



Our Ref: 1036-2026-L-14674

Your Ref: ACP- 307462-20

6th May 2026

An Coimisiún Pleanála (Strategic Infrastructure Division)
64 Marlborough Street
Dublin 1
D01 V902

RE: Application under Section 51 of the Roads Act 1993, as amended, for approval of the TEN-T Priority Route Improvement Project, Donegal

Dear Sir/Madam,

Donegal County Council (DCC) is submitting the enclosed Environmental Impact Assessment Report and Natura Impact Statement for the TEN-T Priority Route Improvement Project, Donegal to An Coimisiún Pleanála and are hereby applying for approval under section 51 of the Roads Act, 1993, as amended, for the purposes of construction and operation of the TEN-T Priority Route Improvement Project, Donegal.

The TEN-T Priority Route Improvement Project, Donegal (the Proposed Development) proposes improvement to three targeted and appropriate sections of Donegal's TEN-T/ national road network. The Proposed Development includes online improvement and upgrade, bypass of three urban centres and route realignment. It includes over 60km of segregated active travel network and as well as transport hubs at key locations for transition between different transport modes. It also has significant green credentials and has been designed cognisant of climate and includes decarbonisation initiatives and climate resilience features.

The Proposed Development consists of three sections over approximately 40km in length, as summarised below:

- Section 1 – N15/N13 Ballybofey/ Stranorlar Urban Region
Active travel, modal hubs, urban bypass
- Section 2 – N56/N13 Letterkenny to Manorcunningham
Active travel, online/upgrade, route realignment, urban bypass (Letterkenny), modal hub
- Section 3 – N14 Manorcunningham to Lifford / Strabane/ A5 Link
Active travel, route realignment, urban bypass (Lifford) and access to border connection (Lifford/Strabane), modal hubs.

/Continued

6th May 2026

The proposed road development is routed along the County Donegal electoral divisions of (i) Dooish, (ii) Stranorlar, (iii) Convoy, (iv) Lettermore, (v) Magheraboy, (vi) Letterkenny Rural, (vii) Manorcunningham, (viii) Kinraigy, (ix) Treantaghmucklagh, (x) Feddyglass, (xi) Clonleugh North, and (xii) Clonleigh South all in the County of Donegal.

The Environmental Impact Assessment Report has been prepared and compiled in accordance with the provisions of the Roads Act, 1993, as amended and in accordance with Directive 2011/92/EU of the European Parliament and of the Council of 13 December 2011 as amended by Directive 2014/52/EU of the European Parliament and of the Council of 16 April 2014 in respect of the proposed road development. A Natura Impact Statement has also been prepared in respect of the proposed road development.

Donegal County Council enclose the following:

- The Environmental Impact Assessment Report (EIAR) (including all Figures and Appendixes) dated March 2026 (1 No. hard copy and 1 No. electronic copy on enclosed USB Flash Drive) comprising:
 - Volume A – Non-Technical Summary
 - Volume B – EIAR Main Report
 - Volume C – EIAR Technical Appendices, and
 - Volume D – Book of Drawings;
- The Natura Impact Statement (NIS) (including all Figures and Appendixes) dated March 2026 (1 No. hard copy and 1 No. electronic copy on enclosed USB Flash Drive);
- Appropriate Assessment Screening Report (including all Figures and Appendixes) dated December 2025 (1 No. hard copy and 1 No. electronic copy on enclosed USB Flash Drive). The associated AA Screening Determination made by DCC is also enclosed and is also available at <https://www.donegalcoco.ie/media/k3eapssu/ten-t-priority-route-improvement-project-donegal-appropriate-assessment-screening-determination.pdf>;
- An Irish language version of the Non-Technical Summary of the Environmental Impact Assessment Report (1 no. hard copy and 1 No. electronic copy on enclosed USB Flash Drive)
- Confirmation Notice issued by the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage on 01/05/2026 confirming that the required information has been entered onto the EIA Portal, Portal ID Number 2026072;

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1036-2026-L-14674

6th May 2026

- Chief Executive's Order dated 26th March 2026, ordering that the Environmental Impact Assessment Report and the Natura Impact Statement be submitted to An Coimisiún Pleanála in accordance with section 51 of the Roads Act, 1993 (as amended) for the approval of the TEN-T Priority Route Improvement Project, Donegal and that the necessary statutory advertisements and notices be published and served in accordance with section 51 of the Roads Act 1993 (as amended) (1 No. Hard Copy and 1 No. Electronic Copy on enclosed USB flash drive).
- Map of the location of the proposed road development (Location Maps) to a scale of not less than 1:1,000 in relation to built-up areas and 1:2,500 in relation to all other areas (1 No. hard copy and 1 No. electronic copy on enclosed USB Flash Drive),

Supplementary Information:

- Option Selection Report dated December 2019 (1 No. hard copy and 1 No. electronic copy on enclosed USB flash drive).
- Separate Document Containing All Mitigation Measures as set out in Chapter 21 of the EIAR dated March 2026 (1 No. hard copy and 1 No. electronic copy on enclosed USB flash drive).
- Biodiversity No Net Loss Report dated March 2026 (1 No. hard copy and 1 No. electronic copy on enclosed USB flash drive)

All of the above documentation can also be accessed on Donegal County Council's stand-alone dedicated website for the TEN-T Priority Route Improvement Project, Donegal, at www.donegal-ten-t.ie.

Donegal County Council will also send to An Coimisiún Pleanála in due course:

- Newspaper Notices to be published pursuant to section 51(3)(a) of the Roads Act 1993 (as amended) in the Donegal Democrat and Derry People/Donegal News and the Irish Independent (two local newspapers and one national newspaper) (1 No. hard copy and 1 No. electronic copy), and
- All notices to be served on prescribed bodies and to the prescribed authority in Northern Ireland (1 No. hard copy and 1 No. electronic copy).

Donegal County Council will notify the prescribed authority in Northern Ireland of the TEN-T Priority Route Improvement Project, Donegal pursuant to Section 51(3)(c) of the Roads Act, 1993 (as amended). Donegal County Council will forward a copy of that notification to An Coimisiún Pleanála in due course.

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-4-

1036-2026-L-14674

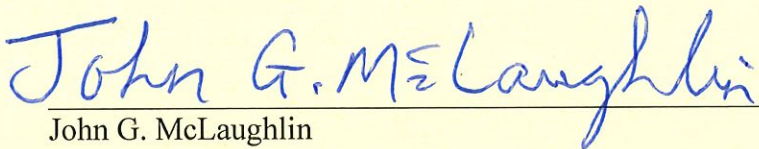
6th May 2026

Donegal County Council can confirm that the application fee of €60,000 has been paid by Electronic Funds Transfer to the An Coimisiún Pleanála and notification has been sent to finance@pleanala.ie and wishes to advise An Coimisiún Pleanála that a related compulsory purchase order namely the TEN-T Priority Route Improvement Project, Donegal Compulsory Purchase Order 2026 will be lodged in the next number of days and that Donegal County Council will be seeking a fee waiver in relation to that CPO.

Should you have any queries in relation to the enclosed documentation, please contact:

Aine McHugh
Donegal County Council
Donegal Public Service Centre
Drumlonagher
Donegal Town
F94 DK6C
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Tel: 074-9724500

Yours faithfully,



John G. McLaughlin
Chief Executive

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