5.0 POPULATION & HUMAN HEALTH

5.1 Introduction

This chapter has been prepared by Gavin Lawlor and Bernard Dwyer of Tom Phillips + Associates in conjunction with Milford Quarries Ltd. and provides a detailed description of the development together with details of the existing environment.

Gavin Lawlor is a Director of Tom Phillips + Associates. He holds a BA (Social Science) from University College Dublin, where he graduated in 1995 with a Masters in Regional and Urban Planning (MRUP) Degree and is a Full Member of the Irish Planning Institute (IPI) with 25 years' experience. Further competent experts have been engaged to address specific issues and/or portions of the EIAR.

Bernard Dwyer is an Associate at Tom Phillips and Associates. He holds a Masters in Planning and Sustainable Development (MPLAN) from University College Cork where he graduated in 2014 and is a full member of the Irish Planning Institute (IPI) with 11 years' experience.

This chapter of the remedial Environmental Impact Assessment Report examines the potential impacts of the historic quarry development on human beings. The scope of the work includes an evaluation of the potential and indirect effects on the human populations of the surrounding environs and addresses impacts on amenity, the local economy, and health.

5.2 Methodology

The following guidelines have informed the preparation of this chapter:

- *Guidelines for Planning Authorities and An Bord Pleanála on carrying out Environmental Impact Assessments (Department of Housing, Planning and Local Government – (August 2018);*
- *Guidelines on the information to be Contained in Environmental Impact Assessment Reports (EPA, May 2022);*
- *Guidelines on the information to be Contained in Environmental Impact Assessment Reports (EPA, 2002);*
- *Environmental Impact Assessment of Projects – Guidance on the preparation of the Environmental Impact Assessment (European Union, 2017);*
- *Guidelines for Planning Authorities and the An Bord Pleanála on carrying out Environmental Impact Assessment (DHPLG,2018).*

The preparation of this chapter was also informed by site visits and desktop studies of relevant policy documents and data sources including:

- *Central Statistics Office* (2022) – Census, 2022
- *Carlow County Council Development Plan 2022 – 2028*
- *ESRI* (2025) – Quarterly Economic Commentary, Summer 2025;
- *Health Safety Authority* – www.hsa.ie.

In order to assess the likely significant impacts of the historic development on population and human health, an analysis of recent Census data was undertaken, Data relating to the

economic, demographic and social characteristics of the Local Authority District within which the subject site is located were examined.

The assessment of impacts on population and human health entailed in the identification of key populations potentially affected by the proposed development, a definition of the study area; and quantitative, qualitative, and documentary research.

Key populations potentially affected by the development have been identified as persons residing and engaging in activities in close proximity to the quarry, persons with a stake in the general economy of the area, and persons enjoying the recreational and cultural amenities of the area.

The primary Study Area has been defined as the Small Area (SA) of 017012001, wherein the site is located. Due to the proposed development being situated along the County Laois border, the adjacent SA (107087001) has been included in order to effectively analyse the surrounding environs of the site. The study area has been identified having regard to both data availability and the location of the subject site. Small Areas are the lowest level of geography at which detailed demographic data (i.e. Small Area Population Statistics published by the Central Statistics Office) are available for rural areas.

Reference will also be made to the larger rural area in which the quarry is located and to County Carlow as a whole. Research involved a review of the relevant policy documents and the analysis of population data supplied by the Central Statistics Office (CSO).

5.3 Historic Development

The historic development consisted of quarrying including rock extraction by mechanical means including extraction areas, stockpiling areas, surface water management and ancillary works. The quarry included an extraction area of c. 8.66 hectares within a wider landholding of c. 45.68 ha and involved extraction of up to c. 650,000 m^3 of material over a c. 16 year period. Access to the quarry is provided via an existing entrance along a rural road that connects to the L7134 Road.

5.4 Receiving Environment

The area surrounding the site is predominantly rural in character. Residential properties in the vicinity of the site comprise of one-off dwellings and farmhouses along local roads that are primarily to the north, south, and east of the site. Further details of the receiving environment are provided in Chapter 2 of this EIAR.

5.4.1 Services and Population

The nearest towns and villages to the site are:

- Ballinabrannagh, population 557 (c. 3km to the south-east)
- Carlow Town, population 27,351 (c. 5km to the north-east)
- Leighlinbridge, population 959 (c. 8km to the south)
- Muine Bheag/Bagenalstown, population 2,945 (c. 12km to the south-east)
- Castlecomer, population 1,502 (c. 14 km to the west)

- Tullow, population 5,138 (c. 17km to the east)
- Kilkenny City, population 27,184 (c. 22km to the south-west)

The closest settlement centre is the village of Ballinabrannagh, located c. 3km from the subject site to the southeast via the L3041 road. The village contains a national school, a church, a GAA club and pitch, and a creche.

Population characteristics for the area have been obtained from the Central Statistics Office Census of Population for 2022. The relevant small area (017012001) has a low population reflecting the rural nature of the surrounding area. The population in this area has experienced change below the growth rates of the Electoral District (ED) and Local Electoral Area (LEA) in which it is located, the county, and the state as a whole.

Table 5.1: Population Statistics for the Area 2011-2022

Area	2011	2016	2022	% Change 2016-2022	% Change 2011-2022
Small Area 017012001	339	325	348	+7.1%	+2.7%
Clogrenan ED	996	1,038	1,138	+9.6%	+14.3%
Muinebeag LEA	11,098	15,630	16,575	+6.0%	+49.4%
Co. Carlow	54,612	56,932	61,968	+8.8%	+13.5%
Ireland	4,588,252	4,761,865	5,149,139	+8.1%	+12.2%
Source: CSO Data					

The subject site is located at Clogrennane. In the 2022 Census, the relevant SA (017012001) had a total population of no. 348 persons representing a population percentage change of +7% from the 2016 Census. This percentage change in population compares with the neighbouring SA (107087001), which has experienced a population change of +2% increase from 2016. Both areas saw their population decrease slightly in the 2016 Census, but their 2022 populations are marginally higher than in 2011. The overall population in the wider area has therefore remined largely static over the last 15 years since the quarry was in full operation. This is displayed in Table 5.1 above.

Table 5.2: Population Change in Relevant Small Areas

Small Area	2011	2016	2022	% Change (2016-2022)	% Change (2011-2022)
017012001	339	325	348	+7.1%	+2.7%
107087001	460	455	464	+2.0%	+0.9%
Source: CSO Data					

The A107087001 Small Area (within the Electoral Division of Rossmore) borders the subject site and has a total population of 464 no. persons in 2022. The rate of change in the neighbouring SA is even more marginal than the subject SA. This indicates the remote, rural character of the area. The two areas are compared with the county and the state across a range of relevant statistics that considers the number of households, age breakdown, water supply, sewerage system, disability and quality of health. See table 5.3 below.

Table 5.3: Statistics of Relevant Small Areas				
Dataset	**Small Area 017012001**	**Small Area 107087001**	**Co. Carlow**	**Ireland**
Permanent Households	122	144	22,238	1,841,152
Unoccupied Buildings	6	17	1,724	163,433
Age Breakdown (%)				
Age 0-9	13.8%	11.4%	12.3%	12.4%
Age 10-19	10.1%	14.7%	14.5%	13.8%
Age 20-29	12.6%	7.8%	11.4%	11.7%
Age 30-39	12.3%	12.9%	13.3%	13.9%
Age 40-49	14.7%	13.1%	15.3%	15.2%
Age 50-59	11.5%	14.7%	12.8%	12.6%
Age 60-69	13.2%	12.7%	10.1%	9.9%
Age 70-79	7.8%	8.8%	7.0%	6.9%
Age 80 and over	4.0%	3.9%	3.3%	3.5%
Highest Level of Education Completed				
% No Formal Education	4.6%	1.6%	2.1%	2.4%
% Primary School	10.0%	7.6%	8.7%	7.4%
% Lower Secondary	28.5%	11.7%	16.2%	13.2%
% Upper Secondary	16.7%	13.7%	18.1%	18.1%
% Technical/Vocational	7.5%	4.8%	9.2%	7.5%
% Tertiary or higher	30.5%	57.5%	41.8%	44.9%
Socio-Economic Group[1]				
AB	12.0%	16.9%	12.0%	14.3%
CD	27.2%	34.5%	34.4%	40.5%
EFG	36.0%	21.6%	23.8%	19.4%
HIJ	6.4%	14.2%	9.6%	8.2%
% with confirmed water supply				
(Mains Water Supply)	9.8%	3.5%	69.3%	80.1%
(Private Water Supply)	25.4%	64.6%	24.2%	9.9%
(Group Scheme)	63.1%	31.3%	4.5%	7.7%
% with Stated Sewerage				
(Mains Sewerage)	51.6%	0.7%	62.3%	68.2%
(Septic Tank)	39.3%	91.7%	30.8%	25.4%
(Other)	9.0%	7.6%	6.7%	6.4%
% with Central Heating				
Oil	66.4%	79.2%	52.5%	38.9%
Coal & Peat	13.9%	4.9%	5.9%	7.2%
Wood-Fired	8.2%	7.6%	2.3%	1.7%
Electric	3.3%	4.9%	8.9%	11.8%
Gas/LPG	0.8%	1.4%	23.1%	33.4%
% with a Disability	27.6%	22.8%	23.1%	21.5%
% Working Age Unable to Work (illness/disability)	6.0%	2.9%	5.8%	4.6%
Carers	3.4%	6.3%	5.7%	5.8%
Health:				

[1] AB Employers, managers & higher professional; CD Lower professional & non-manual; EFG Manual skilled, semi-skilled & unskilled; HIJ Own account workers, farmers, & agricultural workers.

Very Good/Good	85.6%	84.5%	81.7%	82.9%
Fair	9.5%	9.7%	9.9%	8.6%
Bad/Very Bad	2.0%	2.6%	2.0%	1.7%

5.4.2 Recent residential development in the area

A separate analysis was caried out in relation to new residential development in the area since the year 2000, which captures the active phase of the quarry and the later extraction phases since. This analysis, which examined planning records submitted to both Carlow and Laois County Councils within a 1 km radius of the subject lands identified any permitted new residences in the area. A further analysis of aerial imagery reveals that c. 16 of these permitted residences were constructed in the area over the last 25 years. Where existing dwellings were extended or replacement builds took place, these results were discounted. A listing of these constructed dwellings is included as Appendix 5.1.

The analysis demonstrates that approximately 9 properties were permitted and constructed withing the area during the period of most significant activity at the quarry between 2000 and 2014. There are no records of complaints from neighbouring residents during this timeframe. A further 7 no. properties have been permitted and developed in the intervening years with no recorded reports of impacts.

In addition, when S261A proceedings were underway there were no submissions/observations by the public.

This would suggest that the quarry operated successfully in the past notwithstanding nearby sensitive receptors. This is further demonstrated through the analysis in the other chapters in the rEIAR including the Noise and Hydrology chapters in particular.

Figure 5.1: Approximate area assessed for recent residential developments (Source Google Earth)

5.4.3 Employment

The 2022 Census data present the most recent data for the Country, inclusive of each Small Area to date. The Census 2022 data revealed that 55.3% of the population aged 15+ were 'At work' as shown in Table 5.4 below.

Table 5.4: Principal Status, Small Area 017012001, Clogrennane, Co. Carlow

Industry	Persons	% Total
At work	157	55.3%
Looking for first regular job	4	1.4%
Short term unemployed	3	1.0%
Long term unemployed	8	2.8%
Student	24	8.5%
Looking after home/family	25	8.8%
Retired	46	16.2%
Unable to work due to sickness or disability	17	6.0%
Other	0	0%
Total	284	100%

Source: CSO Data 2022

The Census 2022 data revealed that Commerce and Trade was the highest percentage of the population of the Clogrenan ED working in this industry at 26.9%. The second largest was the Professional Services Industry at 24.7% of the ED population as shown in Table 5.5.

Table 5.5: Persons at work by industry, Clogrenan, Co. Carlow		
Industry	**Persons at work**	**% Total**
Agriculture, forestry and fishing	25	**4.5%**
Building and construction	38	**6.8%**
Manufacturing industries	76	**13.7%**
Commerce and trade	149	**26.9%**
Transport and communications	27	**4.8%**
Public administration	39	**7.0%**
Professional services	137	**24.7%**
Other	62	**11.2%**
Total	**553**	**100.0%**
Source: CSO Data 2022		

5.4.4 Live Register

At the time of the 2022 Census, 3.8% of the labour force in the Clogrennane ED are identified as 'Unemployed' either short term or long term. In addition, 1.4% of the population over 15 years is seeking their first job. This is much lower than the unemployment rate for the State overall (see section 5.4.3) which indicates strong economic activity.

Most recent information regarding unemployment is provided by Live Register Data. The Live Register is a monthly measurement of the numbers of people (with some exceptions) registering for Jobseekers Benefit (JB) or Jobseekers Allowance (JA) or for various other statutory entitlements at local offices of the Department of Employment Affairs and Social Protection (DEASP). As a result, this data source, while not providing an unemployment figure, can provide a good indication of up-to-date employment trends and economic activity in the subject site area.

Live register figures are available at a national, country and local DEASP welfare office level. At a local level, the nearest DEASP is located in Carlow Town. Figures at national, county, and local levels, as shown in Table 5.6, all reflect a significant decrease in the numbers recorded in the Live Register between January 2016 and February 2025. However, it is noted that there is a small, insignificant increase from January 2022 – February 2025 at the county level.

Table 5.6 A Comparison of Live Register Figures			
Area	**Jan. 2016**	**Jan. 2022**	**Feb. 2025**
State	321,513	162,578	165,307
Carlow County	5,373	2,671	2,677
Carlow Town	3,027	1,591	1,552

Source: CSO Data 2016-2025

The development would have provided some historic employment in the area, while at the current time the quarry is inactive and so does not contribute to the local economy. Any potential future development will aim to support direct and indirect employment for the duration of the lifespan of the quarry. In the absence of such development there will be no employment generated by the site.

5.4.5 Deprivation

Pobal use the census statistics to develop a deprivation index that categorises areas in eight bands from 'extremely affluent' to 'extremely disadvantaged'. The below table considered the two relevant small areas in terms of deprivation across the 2011, 2016 and 2022 censuses. The figures show an improvement in terms of the deprivation faced in the relevant small areas, where unemployment has decreased and education levels have increased.

Table 5.7: Deprivation Index of the Relevant Small Areas

Indicator	2011 Census	2016 Census	2022 Census
Small Area 017012001			
Pobal HP Index	-10.40	-10.82	-7.06
Pobal HP Description	Disadvantaged	Disadvantaged	Marginally Below Average
Age dependency ratio (%)	32.70%	32.00%	35.92%
Primary Education Only (%)	26.80%	21.00%	14.96%
Third Level Education (%)	13.20%	17.73%	23.93%
Unemployment Rate – Male (%)	27.20%	20.93%	11.00%
Unemployment Rate – Female (%)	39.30%	26.09%	5.56%
Small Area 107087001			
Pobal HP Index	1.30	1.12	7.33
Pobal HP Description	Marginally Above Average	Marginally Above Average	Marginally Above Average
Age dependency ratio (%)	34.60%	37.17%	36.85%
Primary Education Only (%)	15.40%	15.00%	9.51%
Third Level Education (%)	33.70%	38.57%	50.49%
Unemployment Rate – Male (%)	22.90%	9.73%	4.62%
Unemployment Rate – Female (%)	11.50%	12.36%	2.30%
County Carlow			
Pobal HP Index	-3.41	-3.66	-2.76
Pobal HP Description	Marginally Below Average	Marginally Below Average	Marginally Below Average
Age dependency ratio (%)	33.62%	34.67%	34.88%
Primary Education Only (%)	17.36%	14.56%	11.54%
Third Level Education (%)	24.30%	28.64%	34.83%
Unemployment Rate – Male (%)	26.47%	17.65%	9.52%
Unemployment Rate – Female (%)	19.04%	16.85%	9.38%
Source: Pobal Deprivation Index, 2011-2022			

5.4.6 Employment and Economic Activity in Ireland

In relation to national employment figures, the (ESRI) Quarterly Economic Commentary (ESRI QEC) – Summer 2025 notes that the national unemployment rate has remained low despite economic shocks and uncertainty, with the rate for May 2025 standings at 4.1%[2]. This is significant progress from a 4.7% unemployment rate in 2022. The report states that:

> *"We expect the labour market to continue to be strong in 2025 and expect an unemployment rate of 4.2 per cent on average for the year. Further, we anticipate continuing growth in real wages of 3.6 per cent in 2025."*

The Summer 2025 Commentary reveals that the labour market has performed robustly, and it is likely that the Irish economy is operating at full capacity with little spare labour resources domestically.

5.4.7 Health Sensitivity

Referring to the Institute of Public Health's (IPH) Health Impact Assessment Guidelines 2021, a conceptual model for health sensitivity is suggested which provides a framework for the qualitative analysis of the above data relating to human health.

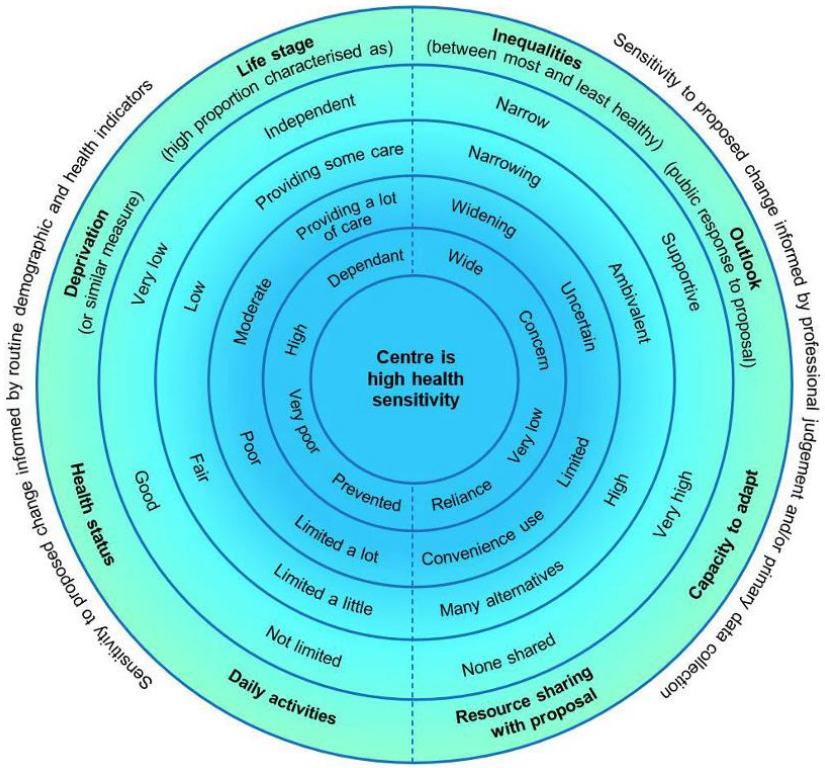

Figure 5.1: Health Sensitivity Conceptual Model (source: Institute of Public Health).

The analysis below takes into account the data and statistics collated in relation to the relevant small areas and compares them against national data to determine their health sensitivity.

[2] Quarterly Economic Commentary, Summer 2025 | ESRI

Table 5.8: Health Sensitivity of Relevant Small Areas		
Criterium	**Classification**	**Basis**
Small Area 017012001		
Life Stage	Providing Some Care	While the rate of people unable to work due to illness/disability is higher locally than the national rate, the rate of carers is lower which could indicate a degree of independence. The rate of people who are retired or are looking after the home/family is slightly higher locally than the national rate also.
Deprivation	Moderate	Classed as 'Marginally Below Average' by Pobal.
Health Status	Good	The rate of population describing their health as good/very good is higher than the rate at county or national level.
Daily Activities	Limited a Little	The percentage of the population who have a disability or are unable to work due to disability is higher than the national rate, but the rate of carers is lower indicating a degree of independence.
Inequalities	Narrowing	While the rate of people who have only completed primary school is twice that of the national rate, it has nearly halved since 2011 which indicates a rapid improvement in educational attainment over the previous decade.
Outlook towards Proposal	Ambivalent	There are no known complaints against the historic development to Carlow County Council.
Capacity to Adapt	Very High	The Development did not generate any increase in the use of health services above the usual capacity of the services and did not have any adverse effect on service quality for the resident population.
Resource Sharing with Proposal	Many Alternatives	The site did not have a high demand for power or water. The majority of households have private water supplies and oil-fired central heating, with very few that are dependent on mains water or electric heating.
Overall Score	**Low Health Sensitivity**	
Small Area 107087001		
Life Stage	Providing Some Care	The rate of carers, disabled people, children and older people are all higher than the national average. Though, the rate of people who are unable to work due to illness or disability is low indicating a degree of independence.
Deprivation	Low	Class as 'Marginally Above Average' by Pobal.

Health Status	Good	The rate of population describing their health as good/very good is higher than the rate at county or national level.
Daily Activities	Limited a Little	The rate of people who are unable to work due to illness or disability is much lower than the national rate, though the rate of carers is higher.
Inequalities	Narrow	The rate of population who have completed some kind of tertiary education is much higher than the national rate indicating a well-educated population. The rates of different socio-economic groups is relatively mixed compared to the rate nationally.
Outlook towards Proposal	Ambivalent	There are no known complaints against the historic development to Carlow County Council.
Capacity to Adapt	Very High	The Development did not generate any increase in the use of health services above the usual capacity of the services and did not have any adverse effect on service quality for the resident population.
Resource Sharing with Proposal	Many Alternatives	The site did not have a high demand for power or water. The majority of households have private water supplies and oil-fired central heating, with very few that are dependent on mains water or electric heating.
Overall Score	**Very Low Health Sensitivity**	

Based on the above qualitative analysis of the sensitivity of the receiving environment in relation to human health, there would appear to be very low health sensitivity in the area indicating no long term impacts from the historic development of the quarry.

5.5 Potential Environmental Impacts on Human Beings

The potential environmental impacts on the health of human beings, particularly to those closest to the development, have been considered in detail in this rEIAR. The findings of the relevant chapters are summarised below.

Each of the various disciplines has attempted to approximate the potential for effects that would have arisen from the historic activity onsite.

Further to this, where appropriate, individual chapters have assessed the impact of the site on the surrounding area in its current disused state and the potential effects of a do nothing scenario going forward.

5.5.1 Climate

The impact of the historic extension of the quarry on air quality is outlined in chapter 10 of this rEIAR. This chapter assess the likely climate impacts that are associated with the historical quarrying extraction activities at the site. The climate assessment focuses on greenhouse gas emissions associated with site activities as well as fuel usage generating traffic emissions. Based on the assessment in Chapter 10, it was determined that the impacts of the historical construction phase would have been minimal. The GHG emissions that would have resulted from the development are considered to be moderate and adverse, which includes a project which

- The project's GHG impacts are partially mitigated
- The project has partially complied with do-minimum standards set through regulation, and have not fully complied with local or national policies; and
- Falls short of full contribution to Ireland's trajectory towards net zero.

Notwithstanding the above, it is determined in Chapter 10 that the development has a direct, long-term, negative, significant effect, as per the EPA Guidelines 2022.

Due the absence of current quarry activities on site, as commercial quarrying ceased in 2014, and the site has been inactive since the applicants took ownership in 2023, there are currently no impacts to climate associated with the development site and therefore do not affect the existing population.

Should there be no additional expansion of the quarry the projected effects with regard to climate and air quality are expected to **be neutral and imperceptible**.

5.5.2 Noise & Vibration

The impact of the historic development in terms of noise is assessed in Chapter 11 of this rEIAR. It finds that residual noise impacts are not significant on a local scale considering the historic emissions, phasing and intensity of site activities, and in light of the employed mitigation measures and current ambient environment.

As the quarry is currently inactive the effects on the surrounding area from noise and vibration are **imperceptible** and will remain so in the absence of future quarry expansion.

5.5.3 Landscape & Visual

Chapter 15 of this rEIAR assesses the landscape and visual impacts of the historic quarry.

The existing quarry has evolved from a modest sand and gravel pit for over a century with brief intense phases of excavation and other long periods where it was unused. It has existed in a productive rural landscape where landscape pattern have varied slightly over the decades, but not the underlying character, which is one influenced by other quarries in the vicinity. Its main effect is a direct physical change of the landform and land use pattern within the extents of the existing quarry from agricultural grassland and hedgerows to a quarry pit.

The existing quarry is not readily visible from the surrounding area and this is likely to have been the case throughout its lifetime. Consequently, it has had only minor influence on the prevailing landscape character and the amenity of views within the surrounding area as evidenced by the represented viewpoints used as part of the visual impact assessment.

It is not considered that remedial mitigation is required as historic landscape and visual effects are deemed to be not significant.

5.5.4 Water

The impact of the historic quarry excavation on the hydrology and hydrogeology of the area is assessed in Chapter 8 of this rEIAR and includes a summary of all potential impacts that are associated with the development. It concludes that due to the lack of any significant residual impacts from the Proposed Development that would affect the wider hydrological environment, there will be no significant cumulative impacts to downstream surface watercourses. Similarly, in terms of groundwater, the Proposed Development will not have a significant impact on groundwater quantity (groundwater levels) or groundwater quality due to the nature of the local hydrogeological regime with short groundwater flowpaths and bedrock of low permeability.

The baseline assessment of hydrology at the site has demonstrated that the historic activities at the site have not resulted in any significant current effects in terms of groundwater vulnerability or quality, on downstream surface water flows, downstream surface water quality or local groundwater well supplies.

Should additional development not take place at the site and provided the pre-existing surface water management measures remain functional, it is not envisaged that any significant effects in terms of surface or ground waters would be experienced

5.5.5 Traffic

The potential for traffic impacts arising from the historic quarry is addressed in Chapter 13 of this rEIAR. Potential impacts arising, such as increased noise levels as well as overall impacts on air quality and climate are negligible since operations at the quarry have ceased and is currently only accessed for maintenance of the site. Therefore, any residual impacts on traffic capacity on the receiving road network can be categorised as **imperceptible**.

5.5.6 Waste

The potential impact on the human beings living in the surrounding area of the site have been identified and addressed in Chapter 12 of this rEIAR. The potential impacts on human beings that have been identified in Chapter 12 consist of the generation of waste during the construction and operational phases where the incorrect management of waste could have resulted in littering. Littering can cause a nuisance to the public, attract vermin, and cause an adverse visual impact. However, with the implementation of mitigation measures (detailed further in Chapter 12) in tandem with a carefully planned approach to waste management and project-specific RWMP, the appropriate management of waste would have occurred and would have avoided any negative impacts on the local population. Therefore, the overall effect is determined to be **long-term, imperceptible, and neutral**.

5.6 Socio-Economic Impacts

Without regularisation of the historic unauthorised activity at the site, it will not be possible for the applicants to secure permission for the continued extraction activities and eventual restoration of the lands. The regularisation of the quarry activities will provide the opportunity additional employment in the area and will ensure additional aggregate resource is made available to support the development of the local economy. This would represent a **long term positive** effect for the local economy.

5.7 'Do Nothing' Impact

A 'Do Nothing' scenario would involve leaving the site to restore naturally without any management or mitigation of any potential impacts. It would result in an unusable site that would have potential to attract antisocial activity such as illegal dumping and could potentially result in significant environmental impacts from the lands and remaining stockpiles not being properly managed. In addition, a breakdown in the existing surface water management system could result in sediment run-off to local waterways. The Do Nothing Impacts are therefore considered to be **moderate, negative and long term**.

5.8 Mitigation Measures

No mitigation measures are deemed to be necessary other than those outlined elsewhere in this remedial EIAR. Mitigation measures are considered in detail in the following chapters:

- Chapter 6: Biodiversity
- Chapter 7: Land, Soils and Ground Water
- Chapter 8: Hydrology (Surface Water and Wastewater)
- Chapter 9: Air
- Chapter 10: Climate
- Chapter 11: Noise and Vibration
- Chapter 12: Material Assets – Waste
- Chapter 13: Material Assets – Traffic and Transportation
- Chapter 14: Cultural Heritage incl. Archaeology
- Chapter 15: Landscape Visual Impact Assessment
- Chapter 17: Mitigation

5.9 Residual Impacts

The residual impact of the historic development will not be significant in terms of its effect on human beings.