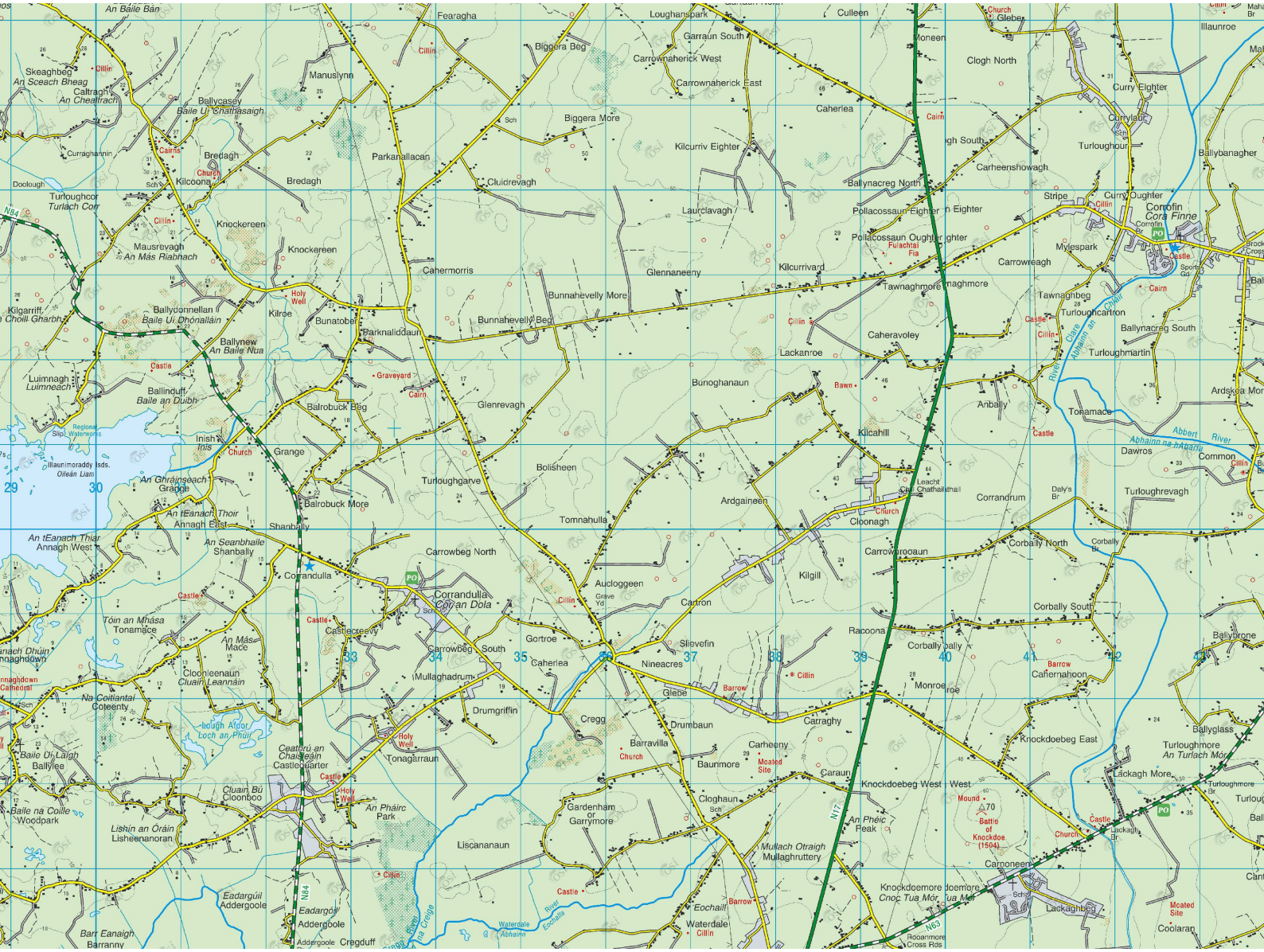
CHAPTER 1

INTRODUCTION



QUARRY CONSULTING

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CHAPTER 1: INTRODUCTION

1.1 Harringtons Concrete and Quarries (the applicant) is proposing a lateral extension to an existing limestone quarry at Ardgaineen, Claregalway, Co. Galway.

1.2 This EIAR (Environmental Impact Assessment Report) is provided in accordance with the EU EIA Directive 2011/92/EU, as amended by EIA Directive 2014/52/EU and the European Union (Planning and Development) (Environmental Impact Assessment) Regulations 2018, in order to inform the consideration of the Application and provide the planning authority with the environmental Information that must be taken into account when determining the Application. All the land required for the Proposed Development (included within the Application site boundary) is referred to in this EIAR as 'the Site'. The Proposed Development is entirely within the administrative boundary of Galway County Council (GCC) and the EIAR is being provided to GCC as part of a planning application seeking full planning permission.

1.3 This EIAR has been prepared by Quarry Consulting, with the support of other consultancy advisors. A list of the main contributors to this EIAR is provided in Table 1.2 below.

1.4 Key areas of information presented within this EIAR concern the nature and extent of the Proposed Development, the character of the receiving environment and likely interactions between the two that could result in significant environmental impacts. Information presented on the receiving environment identifies the intrinsic value and importance of potential impact receptors.

The Applicant

1.5 Harrington Concrete & Quarries, along with its sister company Harrington Concrete (Sligo) group, is a prominent family-run business and one of the largest independent manufacturers of concrete and quarry stone products in the Republic of Ireland. With a long history in the sand and gravel industry spanning over 50 years, the company was previously known as Frank Harrington Ltd.

1.6 Established in 1971 at Kilkelly, County Mayo, Harrington Concrete & Quarries has since expanded its operations and now operates concrete production facilities in Castlebar (Co. Mayo), Claregalway (Co. Galway), and Ballisodare (Co. Sligo). The company has experienced significant growth and currently employs over 130 individuals.

1.7 Renowned for its expertise, Harrington Concrete & Quarries has earned a solid reputation as a skilled civil engineering contractor, collaborating with local authorities on various road projects and public amenities. Notably, the company served as the main contractor for Ireland West Airport Knock.

1.8 Harrington Concrete & Quarries is not only dedicated to delivering high-quality products and services but also upholds a strong commitment to environmental sustainability. As a responsible corporate citizen, the company places great emphasis on minimising its impact on the environment and operates in a sustainable manner.

1.9 Through the adoption of eco-friendly practices and technologies, Harrington Concrete & Quarries strives to ensure that its operations are conducted in an environmentally conscious manner. This includes responsible sourcing of raw materials, efficient use of energy and resources, waste management strategies, and adherence to relevant environmental regulations.

1.10 Furthermore, Harrington Concrete & Quarries is committed to continuous improvement and seeks innovative solutions that align with the principles of sustainability. By integrating sustainable practices into its daily operations, the company aims to set an example for the construction industry and promote environmentally responsible practices.

The Application Site

1.11 The application site has a significant history of development, with a documented history dating back to 1977. The principle of extraction at this site has been appraised as suitable by Galway County Council and

An Bord Pleanála over the history of the site since that time, supported by detailed assessments undertaken in support of planning applications, including Environmental Impact Assessments. The site is subject to on-going environmental monitoring, with annual reports submitted to Galway County Council to ensure compliance with planning conditions: refer to Appendix 3.1 for the Annual Environmental Report (2024).

1.12 The site under consideration for the application covers an area of approximately 12 hectares. Previously, part of the application site was used for quarrying activities, involving the removal of overburden and extraction of rock, resulting in the formation of a quarry void. The current application site encompasses the same area that was previously the subject of a Substitute Consent application to An Bord Pleanála, which was approved in February 2017, along with additional lands to the East that are currently in agricultural use.

1.13 Regarding the topography of the application site, there is variation in elevation. The site is situated between the 33 and 39m contour lines with the highest point corresponding with the southeast part of the site, which slopes downwards towards the north. Beyond the site, the landscape comprises mildly undulating low hills, with the highpoints at Ballygarriff (69m AOD) to the southeast, and Annagh Cross (77m AOD) to the west.

1.14 The current operational quarry spans approximately 10.55 hectares and has been granted various planning permissions for manufacturing and extraction activities. The manufacturing section includes infrastructure such as a weighbridge, wheelwash, office buildings, maintenance workshops, asphalt plant, concrete batching plant, block yard, storage buildings, processing facilities, stockpiling areas, and supporting plant and infrastructure necessary for the quarry's day-to-day operations. The extraction activities are currently conducted in an area situated to the south of the application site. Internal haul roads connect different sections within the quarry.

1.15 Access to the quarry is achieved through a quarry road that extends over 200 meters, linking the quarry to the local road, L6182. The L6182 road connects to the N83 National Primary route (formerly N17) approximately 1.3 kilometers east of the quarry entrance. The application site itself is situated roughly 8 kilometers north of Claregalway and 12 kilometers southwest of Tuam. Galway City, a significant employment hub for the region, is located 17 kilometers to the south. The land surrounding the application site primarily comprises agricultural land. Settlements in the vicinity of the site predominantly consist of scattered dwellings, ribbon development and farmhouses along major and minor roads.

1.16 Harringtons Concrete and Quarries owns the site where the proposed development will take place.

Previous Planning Application

Section 37L Application to extend the quarry laterally was submitted to An Bord Pleanala (An Bord Pleanála Reference Number: 07.QD.0014).

1.17 In February 2017, a Section 37L planning application to extend the quarry laterally was submitted to An Bord Pleanala (An Bord Pleanála Reference Number: 07.QD.0014). This application was accompanied by an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS).

1.18 This planning application was refused by An Bord Pleanála. In the determination of the decision An Bord Pleanála specified four principal reasons:

1. Inadequate Assessment of Local Population Impact: The Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) did not sufficiently cover potential impacts on the local population, including noise, dust, and traffic.
2. Insufficient Archaeological Investigation: The proposed extension area contains two non-designated archaeological monuments, and their significance was not adequately explored through investigation or testing.
3. Deficient Ecological Survey: The survey and assessment of the site's ecology were inadequate in identifying the extent and significance of impacts on flora and fauna, as well as in proposing mitigation measures.

4. **Inadequate Groundwater Impact Assessment**: The EIS relied on an expert report that only addressed historical activities and did not adequately consider the implications of a significant lateral extension of the quarry, which operates below the water table.

1.19 Due to these deficiencies, the Board was not satisfied that the environmental impacts of the proposed quarry extension would be acceptable, deeming it contrary to proper planning and sustainable development. The complexity and likely duration required to address these issues did not justify a further information request or a restricted permission.

Additional Work to Address Previous Reasons for Refusal

1.20 To address these reasons for refusal in the new application, the following additional work has been undertaken:

1. **Assessment of Local Population Impact**
    - **Noise Impact Assessment**: A detailed noise impact assessment that includes baseline noise levels, predicted noise increases, and potential mitigation measures to minimise noise pollution.
    - **Dust Impact Assessment**: A comprehensive dust impact study, including baseline dust levels, potential sources of dust, an impact assessment (as per industry guidelines) and effective dust control measures.
    - **Traffic Impact Study**: A thorough traffic impact study, which includes an analysis of current traffic conditions, projected traffic increases due to quarry operations, and proposed traffic management and mitigation measures.
2. **Archaeological Investigation**
    - **Archaeological Survey and Excavation:** An extensive archaeological survey and excavation of the proposed extension area, involving both surface and subsurface investigations to identify any significant archaeological features. This assessment was conducted by Dr. Charles Mount, who has over thirty years of experience in cultural heritage assessment.
    - **Findings and Consultation:** The archaeological assessment identified two possible features, SMR GA057-166 and SMR GA057-167. Both were subjected to full excavation in 2017, which concluded that they are of no archaeological significance.
    - **Departmental Consultation:** The applicant consulted with the Development Applications Unit of the Department of Culture, Heritage and the Gaeltacht in September 2019. The Department, via the National Monuments Service, confirmed satisfaction with the archaeological impact assessments and agreed with the conclusions that both potential monuments are not of archaeological significance. The Department also confirmed that the development has no impact on known archaeological features or their setting.
    - **Mitigation Plan:** Despite the findings, a detailed archaeological mitigation plan has been prepared. This includes the monitoring of topsoil stripping in unassessed areas by a qualified archaeologist to ensure that any previously unknown subsurface deposits or artefacts are identified and preserved by record.
3. **Ecological Survey**
    - A detailed ecological survey of the quarry site and surrounding areas, focusing on flora and fauna, including any protected species or habitats.
    - **Impact Assessment**: A thorough assessment of the potential ecological impacts of the quarry extension has been conducted, addressing both direct and indirect effects on local biodiversity.
    - **Mitigation Measures**: Robust mitigation measures are proposed to minimise potential ecological impacts.

4. Groundwater Impact Assessment

- The hydrogeological concerns cited in the refusal have been comprehensively addressed through detailed studies, targeted consultations, and adherence to best practices.
- Consultations with Galway County Council and the National Federation of Group Water Schemes confirmed no Group Water Scheme abstractions within the quarry's influence.
- Extensive groundwater quality monitoring and comparison with EPA data indicate compliance with regulations, demonstrating no significant impact from quarry activities. The assessment includes potential cumulative effects and implemented robust discharge management, with a Section 4 Discharge Licence (Ref. No. W/502/22: granted June 2023) ensuring regulated water discharge. These measures collectively mitigate potential impacts on groundwater quality, local water supplies, and protected habitats, aligning with regulatory expectations and addressing the reasons for refusal.

Section 34 Application to extend the quarry laterally submitted to Galway Co Co (Plan File Ref. No. 20/651: ABP 307944-20).

1.21 In May 2020, a Section 34 planning application to allow extraction of rock from the previously consented substitute consent area was submitted to Galway County Council (Plan File Ref. No. 20/651: ABP 307944-20). This application was accompanied by an Environmental Impact Assessment Report (EIAR) and a Natura Impact Statement (NIS).

1.22 The Planning Authority refused permission for two reasons:

1. The local road (L6182) infrastructure is inadequate in terms of width, composition, alignment, and carrying capacity, posing a traffic hazard and impeding public safety. The proposed development contravenes Galway County Development Plan objectives TI 6, TI 10, and DM Standards 20 & 24, thereby being contrary to proper planning and sustainable development.
2. The scale of material extraction (400,000 tons per year) would exacerbate dust, noise, blasting vibrations, and heavy vehicle movements, posing risks to health, safety, and local amenities.

1.23 The local authority's decision to refuse planning permission was appealed to An Bord Pleanála by the applicant (Ref. No. ABP-307944-20).

1.24 An Bord Plenalas planning inspector addressed the local authority's second reason for refusal by evaluating the potential impacts of the proposed 400,000 tonnes per year material extraction on dust, noise, blasting vibrations, and heavy vehicle movements. The inspector concluded that dust and noise emissions would be minor or not significant, as long as the existing mitigation measures, including dust suppression systems and regular monitoring, were implemented. Historical blast measurements showed compliance with vibration limits, and the use of advanced blasting technology and proper management practices would ensure that vibration levels remained within regulatory limits. The inspector also noted that the proposed development would not increase traffic levels beyond those historically experienced, provided that recommended road improvements were made.

1.25 However, significant concerns were raised about the adequacy of the local road network and the unauthorised road works undertaken by the applicant. Despite finding that the proposed mitigation measures could effectively manage environmental impacts, the inspector concluded that the risks to health, safety, and local amenities posed by the development were unacceptable due to unresolved infrastructure issues. Therefore, while the environmental aspects related to dust, noise, and vibrations were deemed manageable, the inadequacy of the road network ultimately influenced the recommendation for refusal.

1.26 The Board raised significant concerns regarding the road network's capacity to accommodate the development, noting the dependency on unauthorised road works. The absence of consent for these works rendered the road network unsuitable for the proposed development.

1.27 Ultimately, the Board refused permission, citing reliance on unauthorised road works along local road (L6182). The Board found that the development would endanger public safety due to traffic hazards and would obstruct road users. Therefore, the proposed development was considered contrary to the proper planning and sustainable development of the area.

Additional Work to Address Previous Reason for Refusal

1.28 Galway County Council has completed a Section 38 process under the Road Traffic Act 1994, implementing comprehensive traffic calming measures on the L-6182 at Corrandrum (Section 38 Reference: L6182 Corrandrum - Traffic Calming). These measures include the installation of pencil delineators, kerbed build-outs, traffic calming signage, line markings, and vehicle-activated signage. The enhancements aim to improve road safety by addressing issues such as excessive speeds, poor sightlines, and inadequate facilities for vulnerable road users, particularly near the national school. The upgrades have standardised the carriageway width, improved sightlines at private accesses and junctions, and provided safer pedestrian pathways.

1.29 The Section 38 process involved a public consultation period from April 20, 2023, to May 24, 2023, during which 28 submissions were received and considered. Based on this feedback, Galway County Council finalised and completed the road safety and infrastructure improvements. These completed works ensure that the L-6182 can support the proposed development without endangering public safety, directly addressing the Board's concerns about the road network's capacity and the potential for increased traffic hazards.

The Proposed Development

Operational Phase (Extraction and Processing)

1.30 The proposed development being applied for under this current planning application is shown on Figure 3.1 and will consist of:

- Extraction of rock from an area consisting of 4.35 hectares which was previously subject to rock extraction and all associated facilities/works to a final floor level of 4 mOD;
- Lateral extension of the existing permitted quarry area over c.6.1 ha. area to a final floor level of 4 mOD;
- Restoration of the application area to natural habitat after uses following completion of extraction;
- all related ancillary development and associated site works including processing (crushing, screening and washing) and stockpiling of materials; provision of landscaped screening berms and all other related activities;
- The proposed development is within an overall application area of c. 12 hectares and is for a total period of 25 years.

1.31 Aggregate extracted from the application area will be processed using both static and mobile crushing and screening plant within the quarry void – refer to Figure 3.1. Processed rock will be stored in the existing permitted quarry area pending use in the ancillary manufacturing plants (asphalt, block, concrete) on site or sale off site.

1.32 Due to the nature of the proposed development, the construction stage—consisting primarily of the stripping of topsoil and overburden and the construction of screening berms—will proceed concurrently with initial operational activities. This approach is designed to optimise site preparation and resource use while minimising environmental disturbance.

Restoration (Reinstatement to Nature Conservation Habitat Areas)

1.33 Upon the cessation of extraction operations, it is proposed to return the worked lands to natural habitat after-uses – refer to EIAR Chapter 3, Figure 3.2 and Chapter 5: Biodiversity.

1.34 Where feasible, restoration of exhausted and redundant areas will be carried out at the earliest opportunity. However, it is envisaged that the majority of the restoration proposals will be carried out after extraction operations at the site have ceased.

Need for an EIAR

1.35 Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) is a process undertaken for certain types of development. It provides a means of drawing together the findings from a systematic analysis of the likely significant environmental effects of a scheme to assist local planning authorities, statutory consultees and other key stakeholders in their understanding of the impacts arising from the development.

1.36 The European Union's 1985 EIA Directive (85/337/EEC) was amended by Directives 97/11/EC, 2003/35/EC and 2009/31/EC, and the Directive and its amendments were codified in 2011 by Directive 2011/92/EU.

1.37 The current Directive 2014/52/EU amends the 2011 codified Directive but does not replace it. This amending Directive was transposed into national planning consent procedures in September 2018 through the European Union (Planning and Development) (Environmental Impact Assessment) Regulations 2018 (S.I. No. 296 of 2018).

1.38 The Department of Housing, Planning and Local Government (currently the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage) published the following in the draft Guidelines for Planning Authorities and An Bord Pleanála in relation to carrying out Environmental Impact Assessment, (August 2018):

> *'The objective of Directive 2011/92/EU, as amended by Directive 2014/52/EU, is to ensure a high level of protection of the environment and human health, through the establishment of minimum requirements for environmental impact assessment (EIA), prior to development consent being given, of public and private developments that are likely to have significant effects on the environment.'*

1.39 The amended EIA Directive prescribes a range of environmental factors which are used to organise descriptions of the environment and these factors must be addressed in the EIAR. Article 3(1) of the amended Directive states that:

> *The environmental impact assessment shall identify, describe and assess in an appropriate manner, in the light of each individual case, the direct and indirect significant effects of a project on the following factors:*
>
> *a) population and human health;*
>
> *b) biodiversity, with particular attention to species and habitats protected under Directive 92/43/EEC and Directive 2009/147/EC;*
>
> *c) land, soil, water, air and climate;*
>
> *d) material assets, cultural heritage and the landscape;*
>
> *e) the interaction between the factors referred to in points (a) to (d).*
>
> *EIA is mandatory for certain types of projects and for other projects that meet or exceed thresholds as set out in Annexes I and II of the Directive (and Part 1 and Part 2 of Schedule 5 of the Planning and Development Regulations 2001, as amended).*

1.40 For certain projects, and for others meeting or exceeding the thresholds outlined in Annexes I and II of the Directive (and Part 1 and Part 2 of Schedule 5 of the Planning and Development Regulations 2001, as amended), an EIA is obligatory.

1.41 Paragraph 19 of Part 1 of Schedule 5 states that the following form of development requires an EIA

> *"Quarries and open-cast mining where the surface of the site exceeds 25 hectares.*

1.42 Paragraph 22 relates to changes or extensions. It states:

"Any change or extension of projects listed in this Annex where such a change or extension in itself meets the thresholds, if any set out in this Annex."

1.43 Paragraph 2 of Part 2 of Schedule 5 refers to extractive industry and part (b) of that section states that the following requires an EIA:

"Extraction of stone, gravel, sand or clay, where the area of extraction would be greater than 5 hectares."

1.44 In addition, paragraph 13(a) of Part 1 requires EIA in respect of:

"Any change or extension of development already authorised, executed or in the process of being executed (not being a change or extension refer to in Part 1) which would:-

i. result in the development being of a class listed in Part 1 or paragraphs 1 to 12 of Part 2 of this Schedule and

ii. result in an increase in size greater than –

25 per cent, or

an amount equal to 50 per cent of the appropriate threshold,

whichever is the greater.

1.45 The proposed development relates to the lateral extension of the existing permitted quarry area over c.6.1 ha. area within an overall application area of c.12 ha.

1.46 The extraction area of the quarry is greater than 5 hectares. On this basis the extraction area of the quarry exceeds the area stated under Part 2 and an EIAR is required.

EIAR Document and Chapter Structure

1.47 The findings of the EIA are set out in this EIAR and comprise the following chapters as presented in Table 1.1. The methodology used within the EIAR is outlined in Chapter 2.0 (Scoping and Methodology). The responsible parties examining the respective topic areas have also been provided in Table 1.2. The EIAR was completed by a project team led by Quarry Consulting, who also prepared a number of the chapters.

1.48 A Non-Technical Summary (NTS) accompanies the EIAR and provides a summary of the key findings of the EIA in non-technical language.

Table 1-1: EIAR Chapter Structure

EIAR Chapter	Chapter Title	Responsibility
1.0	Introduction	Quarry Consulting
2.0	Scope & Methodology	Quarry Consulting
3.0	Project Description	Quarry Consulting
4.0	Alternatives	Quarry Consulting
5.0	Population & Human Health	Quarry Consulting
6.0	Biodiversity	Green and Blue Ecology
7.0	Land, Soils & Geology	Hydro-G
8.0	Water	Hydro-G
9.0	Climate	Quarry Consulting
10.0	Air Quality	AWN Consulting
11.0	Noise & Vibration	Noise and Vibration Consultants Ltd.
12.0	Visual & Landscape	Quarry Consulting
13.0	Traffic	TOBIN
14.0	Heritage	Dr. Charles Mount
15.0	Material Assets	Quarry Consulting
16.0	Interactions	Quarry Consulting
17.0	Mitigation & Monitoring	Quarry Consulting

EIA Project Team

1.49 The members of the team and their respective inputs are presented in Table 1.2. In accordance with EIA Directive 2014/52/EU, we confirm that lead specialists involved in the preparation of the EIAR are fully qualified and competent in their respective field. Each has extensive proven expertise in the relevant field concerned, thus ensuring that the information provided herein is complete and of high quality.

Table 1-2: EIA Project Team

Discipline	Specialist	Qualifications	Accreditations	Years of Professional Experience
Introduction; Scope and Methodology; Project Description; Alternatives; Climate; Interactions.	Peter Kinghan (Quarry Consulting)	Geo-Surveying (Diploma) Mineral Surveying and Resource Management (BSc Hons) Environmental Engineering (Post Graduate Diploma) Geographic Information Systems (Certificate) Business Management (MSc) Environmental Sustainability (Certificate)	Member of the Society of Chartered Surveyors Ireland Member of the Royal Institute of Chartered Surveyors UK	24
Alternatives; Population and Human Health; Climate.	Rory Brickenden (Quarry Consulting)	Geoscience (BSc Hons) Water, Waste & Environmental Engineering (MEngSc)		2
Population and Human Health; Landscape & Visual; Material Assets; Planning Statement	Irene Curran (Quarry Consulting)	Environmental Science (BSc Hons) Town and Country Planning (MSc Dist) Field Ecology (Diploma)	Chartered member of the Royal Town Planning Institute	20

Discipline	Specialist	Qualifications	Accreditations	Years of Professional Experience
Biodiversity	Steve Judge (Blue and Green Ecology)	Countryside Management / Environmental Management and Monitoring (BSc Hons)	Member of the Chartered Institute of Ecology and Environmental Management	20
Land, Soils and Geology; Hydrology and Hydrogeology	Dr. Pamela Bartley (Hydro-G)	Certificate in Civil Engineering in Letterkenny RTC Diploma in Water and Wastewater Engineering Bachelor of Engineering degree MSc. in Environmental Engineering Ph.D	Engineers Ireland and the International Association of Hydrogeologists (Irish Group)	20+
Air Quality	Dr. Jovanna Arndt	BSc (Hons) Environmental Science, University College Cork PhD Atmospheric Chemistry, University College Cork (2016)	Member, Institute of Air Quality Management (IAQM)	8 +
Noise and Vibration	Brendan O'Reilly (Noise and Vibration Consultants Ltd.)	Master's degree in Noise and Vibration	SFA & ISEE	20
Traffic	Viswas Kutty	B. Tech in Civil Engineering	Member of Engineers Ireland	18

Discipline	Specialist	Qualifications	Accreditations	Years of Professional Experience
		M.S in Transportation Engineering		
Heritage	Charles Mount (Dr. Charles Mount Archaeology and Cultural Heritage)	M.A. Archaeology Ph.D. Archaeology Dip. EIA & SEA Management	MIAI Member of the Discovery Programme	25+

Quarry Consulting

1.50 Quarry Consulting is an environmental consultancy that includes in their team a Chartered Mineral Surveyor, Chartered Geomatics Surveyor, Geo-Scientist, Chartered Town Planner & Ecologist. The team have extensive experience in project managing planning applications and coordinating Environmental Impact Assessments for a range of energy, extractive and waste related developments.

Green and Blue Ecology

1.51 Steve Judge is a professional ecologist with 20 years experience in environmental and ecological consultancy working for a large number of clients from both the private and public sectors throughout the United Kingdom and Ireland. Projects include: industrial and housing development, mining and minerals, waste management, flood defence, energy and renewables.

1.52 Highly experienced in undertaking Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) and Ecological Impact Assessment (EcIA), Appropriate Assessments (Stage 1 and Stage 2), habitat and species surveys, and in the design and implementation of ecological mitigation strategies for a wide range of habitats and species.

1.53 Specialist in Ecology of freshwater systems that includes experience of eco-hydrology, wetland creation, biological water quality assessments, water level management plans and condition assessments of riparian features and structures.

Hydro-G: Specialists in Hydrogeological and Environmental Services

1.54 Hydro-G is a leading consultancy specializing in hydrogeology, groundwater management, and environmental engineering. With a focus on providing sustainable water management solutions, Hydro-G has extensive experience in conducting groundwater assessments, hydrogeological risk evaluations, and designing effective water management systems for various projects, including those in the extractive and construction industries. Their expertise ensures that all groundwater-related aspects of the project are thoroughly evaluated and managed, minimising environmental impacts while ensuring regulatory compliance.

AWN Consulting

1.55 AWN Consulting is a multidisciplinary consultancy offering specialist design advice, expert witness and litigation support in respect of a wide range of engineering and environmental disciplines

Noise and Vibration Consultants Ltd.: Expertise in Environmental Acoustics and Vibration Control

1.56 Noise and Vibration Consultants Ltd. is a specialist firm dedicated to providing comprehensive noise and vibration assessments across a range of industries. With a wealth of expertise in environmental acoustics, the firm excels in measuring, analysing, and mitigating noise and vibration impacts for both regulatory compliance and community protection. Their services include predictive modelling, real-time monitoring, and custom mitigation strategies tailored to minimise acoustic and vibrational disturbances on sensitive receptors.

TOBIN

1.57 The EIAR study team from TOBIN specializes in civil, structural, and environmental engineering, offering a comprehensive range of in-house services. With expertise in roads, transportation, active travel, and sustainable urban mobility plans, the team serves a diverse client base that includes government agencies, private developers, contractors, and architects.

1.58 TOBIN integrates the latest digital technologies to deliver designs that move smoothly from feasibility to construction. The team's work is backed by a certified integrated business management system (ISO 9001:2015, ISO 14001:2015, ISO 45001:2018), ensuring quality, environmental responsibility, and safety. They provide tailored engineering solutions for both urban and rural infrastructure projects.

Dr. Charles Mount

1.59 Dr. Charles Mount is an Archaeologist with more than 30 years' experience of archaeology, cultural heritage and project management. He has extensive experience of environmental impact assessment gained over the last 30 years in a wide range of industries in the private and semi-state sectors including energy, extractive, waste, water, residential, transport and agri-food. Dr. Mount is a member of the Institute of Archaeologists of Ireland and the Discovery Programme. He is a graduate of University College Dublin with an M.A, and Ph.D. in Archaeology and has completed the UCD Diploma course in EIA and SEA Management.

References

- Environmental Protection Agency. “Guidelines on the information to be contained within an EIAR”, (EPA May 2022).

Figures

Figure 1.1: Site Location
Figure 1.2: Site Context
Figure 1.3: Existing Site Layout

NOTES

LEGEND

APPLICATION AREA

Extract from Ordnance Survey Discovery Series Mapping
Ordnance Survey Ireland Licence No. CYAL50187128 (c) Ordnance Survey Ireland / Government of Ireland.

0 500 1000 1500 2000m 3000 4000 5000
Metres 1:50,000

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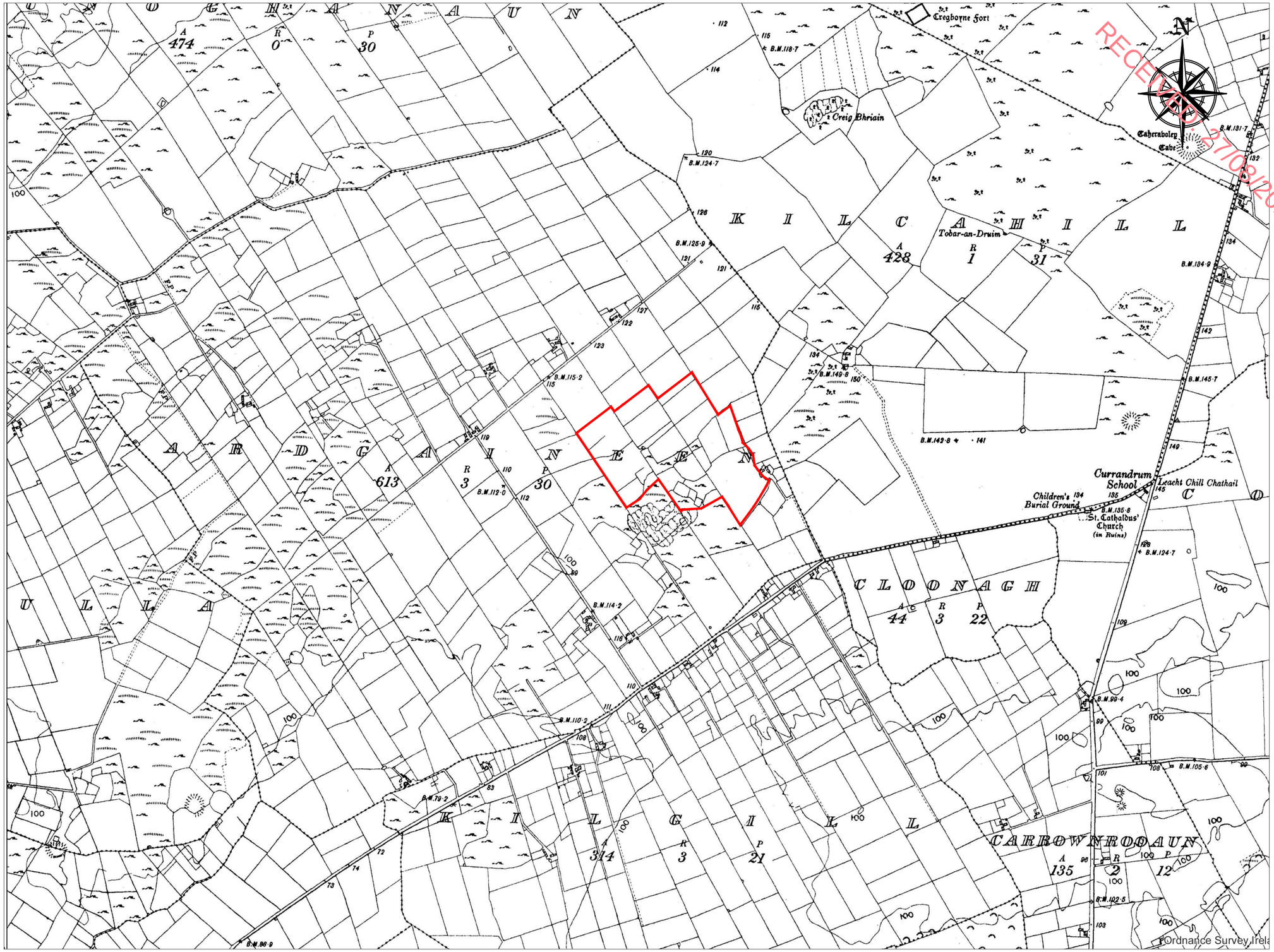
HARRINGTON CONCRETE AND QUARRIES

PROPOSED QUARRY EXTENSION
ARDGAINEEN, CLAREGALWAY,
CO. GALWAY

SITE LOCATION

FIGURE 1.1

Scale	Date
1:50,000	AUG 2025



NOTES

1. Topographical Survey Data from Survey completed in July 2023 & September 2024 by Quarry Consulting;
2. All points are coordinated relative to Irish Transverse Mercator (ITM);
3. All elevations are relative to Malin Head.

LEGEND

LAND OWNERSHIP

APPLICATION AREA

Extract from Ordnance Survey 6 Inch Mapping - **Map No. GY-057**

0 100 200 300 400m 600 800 1000

Metres 1:10,560

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HARRINGTON CONCRETE AND QUARRIES

PROPOSED QUARRY EXTENSION
ARDGAINEEN, CLAREGALWAY,
CO. GALWAY

SITE CONTEXT

FIGURE 1.2

Scale	Date
1:10,560	AUG 2025

03.23.PLANNING DRAWINGS and CH 1 FIGURES.FINAL.dwg

N

Section A-A'

Section B-B

Cill Chatha
Kilcahill

Ard Gaineen
Quarry

EXISTING PERMITTED QUARRY EXTRACTION AREA

NOTES

1. Topographical Survey Data from Drone Survey completed in July 2023 & September 2024;
2. All points are coordinated relative to Irish Transverse Mercator (ITM);
3. All elevations are relative to Malin Head;
4. REFER TO FIGURE 3.3 FOR CROSS SECTIONS.

LEGEND

APPLICATION AREA c. 12 Ha.

Extract from Ordnance Survey 2,500 Scale Mapping - **Map No. 3087-A and 3087-B**

0 80m 200

Metres 1:2500

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HARRINGTON CONCRETE AND QUARRIES

PROPOSED QUARRY EXTENSION
ARDGAINEEN, CLAREGALWAY,
CO. GALWAY

EXISTING SITE LAYOUT

FIGURE 1.3

Scale	Date
1:2,500	AUG 2025