and Richard Deeney of Fehily Timoney and Company (FT).

Paul is a Senior Project Scientist working as part of the Circular Economy and Environment team in FT. Paul holds a BSc (Hons) in Environmental Sciences from University of Limerick. He has ca. 9 years of experience in the field of Environmental Science, Management and Consultancy. Paul has vast experience in the areas of waste management, reporting, auditing, environmental management systems and IE/IPC/Waste Licensing, Compliance and monitoring. He has worked on several development projects producing waste management reports that included Construction Waste Management Plans (CEMP), Resource Waste Management Plans (RWMP) and Operational Waste Management Plans (OWMP) for Large Scale Residential (LRD), Mixed-Use Developments, Commercial and Industrial projects. Paul supported the assessment of the effects on archaeological, architectural and cultural heritage assets in the local environment under this chapter.

Richard is Principal Environmental Scientist who works in the Circular Economy and Environment group at Fehily Timoney at FT. He has ca. 13 years of experience. He is vastly experienced in the coordination and completion of planning applications; EIA, including EIA Screening, EIA Scoping and the production of Environmental Impact Assessment Reports (EIARs); Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) and Appropriate Assessment (AA) of plans and programmes; IE/IPC/Waste Licensing and Compliance; and Sustainability and Climate Action consultancy. He leads an Environmental Science team that delivers projects in these areas. He is an expert project manager who has led and successfully delivered a wide range of strategic and complex projects. He has expertise in assessing the effects of plans and projects on a wide breadth of environmental topics. Richard was responsible for peer review and finalisation of the assessment contained in this chapter.



15.3 Assessment Methodology

The methodology adopted for this assessment is as follows:

- A review of the proposed development.
- A review of the receiving environment.
- Using professional judgement to evaluate impacts.
- Assessment of relevant key legislation, policy and guidelines.
- Assessment of potential effects.
- Identification of mitigation measures.
- Assessment of residual impacts.

15.3.1 Relevant Guidance and Reference Documents/Data

The EIA guidelines referred to when completing this assessment are listed in Chapter 1 - Introduction of Volume 2 of this EIAR. Legislation, policy and relevant topic specific guidelines that have been considered in the preparation of this chapter are shown below:

15.3.1.1 *Legislation*

- Architectural Heritage (National Inventory) and Historic Monuments (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act, 1999.
- Heritage Act, 1995 (as amended).
- National Monuments Act, 1930 to 2014.
- Planning and Development Act 2000 (as amended).

15.3.1.2 *Policy*

- Cork City Development Plan 2022-2028, Volume 3 Built Heritage Objectives.
- Code of Practice for Archaeology agreed between the Minister for Arts, Heritage, Regional, Rural and Gaeltacht Affairs and Transport Infrastructure Ireland, 2017.
- Council of Europe (1985). Convention for the Protection of the Architectural Heritage of Europe (ratified by Ireland 1997), 'Granada Convention'.
- Council of Europe (1992). European Convention on the Protection of the Archaeological Heritage (ratified by Ireland 1992), 'Valletta Convention'.

15.3.1.3 *Guidance*

- Transport Infrastructure Ireland (2025). Guidelines for Cultural Heritage Impact Assessment of TII National Road and Greenway Project, 2025
- Project Department of Arts, Heritage, Gaeltacht and the Islands (1999). Framework and Principles for the Protection of the Archaeological Heritage.
- European Commission (2017). Environmental Impact Assessment of Projects – Guidance on the Preparation of the Environmental Impact Assessment Report.
- The Heritage Council (2013). Historic Landscape Characterisation in Ireland: Best Practice Guidance.



- Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage (2011). Architectural Heritage Protection Guidelines for Planning Authorities.
- International Council on Monuments and Sites (2011). Guidance on Heritage Impact Assessments for Cultural World Heritage Properties.

15.3.2 Assessment of Impacts

Potential impacts on Archaeological, Architectural and Cultural Heritage have been assessed using the following criteria.

Magnitude of Effect

This is based on the degree of change, incorporating any mitigation measures, on a cultural heritage asset and can be negative or positive. The magnitude is ranked without regard to the value of the asset according to the following scale: High; Medium; Low and Negligible and has been informed by criteria published in the International Council on Monuments and Sites Guidance on Heritage Impact Assessments for Cultural World Heritage Properties (ICOMOS, 2011), as shown in Table 15-1.

Table 15-1: Magnitudes of Effect on Cultural Heritage Assets

Magnitude	Description
High	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Most or all key archaeological or architectural materials affected such that the resource is totally altered. • Comprehensive changes to setting. • Changes to most or all key historic landscape elements, parcels or components; extreme visual effects; fundamental changes to use or access; resulting in total change to historic landscape character unit. • Major changes to area that affect Intangible Cultural Heritage activities or associations or visual links and cultural appreciation
Medium	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Changes to many key archaeological or historic building materials/elements such that the resource is clearly/significantly modified. • Considerable changes to setting that affect the character of the archaeological asset. • Changes to the setting of a historic building, such that it is significantly modified. • Change to many key historic landscape elements, parcels or components, visual change to many key aspects of the historic landscape, considerable changes to use or access, resulting in moderate changes to historic landscape character. • Considerable changes to area that affect the Intangible Cultural Heritage activities or associations or visual links and cultural appreciation.
Low	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Changes to key archaeological materials/historic building elements, such that the resource is slightly altered/slightly different. • Slight changes to setting of an archaeological monument. • Change to setting of a historic building, such that it is noticeably changed. • Change to few key historic landscape elements, parcels or components; slight visual changes to few key aspects of historic landscape; slight changes to use or access; resulting in limited change to historic landscape character. • Changes to area that affect the Intangible Cultural Heritage activities or associations or visual links and cultural appreciation.



Magnitude	Description
Negligible	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Very minor changes to key archaeological materials or setting. • Slight changes to historic building elements or setting that hardly affect it. • Very minor changes to key historic landscape elements, parcels or components; virtually unchanged visual effects; very slight changes to use or access; resulting in very small change to historic landscape character. • Very minor changes to area that affect the Intangible Cultural Heritage activities or associations or visual links and cultural appreciation.

Value Assessment Criteria

The value of a cultural heritage asset can be assessed using the following criteria in Table 15-2.

Table 15-2: Factors applied for assessing the value of cultural heritage sites

Indicative Value	Example of Asset Types
Very High	<p>International Value which may potentially include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • World Heritage Sites (including Tentative List properties) • Assets of acknowledged international importance • Assets that can contribute significantly to international research objectives.
High	<p>National Value which may potentially include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Designated National Monuments (archaeological) • Assets of significant quality and importance, including well-preserved RMP sites • Assets that can contribute significantly to acknowledged national research objectives • Protected Structures/National Grade NIAH Structures • Architectural Conservation Areas • Archaeological Landscapes with significant inter-group value
Medium	<p>Regional Value which may potentially include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Assets of good quality and importance • Assets that can contribute significantly to regional research objectives, including levelled or partially levelled RMPs • Regional Grade NIAH Structures • Other undesignated buildings that can be shown to have exceptional qualities in their fabric or historical associations • Undesignated structures of potential importance (archaeological, potential 'new sites') • Conservation Areas containing buildings that contribute significantly to its historic character • Historic townscape or built-up areas with important historic integrity in their buildings, or built settings



Indicative Value	Example of Asset Types
Low	<p>Local Value which may potentially include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Designated and undesignated assets of local importance • Assets compromised by poor preservation and/or poor survival of contextual associations • Assets of limited value, but with potential to contribute to local research objectives • Historic Townscape or built-up areas of limited historic integrity in their buildings, or built settings
Negligible	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Assets with very little or no surviving archaeological interest • Buildings of no architectural or historical note; buildings of an intrusive character

Significance of Effects

The significance of effects can be described as Profound, Very Significant, Significant, Moderate, Slight, Not Significant or Imperceptible as per Table 15-3 and is assigned based on the combined evaluation of effect magnitude and asset values as shown in Table 15-4.

Table 15-3: Significance of Effects

Significance	Description
Imperceptible	An effect capable of measurement but without significant consequences
Not Significant	An effect which causes noticeable changes in the character of the environment but without significant consequences
Slight	An effect which causes noticeable changes in the character of the environment but without affecting its sensitivities
Moderate	An effect that alters the character of the environment in a manner that is consistent with existing and emerging baseline trends
Significant	An effect which, by its character, magnitude, duration or intensity alters a sensitive aspect of the environment
Very Significant	An effect which, by its character, magnitude, duration or intensity significantly alters most of a sensitive aspect of the environment
Profound	An effect which obliterates sensitive characteristics



Table 15-4: Significance of Effects Matrix

Magnitude of Impact	High	Not Significant/ Slight	Moderate/ Significant	Significant/ Very Significant	Very Significant/ Profound
	Medium	Not Significant	Slight	Moderate/ Significant	Significant/ Very significant
	Low	Not Significant/ Imperceptible	Slight/ Not Significant	Slight	Moderate
	Negligible	Imperceptible	Not Significant/ Imperceptible	Not Significant/ Slight	Slight
		Negligible	Low	Medium	High/Very High
Value/Sensitivity of the Asset					

15.4 Baseline Environment

15.4.1 The Development Site and Blarney Business Park

The development site and Blarney Business Park are described in detail in Chapter 4 – Description of Existing and Proposed, in Volume 2 of this EIAR. The site and surrounding areas are developed in nature. There are no features of Archaeological, Architectural or Cultural Heritage importance at the development site or surrounding business park areas.

15.4.2 Archaeological and Historical Background

The site is situated directly east of the settlement of Blarney. Blarney is a town located ca. 8km north-west of Cork City on the River Martin. The town and its environs are now within the functional area of Cork City Council since the city's boundary extension in May 2019. Since the 18th century, Blarney has attracted visitors due to its setting within a picturesque and historic landscape and is well-known for its two large heritage tourist attractions in Blarney Castle and the Blarney Woollen Mills. During medieval times, Blarney was in the possession of the MacCarthy's of Muskerry. In the 15th century, Cormac Láidir MacCarthy was the chief of the MacCarthy clan, and he was responsible for building Blarney Castle in 1446.

Blarney has a rich heritage in textile production with a long-lasting textile industry, which has underpinned the identity and prosperity of the village for centuries. Between 1765 and 1782, St John Jeffreyes created a planned village settlement laid out around a village green (known as The Square today) near Blarney castle. He also established more than a dozen water-powered mills in the village. These were primarily responsible for producing cotton and linen. However, shortly after the Napoleonic war and the onset of a recession the mills went into decline. In 1823 the textile industry was revived when Timothy Mahony opened a woollen mill in Blarney, later known as the Blarney Woollen Mills.

15.4.3 Blarney's Architecture Conservation Area

The Blarney Architectural Conservation Area (ACA) focuses on preserving the historic cores of the town and its immediate surroundings and retain the character of the area. The main features of the Blarney ACA include Blarney Castle and Estate, Blarney Woollen Mills, 18th century village design centred on a village green, workers' cottages and churches



The Blarney Business Park is located a significant distance away from the core village centre and the defined ACA area. There are no views from the ACA or core village centre to the development site.

15.4.4 Blarney's Protected Structures

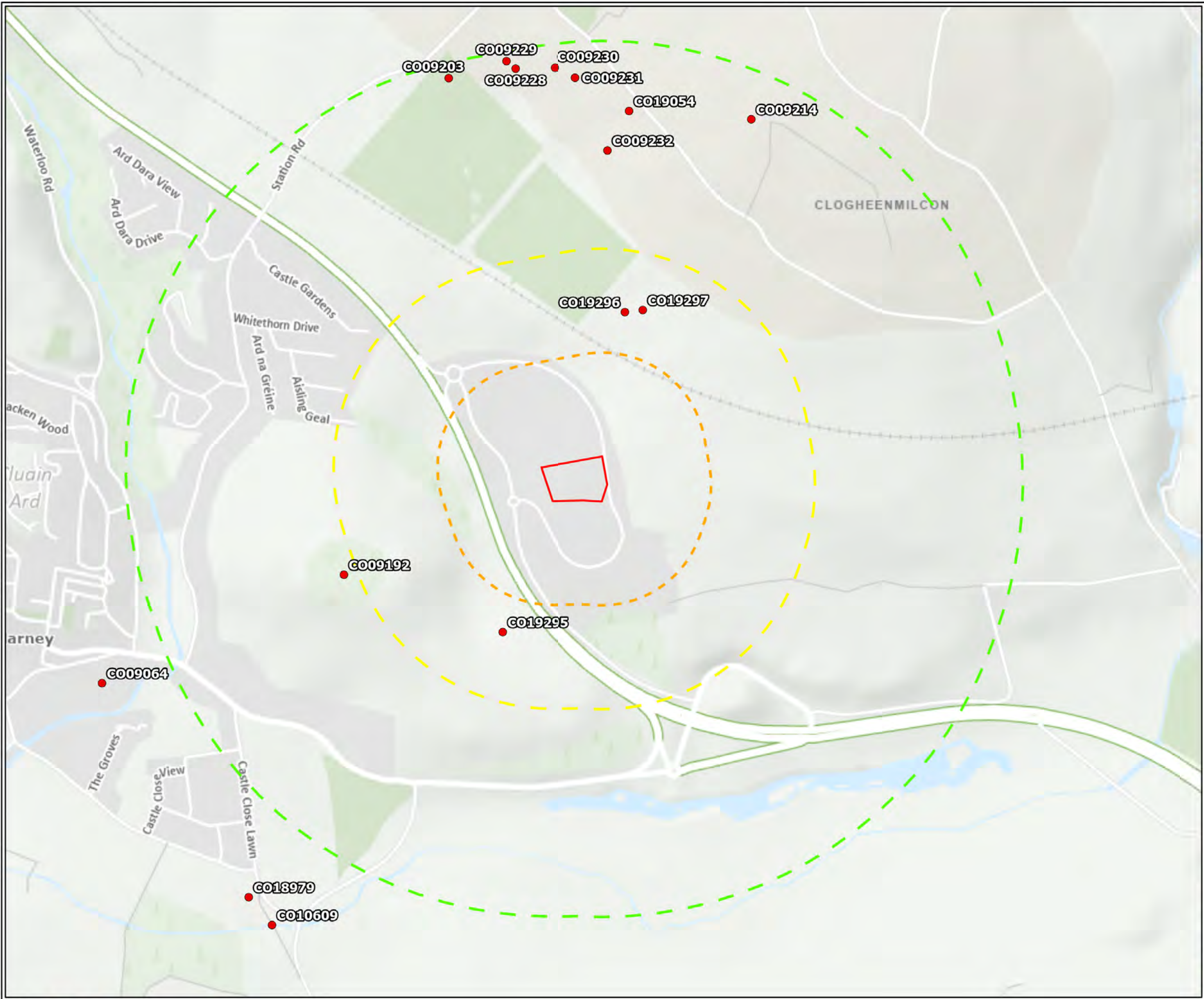
Blarney's Protected Structures are listed in the Cork City Development Plan 2022-2028, and each one contains a protected structure number, these include:

Within Blarney Castle estate: Bridge (PS1215), Ornamental Tower, Tower House and Bawn (PS1218), Icehouse (PS1219).

There are other Protected Structures and NIAH listed buildings in Blarney, including, at Blarney Woollen Mills, a bridge and two local churches.

15.4.5 Archaeological Sites near the Proposed Development

An examination of the Record of Monuments and Places (RMP) reveals that there are no recorded archaeological sites within the site boundary. Figure 15-1 shows the surrounding archaeological sites and monument records with regards to their proximity to the proposed site, while Table 15-5 below gives further details each of these records. There are no sites within 250 m of the development site.



- Legend
- Site Boundary
 - Buffer 250m
 - Buffer 500m
 - Buffer 1000m
 - Archaeological Sites and Monument Records

TITLE:
Archaeological Sites and Monument Records
Surrounding the Proposed Development

PROJECT:
Planning Application and
EIAR for Healthcare Waste Management Facility

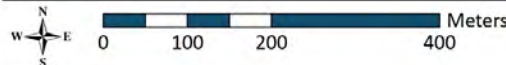
FIGURE NO: 15.1

CLIENT: Stericycle Ltd.

SCALE: 1:9,000 **REVISION:** 0

DATE: 28/08/2025 **PAGE SIZE:** A3

FEHILY TIMONEY Cork | Dublin | Carlow
www.fehilytimoney.ie





The following National Monuments Service – Sites and Monuments Records (MNS SMR) were identified within the local environment of the proposed development.

Table 15-5: Archaeological Sites and Monument Records

Entity ID	Monument Classification	Townland	ITM E	ITM N	Approx. distance to proposed development
CO19295	Fulacht Fia	Shean Upper	562168	575971	414 m to SW
CO09192	Redundant record	Shean Upper	561786	576109	602 m to SW
CO19296	Fulacht Fia	Clogheenmilcon	562463	576741	410 m to NE
CO19297	Fulacht Fia	Clogheenmilcon	562506	576746	430 m to NE
CO09214	Standing Stone	Curraghnalaght	562767	577205	954 m to NE
CO09232	Fulacht Fia	Clogheenmilcon	562421	577130	785 m to N
CO19054	Fulacht Fia	Clogheenmilcon	562473	577225	886 m to N
CO09231	Fulacht Fia	Curraghnalaght	562343	577305	966 m to N
CO09230	Fulacht Fia	Curraghnalaght	562294	577329	983 m to N
CO09228	Fulacht Fia	Curraghnalaght	562199	577327	992m to N
CO09229	Fulacht Fia	Curraghnalaght	562177	577345	1,013m to N
CO09203	Stone Row	Curraghnalaght	562038	577304	999m to NW
CO09064	Mill - Woolen	Shean Lower	561204	575848	1,248 to SW
CO18979	Church	Shean Lower	561557	575333	1,285 to SW
CO10609	Bridge	Killard	561613	575266	1,308 to SW

Descriptions of Monument classification from Table 15-5

- *Fulacht Fia - Shean Upper (CO19295)*: A large spread of heat-shattered stones and charcoal-enriched soil was exposed during archaeological testing in advance of a large housing development and was excavated in 2006. Excavation revealed troughs, a roasting or fire pit and a possible shelter. A small area of burnt bone, which post-dated the fulacht fia was exposed a short distance to the SW.
- *Redundant Record – Shean Upper (CO09192)*: Listed as a 'landscape feature' in the SMR (1988) and the RMP (1998). According to the records of the Cork Archaeological Survey, UCC, this is a non-antiquity and as such does not constitute an archaeological monument.
- *Fulacht Fia – Clogheenmilcon (CO19296)*: The Archaeological Survey of Ireland (ASI) is in the process of providing information on all monuments on The Historic Environment Viewer (HEV). Currently the information for this record has not been uploaded.



- *Fulacht Fia – Clogheenmilcon (CO19297)*: The Archaeological Survey of Ireland (ASI) is in the process of providing information on all monuments on The Historic Environment Viewer (HEV). Currently the information for this record has not been uploaded.
- *Standing Stone – Curraghnalaght (CO09214)*: Not shown on 1842 and 1904 OS 6-inch maps. In tillage, c. 100m to S of standing stone (CO062-197----). Stone (H 1.27m; 0.91m x 0.37m) is sub rectangular in plan, long axis NW-SE.
- *Fulacht Fia – Clogheenmilcon (CO09232)*: In pasture, low, grass-covered mound of burnt material (34m NE-SW; 22m SE-NW; H 0.2m). Visible as soil mark in aerial photograph (CASAP).
- *Fulacht Fia – Clogheenmilcon (CO19054)*: The Archaeological Survey of Ireland (ASI) is in the process of providing information on all monuments on The Historic Environment Viewer (HEV). Currently the information for this record has not been uploaded.
- *Fulacht Fia – Curraghnalaght (CO09231)*: In pasture, close to spring. Barely discernible mound of burnt material (12m NE-SW; 21m NW-SE). Second fulacht fia (CO062-213---) 16m to W.
- *Fulacht Fia – Curraghnalaght (CO09230)*: In pasture, adjacent to spring. Low irregular mound of burnt material (22.5m NE-SW; 16m NW-SE). Some burnt material used to infill spring. Second fulacht fia (CO062-214---) 16m to E.
- *Fulacht Fia – Curraghnalaght (CO09228)*: In pasture. Grass-covered mound of burnt material (40m NE-SW; 18m NW-SE; H 0.45m). Visible in aerial photograph (CASAP) as horseshoe-shaped soil mark. Second fulacht fia (CO062-212---) 28m to W. Archaeological test-trenching here confirmed the presence of the badly disturbed remains of a fulacht fia.
- *Fulacht Fia – Curraghnalaght (CO09229)*: In pasture, 28m W of another fulacht fia (CO062-211---). Barely discernible mound of burnt material (24m N-S; 20m E-W). Archaeological test-trenching here confirmed the presence of the badly disturbed remains of a fulacht fia.
- *Stone Row - Curraghnalaght (CO09203)*: In pasture, no visible surface trace of site marked as three stones on 1842 OS 6-inch map but not shown on later editions of map. Hartnett (1939, 219) thought stones removed in 19th century.
- *Mill – Woolen – Shean Lower (CO09065)*: In Blarney village, on N bank of Martin River. Complex consists mainly of late 19th-century buildings, varying in size, but with similar architectural details: chiefly random rubble sandstone construction, with brick quoins and brick window surrounds; large camber-headed windows with fixed frames; upper lights hinged to open outwards. The roofs are slated but the N-facing sides are glazed. The main body of buildings is aligned NW-SE. The interiors are mainly open plan, with wooden floors supported by iron columns.

At NW end is a rectangular, 3-storey, 5-bay structure (long axis NE-SW); stone quoins; chimney stacks atop gables. Large spinning mill was added to SE side, using sidewall of above structure. Spinning mill (now shop and knitting unit) is a 3-storey, double-gable-ended structure; datestone on N elevation reads: "Rebuilt O'Mahony & Brothers 1870". Extended by 3 bays to SE, using identical architectural style; built over tail-race channel. The addition uses sidewall of earlier structure at SE end; this latter is L-shaped 3-storey structure (long axis NE-SW); stone quoins; brick addition to SE makes rectangular ground plan. To NE of spinning mill is rectangular 4-bay, 3-storey powerhouse (long axis N-S), built against high ground to N; ground and 1st floors stone-built, 2nd floor brick-built; gable-ended to N, hipped roof to S. Wheel-pit (now infilled) along E elevation; remains of brick lining of wheel-pit evident on E wall of powerhouse.



Millrace (now dry) approached from E along high ground, behind terraces of millhouses, where it meets E wall of powerhouse and turns sharply to S, falling c. 7m into wheel-pit. To SE of above complex is carding mill (now a restaurant); 2-storey, rectangular structure with triple hipped roof; ground floor random rubble sandstone construction; 1st floor of brick. SW elevation of 10 bays; NW elevation shows signs of rebuilding. Carding room and hosiery section were on ground and 1st floor respectively. N part of SE wall used by later 3-storey, double-gable-ended structure (now a hotel); SW elevation of 14 bays; yarns were wound and partially spun in the upper floors, ground floor accommodated the hosiery section started in 1926 (O'Mahony 1989, 44). Two-storey addition to rear, at W end. Short distance to N is long 2-storey rectangular structure (long axis NE-SW); formerly stables with oat loft overhead; also accommodated a canteen.

Weaving sheds at SE end of complex attached to spinning mill at SW end; series of nine 1-storey, broad gable-ended buildings; chimney stacks on SE gables; river flows along SE wall. Part of interior modernized but much still open plan with iron columns. This housed mainly Dobcross looms; also accommodated the "invisible menders", tweed shop, steamer's and carpenter's workshop. To SW of spinning mill is late 19th-century 2-storey residential house, originally free-standing but recently attached to spinning mill.

Original entrance to mill complex on NE side; entrance to house and grounds, with gate lodge, on NW side, this has now been converted into main entrance to "Blarney Woollen Mills". Across river, to N of mills, overgrown ruin with adjacent infilled cleaning ponds. Millpond located c. 1km to N on Martin River; sluice at S end fed millrace. Close to mills are terraces of 2-storey houses, with rounded tarred roofs, built between 1806 and 1892 (Meehan 1979, 19-20).

Mills were purchased by Martin O'Mahony in 1824 (Morley 1991; O'Mahony 1989, 37; O'Mahony 1994, 84) who converted the old cotton and flax mill to woollen production. Woollen mills indicated on 1842 OS 6-inch map as irregular in plan, long axis NW-SE, on W end of present complex; mills burnt in 1869 but rebuilt shortly afterwards and again extended in 1880. In 1880s some 800 people were employed; the equipment included '113 power looms for weaving, 2,000 spindles for worsted spinning, 9,000 for woollen spinning and 2,300 for twisting' (O'Mahony 1994, 85). Closed 1975 and machinery and furnishings removed. Part of complex later reopened as a commercial outlet named "Blarney Woollen Mills".

- *Church – Shean Lower (CO18979)*: The placename 'Killishal', is indicated in the centre of the townland of Killard on the 1842 OS 6-inch map and in its NW quadrant on the 1937 OS 6-inch map. O'Donoghue (1986, 217) noted that 'Killishal - Cill Iseal (low church), which was at one time a townland, is at the north-east [sic]' of the townland of Killard. According to local information, the site of the church of Killishal is in the townland of Shean Lower, to the N of Gothic Bridge in an area that is indicated as tree covered on the 1842 OS 6-inch map. There are no visible remains of this possible church.
- *Bridge – Killard (CO10609)*: Ornate hump-backed road bridge (Width 6.6m) over River Blarney, on E side of Blarney Castle demesne (see CO062-238----). Segmental arch, with alternating limestone and sandstone voussoirs, replaces single sandstone arch; roughly shaped voussoirs of which were retained at base of later arch. Built on slight plinth. Long ornate side elevations, with pilasters and brick quatrefoils, appear to be contemporary with original bridge. Remains of pointed blind door on E side and rectangular door opens on W side, all with stone surrounds and hood mouldings.



15.4.6 Previous Archaeological Investigations

No previous archaeological investigations at the development site.

Archaeological investigations that have been carried out within the local environment include:

- The closest is located approximately 1,500 m to the southeast in the townland of Killeens, where at the site a fulacht fia was exposed during monitoring of topsoil-stripping along the route of a Bord Gáis Éireann pipeline that extended from Caherlag to Ballincollig, Co. Cork. The site was initially identified as a large spread of blackened and fire-shattered stone immediately beneath the topsoil. Preliminary investigations of the site appeared to confirm the location of a trough beneath the burnt spread (Licence No. 99E0503).
- A badger cave (Licence no. 07E0672) is located outside and to the west-northwest of the bawn wall of Blarney Castle. It consists of one main passage (35 m long) with two short connecting fissures (7 m and 13 m long respectively) extending from the south-eastern wall. The developer wanted to enable visitor access to the cave, which required the excavation of a pathway, 23 m long by 1m wide by 0.8m deep, through the main cave passage. Due to the proximity of the cave to Blarney Castle, the work was monitored. Approximately 50% of all excavated deposits were wet sieved through 3mm sieves outside the cave. Over 340 animal bones were recovered, but specialist analysis indicated they were natural occurrences and of relatively recent origin. The only find of archaeological significance was the proximal end of a flint flake, which has been identified as probably Neolithic in date.
- A ringfort site located in the townland of Curraghnalaght (Licence no. 10E0001) had Four test-trenches opened by mechanical digger on this site to satisfy a request for further information. The first trench established the outer edge of the levelled ringfort. No development was permitted within a buffer zone outside this edge. The other three trenches were excavated in two potential locations of a percolation area and associated works to determine the presence of any potential subsurface archaeological features. No other features were identified.

A summary of archaeological investigations carried out is presented in Table 15-6.

Table 15-6: Summary of Archaeological Investigations

Licence No.	Site Type	Townland	ITM E	ITM N	Approx. distance to proposed development
99E0503	Fulacht Fia	Killeens	563558	575461	1,500m to SE
07E0672	Cave	Blarney	560936	575812	1,503m to SW
10E0001	Ringfort	Curraghnalaght	561824	577754	1,503m to N

15.5 Potential Impacts

The potential impacts the proposed development on Archaeological, Architectural and Cultural Heritage are assessed in this section. Potential impacts associated with each phase of the proposed development (construction, operation and decommissioning, as described in Chapter 4 - Description of the Existing and Proposed Development, in Volume 2 of this EIAR, are assessed in line with the assessment criteria defined in Section 15.3.



15.5.1 'Do Nothing' Impacts

If the proposed development did not take place, the development site will remain as it is currently as a vacant light-industrial/warehouse site, until another development was proposed for use of the site. The 'Do-Nothing' scenario will not result in likely significant effects.

15.5.2 Construction Phase Impacts

The proposed development will involve only minor, limited construction works that are small-scale in nature. The proposed works for the development of the Healthcare Waste Management Facility are described in Chapter 4 - Description of Existing and Proposed Development in Volume 2 of this EIAR. The proposed development does not involve any demolition, land-take, construction of any additional buildings or structures on-site, site clearance or groundworks. Most of the construction works will take place inside the existing building on-site.

The proposed works can be broken down into the following principal stages:

- Minor Additions/Alterations to Existing Ancillary Site Infrastructure located externally on-site.
- Installation of the Healthcare Waste Treatment and Transfer Facility and Ancillary Building Facilities on-site.

15.5.2.1 Minor additions/alterations to existing ancillary site infrastructure located externally on-site

This includes the installation of a stack emission point at the roof of the existing building and modifications to 2 no. existing station doors to the rear of the existing building.

These works will have no impact on Archaeological, Architectural and Cultural Heritage given their magnitude and the nature and character of the site and the surrounding area. There are no sensitive Archaeological, Architectural and Cultural Heritage features that could be affected by these works.

15.5.2.2 Installation of the Healthcare Waste Treatment and Transfer Facility and Ancillary Building Facilities on-site.

These works include all works associated with installing the facility inside the existing building on-site, including set up of an internal, small-scale construction compound, haulage of plant, equipment and furnishing to the site, construction storage, installation of the facility, construction waste management and construction decommissioning.

These works will have no impact on Archaeological, Architectural and Cultural Heritage given their magnitude and the nature and character of the site and the surrounding area. There are no sensitive Archaeological, Architectural and Cultural Heritage features that could be affected by these works.



15.5.3 Operational Phase Impacts

The following waste management activities will be undertaken at the proposed facility:

- The reception, storage, handling and treatment (using steam disinfection and mechanical shredding) of health care waste;
- the reception, storage, handling and re-packaging of healthcare and hazardous waste;
- the transfer of treated/re-packaged waste off-site; and,
- the automated management of reusable sharps containers.

All waste management operations will be carried out inside the existing building on-site. There will be no waste storage, handling or processing in the external yard area .

Facility operations will have no impact on Archaeological, Architectural and Cultural Heritage given the design of the proposed facility, the location of the facility, and the nature and character of the site and the surrounding area. There are no sensitive Archaeological, Architectural and Cultural Heritage features that could be affected by facility operations.

15.5.4 Decommissioning Phase Impacts

Decommissioning activities are described in Chapter 4 - Description of Existing and Proposed Development in Volume 2 of this EIAR.

Decommissioning of the facility will have no impact on Archaeological, Architectural and Cultural Heritage given the scale of such activities the location of the facility, and the nature and character of the site and the surrounding area. There are no sensitive Archaeological, Architectural and Cultural Heritage features that could be affected by decommissioning works.

15.5.5 Cumulative Impacts

The proposed development will not have any impacts on Archaeological, Architectural and Cultural Heritage, that may combine with other plans or development to create larger more significant adverse impacts.

15.6 Mitigation Measures

The proposed development will have no impact on Archaeological, Architectural and Cultural Heritage, therefore, no mitigation measures have been proposed.

15.7 Residual Impacts

The proposed development will have no residual impact on Archaeological, Architectural and Cultural Heritage. This is due to the following:

- The nature and low magnitude of construction works associated with the proposed development.
- The location of facility and the nature and character of the site and the surrounding area.
- The absence of Archaeological, Architectural and Cultural Heritage features at the development site or in the surrounding which could be affected by the proposed development.



15.8 References

- Government of Ireland (1999). Architectural Heritage (National Inventory) and Historic Monuments (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act, 1999.
- Cork City Council (2022). Cork City Development Plan 2022-2028.
- Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). (2022). *Guidelines on the Information to be Contained in Environmental Impact Assessment Reports*.
- International Council on Monuments and Sites (ICOMOS). (2011). *Guidance on Heritage Impact Assessments for Cultural World Heritage Properties*.
- Government of Ireland (2000, 2024). Planning and Development Acts (as amended).
- www.archaeology.ie
- www.excavations.ie
- www.heritagemaps.ie
- www.heritagecouncil.ie
- ArcGIS Web Application. “Heritage Data Viewer”. Accessed August 27, 2025, from <https://heritagedata.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=0c9eb9575b544081b0d296436d8f60f8>
- National Monuments Service. “Archaeological Survey of Ireland”. Accessed August 27, 2025, from www.data.gov.ie



**DESIGNING AND DELIVERING
A SUSTAINABLE FUTURE**

www.fehilytimoney.ie

 **Cork**

 **Dublin**

 **Carlow**

