Kilcoolishal Compound

AA Screening

Final

January 2025

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Contract

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This report describes work commissioned by Maurice Sheehan, on behalf of Cork County Council, by an instruction dated 19/08/2024. The Client's representative for the contract was Maurice Sheehan of Cork County Council. Mia Heigh and Frank O'Connell of JBA Consulting carried out this work.

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Abbreviations

AA……...Appropriate Assessment

CIEEM……...Chartered Institute of Environmental and Ecological Management

CJEU……..Court of Justice of the European Union

DEHLG……..Department of Environment, Heritage and Local Government

EC……...European Commission

EEC……European Economic Community

EU……..European Union

GSI……Geological Survey Ireland

IAQM…….Institute of Air Quality Management

IROPI……....Imperative Reasons of Overriding Public Interest

LSE……Likely Significant Effect

NBDC……National Biodiversity Data Centre

NIS…….Natura Impact Statement

NPWS……National Parks and Wildlife Service

OPR……...Office of Planning Regulator

SAC……...Special Area of Conservation

SPA……Special Protection Area

QI……Qualifying Interest

WFD……...Water Framework Directive

ZOI……..Zone of Influence

1 Introduction

1.1 Background

JBA Consulting Engineers and Scientists Ltd (hereafter JBA) has been commissioned by Cork County Council to prepare an Appropriate Assessment Screening Report for the proposed works to be carried out at a site in Kilcoolishal, Glanmire, Co. Cork for the purposes of maintenance of the new Greenway and construction of a pocket park.

The proposed project consists of the development of this disused site including a small wastewater treatment system, access gates, shed and stockpile store.

It provides information on, and assesses the potential, in view of best scientific knowledge for the development to have likely significant effects, either individually or in combination with other plans or projects, on any Natura 2000 site.

1.2 Legislative Context

Directive 92/43/EEC on the Conservation of Natural Habitats and Wild Fauna and Flora, known as the 'Habitats Directive' – provides legal protection for habitats and species of European importance. Article 2 of the Directive requires the maintenance or restoration of habitats and species of European Community interest, at a favourable conservation status. Article 3-9 provides the legislative means to protect habitats and species of Community interest through the establishment and conservation of an EU wide network of sites known as Natura 2000 sites. Natura 2000 sites are Special Areas of Conservation (SACs) designated under the Habitats Directive and Special Protection Areas (SPAs) designated under the Conservation of Wild Birds Directive (79/409/EEC).

Articles 6(3) and 6(4) of the Habitats Directive set out the decision-making tests for plans or projects affecting Natura 2000 sites.

Article 6(3) establishes the requirement for Appropriate Assessment:

"Any plan or project not directly connected with or necessary to the management of the site but likely to have a significant effect thereon, either individually or in combination with other plans or projects, shall be subject to appropriate assessment of its implications for the site in view of the site's conservation objectives. In the light of the conclusions of the assessment of the implications for the site and subject to the provisions of paragraph 4, the competent national authorities shall agree to the plan or project only after having ascertained that it will not adversely affect the integrity of the site concerned and, if appropriate, after having obtained the opinion of the general public."

Article 6(4) deals with the steps that should be taken when it is determined, as a result of Appropriate Assessment, that a plan/project will adversely affect a European site.

Issues dealing with alternative solutions, imperative reasons of overriding public interest and compensatory measures need to be addressed in this case.

Article 6(4) states:

"If, in spite of a negative assessment of the implications for the site and in the absence of alternative solutions, a plan or project must nevertheless be carried out for imperative reasons of overriding public interest, including those of a social or economic nature, the Member States shall take all compensatory measures necessary to ensure that the overall coherence of Natura 2000 is protected. It shall inform the Commission of the compensatory measures adopted.

Where the site concerned hosts a priority natural habitat type and / or a priority species, the only considerations which may be raised are those relating to human health or public safety, to beneficial consequences of primary importance for the environment or, further to an opinion from the Commission to other imperative reasons of overriding public interest."

The requirements of Articles 6(3) and 6(4) of the Habitats Directive have been transposed into Irish legislation by means of inter alia the European Communities (Birds and Natural Habitats) Regulations 2011-2015 (S.I. 477 / 2011) as amended.

1.3 Appropriate Assessment Process

Guidance on the Appropriate Assessment (AA) process was produced by the European Commission in 2002, which was subsequently developed into guidance specifically for Ireland by the NPWS and Planning Divisions of the Department of Environment, Heritage and Local Government (DEHLG) (DoEHLG, 2010). Office of the Planning Regulator (OPR) produced a Practice Note in 2021, PN01 – Appropriate Assessment Screening for Development Management (OPR, 2021). These guidance documents identify a staged approach to conduction an AA, as shown in Figure 1-1.

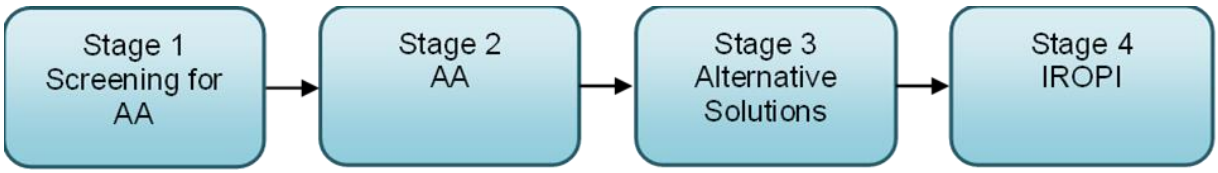

Figure 1-1: The Appropriate Assessment Process (from: Appropriate Assessment of Plans and Projects in Ireland - Guidance for Planning Authorities, DEHLG, 2010).

1.3.1 Stage 1 - Screening for AA

The initial screening stage of the Appropriate Assessment is to determine:

- Whether the proposed plan or project is directly connected with or necessary for the management of the European designated site for nature conservation (Natura 2000 site)

- If it is likely to have a significant adverse effect on the European designated site, either individually or in combination with other plans or projects.

For those sites where, potential adverse impacts are identified, either alone or in combination with other plans or projects, further assessment is necessary to determine if the proposals will have an adverse impact on the integrity of a European designated site, in view of the site's conservation objectives (i.e., the process proceeds to Stage 2).

1.3.2 Stage 2 – AA

This stage requires a more in-depth evaluation of the plan or project, and the potential direct and indirect impacts of them on the integrity and interest features of the European designated site(s), alone and in-combination with other plans and projects, taking into account the site's structure, function, and conservation objectives. Where required, mitigation or avoidance measures will be suggested.

The competent authority can only agree to the plan or project after having ascertained that it will not adversely affect the integrity of the site(s) concerned. If this cannot be determined, and where mitigation cannot be achieved, then alternative solutions will need to be considered (i.e., the process proceeds to Stage 3).

1.3.3 Stage 3 – Alternative Solutions

Where adverse impacts on the integrity of Natura 2000 sites are identified, and mitigation cannot be satisfactorily implemented, alternative ways of achieving the objectives of the plan or project that avoid adverse impacts need to be considered. If none can be found, the process proceeds to Stage 4.

1.3.4 Stage 4 – IROPI

Where adverse impacts of a plan or project on the integrity of Natura 2000 sites are identified and no alternative solutions exist, the plan will only be allowed to progress if imperative reasons of overriding public interest (IROPI) can be demonstrated. In this case compensatory measures will be required.

The process only proceeds through each of the four stages for certain plans or projects. For example, for a plan or project, not connected with management of a site, but where no likely significant impacts are identified, the process stops at stage 1. Throughout the process, the precautionary principle must be applied, so that any uncertainties do not result in adverse impacts on a site.

This report is in support of a Stage 1 Screening for Appropriate Assessment.

1.3.5 Court of Justice of the European Union (CJEU) Rulings

The CJEU has been asked to issue rulings on development plans, which are used to inform this assessment.

The CJEU issued a ruling on the consideration of avoidance and reduction measures as a result of People over Wind, Peter Sweetman v Coillte Teoranta (C-323/17) [2018]. This judgement stated that measures intended to reduce or avoid effects on a Natura 2000 site should only be considered within the framework of an Appropriate Assessment, and it is not permissible to take into account such measures at the screening stage.

More recently, the decision of the CJEU in case C-721/21 (Eco Advocacy CLG v An Bord Pleanála), delivered in June 2023, found that Article 6(3) of the Habitats Directive must be interpreted as meaning that: “in order to determine whether it is necessary to carry out an appropriate assessment of the implications of a plan or project for a site, account may be taken of the features of that plan or project which involve the removal of contaminants and which therefore may have the effect of reducing the harmful effects of the plan or project on that site, where those features have been incorporated into that plan or project as standard features, inherent in such a plan or project, irrespective of any effect on the site.” (Para. 53(3) of the Judgement).

This recent judgement therefore clarifies that features which have been incorporated into a project as standard features, inherent in that project, and irrespective of any effect on any European site may be taken into account for the purposes of a Stage 1 Screening for Appropriate Assessment under Article 6(3) of the directive.

The CJEU ruling in Grace & Sweetman (C-164/17) [2018] clarified the difference between avoidance and reduction (mitigation) measures and compensation. Measures intended to compensate for the negative effects of a project cannot be taken into account in the assessment of the implications of a project, and instead are considered under Article 6(4). This means that any project where an effect on the integrity of a Natura 2000 site remains and can only be offset by compensation, would need to proceed under Article 6(4), demonstrating “imperative reasons of overriding public interest”.

The CJEU ruling in the case of Holohan v An Bord Pleanála (C-461/17) [2018] also clarified the importance in Appropriate Assessment of taking into account habitat types and species outside the boundary of the Natura 2000 site where implications of the impacts on those habitat and species may impact the conservation objectives of the Natura 2000 site. In this assessment functionally linked and supporting habitat for species outside of Natura 2000 sites are assessed where they could potentially impact the conservation objectives of any screened in Natura 2000 sites.

The CJEU ruling in response to questions referred by the Irish High Court in the Eco Advocacy CLG Case (C 721/21) [2023] indicated that an applicant for permission in its AA screening report/and a decision maker in undertaking its AA screening can take

into account “standard features”, i.e. all the constituent elements of that project inherent in it/elements that are incorporated into a projects design not with the aim of reducing its negative effects (even where these have the effect of reducing harmful effects on a European site).

1.4 Methodology

The Screening for Appropriate Assessment has been prepared with regards to the Birds and Habitats Directives, the European Communities (Birds and Natural Habitats) Regulations 2011-15 as amended and relevant jurisprudence of the EU and Irish courts. The following documents have also been used to provide guidance for the assessment:

- DEHLG (2010) Appropriate Assessment of Plans and Projects in Ireland Guidance for Planning Authorities. Department of the Environment, Heritage and Local Government.
- Office of the Planning Regulator (2021) OPR Practice Note PN01 - Appropriate Assessment Screening for Development Management (OPR, 2021).
- EC (2019). Managing Natura 2000 sites: the provisions of Article 6 of the ‘Habitats’ Directive 92/43/EEC.(European Commission, 2019).
- EC (2021) Assessment of Plans and Projects Significantly Affecting Natura 2000 Sites: Methodological guidance on the provisions of Article 6(3) and (4) of the Habitats Directive 92/43/EEC, Office for Official Publications of the European Communities, Luxembourg. European Commission (European Commission, 2021).
- Guidance document on Assessment of plans and projects in relation to Natura 2000 sites (European Commission. Directorate General for Environment., 2022).
- EC (2013) Interpretation Manual of European Union Habitats Version EUR 28 (European Commission, 2013).
- EC (2007) Guidance document on Article 6(4) of the 'Habitats Directive' 92/43/EEC – Clarification of the concepts of: alternative solutions, imperative reasons of overriding public interest, compensatory measures, overall coherence, opinion of the commission. European Commission Management (EC, 2007).
- CIEEM (2018). Guidelines and checklist for Ecological Impact Assessment in the UK and Ireland: Terrestrial, Freshwater, Coastal and Marine., Second Ed. (Chartered Institute of Ecology and Environmental), updated 2022 (CIEEM, 2018).
- National Parks and Wildlife Service (NPWS) (2019). The Status of EU Protected Habitats and Species in Ireland. Volume 1: Summary Overview. Unpublished NPWS report (NPWS, 2019b).
- NPWS (2019). The Status of EU Protected Habitats and Species in Ireland. Volume 2: Habitat Assessments. Unpublished NPWS report (NPWS, 2019a).

- NPWS (2019). The Status of EU Protected Habitats and Species in Ireland. Volume 3: Species Assessments. Unpublished NPWS report (NPWS, 2019c).

1.4.1 Desktop Study

A desktop study was conducted of available published and unpublished information, along with a review of data available on the National Parks and Wildlife Service (NPWS) and National Biodiversity Data Centre (NBDC) web-based databases, to identify key habitats and species, including legally protected and species of conservation concern, that may be present within ecologically relevant distances from the project as explained below, A baseline habitat assessment was performed using satellite imagery of the site. The data sources below were consulted for the desktop study:

- Aerial photography available from www.osi.ie and ESRI World Imagery.
- NPWS website (www.npws.ie) where Natura 2000 site synopses, data forms and conservation objectives were obtained along with Annex 1 habitat distribution data and status reports.
- River Basin Management Plans
- NBDC Biodiversity Maps (maps.biodiversityireland.ie)
- Catchments (www.catchments.ie)
- Environmental Protection Agency Maps (https://gis.epa.ie/EPAMaps)
- Geological Survey Ireland (GSI) (www.gsi.ie)
- GSI - Groundwater data viewer (https://dcenr.maps.arcgis.com)
- Planning Applications (myplan.ie)

1.4.2 Walkover Survey

A site walkover survey was carried out by Frank O'Connell on 28th of August 2024.

1.4.3 Screening Methods

This screening assessment uses the source-pathway-receptor (S-P-R) model as outlines in guidance (OPR, 2021). Using the source-pathway-receptor model allows for the potential significant effects to be eliminated if no viable source, pathway, or receptor is present.

The S-P-R method uses an examination of the construction methods or project description allows sources of impact to be determined. This also allows a zone of influence for the project to be generated based on the size, scale and nature of the works involved. The pathways for impact are also analysed to see if a functional pathway for impact is present. This report analyses three pathways: surface water, groundwater and land. Using information gathered from desk sources (e.g. mapped qualifying interests from the Conservation Objectives for the site) and from the field survey, receptors within the zone of influence are identified. In some cases, sensitive

receptors may also play a role in determining the zone of influence. If any of the three parts to the model are not present (source-pathway-receptor) the potential for a likely significant effect from the project on the Natura 2000 network can be discounted.

The Zone of Influence was used to identify Natura 2000 sites that could be impacted by the project. For each of these sites, the Qualifying Interest features and their associated conservation objectives were identified, and the possibility of likely significant effect was determined by a combination of location, ecological and hydrological connectivity, sensitivity of receptor and magnitude of the source of impact.

1.4.4 Likely Significant Effect Test

The test for AA Screening is whether the project could have a 'likely significant effect' on any Natura 2000 site. A likely significant effect is defined as any effect that could undermine the conservation objectives of a Natura 2000 site, either alone or in combination with other plans or projects. There must be a causal connection between the project and the qualifying interest of the site which could result in possible significant effects on the site. The likely significant effect test is a lower threshold for the screening assessment than 'adverse effect on site integrity' considered at Appropriate Assessment stage (Stage 2) as screening is intended to be a preliminary examination for potential effects.

1.4.5 In-Combination Screening

In relation to the assessment of potential in-combination effects, where there is no effect at all via a pathway, there is no possibility of in-combination effects. Where potential likely significant effects are identified, the in-combination assessment is carried forwards to a Stage 2 Appropriate Assessment.

1.5 Limitations and Constraints

The screening assessment necessarily relies on some assumptions, and it was inevitably subject to some limitations. These would not affect the conclusion, but the following points are recorded to ensure the basis of the assessment is clear:

- The precautionary principle is utilised when determining potential ecological sensitivities within the proposed projects ZoI.
- Information on the works and conditions on site are based on the current knowledge at the time of writing. Changes to the site since this report was drafted cannot be accounted for. However, significant changes to the site are not foreseen to happen prior to the start of the project.
- This assessment is based on methodology for proposed works as described in this report. Where changes to methodology occur, an ecologist will need to be

consulted to determine if the changes are likely to alter the ecological impacts and would therefore need reassessment.

- Data from biological record centres or online databases is historical information, datasets may be incomplete, inaccurate or missing. The absence of records for an area may be due to the under recording in the area and not necessarily imply the absence of species. These records are therefore to be treated as minimum information available for the area.

2 Project Description

2.1 The Project

The project, known as “Kilcoolishal Compound’, consists of:

- Construction of an equipment storage shed,
- Staff welfare facilities with a small wastewater treatment system,
- Green waste/mulch storage bays,
- And new lighting for the site.
- Construction of a pocket park with wildflowers and native trees.

This is not directly connected with, or necessary to the management of any Natura 2000 site but may have potential adverse impacts upon the Natura 2000 sites identified in Section 4. Therefore, the proposed project is subject to the requirements for the AA process.

2.2 Site Location

The site is located on the L3004, beside the Cobh train line and the N25 from Dunkettle to Carrigtwohill. The area surrounding the site is a mixture of urban residential and major roads to and from Cork City.

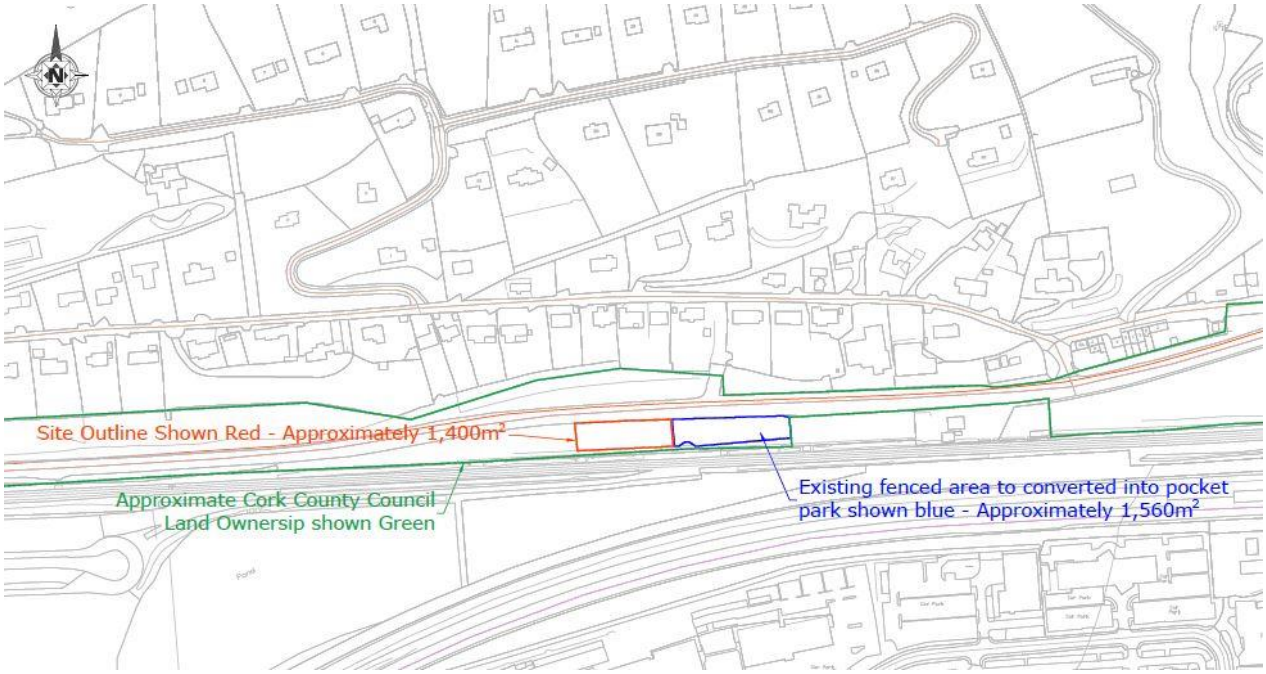

Figure 2-1: Site boundary showing pocket park area and Greenway maintenance area.

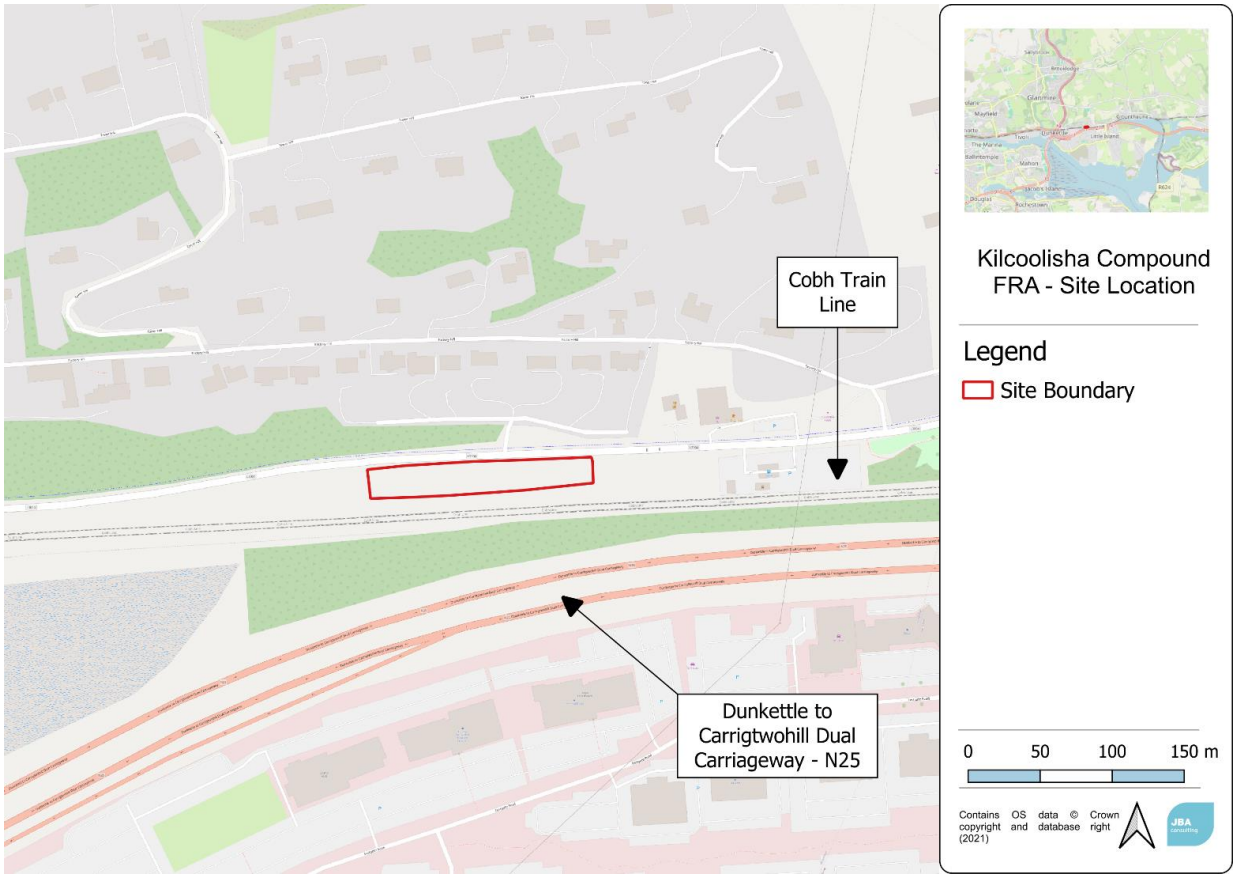

Figure 2-2: Site location map.

2.3 Proposed Works

The proposed works for this new compound will house equipment and staff welfare facilities for maintenance works to the Cork County Council cycle/pedestrian pathway. Works will include:

- Construction of an equipment storage shed,
- Staff welfare facilities with a small wastewater treatment system,
- Green waste/mulch storage bays,
- And new lighting for the site.
- Construction of a pocket park with wildflowers and native trees.

Wildflowers

Cork County Council propose to source native wildflower seed from the same supplier who provided the native wildflower for the greenway between Glanmire and Carrigtohill (Connecting to Nature, Waterford).

Subject to availability at the time, this will likely be a “Wildflower Meadow Mix” which is low maintenance and the optimal mix for native pollinators. The particular planting scheme and sowing mix will be agreed with Tony Nagle, Cork County Council Executive Ecologist prior to planting.

2.4 Zone of Influence

The Zone of Influence is considered using the Source-Pathway-Receptor model, therefore only designated sites that are connected to the project site are recorded and assessed. This zone of influence uses the precautionary principle, as the work is primarily anticipated to only impact the footprint of the site.

Natura 2000 sites within a 5km range of the proposed scheme were examined in relation to surface water (i.e., local surface water sub-catchments), with an extended 15km range for those with a downstream hydrological connection and 10km for groundwater connections.

Land: Connections are assessed for impacts relating to noise disturbance (300m), air pollution (emissions and dust) (500m). The ZoI for air pollution was considered as per the Institute of Air Quality Management (IAQM) Guidance on the Assessment of Dust from Demolition and Construction (IAQM, 2024). Assessment was on the potential for this site to include ex-situ habitats used by QI species associated with local Natura 2000 sites within 5km.

3 Existing Environment

3.1 Baseline Conditions

An ecological survey of the area was conducted by Frank O'Connell on 28th of August 2024.

3.2 Habitats

The Kilcoolishal Compound is an area of built land. The approximate size of the site is 0.297 ha.

Habitats were noted during the site visit, see Table 3-1. These are described in the sections below and mapped in Figure 3-1.

Table 3-1: Habitats recorded on site classified by Fossitt (2000).

Habitat	Corresponding Fossitt Code
Recolonising bare ground	ED3
Drainage ditch	FW4
Treeline	WL2

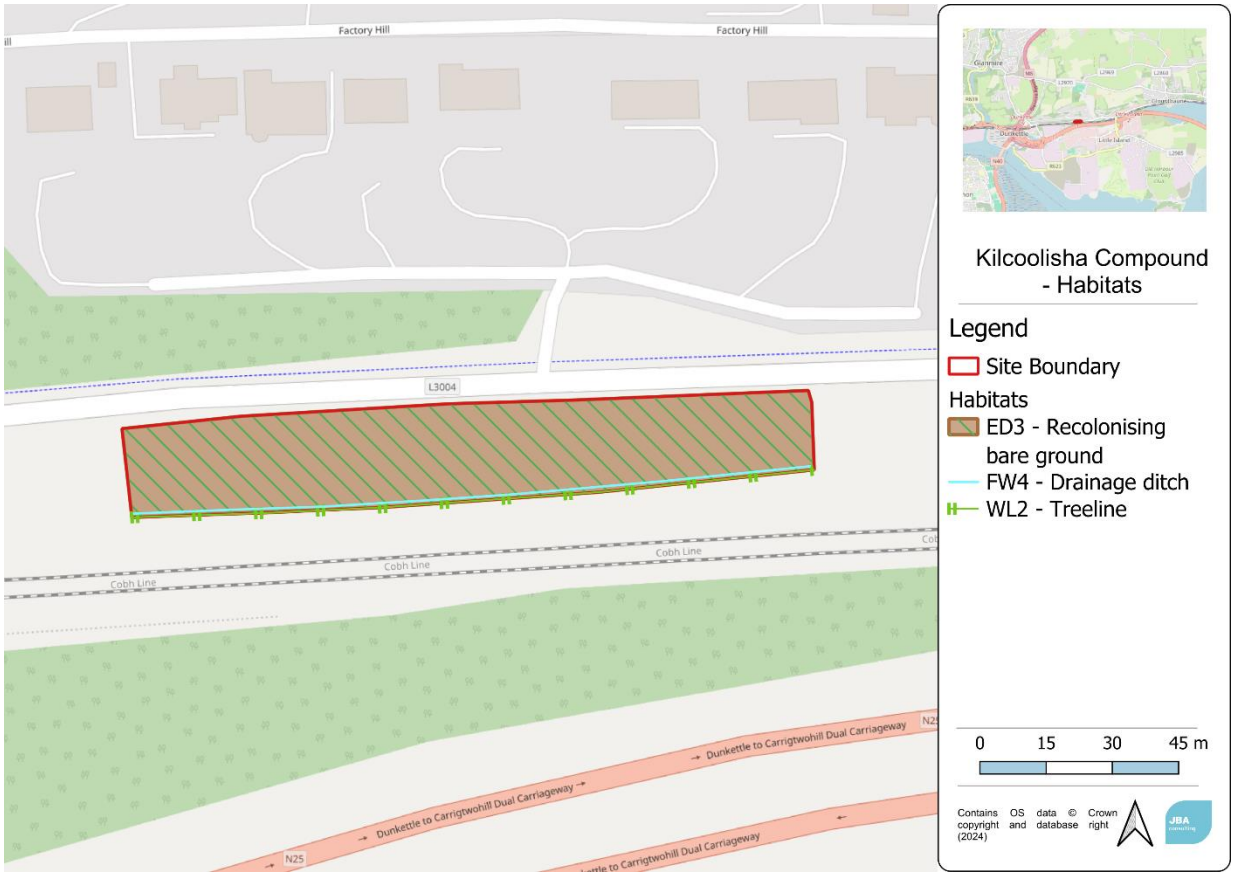

Figure 3-1: Habitats mapped to Fossitt (2000) classification.

3.2.1 ED3 – Recolonising bare ground

The site consists mainly of recolonising bare ground with metal fencing along the perimeter (Figure 3-2). The ground has been previously disturbed and has been invaded by herbaceous plants. Some flora species within the boundary include Hoary Willowherb *Epilobium parviflorum*, Nettle *Urtica dioica*, Creeping Thistle *Cirsium arvense*, and Coltsfoot *Tussilago farfara*.

Figure 3-2: Photograph taken of the site during walkover survey.

Some invasive non-native species were recorded within the site boundary, a list of invasive species can be found in Section 3.6.

3.2.2 FW4 – Drainage ditch

A drainage ditch runs along the southern perimeter boundary of the site. Within the drainage ditch, there were some floral species growing (Figure 3-3). These include Bramble *Rubus fruticosus*, Nettle, Ivy *Hedra hibernica*, and Hedge Bindweed *Calystegia sepium*.

Figure 3-3: Photograph of the overgrown drainage ditch.

3.2.3 WL2 – Treelines

A small treeline also along the southern perimeter boundary outside of the site. It consists mainly of Sycamore *Acer pseudoplatanus* (Figure 3-4) and Elder *Sambucus nigra*.

Figure 3-4: Photograph of mature Sycamore tree on the outside of the site perimeter.

3.3 Protected Fauna on Site

No evidence or sightings of protected fauna were recorded during the walkover survey.

3.4 Protected Flora on Site

No protected flora was recorded during the walkover survey.

3.5 Protected Species from NBDC Database

This section outlines the records of protected flora and fauna collated from the NBDC database. A custom polygon covering the proposed site and a 5km buffer was queried for NBDC records since 01/01/2014, and are listed in Appendix A.

3.6 Invasive Species

Some invasive non-native species were noted on the site during the walkover survey (Figure 3-5). These include:

- Himalayan Honeysuckle *Leycesteria formosa* (Medium Impact Invasive)

- Traveller's-joy *Clematis vitalba* (Medium Impact Invasive)
- Butterfly-bush *Buddleja davidii* (Medium Impact Invasive)
- Sycamore *Acer pseudoplatanus* (Medium Impact Invasive)

Figure 3-5: Photographs taken of invasive species on site, Traveller's-joy (Left), Butterfly-bush (Middle), and Himalayan Honeysuckle (Right).

A full list of non-native invasive species recorded on the NBDC database in the last 10 years within a 5km radius of the site is listed in Appendix B.

3.7 Elevation and Slope

The site sites at approximately 5m above sea level with a north to south gradient.

3.8 Surface Water

There is a small drainage ditch that runs along the southern boundary of the site. The drainage ditch outfalls 1.4km east (into the Great Island SAC) and 1.7km west (into the River Lee and Cork Harbour SPA).

The Tibbotstown Stream (IE_SW_19T250870) runs 240m east of the site boundary, it connects the transitional waterbodies of Lough Mahon (Harper's Island) (IE_SW_060_0700) and Lough Mahon (IE_SW_060_0750). The ecological status of the Tibbotstown Stream is 'Good' and its risk status is currently in 'Review'. The Lough Mahon transitional waterbody is classed as 'At Risk' and has a 'Moderate'

ecological status. The proposed site lies within the Lee, Cork Harbour and Youghal Bay Catchment and the Tibbotstown_SC_010 sub-catchment (Figure 3-6).

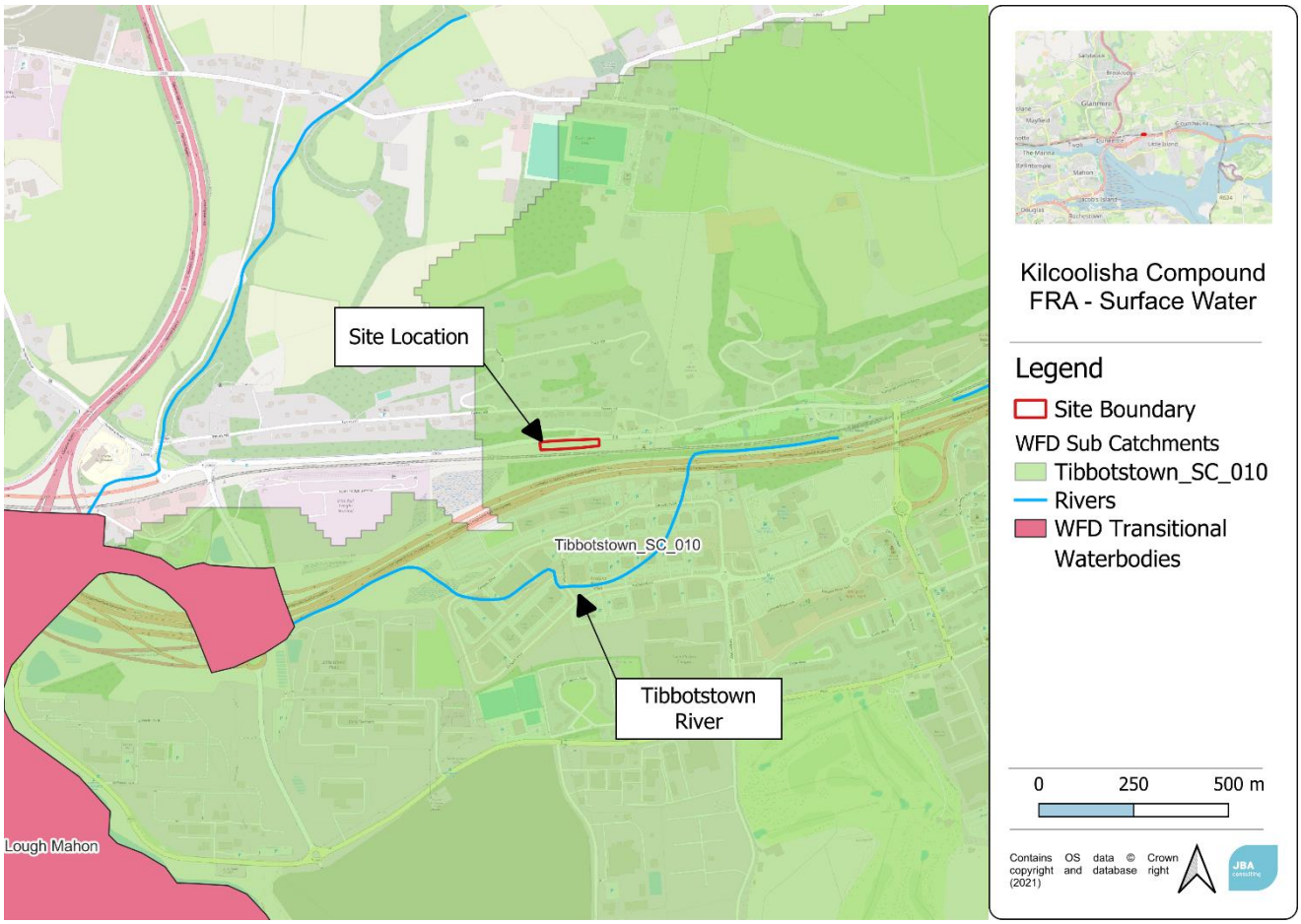

Figure 3-6: Sub catchment, transitional waterbody and Tibbotstown River associated with the proposed site.

3.9 Groundwater Bodies

The site sits on the Gyleen Formation which is made up of sandstone with mudstone and siltstone, with a subsoil permeability classed as 'High' with a Locally Important Aquifer – Bedrock which is Moderately Productive only in Local Zones. The proposed site is located on the groundwater body of Ballinhassig East IE_SW_G_004 (Figure 3-7), which has an Overall Groundwater Status of 'Good' and classed as 'Not at Risk'. On site, the groundwater vulnerability is described as 'High' (Figure 3-8).

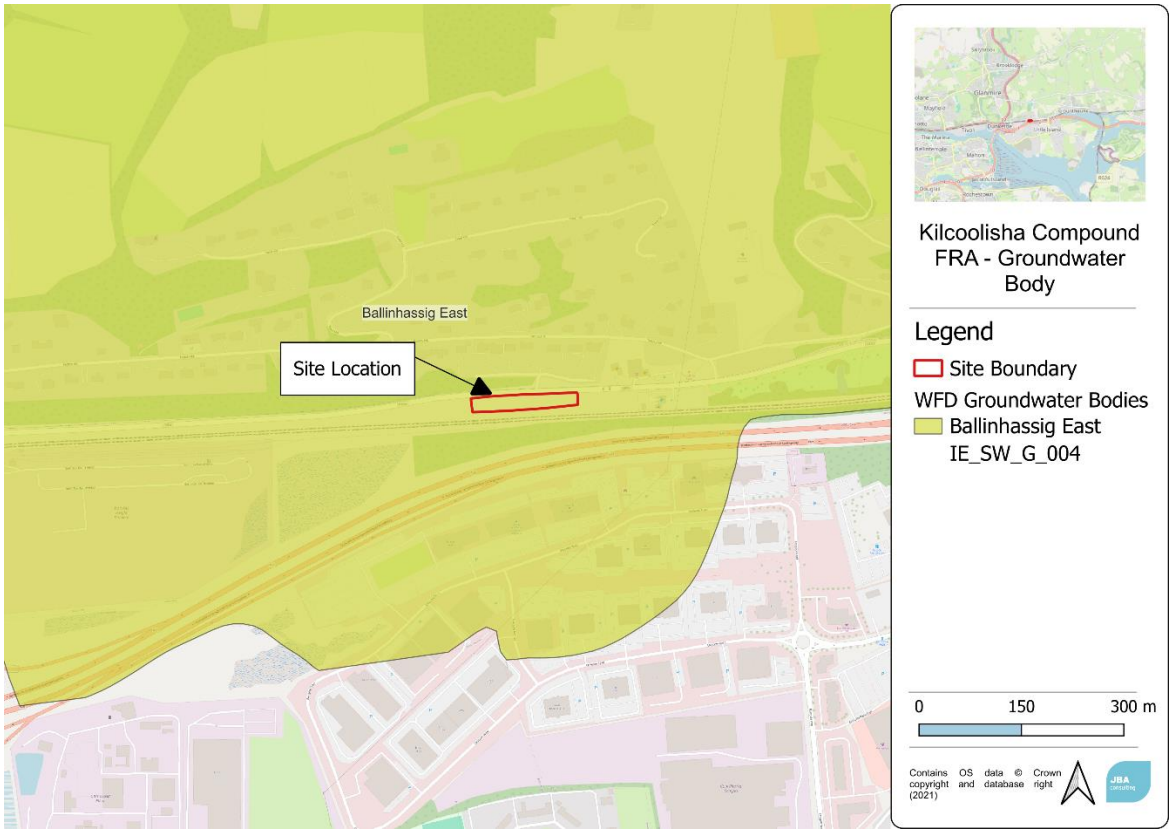

Figure 3-7: Groundwater body associated with the proposed site.

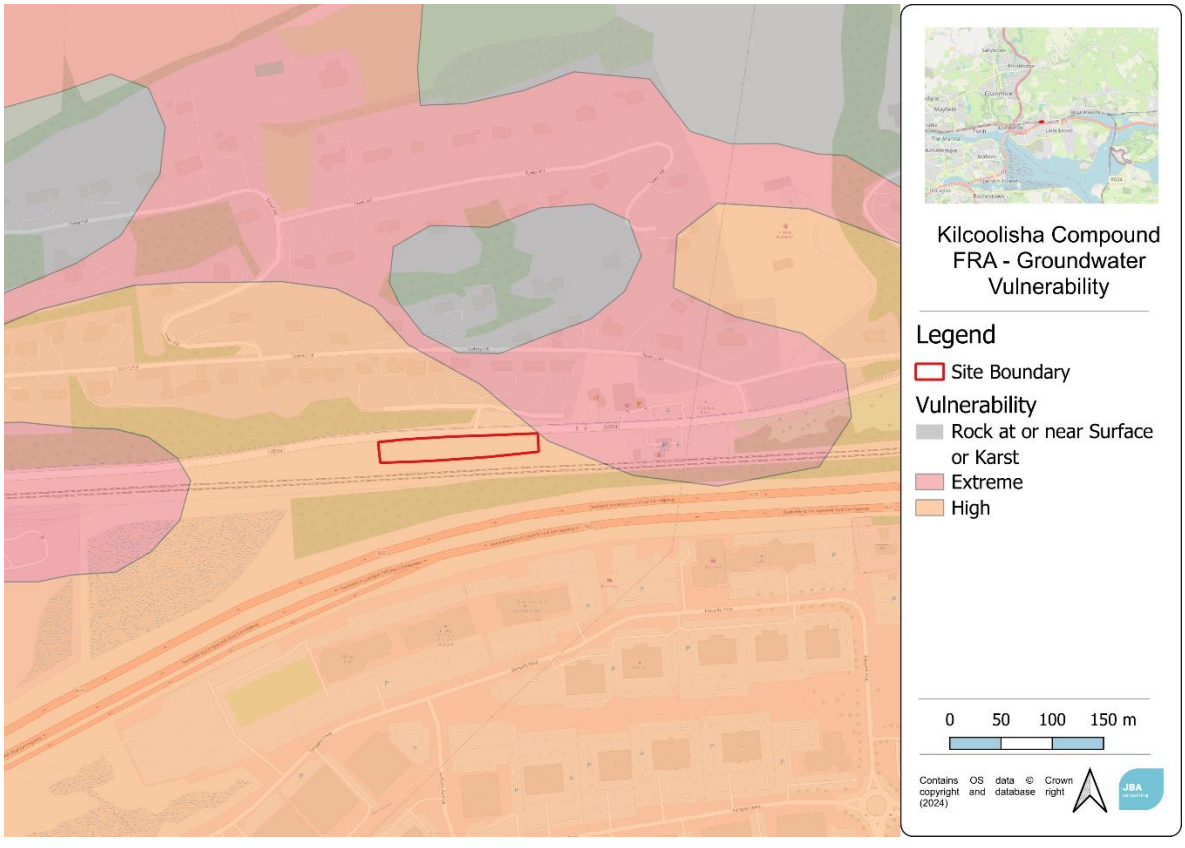

Figure 3-8: Groundwater vulnerability on site and in the local area.

4 Natura 2000 Sites

The DEHLG (2009) guidance identifies that screening for Appropriate Assessment of a plan or project should consider the following Natura 2000 sites:

- Any Natura 2000 sites within or adjacent to the plan or project area.
- Any Natura 2000 sites within the likely zone of impact of the plan or project. This is dependent on the nature and scale of the plan, within 15km generally for plans, but potentially much less for projects.
- Any Natura 2000 sites that are more than 15km from the plan or project area, but may potentially be impacted upon, for example, through a hydrological connection.

Furthermore, the OPR guidance is to use a Source-Pathway-Receptor model, therefore only directly connected sites will be retained (OPR, 2021).

Within the ZoI, two Natura 2000 sites were recorded (Table 4-2), mapped in relation to the proposed site (Figure 4-1, Figure 4-2), with potential pathways from the site. Qualifying Interests (QI's) brief site descriptions, and potential relevant threats/pressures are also described for designated sites in the ZoI for the development.

Table 4-1: Natura 2000 sites with pathways from the proposed site.

Natura 2000 Site	Site Code	Approximate Distance from Site	Hydrological Connection
Great Island Channel SAC	001058	1.4km	Yes – Surface Water via on-site drainage ditch, Tibbotstown sub-catchment and Groundwater via Ballinhassig East
Cork Harbour SPA	004030	1.7km	Yes – Surface Water via on-site drainage ditch, Tibbotstown sub-catchment and Groundwater via Ballinhassig East

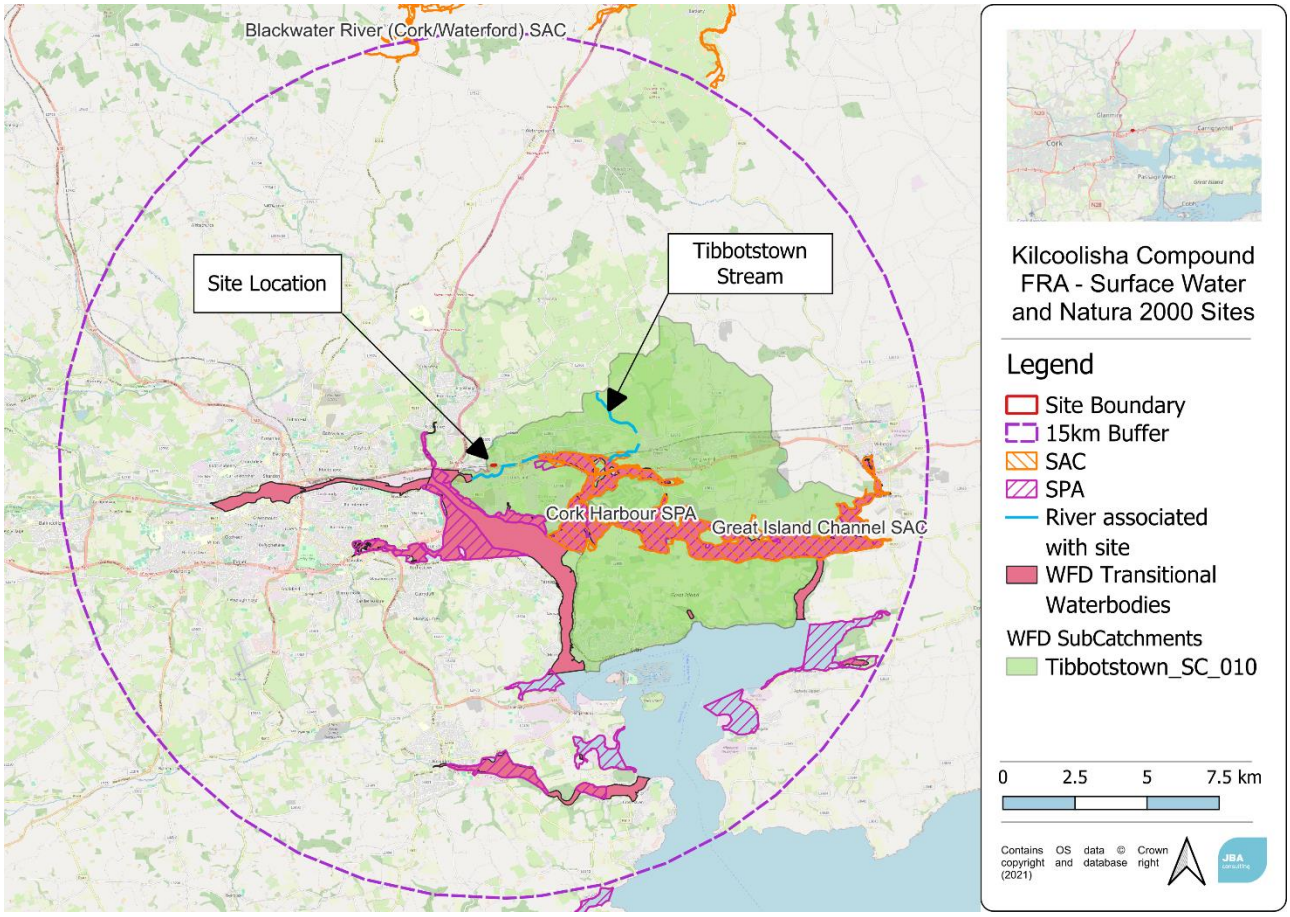

Figure 4-1: Natura 2000 sites that are connected via surface water pathways from the proposed site.

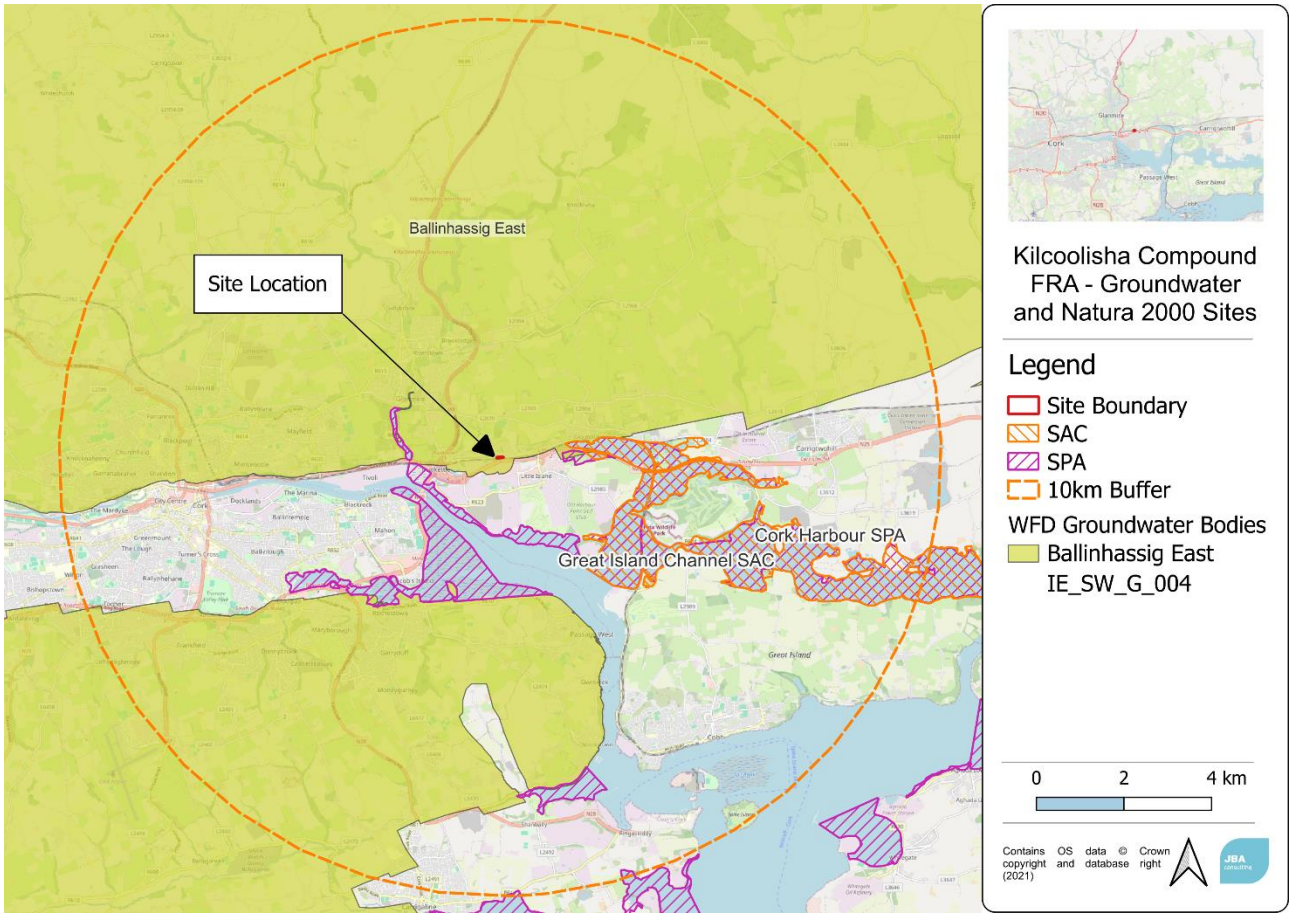

Figure 4-2: Groundwater body connected to Natura 2000 sites associated with the project.

Table 4-2: Natura 2000 sites with pathways to the proposed project.

Site Name	Brief and relevant conservation objectives	Relevant qualifying interests	Project-relevant threats/pressures: Impact (Source)
Cork Harbour SPA 004030	Cork Harbour is a large, sheltered bay system, with several river estuaries - principally those of the Rivers Lee, Douglas, Owenboy and Owennacurra. The SPA site comprises most of the main intertidal areas of Cork Harbour, including all of the North Channel, the Douglas River Estuary, inner Lough Mahon, Monkstown Creek, Lough Beg, the Owenboy River Estuary, Whitegate Bay, Ringabella Creek and the Rostellan and Poulnabibe inlets. Cork Harbour is an internationally important wetland site, regularly supporting in excess of 20,000 wintering waterfowl. Cork Harbour is of major ornithological significance, being of international importance both for the total numbers of wintering birds (i.e. > 20,000) and also for its populations of Black-tailed Godwit and Redshank. In addition, it supports nationally important wintering populations of 22 species, as well as a nationally important breeding colony of Common Tern. Several of the species which occur regularly are listed on Annex I of the E.U. Birds Directive, i.e. Whooper Swan, Little Egret, Golden Plover, Bar-tailed Godwit, Ruff, Mediterranean Gull and Common Tern. The site provides both feeding and roosting sites for the various bird species that use it. Cork Harbour is also a Ramsar Convention site and part of Cork Harbour SPA is a Wildfowl Sanctuary.	Little Grebe *Tachybaptus ruficollis* [A004] Great Crested Grebe *Podiceps cristatus* [A005] Cormorant *Phalacrocorax carbo* [A017] Grey Heron *Ardea cinerea* [A028] Shelduck *Tadorna tadorna* [A048] Wigeon *Anas penelope* [A050] Teal *Anas crecca* [A052] Pintail *Anas acuta* [A054] Shoveler *Anas clypeata* [A056] Red-breasted Merganser *Mergus serrator* [A069] Oystercatcher *Haematopus ostralegus* [A130] Golden Plover *Pluvialis apricaria* [A140] Grey Plover *Pluvialis squatarola* [A141] Lapwing *Vanellus vanellus* [A142] Dunlin *Calidris alpina* [A149] Black-tailed Godwit *Limosa limosa* [A156] Bar-tailed Godwit *Limosa lapponica* [A157] Curlew *Numenius arquata* [A160] Redshank *Tringa totanus* [A162] Black-headed Gull *Chroicocephalus ridibundus* [A179] Common Gull *Larus canus* [A182] Lesser Black-backed Gull *Larus fuscus* [A183] Common Tern *Sterna hirundo* [A193]	Walking, horse-riding and non-motorised vehicles: (Medium) (Inside) Industrial or commercial areas: (High) (Outside) Dispersed habitation: (Low) (Outside) Fertilisation: (Medium) (Outside) Nautical sports: (Medium) (Inside) Port areas: (High) (Outside) Leisure fishing: (Medium) (Inside) Marine and freshwater aquaculture: (High) (Inside) Urbanised areas, human habitation: (High) (Outside) Shipping lanes: (Medium) (Inside) Roads and motorways: (High) (Outside) Skiing, off-piste: (Medium) (Inside)

Site Name	Brief and relevant conservation objectives	Relevant qualifying interests	Project-relevant threats/pressures: Impact (Source)
		Wetland and Waterbirds [A999]	
Great Island Channel SAC 001058	The Great Island Channel stretches from Little Island to Midleton, with its southern boundary being formed by Great Island. It is an integral part of Cork Harbour which contains several other sites of conservation interest. Geologically, Cork Harbour consists of two large areas of open water in a limestone basin, separated from each other and the open sea by ridges of Old Red Sandstone. Within this system, Great Island Channel forms the eastern stretch of the river basin and compared to the rest of Cork Harbour, is relatively undisturbed. Within the site is the estuary of the Owennacurra and Dungourney Rivers. These rivers, which flow through Midleton, provide the main source of freshwater to the North Channel. The main habitats of conservation interest in Great Island Channel SAC are the sheltered tidal sand and mudflats and the Atlantic salt meadows.	Mudflats and sandflats not covered by seawater at low tide [1140] Atlantic salt meadows (*Glauco-Puccinellietalia maritimae*) [1330]	Invasive non-native species: (Medium) (Inside) Grazing: (Medium) (Inside) Reclamation of land from sea, estuary or marsh: (High) (Inside) Urbanised areas: (High) (Outside) Fertilisation: (Medium) (Outside) Marine and freshwater aquaculture: (High) (Inside) Eutrophication: (Medium) (Inside) Roads and motorways: (High) (Inside)

5 Other Relevant Plans and Projects

5.1 In-combination Effects

As part of the Screening for an Appropriate Assessment, in addition to the proposed works. Other relevant projects and plans in the region that may induce in-combination effects must be considered at this stage. These are listed in sub-sections below and are assessed with the proposed Scheme in the Screening Assessment.

5.2 Plans

5.2.1 Cork County Development Plan 2022-2028

The Cork County Development Plan 2022-2028 was adopted by Elected Members of Cork County Council in April 2022 and came into effect in June 2022. At county level, the County Development Plan will provide an overall strategy for the development for the county. The National Planning Framework (NFP) was adopted in 2018, replacing the precious National Spatial Strategy (2002) as the national strategy, providing a sustainable framework to guide where development and investment occurs in Ireland in the period to 2040. The NPF identifies ten national policy objectives – National Strategic Outcomes (NSOs). The NPF includes a 75 strong suite of National Policy Objectives (NPOs) which support the Strategic Outcomes, and collectively set the framework under which all lower order plans i.e. regional, county (and local area) plans are required to be prepared. Sustainability is at the heart of the National Planning Framework, in accordance with the UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), to which Ireland has been a signatory since 2015. Key areas of alignment between the SDGs and the NPF include climate action, clean energy, sustainable cities and communities, economic growth, reduced inequalities, innovation, infrastructure, education, and health. All of the forgoing has subsequently been reflected in the Cork County Development Plan 2022-2028 (Cork County Council, 2022).

Therefore, provided that any works that may occur as a result of the Plan are assessed for individually, the Plan should not significantly affect relevant Natura 2000 sites in combination with the proposed project.

5.2.2 River Basin Management Plan for Ireland 2022-2027

The Water Framework Directive requires that all waters, including surface and groundwater sources, are protected and that measures are put in place to ensure quality of these waters is restored to at least ‘good’ status or good potential by 2027 at the latest. The directive requires reporting of river basin management plans to assess the waterbodies, their pressures, and relevant plans towards achieving good status. In

implementing the river basin management plan, the objective is to ensure that natural waters are sustainably managed and that freshwater resources are protected so as to maintain and improve Ireland's water environment.

Cumulative impacts from other projects are examined at Stage 2 Appropriate Assessment (NIS) when residual impacts from the project on the Natura sites are considered. This project is not anticipated to have any likely effect on the Natura Network.

5.3 Other Planning Applications

Planning applications in the vicinity of the proposed site which could act in-combination with the works proposed at Kilcoolishal were sought on the planning website MyPlan.ie (Table 5-1). Planning applications from the last three years that have been granted permission are considered. Applications for home extension, internal alterations and retentions are not considered.

These plans and projects are considered in combination with the proposed project in the Screening Assessment Section 6.2.5 below.

Table 5-1: Other projects within approximately 2km which may have a cumulative impact on the development of the project.

Planning Reference	Summary of Development	Address	Application Status	Decision Date
236212	Permission for the construction of a dwelling house with an attached carport, a wastewater treatment system & all other associated site works. Access to the proposed site is via existing vehicular entrance from the public road & a right-of-way along an existing private access laneway as previously granted under planning reference 18/5554.	Kilcoolishal, Caherlag, Co. Cork,	Conditional Permission	5/1/2024
235491	Construction of single storey office/gym for domestic use and all ancillary site works.	Factory Hill, Kilcoolishal, Glanmire, Co Cork	Conditional Permission	7/11/2023
216427	The demolition of an existing structure and existing hardstanding areas, and the construction of a business park comprising 5no. single-storey light industry /warehousing/distribution/logistics buildings (B1-B5) ranging in size from c.2,600.7m2 to c.7,602.8m2 (total c. 23,534.2m2) each to include a 2-storey internal ancillary office area, apart from building B3 where the 2-storey ancillary office area is external; external yard areas; dock levellers; 3no. substations; single-storey security hut (to include rooftop solar PV panels); car parking, cycle parking, motorcycle parking and truck parking; internal palisade fencing; tree protection fence; signage, including a stand-alone totem sign; 1no. new vehicular/pedestrian/cyclist access and 1no. new gated pedestrian and cycle access; closure of 2no. existing accesses; shared pedestrian/cycle path on the public road (L7078); and all site development, drainage, lighting, boundary treatment and landscaping works. A Natura Impact Statement will be submitted to the Planning Authority with the application.	The Former Corden Pharmachem Site, Wallingstown, Little Island, Co. Cork	Conditional Permission	11/4/2022

6 Screening Assessment

6.1 Introduction

The screening exercise will focus on assessing the likely adverse effects of the project on the Natura 2000 sites identified in Section 4.

Of the designated sites recorded within the Zone of Influence of the development, further assessment is required for the following sites using the Source-Pathway-Receptor model.

Table 6-1: Natura 2000 sites with approximate distance from proposed site.

Natura 2000 Site	Site Code	Approximate Distance from Site
Great Island Channel SAC	001058	1.4km
Cork Harbour SPA	004030	1.7km

This section identifies the potential impacts which may arise as a result of the proposed project on these Natura 2000 sites. It then goes on to identify how these impacts could potentially affect the Natura 2000 sites listed above. The significance of potential impacts is also assessed, with any potential in-combination effects also identified.

6.2 Assessment Criteria

6.2.1 Description of the individual elements of the project (either alone or in combination with other plans and projects) likely to give rise to impacts on the Natura 2000 sites.

Potential adverse impacts that could cause a significant effect on the qualifying interests of the Natura 2000 sites, or the site as a whole during the construction and operational phases of the project, and considered using three main pathways: surface water, groundwater, and land and air pathways.

The proposed project is not anticipated to have likely significant effects on the qualifying interests of the Natura 2000 sites. The rationale for including and excluding specific impacts via the main pathways is given in more detail in the following sub-sections.

6.2.2 Surface Water Pathway

The Tibbotstown Stream lies 240m east of the proposed site boundary. This stream flows downstream into the Lough Mahon transitional waterbody and the Cork Harbour SPA.

Construction Phase

During construction, some pollutants and dust will occur from construction activities, particularly during excavation. The drainage ditch on-site and the Tibbotstown Stream are connected downstream to Great Island Channel SAC (1.4km) and Cork Harbour SPA (1.7km). However, pollutants entering the stream and drainage ditch is expected to be negligible as there is a buffer of existing vegetation and fencing which will all be retained, and the works are small in nature. Typical construction activities will occur at this site, and reasonable measures that protect the local environment will be carried out. There will be minimal discharge into the drainage ditch during construction. A small wastewater treatment system will be constructed on-site to aid in management of stormwater and foul water. Even during times of flooding, any pollutants that do enter the surface water network would be insignificant and greatly diluted before reaching any Natura 2000 site.

Operation Phase

To manage water runoff on the site, the on-site Wastewater Treatment Systems will be installed. All surface water runoff from hard surfacing areas will also be managed on the site by this on-site Wastewater Treatment Systems

New foul water drainage will connect the staff facilities and the on-site Wastewater Treatment Systems.

The on-site Wastewater Treatment System will adhere to guidelines laid out in the 2021 EPA Guidelines: *Code of Practice Domestic Waste Water Treatment Systems (Population Equivalent ≤ 10)* – this is a standard measures to adhere to policies laid out under the Cork County Development Plan. This EPA Code of Practice includes tests regarding the suitability of the site for an on-site Wastewater Treatment System.

Products with NSAI (National Standards Authority of Ireland) or similar certification will be used to ensure that products are:

- certified to be suitable for their intended use
- adhering to proper discharge standards,
- installed correctly
- monitoring and maintenance of the wastewater treatment systems area adhered to.

Any operation discharge to the ditch from onsite drainage will be minimal, given the discharge standards required by the EPA Guidelines, and there is an extended distance to the Natura Network.

The Greenway maintenance side of the site will only store bark mulch, wood chip and other green materials on site. Green waste such as tree and hedge clippings are only held on site temporarily before being collected by a green waste recycling centre. Therefore, it is unlikely for any pollutants via the green materials to enter the surface water pathway.

Any pollutants that do enter the surface water network would be insignificant and greatly diluted before reaching any Natura 2000 site, even in times of flood.

All plant in this yard will be fuelled via a small fuel bowser which is located nearby in the Road Operations main yard in Ballinglanna, Glanmire. This bowser will never be stored on site. Cork County Council are currently transitioning to Electric Vehicles and machinery, and this will be the base for the new electric road sweeper. Any remaining combustion engine machinery and equipment such as blowers, hedge cutters, pole saws, strimmer, etc., will be stored on hooks or racking provided.

Any other pollutants (5l petrol cans, 2 stroke / 4 stroke, chain oil etc) will be stored in racking provided in the proposed shed. This protects the site from accidental discharge of a level that would affect the Natura Network, as high level control measures are provided to keep any material containing oil out off the ground and away from water (and water based pathways).

Therefore, during the construction and operational phases of the proposed project, likely significant effects are not anticipated via surface water pathways to any Natura 2000 site.

6.2.3 Groundwater Pathways

The proposed site lies in the Ballinhassig East IE_SW_G_004 groundwater body. This groundwater body provides a connection to the Great Island Channel SAC and the Cork Harbour SPA, which lie 1.4km and 1.7km away from the site respectively. No other Natura sites within the ZoI are connected via a groundwater body.

The Gyleen formation is made up of sandstone with mudstone and siltstone, with a ‘High’ permeability, and the urban area means that recharge of the groundwater table in the area is limited. The works are also taking place on existing built land.

Construction Phase

Any construction works that require excavation beneath the surface has a potential to impact on the groundwater flow. However, it is understood that the excavation works will be limited to a max depth of 1.2m for foundations, with much of the rest of the site to be shallower than this. These excavations are shallow, unlikely to achieve groundwater strike and highly unlikely to disrupt groundwater flows. It is unlikely that pollutants will be introduced into or have likely significant effects on groundwater and groundwater dependent QI’s of designated sites sharing the groundwater body. Additionally, no groundwater dependant QI’s are present in proximity to the site.

Operational Phase

The development of the site is not expected to fundamentally change the nature of the area. Considering that the site is already urbanised, there is unlikely to be any significant change to aquifer recharge ability or the amount of water runoff from the site.

The wastewater treatment unit proposed will adhere to the 2021 EPA Guidelines: *Code of Practice Domestic Waste Water Treatment Systems (Population Equivalent ≤ 10)* as outlined in the section above.

Therefore, during the construction and operational phases of the proposed project, likely significant effects are not anticipated via groundwater pathways to any Natura 2000 site.

6.2.4 Land and Air Pathways

Land

No direct land-take or loss of habitat shall occur to any Natura 2000 sites as they are not located within the footprint of the proposed project.

No disturbance or noise impacts on QIs of Natura 2000 sites within the ZoI are expected due to the distance and lack of supporting habitat within the proposed site or its surroundings.

Birds of the SPA will not be impacted by the presence of humans due to sufficient distance from the SPA and lack of supporting habitat for QI species on-site.

Pocket Park Operation

The rewilding of the east side of the site, the pocket park, will help to improve the urban biodiversity of the area. The pocket park will provide habitat for birds, pollinators and other Wildlife, supporting biodiversity in the wider environment. With the commitment to planting native species, the pocket park will support the All-Ireland Pollinator Plan 2021-2025 (AIPP, 2021). In 2021, Cork City Council committed to taking steps to help reverse the decline of our pollinators.

The pocket park may also have community, aesthetic or cultural value to add to the social benefits.

Invasive Species

The invasive species found on the site during the site visit were Himalayan Honeysuckle, Traveller's-joy, Butterfly-bush, and Sycamore. These non-native invasive species are all classed as Medium Impact Invasives. The Greenway maintenance area with house the Open Space maintenance team and Cork County council's Head Gardener. Cork City Council's Head Gardener has committed to managing the invasive species on the site and in the surrounding area.

His proposed methodology is as follows:

Himalayan Honeysuckle: Management of this plant is completed through strimming, manual pulling and cutting prior to seed pod development. This plant can be dug out and removed off site if other methods are unsuccessful.

Traveller's-joy: Proposed control and eradication of said plant within the fenced area- cut back to the ground and remove all material. This process will be completed biannually to ensure the plant is eradicated.

Butterfly-bush: This plant is controlled by cutting back in winter, removing all material and digging out the plant. The area will be monitored for seedlings germinating which will be removed by hand on identification.

Sycamore: Control of Sycamore is generally considered to be a highly feasible option with a management plan of stump grinding to damage the rooting system.

Air

Construction works, particularly during excavation and increased works traffic, will lead to a release of dust and pollutants; this project is small scale, and dusts are expected to mostly fall out within the site boundary. The pocket park will help to improve air quality in the local area (IAQM, 2024). It will help to filter air pollutants from the construction and operation of the greenway maintenance site. There will be a small increase in local traffic attending the site during construction working hours, resulting in an increase in NOx emissions, however vehicular emissions and dust emissions are not anticipated to significantly impact the QIs of the Natura 2000 sites due to the distance of the proposed project from any Natura 2000 sites.

During operation, there will likely be a slight increase to traffic in the area. These are not anticipated to be of significant effect as the proposed site is in an urban area with long established and used road access and increasing the active travel network.

Therefore, during the construction and operational phases of the proposed project, likely significant effects are not anticipated via land and air pathways to any Natura 2000 site.

6.2.5 Summary

Due to the location of the proposed site, the small scale of works, the distance to the Natura 2000 sites within the ZoI, the proposed project is not anticipated to have any likely significant effects via surface water, groundwater, land, or air pathways, to any Natura 2000 sites.

6.2.6 In-Combination Effects

As the proposed project is not anticipated to have any significant effects on QIs or conservation objectives on any Natura 2000 site and based on the screening statements of the above plans and planning applications, there is no potential for other plans and projects to act in combination with it to result in likely significant effects on Natura 2000 sites.

6.2.7 Description of likely direct, indirect, or secondary impacts of the project (either alone or in combination with other plans and projects) on the Natura 2000 sites within ZoI.

<table>
<tr><th>Project Elements</th><th>Comment</th></tr>
<tr><td>Size and scale</td><td>The footprint of the proposed development is c. 3160m^2. The development will consist of:
Construction of an equipment storage shed,
Staff welfare facilities with a small wastewater treatment system,
Green waste/mulch storage bays
New lighting for the site.
Construction of a pocket park with wildflowers and native trees.</td></tr>
<tr><td>Land-take</td><td>There will be no direct land take from any Natura 2000 sites.</td></tr>
<tr><td>Distance from Natura 2000 site or key features of the site</td><td><table><tr><th>Natura 2000 site</th><th>Approximate direct distance</th><th>Approximate hydrological distance</th></tr><tr><td>Great Island Channel SAC</td><td>1.4km</td><td>1.5km</td></tr><tr><td>Cork Harbour SPA</td><td>1.3km</td><td>1.7km</td></tr></table></td></tr>
<tr><td>Resource requirements (water abstraction etc.)</td><td>There will be no water abstraction requirements.</td></tr>
<tr><td>Emissions (disposal to land, water or air)</td><td>Water
There is a surface water pathway connection to the Great Island Channel SAC and Cork Harbour SPA – via on-site drainage and a local stream.
Construction Phase:
During construction, surface water will be contained within on-site drainage. Stormwater will drain into the drainage ditch on-site. Site runoff is expected to be minimal; only stormwater runoff will enter the drainage ditch on-site.
New foul water drainage will connect to a small wastewater treatment system on site, supporting staff facilities.
Operation Phase:
During operation, the proposed operations of the project (and its related emissions) are not expected to directly impact the Great Island Channel SAC or Cork Harbour SPA due to the distance from the proposed site, and the standard control measures in place for any small wastewater treatment system on site.
Therefore, no impacts on any Natura 2000 site are anticipated.
Land and Air
No Natura 2000 site is within site footprint.
During construction, particularly during excavations, there will be very minor release of dusts and pollutants, however, this is expected to mostly fall out within the site boundary and will not</td></tr>
</table>

Project Elements	Comment
	have an effect on any Natura 2000 sites. The level of increase in air emissions during construction is not expected to have significant adverse impacts on Natura 2000 sites in terms of air quality.
Excavation requirements	Maximum excavation depth of 1.2m for construction.
Transportation requirements	The proposed development will not generate a significant volume of additional vehicular traffic. The level of increase is not likely to have any adverse transport-related environmental impacts.
Duration of construction, operation, decommissioning etc.	Construction phase will last approximately 6 months. Operation is permanent.

6.2.8 Description of likely changes to the Natura 2000 sites.

Potential Impact	Comments
Reduction of habitat area	There will be no temporary or permanent reduction in habitat area for any Natura 2000 sites
Disturbance to key species	There will be no disturbance to any QIs within any Natura 2000 sites. No Annex species were recorded on site.
Habitat or species fragmentation	There will be no temporary or permanent habitat or species fragmentation within any Natura 2000 sites
Reduction in species density	There will be no temporary or permanent reduction in species density of any QIs of Natura 2000 sites or within any Natura 2000 sites
Changes in key indicators of conservation value (water quality etc.)	There will be no changes in key indicators of conservation value
Climate change	The existing built nature of the site, with an established road connection means no significant increase to traffic is anticipated. No climate change impact is anticipated.

6.2.9 Description of likely impacts to the Natura 2000 sites as a whole.

Potential Impact	Comments
Interference with the key relationships that define the structure of the site	There is no anticipated interference with the key relationships that define the structure of any Natura 2000 sites

Potential Impact	Comments
Interference with key relationships that define the function of the site	There is no anticipated interference with the key relationships that define the function of any Natura 2000 sites

6.2.10 Provide indicators of significance as a result of identification of effects set out above in terms of:

Potential Impact	Indicators
Loss (Estimated percentage of lost area of habitat)	No Natura 2000 sites will experience a direct loss in habitat area
Fragmentation	Fragmentation of habitat and/or species of any QIs or within Natura 2000 sites is not anticipated
Disruption & disturbance	No disruption or disturbance to Natura 2000 sites or their QIs is anticipated
Change to key elements of the site (e.g., water quality etc.)	No change to key elements of the site is anticipated

6.2.11 Describe from the above elements of the project or plan, or combination of elements, where the above impacts are likely to be significant or where the scale or magnitude of impacts is known.

Based upon best scientific judgement, no significant effects are expected from the elements mentioned above; and there are no elements where the scale or magnitude of impacts is unknown.

6.3 Conclusion

On the basis of the screening exercise carried out above, it can be concluded that the possibility of any significant impacts on any European Sites, whether arising from the project itself or in combination with other plans or projects, can be excluded beyond a reasonable scientific doubt on the basis of the best scientific knowledge available.

The project, consists of:

- Construction of an equipment storage shed,
- Staff welfare facilities with a small wastewater treatment system,
- Green waste/mulch storage bays,
- And new lighting for the site.

The small wastewater treatment system will follow guidelines outlined in The Environmental Protection Agency, Domestic Waste Water Treatment Systems, (Population Equivalent ≤10) – a standard measure.

In carrying out this AA Screening, mitigation measures have not been taken into account.

If any changes occur in the design of these works, a new Screening for Appropriate Assessment is required.

A Protected Species Recorded within 5km of the Site since 01/01/2014

These records correspond with species covered by national legislation that are publicly available on the NBDC database with an online query.

Species	Date of Last Record	Dataset	Designation
Amphibians			
Common Frog *Rana temporaria*	10/02/2023	Amphibians and reptiles of Ireland	Protected Species: EU Habitats Directive >> Annex V || Protected Species: Wildlife Acts
Birds			
Balearic Shearwater *Puffinus mauretanicus*	31/01/2021	Birds of Ireland	Protected Species: Wildlife Acts || Threatened Species >> Birds of Conservation Concern - Red List
Barn Owl *Tyto alba*	07/02/2023	Birds of Ireland	Protected Species: Wildlife Acts || Threatened Species >> Birds of Conservation Concern - Red List
Barn Swallow *Hirundo rustica*	30/04/2023	Birds of Ireland	Protected Species: Wildlife Acts || Threatened Species >> Birds of Conservation Concern - Amber List
Bar-tailed Godwit *Limosa lapponica*	02/12/2017	Birds of Ireland	Protected Species: Wildlife Acts || Protected Species: EU Birds Directive >> Annex I Bird Species || Threatened Species >> Birds of Conservation Concern - Amber List
Black-headed Gull *Larus ridibundus*	07/01/2023	Birds of Ireland	Protected Species: Wildlife Acts || Threatened Species >> Birds of Conservation Concern - Red List
Black-tailed Godwit *Limosa limosa*	28/01/2023	Birds of Ireland	Protected Species: Wildlife Acts || Threatened Species >> Birds of Conservation Concern - Amber List
Brent Goose *Branta bernicla*	19/11/2016	Birds of Ireland	Protected Species: Wildlife Acts || Threatened Species >> Birds of Conservation Concern - Amber List
Common Greenshank *Tringa nebularia*	02/12/2017	Birds of Ireland	Protected Species: Wildlife Acts || Threatened Species >> Birds of Conservation Concern - Amber List
Common Kestrel *Falco tinnunculus*	19/11/2016	Birds of Ireland	Protected Species: Wildlife Acts || Threatened Species >> Birds of Conservation Concern - Amber List
Common Kingfisher *Alcedo atthis*	27/03/2023	Birds of Ireland	Protected Species: Wildlife Acts || Protected Species: EU Birds Directive >> Annex I Bird Species || Threatened Species >> Birds of Conservation Concern - Amber List
Common Pheasant *Phasianus colchicus*	06/03/2019	Birds of Ireland	Protected Species: Wildlife Acts || Protected Species: EU Birds Directive >> Annex II, Section I Bird Species >> Annex III, Section I Bird Species
Common Redshank	07/01/2023	Birds of Ireland	Protected Species: Wildlife Acts ||

Species	Date of Last Record	Dataset	Designation
Tringa totanus			Threatened Species >> Birds of Conservation Concern - Red List
Common Shelduck *Tadorna tadorna*	22/04/2021	Birds of Ireland	Protected Species: Wildlife Acts || Threatened Species >> Birds of Conservation Concern - Amber List
Common Snipe *Gallinago gallinago*	25/04/2023	Birds of Ireland	Protected Species: Wildlife Acts || Protected Species: EU Birds Directive >> Annex II, Section I Bird Species >> Annex III, Section III Bird Species || Threatened Species >> Birds of Conservation Concern - Amber List
Common Starling *Sturnus vulgaris*	11/05/2020	Birds of Ireland	Protected Species: Wildlife Acts || Threatened Species >> Birds of Conservation Concern - Amber List
Common Swift *Apus apus*	02/08/2023	Swifts of Ireland	Protected Species: Wildlife Acts || Threatened Species >> Birds of Conservation Concern - Amber List
Common Tern *Sterna hirundo*	16/07/2020	Birds of Ireland	Protected Species: Wildlife Acts || Protected Species: EU Birds Directive >> Annex I Bird Species || Threatened Species >> Birds of Conservation Concern - Amber List
Common Wood Pigeon *Columba palumbus*	11/05/2020	Birds of Ireland	Protected Species: Wildlife Acts || Protected Species: EU Birds Directive >> Annex II, Section I Bird Species >> Annex III, Section I Bird Species
Dunlin *Calidris alpina*	02/12/2017	Birds of Ireland	Protected Species: Wildlife Acts || Protected Species: EU Birds Directive >> Annex I Bird Species || Threatened Species >> Birds of Conservation Concern - Amber List
Eurasian Curlew *Numenius arquata*	28/01/2023	Birds of Ireland	Protected Species: Wildlife Acts || Protected Species: EU Birds Directive >> Annex II, Section II Bird Species || Threatened Species >> Birds of Conservation Concern - Red List
Eurasian Oystercatcher *Haematopus ostralegus*	28/01/2023	Birds of Ireland	Protected Species: Wildlife Acts || Threatened Species >> Birds of Conservation Concern - Amber List
Eurasian Teal *Anas crecca*	05/03/2023	Birds of Ireland	Protected Species: Wildlife Acts || Protected Species: EU Birds Directive >> Annex II, Section I Bird Species >> Annex III, Section II Bird Species || Threatened Species >> Birds of Conservation Concern - Amber List
Eurasian Wigeon *Anas penelope*	07/01/2023	Birds of Ireland	Protected Species: Wildlife Acts || Protected Species: EU Birds Directive >> Annex II, Section I Bird Species >> Annex III, Section II Bird Species || Threatened Species >> Birds of Conservation Concern - Amber List
Eurasian Woodcock *Scolopax rusticola*	06/12/2020	Birds of Ireland	Protected Species: Wildlife Acts || Protected Species: EU Birds Directive >> Annex II, Section I Bird Species >> Annex III, Section III Bird Species || Threatened Species >> Birds of Conservation Concern - Amber List

Species	Date of Last Record	Dataset	Designation
European Golden Plover *Pluvialis apricaria*	26/02/2017	Birds of Ireland	Protected Species: Wildlife Acts || Protected Species: EU Birds Directive >> Annex I Bird Species >> Annex II, Section II Bird Species >> Annex III, Section III Bird Species || Threatened Species >> Birds of Conservation Concern - Red List
Great Black-backed Gull *Larus marinus*	19/11/2016	Birds of Ireland	Protected Species: Wildlife Acts || Threatened Species >> Birds of Conservation Concern - Amber List
Great Cormorant *Phalacrocorax carbo*	12/02/2023	Birds of Ireland	Protected Species: Wildlife Acts || Threatened Species >> Birds of Conservation Concern - Amber List
Great Crested Grebe *Podiceps cristatus*	02/12/2017	Birds of Ireland	Protected Species: Wildlife Acts || Threatened Species >> Birds of Conservation Concern - Amber List
Herring Gull *Larus argentatus*	02/12/2017	Birds of Ireland	Protected Species: Wildlife Acts || Threatened Species >> Birds of Conservation Concern - Red List
House Martin *Delichon urbicum*	01/06/2017	Birds of Ireland	Protected Species: Wildlife Acts || Threatened Species >> Birds of Conservation Concern - Amber List
House Sparrow *Passer domesticus*	22/03/2016	Birds of Ireland	Protected Species: Wildlife Acts || Threatened Species >> Birds of Conservation Concern - Amber List
Lesser Black-backed Gull *Larus fuscus*	19/11/2016	Birds of Ireland	Protected Species: Wildlife Acts || Threatened Species >> Birds of Conservation Concern - Amber List
Little Egret *Egretta garzetta*	07/01/2023	Birds of Ireland	Protected Species: Wildlife Acts || Protected Species: EU Birds Directive >> Annex I Bird Species
Little Grebe *Tachybaptus ruficollis*	07/01/2023	Birds of Ireland	Protected Species: Wildlife Acts || Threatened Species >> Birds of Conservation Concern - Amber List
Mallard *Anas platyrhynchos*	24/05/2021	Birds of Ireland	Protected Species: Wildlife Acts || Protected Species: EU Birds Directive >> Annex II, Section I Bird Species >> Annex III, Section I Bird Species
Merlin *Falco columbarius*	19/11/2016	Birds of Ireland	Protected Species: Wildlife Acts || Protected Species: EU Birds Directive >> Annex I Bird Species || Threatened Species >> Birds of Conservation Concern - Amber List
Mew Gull *Larus canus*	02/12/2017	Birds of Ireland	Protected Species: Wildlife Acts || Threatened Species >> Birds of Conservation Concern - Amber List
Mute Swan *Cygnus olor*	22/03/2020	Birds of Ireland	Protected Species: Wildlife Acts || Threatened Species >> Birds of Conservation Concern - Amber List
Northern Lapwing *Vanellus vanellus*	07/01/2023	Birds of Ireland	Protected Species: Wildlife Acts || Protected Species: EU Birds Directive >> Annex II,

Species	Date of Last Record	Dataset	Designation
			Section II Bird Species || Threatened Species >> Birds of Conservation Concern - Red List
Northern Shoveler *Anas clypeata*	07/01/2023	Birds of Ireland	Protected Species: Wildlife Acts || Protected Species: EU Birds Directive >> Annex II, Section I Bird Species >> Annex III, Section III Bird Species || Threatened Species >> Birds of Conservation Concern - Red List
Red Knot *Calidris canutus*	19/11/2016	Birds of Ireland	Protected Species: Wildlife Acts || Threatened Species >> Birds of Conservation Concern - Red List
Red-breasted Merganser *Mergus serrator*	02/12/2017	Birds of Ireland	Protected Species: Wildlife Acts || Protected Species: EU Birds Directive >> Annex II, Section II Bird Species
Rock Pigeon *Columba livia*	07/02/2021	Birds of Ireland	Protected Species: Wildlife Acts || Protected Species: EU Birds Directive >> Annex II, Section I Bird Species
Sand Martin *Riparia riparia*	22/03/2023	Birds of Ireland	Protected Species: Wildlife Acts || Threatened Species >> Birds of Conservation Concern - Amber List
Short-eared Owl *Asio flammeus*	02/08/2017	Birds of Ireland	Protected Species: Wildlife Acts || Protected Species: EU Birds Directive >> Annex I Bird Species || Threatened Species >> Birds of Conservation Concern - Amber List
Tufted Duck *Aythya fuligula*	18/05/2020	Birds of Ireland	Protected Species: Wildlife Acts || Protected Species: EU Birds Directive >> Annex II, Section I Bird Species >> Annex III, Section II Bird Species || Threatened Species >> Birds of Conservation Concern - Amber List
Yellowhammer *Emberiza citrinella*	24/07/2018	Birds of Ireland	Protected Species: Wildlife Acts || Threatened Species >> Birds of Conservation Concern - Red List
Flowering Plants			
Common Toadflax *Linaria vulgaris*	13/10/2021	Vascular plants: Online Atlas of Vascular Plants 2012 Onwards	Threatened Species: Near threatened
Cornflower *Centaurea cyanus*	03/09/2022	Vascular plants: Online Atlas of Vascular Plants 2012 Onwards	Threatened Species: Waiting list
Glebionis segetum	03/09/2022	Vascular plants: Online Atlas of Vascular Plants 2012 Onwards	Threatened Species: Near threatened
Little-robin *Geranium purpureum*	25/05/2023	Vascular plants: Online Atlas of Vascular Plants 2012 Onwards	Threatened Species: Endangered
Pale Flax	18/05/2023	Vascular plants:	Threatened Species: Near threatened

Species	Date of Last Record	Dataset	Designation
Linum bienne		Online Atlas of Vascular Plants 2012 Onwards	
Insects			
Gatekeeper *Pyronia tithonus*	18/08/2020	Butterflies of Ireland pre-2022	Threatened Species: Near threatened
Small Heath *Coenonympha pamphilus*	02/07/2020	5-visit Butterfly Monitoring Scheme	Threatened Species: Near threatened
Andrena (Cnemidandrena) denticulata	27/07/2023	Bees of Ireland	Threatened Species: Vulnerable
Andrena (Melandrena) nigroaenea	18/04/2024	Bees of Ireland	Threatened Species: Vulnerable
Gipsy Cuckoo Bee *Bombus (Psithyrus) bohemicus*	14/04/2015	Bees of Ireland	Threatened Species: Near threatened
Gooden's Nomad Bee *Nomada goodeniana*	19/04/2023	Bees of Ireland	Threatened Species: Endangered
Halictus (Seladonia) tumulorum	06/05/2024	Bees of Ireland	Threatened Species: Near threatened
Hill Cuckoo Bee *Bombus (Psithyrus) rupestris*	16/07/2014	Bees of Ireland	Threatened Species: Endangered
Large Red Tailed Bumble Bee *Bombus (Melanobombus) lapidarius*	20/06/2024	Bees of Ireland	Threatened Species: Near threatened
Moss Carder-bee *Bombus (Thoracombus) muscorum*	06/05/2024	Bees of Ireland	Threatened Species: Near threatened
Marine Mammals			
Common Dolphin *Delphinus delphis*	10/09/2018	IWDG Cetacean Strandings Database	Protected Species: EU Habitats Directive >> Annex IV || Protected Species: Wildlife Acts
Common Seal *Phoca vitulina*	27/09/2020	iNaturalist Marine Species Records for Ireland	Protected Species: EU Habitats Directive >> Annex II >> Annex V || Protected Species: Wildlife Acts
Fin Whale *Balaenoptera physalus*	17/09/2019	iNaturalist Marine Species Records for Ireland	Protected Species: EU Habitats Directive >> Annex IV || Protected Species: Wildlife Acts
Grey Seal *Halichoerus grypus*	24/05/2016	Mammals of Ireland 2016-2025	Protected Species: EU Habitats Directive >> Annex II >> Annex V || Protected Species: Wildlife Acts
Reptile			
Common Lizard	07/10/2019	Amphibians and	Protected Species: Wildlife Acts

Species	Date of Last Record	Dataset	Designation
Zootoca vivipara		reptiles of Ireland	
Terrestrial Mammals			
Brown Long-eared Bat *Plecotus auritus*	27/08/2022	National Bat Database of Ireland	Protected Species: EU Habitats Directive >> Annex IV || Protected Species: Wildlife Acts
Daubenton's Bat *Myotis daubentonii*	11/06/2021	National Bat Database of Ireland	Protected Species: EU Habitats Directive >> Annex IV || Protected Species: Wildlife Acts
Eurasian Badger *Meles meles*	10/05/2015	Atlas of Mammals in Ireland 2010-2015	Protected Species: Wildlife Acts
Eurasian Pygmy Shrew *Sorex minutus*	24/01/2016	Mammals of Ireland 2016-2025	Protected Species: Wildlife Acts
Eurasian Red Squirrel *Sciurus vulgaris*	13/04/2023	Mammals of Ireland 2016-2025	Protected Species: Wildlife Acts
European Otter *Lutra lutra*	14/10/2023	Mammals of Ireland 2016-2025	Protected Species: EU Habitats Directive >> Annex II >> Annex IV || Protected Species: Wildlife Acts
Lesser Noctule *Nyctalus leisleri*	11/06/2021	National Bat Database of Ireland	Protected Species: EU Habitats Directive >> Annex IV || Protected Species: Wildlife Acts
Natterer's Bat *Myotis nattereri*	11/06/2021	National Bat Database of Ireland	Protected Species: EU Habitats Directive >> Annex IV || Protected Species: Wildlife Acts
Pine Marten *Martes martes*	23/12/2021	Mammals of Ireland 2016-2025	Protected Species: EU Habitats Directive >> Annex V || Protected Species: Wildlife Acts
Pipistrelle *Pipistrellus pipistrellus sensu lato*	15/06/2021	National Bat Database of Ireland	Protected Species: EU Habitats Directive >> Annex IV || Protected Species: Wildlife Acts
Soprano Pipistrelle *Pipistrellus pygmaeus*	11/06/2021	National Bat Database of Ireland	Protected Species: EU Habitats Directive >> Annex IV || Protected Species: Wildlife Acts
West European Hedgehog *Erinaceus europaeus*	02/10/2023	Hedgehogs of Ireland	Protected Species: Wildlife Acts

B Invasive Species Recorded within 5km of the Site since 01/01/2014

These records correspond with species covered by national legislation that are publicly available on the NBDC database with an online query.

Species	Date of Last Record	Dataset	Designation
Ficopomatus enigmaticus	09/02/2024	Explore Your Shore	Invasive Species >> Medium Impact Invasive Species
Canada Goose *Branta canadensis*	19/11/2016	Birds of Ireland	Invasive Species >> High Impact Invasive Species >> Regulation S.I. 477 (Ireland) || Protected Species: Wildlife Acts || Protected Species: EU Birds Directive >> Annex II, Section I Bird Species
Elminius modestus	08/06/2023	Explore Your Shore	Invasive Species >> Medium Impact Invasive Species
Australoplana sanguinea	05/04/2021	National Invasive Species Database	Invasive Species >> Medium Impact Invasive Species
Butterfly-bush *Buddleja davidii*	15/07/2023	Vascular plants: Online Atlas of Vascular Plants 2012 Onwards	Invasive Species >> Medium Impact Invasive Species
Common Cord-grass *Spartina anglica*	07/11/2019	Vascular plants: Online Atlas of Vascular Plants 2012 Onwards	Invasive Species >> High Impact Invasive Species >> Regulation S.I. 477 (Ireland)
Evergreen Oak *Quercus ilex*	14/07/2023	Vascular plants: Online Atlas of Vascular Plants 2012 Onwards	Invasive Species >> Medium Impact Invasive Species
Fallopia japonica x sachalinensis = F. x bohemica	03/11/2016	Vascular plants: Online Atlas of Vascular Plants 2012 Onwards	Invasive Species >> High Impact Invasive Species >> Regulation S.I. 477 (Ireland)
Giant Hogweed *Heracleum mantegazzianum*	30/05/2018	National Invasive Species Database	Invasive Species >> High Impact Invasive Species >> Regulation S.I. 477 (Ireland)
Giant Knotweed *Fallopia sachalinensis*	19/09/2016	Vascular plants: Online Atlas of Vascular Plants 2012 Onwards	Invasive Species >> High Impact Invasive Species >> Regulation S.I. 477 (Ireland)
Giant-rhubarb *Gunnera tinctoria*	13/06/2020	Vascular plants: Online Atlas of Vascular Plants 2012 Onwards	Invasive Species >> High Impact Invasive Species >> Regulation S.I. 477 (Ireland)
Himalayan Honeysuckle *Leycesteria formosa*	26/10/2023	Vascular plants: Online Atlas of Vascular Plants 2012 Onwards	Invasive Species >> Medium Impact Invasive Species
Himalayan Knotweed *Persicaria wallichii*	15/11/2016	Vascular plants: Online Atlas of Vascular Plants 2012 Onwards	Invasive Species >> Medium Impact Invasive Species >> Regulation S.I. 477 (Ireland)
Indian Balsam *Impatiens glandulifera*	10/10/2015	National Invasive Species Database	Invasive Species >> High Impact Invasive Species >> Regulation S.I. 477 (Ireland)
Japanese Knotweed	24/05/2023	Vascular plants: Online Atlas of	Invasive Species >> High Impact Invasive Species >>

Species	Date of Last Record	Dataset	Designation
Fallopia japonica		Vascular Plants 2012 Onwards	Regulation S.I. 477 (Ireland)
Japanese Rose *Rosa rugosa*	27/07/2023	Vascular plants: Online Atlas of Vascular Plants 2012 Onwards	Invasive Species >> Medium Impact Invasive Species
Russian-vine *Fallopia baldschuanica*	04/08/2015	Vascular plants: Online Atlas of Vascular Plants 2012 Onwards	Invasive Species >> Medium Impact Invasive Species
Sycamore *Acer pseudoplatanus*	23/11/2023	Vascular plants: Online Atlas of Vascular Plants 2012 Onwards	Invasive Species >> Medium Impact Invasive Species
Three-cornered Garlic *Allium triquetrum*	22/04/2023	Vascular plants: Online Atlas of Vascular Plants 2012 Onwards	Invasive Species >> Medium Impact Invasive Species >> Regulation S.I. 477 (Ireland)
Traveller's-joy *Clematis vitalba*	13/10/2021	Vascular plants: Online Atlas of Vascular Plants 2012 Onwards	Invasive Species >> Medium Impact Invasive Species
Turkey Oak *Quercus cerris*	29/11/2018	Vascular plants: Online Atlas of Vascular Plants 2012 Onwards	Invasive Species >> Medium Impact Invasive Species
Harlequin Ladybird *Harmonia axyridis*	07/04/2024	Ladybirds of Ireland	Invasive Species >> High Impact Invasive Species >> Regulation S.I. 477 (Ireland)
Common Garden Snail *Cornu aspersum*	21/05/2016	General Biodiversity Records from Ireland	Invasive Species >> Medium Impact Invasive Species
Jenkins' Spire Snail *Potamopyrgus antipodarum*	22/10/2021	Coastal and Marine Species Database	Invasive Species >> Medium Impact Invasive Species
Red-eared Terrapin *Trachemys scripta*	18/04/2015	National Invasive Species Database	Invasive Species >> Medium Impact Invasive Species >> EU Regulation No. 1143/2014
American Mink *Mustela vison*	04/02/2016	Mammals of Ireland 2016-2025	Invasive Species >> High Impact Invasive Species >> Regulation S.I. 477 (Ireland)
Bank Vole *Myodes glareolus*	17/05/2017	Mammals of Ireland 2016-2025	Invasive Species >> Medium Impact Invasive Species
Brown Rat *Rattus norvegicus*	11/05/2017	Mammals of Ireland 2016-2025	Invasive Species >> High Impact Invasive Species >> Regulation S.I. 477 (Ireland)
European Rabbit *Oryctolagus cuniculus*	23/05/2016	Mammals of Ireland 2016-2025	Invasive Species >> Medium Impact Invasive Species
Feral Ferret *Mustela furo*	24/07/2021	National Invasive Species Database	Invasive Species >> High Impact Invasive Species
Greater White-toothed Shrew *Crocidura russula*	29/07/2011	Atlas of Mammals in Ireland 2010-2015	Invasive Species >> Medium Impact Invasive Species
House Mouse *Mus musculus*	31/01/2014	Mammals of Ireland 2016-2025	Invasive Species >> High Impact Invasive Species

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