



REDFORD PARK JUNCTION IMPROVEMENT SCHEME

WICKLOW COUNTY COUNCIL

**PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION OF A SUB-
THRESHOLD DEVELOPMENT TO DETERMINE A
CONCLUSION REGARDING THE NEED TO PREPARE
AN ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT**

April 2022

Wicklow County Council,
County Buildings,
Station Road,
Wicklow,
Co. Wicklow.



Criteria for determining whether a development would or would not be likely to have significant effects on the environment as per the requirements of Article 120 of the Planning and Development Regulations 2001, as amended.

1	PROJECT TITLE	
	Redford Park Junction Improvement Scheme	
2	CHARACTERISTIC OF THE PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT	
	Size and description of Proposed Development	Upgrade the existing signal-controlled Redford Park Junction consisting of improvements for pedestrians and cyclist with the upgrade of footpaths and the inclusion of protected cycle track facilities, as well as an improvement through the upgrade of two existing bus stops in the immediate vicinity of the junction.
	Cumulation with other Proposed Developments	No other developments have been identified in the immediate are that are required to be considered as part of this project.
	Will construction or operation of the Project use natural resources	Services such as power and water will be required during the construction phase. Mobile generators will be used during the construction phase. Construction materials will include paving sets, asphalt, stone fill, pipework, gullies, kerbing, cabling, ducting, traffic signal equipment etc. It is not considered that there will be significant use of these resources as part of the development.
	Will the Project involve the production of waste	Some subsoil, inert and other waste may be generated and will be removed from site to licenced facilities by licenced hauliers. The production of waste will be managed in accordance with the relevant waste legislation.
	Will the Project release pollutants or nuisances	Standard construction related pollutants, emissions and noise will be produced throughout the construction phase. These will be managed/ mitigated as part of the standard construction and environmental management plan.
	Will there be any risk of accidents during construction or operation of the Project which could affect human health or the environment	A "Project Supervisor for Construction Stage" will be appointed to manage safety issues during construction. The site is to be well secured and monitored to ensure that the works do not have significant impact on the general public.

3	LOCATION OF THE PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT	
Existing Land Use	The majority of the proposed development area consists of hard surfaces mostly consisting of roads, footpaths and cycle surfaces with some limited green spaces. There will be no change to land use within the development boundary.	
Will the Project affect the relative abundance of, availability, quality and regenerative capacity of the natural resources in the area and its underground	As the extents of the proposed works in this urban environment are relatively small, significant effects on the relative abundance, quality and regenerative capacity of natural resources in the area are not predicted.	
<p>The absorptive capacity of the natural environment paying particular attention to the following areas:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (i) wetlands, riparian areas, river mouths (ii) coastal zones and the marine environment (iii) mountain and forest areas (iv) nature reserves and parks (v) areas classified or protected by legislation including Natura 2000 areas (vi) areas in which there has already been a failure to meet the environmental quality standards laid down in legislation (vii) densely populated areas (viii) landscapes and sites of historical, cultural or archaeological significance. 	<p>The works associated with this development are generally minor in nature and construction work is frequent throughout the development area.</p> <p>This, along with the fact that the development area is not of significant ecological importance means the absorption capacity of this environment is high, making it less sensitive to works of this kind.</p>	

4 Screening Checklist to determine if an EIA is required based on the characteristic of a project and its environment.			
No.	Questions to be Considered	Yes/No	Is it likely to result in a significant effect? Yes/No/? - Describe Why
1	Will construction, operation or decommissioning of the Project involve actions which will cause physical changes in the locality (topographical, land use, changes to water bodies etc)?	No.	No. This area is already developed and the majority of proposed works will be within the existing road corridor and will not cause physical changes to the surrounding environment.
2	Will construction or operation of the Project use natural resources such as land, water, materials or energy, especially any resources which are non-renewable or in shorty supply?	Yes	No. Services such as power and water will be required during the construction phase. Mobile generators will be used during the construction phase. Construction materials will include paving sets, asphalt, stone fill, pipework, gullies, kerbing, cabling, ducting, traffic signal equipment etc. It is not considered that there will be significant use of these resources as part of the development.
3	Will the Project involve use, storage, transport, handling of production of substances or materials which could be harmful to human health or environment or raise concerns about actual or perceived risks to human health?	Yes	No. Standard construction materials will be used and will not be harmful to human health or the environment. The contractor will ensure that the proposed works are carried out in accordance with the Safety, Health and Welfare at Work (Construction) Regulations. It is envisaged that the risk of accidents having regard to substances or technologies is very low and therefore will not result in significant effects.
4	Will the project produce solid waste during construction or operation or decommissioning?	Yes	No. Some subsoil, inert and other waste may be generated and will be removed from site to licenced facilities by licenced hauliers. The production of waste will be managed in accordance with the relevant waste legislation.
5	Will the project release pollutants or any hazardous, toxic or noxious substances to air or lead to exceeding Ambient Air Quality standards in Directives 2008/50/EC and 2004/107/EC?	Yes	No Construction related dust emissions will be produced throughout the construction phase but these will not be significant. There will also be emissions from construction plant and vehicles will arise during the construction phase but these will be minimal. The will be mitigated as part of the standard construction and environmental management plan.

No.	Questions to be Considered	Yes/No	Is it likely to result in a significant effect? Yes/No/? - Describe Why
6	Will the project cause noise and vibration or release of light, heat energy or electromagnetic radiation?	Yes	No Standard construction related noise will be produced throughout the construction phase. These will be managed as part of the standard construction and environmental management plan.
7	Will the project lead to risks of contamination of land or water from releases of pollutants onto the ground or into surface waters, groundwater, coastal waters or the sea?	Yes	No The extent of the works on land in an urbanised area is relatively small, excavation works are not significant, and dewatering is not required. During excavation works some water will be encountered and this will be allowed to percolate naturally through the existing soils.
8	Will there be any risk of accidents during construction or operation of the project which could affect human health or the environment?	Yes	No A "Project Supervisor for Construction Stage" will be appointed to manage safety issues during construction. The site is to be well secured and monitored to ensure that the works do not have significant impact on the general public.
9	Will the Project result in social changes, for example, in demography, traditional lifestyles, employment?	Yes	No The proposed development will have a positive effect on people living, working and visiting the area as there will be improved facilities for pedestrians and cyclists and an improved public transport.
10	Are there any other factors which should be considered such as consequential development which could lead to environmental effects or the potential for cumulative impacts with other existing or planned activities in the locality?	No	No
11	Is the project located within or close to any areas which are protected under international, EU, or national or local legislation for their ecological, landscape, cultural or other value, which could be affected by the project?	Yes	No An AA Screening report was prepared and that report concluded that there are no direct pathways to the Natura 2000 site (Bray Head SAC).
12	Are there any other areas on or around the location which are important or sensitive for reasons of their ecology e.g. wetlands, watercourses or other waterbodies, the coastal zone, mountains, forests or woodlands, which could be affected by the project?	No	No No additional areas of importance that could be affected by the project

No.	Questions to be Considered	Yes/No	Is it likely to result in a significant effect? Yes/No/? - Describe Why
13	Are there any areas on or around the location which are used by protected, important or sensitive species of fauna or flora e.g. for breeding, nesting, foraging, resting, overwintering, migration, which could be affected by the project?	No	No AA Screening was undertaken for the project and no issues arose in relation to same.
14	Are there any inland, coastal, marine or underground waters on or around the location that could be affected by the project?	No	No
15	Are there any areas or features of high landscape or scenic value on or around the location which could be affected by the project?	No	No The area is already developed, and the proposed works are only to footpaths and streets and will not affect the landscape.
16	Are there any routes or facilities on or around the location which are used by the public for access to recreation or other facilities, which could be affected by the project?	Yes	No A Construction Traffic Management Plan will be implemented for the duration of the construction works in order to minimise any disruption to traffic flow on the road network.
18	Is the project in a location where it is likely to be highly visible to many people?	Yes	No The proposed development is concerned with improvements to the junction, footpaths and cycle lanes and therefore there will be no structures of significant height. The only above ground structures to be installed will be traffic signals and similar furniture which is already present on site.
19	Are there any areas or features of historic or cultural importance on or around the location which could be affected by the project?	Yes	No There is one record of a national monument located in the area but is classed as a "redundant Record" as investigations did not produce anything of archaeological significance.
20	Is the project located in a previously undeveloped area where there will be loss of greenfield land?	No	No No greenfield lands affected.

No.	Questions to be Considered	Yes/No	Is it likely to result in a significant effect? Yes/No/? - Describe Why
21	Are there existing land uses on or around the location e.g. homes, gardens, other private property, industry, commerce, recreation, public open space, community facilities, agriculture, forestry, tourism, mining or quarrying which could be affected by the project?	Yes	No There are businesses, schools and residential dwellings located close to the proposed development boundary, Access to these will be maintained during the construction phase. Significant impacts will not arise.
22	Are there any plans for future land uses on or around the location which could be affected by the project?	No	No There are no plans for future land uses
23	Are there any areas on or around the location which are densely populated or built-up, which could be affected by the project?	No	No There are businesses, schools and residential dwellings located close to the proposed development boundary, Access to these will be maintained during the construction phase. Significant impacts will not arise.
24	Are there any areas on or around the location which are occupied by sensitive land uses e.g. hospitals, schools, places of worship, community facilities, which could be affected by the project?	Yes	No There are a number of schools in close proximity to the proposed development. The proposed development is located in an already busy environment. Any disturbance caused by the proposed development will be short term and temporary and will not have any long term significant effects
25	Are there any areas on or around the location which contain important, high quality or scarce resources e.g. groundwater, surface waters, forestry, agriculture, fisheries, tourism, minerals, which could be affected by the project?	No	No There are no high quality or scarce resources that could be affected by this project.
26	Are there any areas on or around the location which are already subject to pollution or environmental damage e.g. where existing legal environmental standards are exceeded, which could be affected by the project?	No	No There are no areas around the proposed development which are already subject to pollution or environmental damage.
27	Is the project location susceptible to earthquakes, subsidence, landslides, erosion, flooding or extreme or adverse climatic conditions e.g. temperature inversions, fogs, severe winds, which could cause the project to present environmental problems?	No	No The project location is not susceptible to earthquakes, subsidence, landslides, erosion, flooding or extreme or adverse climatic conditions.

Conclusion:

Having carried out a preliminary examination of the nature, size and location of the proposed development as outlined above, it has been determined that there is no real likelihood of significant effects on the environment arising from the proposed development and it is concluded that an EIA is not required.

Prepared By:

Signature:



Name:

Declan O'Brien

Position:

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Date:

12th April 2022.