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Part XAB Planning Report



Project Title:

R585 Dromdeegy, Dunmanway – Road Realignment and Improvement Scheme

Section 177AE Planning & Development Act 2000 (as amended) - Part XAB
Planning and Development Regulations 2001 (as amended)



Comhairle Contae Chorcaí
Cork County Council

Regional & Local Road Design Office

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Prepared by:

Cork County Council

Regional & Local Roads Design Office

Floor 3, County Library Building

Carrigrohane Road, Cork, T12 K335

Tel: +353 21 428 5287

Info.rlrdo@corkcoco.ie

www.corkcoco.ie

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¹ Contents in accordance with the requirements of the Planning and Development Act 2000 Part XI S.179(3)b

1. Introduction

Cork County Council has identified the need to carry out road safety and realignment improvement works to the R585 regional road at Dromdeegy, Dunmanway, Co. Cork. The existing road is substandard because of its inadequate width and poor horizontal and vertical alignment geometry. The realignment works will run over a length of approximately 410metres with tie-in to the existing road at both ends. As well as improving the alignment, the overall cross section width of the road is to be improved thereby proving improved driver visibility.

The proposed overall road improvement works will consist of the following:

- Alteration to existing road alignment to improve road safety.
- Site clearance.
- Road construction, resurfacing, road lining, signage and road studs
- Relocation of overhead line.
- Constructing earth berms and fencing.
- All ancillary works required to deliver the proposed scheme.

1.1 Purpose of this Report

The purpose of this report is to outline the proposals associated with the road project. The report title is “Road Realignment and Improvement Scheme on the R585 at Dromdeegy, Dunmanway, Co. Cork”.

1.2 Study Area

The project study area is located circa 6.5km north of Dunmanway Town Centre in the townlands of Dromdeegy and Cooranig. (See Figure 1 & 2)

The R585 is a Regional road which runs from Kealkill Village to its Junction with the N22, National Primary Road, east of Crookstown in the Municipal District (MD) area of Dunmanway. The road is a busy rural regional road which is used as one of the main routes for motorists travelling from West Cork especially from the Beara Peninsula. There are high volumes of Heavy Goods Vehicles (HGV’s) using this route for example articulated trucks travelling to and from the busy fishing Port of Castletownbere.

1.3 Land requirements

No land take is required to deliver the scheme. The project will be delivered on/within the footprint of the existing road and adjoining lands that are in the ownership of the Local Authority.

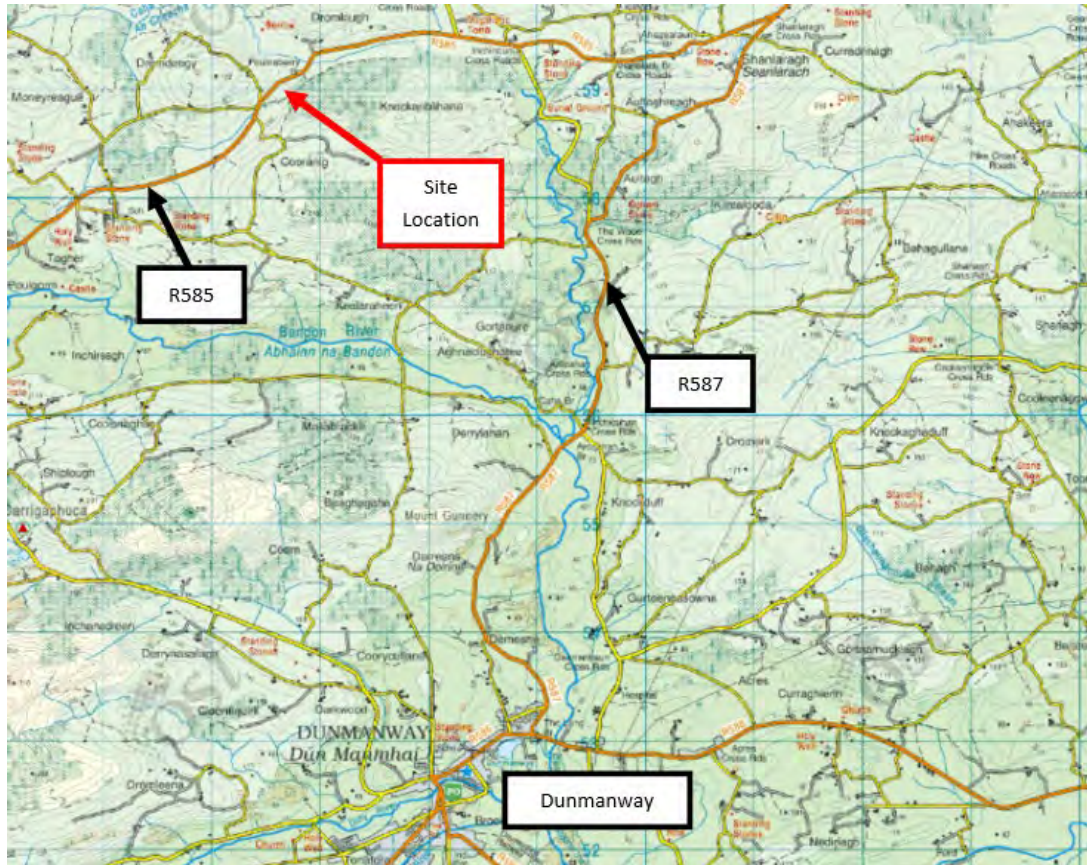


Figure 1 R585 Site Location

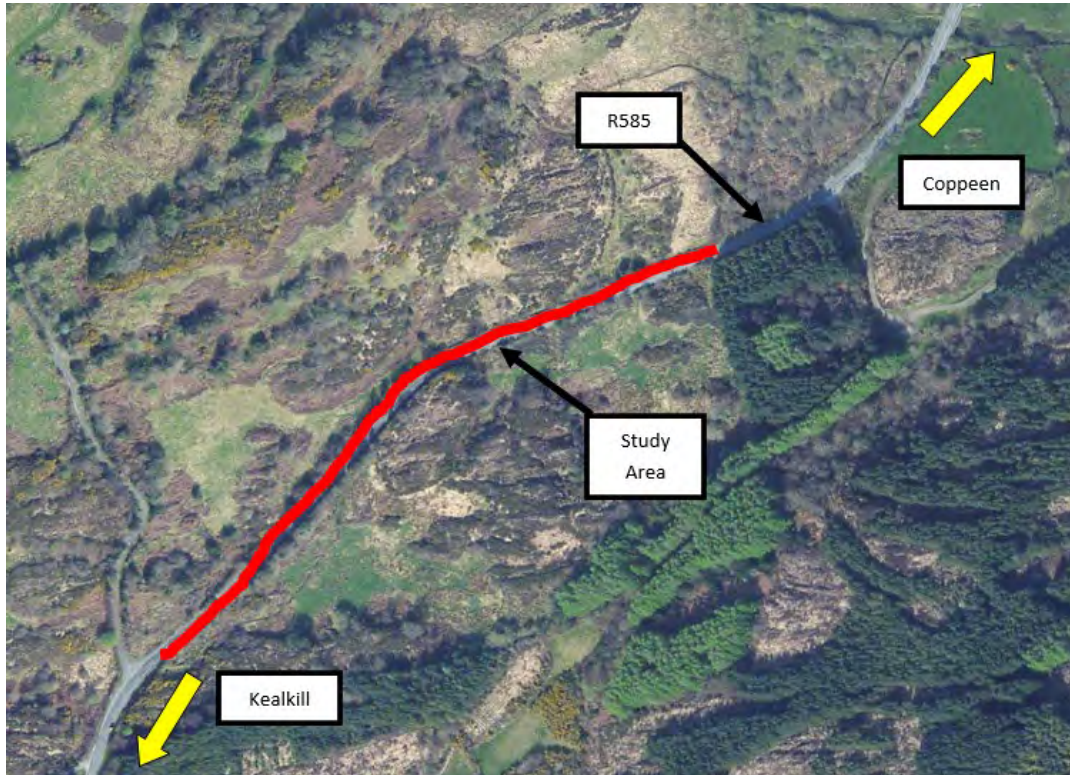


Figure 2 R585 Study Area

2. Part XAB Planning Process

Planning and Development Act 2000, (as amended); Part XAB Section 177AE and the Planning and Development Regulations 2001, (as amended) set out the requirements in respect of certain classes of development by or on behalf of local authorities

2.2 Site Notices

Two notices are erected at locations across the study area and will be maintained for the duration of the submission period. A copy of the Advertisement/Site Notice is attached (see 6.1 Appendix A).

Cork County Council published a notice of the proposals in the Irish Examiner on Wednesday 16th December-2022.

2.3 Planning Consultations

Article 82(3) prescribes Statutory and Non-Statutory bodies to which a local authority should send notice of proposed development. These are summarised in the 6.2 Appendix B: Notification of Statutory Consultees.

2.4 Part XAB Planning Documents

The following is the list of Part XAB Planning documents contained in this application:

- Part XAB Planning Report (this document).
- Press notice.
- Site notice.
- Report in Support of Appropriate Assessment (AA) Screening and Natura Impact Assessment
- Ecological Impact Assessment (EcIA)
- Habitats Directive Appropriate Assessment Screening Report
- Archaeological Impact Assessment Report
- Part XAB Planning Drawings (as listed below, and See 6.4 Appendix D);

Drawing Number	Drawing Title	Revision
R585D-LM-01_D0	Location Map	D0
R585D_SN_01_D0	Site Notice Location	D0
R585D-LA-01_D0	Proposed Layout Plan	D0
R585D-CS-01_D0	Proposed Typical Cross Section	D0

Cork County Council is required to make **full plans and particulars** of the proposed development available for inspection. These will be available from Friday 16th-December-2022 until Wednesday 1st-February-2022 at the following locations:

- Regional and Local Road Design Office, Floor 3, County Library Building, Carrigrohane Road, Cork, T12 R2NC.
- Dunmanway Municipal District Office, Swimming Pool Complex, Bantry Road, Dunmanway, Co. Cork, P47 EV67
- <https://www.corkcoco.ie/en/resident/planning-and-development/public-consultations/active-part-xab-development-consultation/active-part-xab-development-consultation>

Alternatively, a hard copy of the documents will be posted on request by emailing part8.rlrdo@corkcoco.ie or by writing to: Senior Engineer, Cork County Council, Regional & Local Roads Design Office, Floor 3, County Library Building, Carrigrohane Road, Cork, T12 K335.

2.5 Submission Process

Submissions or observations may be made in writing only to An Bord Pleanála, 64 Marlborough Street, Dublin 1, D01 V902 in respect of:

1. The implications of the proposed development for proper planning and sustainable development in the area concerned, and
2. The likely effects on the environment of the proposed development, if carried out, and
3. The likely significant effects of the proposed development on a European site, if carried out.

Any submissions or observations must be received by An Bord Pleanála not later than 5.30 pm on 1st February 2023.

A person may question the validity of a decision by An Bord Pleanála by way of an application for judicial review, under Order 84 of the rules of the Superior Courts (S.I. No.15 of 1986) in accordance with Section 50 of the Planning and Development Act 2000 (as amended).

Practical information on the review mechanism can be accessed under the heading Publications – Judicial Review Notice on An Bord Pleanála website www.pleanala.ie or on the Citizens Information website www.citizensinformation.ie

3. Nature and Extent of Proposed Development

3.2 Project Context and Existing Conditions

The project study area is located circa 6.5km north of Dunmanway Town Centre.

The R585 is a Regional road which runs from Kealkill Village to its Junction with the N22, National Primary Road, east of Crookstown. The road is a busy rural road which is used as one of the main routes for motorists travelling from West Cork especially from the Beara Peninsula. There are high volumes of Heavy Goods Vehicles (HGV's) using this route for example articulated trucks travelling to and from the busy fishing Port of Castletownbere.

Several accidents, including a fatality in 2016, have occurred along the section of road in question. The issues noted on site include:

- The existing road curve radius
- The existing cross section (road width varies from 5.5m to 5.8m)
- The lack of driver forward visibility
- The nature of the existing road vertical alignment on approach to the bend (i.e. series of crests and sags)



Figure 3 Aerial view looking west along the R585



Figure 4 Aerial view looking east along the R585

3.3 Project Objectives

The project objectives are driven by the need to improve road alignment and improve road safety of all users of the R585 in this rural study area.

The proposed scheme objectives include:

- Improve the R585 road alignment and width over the study area.
- Upgrade the road horizontal (plan) alignment.
- Upgrade the road vertical alignment (remove/ reduce crest and sags).
- Upgrade the cross-section road width (widen the road).
- Provide improved driver visibility within the study area.
- Provide an improved, safer road for all road users within the study area.

3.4 Project Specific Proposals

The scheme includes the following principle features:

- Alteration to existing road alignment to improve road safety.
- Relocation of overhead line.
- Constructing earth berms and fencing.
- Signage, road lining & roads studs.
- All ancillary works required to deliver the proposed scheme.

4. Environmental Assessment of the Scheme

4.2 Report in Support of Appropriate Assessment (AA) Screening and Natura Impact Statement (NIS)

The Appropriate Assessment Screening exercise was completed in compliance with the relevant European Commission and National guidelines. The potential impacts during the construction and operation of the proposed road works in Dromdeegy have been considered in the context of the European Sites potentially affected, their qualifying interests, Special Conservation Interests and Conservation Objectives.

A Natura Impact Statement has been completed for the project in accordance with the Habitats Directive Article 6(3) and 6(4).

In accordance with Section 177AE of the Planning and Development Act 2000 (as amended) and on the basis of the objective information provided in AA Screening Report, it is concluded beyond reasonable scientific doubt that the proposed road upgrade works, individually or in combination with other plans/projects are not likely to have a significant effect on a European site (Natura 2000 site).

5. Conclusion

The proposed works to the R585 at Dromdeegy, Dunmanway, Co. Cork are consistent with the proper planning and sustainable development of the area to which it relates.


The proposed road improvement scheme will have benefits to all road users in terms of road safety, capacity, accessibility and connectivity through an:

- Improved road alignment.
- Increased width of road.
- Improved driver visibility.
- Improved safety for all road users.

6. Appendices

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6.1 Appendix A: Site Notice



Comhairle Contae Chorcaí
Cork County Council

Site Notice

**PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT ACT, 2000 (as amended) – Part XAB, SECTION 177AE and
PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT REGULATIONS 2001 (as amended)**

R585 – Road Realignment and Improvement Scheme, Dromdeegy, Dunmanway, Co. Cork

Notice is hereby given, pursuant to the provisions of Part XAB, Section 177AE of the Planning & Development Act 2000 (as amended), that Cork County Council is applying to An Bord Pleanála ("the Board") s to undertake the following development:

Schedule

LOCATION	NATURE & EXTENT OF DEVELOPMENT	OFFICE AT WHICH PLANS AND PARTICULARS MAY BE INSPECTED
<p>The project is located at Dromdeegy, Dunmanway, Co. Cork.</p> <p>In the Townlands of Dromdeegy and Coorahig.</p>	<p>The proposed development will consist of the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • alteration to existing road alignment to improve road safety • site clearance • road construction, resurfacing, road lining, signage and road studs • relocation of overhead line • construction of earth berms and fencing 	<p>Cork County Council Municipal District Offices – Swimming Pool Complex, Bantry Road, Dunmanway, Co. Cork, P47 EV67 - between the hours of 8.00am to 1.00pm and 2.00 pm to 5.00pm.</p> <p>Cork County Council, Regional and Local Road Design Office, Floor 3, County Library Building, Carrigrohane Road, Cork, T12 R2NC - between the hours of 8.00am and 5.00pm.</p> <p>Online at the following address: https://www.corkcoco.ie/en/resident/planning-and-development/public-consultations/active-part-xab-development-consultation/active-part-xab-development-consultation</p> <p>The Offices of An Bord Pleanála, 84 Marlborough Street, Dublin 1, Monday – Friday during working hours. Note: Due to COVID-19 it is recommended that persons contact the Office to arrange viewing of the application in advance (Phone: (01) 858 8100 or Lo-call 1890 275 175).</p>

The Natura Impact Statement and project particulars prepared in respect of the proposed development, will be available for inspection free of charge at the locations above from **14th December 2022 to 1st February 2023** (inclusive of both dates but excluding public holidays). The Natura Impact Statement may be purchased for a fee (the fee shall not exceed the reasonable cost of making such a copy).

Submissions or observations may be made in writing only to An Bord Pleanála, 64 Marlborough Street, Dublin 1, D01 V902 in respect of:

1. The implications of the proposed development for proper planning and sustainable development in the area concerned, and
2. The likely effects on the environment of the proposed development, if carried out, and
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John Slattery

Senior Engineer, Regional & Local Roads Design Office

14th December 2022

6.2 Appendix B: Notification of Statutory Consultees

On behalf of Cork County Council, this Part 8 Planning Report will be sent to the following bodies for consultation:

- **An Chomhairle Ealaíon**
- **Inland Fisheries Ireland**
- **Minister for Planning, Local Government and Heritage**
- **An Taisce**
- **Irish Water**
- **The Heritage Council**

6.3 Appendix C: Scheme Drawings

Drawing Number	Drawing Title	Revision
R585D-LM-01_D0	Location Map	D0
R585D-SN-01_D0	Site Notice Location	D0
R585D-LA-01_D0	Proposed Layout Plan	D0
R585D-CS-02_D0	Proposed Typical Cross Section	D0



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