

## **Galway County Council**

### **N6 Galway City Ring Road**

#### **Appropriate Assessment Screening Determination**

Scott Cawley Ltd., on behalf of Galway County Council, prepared an assessment report to inform the Appropriate Assessment Screening entitled (“Provision of Information for Appropriate Assessment Screening”) for the N6 Galway City Ring Road, being a plan or project which Galway County Council (pursuant to a Section 85 Agreement with Galway City Council) wishes to undertake.

Galway County Council has received and read the Provision of Information for Appropriate Assessment Screening and has considered its content and the conclusions and recommendation set out therein. Galway County Council agrees with the conclusions and recommendation set out in the Appropriate Assessment Screening Report.

Galway County Council has determined that an Appropriate Assessment of the N6 Galway City Ring Road is required as it cannot be excluded, on the basis of objective scientific information and in view of the conservation objectives of the Lough Corrib cSAC, Lough Corrib SPA, Galway Bay Complex cSAC and Inner Galway Bay SPA, following screening that Galway County Council has carried out, that the N6 Galway City Ring Road, individually or in combination other plans or projects, will have a significant effect on the Lough Corrib cSAC, Lough Corrib SPA, Galway Bay Complex cSAC and Inner Galway Bay SPA.

Galway County Council has made this determination on the basis of the following reasons, namely the potential impact sources and pathways associated with the N6 Galway City Ring Road which qualifying interests/special conservation interests species and habitats may be at risk from:

- (i) Direct habitat loss, fragmentation and/or degradation as a result of tunnelling, excavation or other construction works
- (ii) Direct habitat loss or degradation as a result of shading from elevated structures
- (iii) Indirect habitat degradation as a result of impacts to the existing hydrogeological regime
- (iv) Indirect habitat degradation as a result of a reduction in water quality in receiving watercourses/waterbodies
- (v) Indirect habitat degradation as a result of the introduction or spread of non-native invasive plant species (including both terrestrial and surface water pathways)
- (vi) Indirect habitat degradation as a result of a reduction in air quality
- (vii) Either direct or indirect disturbance and/or displacement impacts to fauna species including to their breeding, resulting and feeding sites/resources
- (viii) Construction works or permanent structures creating a barrier to species movement and mortality risks which the proposed road development may pose to fauna species.

Galway County Council has requested that Scott Cawley prepare and finalise a Natura Impact Statement which will in due course be submitted to An Bord Pleanála with an application for approval for the N6 Galway City Ring Road.

This determination is available for inspection at Galway County Council Offices, Áras an Chontae, Prospect Hill, Galway and on its website at [www.galway.ie](http://www.galway.ie)

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_

Dated: \_\_\_\_\_