



5025

Effect on Daylight Reception Analysis

EFFECTS ON DAYLIGHT RECEPTION IN EXISTING NEIGHBOURING BUILDINGS

Raheen Housing Development

Proposed Residential Development

**Ballykeeffe,
Raheen,
Co. Limerick**

DW Raheen Developments Ltd

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1 Introduction

1.1 Report purpose

This report gives information on the level of achieved daylight reception in habitable rooms in existing neighbouring buildings before and after the introduction of the new development.

1.2 Instruction

DKPartnership (DKP) have been commissioned by DW Raheen Developments Ltd, to carry out the analysis and report for the proposed development at Ballykeeffe, Raheen, Co. Limerick.

1.3 Development description

DW Raheen Developments Ltd. are seeking a ten year permission for a strategic housing development consisting of the provision of 384 residential house and apartment units on a ca. 10.44 hectare site located in Ballykeeffe, Raheen, Co. Limerick. The site is greenfield land that is enclosed by existing residential development to the south and east, the R510 to the west and open land to the north. Access to the site is provided by an existing entrance off a roundabout on the R510 regional road.

The proposed development will provide as follows:

- 202 no. housing units, comprising a variety of forms to include bungalows, detached, semi-detached and terraced houses. A mix of house sizes are proposed to include 20 no. two bedroom houses, 156 no. three bedroom houses and 26 no. four bedroom houses.
- 182 apartment and duplex units across 25 small scale blocks, 2 to 4 storeys in heights, throughout the development. The apartments and duplexes provide a mix of one, two, three and four bed units, comprising of 10 no. four bedroom duplex units, 10 no. three bedroom duplex units, 6 no. two bedroom duplex units, 18 no. three bedroom apartments, 92 no. two bedroom apartments and 46 no. one bedroom apartments.

The proposed development also includes;

- A childcare facility measuring 761.75m², providing 79 childcare places (55 full time and 24 after school places), located at the south-western edge of the development.
- The provision of 377 no. car parking spaces and 311 secured bicycle parking spaces.
- The provision of 3 no. ESB sub-stations, ancillary services and infrastructure works including foul and surface water drainage, attenuation areas, landscaped public open spaces (approximately 29,500m², or 28.2% of the total site area), landscaping, lighting, internal roads, cycle paths, and footpaths.

A Natura Impact Statement (NIS) and Environmental Impact Assessment Report (EIAR) have been prepared in respect of the proposed development.

1.4 Statutory requirement

There are no particular building regulations in relation day light/shadow effect standards other than recommendations outlined or referred to in the CIBSE lighting guide 10, BS EN17037/EN17037 and the BRE document "Site layout planning for daylight and sun light". The aforementioned documents do refer to a "right to a sky view" relating to existing buildings facing a new adjacent development in so far that it compares an existing sky view with the sky view when the new development is constructed. The difference, if any, must be within a certain acceptable threshold.

2 Executive summary

2.1 Analysis conducted

This report details the achieved calculated daylight reception in selected rooms in neighbouring buildings before and after the introduction of the new proposed development and compares these for compliance with the recommendations of the relevant guidelines and standards.

2.2 Daylight reception and building orientation

Day light reception under the BRE, CIBSE and BS 8206 is calculated using the room area of the glazed element, the room depth/height ratio, the room light reflection capability and the amount of direct or blocked/partially blocked daylight it receives. i.e. building orientation is not relevant to day light reception or daylight reception calculations. In other words day light factor analysis is equal to all orientations. This note is for clarity as day light is often confused with sunlight or sunlight energy which is effected by orientation.

2.3 Guidelines and standards applied

For this report we applied the recommendations and guideline of the following:

- The Building Research Establishment (BRE) report, "Site layout planning for daylight and sunlight – a guide to good practice (referred to as the BRE Report).
- European/British Standard EN17037/BS EN17037 Lighting for buildings code of practice for day lighting. EN17037/BS EN17037 contains guidance on the minimum recommended levels of interior day lighting.
- CIBSE guide 10 Day light and lighting for buildings.

2.4 Technical analysis

Initially the daylight reception is assessed using the vertical sky component factor and where this is marginally in excess of the maximum allowable change under the BRE recommendations the daylight reception is calculated using the more in-depth daylight factor calculation analysis. The calculated daylight factor is then compared with the BRE recommended room daylight factor to ensure sufficient daylight reception. In basic terms the change in sky views/day light reception between the original and current proposed should not be more than 0.8 its previous value unless other measures (increased glazed areas) have been taken to maintain sufficient day light reception.

2.5 Daylight reception in neighbouring habitable rooms/buildings conclusion

The BRE recommends that the effects of a new development on daylight reception should not affect any existing VSC by more than 20% or have a maximum change factor in excess of 0.80. From the calculation results we note all selected neighbouring habitable receptors are effected to some degree with regards to daylight reception due to the introduction of the proposed development in their respective habitable rooms facing the proposed development, however, the calculated change in daylight reception in all of the analysed neighbouring receptors of the proposed development achieved a change factor ranging from 0.85 to 0.94. Summarized result findings are as follows (see image 5.1 for receptor locations):

- West receptors (Ard Aulin estate): Receptors 1 to 4 are residential dwellings with ground floor windows. These dwellings were examined and resulted in a change factor range of 0.92-0.94. These receptors are all comfortably within the BRE guidelines.
- South receptors (Inis Mór estate): Receptors 5 to 18 are residential dwellings with ground floor windows. These dwellings were examined and resulted in a change factor ranging from 0.86-0.94. These receptors are all well within the guidelines.
- East receptors (Inis Lua Close estate & Whitethorn estate & Ballinvoher estate): Receptors 19 to 33 are residential dwellings with ground floor windows. These dwellings were examined and resulted in a change factor ranging from 0.85-0.93. These receptors are also all within the guidelines.

We conclude that the new proposed development's effect on daylight reception in the neighbouring rooms are all within the constraints and recommendations of the BRE Report – "Site Layout and Planning for Daylight and Sunlight and we therefore deem the development to be compliant with this element.

2.6 Mitigation measures/actions

No mitigation measures anticipated.

3 Geographical overview

3.1 Project overview

Image 3.1 the (google) site map below indicates the location of the site approximately outlined.



Image 3.1 proposed development site boundary

4 Approach and methodology

4.1 General approach

This report covers the day light reception in habitable rooms in existing neighbouring buildings. The day light reception is applied as the vertical sky component (angle) but where found to be marginally in excess of the maximum allowable change a second more in depth analysis in the form of an average day light factor calculation is conducted to ensure sufficient levels of daylight is being received.

4.2 The nature and effects of day light and sun light

When assessing the effects of proposed building projects on the potential to cause issues relating to light, it is important to recognise the distinction between daylight and sunlight. Daylight is the combination of all direct and indirect sunlight during the daytime, whereas sunlight (for the purposes of this report) comprises only the direct elements of sunlight. For example, on a cloudy or overcast day diffused daylight still comes in through windows, even when sunlight is absent. Any development within a built-up area has the potential to alter the amount of daylight and direct sun received by nearby residential properties.

Care should be taken when designing new buildings in built-up areas, especially when the proposed development is relatively tall or situated to the south of existing buildings, because in the northern hemisphere the majority of the sunlight comes from the south. In Ireland (and other northern hemisphere countries) south-facing facades will in general, receive the most sunlight, while the north facing facades will receive sunlight on only a handful of occasions, specifically early mornings and late evenings during the summer months. It is therefore important to ensure that new buildings to the south of any development do not cause over shadowing to existing dwellings and therefore reduce their capacity to receive sunlight.

4.3 Assessment criteria

National Policy/building regulations: The government does not have an adopted policy on daylight, sunlight and the effects of overshadowing, and does not have targets, criteria or relevant planning guidance in the way it has for other environmental impacts such as noise, landscape or air quality. However, there are a number of guidance documents which are relevant when considering daylight, sunlight and overshadowing in dwellings:

- The Building Research Establishment (BRE) report, "Site layout planning for daylight and sunlight – a guide to good practice (referred to as the BRE Report).
Although not Government guidance, this report is commonly referenced as the main guide in Ireland/UK in determining the minimum standards of daylight and sunlight and for determining the impact of a development.
- European / British standard EN17037 / BS EN17037 Lighting for buildings: Code of practice for day lighting. EN17037/BS EN17037 contains guidance on the minimum recommended levels of interior day lighting and introduces some of the calculation procedures used in the BRE Report.
- CIBSE guide 10 Day light and lighting for buildings.
CIBSE lighting guide 10, like BS EN17037 contains guidance on the minimum recommended levels of interior day lighting and introduces recommended day light levels for general buildings.

4.4 The BRE Report – "Site Layout and Planning for Daylight and Sunlight – A Guide to Good Practice"

The BRE report contains guidance on how to design developments, whilst minimising the impacts on existing buildings from overshadowing and reduced levels of daylight and sunlight. The advice provided within the guide is not mandatory and should not be seen as an instrument of planning policy, its aim is to help rather than constrain the designer. Although it gives numerical guidance values, these should be interpreted with flexibility since natural lighting is one of many factors in site layout design. The guidance should be applied appropriately to developments to assist in gaining the best development possible without adverse impacts. As well as advice the report contains a methodology to assess levels of daylight, sunlight and over shadowing and contains criteria to determine the potential impacts of a new development on surrounding buildings. The table below summarises the criteria used to assess the daylight reception in properties.

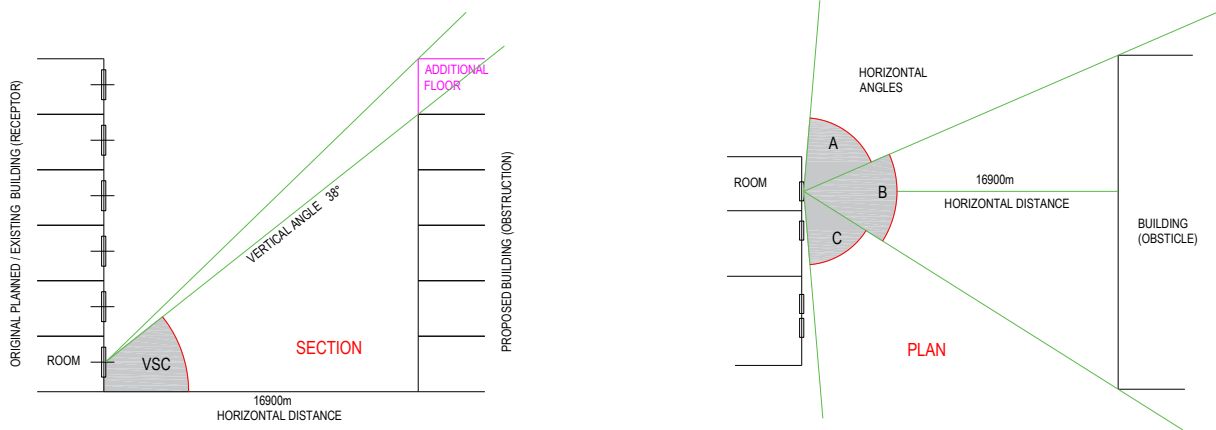
4.5 Day light reception analysis, Sky view component

The day light assessment is the effects the proposed development has on adjoining existing buildings. The assessment of daylight is required for windows serving rooms in adjoining dwellings where daylight is required including living rooms, kitchens and bedrooms. Windows to bathrooms, toilets, storerooms, circulation areas and garages need not be assessed.

The guidelines also apply to any room that may have a reasonable expectation of daylight, including schools, hospitals, hotels and some offices. When assessing daylight, the numerical criteria must be viewed with flexibility and should be considered against other site layout constraints. In addition, it is important to consider whether the existing building is itself a good neighbour, standing a reasonable distance from the boundary and not taking more than its fair share of light.

The assessment takes on several specific stages:

- The distance test: loss of light to windows need not be analysed if the distance from the existing window to the development is three or more times its height above the centre of the existing window;
- The 25° rule: loss of light to windows need not be analysed if the angle to the horizontal subtended by the new development from the centre of the existing window is less than 25° (an angle of 25° equates to a VSC of 27%).
- Daylight assessment: diffuse daylight of an existing building may be adversely affected by a proposed development if either: the vertical sky component measured at the centre of an existing main window is less than 27%, and less than 0.8 times its former value; or the area of the working plane which can receive direct skylight is reduced to less than 0.8 times its former value.



4.6 Criteria for daylight reception effects on neighbouring receptors

Table 4.1 details the BRE assessment criteria for daylight reception.

Analysis	Description	Acceptable parameters
Daylight reception criterion	Existing daylight incoming angle	Existing angles should not be effected more then 0.8 time its former value or a maximum loss of 20%.

Table 4.1

If the vertical sky component angles are beyond the maximum allowable change factor a further analysis can be conducted to establish the effects on daylight reception more accurately. The average day light factor can be applied to calculate the amount of day light received before and after the introduction of the new proposed development however this requires more accurate data on the room effected by the relevant window/receptor.

5 Receptor selection and calculation results

5.1 Basis of receptor (room/window) selection

The VSC assessment has been targeted to neighbouring windows/rooms/dwellings that are perceived to be in challenging locations i.e. basement rooms, ground floor rooms and dwellings/rooms in the near vicinity of the new proposed development on the basis that if these rooms pass the minimum requirements all rooms at higher levels will definitely pass the minimum recommendations as a result of the improving vertical sky view angle. Selected neighbouring buildings are listed below and also shown in image 5.1.



Image 5.1 Neighbouring receptors

Receptor/ window	Address	Description	Level description
1	1 Ard Aulin, Skehacreggaun, Mungret, Limerick	Residential	GF living space
2	2 Ard Aulin, Skehacreggaun, Mungret, Limerick	Residential	GF living space
3	3 Ard Aulin, Skehacreggaun, Mungret, Limerick	Residential	GF living space
4	4 Ard Aulin, Skehacreggaun, Mungret, Limerick	Residential	GF living space
5	39 Inis Mór, Father Russell Rd, Skehacreggaun, Limerick	Residential	GF living space
6	38 Inis Mór, Father Russell Rd, Skehacreggaun, Limerick	Residential	GF living space
7&8	25 Inis Mór, Bóthar an Athar Ruiséil, Skehacreggaun, Limerick	Residential	GF living space
9	26 Inis Mór, Bóthar an Athar Ruiséil, Skehacreggaun, Limerick	Residential	GF living space
10	24 Inis Mór, Bóthar an Athar Ruiséil, Skehacreggaun, Limerick	Residential	GF living space
11	23 Inis Mór, Bóthar an Athar Ruiséil, Skehacreggaun, Limerick	Residential	GF living space
12	22 Inis Mór, Bóthar an Athar Ruiséil, Skehacreggaun, Limerick	Residential	GF living space
13	21 Inis Mór, Bóthar an Athar Ruiséil, Skehacreggaun, Limerick	Residential	GF living space
14	20 Inis Mór, Bóthar an Athar Ruiséil, Skehacreggaun, Limerick	Residential	GF living space

15	19 Inis Mór, Bóthar an Athar Ruiséil, Skehacreggaun, Limerick	Residential	GF living space
16	18 Inis Mór, Bóthar an Athar Ruiséil, Skehacreggaun, Limerick	Residential	GF living space
17	17 Inis Mór, Bóthar an Athar Ruiséil, Skehacreggaun, Limerick	Residential	GF living space
18	16 Inis Mór, Bóthar an Athar Ruiséil, Skehacreggaun, Limerick	Residential	GF living space
19	71 Inis Lua, Bóthar an Athar Ruiséil, Skehacreggaun, Limerick	Residential	GF living space
20	72 Inis Lua, Bóthar an Athar Ruiséil, Skehacreggaun, Limerick	Residential	GF living space
21	73 Inis Lua, Bóthar an Athar Ruiséil, Skehacreggaun, Limerick	Residential	GF living space
22	Inis Lua Close estate	Residential	GF living space
23	Inis Lua Close estate	Residential	GF living space
24	Inis Lua Close estate	Residential	GF living space
25	Inis Lua Close estate	Residential	GF living space
26	Inis Lua Close estate	Residential	GF living space
27	Whitethorn estate	Residential	GF living space
28	Whitethorn estate	Residential	GF living space
29	Whitethorn estate	Residential	GF living space
30	59 Ballinvoher, Bóthar an Athar Ruiséil, Gouldavoher, Limerick	Residential	GF living space
31	58 Ballinvoher, Bóthar an Athar Ruiséil, Gouldavoher, Limerick	Residential	GF living space
32	57 Ballinvoher, Bóthar an Athar Ruiséil, Gouldavoher, Limerick	Residential	GF living space
33	56 Ballinvoher, Bóthar an Athar Ruiséil, Gouldavoher, Limerick	Residential	GF living space

Table 5.3: List of selected receptors



5.2 Distance test

We would normally execute a distance test to any selected rooms to determine if any further calculations are required to establish the effects on sky views however despite the fact that in a number of the circumstances the distance test alone would have sufficed, we have executed full VSC calculations for all selected neighbouring buildings habitable rooms.

5.3 Vertical sky component (VSC)

The VSC has been calculated for potentially affected windows within the neighbouring /adjacent properties. When undertaking a daylight assessment, the BRE Report suggests a VSC of 27% or more should be achieved if a room is to have adequate daylight. This level need not be applied to rooms which do not require high levels of natural light such as garages, storage rooms, etc. It also recommends that the effects of a new development on daylight reception should not affect any existing VSC by more than 20% or have a maximum change factor in excess of 0.8. The tables below provide the full calculation results of selected neighbouring locations including the overall calculated vertical sky component before and after the introduction of the new development. Note: The VSC calculation results have been given the following colour code guide depending on its level of resulting compliance.

Compliance guide

	0% Over /equal to
	5% Within
	10% Within
	10% In excess of

5.4 Calculation results

DAYLIGHT RECEPTION ANALYSIS

	EXISTING								NEW								change		
	Section 1 Hor° Ver°	Section 2 Hor° Ver°	Section 3 Hor° Ver°	Section 4 Hor° Ver°	Σ Hor° Σ Ver°	Σ VSC	Section 1 Hor° Ver°	Section 2 Hor° Ver°	Section 3 Hor° Ver°	Section 4 Hor° Ver°	Σ Hor° Σ Ver°	Σ VSC							
1																			
VSC test distance 35 m																			
Target distance 45m																			
window GF-living	66	3	114	3			180	36%	51	8	52	16	45	8	32	2	180	34%	0.92
2																			
VSC test distance 35 m																			
Target distance 62m																			
window GF-living	105	3	75	3			180	36%	50	11	58	13	72	3			180	34%	0.93
3																			
VSC test distance 35 m																			
Target distance 62m																			
window GF-living	109	3	71	3			180	36%	61	11	39	13	80	3			180	34%	0.94
4																			
VSC test distance 35 m																			
Target distance 65m																			
window GF-living	112	3	68	3			180	36%	48	10	44	13	88	3			180	34%	0.94
5																			
VSC test distance 17 m																			
Target distance 22m																			
window FF-living	45	3	102	2	33	9	180	36%	45	3	44	13	58	13	33	9	180	34%	0.93
6																			
VSC test distance 17 m																			
Target distance 23m																			
window GF-living	43	3	94	2	43	10	180	36%	43	3	39	13	55	13	43	10	180	34%	0.94
7																			
VSC test distance 17 m																			
Target distance 14m																			
window GF-living	85	3	95	2			180	36%	60	3	45	13	75	21			180	32%	0.88
8																			
VSC test distance 17 m																			
Target distance 20m																			
window GF-living	120	2	28	20	32	6	180	35%	120	12	28	20	32	6			180	32%	0.92
9																			
VSC test distance 17 m																			
Target distance 27m																			
window GF-living	96	2	35	20	49	6	180	35%	96	12	35	20	49	6			180	33%	0.94
10																			
VSC test distance 17 m																			
Target distance 18m																			
window GF-living	19	13	161	2			180	36%	19	13	46	10	104	16	11	3	180	32%	0.89
11																			
VSC test distance 17 m																			
Target distance 18m																			
window GF-living	14	12	166	2			180	36%	14	12	44	10	110	16	12	3	180	32%	0.88



ID	EXISTING								NEW								change				
	Section 1	Section 2	Section 3	Section 4	Σ Hor	Σ Ver	Σ VSC		Section 1	Section 2	Section 3	Section 4	Σ Hor	Σ Ver	Σ VSC						
12																					
VSC test distance	17 m																				
Target distance	18m																				
window	GF-living	10	11	46	3	124	2		180	36%	10	11	155	16	15	3		180	31%	0.87	
13																					
VSC test distance	17 m																				
Target distance	18m																				
window	FF-living	9	10	47	3	124	2		180	36%	9	10	154	16	17	3		180	32%	0.88	
14																					
VSC test distance	17 m																				
Target distance	18m																				
window	GF-living	6	9	47	3	127	2		180	36%	6	9	153	16	21	3		180	32%	0.88	
15																					
VSC test distance	17 m																				
Target distance	18m																				
window	GF-living	51	3	129	2				180	36%	158	16	22	3				180	32%	0.88	
16																					
VSC test distance	17 m																				
Target distance	18m																				
window	GF-living	49	2	131	2				180	37%	154	16	26	3				180	31%	0.86	
17																					
VSC test distance	17 m																				
Target distance	18m																				
window	FF-living	47	2	133	2				180	37%	149	16	31	3				180	32%	0.87	
18																					
VSC test distance	17 m																				
Target distance	18m																				
window	GF-living	45	2	135	2				180	37%	141	16	39	3				180	32%	0.87	
19																					
VSC test distance	17 m																				
Target distance	19m																				
window	FF-living	50	2	130	2				180	37%	136	16	44	4				180	32%	0.87	
20																					
VSC test distance	17 m																				
Target distance	18m																				
window	GF-living	40	2	140	2				180	37%	111	16	69	5				180	33%	0.89	
21																					
VSC test distance	17 m																				
Target distance	19m																				
window	FF-living	35	2	82	2	63	22		180	34%	99	16	18	7	63	22		180	30%	0.89	
22																					
VSC test distance	17 m																				
Target distance	24m																				
window	GF-living	61	15	119	2				180	35%	61	15	51	12	52	16	16	12	180	31%	0.91
23																					
VSC test distance	17 m																				
Target distance	18m																				
window	FF-living	43	12	137	2				180	36%	43	12	49	17	88	16		180	31%	0.87	



	EXISTING								NEW								change		
	Section 1	Section 2	Section 3	Section 4	Hor°	Ver°	Σ	VSC	Section 1	Section 2	Section 3	Section 4	Hor°	Ver°	Σ	VSC			
24																			
VSC test distance	17 m																		
Target distance	19m																		
window	GF-living	61	2	119	2			180	37%	160	16	20	10			180	31%	0.85	
25																			
VSC test distance	17 m																		
Target distance	24m																		
window	FF-living	36	2	144	2			180	37%	59	13	54	15	67	13		180	32%	0.87
26																			
VSC test distance	17 m																		
Target distance	22m																		
window	GF-living	38	2	142	2			180	37%	84	13	96	18			180	31%	0.85	
27																			
VSC test distance	17 m																		
Target distance	22m																		
window	FF-living	49	20	131	2			180	35%	49	20	94	14	37	16		180	31%	0.88
28																			
VSC test distance	17 m																		
Target distance	20m																		
window	GF-living	59	8	121	2			180	36%	47	8	133	16			180	32%	0.89	
29																			
VSC test distance	17 m																		
Target distance	24m																		
window	GF-living	71	2	109	8			180	35%	74	16	106	8			180	33%	0.93	
30																			
VSC test distance	17 m																		
Target distance	19m																		
window	FF-living	35	2	145	2			180	37%	64	2	43	19	73	17		180	32%	0.88
31																			
VSC test distance	17 m																		
Target distance	25m																		
window	GF-living	36	2	144	2			180	37%	71	2	69	19	40	17		180	33%	0.89
32																			
VSC test distance	17 m																		
Target distance	30m																		
window	FF-living	34	2	146	2			180	37%	34	17	67	19	79	2		180	33%	0.89
33																			
VSC test distance	17 m																		
Target distance	35m																		
window	GF-living	30	2	150	2			180	37%	27	17	66	19	87	2		180	33%	0.90



5.5 Daylight reception in neighbouring habitable rooms conclusion

The BRE recommends that the effects of a new development on daylight reception should not affect any existing VSC by more than 20% or have a maximum change factor in excess of 0.80. From the calculation results we note all selected neighbouring habitable receptors are effected to some degree with regards to daylight reception due to the introduction of the proposed development in their respective habitable rooms facing the proposed development, however, the calculated change in daylight reception in all of the analysed neighbouring receptors of the proposed development achieved a change factor ranging from 0.85 to 0.94. Summarized result findings are as follows (see image 5.1 for receptor locations):



(For reference) Image 5.1 Neighbouring receptors

- West receptors (Ard Aulin estate): Receptors 1 to 4 are residential dwellings with ground floor windows. These dwellings were examined and resulted in a change factor range of 0.92-0.94. These receptors are all comfortably within the BRE guidelines.
- South receptors (Inis Mór estate): Receptors 5 to 18 are residential dwellings with ground floor windows. These dwellings were examined and resulted in a change factor ranging from 0.86-0.94. These receptors are all well within the guidelines.
- East receptors (Inis Lua Close estate & Whitethorn estate & Ballinvoher estate): Receptors 19 to 33 are residential dwellings with ground floor windows. These dwellings were examined and resulted in a change factor ranging from 0.85-0.93. These receptors are also all within the guidelines.

We conclude that the new proposed development's effect on daylight reception in the neighbouring rooms are all within the constraints and recommendations of the BRE Report – "Site Layout and Planning for Daylight and Sunlight and we therefore deem the development to be compliant with this element.