

**N70 Waterville to Ballybrack Road Improvement Scheme
Planning Authority Habitats Directive Appropriate Assessment
Screening Determination Statement**

Stage 1 Appropriate Assessment Screening Statement

Kerry County Council as Competent Authority determines that the proposed works, individually, and in combination with other plans and projects, may have significant effects on a European (Natura 2000) Site (Killarney National Park, Macgillicuddy's Reeks and Caragh River Catchment SAC), and as such, a Stage 2 Appropriate Assessment / Natura Impact Statement is required. The potential for significant effects on other Natura 2000 sites is objectively and conclusively ruled out.

It is considered that the AA Screening Report prepared by Tobin Consulting Engineers contains a fair and reasonable assessment of the likelihood of significant effects of the development on European sites. That assessment is adopted as the assessment of Kerry County Council.

It is therefore concluded that a Stage 2 Natura Impact statement (NIS) be prepared to assist the competent authority in undertaking an assessment of potential adverse effects of the proposed road development works either alone or in-combination with other plans and projects on the integrity of the Killarney National Park, MacGillicuddy's Reeks and Caragh River Catchment SAC.

Reasons for Determination

- In view of best scientific knowledge and in the absence of mitigation measures, potential likely significant effects from the proposed development cannot be ruled out for the Killarney National Park, MacGillicuddy Reeks and Caragh River Catchment SAC. The source-pathway-receptor model has identified the potential for the proposed development to result in water quality impacts with the potential to impact on the Qualifying Interests of the SAC.
- The screening assessment also determined that significant effects on other European sites could be ruled out with scientific certainty. Refer to Table 3-2 and Table 3-3 of the above-mentioned AA screening report for further details.
- It is therefore concluded that a Stage 2 Natura Impact statement (NIS) be prepared for submission to the competent authority undertaking an assessment of potential adverse effects of the proposed development either alone or in-combination with other plans and projects on the integrity of the Killarney National Park, MacGillicuddy Reeks and Caragh River Catchment SAC.

Signed:



James Nolan

Director of Services / Stiúrthóir Seirbhísí, Planning, Environment & Emergency Management

Date:

10th April 2025.