



**COMHAIRLE CONTAE CILL MHANTAIN
WICKLOW COUNTY COUNCIL**

**Planning and Development Act 2000 (as amended)
Planning and Development Regulations 2001 (as amended)**

Proposed: Convent Road Pedestrian and Cyclist Improvement Scheme, Delgany, Co. Wicklow

Appropriate Assessment (AA) Screening Determination

GENERAL

Wicklow County Council commissioned EGIS Ireland Limited to prepare an Appropriate Assessment (AA) Screening Report regarding the Convent Road Pedestrian and Cyclist Improvement scheme (herein referred to as the 'Proposed Development'). The Proposed Development involves the construction of new and improved pedestrian and cyclist facilities on Convent Road, Delgany, along with public realm and biodiversity improvements.

It is intended to place the plans and particulars for the proposed development on public display in accordance with the requirements of the Part XI of the Planning and Development Act 2000 (as amended) and Part 8 of the Planning and Development Regulations, 2001 (as amended).

LEGISLATIVE CONTEXT

In Ireland, the habitats and/or species which are the reason(s) for designation of an SAC are referred to as 'Qualifying Interests' (QI). In relation to SPAs, the bird species for which a particular site is designated are referred to as 'Special Conservation Interests' (SCI). Under Article 6(3) of the Habitats Directive, any plan or project which is not directly connected with or necessary to the management of a European site but would be likely to have a significant effect on such a site, either individually or in combination with other plans or projects, must be subject to an AA of its implications for the SAC/SPA in view of the European site's Conservation Objectives. In Ireland, the requirements of Article 6(3) are transposed into national law by Part XAB of the Planning and Development Act 2000 (as amended) for planning matters, and by the European Communities (Birds and Natural Habitats) Regulations 2011 in relation to other relevant approvals/consents. Section 177U(1)(4) and (5) provide as follows:

- (1) A screening for appropriate assessment of a draft Land use plan or application for consent for proposed development shall be carried out by the competent authority to assess, in view of best scientific knowledge, if that Land use plan or proposed development, individually or in combination with another plan or project is likely to have a significant effect on the European site.
- (2) The competent authority shall determine that an appropriate assessment of a draft Land use plan or a proposed development, as the case may be, is required if it cannot be excluded, based on objective information, that the draft Land use plan or proposed development, individually or in combination with other plans or projects, will have a significant effect on a European site.

- (3) "The competent authority shall determine that an appropriate assessment of a draft Land use plan or a proposed development is not required if it can be excluded, on the basis of objective information, that the draft Land use plan or proposed development, individually or in combination with other plans or projects, will have a significant effect on a European site.

Section 177T (1)(b) and (2) provides:

(1) In this Part-

(b) A Natura impact statement means a statement, for the purposes of Article 6 of the Habitats Directive of the implications of a proposed development, on its own or in combination with other plans or projects, for one or more than one European site, in view of the conservation objectives of the site or sites.

(2) Without prejudice to the generality of subsection (1), a Natura impact report or a Natura impact statement, as the case may be, shall include a report of a scientific examination of evidence and data, carried out by competent persons to identify and classify any implications for one or more than one European site in view of the conservation objectives of the site or sites.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

The proposed Pedestrian and Cyclist Improvement Scheme will consist of the following:

- Improved footpaths on both sides of the road, typically 1.8m wide.
- A 5m wide two-way carriageway. The carriageway will be a shared space with a speed limit of 20km/hr.
- New loading bay adjacent to commercial properties.
- Four on-street parking spaces, and one disabled parking bay.
- A modal filter at the north end of the scheme at the Convent Court junction, which will prevent through traffic and make Convent Road local access only. A link will be provided for cyclists and pedestrians to allow them to travel in both directions along the full length of Convent Road.
- A mini-roundabout will be provided at the Convent Court junction to serve as a turning head for vehicles.

APPROPRIATE ASSESSMENT SCREENING

EGIS Ireland Ltd were commissioned on behalf of Wicklow County Council and the National Transport Authority (NTA) to prepare an Appropriate Assessment (AA) Screening Report for the proposed Convent Road Pedestrian and Cyclist Improvement scheme (the "Proposed Development") located on Convent Road, Delgany, Co. Wicklow.

The report was prepared by EGIS to inform Screening for Appropriate Assessment to assess whether the proposed development of the Convent Road Pedestrian and Cyclist Improvement scheme, individually or in combination with other plans or projects, and in view of best scientific knowledge and applying the precautionary principle, are likely to have a significant effect on any European site(s).

AA SCREENING CONCLUSION

EGIS Ireland Ltd have concluded the following;

In view of the best scientific knowledge, on the basis of objective information and in light of the conservation objectives of the relevant European sites pertaining to the likely zone of impact described in this report, that the proposed works, individually or in combination with other plans and projects, are not likely to have a significant effect on any of the European sites designated under the Habitats Directive and the Birds Directive.

In line with this conclusion, an Appropriate Assessment is **not required**, and therefore a Stage 2 Natura Impact Statement shall not be prepared in respect of the proposed development.

Based on the AA Screening Report prepared by Consultants EGIS dated 05th November 2025 and for the reasons outlined above, it is recommended that Wicklow County Council accept the Consultant's evaluation that a Stage 2 Appropriate Assessment will not be required for the Convent Road Pedestrian and Cyclist Improvement scheme, Delgany, Co. Wicklow.

Signed: 
Michael Flynn
Senior Engineer
Transportation & Infrastructure Delivery

Date: 23/2/2026

AA SCREENING DETERMINATION

Wicklow County Council, as the competent Authority, having considered the AA Screening Report prepared by EGIS Ireland Ltd makes a determination that, when considered either alone or in combination with other plans or projects, a Stage 2 Appropriate Assessment will not be required for the Convent Road Pedestrian and Cyclist Improvement scheme, Delgany, Co. Wicklow.

Signed: 
Helena Dennehy
Director of Services
Planning, Economic & Rural Development

Date: 24th FEBRUARY 2026

