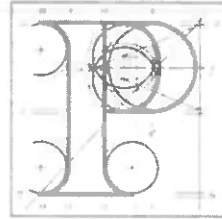


Our Case Number: ACP-323972-25



An
Coimisiún
Pleanála

Inland Fisheries Ireland
c/o Michaela Kirrane
3044 Lake Drive
Citywest Business Campus
Dublin 24
D24 CK66

Date: 27 February 2026

Re: Public realm and community infrastructure project on lands in Ardee, Co. Louth
Ardee, Co. Louth

Dear Sir / Madam,

An Coimisiún Pleanála has received your recent submission in relation to the above mentioned proposed development and will take it into consideration in its determination of the matter.

Please note that the proposed development shall not be carried out unless the Commission has approved it or approved it with conditions.

If you have any queries in relation to the matter please do not hesitate to contact the undersigned officer of the Commission at laps@pleanala.ie

Please quote the above mentioned An Coimisiún Pleanála reference number in any correspondence or telephone contact with the Commission.

Yours faithfully,

Kevin McGettigan

Kevin McGettigan
Executive Officer
Direct Line: 01-8737263

JA03

Teil	Tel	(01) 858 8100
Glaó Áitiúil	LoCall	1800 275 175
Facs	Fax	(01) 872 2684
Láithreán Gréasáin	Website	www.pleanala.ie
Ríomhphost	Email	communications@pleanala.ie

64 Sráid Maoilbhríde	64 Marlborough Street
Baile Átha Cliath 1	Dublin 1
D01 V902	D01 V902

From: Michaela Kirrane <Michaela.Kirrane@fisheriesireland.ie>
Sent: Monday 23 February 2026 15:49
To: SIDS <sids@pleanala.ie>
Subject: Ardee Public Realm Project JA15.323972

You don't often get email from michaela.kirrane@fisheriesireland.ie. [Learn why this is important](#)

Caution: This is an **External Email** and may have malicious content. Please take care when clicking links or opening attachments. When in doubt, contact the ICT Helpdesk.

To whom it concerns,

Attached please find Inland Fisheries Ireland observations regarding Ardee Public Realm Project.

Yours faithfully,

Michaela

Michaela Kirrane

Senior Fisheries Environmental Officer

Michaela.Kirrane@fisheriesireland.ie • +353 (0)1 8842 600 • www.fisheriesireland.ie • D24 CK66



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Iascach Intíre Éireann
Inland Fisheries Ireland

An Coimisiún Pleanála,
SIDS/LAPS Section,
64 Marlborough Street,
Dublin 1.

23rd February, 2026

Re: Public Realm and Community Infrastructure Project on lands in Ardee, Co. Louth

Dear Sir/Madam,,

We refer to the above mentioned project in Ardee, Co. Louth. IFI has the following observations to make regarding the proposed project:

Inland Fisheries Ireland (IFI) is a statutory agency responsible for inland fisheries in Ireland. Under section 7(1) of the Inland Fisheries Act 2010 (No. 10 of 2010) *the principal function of IFI is the protection, management and conservation of the inland fisheries resource.*

The lands in the project area are located in the River Dee catchment. This river contain valuable fisheries habitat and support stocks of Atlantic salmon, trout, European Eel and lamprey species among other species.

Note: Atlantic salmon and lamprey species are Annex II listed species in the European Habitats Directive.

The Water Framework Directive Ecological status (2019-2024) of the waterbody at this location, Dee_070 is Good.

- **Amenity Lands - Riparian zone along the River Dee**

IFI welcomes the incorporation of a riparian zone along the river at the Amenity Lands site. We recommend that the zone would be designed in accordance with IFI's guidance document **Planning for watercourses in the urban environment**, which can be accessed on IFI's website ([www. https://www.fisheriesireland.ie](https://www.fisheriesireland.ie)). The immediate stream side zone should be minimum 10m wide to protect the river and vegetated with native riparian vegetation. The remainder of the riparian zone would prevent encroachment and would act as a sump/filter for nutrients and sediment. Incorporation of a suitably sized buffer zone can protect the aquatic habitat and can also provide an amenity and make space for high water flood events.

- **Surface water management**

We understand that surface water from the development will be discharged into the nearby watercourses. We recommend that storm water management should be designed in accordance with the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage guidance document **Nature-based solutions for the management of rainwater and surface water run-off in urban areas**. The document identifies the need for a significant change in the way to plan, design, build and maintain urban areas through the replacement of impermeable surfacing with nature-based planted areas designed to absorb, retain, store and treat urban runoff prior to discharge back to the environment.

- **Instream and/or bankside works**

IFI should be consulted regarding detailed design and construction methodology of all instream or bankside works along all watercourses in the project area.



**Iascach Intíre Éireann
Inland Fisheries Ireland**

- **Surface water management during construction phase**

We recommend that suitable mitigation measures are incorporated to protect water quality and the aquatic habitat both during and following construction. Recommendations for these mitigation measures can be found in our guidance document **Guideline for protection of fisheries during construction works in and adjacent to waters**.

All construction work should be in accordance with a Construction Environmental Management Plan which ensures that good construction practices are adopted throughout the construction period and contains mitigation measures to deal with potential adverse impacts identified in advance of the scheme.

Ground preparation and associated construction works, including large-scale topographic alteration and the creation of roads and buildings have significant potential to cause the release of sediments and pollutants into surrounding watercourses. Pollution of the adjacent freshwaters from poor on-site construction practices could have a significantly negative impact on water quality and the aquatic fauna and flora.

Construction works should be planned in a manner which prevents extensive tracts of soils being exposed at any time and which ensures a more progressive clearance of greenfield lands. We recommend an undisturbed filter strip (minimum 10m) is left along all watercourse in the project area. Protective silt fencing should be erected to safeguard the stream in advance of any construction work. No ground clearance, earth moving, stock-piling or machinery movement should occur within this protected area.

Construction mitigation measures should be established at the commencement of groundworks.

We recommend daily logged visual inspections of the watercourses and discharge points on site to identify any issues that may arise at an early stage.

In the preparation of a CEMP, particular account must be taken in relation to bio security. To prevent the spread of hazardous invasive species and pathogens, high pressure steam cleaning of all items of plant and equipment to be used at and adjacent to waters must be undertaken prior to use. All PPE must be disinfected prior to use.

It is important to ensure that the proposed development will not have a negative impact on the aquatic habitat and WFD Ecological status.

Yours faithfully,

Michaela Kirrane,
Senior Fisheries Environmental Officer