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CONTENTS

INTRODUCTION	1
The Interaction of the Foregoing.....	1
OVERVIEW OF KEY INTERACTIONS.....	2
Population and Human Health.....	2
Biodiversity	2
Land, Soils and Geology	3
Water.....	3
Climate.....	3
Air Quality	3
Noise.....	3
Material Assets	4
Cultural Heritage.....	4
Landscape & Visual	4
Traffic.....	4
REFERENCES	4

TABLES

Table 15-1: Potential Impact Interaction and Key Interrelationships Matrix.....	2
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Introduction

- 15.1 This chapter of the Environmental Impact Assessment Report (EIAR), prepared by SLR Consulting Ireland, provides supporting information to accompany a Planning Application to Cork Co. Council by Keohane Readymix Ltd. It addresses the potential interaction of environmental impacts arising from the proposed development.
- 15.2 For the purposes of this EIAR, the area of 18.3 ha within the red line boundary on Figure 1-2 is referred to as 'the application area'. A description of the development is provided in EIAR Chapter 2.
- 15.3 All of the predictable significant impacts of the proposed development and the existing and proposed measures in place to mitigate them have been outlined in this EIAR.
- 15.4 However, for any development with the potential for significant environmental impact there is also the potential for interaction amongst these impacts. The result of these interactions may either exacerbate the magnitude of the impact or ameliorate it. The interaction of impacts on the surrounding environment needs to be addressed as part of the Environmental Impact Assessment process.
- 15.5 This Environmental Impact Assessment Report was prepared by SLR Consulting on behalf of Keohane Readymix Ltd. as an integrated document, rather than a collection of separate reports. The impacts that arise as a result of the interaction between several aspects of the development have, therefore been addressed in the main body of each EIAR chapter.

The Interaction of the Foregoing

- 15.6 The interaction between the various environmental topics has been covered within each of the EIAR chapters, 4 through to 14, where relevant.
- 15.7 A matrix method has been used¹, in which the environmental components addressed in the previous sections of this EIAR have been placed on both axes of a matrix; these interactions are summarised in Table 15-1 below.
- 15.8 The purpose of the effects matrix is to identify potential interactions. Actual interactions and their significance are dealt with in the relevant chapter of the EIAR. An overview of the key interactions is provided below in this chapter.

¹ As per EPA Guidelines (2022)

Table 15-1: Potential Impact Interaction and Key Interrelationships Matrix

	Population & Human Health	Bio-diversity	Land, Soils & Geology	Water	Climate	Air Quality	Noise & Vibration	Material Assets	Cultural Heritage	Landscape and Visual	Traffic
Population & Human Health											
Bio-diversity											
Land, Soils & Geology											
Water											
Climate											
Air Quality											
Noise & Vibration											
Material Assets											
Cultural Heritage											
Landscape and Visual											
Traffic											

Overview Of Key Interactions

Population and Human Health

15.9 In relation to the key interactions of human receptors with air quality, noise, landscape and traffic, these are addressed in Chapter 9 (Air Quality), Chapter 10 (Noise), Chapter 13 (Landscape) and Chapter 14 (Traffic), as outlined above.

Biodiversity

15.10 In relation to biodiversity there is potential for interaction with air quality and noise, and these interactions are addressed in Chapter 9 (Air Quality) and Chapter 10 (Noise).

15.11 Following review of the existing dust deposition, noise results and detailed assessments it is concluded that the proposed development will have an insignificant dust and noise impact on ecological receptors. Due to the large separation distance between the site and

the nearest designated ecological / European (Natura 2000) site(s) any potential dust and noise impact on same will be negligible.

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Land, Soils and Geology

- 15.12 The interaction between Land, Soils & Geology and Water is addressed in Chapter 7 (Water), see below.

Water

- 15.13 In relation to water there is potential for interaction with land, soils & geology and climate, and these are addressed in Chapter 6 (Land, Soil & Geology) and Chapter 7 (Water) of the EIAR.
- 15.14 The water management at the site considers climate (weather conditions). There are existing mitigation and management measures in place to prevent spills and manage the water environment. Continued implementation of these measures will ensure that there will be no significant effects owing to the interaction of land, soils and geology and the water environment.

Climate

- 15.15 The interaction of climate (weather conditions) with the water environment is addressed in Chapter 7 (Water), in terms of surface water, groundwater and water management at the site.

Air Quality

- 15.16 In relation to air quality (in particular dust deposition) there is potential for interaction with human and ecological receptors, and this is addressed in Chapter 8 (Air Quality).
- 15.17 Following review of the existing dust deposition results and a detailed dust assessment it is concluded that the proposed development (with the range of management / mitigation measures implemented) will have an insignificant dust impact on ecological receptors and an insignificant to acceptable dust impact on human receptors. Due to the large separation distance between the site and the nearest designated ecological / European (Natura 2000) any potential dust impact on same will be negligible.

Noise

- 15.18 In relation to noise there is potential for interaction with human and ecological receptors, and this is addressed in Chapter 10 (Noise).
- 15.19 Following review of the existing noise results and detailed assessment it is concluded that the proposed development (with the range of management / mitigation measures implemented) will have an insignificant impact on human or ecological receptors. Due to the large separation distance between the site and the nearest designated ecological / European (Natura 2000) any potential noise impact on same will be negligible.

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Material Assets

- 15.20 It is considered that there is no potential for any significant interaction between material assets (waste management and built services) and the other environmental topics.

Cultural Heritage

- 15.21 There is no potential for any significant interaction between Cultural Heritage and other environmental topics.

Landscape & Visual

- 15.22 The proposed development has the potential to impact on population (human) amenity through changes to the landscape and views / prospects. The detailed landscape & visual assessment provided in Chapter 13 (Landscape) concludes that during the operational phase landscape and visual effects of the development will be moderate / minor or less (i.e. effects not regarded as significant). On completion of the restoration works all predicted landscape and visual effects will reduce to negligible.

Traffic

- 15.23 The HGV traffic generated by the proposed development will be low, a maximum of c. 2 HGV trips per hour. This traffic will access onto the regional road network through an existing established permitted access and traffic route (L2235 local road to the R589 regional road). On the basis, no significant impact will arise on the traffic and traffic safety in the vicinity of the Site.
- 15.24 Chapter 8 (Air Quality) provides details of the management / mitigation measures that are in place at the development to prevent / minimise generation of traffic-related dust on the internal access roads and at the pit entrance.

REFERENCES

Environmental Protection Agency (2022) Guidelines on the Information to be Contained in Environmental Impact Assessment Reports.