

PROPOSED PART 8 DEVELOPMENT

The decommissioning of an existing temporary WwTP and installation of a new wastewater pumping station and foul sewer at Rath Luain, Dunlavin, Wicklow.

Introduction:

Rath Luain is a development of 6 houses in the village of Dunlavin, County Wicklow. The original planning permission was granted allowing the construction of a temporary waste water treatment plant on site which was to be disconnected when Dunlavin WwTP was upgraded and a connection to the public sewer network was to be made. The planned upgrade to Dunlavin WwTP has been completed, however the connection to the public sewer was never made. The temporary waste water treatment plant was never decommissioned and is still in use. The waste water treatment plant is unsuitable and having a negative environmental impact. The Department of Housing, Planning and Local Government (DHPLG) set up a programme titled the Multi-Annual Developer Provided Water Services Infrastructure Resolution Programme to provide funding for the replacement of such wastewater infrastructure. The projects are known as DPI projects. Wicklow County Council is now looking to proceed with the works to replace the onsite wastewater treatment system at Rath Luain, Dunlavin with a pumping station and foul sewer connecting to the public network.

Proposed Development:

The purpose of the proposed development is to remove the troublesome and unsuitable infrastructure from the development and improve the quality of wastewater treatment reducing the environmental impact. It is proposed that the existing waste water treatment plant is decommissioned and disposed of off site to a suitable licenced facility. It is proposed that any area not being utilised a part of the proposed works be filled in and the area be cleared and reinstated site to original condition. It is proposed to install a new sump, pumping station and controls kiosk all sized and designed appropriately for the development and aesthetically appropriate for its location. It is also proposed to lay circa. 130 meters of rising main and 70 meters of gravity sewer to connect to the existing Irish Water wastewater network on the public road located approx. 70 metres west of the estate entrance on the L8336 Dunlavin Upper-Mullycagh Upper Road. All works to be in accordance with Irish Water documents; the Code of Practice for Wastewater Infrastructure, Standard Details for Wastewater Infrastructure, Design Risk Assessment Code of Practice for Wastewater Infrastructure and Design Risk Assessment for Wastewater Infrastructure Standard Details. The proposed design meets the objectives of Wicklow County Council and the DPI Programme, and is designed in accordance with the design standards required for the Taking In Charge (TIC) by Wicklow County Council and Irish Water.

Dunlavin Town Plan 2016 -2022

The town plan sets out the overall vision and development strategy including provisions such as;

“To improve the quality of life for existing residents by identifying deficiencies in services and infrastructure in the town and making provision through zoning and development objectives to address these issue”, “Protect the built and natural heritage of the area” and this will be achieved by: “Facilitating the provision of new and improved infrastructure to meet the demands of the existing population and future residents”, “Ensuring the protection and enhancement of natural habitats, cultural heritage, ecological resources and biodiversity”. As the proposed development will enhance and protect the surrounding areas and provide infrastructure required to meet the need of the existing residents, it is clearly in line with the overall vision and development strategy for Dunlavin.

The land where the proposed works are to take place is located within an area zoned in the Dunlavin Town Plan 2016 - 2022 as Existing Residential. The proposed works are for critical infrastructure to serve the exiting residents of the Rath Luain residential development. It will take up a very small area of land relative to the overall existing development and reduce the environmental impact.

Environmental Issues

There are a number of Natura 200 sites located in the areas surrounding the proposed site including the Pollardstown Fen SAC, the Poulaphouca Reservoir SPA, the Wicklow Mountains SAC, the Wicklow Mountains SPA. However they are all a considerable distance from the proposed site.

Included in the application is a Habitats Directive Project Screening Assessment. The Screening report concludes that there would be no significant adverse effects on any Natura 2000 sites, their Qualifying Interests, Conservation Objectives or Integrity as a result of the proposed project involving the decommissioning of an existing temporary WwTP and installation of a new wastewater pumping station and foul sewer at Rath Luain, Dunlavin, Wicklow. The proposed works will have a positive environmental impact by decommissioning the existing temporary WwTP and connecting to the public foul network where the sewerage will be adequately treated.

Flood Risk Assessment:

The proposed development will not result in any risk of flooding.

Traffic Impact:

The proposed development will not have a significant impact on vehicular or pedestrian traffic. The proposal will provide parking space and will only require occasional visits for maintenance.

Services:

Power & Lighting

It is proposed to connect to the existing electricity services in the area to provide power to the proposed pumping station.

Water & Foul Drainage

It is proposed to connect to the public watermain in the area to provide a water supply to the pumping station. Water will only be required for occasional wash down and maintenance. All foul drainage will be served by the proposed pumping station.

Waste

No bins will be provided at the pumping station. During the running of the pumping station it is not anticipated that waste will be generated.

Construction

It is proposed that construction works will commence as soon as the Part 8 is approved. It is anticipated that works on site would take approximately 4 months to complete.