

Appropriate Assessment Screening Determination

Part 8 Reference

P8/20/011

Project Description

This proposed project comprises the construction of a helicopter landing pad. The site proposed for construction of the helipad (the application site) is an east facing section of land on a hillside at Bellavaun on Inishturk. The site is located just to the east of the main public road on the island and directly opposite the island community centre. Total area of the site 1.2ha. The terrain within the application site comprises grass pasture and bedrock outcrops.

The helipad will have a total diameter of 56.6m and an area of circa 2,515m². The helipad will be concentrically divided into three sections as follows:

- A 5 metre wide Safety Area on western side of the helipad periphery.
- A Final Approach and Take-off area comprising a hard standing which will be 23.5m wide and surface dressed with chippings
- A Touchdown and Lift-off area in the centre of the helipad comprising a circular concrete reinforced pad with a minimum diameter of 22.5m. Ground lighting is to be included within the concrete pad to assist landing and take off

Appropriate Assessment

In accordance with Article 6(3) of the Habitats Directive, the proposed development must therefore be screened for the need to undertake an Appropriate Assessment and a full Appropriate Assessment undertaken should the screening show that significant effects are likely on designated site/s or where there is uncertainty regarding the potential for, or significance of, impacts on the designated site/s.

Appropriate Assessment Screening Determination (Stage 1):

Having regard to the Appropriate Assessment Screening Report carried out for the project for which this Part 8 application relates and to the information on the Part 8 application file, which is considered accurate in order to issue a screening determination.

Mayo County Council considered that the proposed development, individually and/or in combination with other plans or projects would not be likely to have a significant effect on any European site, in view of the site's conservation objectives, and a Stage 2 Appropriate Assessment (and preparation of a NIS) is not therefore required.



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