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1 Introduction

Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown County Council (DLRCC) proposes to improve the Glenamuck/Carrickmines/Kiltiernan area's multi-modal transport infrastructure by developing the Glenamuck District Roads Scheme (GDRS).

The Environmental Impact Assessment Report (EIAR) presents a systematic analysis of the impact of the Proposed Project in relation to the existing environment and follows guidelines published by the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). The EIAR document is prepared as part of the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) process and will be submitted to the Competent Authority (An Bord Pleanála) as part of the planning process for the project.

1.1 Proposed Scheme

The GDRS will involve construction of;

- The Glenamuck District Distributor Road, approximately 890 metres of four lane dual carriageway and 660 metres of two lane single carriageway road which will connect the existing R117 Enniskerry Road with the Glenamuck Road; and
- The Glenamuck Link Distributor Road approximately 1800 m of two- lane single carriageway road, which will connect the new distributor road with the existing Glenamuck Road and Ballycorus Road providing an alternative to the Enniskerry Road for north south travel

The proposed new distributor and link roads, with associated traffic management measures and site works (including attenuation ponds), would join the existing road network with new junction(s) to be formed with the R117 (Enniskerry Road), the R116 (Ballycorus Road), Barnaslignan Lane and the Glenamuck Road.

The proposed road development would be located in the electoral divisions of Glencullen, Cabinteely-Loughlinstown and Shankill-Rathmichael; and the townlands of: Carrickmines Great, Glenamuck South, Glenamuck North, Jamestown, Kiltiernan Domain, Kiltiernan.

The location of the proposed GDRS is to the east of the R117 and southwest of the M50 Motorway, between Carrickmines and Kiltiernan in the central part of the DLRCC area. This rural location is situated at the urban fringes of Dublin City and County with access onto the M50 motorway, which provides linkages to the majority of the national road schemes in the country.

The GDRS is included in the DLRCC County Development Plan 2016–2022 as a 'six-year roads objective' and is further detailed in the Kiltiernan/Glenamuck Local Area Plan 2013 (LAP).

The layout of the proposed road development is illustrated in Figure 1-1 below.

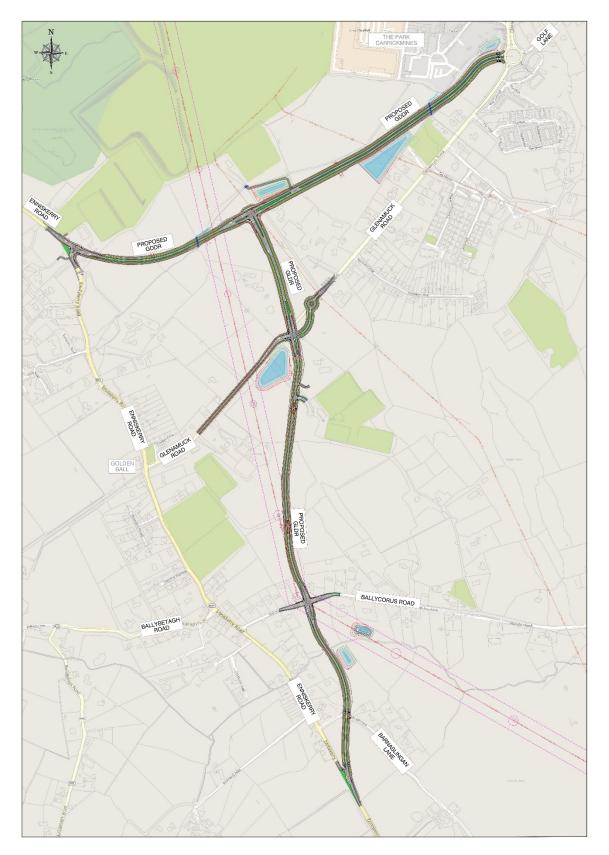


Figure 1- 1: Overview of Scheme Layout.

Dún Laoghaire Rathdown County Council

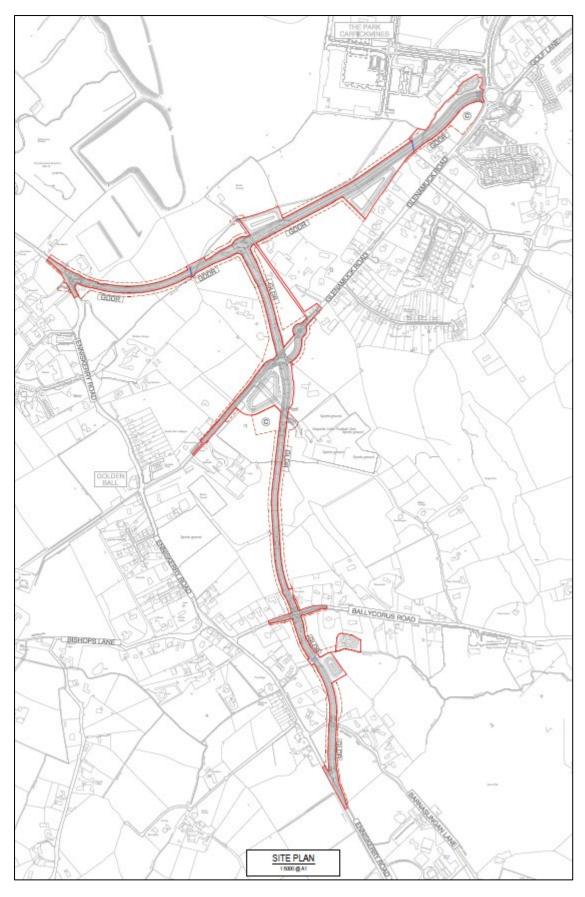


Figure 1- 2: Site Location Map including Permanent and Temporary CPO Extents.

1.1.1 EIAR Format

The format used in this EIAR document is referred to as the 'grouped format' in that it seeks to enable the reader to readily access the issues of interest to them. The EIAR has been divided into the following chapters;

- 1. Introduction
- 2. Background to the Scheme
- 3. Alternatives Considered
- 4. Consultations
- 5. Description of the Scheme
- 6. Planning and Policy
- 7. Traffic and Transport
- 8. Air Quality and Climate
- 9. Noise and Vibration
- 10. Biodiversity
- 11. Archaeology, Architectural and Cultural Heritage
- 12. Landscape/Townscape and Visual
- 13. Land and Soils
- 14. Water and Hydrology
- 15. Resource and Waste Management
- 16. Population and Human Health
- 17. Material Assets: Land Use and Property
- 18. Material Assets: Utilities
- 19. Interrelationships, Interactions and Cumulative and Indirect Effects
- 20. Summary of Mitigation Measures and Residual Impacts

Each element of the environment is described in a separate chapter generally under the following headings:

- Introduction;
- Assessment Methodology;
- Baseline Environment;
- Predicted Impacts;
- Mitigation Measures;
- Residual Impacts;
- Difficulties Encountered; and
- References.

1.2 Planning Procedure for the Proposed Scheme

1.2.1 Introduction to the EIA Process

The primary purpose of the EIA Directive (Directive 2011/92/EU as amended by 2014/52/EU) is to ensure that public and private projects which are likely to have significant effects on the environment

are granted development consent only after an assessment of the likely significant environmental effects of those projects has been carried out i.e. an EIA. EIA concerns a process of evaluating potential effects upon the environment that result from a proposed development or project at a particular site. Where these effects are assessed to have an unacceptable or harmful impact, the design of the development can be altered, or other measures taken, to avoid or reduce the effect to an acceptable level known as mitigation measures.

The initial EIA Directive dates back to 1985 (85/337/EEC) and was amalgamated alongside its amendments into Directive 2011/92/EU in December 2011. This was transposed into Irish regulations through Part X of the Planning and Development Act 2000 (as amended) and Part 10 and Schedules 5, 6 and 7 of the Planning and Development Regulations 2001 (as amended). The 2011 Directive has subsequently been revised through the 2014 EIA Directive (2014/52/EU).

Circular letter PL1/2017 on Implementation of Directive 2014/52/EU on the effects of certain public and private projects on the environment (EIA Directive) – Advice on Administration Provisions in Advance of Transposition, advised that applications for planning permission or other development consent received on or after 16th May 2017 falling within the scope of Directive 2011/92/EU, or within the scope of Directive 2014/52/EU were to apply the requirements of Directive 2014/52/EU by way of administrative provisions in advance of the transposition of Directive 2014/52/EU into Irish law.

The European Union (Planning and Development) (Environmental Impact Assessment) Regulations 2018 came into operation on 1st September 2018 formally providing for the transposition of the Directive 2014/52/EU into Irish law.

The terminology used for what was previously described as an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) in Irish law, is now an Environmental Impact Assessment Report (EIAR). This Environmental Impact Assessment Report (EIAR) has been prepared in order to meet the requirements of the 2018 Regulations in accordance with Directive 2014/52/EU.

The need for an EIAR was determined following the preparation of an EIAR Screening Report in December 2017 pursuant to Section 50 of the Roads Act, 1993. The relevant EIAR trigger thresholds as set out in the Roads Act. Design under Article 8 of the Roads Regulations, 1994 refers to;

• The construction of a new road of four or more lanes, or the realignment or widening of an existing road so as to provide four or more lanes, where such new, realigned or widened road would be eight kilometres or more in length in a rural area, or 500 metres or more in length in an urban area.

A portion of the GDDR from the intersection with the GLDR to the intersection with the Golf Lane roundabout is proposed to be 4 lanes wide over a length of some 890m. The road scheme was therefore considered to be over the threshold for which an EIAR is required, and the road authority undertook to prepare an EIAR for submission to the Competent Authority. The content of the EIAR was determined pursuant to the preparation of a Scoping Report in March 2018 which was issued to stakeholders and statutory consultees for comment and feedback.

1.3 EIAR Methodology

1.3.1 Purpose of the Environmental Impact Assessment Report

Environmental Impact Assessment Reports require the assimilation, co-ordination and presentation of a wide range of relevant information in order to allow for the overall assessment of a proposed development. To allow for ease of presentation, and consistency when considering the various environmental factors, a systematic structure is used for the main body of the report.

The EIAR includes an assessment on potential significant environmental impacts (both Direct and Indirect) of the Proposed Project, and highlights the proposed mitigation measures, where applicable.

For roads developments, the legislative requirements which deem whether an EIAR is mandatory for a project are outlined in Section 50 of the Roads Act, 1993 (as amended) and in Article 8 of the Roads Regulations, 1994.

The requirement to submit the EIAR to An Bord Pleanála is set out in Section 50 of the Roads Act 1993 (as amended) and section 172 of the Planning and Development Act 2000 (as amended). Where an environmental impact assessment report has been prepared pursuant to subsection (1), the local authority shall apply to the Board for approval.

The principal elements of the EIAR assessment process can be described as follows:

- 1. Screening
- 2. Scoping
- 3. Consideration of Alternatives
- 4. Project Description
- 5. Baseline Description of Environment Factors
- 6. Identification and Assessment of Impacts
- 7. Monitoring and Mitigation Proposals

1.3.2 Statutory Requirements and Guidance for the Contents of an EIAR

The amended Directive and legislation include requirements around the topics and factors that should be addressed through the EIAR. These matters can then be used to formulate the structure of the report. Article 5(1) of the amended Directive describes what an EIAR is to contain as follows (EPA, 2017, p.6).:

- a) a description of the project comprising information on the site, design, size and other relevant features of the project;
- b) a description of the likely significant effects of the project on the environment;
- a description of the features of the project and/or measures envisaged in order to avoid, prevent or reduce and, if possible, offset likely significant adverse effects on the environment;

- a description of the reasonable alternatives studied by the developer, which are relevant to the project and its specific characteristics, and an indication of the main reasons for the option chosen, taking into account the effects of the project on the environment;
- e) a non-technical summary of the information referred to in points (a) to (d); and
- f) any additional information specified in Annex IV relevant to the specific characteristics of a particular project or type of project and to the environmental features likely to be affected.

The EPA 'Guidelines on the information to be contained in Environmental Impact Assessment Reports' Draft August 2017 describe inclusion of the following as good practice in the preparation of an EIAR:

- Key alternatives considered;
- Proposed project;
- Receiving environment;
- Likely significant effects; and
- Mitigation and monitoring measures and residual effects.

A non-technical summary must also be provided.

The receiving environment and the effects of the project can then be explained by reference to its possible effects on the following environmental factors:

- Population and Human Health;
- Biodiversity;
- Land and Soils;
- o Water;
- o Air;
- o Climate;
- Material Assets;
- Cultural Heritage;
- Landscape; and
- o Interactions.

Within each of these factors, different specialist topics may be of relevance and included as part of the assessment.

A full list of relevant legislation and guidance is included in the References at the end of this chapter.

1.3.3 General EIAR Methodology

Introduction

The methodology adopted for the preparation of this EIAR comprised a systematic analysis of the impact of the Proposed Project in relation to the existing environment. The overall methodology for preparation of the EIAR is discussed under the following headings;

• Basis for assessment;

Dún Laoghaire Rathdown County Council

- Impact assessment and mitigation; and
- Significance of environmental issues.

Basis for Assessment

The impact assessment examines the existing environmental conditions within the study area for each element of assessment and then determines the potential impacts associated with the Proposed Project during its construction and operational phases.

The study area considered within this EIAR differed for each environmental aspect and extended to incorporate all areas where there was potential for significant impact (i.e. any sensitive areas which could be affected by this development were included in the study area). Further information on the extent of the study area considered for each topic is addressed in the relevant corresponding EIAR chapter.

Impact Assessment and Mitigation

The preparation of the EIAR was an iterative process, linking into the design development process. The approach adopted in the impact assessment and preparation of the EIAR was based on the recommendations in the *Draft Guidelines on information to be contained in Environmental Impact Assessment Reports (EPA, 2017)*.

The proposed design was developed and the potential impacts of the proposal on the receiving environment were identified. Mitigation measures have been considered where necessary and will be implemented as required.

Significance of Environmental Issues

The glossaries contained in the Draft Guidelines on the information to be contained in EIAR (EPA, 2017) describes an impact as '*change resulting from the implementation of project*.'

The following factors were considered when determining the significance of the impact (both positive and negative) of the Proposed Project on the receiving environment:

- The quality and sensitivity of the existing/baseline receiving environment;
- The relative importance of the environment in terms of national, regional, county, or local importance;
- The degree to which the quality of the environment is enhanced or impaired;
- The scale of change in terms of land area, number of people impacted, number and population of species affected, including the scale of change resulting from cumulative impacts;
- The consequence of that impact/change occurring;
- The certainty/risk of the impact/change occurring;
- Whether the impact is temporary or permanent; and
- The degree of mitigation that can be achieved.

The criteria outlined in the EPA guidelines have also been followed when quantifying the duration and magnitude of impacts. The quality of the impact is described as 'negative', 'neutral' or 'positive'. Particular consideration is also given to whether significant impacts are 'Direct' or 'Indirect'. Further information on the specific methodologies utilised for the assessment of each environmental aspect are included in the relevant EIAR chapters.

Where no impact or a positive impact was predicted to occur, the design of the Proposed Project remained unchanged. Where significant adverse impacts are predicted, mitigation measures are proposed to avoid or minimise impacts. Where feasible, these measures were then incorporated into the design of the Proposed Project.

The Proposed Project presented in the planning application (including the environmental mitigation measures) will be further progressed and refined during the detailed design and construction stages. This includes any mitigation measures contained in such planning permission, as may be granted.

The detailed design and construction will develop the Proposed Project in a manner such that there is no material change in terms of a significant adverse effect on the environment. Opportunities may be identified to further reduce the significance of an adverse effect/impact and, in some cases, improve the residual effect/impact through modifications to the Proposed Project. Such modifications may be identified through detailed design or construction in order to allow for innovations in construction methods, available technology or changes in the existing situation.

Any modification to the Proposed Project will only be possible where there would be no significant change, or where there would be an improvement, in environmental impacts. The final Proposed Project design and construction will have to comply with all relevant statutory approvals.

1.3.4 Consultation Process

Information on all consultation undertaken on the Proposed Project, including a summary of the comments and feedback received, is outlined in Chapter 4 of this EIAR.

1.3.5 EIAR and Design Team

The design team is led by DBFL Consulting Engineers on behalf of DLRCC.

This EIAR has been prepared by Future Analytics Consulting (FAC) and various specialist subconsultants on behalf of DLRCC which includes the relevant specialists and their qualifications. The list below presents the experts¹ who contributed to the preparation of the report:

¹ EPA guidance requires experts preparing an EIAR to list to include: (ii) his or her competence and experience, including relevant qualifications, if any, in relation to such parts, and (iii) such additional information in relation to his or her expertise that the person or persons preparing the EIAR consider demonstrates the expert's competence in the preparation of the report and ensures its completeness and quality."

Table 1-1: Experts who contributed to the preparation of the EIAR

Environmental Aspect	Company Name	Person Responsible	Qualification
EIAR Manager	Future Analytics	Richard Hamilton	BA (Hons.) MSc MIPI MRTPI Richard Hamilton is a chartered Town Planner with over 20 years experience, a member of the Irish Planning Institute and the Royal Town Planning Institute. He is a Director in Future Analytics Consulting (FAC) which provides consultancy services in Planning, Research and Economics. Relevant EIA experience includes the M1 Motorway Service Areas-EIS for the NRA 2011; Profile Park, Grangecastle Masterplan and EIS, South Dublin (2005 – 2006), Lidl Regional Distribution Centre, Newbridge, Kildare – Planning Application and EIS (2015/2016), College Green Plaza EIAR (2017), Dublin Airport, Northern Parallel Runway EIS (2005 – 2007), and Luas light rail Dublin (lines A and B) EIA.
EIAR Support	Future Analytics	Ben Duignan	BA MRUP Ben Duignan is a consultant town planner at Future Analytics Consulting (FAC) and a member of the Irish Planning Institute. He has been involved in a wide range of projects including development management and research.
EIAR Reviewer	Future Analytics	Meadhbh Nolan	BA MRUP Meadhbh Nolan is a Senior Associate (Planning) With over 7 years' experience as a town planner working on large scale developments across all sectors. She holds a Masters of Regional and Urban Planning from UCD and is a Member of the Urban Lands Institute. Relevant experience includes the EIS for the redevelopment of the Star Casino Sydney for the Star Entertainment Group Limited and the Stony Pinch Master Plan for the rehabilitation of an active coal mine on 3,500ha and the Sydney Olympic Park – Mixed Use Development with 700 residential units for Mirvac.
Traffic and Transportation	DBFL	Danny Pio Murphy	BEng (Hons) Meng Danny Pio Murphy holds an MEng in Civil Engineering from University College Dublin and has also attained a BEng (Hons) in Civil

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			and Environmental Engineering from University College Cork. He is a Member of the Institute of Engineers of Ireland and has over five years' experience in the traffic and transportation industry, primarily focused in consultancy."
Air Quality and	AWN	Ciara Nolan	BSc MSc (First Class)
Climate Factors			Ciara Nolan holds an MSc. (First Class) in Environmental Science from University College Dublin and has also completed a BSc. in Energy Systems Engineering. She is an Associate Member of both the Institute of Air Quality Management and the Institution of Environmental Science. She has been active in the field of air quality for 2 years, with a primary focus on consultancy.
Noise and	AWN	Aoife Kelly, PHD	BSc PHD
Vibration			Aoife Kelly holds a BSc (Hons) in Environmental Health, a Diploma in Acoustics and Noise Control and a PhD in Occupational Noise. Aoife has specialised in acoustics since 2014 and has extensive knowledge in the field of occupational noise risk assessments, environmental noise and vibration impact assessment and inward impact assessments. She has extensive experience in environmental and occupational noise surveying and environmental acoustics.
Biodiversity	Openfield	Pádraic Fogarty	BSc MSc IEMA
			Pádraic Fogarty has worked for over 20 years in the environmental field and in 2007 was awarded an MSc from Sligo Institute of Technology for research into Ecological Impact Assessment (EcIA) in Ireland. He has an honours degree in Analytical Science from DCU, and diplomas in Environment and Geography (Open University) and Field Ecology (UCC). Pádraic is a full member of the Institute of Environmental Management and Assessment (IEMA).
Cultural	Byrne Mullins	Martin Byrne	BA MA
Heritage			Martin Byrne holds a BA in Archaeology and History from University College Cork, where he also completed an MA in Archaeology. He also holds a Dip. EIA Mgmt. from University College Dublin. He is a Full member of the Institute of

r		1	
			Archaeologists of Ireland and has served on the Board in three capacities, including chairperson.
			He has been active in the field of archaeology for
			over 30 years and has been a joint owner of
			Byrne Mullins & Associates-Archaeological &
			Historical Heritage Consultants, since 1994.
Landscape	Cunnane Stratton	Declan O'Leary	B.Agr.Sc.(Land Hort) PGDip LArch MILI MLI(UK)
and Visual	Reynolds		Declan O'Leary has over 30 years' experience in
Impact			development, landscape design, urban and
			environmental renewal. This includes
			masterplanning and design to implementation of
			a broad range of strategic environmental
			improvement schemes to industrial, highway
			and urban regeneration sites as well as
			reclamation, amenity, rural/countryside,
			educational and housing projects. He is
			experienced in working closely with developers,
			community organisations and statutory agencies to deliver local environmental, social and
			economic development.
Land and Soils	DBFL	John Carr	BEng MSc C. Eng
			John Carr holds an BEng in Civil Engineering from University College Dublin and has also
			attained a MSc in Environmental Engineering
			from Queens University Belfast. He is a
			Chartered Engineer with the Institute of
			Engineers of Ireland and has over eight years'
			experience in Civil and Environmental
			Consultancy."
Hydrology and	DBFL	John Carr	BEng MSc C. Eng
Hydrogeology			As Above.
Resource	Future Analytics	Richard Hamilton	BA (Hons.) MSc MIPI MRTPI
Waste			As Above.
Management			AS ADOVE.
Population	Future Analytics	James Sweeny	BA MSc MRUP MSc MIPI
and Human			lamor Swooppy is a GIS and Applytics specialist
Health			James Sweeney is a GIS and Analytics specialist and a Director of Future Analytics Consulting
			(FAC) with over 7 years' experience. His work
			involves detailed socio-economic analysis,
			spatial analysis and economic research He has
			worked on strategic plans for cities and
			undertaken numerous socio-economic studies,

		Rachel G O'Connor	ūleave	forecasting future population projections. He also has a Master of Science in Health Informatics. As part of Future Analytics' professional service provision, he is experienced in the provision of: Housing needs analysis; Retail analysis; Urban economic studies; GIS visualisation, modelling, and web application development. Relevant experience includes Socio-Economic Assessment of the Greater Dublin Area Drainage Scheme for Fingal County Council (2016); Socio-economic and environmental assessment for the Local Economic and Community Plan for Dublin City Council (2016) and the Dublin City Council Housing Strategy for DCC (2015)
				Rachel Gleave O'Connor is a Chartered Town Planner with over 12 years experience in private and public sectors in Ireland and the UK, specialising in development management and with particular expertise in large scale urban regeneration development. Rachel has managed an extensive portfolio of large scale planning applications for both residential and non- residential developments, including student housing, build-to-rent, co-living, office, retail and academic floorspace. Rachel has managed a number of high profile planning applications in the UK through the assessment and approval stages at the London Legacy Development Corporation, working on high density housing, tall building and extensive public realm/landscape redevelopment. She is experienced in Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA), EIA Screening and EIA Scoping.
Material Assets	Future Analytics	Richard Ham	nilton	BA (Hons) MSc MIPI MRTPI As Above.

1.4 What Happens Next?

DLRCC has forwarded copies of the consent application documents including this EIAR to An Bord Pleanála. Copies have also been circulated to the relevant prescribed bodies, as follows:

- Office of Public Works;
- Bord Fáilte Éireann;
- An Taisce-The National Trust for Ireland;
- Córas lompair Éireann;
- Transport Infrastructure Ireland;
- National Transport Authority;
- An Chomhairle Ealaíon;
- Eastern Midlands Regional Authority;
- Heritage Council;
- Minister of Culture, Heritage and the Gaeltacht;
- Minister of Transport, tourism and Sport; and
- Minister for Housing, Planning, Community and Local Government.

The formal adjudication period for the Proposed Project commences when the planning application is lodged to the Board. The planning application will be placed on display for public inspection for a statutory period of at least six weeks from the date of lodgement of the application. Any person may make a submission or observations to An Bord Pleanála, 64 Marlborough Street, Dublin 1 in relation to the application during this period.

A copy of the consent application and each document accompanying the application (including this EIAR) may be inspected, free of charge, during normal office or opening hours at the following location:

- Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown County Council, Marine Road, Dún Laoghaire, County Dublin; and
- An Bord Pleanála, 64 Marlborough Street, Rotunda, Dublin 1, Do1 V902.

All planning documents will also be available for download from the DLRCC website².

The EIAR is also available for inspection at the EIAR Portal³. This is a central point for notification to the public on all applications for development consent that are subject to an EIA, including development, works or activities, made across the country and under the various legislative codes. The EIA Portal also provides access to these applications and provides a link to the relevant information and documents associated with the application held by the relevant authorities responsible for approving such applications.

Submissions or observations on the application may be made only to An Bord Pleanála and must be accompanied by the appropriate fee of \leq_{50} (except for certain prescribed bodies).

² <u>https://www.dlrcoco.ie/en/council-democracy/public-consultation-hub/dlr-consultation-hub</u>

³<u>http://housinggovie.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=d7d5a3d48f104ecbb206e7e5f84b71f1</u>

1.5 Difficulties Encountered During the Study

Difficulties encountered in the preparation of the EIAR are outlined in each chapter as they relate to the various environmental topics.

The Proposed Project area as with all environments, is ever changing and evolving. In instances where difficulties arise determining what represents baseline conditions, a worst-case scenario is assessed. Proposals for the Proposed Project are made within a rural environment, with zoning for development on the surrounding land. At present there are no developments along the majority of the proposed scheme.

1.6 References

- European Union (2018) The European Union (Planning and Development) (Environmental Impact Assessment) Regulations;
- European Union (1999) European Communities (Environmental Impact Assessment) (Amendment) Regulations (S.I. No. 93 of 1999);
- Irish Statute (2000) The Planning and Development Act (No. 30 of 2000), as amended;
- Irish Statute (2001) Planning and Development Regulations (S.I. No. 600 of 2001) as amended;
- European Commission, (2001) Guidance on EIA Scoping;
- EPA (2017) Draft Guidelines on preparation of Environmental Impact Assessment Reports;
- Department of the Environment, Community and Local Government (DoECLG), (2018) Guidelines for Planning Authorities and An Bord Pleanála on carrying out Environmental Impact Assessment;
- National Roads Authority (2008) Environmental Impact Assessment of National Road Schemes A Practical Guide (Transport Infrastructure Ireland (TII), (formerly);
- TII (2004) Environmental Assessment and Construction Guidelines;
- EPA (2002) Guidelines on the Information to be contained in Environmental Impact Statements;
- EPA (2003) Advice Notes on Current Practice in the Preparation of Environmental Impact Statements;
- EPA (2015) Draft Revised Guidelines on the Information to be contained in Environmental Impact Statements;
- EPA (2015) Draft Revised Advice Notes on Current Practice in the Preparation of Environmental Impact Statements;
- EPA (2015) Guidelines on the Information to be Contained in Environmental Impact Assessment Reports;
- Department of Housing Planning and Local Government (2018) EIA Portal. Available from: <u>https://www.housing.gov.ie/planning/environmental-assessment/environmental-impact-assessment-eia/eia-portal.</u>