

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT SCREENING REPORT

AT

NEWCASTLE WEST GARDA STATION

CHURCHTOWN ROAD

NEWCASTLE WEST

CO. LIMERICK



Prepared for



OPW

Oifig na
nOibreacha Poiblí
Office of Public Works

Prepared by

Traynor Environmental Ltd

Reference Number

22.465 TE

Date of Issue

07th September 2022



Belturbet Business Park,

Creeny.

Belturbet,

Co Cavan

T: + 353 49 9522236

E: nevin@traynorenv.com

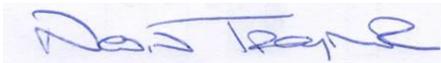
www.traynorenvironmental.ie

Client: The Office of Public Works (OPW)

Traynor Env Ref: 22.465 TE

Status: Final

Date: 07th September 2022

Report Title:	Screening for EIAR
Doc Reference:	22.465 TE
Client:	The Office of Public Works (OPW)
Authorised By:	 Nevin Traynor BSc. Env, H. Dip I.T, Cert SHWW, EPA/FAS Cert. Environmental Consultant

Rev No	Status	Date	Writer	Reviewer
1.0	Draft	06 th September 2022	Zita McCann	Nevin Traynor
2.0	Final	07 th September 2022	Zita McCann	Nevin Traynor

This report refers, within the limitations stated, to the condition of the site at the time of the report. No warranty is given as to the possibility of future changes in the condition of the site. The report as presented is based on the information sources as detailed in this report, and hence maybe subject to review in the future if more information is obtained or scientific understanding changes.

CONTENTS		PAGE
1.0	INTRODUCTION	4
1.1	Project Brief and Purpose of the Report	4
1.2	Proposed Development	4
2.0	EIA SCREENING PROCESS	6
2.1	Introduction	6
2.2	Legislative requirements	6
2.3	Methodology	6
2.4	Mandatory EIAR Review	8
2.5	Preliminary Examination	11
2.6	Legislative Requirements	12
3.0	PROJECT ASSESSMENT	13
4.0	EU LEGISLATION CONSIDERED	20
5.0	CONCLUSION	23

1.0 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Project Brief and Purpose of the Report

This report has been prepared for the Office of Public Works and provides for a Screening for Environmental Impact Assessment. This EIAR Report accompanies documents produced for the proposed development of the new Newcastle West District Garda Headquarters at Churchtown Road, Newcastle West, Co. Limerick. The proposal falls under Section 181 of the Planning and Development Act 2000 (as amended) and the regulations under Part 9 of the Planning and Development Regulations 2001 (as amended).

1.2 Proposed Development

The project will consist of the demolition of the existing building and the construction of a new 3 storey building of 1,151m² on a site of circa 0.1651 ha. The proposed works will include the demolition of the existing single storey building of 311m² and adjacent outbuildings and the construction of a new 3 storey building with telecommunications mast on the roof and single storey annex to the street; provision of 17 no. carparking spaces, bicycle and motorcycle parking; landscaping to side and rear boundaries; an ancillary building of 64m² to the rear including an ESB substation, backup generator, bin store, fuel store and equipment store. External works will comprise two vehicular access gates set back from the front elevation; new perimeter walls to the side and rear boundaries; provision of CCTV cameras; new foul drainage connections; surface water drainage and all ancillary site services and works."

Figure 1: Site Location Map

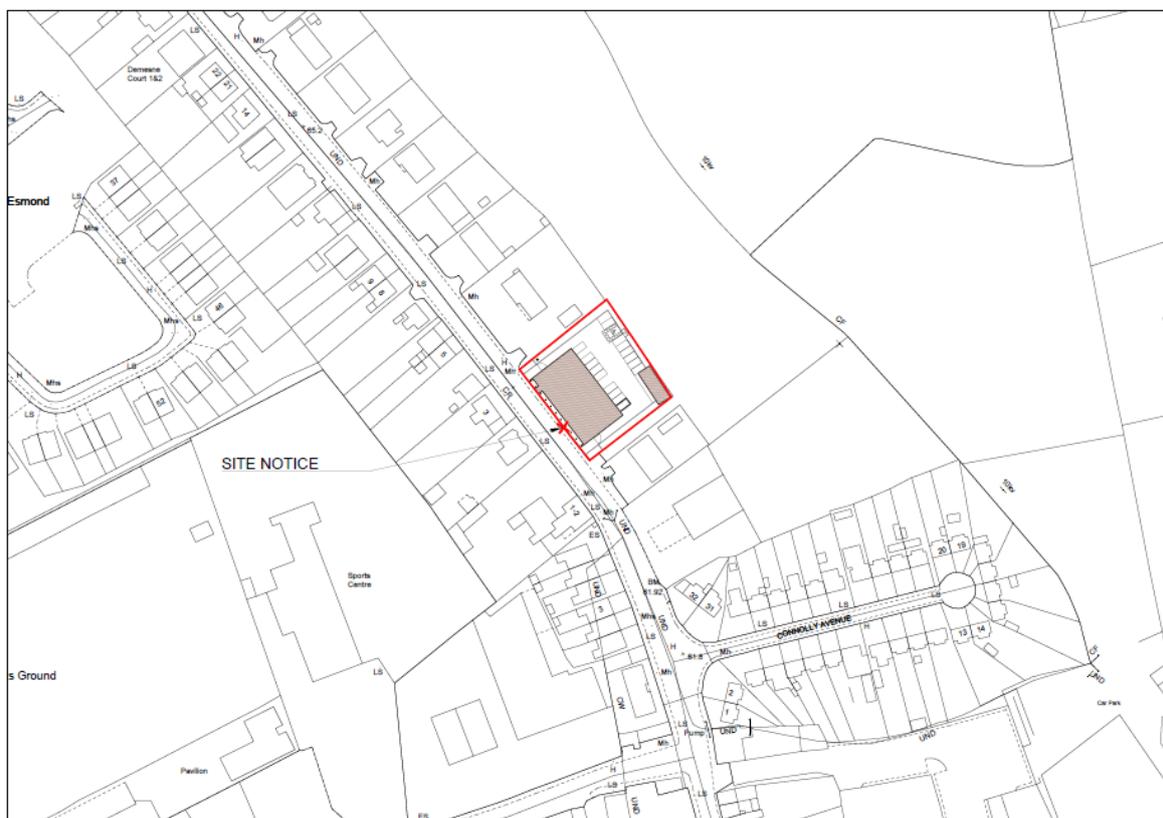
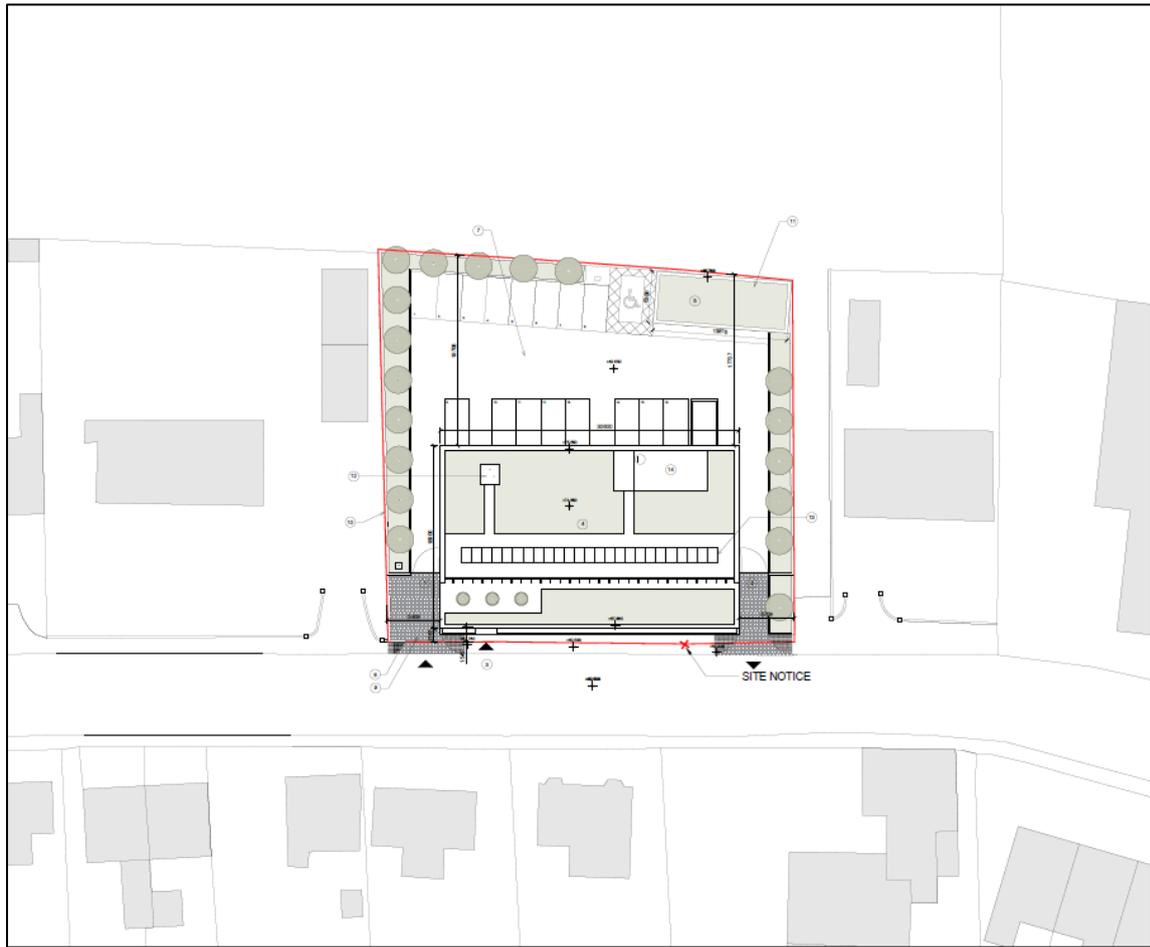


Figure 2 – Extract from Site Layout Plan (as prepared by Cotter & Naessens Architects)



2.0 The Screening Process

2.1 Introduction

This section of the report sets out the legislative basis for 'Screening' so as to decide whether or not a proposed development would require the preparation of an Environmental Impact Assessment Report (EIAR).

2.2 Legislative Requirements

EIA requirements derive from Council Directive 85/337/EEC (as amended by Directives 97/11/EC, 2003/35/EC, and 2009/31/EC) and as codified and replaced by Directive 2011/92/EU of the European Parliament and the Council on the assessment of the effects of certain public and private projects on the environment (and as amended in turn by Directive 2014/52/EU). Directive 2014/52/EU is transposed into Irish law under the European Union (Planning and Development) (Environmental Impact Assessment) Regulations 2018.

Projects can be placed into one of the following categories:

- those that exceed the thresholds laid down and therefore have a mandatory requirement to prepare an EIS; and
- those projects that are sub-threshold and must be assessed on a case-by-case basis to determine whether or not they are likely to have significant effects on the environment.
- projects that fall under Annex II (13) (a) of the Directive for Any change or extension of projects listed in Annex I or Annex II, already authorised, executed in the process of being executed.

2.3 Methodology

Screening is the process of deciding whether a development requires an EIAR. The particulars of the assessment procedure are adopted through European Directives and correlate to the provisions set out in the Planning and Development Act 2001 (as amended). An EIA is required to be carried out as part of an application whereby the proposed development exceeds the limitations of Schedule 5 of the Planning and Development Regulations 2001 (as amended). The methodology for screening generally considers the following documents:

- Guidelines on the Information to be Contained in Environmental Impact Assessment Reports May 2022.
- Interpretation of definitions of project categories of annex I and II of the EIA Directive (European Commission 2015).
- Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA), Guidance for Consent Authorities regarding Sub-threshold Development (Environmental Protection Agency, 2003).
- Guidelines on the Information to be Contained in Environmental Impact Statements; and
- Guidelines on EIA Screening (The European Commission, June 2017).

The '*Guidelines on the Information to be Contained in Environmental Impact Assessment Reports*' (Environmental Protection Agency, May 2022) provide a flow diagram of the screening process which is provided in the figure below.

2.4 Mandatory EIAR Review

The requirement for Environmental Impact Assessment is mandatory on specified project types which have a high likelihood of impacting on the receiving environment. These projects are listed in detail in the EIA Directive, Annex I, (85/337/EU – amended 97/11/EC, 2003/35/EC, 2009/31/EC, EC, 2014/52/EU), as well as in the Planning and Development Regulations, Schedule 5, Part 1 – Development for the purposes of Part 10. The relevant class of projects referred to in article 4(1), have been provided in the table below. The proposed development does not fall within these project types.

Table 1 Projects Referred to in Article 4(1)

Projects referred to in article 4(1)	
1	Crude-oil refineries (excluding undertakings manufacturing only lubricants from crude oil) and installations for the gasification and liquefaction of 500 tonnes or more of coal or bituminous shale per day.
2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) Thermal power stations and other combustion installations with a heat output of 300 megawatts or more. (b) Nuclear power stations and other nuclear reactors including the dismantling or decommissioning of such power stations or reactors
3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) Installations for the reprocessing of irradiated nuclear fuel. (b) Installations designed: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1. for the production or enrichment of nuclear fuel. 2. for the processing of irradiated nuclear fuel or high-level radioactive waste. 3. for the final disposal of irradiated nuclear fuel. 4. solely for the final disposal of radioactive waste. 5. solely for the storage (planned for more than 10 years) of irradiated nuclear fuels or radioactive waste in a different site than the production site.
4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) Integrated works for the initial smelting of cast iron and steel. (b) Installations for the production of non-ferrous crude metals from ore, concentrates or secondary raw materials by metallurgical, chemical, or electrolytic processes.
5	Installations for the extraction of asbestos and for the processing and transformation of asbestos and products containing asbestos: for asbestos-cement products, with an annual production of more than 20000 tonnes of finished products, for friction material, with an annual production of more than 50 tonnes of finished products, and for other uses of asbestos, utilisation of more than 200 tonnes per year.
6	<p>Integrated chemical installations, i.e., those installations for the manufacture on an industrial scale of substances using chemical conversion processes, in which several units are juxtaposed and are functionally linked to one another, and which are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) for the production of basic organic chemicals. (b) for the production of basic inorganic chemicals. (c) for the production of phosphorous-, nitrogen- or potassium-based fertilisers (simple or compound fertilisers). (d) for the production of basic plant health products and of biocides. (e) for the production of basic pharmaceutical products using a chemical or biological process.

	(f) for the production of explosives.
7	<p>(a) Construction of lines for long-distance railway traffic and of airports¹² 2100 m or more.</p> <p>(b) Construction of motorways and express roads¹³</p> <p>(c) Construction of a new road of four or more lanes, or realignment and/or widening of an existing road of two lanes or less so as to provide four or more lanes, where such new road or realigned and/or widened section of road would be 10 km or more in a continuous length.</p>
8	<p>(a) Inland waterways and ports for inland-waterway traffic which permit the passage of vessels of over 1350 tonnes;¹⁴</p> <p>(b) Trading ports, piers for loading and unloading connected to land and outside ports (excluding ferry piers) which can take vessels of over 1350 tonnes.</p>
9	Waste disposal installations for the incineration, chemical treatment as defined in <u>Annex I to Directive 2008/98/EC</u> of the European Parliament and of the Council of 19 November 2008 on waste
10	Waste disposal installations for the incineration or chemical treatment as defined in <u>Annex I to Directive 2008/98/EC</u> under heading D9 of non-hazardous waste with a capacity exceeding 100 tonnes per day.
11	Groundwater abstraction or artificial groundwater recharge schemes where the annual volume of water abstracted or recharged is equivalent to or exceeds 10 million cubic metres.
12	<p>(a) Works for the transfer of water resources between river basins where that transfer aims at preventing possible shortages of water and where the amount of water transferred exceeds 100 million cubic metres/year.</p> <p>(b) In all other cases, works for the transfer of water resources between river basins where the multi-annual average flow of the basin of abstraction exceeds 2000 million cubic metres/year and where the amount of water transferred exceeds 5 % of that flow.</p> <p>In both cases transfers of piped drinking water are excluded.</p>
13	Waste water treatment plants with a capacity exceeding 150000 population equivalent as defined in point 6 of <u>Article 2</u> of Council <u>Directive 91/271/EEC</u> of 21 May 1991 concerning urban waste-water treatment ¹⁵
14	Extraction of petroleum and natural gas for commercial purposes where the amount extracted exceeds 500 tonnes/day in the case of petroleum and 500000 cubic metres/day in the case of gas.
15	Dams and other installations designed for the holding back or permanent storage of water, where a new or additional amount of water held back or stored exceeds 10 million cubic metres.
16	<p>Pipelines with a diameter of more than 800 mm and a length of more than 40 km:</p> <p>(a) for the transport of gas, oil, chemicals;¹⁶</p> <p>(b) for the transport of carbon dioxide (CO₂) streams for the purposes of geological storage, including associated booster stations.</p>
17	<p>Installations for the intensive rearing of poultry or pigs with more than:</p> <p>(a) 85000 places for broilers, 60000 places for hens.</p> <p>(b) 3000 places for production pigs (over 30 kg); or</p> <p>(c) 900 places for sows.</p>

18	Industrial plants for the production of: (a) pulp from timber or similar fibrous materials. (b) paper and board with a production capacity exceeding 200 tonnes per day.
19	Quarries and open-cast mining where the surface of the site exceeds 25 hectares, or peat extraction, where the surface of the site exceeds 150 hectares.
20	Construction of overhead electrical power lines with a voltage of 220 kV or more and a length of more than 15 km.
21	Installations for storage of petroleum, petrochemical, or chemical products with a capacity of 200000 tonnes or more.
22	Storage sites pursuant to <u>Directive 2009/31/EC</u> of the European Parliament and of the Council of 23 April 2009 on the geological storage of carbon dioxide ⁽⁴⁾
23	Installations for the capture of CO ₂ streams for the purposes of geological storage pursuant to <u>Directive 2009/31/EC</u> from installations covered by this Annex, or where the total yearly capture of CO ₂ is 1,5 megatonnes or more.
24	Any change to or extension of <u>projects</u> listed in this Annex where such a change or extension in itself meets the thresholds, if any, set out in this Annex.

In addition, projects should be further considered under the relevant list of activities which warrant discretionary consideration for the requirement of an EIA. Subject to Article 2(4), for the projects listed in Annex II of the Directive¹.

Schedule 5, Part 2 of the Planning and Development Regulations 2001 as amended set out and define Development for the purposes of Part 10. Sub threshold development means development of a type set out in Part 2 of Schedule 5 which does not equal or exceed or, as the case may be, a quantity, area or other limit specified in that Schedule in respect of the relevant class of development.

Table 2 Schedule 5, Part 2 - Class of Development

Schedule 5, Part 2 - Class of Development	
1	Agriculture, Silviculture and Aquaculture
2	Extractive Industry
3	Energy Industry
4	Production and processing of metals
5	Mineral Industry
6	Chemical Industry (development not included in Part 1 of this Schedule)
7	Food Industry
8	Textile, leather, wood, and paper industries
9	Rubber Industry
10	Infrastructure projects
11	Other projects
12	<i>Tourism and leisure</i>
13	<i>Changes, extensions, development, and testing</i>
14	<i>Demolition</i>
15	<i>Any other project</i>

Paragraph 14 'Works of Demolition' states that,

Works of demolition carried out in order to facilitate a project listed in Part 1 or Part 2 of this Schedule where such works would be likely to have significant effects on the environment, having regard to the criteria set out in Schedule 7.

The proposed development comprises demolition of the existing building and the construction of a new 3 storey building of 1,151m² on a site of circa 0.1651 ha. The proposed works will include the demolition of the existing single storey building of 311m² and adjacent outbuildings and the construction of a new 3 storey building with telecommunications mast on the roof and single storey annex to the street; provision of 17 no. carparking spaces, bicycle and motorcycle parking; landscaping to side and rear boundaries; an ancillary building of 64m² to the rear including an ESB substation, backup generator, bin store, fuel store and equipment store.

Paragraph 15 also provides that,

Any project listed in this Part which does not exceed a quantity, area or other limit specified in this Part in respect of the relevant class of development, but which would be likely to have significant effects on the environment, having regard to the criteria set out in Schedule 7.

2.5 Preliminary Examination

For all sub-threshold developments listed in Schedule 5 Part 2, where no EIAR is submitted or EIA determination requested, a screening determination is required to be undertaken by the competent authority (in this case, the Office of Public Works) unless, on preliminary examination it can be concluded that there is no real likelihood of significant effects on the environment.

2.6 Legislative Requirements

Where a proposed development is 'sub threshold' in nature, the competent authority (in this case, the Office of Public Works) shall decide whether the proposed development would be likely to have significant effects on the environment. The key issue, in the context of the possible need for EIA of sub-threshold development, is whether or not such development is likely to have significant effects on the environment.

In accordance with the Planning and Development Regulations 2001 (as amended) where a State authority proposes to carry out a subthreshold development prescribed under section 181 of the Act, the authority shall carry out a preliminary examination of, at the least, the nature, size, or location of the development.

The purpose of this preliminary screening exercise is to conclude either that:

1. there is no real likelihood of significant effects on the environment arising from the proposed development, it shall conclude that an EIA is not required.

2. there is significant and realistic doubt in regard to the likelihood of significant effects on the environment arising from the development, it shall prepare, or cause to be prepared, the information specified in Schedule 7A for the purposes of a screening determination.

or

3. there is a real likelihood of significant effects on the environment arising from the proposed development, it shall—
(i) conclude that the development would be likely to have such effects, and (ii) prepare, or cause to be prepared, an EIAR in respect of the development.

3.0 Project Assessment

For all sub-threshold developments listed in Schedule 5 Part 2, where no EIAR is submitted or EIA determination requested, a screening determination is required to be undertaken by the competent authority unless, on preliminary examination it can be concluded that there is no real likelihood of significant effects on the environment.

A preliminary examination is undertaken, based on professional expertise and experience, and having regard to the 'Source – Pathway – Target' model, where appropriate. The examination should have regard to the criteria set out in Schedule 7 to the 2001 Regulations.

As assessed in section 2.4 Mandatory EIAR Review, this project is not subject to mandatory EIA. If mandatory assessment is not required, it should nevertheless be considered whether it is likely to have significant effects on the environment, and therefore require an EIA.

The criteria contained within Annex III, (i.e., the criteria that must be considered when making screening decisions on a case-by-case basis), as transposed in Irish legislation, for assessing sub-threshold development are grouped under three headings (i) Characteristics of Proposed Development, (ii) Location of Proposed Development and (iii) Characteristics of Potential Impacts.

Competent/consenting authorities must have regard to these criteria in forming an opinion as to whether or not a sub-threshold development is likely to have significant effects on the environment by virtue inter alia of its nature, size or location and should be subject to EIA. The key issue is: 'are the likely effects 'significant' in the context of these criteria'? An assessment pertinent to Schedule 7 of the Regulations is set out as follows:

Table 3 Characteristics of the Proposed Development

Characteristics of the Proposed Development	Assessment
(a) the size and design of the whole of the proposed development,	<p>The project consists of the demolition of the existing building and the construction of a new 3 storey building of 1,151m² on a site of circa 0.1651 ha. The proposed works will include the demolition of the existing single storey building of 311m² and adjacent outbuildings and the construction of a new 3 storey building with telecommunications mast on the roof and single storey annex to the street; provision of 17 no. carparking spaces, bicycle and motorcycle parking; landscaping to side and rear boundaries; an ancillary building of 64m² to the rear including an ESB substation, backup generator, bin store, fuel store and equipment store. External works will comprise two vehicular access gates set back from the front elevation; new perimeter walls to the side and rear boundaries; provision of CCTV cameras; new foul drainage connections; surface water drainage and all ancillary site services and works."</p> <p>It is considered that the nature, scale, use and location of the intended development are all compatible with the general layout of the station as it exists.</p>

Characteristics of the Proposed Development	Assessment
<p>b) cumulation with other existing development and/or development the subject of a consent for proposed development for the purposes of section 172(1A) (b) of the Act and/or development the subject of any development consent for the purposes of the Environmental Impact Assessment Directive by or under any other enactment,</p>	<p>In consideration of other adjacent proposed developments, and as per the best information available on Myplan.ie and the Council's online planning register the proposed works are not considered significant.</p>
<p>(c) the nature of any associated demolition works,</p>	<p>The proposed development comprises of the demolition of the existing single storey building of 311m² and adjacent outbuildings. The works are to be contained within the site boundary and are not considered to have any likely significant effects to the environment.</p>
<p>d) the use of natural resources, in particular land, soil, water and biodiversity,</p>	<p>It is anticipated that throughout the construction/demolition and operation of the scheme the development would not result in the use of large amounts of natural resources greater than that associated with comparable developments or to the extent that would have a significant impact on the environment.</p>
<p>e) the production of waste,</p>	<p>There will be an increase in waste in the form of construction/demolition waste, during the Construction/demolition Phase of the Proposed Development. However, this waste will be collected by appropriately authorised waste collection contractors and will be disposed of using suitably authorised waste disposal or materials recovery facilities. Due to the use of authorised waste collection and disposal facilities, it is not predicted that the production of waste will cause any significant effects on the environment. A RWMP has been prepared for the Proposed Development. The Construction/demolition phase will be carried out in accordance with industry best practice, as per building and environmental regulations. It is anticipated that throughout the construction/demolition and operation of the scheme the development would not result in the production of waste greater than that associated with comparable developments or to the extent that would have a significant impact on the environment.</p>
<p>f) pollution and nuisances,</p>	<p>The Construction/Demolition Phases will give rise to temporary nuisances the most significant of which will be noise and dust. However, it is not predicted that these impacts will be significant, as they will be intermittent and temporary. Adequate control measures will be implemented for the duration of the Proposed Development as outlined within the Preliminary CEMP.</p>

	It is anticipated that throughout the construction and operation of the scheme the development would not result in pollution and nuisances greater than that associated with comparable developments or to the extent that would have a significant impact on the environment.
g) the risk of major accidents, and/or disasters which are relevant to the project concerned, including those caused by climate change, in accordance with scientific knowledge, and	As described above, the construction/demolition phase will be carried out in accordance with industry best practice, as per building and environmental regulations.
h) the risks to human health	There are no foreseen risks to human health. The works are to be managed by a qualified contractor and the construction phase will be carried out in accordance with industry best practice, as per building and environmental regulations.

Table 4 Location of the Proposed Development

Location of the Proposed Development	Assessment
a) the existing and approved land use,	The subject site and structure are that of an existing Garda Station on land zoned for development. The site is located on Churchtown Road, a low-density suburban area on the outskirts of Newcastle West Town, with one and two storey individual dwelling lining both sides of the road. The adjoining sites (to the east and west) are occupied by bungalows the site to the North is an open field. The area is zoned Existing Residential in the Newcastle West Local Area Plan 2014-2020 (extended to 2024). The site is relatively flat and is 1571m ² (0.37A) in area.
b) the relative abundance, availability, quality, and regenerative capacity of natural resources (including soil, land, water, and biodiversity) in the area and its underground	Having regard to the receiving environment's character the proposed development will not significantly impact on the integrity of any main habitats (including soil, land, water, and biodiversity). There are three Natura 2000 sites within 15km of the proposed development. This closest site is the Stack's to Mullaghareirk Mountains, West Limerick Hills and Mount Eagle SPA and this is 4.2km west of the site. In this instance, having regards to the lack of hydrological connectivity, this distance is sufficient to ensure that no impacts will arise on this Natura 2000 site or those at further distances during the construction or operation of the proposed development. Existing storm runoff from the site of the proposed new Garda Station currently discharges into an existing storm manhole MH14 located to the

	<p>southeast of the site. It is proposed that a new local Stormwater network be constructed on this part of the site to collect all rainwater from the newly completed Garda Station along with all associated green areas and hard landscaping areas. The collected rainwater will then flow, via gravity, into a new SuDS system, namely a proposed Attenuation with infiltration tank. This will reduce the Stormwater flow from the site which currently enters the existing local authority combined sewer to greenfield equivalent levels.</p> <p>All Stormwater from the hard landscaping areas where vehicles will pass over will be gathered and will be treated by a Hydrocarbon Interceptor prior to discharging into the new attenuation with infiltration system (which is to be tested to BRE Digest 365 standard) located on site. A Flow control device will be included in the system to limit the discharge into the public sewer to that of equivalent greenfield run-off levels.</p> <p>The new Stormwater network will discharge via gravity into the existing sewer manhole (MH14) located to the side of the proposed Garda station. This, in turn, will be conveyed to the public combined sewer on the road via an existing section of 150mm uPVC pipework.</p> <p>These works are considered not likely to have a significant effect on the environment.</p>
<p>c) the absorption capacity of the natural environment, paying particular attention to the following areas:</p> <p>(i) wetlands, riparian areas, river mouths.</p> <p>(ii) coastal zones and the marine environment.</p> <p>(iii) mountain and forest areas.</p> <p>(iv) nature reserves and parks.</p> <p>(v) areas classified or protected under legislation, including Natura 2000 areas designated pursuant to the Habitats Directive and the Birds Directive and.</p>	<p>it is considered that the development will not be likely lead to significant effects on the absorption capacity of same as the existing surface water management provisions will be improved with the installation of an oil water separator and design in accordance with sUDS.</p> <p>Existing storm runoff from the site of the proposed new Garda Station currently discharges into an existing storm manhole MH14 located to the southeast of the site. It is proposed that a new local Stormwater network be constructed on this part of the site to collect all rainwater from the newly completed Garda Station along with all associated green areas and hard landscaping areas. The collected rainwater will then flow, via gravity, into a new SuDS system, namely a proposed Attenuation with infiltration tank. This will reduce the Stormwater flow from the site which currently enters the existing local authority combined sewer to greenfield equivalent levels.</p> <p>All Stormwater from the hard landscaping areas where vehicles will pass over will be gathered and will be treated by a Hydrocarbon Interceptor prior to discharging into the new attenuation with infiltration system (which is to be tested to BRE Digest 365 standard) located on site. A Flow control device will be included in the system to limit the discharge into the public sewer to that of equivalent greenfield run-off levels.</p>

<p>(vi) areas in which there has already been a failure to meet the environmental quality standards laid down in legislation of the European Union and relevant to the project, or in which it is considered that there is such a failure.</p> <p>(vii) densely populated areas.</p> <p>(viii) landscapes and sites of historical, cultural, or archaeological significance.</p>	<p>The new Stormwater network will discharge via gravity into the existing sewer manhole (MH14) located to the side of the proposed Garda station. This, in turn, will be conveyed to the public combined sewer on the road via an existing section of 150mm uPVC pipework.</p> <p>The soil beneath the majority of the Site is mapped as "Geographical Survey Ireland (GSI) indicates soil permeability classification as Made Ground" (GSI, 2022). The quaternary sediments beneath the majority of the Site are mapped as Urban (GSI, 2022).</p> <p>The application site lies within the Shannon Estuary South Hydrometric Area (24) and Catchment (24), the Deel (Newcastle West) Sub-Catchment (20) and the Arra Sub-Basin (010). There are no drains or streams within or immediately adjacent to the application site. The closest watercourse to the application site is the Arra River, which is 433m south of the application site. This river flows through Newcastle West in a south-easterly direction, until its confluence with the river Deel (2.4km south-east of the application site). The river Deel is a tributary of the river Shannon and it flows north and into the southern section of the Shannon Estuary near Askeaton, 17km north of the application site. The EPA have defined the ecological status of the Arra River and its tributaries as varying between poor and moderate status upstream and downstream of Newcastle West. The river Deel at its confluence with the Arra River is also classed as moderate status. Under the requirements of the Water Framework Directive, this is unsatisfactory, and all waterbodies must achieve good ecological status.</p> <p>There are no mountainous or forested areas directly bounding the Proposed Development. The Construction, Demolition or Operational Phase of the Proposed Development will have no impact on mountains or forested areas.</p> <p>There are no archaeological significance and has no buildings/structures on or nearby of architectural / historical significance – as verified by www.archaeology.ie. The Construction, Demolition or Operational Phase of the Proposed Development will have no impact on architectural / historical significance.</p>
--	---

Table 5 Types and Characteristics of Potential Impacts

Types and characteristics of potential impacts	Assessment
a) the magnitude and spatial extent of the impact	It is anticipated that the geographical extent and population likely to be affected are very small.
b) the nature of the impact,	The nature of impact will be related to construction activity contained on site. The impacts of the development are not considered to be any greater than that associated with typical developments.
c) the transboundary nature of the impact,	There are no transboundary physical impacts envisaged for this project.
d) the intensity and complexity of the impact,	<p>During construction, temporary and intermittent impacts are predicted due to potential noise and dust, however these impacts will be localised and last only for the duration of this phase. The control and mitigation measures outlined in the Preliminary CEMP will ensure that there will be no pollution or nuisances from the Construction/demolition Phase of Proposed Development beyond the Site boundary.</p> <p>There are no aspects to the Proposed Development which are considered to be of unusual magnitude or complexity, and any potential impacts are considered to be consistent with projects of this scale.</p>
e) the probability of the impact,	No significant environmental impacts are predicted for the Proposed Development. The Preliminary CEMP will ensure that all applicable environmental health and safety regulations are complied with throughout the Construction/demolition Phase thereby ensuring that this phase will not result in significant effects on human health or the environment.
f) the expected onset, duration, frequency, and reversibility of the impact,	The majority of impacts during the development will be associated with the construction stage. These impacts are likely to be temporary and 'once-off.'
g) the cumulation of the impact with the impact of other existing and/or development the subject of a consent for proposed development for the purposes of section 172(1A) (b) of the Act and/or development the subject of any development consent for the purposes of the Environmental Impact Assessment Directive by or under any other enactment, and	The proposed development does not give rise to cumulation with other development for the purposes of the Planning and development Act 2000, as amended.
h) the possibility of effectively reducing the impact.	The majority of impacts during the development will be associated with the construction/demolition stage. These impacts are likely to be temporary and 'once-off.'

4.0 EU LEGISLATION CONSIDERED DURING THE EIAR SCREENING

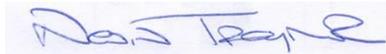
EU Legislation	Nature of the assessment completed	Conclusion of the assessment
Directive 92/43/EEC, The Habitats Directive	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Appropriate Assessment Screening Report • Outline Construction Environmental Management Plan 	No significant impact once proposed control measures are implemented.
Directive 2000/60/EC, EU Water Framework Directive	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Preliminary Construction Environmental Management Plan 	No significant impact once proposed control measures are implemented.
Directive 2001/42/EC on the assessment of the effects of certain plans and programmes on the environment (SEA Directive)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Limerick County Development Plan 2022 – 2028 • Environmental Impact Assessment Screening Report 	No significant impact once proposed control measures are implemented.
Directive 2002/49/EC on the assessment and management of environmental noise	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Preliminary Construction Environmental Management Plan 	No significant impact once proposed control measures are implemented.
Directive 2008/50/EC on ambient air quality and cleaner air for Europe	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Preliminary Construction Environmental Management Plan 	No significant impact once proposed control measures are implemented.
Directive 2007/60/EC on the assessment and management of flood risks	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Planning Report 	No significant impact once proposed control measures are implemented.

Other relevant provision of EU law	Nature of the assessment completed	Conclusion of the assessment
Birds Directive (79/409/EEC), Bern and Bonn Convention & Ramsar Convention.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Appropriate Assessment Screening Report 	No significant impact once proposed control measures are implemented.
Directive 2006/21/EC on the management of waste from extractive industries	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Not relevant to the Proposed Development. 	
Directive (EU) 2018/850 on the landfill of waste	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Resource Waste Management Plan • Preliminary Construction Environmental Management Plan 	No significant impact once proposed control measures are implemented.
Directive 2008/98/EC on waste and repealing certain Directives as amended by Directive 2018/851/EU	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Resource Waste Management Plan • Preliminary Construction Environmental Management Plan 	No significant impact once proposed control measures are implemented.
Directive 2010/75/EU on industrial emissions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Not relevant to the Proposed Development. 	N/A
Regulation (EC) No 166/2006 concerning the establishment of a European Pollutant Release and Transfer Register	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Not relevant to the Proposed Development. 	N/A
Directive 2000/14/EC on the approximation of the laws of the Member States relating to the noise emission in the environment by equipment for use outdoors	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Preliminary Construction Environmental Management Plan 	No significant impact once proposed control measures are implemented.
Directive 2012/27/EU on energy efficiency	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Planning Report 	Positive Impact
Directive 2003/87/EC establishing a system for greenhouse gas emission allowance trading within the EU	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Not relevant to the Proposed Development 	N/A

Other relevant provision of EU law	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Nature of the assessment completed 	Conclusion of the assessment
Directive (EU) 2018/2001 on the promotion of the use of energy from renewable sources	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Planning Report 	Positive Impact
Regulation (EU) No 517/2014 on fluorinated greenhouse gases	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Not relevant to the Proposed Development 	N/A
Directive 2012/18/EU on the control of major-accident hazards involving dangerous substances, amending and subsequently repealing Council Directive 96/82/EC	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Not relevant to the Proposed Development 	N/A

5.0 CONCLUSION

Based on the assessment carried out in the appropriate sections of this Screening Report, it can be concluded that the Proposed Development will not give rise to significant environmental change by virtue of its characteristics, location, operational activities, or the nature of the impacts during the Construction/Demolition and Operational Phases and as such an EIAR is not required.



Nevin Traynor, BSc Env, HDIP IT.

For Traynor Environmental Ltd

07th September 2022