

**Visual Catchment**

The visibility assessment in this study concentrates on publicly accessible areas within 2km, such as roads, access lanes and public rights of way, along with residential properties; and sites of public significance.

When establishing the extent of site visibility and identifying key visual receptors, a high point within the proposed development was visited. The purpose of this is to establish what may be visible from this location and therefore establish from which points in the wider landscape the site may be visible. This is known as intervisibility and forms the basis of the site's visual envelope.

The subject site is located to the Southeastern side of Knockmaa Hill complex with surrounding lands relatively low lying. The topography and woodland cover of Knockmaa prevents visibility to the west. The landform of Carrowntemple to the northeast of the site also screens potential visibility beyond.

The Zone of Theoretical Visual Influence model indicates most potential visibility to the Southeast and North. Whilst the model identifies potential visual influence to the North, due to intervening vegetation, in reality visibility in this direction will be negligible.

As a basic visual principal, any type of development in the landscape will become less perceptible with distance. This simply equates to a reduction of the significance of potential visual impacts as one moves further away.

Viewpoint Distance 0-2km

Although this is difficult to quantify, it is acceptable to state that a site located approx 2km or less from a viewer is considered close enough to allow identification of significant detail. Any positions in this range with open uninterrupted views of the site would generally receive the greatest visual impacts. This distance parameter is therefore the main focus for assessment.

Viewpoint Distance 2-5km





The visibility of the site becomes more general, with viewers in open uninterrupted positions able to identify general form, occasionally colour/ tone and textural contrast, but losing the more focused detail achievable closer.

Viewpoint Distance 5-15km

Visual prominence quickly diminishes. In certain circumstances/light conditions etc have potential to allow certain types of development and material finishes to be perceived. The development increasingly becomes part of the general background/distance views.

Viewpoint Distance 15km+

Upwards of this distance the development quickly becomes a minor feature within the landscape and considered imperceptible to the average human eye. The development in effect becomes part of the general background/distance views.

<p><b>legend</b></p>  Site Boundary  Zone of Visual Influence (Indicative Field Study ZVI)  Distance from Site in Kilometers  ZVI (Visual Gradation)		<p><b>client</b> McTigues</p> <p><b>date</b> May. 21</p> <p><b>scale</b> 1:20000@A3</p> <p><b>by</b> pjm</p> <p><b>notes</b></p>	<p><b>Visual Analysis (Field ZVI)</b></p> <p><b>Cartron, Tuam, Co Galway</b></p> <p><b>fig.9.1</b></p>
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