

3. CONSIDERATION OF ALTERNATIVES 2
3.1 Introduction..... 2

3. CONSIDERATION OF ALTERNATIVES

3.1 Introduction

Article IV of the EIA Directive as amended by Directive 2014/52/EU provides that the information contained in an Environmental Impact Assessment Report (EIAR) should include 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 environmental effects. The consideration of alternatives generally refers to alternative design, technology, location, size and scale.

Alternatives are defined in the EPA's (May 2022) publication 'Guidelines on the information to be contained in Environmental Impact Assessment Reports' as: -

Description of other options that may have been considered during the conception of a project; these include alternative locations, alternative designs and alternative processes.

This remedial EIAR has been prepared to accompany an application to An Bord Pleanála for substitute consent, that refers specifically to works already carried out at Tinney's quarry over a long period of time and not to future proposed development at the quarry.

In granting leave to apply for substitute consent the Board considered the following matters: -

- i) this application for leave to apply for substitute consent has demonstrated that the regularisation of the quarry would not circumvent the purposes and objectives of the Environmental Impact Assessment Directive or of the Habitats Directive, because it would allow for the provision of information and an analysis of the likely significant environmental effects of the development and the effects of the development on the integrity of European sites,
- iii) the ability to carry out an assessment of the environmental impacts of the development for the purpose of an Environmental Impact Assessment and to carry out an Appropriate Assessment has not been substantially impaired, and that public participation in such assessments has not been substantially impaired, and
- iv) a remedial environmental impact assessment would allow for the remediation of actual or likely significant effects on the environment and a remedial Natura Impact Statement would allow for the remediation of any adverse effects on the integrity of a European site.

As the development the subject of this application is about consent for the development already carried out, no alternatives have been considered.