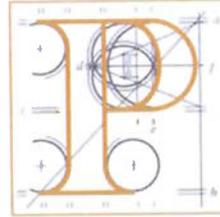


**Our Case Number:** ACP-323996-26



An  
Coimisiún  
Pleanála

Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage  
Newtown Road  
Wexford  
Co. Wexford  
Y35 AP90

**Date:** 26 February 2026

**Re:** Proposed development N70 Waterville to Ballybrack Road Improvement Scheme  
Townlands of Waterville, Ballybrack and Eightercua, Co. Kerry

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 with or without modifications.

If you have any queries in relation to the matter please contact the undersigned officer of the Commission at [laps@pleanala.ie](mailto:laps@pleanala.ie)

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

Yours faithfully,

Aisling Reilly  
Executive Officer  
Direct Line: 01-8737131

AA02

Teil	Tel	(01) 858 8100
Glaó Áitiúil	LoCall	1800 275 175
Facs	Fax	(01) 872 2684
Láithreán Gréasáin	Website	<a href="http://www.pleanala.ie">www.pleanala.ie</a>
Ríomhphost	Email	<a href="mailto:communications@pleanala.ie">communications@pleanala.ie</a>

64 Sráid Maoilbhríde  
Baile Átha Cliath 1  
D01 V902

64 Marlborough Street  
Dublin 1  
D01 V902

## Aisling Reilly

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**From:** Housing Manager DAU <Manager.DAU@npws.gov.ie>  
**Sent:** Friday 13 February 2026 10:29  
**To:** LAPS  
**Subject:** Your Ref: ACP-323996-26 DAU Ref: S177AE N70 Waterville to Ballybrack Road KY  
**Attachments:** ACP-323996-26.pdf

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Flagged

**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.

A Chara,

Attached please find the archaeological and nature conservation observations/recommendations of the Department in relation to the aforementioned Section 177AE Planning Application.

Can you please confirm receipt of same?

Kind Regards,  
Sinéad

—  
**Sinéad O' Brien**  
Executive Officer

—  
**Aonad na nIarratas ar Fhorbairt**  
*Development Applications Unit*  
**Oifigí an Rialtais**  
*Government Offices*  
Bóthar an Bhaile Nua, Loch Garman, Contae Loch Garman Y35 AP90  
Newtown Road, Wexford, County Wexford Y35 AP90  
—



Your Ref: ACP-323996-26  
DAU Ref: S177AE N70 Waterville to Ballybrack Road KY  
(Please quote in all related correspondence)

13 February 2026

The Secretary  
An Coimisiún Pleanála  
64 Marlborough Street  
Dublin 1  
D01 V902

Via email to [laps@pleanala.ie](mailto:laps@pleanala.ie)

Re: Notification under Section 177AE (4) (a) of the Planning and Development Act 2000 as amended (as inserted by Section 57 of the Planning and Development (Amendment) Act 2010).

**Re: Section 177AE application for N70 Waterville to Ballybrack Road Improvement Scheme in County Kerry**

A Chara

I refer to correspondence received in connection with the above. Outlined below are heritage-related observations/recommendations of the Department co-ordinated by the Development Applications Unit under the stated headings.

### **Archaeology**

It is noted that the Planning and Environmental Considerations Report (PECR) includes a very brief summary assessment only of the likely archaeological and cultural heritage environment, potential effects of the project and proposed mitigation measures (Chapter 11). The PECR states that:

*The existing archaeological, architectural and cultural heritage environment was assessed for the site and environs of the proposed development by Dr Kim Rice, of AMS Archaeological Management Services.*

However, this assessment was not included in the Application documents either as a supporting appendix to the PECR or as a standalone document. Therefore, the Department advises that the Applicant must be requested to provide a copy of the full Cultural Heritage Impact Assessment (and any other relevant documentation omitted from the Application). The full assessment is needed in order to properly evaluate the proposed development and to support informed decision-making. The Department advises that no decision be made on



this application until the full Cultural Heritage Impact Assessment has been reviewed and evaluated.

Reason

To ensure the continued preservation (either *in-situ* or by record) of places, caves, sites, features or other objects of archaeological interest.

Nature Conservation

**Killarney National Park, Macgillicuddy's Reeks and Caragh River Special Area of Conservation (SAC) (Site Code: 000365)**

The new drainage outfalls are within the Currane River part of the Killarney National Park, Macgillicuddy's Reeks and Caragh River Special Area of Conservation (SAC) (Site Code: 000365), designated<sup>1</sup> for, amongst other habitats and species, salmon and lamprey species.

The bridge abutments and new drainage outfalls are also upstream of the Ballinskelligs Bay and Inny Estuary proposed Natural Heritage Area (pNHA) (Site Code: 000335), to which Objective KCDP 11-2 of the 2022-2028 Kerry County Development Plan applies (to maintain the nature conservation value of the site). This includes the downstream shingle bank habitat at the outflow of the river.

It is important that the measures necessary to avoid siltation from construction and road pollutant run-off during operation are fully implemented. In particular, as timing of works is not specified in the Natura Impact Statement (NIS), and as the bridge abutment sand-bags are to be placed in a flood zone, there may be a risk of sand-bag erosion. It is therefore important that the sand-bags are reinforced if necessary, and subject to inspection by a professional engineer before works commence. Also, regular maintenance of hydrocarbon interceptors (above the road drain discharge to the Currane River) is important.

You are requested to send any further communications to this Department's Development Applications Unit (DAU) at [manager.dau@npws.gov.ie](mailto:manager.dau@npws.gov.ie), or to the following address:  
The Manager, Development Applications Unit (DAU), Government Offices, Newtown Road, Wexford, Y35 AP90

Is mise, le meas

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Joanne Lyons  
Higher Executive Officer,  
Development Applications Unit, Administration

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<sup>1</sup>Designated under the European Union Habitats (Killarney National Park, Macgillicuddy's Reeks and Caragh River Special Area of Conservation 000365) Regulations 2023 (S.I. No. 464 of 2023).