

N60 Breaffy Active Travel and Safety Measure Scheme

Appropriate Assessment Screening Report

August 2022



Client:
Mayo County Council
Áras an Chontae
The Mall
Castlebar
Co. Mayo

N60 Breaffy Active Travel and Safety Measure Scheme

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1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background

Roughan & O'Donovan (ROD) was appointed Mayo County Council ("the Applicant") to prepare an Appropriate Assessment (AA) Screening Report in respect of the proposed N60 Breaffy Active Travel and Safety Measures Scheme ("the proposed development") in Monkstown, Co. Dublin.

The AA Screening Report is intended to determine whether or not the proposed development, either individually or in combination with other plans or projects, is likely to have a significant effect on areas designated as being of European importance for nature conservation ("European sites"), thereby enabling Mayo County Council, as the competent authority in this case, to fulfil its obligations under Article 6(3) of Council Directive 92/43/EEC of 21 May 1992 on the conservation of natural habitats and of wild fauna and flora ("the Habitats Directive").

This document comprises the AA Screening Report in respect of the proposed development and was prepared by ROD on behalf of the Applicant and in accordance with the requirements of the Habitats Directive, as transposed into Irish law by Part XAB of the Planning and Development Act, 2000 (as amended) ("the Planning and Development Act"). The aim of this AA Screening Report is to inform and assist the competent authority in determining whether or not the proposed development, either individually or in combination with other plans and projects, has the potential to significantly affect one or more European sites, in view of their Conservation Objectives.

It is the considered opinion of ROD, as the author of this AA Screening Report, that the proposed development, either individually or in combination with other plans or projects, in view of best scientific knowledge, does not have the potential to significantly affect the River Moy SAC, or any other European site, in view of their Conservation Objectives. Therefore, AA is not required in respect of the proposed development.

1.2 Competent Experts

This AA Screening Report was prepared by Calvin Townsend-Smyth. Calvin is an Ecologist with over 3 years' experience in ecological assessment. He holds a degree in Wildlife Biology from Munster Technological University. Calvin is a Qualifying member of the Chartered Institute of Ecological and Environmental Management (CIEEM).

1.3 Legislative Context

Council Directive 92/43/EEC of the 21st May 1992 on the conservation of natural habitats of wild fauna and flora ("the Habitats Directive") and Directive 2009/147/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of the 30th November 2009 on the conservation of wild birds ("the Birds Directive") list habitats and species which are, in a European context, important for conservation and in need of protection. This protection is afforded in part through the designation of sites which support significant examples of habitats or populations of species. ("European sites"). Sites designated for wild birds are termed "Special Protection Areas" (SPAs) and sites designated for natural habitat types or other species are termed "Special Areas of Conservation" (SACs). The complete network of European sites is referred to as "Natura 2000".

In order to ensure the protection of European sites in the context of land use planning and development, Article 6(3) of the Habitats Directive provides for the assessment of the implications of plans and projects for European sites, as follows:

“Any plan or project not directly connected with or necessary to the management of the site but likely to have a significant effect thereon, either individually or in combination with other plans or projects, shall be subject to appropriate assessment of its implications for the site in view of the site's conservation objectives. In the light of the conclusions of the assessment of the implications for the site¹ and subject to the provisions of paragraph 4, the competent national authorities shall agree to the plan or project only after having ascertained that it will not adversely affect the integrity of the site concerned and, if appropriate, after having obtained the opinion of the general public.”

In Case C-323/17 [§34], *People Over Wind*, the Court of Justice of the European Union (‘the CJEU’) referred to the nature of the test to be applied in making a screening determination as follows:

*“[...] it is settled case-law that Article 6(3) of the Habitats Directive makes the requirement for an appropriate assessment of the implications of a plan or project conditional on there being a probability or a risk that the plan or project in question will have a significant effect on the site concerned. In the light, in particular, of the precautionary principle, such a risk exists if it cannot be excluded on the basis of objective information that the plan or project will have a significant effect on the site concerned (judgment of 26 May 2011, *Commission v Belgium*, C-538/09, EU:C:2011:349, paragraph 39 and the case-law cited). The assessment of that risk must be made in the light inter alia of the characteristics and specific environmental conditions of the site concerned by such a plan or project (see, to that effect, judgment of 21 July 2016, *Orleans and Others*, C-387/15 and C-388/15, EU:C:2016:583, paragraph 45 and the case-law cited).”*

Article 7 of the Habitats Directive provides that the provisions of, *inter alia*, Article 6(3) are to apply to SPAs under Directive 2009/147/EC (the “Birds Directive”).

As stated, the requirements arising out of Article 6(3) of the Habitats Directive are transposed into Irish law by Part XAB of the 2000 Act and by the European Communities (Birds and Natural Habitats) Regulations 2011 as amended² (S.I. No.477 of 2011) (the Habitats Regulations), including Part 5 thereof.

The determination of whether or not a plan or project requires AA is referred to as “Stage 1” or “AA Screening”. A “Stage 1” or “AA Screening” is completed to determine whether or not the proposed development, either individually or in combination with other plans or projects, in view of best scientific knowledge, is likely to have a significant effect on areas designated as being of European importance for nature conservation (“European sites”), thereby enabling the Applicant, to fulfil its obligations under Article 6(3) of the Habitats Directive.

Article 6(3) of the Habitats Directive specifies that AA must be undertaken by the “competent national authorities”. In Ireland, the “competent authority” is the relevant planning authority for each plan or project, e.g. the local authority or An Bord Pleanála. Consequently, the responsibility for carrying out AA Screening lies solely with the competent authority. In that respect, the AA Screening Report is not in itself an AA

¹ Including, where applicable, ‘sites’.

² Including inter alia S.I. 290 of 2013; SI 499 of 2013; SI 355 of 2015; the Planning, Heritage and Broadcasting (Amendment) Act 2021, Chapter 4; SI 293 of 2021.

Screening Assessment but provides the competent authority with the information it needs in order to carry out its AA Screening.

1.4 Screening Methodology

At this stage of the process, the AA Screening Report assesses the potential effects from the plan or project on the European sites within the likely zone of influence and evaluates them in view of the sites' Conservation Objectives.

This AA Screening Report has had regard inter alia to the following matters³:

- The threshold test is that an appropriate assessment will be required if the proposed development is likely to have a *significant effect* on (a) European site(s) either individually or in combination with other plans or protects.
- It is not necessary, in order to trigger the requirement to proceed to stage 2 AA that the proposed development will '*definitely*' have significant effects on the protected site, but such a requirement will arise if it is a '*mere probability*' that such an effect exists. The requirement to carry out an AA will be satisfied if there is a '*probability or a risk*' that the proposed development will have '*significant effects*' on (a) European site(s).
- Consequent upon the application of the precautionary principle, such a '*risk*' will be found to exist if '*it cannot be excluded on the basis of objective information*' that the particular proposed development '*will have significant effects*' on (a) European site(s).
- An AA will be required if, on the basis of objective information, a '*significant effect*' on a European site '*cannot be excluded*'. An AA will not be required if, on the basis of objective information, a '*significant effect*' on (a) European site(s) '*can be excluded*'.
- In the case of '*doubt as to the absence of significant effects*' an AA must be carried out.
- The requirement to conduct an AA will arise where, at the screening stage, it is ascertained that the particular development is '*capable of having any effect*' (albeit this must be any '*significant effect*') on (a) European site(s).
- The '*possibility*' of there being a '*significant effect*' on (a) European site(s) will give rise to a requirement to carry out an AA for the purposes of Article 6(3). There is no need to '*establish*' such an effect and it is merely necessary to determine that there '*may be*' such an effect.
- In order to meet the threshold of likelihood of significant effect, the word '*likely*' in Article 6(3) means less than the balance of probabilities. The test does not require any '*hard and fast evidence*' that such a significant effect was likely. It merely has to be shown that there is a '*possibility*' that this significant effect is likely.
- The assessment of whether there is a risk of '*significant effect*' on the European site must be made in light, inter alia, of the '*characteristics and specific environmental conditions of the site concerned*' by the relevant plan or project.
- Plans or projects or applications for developments which have *no appreciable effect* on European sites are excluded from the requirement to proceed to AA. If all applications for permission for proposed developments capable of having *any effect whatsoever* on such sites were to be caught by Article 6(3) *activities on or near the site would risk being impossible by reason of legislative overkill*.

³ See Eoin Kelly v. An Bord Pleanála [2019] IEHC 84; Kelly v. An Bord Pleanála [2014] IEHC 400; Connelly v. An Bord Pleanála [2018] IESC 31; [2018] ILRM 453.

While the threshold at the screening stage of Article 6(3) is very low nonetheless it is a threshold which must be met before it is necessary to proceed to the stage 2 AA.

Accordingly, best practice in undertaking AA Screening involves five steps as follows:

- (1) The first step involves gathering the information and data necessary to carry out a screening assessment. These include, but are not limited to, the details of all phases of the plan or project, environmental data pertaining to the area in which the plan or project is located, e.g. rare or protected habitats and species present or likely to be present, and the details of the European sites within the likely zone of influence.
- (2) The second step involves examining the information gathered in the first step and a scientific analysis of the potential impacts of the project on the receiving environment, particularly the European sites in the likely zone of influence.
- (3) The third step evaluates the impacts analysed in the second step against the Conservation Objectives of the relevant European sites, thereby determining whether or not those impacts constitute “likely significant effects”, within the meaning of Article 6(3) of the Habitats Directive.
- (4) The fourth step involves considering the potential for likely significant effects to arise from the combination of the impacts of the plan or project with those of other plans or projects. If it is determined in the third step that Stage 2 (AA) is required, consideration of potential cumulative impacts may be deferred to that stage.
- (5) The last step involves the issuing of a statement of the determination of the AA Screening. Notwithstanding the recommendation made in the AA Screening Report, the responsibility for completing this step lies solely with the competent authority.

The following guidance documents informed the assessment methodology:

- EC (2021) *Assessment of plans and projects in relation to Natura 2000 sites: Methodological guidance on the provisions of Article 6(3) and (4) of the Habitats Directive 92/43/EEC*. Environment Directorate-General of the European Commission.
- EC (2018) *Managing Natura 2000 sites: The provisions of Article 6 of the 'Habitats' Directive 92/43/EEC*. European Commission, Brussels.
- DEHLG (2010) *Appropriate Assessment of Plans and Projects in Ireland – Guidance for Planning Authorities*. Department of the Environment, Heritage and Local Government, Dublin.
- NPWS (2010) *Appropriate Assessment under Article 6 of the Habitats Directive: Guidance for Planning Authorities*. Circular Letter NPWS 1/10 & PSSP 2/10. National Parks & Wildlife Service, Department of the Environment, Heritage and Local Government, Dublin.
- OPR (2021) *Practice Note PN01: Appropriate Assessment Screening for Development Management*. Office of the Planning Regulator.

1.5 Ecological Assessment

In order to fully inform this AA Screening Report in respect of the proposed development, it was necessary to establish the baseline ecological conditions in the receiving environment, particularly with regard to European sites. This was achieved by undertaking a number of desktop studies and a field survey.

1.5.1 Desk Study

During the desk study, the statutory consultee, the National Parks & Wildlife Service (NPWS), provided data on designations of sites, habitats and species of conservation interest. This included reporting pursuant to Article 17 of the Habitats Directive⁴ (NPWS, 2019a, b, c) and Article 12 of the Birds Directive⁵ (Eionet, 2018), as well as the Site Synopses and Conservation Objectives for the relevant European sites.

The desk study involved a thorough review of existing information relating to ecology in the vicinity of the proposed development and in the surrounding area. A number of web-based geographic information systems (GISs) were used to obtain information relating to the natural environment surrounding the proposed development. These included the NPWS *Map Viewer* (NPWS, 2022), which provided information on the locations of protected sites, the National Biodiversity Data Centre's *Biodiversity Maps* (NBDC, 2022), which provided recent and historic records of rare and protected species in the area.

As with all desk studies, the data considered were only as good as the data supplied by the recorders and recording schemes. The recording schemes provide disclaimers in relation to the quality and quantity of the data they provide, and these were considered when examining outputs of the desk study.

1.5.2 Field Survey

A multi-disciplinary walkover survey was undertaken on 29th September 2021 by ROD ecologist Calvin Townsend-Smyth.

The survey adhered to the following guidelines:

- *Ecological Survey Techniques for Protected Flora and Fauna during the Planning of National Road Schemes* (TII, 2008).
- *Guidelines for Assessment of Ecological Impacts of National Road Schemes* (TII, 2009).
- *Best Practice Guidance for Habitat Survey and Mapping* (Smith et al., 2011).

The surveys with relevance to this AA Screening Report are described below.

Habitats

The habitats in the vicinity of the proposed development were surveyed following the Heritage Council's *Best Practice Guidance for Habitat Survey and Mapping* (Smith et al., 2011). Habitats were classified in accordance with *A Guide to Habitats in Ireland* (Fossitt, 2000) and conformity to Annex I-type habitats was evaluated using the *Interpretation Manual of European Union Habitats – EUR28* (EC, 2013). Smith et al. (2011) states that the optimal time of year for habitat surveys is April to September, inclusive, as this is the growing season for most plants. The walkover survey was undertaken in September 2021 i.e. within the optimal season for habitats.

Invasive Alien Plant Species

As part of the habitat survey, the presence of invasive alien species was considered. Particular regard was given to invasive species subject to restrictions under

⁴ Under Article 17, to report to the European Commission every six years on their status and on the implementation of the measures taken under the Directive.

⁵ Every three years, Member States of the European Union are required by Article 12 of the Birds Directive to report on implementation of the Directive. The most recent reporting available is for the period 2008-2012.

Regulation 49 of the Habitats Regulations, including Himalayan Balsam (*Impatiens glandulifera*), Giant-rhubarb (*Gunnera* sp.), Japanese Knotweed (*Fallopia japonica*), Bohemian Knotweed (*Fallopia × bohemica*) and Rhododendron (*Rhododendron ponticum*). The surveys were carried out the optimum survey period.

1.5.3 Assessment

The ecological baseline which was established by the desk study described above was used to inform the assessment of the potential ecological effects arising from the proposed development, particularly with regard to European sites. Any assumptions that were made in view of gaps in the ecological data were made in accordance with the Precautionary Principle.

2. DESCRIPTION OF THE PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT

2.1 Overview of the Proposed Development

The extents of the N60 Breaffy Active Travel & Safety Measures Scheme shall commence in Castlebar with one section of 800m which follows the N60 from the IDA Roundabout to Kilkenny Cross Roundabout and continues along the N60 from Kilkenny Cross passing through Breaffy Village, ending just beyond Breaffy Post Office at Corratanvally at the junction with the L5760.

The proposed development includes:

- Implementation of an 80kph speed limit (recommended in the National Speed Limit Review and accepted by TII) from the new N60/N5 junction (Ch. 1+460) to the eastern end of Breaffy village (Ch. 3+040 N60/L5783 junction)
- Introduction of a periodic 60kph speed limit during school drop-off and pick-up times over a 0.5km distance with VMS signage
- Maintain a 100kph speed limit from the eastern end of Breaffy village (Ch 3+040) to the eastern extent of the scheme (L5760 Ch.4+090)
- A formalised pedestrian crossing between the available footpaths (Ch.2+645) with the introduction of splitter islands.
- Provision of a shared use two-way cycle facility with pedestrians north of the N60 from the new Compact Grade Separate Junction (Ch 1+460) to the proposed pedestrian crossing (Ch. 2+645) and south of the N60 from the proposed pedestrian crossing (Ch. 2+645) to L5760 (Ch. 4+090), following the DMRB standard recommendations
- Provision of bus laybys (south and north of the N60) to allow buses to continue to pull off the traffic lane when stopping
- Narrowing of the road cross section to achieve the self-explaining or self-regulating recommendations of the Speed Limit Guidelines Para 5.3.6
- Provision of pedestrian and cycle facilities on both sides of the road in accordance with Design Manual for Urban Roads and Streets (DMURS) from the IDA roundabout (Ch. 0+000) up to the new CGSJ (Ch. 1+460) on the N60.
- Provision of a new Jug Handle crossing at Ch. 1+475 (at 80km/h speed limit change to 60km/h speed limit) to support cyclists using the proposed cycle facilities cross the N60.
- Provision of a new pedestrian crossing at Ch. 1+955 (in the vicinity of the local road L5757), to facilitate access to the proposed active travel provisions on the north side of the N60
- Provision of new pedestrian crossing at Ch. 4+105 (in the vicinity of local roads L5782 and L5760) to allow cyclists to join the L5782 local road on the north side of the N60 or to continue their journey on the correct side of the road to Manulla.
- Provision of a periodic 60km/h zone at school drop-off and pick-up times at Breaffy Village.
- Extension of existing culvert at Ch. 3+240 to facilitate the shared use two-way cycle facility.

The scheme is to deliver the objectives of the Scheme Feasibility Report (Proposed Safety Improvement Measures on N60 at Breaffy), that examined the proposals of the National Speed Limit review, considered the imminent introduction of a Compact

Grade Separation junction between the N60 and N5 Westport to Turlough Road Project and developed proposals for a dedicated cycle provision on the N60 between Castlebar and Breaffy.

2.2 Construction Methodology

The construction sequence will generally be as follows:

1. Vegetation clearance back to existing highway boundary
2. Minimal fencing, if deemed to be required at detailed design stage.
3. Circa 1.4km of boundary fencing/garden wall to be set back. Localised widening of embankments and cutting over short sections.
4. Retained slope steepening with vegetated face in Breaffy village for a proposed bus bay behind church car park
5. Topsoil stripping and laying of 150mm sub-base
6. Break out and repositioning of kerbs and gullies were present to narrow traffic lanes
7. Construction of bituminous cycle track and footpath
8. Construction of four uncontrolled pedestrian crossings and associated refuge islands
9. Accommodation works
10. Installation of road signage and re-marking of lines
11. Landscaping – topsoil and seeding of remaining verges where the hard shoulder has been removed

The construction phase will last approximately 8 months.

The design for the N60 Breaffy Active Travel and Safety Measures Scheme is in accordance with TII Publication Standards for the 80km/h and the 100km/h speed limit roads and in accordance with Design Manual for Urban Roads and Streets for the 60km/h speed limit cross references to the National Cycle Manual.

The horizontal and vertical alignment follows the existing topography, the design speed of the cycle facilities is 30km/h. The alignment is generally on a low height embankment.

The culvert widening is designed and will be constructed in accordance with TII (2008) *Guidelines for the Crossing of Watercourses during the Construction of National Road Schemes* and will involve the placement of a bottomless precast semi-circular culvert extension on the riparian verge of the stream. Therefore, these works will not directly interact with the stream itself.

The works will be carried out in accordance with CIRIA document C532 *Control of water pollution from construction sites*.

Approximately 5,000m³ of materials (sub-base, asphalt, concrete) will be imported for use during the construction. Approximately 5,000m³ of excavated material generated during construction will be reused in final landscaping, in accordance with the waste categorisation and Waste Management Act 1996 (as amended).

There is no demolition anticipated for the proposed development, other than hedgerow/scrub clearance in existing verges and removal of existing fencing/garden walls.

2.3 Site Location

The proposed development will stretch westbound from the N60/L5760 (Breaffy Post Office) junction for approximately 4.2km. The scheme will run along the N60 and past the new N5 compact grade separated junction (CGSJ), splitting at the N60 roundabout, and terminate approximately 800m from the roundabout on the N60.

Breaffy is a small rural village containing a church, a public house, a large primary school and residential properties. Breaffy House Hotel, Breaffy Woods Hotel and the Breaffy GAA grounds are located south of the proposed development, opposite the village centre.

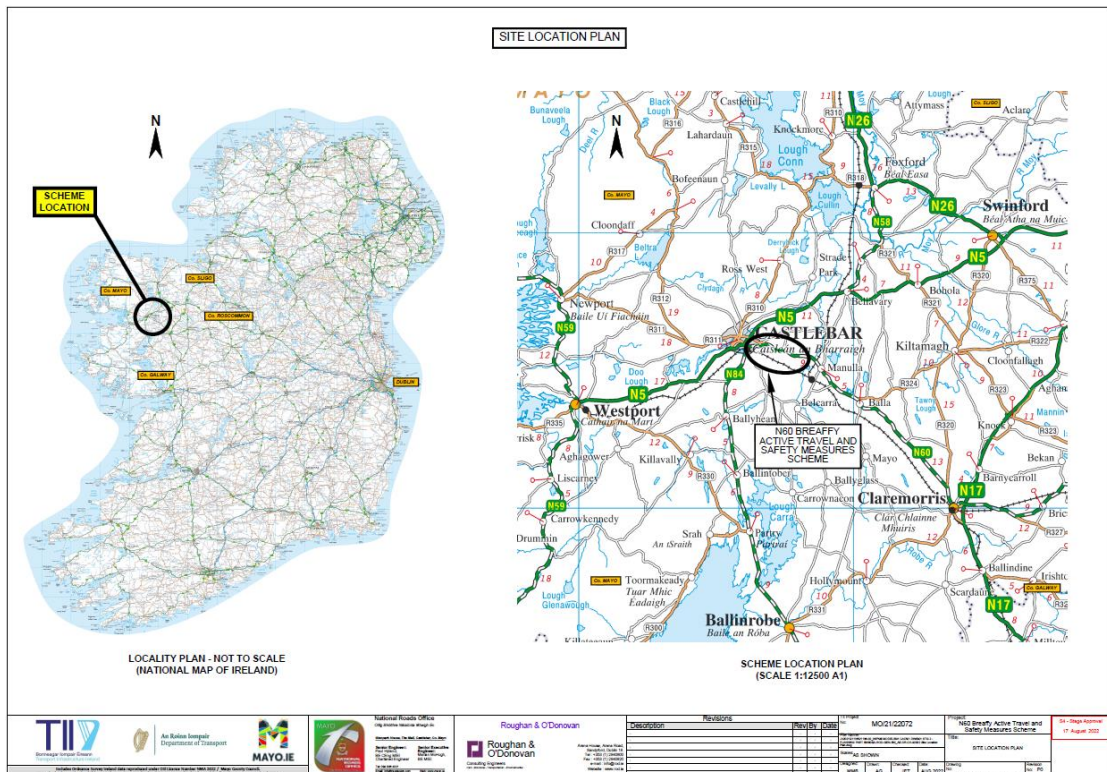


Figure 2.1 Site Location

2.4 Likely Effects on the Natural Environment

During the construction phase, the proposed development is likely to impact species through noise/vibration and visual disturbance, as well as loss of suitable habitat for bird and bat species through vegetation removal. The movement of vegetation, topsoil and waste materials from the site also has the potential to spread any invasive alien species that are present, including Rhododendron (*Rhododendron ponticum*), Himalayan Balsam (*Impatiens glandulifera*), Giant Rhubarb (*Gunnera manicata*) and Japanese Knotweed (*Fallopia japonica*), all of which were identified within the study area.

The proposed development crosses three watercourses over existing culverts, one of which will be widened to accommodate the proposed cycleway. There is a risk of water quality impacts in the event of a spillage of pollutants such as oil, fuel or wet concrete. However, routine practice and procedures for the control of water pollution from construction sites (CIRIA document C532) will effectively control the risk of any spillage of pollutants and further restrict any pathways for pollutants between the works and watercourses. Additionally, as explained in Section 2.2, the widening of the existing

culvert will involve the placement of a bottomless precast culvert extension on the riparian verge and while some minor riparian habitat loss will occur, these works will not directly interact with the stream itself and the design of the culvert extension provides sufficient riparian habitat for Otter along the banks of the stream. Therefore, the probability and magnitude of any water quality impacts are minimal and there will be no alterations made to aquatic habitats as a result of these works.

3. IDENTIFICATION OF LIKELY SIGNIFICANT EFFECTS

3.1 Establishing the Likely Zone of Influence

Section 3.2.3 of DEHLG (2010) outlines the procedure for selecting the European sites to be considered in AA. It states that European sites potentially affected should be identified and listed, bearing in mind the potential for direct, indirect and cumulative effects. It also states that the specific approach in each case is likely to differ depending on the scale and likely effects of the plan or project. However, it advises that the following sites should generally be included:

- All European sites within or immediately adjacent to the plan or project area;
- All European sites within the likely zone of influence of the plan or project; and
- In accordance with the Precautionary Principle, all European sites for which there is doubt as to whether or not they might be significantly affected.

The “likely zone of influence” of a plan or project is the geographic extent over which significant ecological effects are likely to occur. In the case of plans, this zone should extend to a distance of 15km in all directions from the boundary of the plan area. In the case of projects, however, the guidance recognises that the likely zone of influence must be established on a case-by-case basis, with reference to the following key variables:

- The nature, size and location of the project;
- The sensitivities of the ecological receptors; and,
- The potential for cumulative effects.

For example, in the case of a project that could affect a watercourse, it may be necessary to include the entire upstream and/or downstream catchment in order to capture all European sites with water-dependent features of interest.

Having regard to the above key variables, the likely zone of influence was defined as the proposed development plus a 1 km buffer and a hydrological distance of 3 km downstream. This was based on the maximum extent of impacts associated with the proposed development. For instance, any species or habitat existing outside of this 1 km buffer is unlikely to experience disturbance effects from the construction or operation of the proposed development. Additionally, due to the nature and scale of the proposed development, the duration of construction works, and the implementation of routine practice and procedures for managing surface water during construction, any accidental pollution is unlikely and, in any case, would be diluted in the Drumneen stream, its tributaries, and the Manulla River before settling in ‘the Lakelands Lake’.

A geographical representation of the likely zone of influence was produced in ArcGIS 10.5.1 using the proposed development boundary and publicly available Ordnance Survey Ireland (OSi) maps. This was used in combination with NPWS shapefiles to identify the boundaries of European sites in relation to the likely zone of influence (Figure 3.1).

It was determined that one European site occurs within the likely zone of influence. Table 3.1 describes how this site is connected to the proposed development. A detailed description of this site is given in Section 3.2.

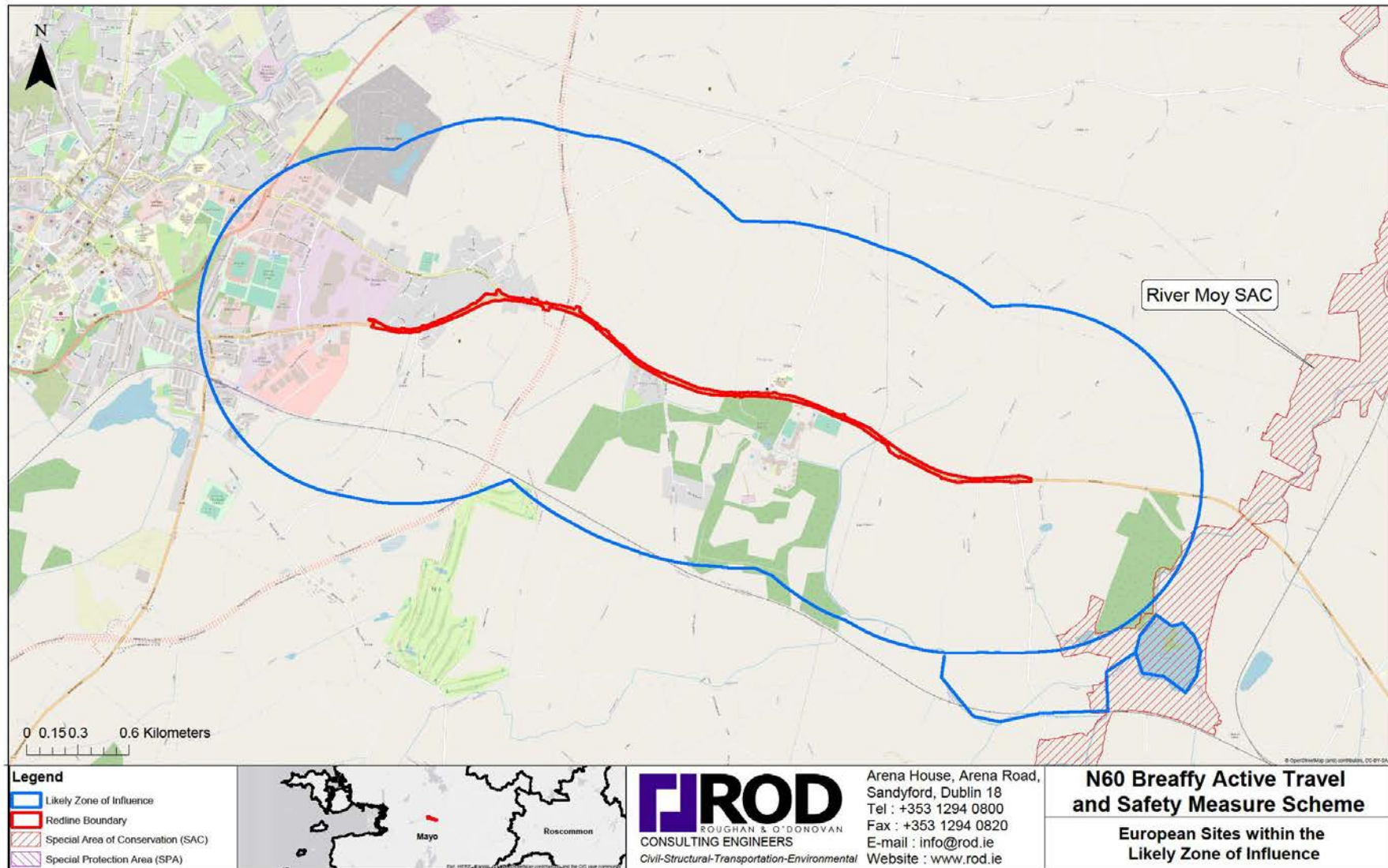


Figure 3.1 The boundaries of European sites relative to the location of the proposed development.

Table 3.1 European sites located within the likely zone of influence.

European site [site code]	Are there potential pathways for impacts from the proposed development to this site?
River Moy SAC [002298]	Yes. The shortest absolute distance from the proposed development to this site is 815 m southeast to the site from Breaffy Road. This distance is over land and this location is within the likely zone of influence. The shortest distance from the proposed development to the site via a hydrological connection is 3 km southeast, through the Drumneen Stream. Therefore, the effective distance to the site is considered to be 3 km.

3.2 Site Descriptions

River Moy SAC

The description of the River Moy SAC provided here is based on the Site Synopsis (NPWS, 2020a), Conservation Objectives (NPWS, 2016a) and Natura 2000 Standard Data Form (NPWS, 2020b) for the site, as well as the Conservation Objectives Supporting Document (NPWS, 2016b).

Site Overview

The River Moy SAC comprises almost the entire freshwater element of the River Moy and its tributaries, including both Lough Conn and Lough Cullin. The system drains a catchment of 805 km². Apart from the Moy itself, other rivers included within the site are the Deel, Bar Deela, Castlehill, Addergoole, Clydagh and Manulla on the west side. Some of the tributaries at the east, the south of Lough Conn and all of Lough Cullin are underlain by granite.

The site supports populations of several species listed on Annex II to the Habitats Directive, and habitats listed on Annex I to this Directive, as well as examples of other important habitats. The presence of a fine example of broadleaved woodland in this part of the country increases the overall habitat diversity and adds to the ecological value of the site, as does the presence of the range of nationally rare and Red Data Book plant and animal species.

Qualifying Interests of the Site

[6510] Lowland hay meadows (*Alopecurus pratensis*, *Sanguisorba officinalis*)

[7110] Active raised bogs

[7120] Degraded raised bogs still capable of natural regeneration

[7150] Depressions on peat substrates of the *Rhynchosporion*

[7230] Alkaline fens

[91A0] Old sessile oak woods with Ilex and Blechnum in the British Isles

[91E0] Alluvial forests with *Alnus glutinosa* and *Fraxinus excelsior* (*Alno-Padion*, *Alnion incanae*, *Salicion albae*)

[1092] White-clawed Crayfish (*Austropotamobius pallipes*)

[1095] Sea Lamprey (*Petromyzon marinus*)

[1096] Brook Lamprey (*Lampetra planeri*)

[1106] Salmon (*Salmo salar*)

[1355] Otter (*Lutra lutra*)

Sensitivities of the Site and its Qualifying Interests

Agriculture, particularly grazing, is the main land use in the area. Spreading of slurry and fertiliser poses a threat to the water quality of this salmonid river and to the large lakes. Fishing is the main tourist attraction on the Moy and there are a large number of Angler Associations, some with a number of beats. Other aspects of tourism are concentrated around Loughs Conn and Cullin, around whose shore afforestation has occurred in the past. It is proposed to replant with native tree species in this area. Forestry is also present along many of the tributaries and in particular along the headwaters of the Deel. Forestry poses a threat in that sedimentation and acidification can occur. Sedimentation can cover the gravel beds resulting in a loss of suitable spawning grounds. The Moy was arterially dredged in the 1960s. Water levels have been reduced since that time. This is particularly evident along the shores of Loughs Conn and Cullin and in the canal-like appearance of some river stretches. Ongoing maintenance dredging is carried out along stretches of the river system where the gradient is low. This is extremely destructive to salmonid habitat in the area.

3.3 Evaluation against Conservation Objectives

Guidance from the European Commission (EC, 2021) explains that “*The description of the site’s integrity and the impact assessment should be based on the parameters that determine the conservation objectives and that are specific to the habitats and species of the site and their ecological requirements*”.

Following this guidance, the identification of likely significant effects potentially arising from the proposed development on the integrity of the European site identified in Section 3.1 and described in Section 3.2 focusses on and is limited to the Conservation Objectives of that site. Where no site-specific Conservation Objectives have been prepared, the Attributes and Targets from the same Qualifying Interests in similar European Sites have been used.

Table 3.2 below detail the evaluation of the likely significant effects of the proposed development in view of the Conservation Objectives of the sites identified in Section 3.1 and described in Section 3.2. As explained in Sections 1.2 and 1.3, the assessment of likely significant effects is carried out in view of the Conservation Objectives of the relevant European site, which are in turn defined by the respective Attributes and Targets. Therefore, the evaluation of whether or not the proposed development will likely significantly affect the European site (in view of the Conservation Objective in question) is made with regard to these Attributes and Targets.

Table 3.2 Evaluation of the likely effects of the proposed development in view of the Conservation Objectives of the River Moy SAC [002298].

Qualifying Interest	Conservation Objective as per NPWS (2016a)	Does the proposed development provide for any potential delay or interruption in the achievement of this Conservation Objective, as defined by its Attributes and Targets?	Likely Significant Effect
<p>Lowland hay meadows (<i>Alopecurus pratensis</i>, <i>Sanguisorba officinalis</i>) [6510]</p>	<p>NPWS (2016a) does not contain a Conservation Objective for this Qualifying Interest as it was not added until 2020. A generic objective to restore or maintain the conservation condition of Lowland hay meadows (<i>Alopecurus pratensis</i>, <i>Sanguisorba officinalis</i>) in the River Moy SAC applies.</p>	<p>No examples of Lowland hay meadows (<i>Alopecurus pratensis</i>, <i>Sanguisorba officinalis</i>) were identified within or immediately adjacent to the footprint of the proposed development during the field survey.</p> <p>Given the absence of any examples of lowland hay meadows from the immediate study area and the fact that this habitat is strictly terrestrial, there are no potential pathways for impacts from the proposed development to lowland hay meadows.</p> <p>Therefore, it can be concluded beyond reasonable scientific doubt that the proposed development will not lead to significant effects on this Qualifying Interest.</p>	<p>No</p>
<p>Active raised bogs [7110]</p>	<p><i>“To restore the favourable conservation condition of Active raised bogs in River Moy SAC”</i></p>	<p>The <i>Conservation Objectives Supporting Document – Raised Bog Habitats</i> for the River Moy SAC (NPWS, 2016a) states that <i>“Within River Moy SAC, the raised bog habitat for which the SAC has been selected occurs at five locations, namely Cloongoonagh Bog in the west and the bog cluster comprising Derrynabrock Bog, Tawnaghbeg Bog, Kilgarrieff Bog and Gowlaun Bog in the east.”</i> Cloongoonagh Bog is the nearest of these to the proposed development, and is located c. 28 km northeast of scheme. This is outside of the likely zone of influence for both direct impacts and impacts via contamination of surface water, air pollution (N deposition) and hydrogeological effects. Therefore, there will be no effect from the proposed development on any of these listed examples of raised bogs.</p> <p>No examples of raised bog habitat were identified within or immediately adjacent to the footprint of the proposed development during the field survey. Using ariel imagery (Google Maps, 2021; EPA Maps, 2021), no examples of raised bogs were identified within the likely zone of influence. Therefore, as there will be no development or land-take occurring within raised bog habitats and the absence of such habitats from the likely zone of influence, it can be concluded beyond reasonable scientific doubt that the proposed development will not lead to significant effects on this Qualifying Interest.</p>	<p>No</p>

Qualifying Interest	Conservation Objective as per NPWS (2016a)	Does the proposed development provide for any potential delay or interruption in the achievement of this Conservation Objective, as defined by its Attributes and Targets?	Likely Significant Effect
Degraded raised bogs still capable of natural regeneration [7120]	<i>“The long-term aim for Degraded raised bogs still capable of natural regeneration is that its peat-forming capability is re-established; therefore, the conservation objective for this habitat is inherently linked to that of Active raised bogs (7110) and a separate conservation objective has not been set in River Moy SAC”</i>	The assessment above in relation to ‘Active raised bogs’ (7110) covers all raised bog habitats, including ‘Degraded raised bogs still capable of natural regeneration’ (7120). On the basis of that assessment, it can be concluded beyond reasonable scientific doubt that the proposed development will not lead to significant effects on this Qualifying Interest.	No
Depressions on peat substrates of the <i>Rhynchosporion</i> [7150]	<i>“Depressions on peat substrates of the <i>Rhynchosporion</i> is an integral part of good quality Active raised bogs (7110) and thus a separate conservation objective has not been set for the habitat in River Moy SAC”</i>	The assessment above in relation to ‘Active raised bogs’ (7110) covers all raised bog habitats, including ‘Depressions on peat substrates of the <i>Rhynchosporion</i> ’ (7150). On the basis of that assessment, it can be concluded beyond reasonable scientific doubt that the proposed development will not lead to significant effects on this Qualifying Interest.	No
Alkaline Fens [7230]	<i>“To maintain the favourable conservation condition of Alkaline Fens in the River Moy SAC”</i>	The Conservation Objectives for the River Moy SAC (NPWS, 2016b) state that the extent and distribution of alkaline fens within the SAC are unknown. No examples of alkaline fens were identified within or immediately adjacent to the footprint of the proposed development during the field survey. Based on reviews of environmental sensitivity mapping, some examples are known to occur c. 0.5 km southwest of the proposed development. However, these are not hydrologically connected to either the proposed development or the SAC. Based on reviews of aerial imagery, further examples may be present within the likely zone of influence, including within the SAC, which are hydrologically connected to the proposed development.	No

Qualifying Interest	Conservation Objective as per NPWS (2016a)	Does the proposed development provide for any potential delay or interruption in the achievement of this Conservation Objective, as defined by its Attributes and Targets?	Likely Significant Effect
		<p>As there will be no development or land-take occurring within this habitat, there will be no direct impacts on any examples of alkaline fens. As explained in Sections 2.4 and 3.1 above, the proposed works will not give rise to significant water quality impacts. Similarly, the proposed development does not provide to any changes in groundwater levels or the hydrological regime. In addition, due to the small scale and short duration of construction works, any air quality impacts (e.g. from N deposition) will not be significant.</p> <p>Therefore, it can be concluded beyond reasonable scientific doubt that the proposed development will not lead to significant effects on this Qualifying Interest.</p>	
<p>Old sessile oak woods with <i>Ilex</i> and <i>Blechnum</i> in the British Isles [91A0]</p>	<p><i>“To maintain the favourable conservation condition of Old sessile oak woods with <i>Ilex</i> and <i>Blechnum</i> in the British Isles in River Moy SAC”</i></p>	<p>The Conservation Objectives for the River Moy SAC (NPWS, 2016b) state that the full extent and distribution of old oak woodlands within the SAC are unknown. No examples of this habitat type were identified within or adjacent to the proposed development during the field survey (Breaffy Woods, which is adjacent to the proposed development, is a mixed broadleaved woodland dominated by non-native species). Using aerial imagery (Google Maps, 2021; EPA Maps, 2021) and environmental sensitivity mapping and historic maps, it was determined that all of the remaining examples of woodland in the likely zone of influence are mixed broadleaved/conifer woodland or demesne-type woodlands, i.e. not corresponding to Annex I old oak woodlands.</p> <p>As there will be no development or land-take occurring within this habitat, there will be no direct impacts on any examples of old oak woodlands. There are no surface water or groundwater pathways for impacts to any example of this habitat type. In addition, due to the small scale and short duration of construction works, any air quality impacts (e.g. from N deposition) will not be significant.</p> <p>Therefore, it can be concluded beyond reasonable scientific doubt that the proposed development will not lead to significant effects on this Qualifying Interest</p>	<p>No</p>
<p>Alluvial forests with <i>Alnus glutinosa</i> and <i>Fraxinus excelsior</i> (Alno-Padion, Alnion</p>	<p><i>“To maintain the favourable conservation condition of Alluvial forests with <i>Alnus glutinosa</i> and <i>Fraxinus</i></i></p>	<p>The Conservation Objectives for the River Moy SAC (NPWS, 2016b) state that the full extent and distribution of priority alluvial woodlands within the SAC are unknown. No examples of this habitat type were identified within or adjacent to the proposed development during the field survey (Breaffy Woods, which is adjacent to the proposed development, is a mixed broadleaved woodland dominated by non-native species). Using aerial imagery (Google</p>	<p>No</p>

Qualifying Interest	Conservation Objective as per NPWS (2016a)	Does the proposed development provide for any potential delay or interruption in the achievement of this Conservation Objective, as defined by its Attributes and Targets?	Likely Significant Effect
<p><i>incanae, Salicion albae</i>* [91E0]</p>	<p><i>excelsior (Alno-Padion, Alnion incanae, Salicion albae) in River Moy SAC</i></p>	<p>Maps, 2021; EPA Maps, 2021) and environmental sensitivity mapping and historic maps, it was determined that all of the remaining examples of woodland in the likely zone of influence are mixed broadleaved/conifer woodland or demesne-type woodlands, i.e. not corresponding to priority alluvial woodlands.</p> <p>As there will be no development or land-take occurring within this habitat, there will be no direct impacts on any examples of priority alluvial woodlands. As explained in Sections 2.4 and 3.1 above, the proposed works will not give rise to significant water quality impacts. Similarly, the proposed development does not provide to any changes in groundwater levels or the hydrological regime. In addition, due to the small scale and short duration of construction works, any air quality impacts (e.g. from N deposition) will not be significant.</p> <p>Therefore, it can be concluded beyond reasonable scientific doubt that the proposed development will not lead to significant effects on this Qualifying Interest</p>	
<p>White-clawed Crayfish (<i>Austropotamobius pallipes</i>) [1092]</p>	<p><i>“To maintain the favourable conservation condition of White-clawed Crayfish in River Moy SAC”</i></p>	<p>Given that the proposed development crosses watercourses connected to the River Moy, White-clawed Crayfish are assumed to be present in immediate proximity to the proposed development.</p> <p>As there are no works proposed within any watercourses, there will be no direct mortality, injury or disturbance of crayfish and no physical disturbance to crayfish habitat. Furthermore, as explained in Sections 2.4 and 3.1 above, the proposed works will not give rise to significant water quality impacts. Similarly, as there will be no personnel or machinery entering watercourses, there is no risk of introduction of crayfish plague or other diseases to these watercourses or the River Moy SAC.</p> <p>Therefore, it can be concluded beyond reasonable scientific doubt that the proposed development will not lead to significant effects on this Qualifying Interest.</p>	<p>No</p>
<p>Sea Lamprey (<i>Petromyzon marinus</i>) [1095]</p>	<p><i>“To maintain the favourable conservation condition of Sea Lamprey in River Moy SAC”</i></p>	<p>Given that the proposed development crosses watercourses connected to the River Moy, Sea Lamprey are assumed to be present in immediate proximity to the proposed development.</p> <p>As there are no works proposed within any watercourses, there will be no direct mortality, injury or disturbance of lampreys and no physical disturbance to lamprey habitat. The</p>	<p>No</p>

Qualifying Interest	Conservation Objective as per NPWS (2016a)	Does the proposed development provide for any potential delay or interruption in the achievement of this Conservation Objective, as defined by its Attributes and Targets?	Likely Significant Effect
		<p>proposed development does not provide for any physical obstruction to lamprey migration impacts from lighting or noise which could form an effective barrier to same. Furthermore, as explained in Sections 2.4 and 3.1 above, the proposed works will not give rise to significant water quality impacts or sedimentation.</p> <p>Therefore, it can be concluded beyond reasonable scientific doubt that the proposed development will not lead to significant effects on this Qualifying Interest.</p>	
<p>Brook Lamprey (<i>Lampetra planeri</i>) [1096]</p>	<p><i>“To maintain the favourable conservation condition of Brook Lamprey in River Moy SAC”</i></p>	<p>As per Sea Lamprey (above).</p>	<p>No</p>
<p>Atlantic Salmon (<i>Salmo salar</i>) [1106]</p>	<p><i>“To maintain the favourable conservation condition of Atlantic Salmon in River Moy SAC”</i></p>	<p>Given that the proposed development crosses watercourses connected to the River Moy, Atlantic Salmon are assumed to be present in immediate proximity to the proposed development.</p> <p>As there are no works proposed any watercourses, there will be no direct mortality, injury or disturbance of salmon and no physical disturbance to salmon habitat. The proposed development does not provide for any physical obstruction to salmon migration impacts from lighting or noise which could form an effective barrier to same. Furthermore, as explained in Sections 2.4 and 3.1 above, the proposed works will not give rise to significant water quality impacts or sedimentation.</p> <p>Therefore, it can be concluded beyond reasonable scientific doubt that the proposed development will not lead to significant effects on this Qualifying Interest.</p>	<p>No</p>
<p>European Otter (<i>Lutra lutra</i>) [1355]</p>	<p><i>“To maintain the favourable conservation condition of Otter in River Moy SAC”</i></p>	<p>Given that the proposed development crosses watercourses connected to the River Moy, European Otter are assumed to be present in immediate proximity to the proposed development.</p> <p>As mentioned in Section 2.4, the design of the proposed culvert extension provides sufficient riparian habitat for otters. As described in relation to crayfish, lampreys and salmon, there will be no significant impact on the availability of any prey species for otters. Due to the small scale of the proposed development and short duration of construction, as well as the</p>	<p>No</p>

Qualifying Interest	Conservation Objective as per NPWS (2016a)	Does the proposed development provide for any potential delay or interruption in the achievement of this Conservation Objective, as defined by its Attributes and Targets?	Likely Significant Effect
		<p>location immediately adjacent to an existing national road, any disturbance to otters will not be significant and will not form a barrier to connectivity.</p> <p>Therefore, it can be concluded beyond reasonable scientific doubt that the proposed development will not lead to significant effects on this Qualifying Interest.</p>	

3.4 Summary of Likely Significant Effects

In Section 3.1, it was established that one European site, namely the River Moy SAC occurs within the likely zone of influence of the proposed development and that there are no pathways for effects between the proposed development and any other European site. The SAC was described in detail in Section 3.2.

In Section 3.3, it was established, in light of best scientific knowledge, that the proposed development will not give rise to ecological impacts which would constitute likely significant effects on the SAC, in view of the sites Conservation Objectives. This finding had regard to the nature, size and location of the proposed development, the assimilative capacity of the River Moy, the existing levels of noise and visual disturbance in the area and the sensitivities of the Qualifying Interests of the site concerned.

4. IN-COMBINATION EFFECTS

4.1 Introduction

Article 6(3) of the Habitats Directive requires that AA be carried out in respect of any plan or project which is likely to have a significant effect on one or more European sites, “either individually or in combination with other plans or projects”. Therefore, regardless of whether or not the likely effects of a plan or project are significant when considered in isolation, the potential for the plan or project to significantly affect European sites in combination with other past, present or foreseeable future plans or projects must also be assessed.

4.2 Methodology

Plans and projects with potential for interactions with the proposed development were selected for assessment. This included plans or projects that are located within the EPA river sub-catchments in which the proposed development is located. For the purposes of the assessment, very small-scale and domestic developments and applications that were more than 5 years old were not considered.

The ePlanning website for Mayo County Council, the An Bord Pleanála website (planning searches) and the EIA Portal were used to search for planning applications.

4.3 Outcome

Table 4.1 below details the assessment of the likelihood of significant effects arising from the proposed development in combination with other plans or projects. This assessment was undertaken in view of the Conservation Objectives of the relevant European site and found that the proposed development does not have the potential to significantly affect any European site in combination with other plans or projects.

Table 4.1 Assessment of the likelihood of significant effects on European sites arising from the combination of the proposed development with other plans or projects.

Plan or project	Description of plan or project	In-combination effect(s)
<p>Mayo County Council Planning Application No. 21921 Decision Date: Pending Location: Snugborough, Castlebar, Co. Mayo</p>	<p>Construction of 79 no. houses, consisting of 5 no. detached houses and 37 no. blocks of semi-detached houses, connections to public services and ancillary site development works.</p> <p>No NIS or EIAR submitted or required as part of planning.</p>	<p>There are no likely significant effects predicted to arise from the combination of this project with the proposed development due to the nature and duration of the works as well as the distance between the two developments.</p>
<p>Mayo County Council Planning Application No. 21878 Decision Date: 11/10/2021 Location: Parke, Castlebar, Co. Mayo</p>	<p>Erection of 26 no. 6m high public lighting columns and all associated cabling and site works.</p> <p>An AA Screening was carried for this development. The screening concluded that “<i>the proposed development, by itself or in combination with other development in the vicinity, would not likely have a significant effect on European site(s)</i>”.</p>	<p>No significant in-combination effects are predicted to arise from this project and the proposed development due to the nature and duration of the works, the distance between the two sites and the conclusions of the biodiversity assessments from both developments.</p>
<p>Mayo County Council Planning Application No. 21628 Decision Date: Pending Location: Pidgeon Hill, (Rockfield & Cloghadockan TD), Turlough, Castlebar, Co. Mayo</p>	<p>Permission for retention of development is sought for existing gravel/hard standing yard and existing storage shed/ building. Permission for development is sought for new vehicular site access (relocating existing), including removal of section of roadside boundary, and existing cattle pen, and provision of new landscaped roadside boundary and gated entrance to facility; use of existing storage shed/building for vehicle storage and maintenance, and ancillary staff facilities, with associated internal and elevational modifications; provision of wastewater treatment system; use of existing gravel/hard standing yard as part of machinery and materials facility; construction of storage bays/area for road making materials, and material recovery and transfer of associated recycled road making by-products (which will also be subject to a separate waste permit); provision of associated staff, visitor and road making machinery parking facilities; and provision of surface water drainage system, boundary treatments, public water supply and utilities connections, hard and soft landscaping and all associated and ancillary works and development above and below ground.</p>	<p>No significant in-combination effects are predicted to arise from this project and the proposed development due to the nature and duration of the works, the distance between the two sites and the conclusions of the biodiversity assessments from both developments.</p>

Plan or project	Description of plan or project	In-combination effect(s)
	An AA Screening Report was submitted with the planning application for this development. This report concluded that <i>“the development is unlikely to present a discernible impact on the integrity of SAC (site code IE0002298) or indeed on any of the other sites, this represents a finding of No Significant Effects (FONSE)”</i> .	
<p>Mayo County Council Planning Application No. 21379 Decision Date: 10/06/2021 Location: Shinganagh, Mayo Abbey, Claremorris, Co. Mayo</p>	<p>Construct a milking parlour incorporating a dairy and plant room, construct a slatted shed, construct an extension to existing cubicle shed, to establish and construct a new entrance with all ancillary site works and services.</p> <p>No NIS or EIAR submitted or required as part of planning.</p>	<p>There are no likely significant effects predicted to arise from the combination of this project with the proposed development due to the nature and duration of the works as well as the distance between the two developments.</p>
<p>Mayo County Council Planning Application No. 21186 Decision Date: 26/04/2021 Location: Kilkenny, Castlebar</p>	<p>Conditional permission was granted by Mayo County Council to demolish existing house and construct a new replacement dwelling house and all associated siteworks and services. This development is immediately south of the proposed development. No NIS or EIAR submitted or required as part of planning.</p>	<p>There are no likely significant effects predicted to arise from the combination of this project with the proposed development due to the nature and duration of the works.</p>
<p>Mayo County Council Planning Application No. 21133 Decision Date: 03/11/2021 Location: Parke, Castlebar, Co. Mayo</p>	<p>Erect 6 no. 16m high columns with floodlights providing 350 lux and all associated cabling and site works.</p> <p>No NIS or EIAR submitted or required as part of planning.</p>	<p>There are no likely significant effects predicted to arise from the combination of this project with the proposed development due to the nature and duration of the works as well as the distance between the two developments.</p>
<p>Mayo County Council Planning Application No. 20896 Decision Date: 23/04/2021 Location: Cherrington Place, Springfield, Castlebar, Co. Mayo</p>	<p>Housing scheme comprising street terrace of 12 no. two storey, three bed, semi-detached houses. Courtyard arrangement with 3 no. blocks of three storey, duplex housing units comprising 15 no. two bed, duplex housing units over 15 no. two bed, single level housing units. Access on existing Cherrington Place Road. All ancillary site works, bin storage, services and landscaping.</p> <p>An AA Screening was carried for this development. The screening concluded that <i>“the proposed development, by itself or in combination with other development in the vicinity, would not likely have a significant effect on European site(s)”</i>.</p>	<p>No significant in-combination effects are predicted to arise from this project and the proposed development due to the nature and duration of the works, the distance between the two sites and the conclusions of the biodiversity</p>

Plan or project	Description of plan or project	In-combination effect(s)
<p>Mayo County Council Planning Application No. 20896 Decision Date: Pending Location: Ballyvary, Castlebar, Co. Mayo</p>	<p>Construction of housing development of 28 no. semi-detached dwellings (12 no. single and 16 no. two storey) vehicular and pedestrian site access, connections to public services and utilities, and all associated and ancillary works and developments.</p> <p>An AA Screening was carried for this development. The screening concluded that <i>“the proposed development, by itself or in combination with other development in the vicinity, would not likely have a significant effect on European site(s)”</i>.</p>	<p>assessments from both developments.</p> <p>No significant in-combination effects are predicted to arise from this project and the proposed development due to the nature and duration of the works, the distance between the two sites and the conclusions of the biodiversity assessments from both developments.</p>
<p>Mayo County Council Planning Application No. 20809 Decision Date: 14/12/2020 Location: Convent of Mercy, Castlebar, Co. Mayo</p>	<p>Construct a single storey block of prefabricated permanent accommodation within the school site, consisting of 3 no. classrooms, sanitary facilities, ramps and landings. The development will also include all associated site works and connections to existing services.</p> <p>An AA Screening was carried for this development. The screening concluded that <i>“The proposed development site is not located within or immediately adjacent to any site designated for nature conservation. For this reason no appropriate assessment under Article 6 (3) of the Habitats Directive (Council Directive 92/43/EEC) is required in this instance”</i>.</p>	<p>No significant in-combination effects are predicted to arise from this project and the proposed development due to the nature and duration of the works, the distance between the two sites and the conclusions of the biodiversity assessments from both developments.</p>
<p>Mayo County Council Planning Application No. 20760 Decision Date: 07/12/2020 Location: Moneenbradagh, Castlebar, Co. Mayo</p>	<p>Construct an extension to existing distribution and warehouse facility. The extension floor area is 4496sqm in total, with an external height of 14m. The extension is to be constructed in 2 phases. Phase 1 is 2996sqm and phase 2 is 1500sqm. The buildings will contain warehouse and distribution space including dock levellers with offices, reception, changing rooms, a gymnasium, creche and ancillary facilities. Additional staff and visitor parking will be included in the site layout.</p> <p>An AA Screening was carried for this development. The screening concluded that <i>“the proposed development, by itself or in combination with other development in the vicinity, would not likely have a significant effect on European site(s)”</i>.</p>	<p>No significant in-combination effects are predicted to arise from this project and the proposed development due to the nature and duration of the works, the distance between the two sites and the conclusions of the biodiversity assessments from both developments.</p>

Plan or project	Description of plan or project	In-combination effect(s)
<p>Mayo County Council Planning Application No. 20757 Decision Date: 27/11/2020 Location: Carrowntober, Manulla, Castlebar, Co. Mayo</p>	<p>Installation of an array of solar photovoltaic panels onto the existing clubhouse roof to include all ancillary works.</p> <p>An AA Screening was carried for this development. The screening concluded that <i>“the proposed development, by itself or in combination with other development in the vicinity, would not likely have a significant effect on European site(s)”</i>.</p>	<p>No significant in-combination effects are predicted to arise from this project and the proposed development due to the nature and duration of the works, the distance between the two sites and the conclusions of the biodiversity assessments from both developments.</p>
<p>Mayo County Council Planning Application No. 20753 Decision Date: 24/05/2021 Location: Knocknageehy, Breaghwy, Castlebar</p>	<p>Conditional permission was granted by Mayo County Council for construction of a new dwelling house with connection to public services and the demolition of existing domestic garage along with all necessary site works and ancillaries. This development is approx. 125m north of the proposed development. No NIS or EIAR submitted or required as part of planning.</p>	<p>There are no likely significant effects predicted to arise from the combination of this project with the proposed development due to the nature and duration of the works as well as the distance between the two developments.</p>
<p>Mayo County Council Planning Application No. 20704 Decision Date: 14/07/2021 Location: Lagnamuck, Balla, Castlebar, Co. Mayo</p>	<p>Construct a meal store and ancillary works including internal roadway and relocation of meal silos.</p> <p>No NIS or EIAR submitted or required as part of planning.</p>	<p>There are no likely significant effects predicted to arise from the combination of this project with the proposed development due to the nature and duration of the works as well as the distance between the two developments.</p>
<p>Mayo County Council Planning Application No. 20624 Decision Date: 07/10/2020 Location: Drumconlan, Castlebar, Co. Mayo</p>	<p>Realignment of part of existing IDA Business & Technology Park internal roadway, the diversion/rerouting of existing services within the confines of the IDA Business & Technology Park, the alteration of ground levels to the south boundary of Meissner filtration products property immediately west of the IDA Business & Technology Park entrance roundabout on the N60. Additional works to include all landscaping and ground works associated with same.</p> <p>An AA Screening was carried for this development. The screening concluded that <i>“The proposed development site is not located within or immediately adjacent to any site</i></p>	<p>No significant in-combination effects are predicted to arise from this project and the proposed development due to the nature and duration of the works, the distance between the two sites and the conclusions of the biodiversity assessments from both developments.</p>

Plan or project	Description of plan or project	In-combination effect(s)
	<i>designated for nature conservation. For this reason no appropriate assessment under Article 6 (3) of the Habitats Directive (Council Directive 92/43/EEC) is required in this instance".</i>	
<p>Mayo County Council Planning Application No. 20604 Decision Date: 12/10/2020 Location: Bellavary, Castlebar, Co. Mayo</p>	<p>Extension and alterations to an existing national school to include a recreation hall, a new classroom, toilets, hallways and all associated services including parking and traffic management.</p> <p>No NIS or EIAR submitted or required as part of planning.</p>	<p>There are no likely significant effects predicted to arise from the combination of this project with the proposed development due to the nature and duration of the works as well as the distance between the two developments.</p>
<p>Mayo County Council Planning Application No. 20513 Decision Date: 26/05/2021 Location: Hennelly Land, Carrick Hill, Breagwhy, Castlebar, Co, Mayo</p>	<p>Construction of a 24m monopole structure to support telecommunications antennae for use by Eir and other operators, which together with the installations of dishes new access track, fencing enlarged access gate and ground-based equipment cabinets will provide mobile electronic communications services and all associated siteworks.</p> <p>A NIS was submitted as part of this application. The NIS concluded that <i>"As a result of this Appropriate Assessment, it has been concluded that, provided the avoidance mitigation measures suggested are implemented in full, it is not expected that the proposed development will have a significant adverse impact on the River Moy SAC or any other Natura 2000 site"</i>.</p>	<p>No significant in-combination effects are predicted to arise from this project and the proposed development due to the nature and duration of the works, the distance between the two sites and the conclusions of the biodiversity assessments from both developments.</p>
<p>Mayo County Council Planning Application No. 20436 Decision Date: 27/08/2020 Location: Castlebar Technology Park, Drumconlon Castlebar, Co. Mayo</p>	<p>Construct a new mezzanine floor within existing industrial building to be used for manufacturing/storage and the provision of additional car parking and all ancillary site works.</p> <p>An AA Screening was carried for this development. The screening concluded that <i>"the proposed development, by itself or in combination with other development in the vicinity, would not likely have a significant effect on European site(s)"</i>.</p>	<p>No significant in-combination effects are predicted to arise from this project and the proposed development due to the nature and duration of the works, the distance between the two sites and the conclusions of the biodiversity assessments from both developments.</p>
<p>Mayo County Council Planning Application No. 20407 Decision Date: 06/01/2021</p>	<p>Construct milking parlour building with collection/drafting area, slatted tank, meal bin, office, storage area, plant rooms, dairy, cubicle house with slatted tank and all associated site works.</p>	<p>No significant in-combination effects are predicted to arise from this project and the</p>

Plan or project	Description of plan or project	In-combination effect(s)
<p>Location: Cunlaghfadda, Claremorris, Co. Mayo</p>	<p>A NIS was submitted as part of this application. The NIS concluded that <i>“As a result of the proposed mitigation measures, this Natura Impact Statement is able to conclude that the proposed works will not result in impacts on the integrity of the River Moy SAC or any other Natura 2000 sites within 15km”</i>.</p>	<p>proposed development due to the nature and duration of the works, the distance between the two sites and the conclusions of the biodiversity assessments from both developments.</p>
<p>Mayo County Council Planning Application No. 20381 Decision Date: 23/09/2020 Location: Creggarve, Hollymount, Co. Mayo</p>	<p>Construct an agricultural building for housing bovine livestock and also a milking parlour and all ancillary site developments.</p> <p>Stage 2 AA was carried out for this application. It was concluded that the proposed development will not result in impacts on the integrity of any Natura 2000 site provided that no slurry or silage effluent shall be spread within any Natura 2000 sites.</p>	<p>No significant in-combination effects are predicted to arise from this project and the proposed development due to the nature and duration of the works, the distance between the two sites and the conclusions of the biodiversity assessments from both developments.</p>
<p>Mayo County Council Planning Application No. 20312 Decision Date: 15/07/2020 Location: Pheasant Hill, Cloonkeen, Castlebar, Co, Mayo</p>	<p>A deposition area for surplus fill material (inert soil and subsoil) on a 2.4 hectare site.</p> <p>The planners report for this application states that <i>“The lands are within the overall N5 project EIA boundary that was assessed as part of the N5 Turlough Westport road project. [...] An Appropriate Assessment Screening document has been prepared and submitted as part of this application and concludes that no adverse impacts on the Natura 2000 network are envisaged, which I am in agreement with considering the fact the Stage 2 NIS was carried out previously as part of the overall N5 project”</i>.</p>	<p>No significant in-combination effects are predicted to arise from this project and the proposed development due to the nature and duration of the works, the distance between the two sites and the conclusions of the biodiversity assessments from both developments.</p>
<p>Mayo County Council Planning Application No. 20299 Decision Date: 11/09/2020 Location: Cogaula, Clogher, co. Mayo</p>	<p>Extraction and processing of road construction materials for the proposed N5 Westport to Turlough road and to replace the materials with inert fill from the aforementioned project (surplus inert soil and subsoil) on a 2.2 hectare site.</p> <p>An AA Screening was carried for this development. The screening concluded that <i>“It is considered that the excavation and infilling activities at the proposed deposition site are an intrinsic part of the overall N5 Road Project and therefore the environmental management measures as outlined in the NIS for this road scheme and those for the</i></p>	<p>No significant in-combination effects are predicted to arise from this project and the proposed development due to the nature and duration of the works, the distance between the two sites and the conclusions of the biodiversity</p>

Plan or project	Description of plan or project	In-combination effect(s)
	<p><i>N59 road scheme are applicable to this site</i>". Therefore, mitigation measures proposed within the NIS for the N5 Road Project will be implemented and any adverse effects on European site(s) arising from the proposed development will be avoided or reduced to insignificant levels.</p>	<p>assessments from both developments.</p>
<p>Mayo County Council Planning Application No. 20297 Decision Date: 15/07/2020 Location: Drumeen, Islandeady, Co. Mayo</p>	<p>A deposition area for surplus fill material (inert soil and subsoil) on a 3.0 hectare site. This development requires a waste facility permit.</p> <p>The planners report for this application states that "<i>The lands are within the overall N5 project EIA boundary that was assessed as part of the N5 Turlough Westport road project. [...] An Appropriate Assessment Screening document has been prepared and submitted as part of this application and concludes that no adverse impacts on the Natura 2000 network are envisaged, which I am in agreement with considering the fact the Stage 2 NIS was carried out previously as part of the overall N5 project</i>".</p>	<p>No significant in-combination effects are predicted to arise from this project and the proposed development due to the nature and duration of the works, the distance between the two sites and the conclusions of the biodiversity assessments from both developments.</p>
<p>Mayo County Council Planning Application No. 20296 Decision Date: 15/07/2020 Location: Drumeen, Islandeady, Co. Mayo</p>	<p>A deposition area for surplus fill material (inert soil and subsoil) on a 2.7 hectare.</p> <p>The planners report for this application states that "<i>The lands are within the overall N5 project EIA boundary that was assessed as part of the N5 Turlough Westport road project. [...] An Appropriate Assessment Screening document has been prepared and submitted as part of this application and concludes that no adverse impacts on the Natura 2000 network are envisaged, which I am in agreement with considering the fact the Stage 2 NIS was carried out previously as part of the overall N5 project</i>".</p>	<p>No significant in-combination effects are predicted to arise from this project and the proposed development due to the nature and duration of the works, the distance between the two sites and the conclusions of the biodiversity assessments from both developments.</p>
<p>Mayo County Council Planning Application No. 20241 Decision Date: 13/07/2020 Location: Liscromwell, Castlebar, Co. Mayo</p>	<p>A deposition area for surplus fill material (inert soil and subsoil) on a 4.65 hectare site.</p> <p>The planners report for this application states that "<i>The lands are within the overall N5 project EIA boundary that was assessed as part of the N5 Turlough Westport road project. [...] An Appropriate Assessment Screening document has been prepared and submitted as part of this application and concludes that no adverse impacts on the Natura 2000 network are envisaged, which I am in agreement with considering the fact the Stage 2 NIS was carried out previously as part of the overall N5 project</i>".</p>	<p>No significant in-combination effects are predicted to arise from this project and the proposed development due to the nature and duration of the works, the distance between the two sites and the conclusions of the biodiversity assessments from both developments.</p>

Plan or project	Description of plan or project	In-combination effect(s)
<p>Mayo County Council Planning Application No. 20203 Decision Date: 09/07/2020 Location: Knocknageehy, Breaffy, Castlebar</p>	<p>Conditional permission was granted by Mayo County Council to construct dwelling house together with all associated site works and connection into existing services. This development is approx. 220m north of the proposed development. No NIS or EIAR submitted or required as part of planning.</p>	<p>There are no likely significant effects predicted to arise from the combination of this project with the proposed development due to the nature and duration of the works as well as the distance between the two developments.</p>
<p>Mayo County Council Planning Application No. 20180 Decision Date: 06/07/2020 Location: Claggernagh East, Islandeady, Castlebar, Co. Mayo</p>	<p>The extraction and processing of road construction materials for the proposed N5 Westport to Turlough road and to replace the materials with inert fill from the aforementioned project (surplus inert soil and subsoil) on a 4.95 hectare site.</p> <p>An AA Screening was carried for this development. The screening concluded that <i>“It is considered that the proposed activities at the deposition are accounted for in the N5 Road Project NIS therefore, the environmental management measures outlined in the NIS for the road scheme are applicable and should be applied to this site”</i>. Therefore, mitigation measures proposed within the NIS for the N5 Road Project will be implemented and any adverse effects on European site(s) arising from the proposed development will be avoided or reduced to insignificant levels.</p>	<p>No significant in-combination effects are predicted to arise from this project and the proposed development due to the nature and duration of the works, the distance between the two sites and the conclusions of the biodiversity assessments from both developments.</p>
<p>Mayo County Council Planning Application No. 20160 Decision Date: 06/07/2020 Location: Liscromwell, Castlebar, Co. Mayo</p>	<p>Extraction and processing of road construction materials for the proposed N5 Westport to Turlough road and to replace the materials with inert fill from the aforementioned project (surplus inert soil and subsoil) on a 2.95 hectare site.</p> <p>An AA Screening was carried for this development. The screening concluded that <i>“It is considered that the excavation and infilling activities at the proposed barrow and deposition site are an intrinsic part of the overall N5 Road Project and therefore the environmental management measures as outlined in the NIS for this road scheme are applicable to this site. The applicant has agreed that they will be implemented at all stages of the proposed works”</i>. Therefore, mitigation measures proposed within the NIS for the N5 Road Project will be implemented and any adverse effects on European site(s) arising from the proposed development will be avoided or reduced to insignificant levels.</p>	<p>No significant in-combination effects are predicted to arise from this project and the proposed development due to the nature and duration of the works, the distance between the two sites and the conclusions of the biodiversity assessments from both developments.</p>

Plan or project	Description of plan or project	In-combination effect(s)
<p>Mayo County Council Planning Application No. 20152 Decision Date: 08/07/2020 Location: Aughadrinagh, Castlebar, Co. Mayo</p>	<p>Extraction and processing of road construction materials for the proposed N5 Westport to Turlough road and to replace the materials with inert fill from the aforementioned project (surplus inert soil and subsoil) on a 4.95 hectare site.</p> <p>An AA Screening was carried for this development. The screening concluded that <i>“It is considered that the excavation and infilling activities at the proposed barrow and deposition site are an intrinsic part of the overall N5 Road Project and therefore environmental management measures as outlined in the NIS for this road scheme are applicable to this site. The applicant has agreed that they will be implemented at all stages of the proposed works”</i>. Therefore, mitigation measures proposed within the NIS for the N5 Road Project will be implemented and any adverse effects on European site(s) arising from the proposed development will be avoided or reduced to insignificant levels.</p>	<p>No significant in-combination effects are predicted to arise from this project and the proposed development due to the nature and duration of the works, the distance between the two sites and the conclusions of the biodiversity assessments from both developments.</p>
<p>Mayo County Council Planning Application No. 20143 Decision Date: 01/10/2020 Location: Breaffy Woods Hotel, Breaffy House Resort, Nreaffy, Castlebar</p>	<p>Change of use of existing 3 storey over part basement hotel (at basement, ground, first and second floor level) to a 90 bedroom. 3 storey over party basement nursing home (at basement, ground, first and second floor level). Permissions is also sought to include all ancillary accommodation to the nursing home, internal and external alterations to include modifications to the existing stair cores to the front and rear elevation, and to erect a two-storey extension to the rear elevation at first and second floor level to include a sluice room, together with all associated site development works to include modifications to existing car parking layout, proposed signage.</p> <p>An AA Screening was carried for this development. The screening concluded that <i>“the proposed development, by itself or in combination with other development in the vicinity, would not be likely to have a significant effect on European site(s)”</i>.</p>	<p>No significant in-combination effects are predicted to arise from this project and the proposed development due to the nature and duration of the works, and the conclusions of the biodiversity assessments from both developments.</p>
<p>Mayo County Council Planning Application No. 20126 Decision Date: 03/07/2020 Location: Cloggernagh East, Islandeady, Co. Mayo</p>	<p>A deposition area for surplus fill material (inert soil and subsoil) on a 2.91 hectare site.</p> <p>An AA Screening was carried for this development. The screening concluded that <i>“It is considered that the proposed activities at the deposition are accounted for in the N5 Road Project NIS therefore, the environmental management measures outlined in the NIS for the road scheme are applicable and should be applied to this site”</i>. Therefore, mitigation measures proposed within the NIS for the N5 Road Project will be</p>	<p>No significant in-combination effects are predicted to arise from this project and the proposed development due to the nature and duration of the works, the distance between the two sites and the conclusions of the biodiversity</p>

Plan or project	Description of plan or project	In-combination effect(s)
	implemented and any adverse effects on European site(s) arising from the proposed development will be avoided or reduced to insignificant levels	assessments from both developments.
<p>Mayo County Council Planning Application No. 2068 Decision Date: 01/04/2020 Location: Lehanagh, Mayo Abbey, Claremorris, Co. Mayo</p>	<p>Extension and alterations to an existing national school and all associated services.</p> <p>An AA Screening was carried for this development. The screening concluded that <i>“The Planning Authority considers that due to its location and the details submitted, the proposed development, by itself or in combination with other development in the vicinity, would not be likely to have a significant effect on European site(s)”</i>.</p>	<p>No significant in-combination effects are predicted to arise from this project and the proposed development due to the nature and duration of the works, the distance between the two sites and the conclusions of the biodiversity assessments from both developments.</p>
<p>Mayo County Council Planning Application No. 2053 Decision Date: 14/10/2020 Location: Ballymacraha, Castlebar, Co. Mayo</p>	<p>Extraction and processing of road construction material for the proposed N5 Westport to Turlough road project and to replace the material with imported inert fill material from the proposed N5 Westport to Turlough Road project and all associated ancillary facilities.</p> <p>An AA Screening was carried for this development. The screening concluded that <i>“The project can [...] be screened out of any further stages of Appropriate Assessment and a Stage 2 NIS is not required for this development”</i>.</p>	<p>No significant in-combination effects are predicted to arise from this project and the proposed development due to the nature and duration of the works, the distance between the two sites and the conclusions of the biodiversity assessments from both developments.</p>
<p>Mayo County Council Planning Application No. 191030 Decision Date: 13/10/2020 Location: Ballynaboll south, Castlebar, Co. Mayo</p>	<p>Permission to construct 28 no. houses consisting of 6 no. 3 bedroom detached, 8 no. 2 bedroom semi-detached, 8 no. 2 bedroom semi-detached bungalows and 6. no. 3 bedroom semi-detached houses including all ancillary site works, wastewater pumping station and connection to public sewers.</p> <p>An AA Screening was carried for this development. The screening concluded that <i>“The proposed development is not located within or immediately adjacent to any site designated for nature conservation, For this reason no appropriate assessment under Article 6 (3) of the Habitats Directive (Council Directive 92/43/EEC) is required in this instance”</i>.</p>	<p>No significant in-combination effects are predicted to arise from this project and the proposed development due to the nature and duration of the works, the distance between the two sites and the conclusions of the biodiversity assessments from both developments.</p>
<p>Mayo County Council Planning Application No. 19706 Decision Date: 24/10/2019</p>	<p>Conditional permission was granted by Mayo County Council for change of use from existing manufacturing to ground floor office space, together with a first-floor mezzanine floor warehousing at rear of existing building, P16/572 and P07/739 refers. These works</p>	<p>There are no likely significant effects predicted to arise from the combination of this project</p>

Plan or project	Description of plan or project	In-combination effect(s)
Location: Castlebar Technology Park, Moneen Road, Drumconlan, Castlebar	are to be carried out together with the associated site services. This development is immediately south of the proposed development. No NIS or EIAR submitted or required as part of planning.	with the proposed development due to the nature and duration of the works.
Mayo County Council Planning Application No. 19703 Decision Date: 24/02/2020 Location: Knockrawer, Breaffy Road, Castlebar, Co. Mayo	Construct 4 no. retail warehouse units each containing gross floor area 807sqm with total floor area 3,228sqm, associated signage, car parking and all ancillary site works and services on site, previously granted under p08/1419. No NIS or EIAR submitted or required as part of planning.	There are no likely significant effects predicted to arise from the combination of this project with the proposed development due to the nature and duration of the works.
Mayo County Council Planning Application No. 19702 Decision Date: 03/11/2019 Location: Rinnaseer, Islandeady, Castlebar	Construct a new two storey clubhouse facility, including a new wastewater treatment unit and percolation area, together with modifications to existing site layout, car parking and services. An AA Screening was carried for this development. The screening concluded that <i>“the proposed development by itself or in combination with other development in the vicinity, would not be likely to have a significant effect on European site(s)”</i> .	No significant in-combination effects are predicted to arise from this project and the proposed development due to the nature and duration of the works, the distance between the two sites and the conclusions of the biodiversity assessments from both developments.
Mayo County Council Planning Application No. 19651 Decision Date: 22/01/2020 Location: The Humbert Way, The Curragh, Castlebar, Co. Mayo	Revisions to phased development to that previously granted residential estate under p16/989 and p18/302. Development will include phase 1: Gladesville, change of 8 no. semi-detached houses into 6 no. detached houses with revised site layout for plots 52 to 59 inclusive. Phase 2: Humbert Close - a mix of 20 no. units, 4 no. two storey 2 bedroom houses and 16 no. two storey 3 bedroom semi-detached housing with revised modern elevations. Phase 3: Humbert Close - a mix of 28 no. units, including 4 no. 1 bedroom maisonettes, 8 no. two storey 2 bedroom terraced houses, 10 no. two storey 3 bedroom semi-detached, 2 no. 2 bedroom two storey semi-detached houses and 4 no. 2 bedroom bungalows, together with revised site layout and all ancillary site works. An AA Screening was carried for this development. The screening concluded that <i>“The proposed development is not located within or immediately adjacent to any site designated for nature conservation. For this reason no appropriate assessment under Article 6 (3) of the Habitats Directive (Council Directive (92/43/EEC) is required for this instance”</i> .	No significant in-combination effects are predicted to arise from this project and the proposed development due to the nature and duration of the works, the distance between the two sites and the conclusions of the biodiversity assessments from both developments.

Plan or project	Description of plan or project	In-combination effect(s)
<p>Mayo County Council Planning Application No. 19644 Decision Date: 09/10/2019 Location: Knockaunakill, Mayo Abbey, Claremorris, Co. Mayo</p>	<p>Construct silage slab with ancillary concrete yards.</p> <p>No NIS or EIAR submitted or required as part of planning.</p>	<p>There are no likely significant effects predicted to arise from the combination of this project with the proposed development due to the nature and duration of the works as well as the distance between the two developments.</p>
<p>Mayo County Council Planning Application No. 19540 Decision Date: 20/09/2020 Location: Belcarra, Castlebar, Co. Mayo</p>	<p>Construct 22 no. housing units, consisting of 9 no. detached units, 4 no. semi-detached units and 9 no. terraced housing units, construction of a new site entrance, connection to existing services, new boundary treatments, site landscaping and all associated site works.</p> <p>A NIS was submitted as part of this application. The NIS concluded that <i>“Where the potential for any adverse effects on any European site has been identified, the pathway by which any such effects may occur has been robustly blocked through the use of avoidance, appropriate design and mitigation measures as set out within this report and its appendices. The measures ensure that the construction and operation of the proposed development does not adversely affect the integrity of European sites”</i>.</p>	<p>No significant in-combination effects are predicted to arise from this project and the proposed development due to the nature and duration of the works, the distance between the two sites and the conclusions of the biodiversity assessments from both developments.</p>
<p>Mayo County Council Planning Application No. 19513 Decision Date: 28/08/2019 Location: Lehanagh, Mayo abbey, Claremorris, Co. Mayo</p>	<p>Extension and alterations to an existing national school and installation of a temporary classroom and associated services.</p> <p>An AA Screening was carried for this development. The screening concluded that <i>“the proposed development by itself or in combination with other development in the vicinity, would not be likely to have a significant effect on European site(s)”</i>.</p>	<p>No significant in-combination effects are predicted to arise from this project and the proposed development due to the nature and duration of the works, the distance between the two sites and the conclusions of the biodiversity assessments from both developments.</p>
<p>Mayo County Council Planning Application No. 19142 Decision Date: 25/04/2019 Location: Moat, Balla, Co. Mayo</p>	<p>Removal of existing prefab classroom structure and adjoining corridor and the construction of an extension to the existing main school building for the provision of an ASD unit and science lab with connecting corridor to existing school building together with associated site works and services.</p>	<p>No significant in-combination effects are predicted to arise from this project and the proposed development due to the nature and duration of the works, the distance between the two sites and the</p>

Plan or project	Description of plan or project	In-combination effect(s)
	An AA Screening was carried for this development. The screening concluded that <i>“The proposed development site is not located within or immediately adjacent to any site designated for nature conservation. For this reason no appropriate assessment under Article 6 of the EI Habitats Directive is required in this instance”</i> .	conclusions of the biodiversity assessments from both developments.
<p>Mayo County Council Planning Application No. 19106 Decision Date: 14/04/2019 Location: Clogher, Turlough, Castlebar, Co. Mayo</p>	<p>Construct 52.6sqm extension to existing nursing home and all associated site works.</p> <p>An AA Screening was carried for this development. The screening concluded that <i>“The proposed development site is not located within or immediately adjacent to any site designated for nature conservation. For this reason no appropriate assessment under Article 6 of the EI Habitats Directive is required in this instance”</i>.</p>	No significant in-combination effects are predicted to arise from this project and the proposed development due to the nature and duration of the works, the distance between the two sites and the conclusions of the biodiversity assessments from both developments.
<p>Mayo County Council Planning Application No. 1940 Decision Date: 17/01/2020 Location: Moat, Balla, Co. Mayo</p>	<p>The development will consist of the development of playing pitches to include walking track and pitch lighting, the construction of an extension to existing sports hall and all ancillary site works.</p> <p>An AA Screening was carried for this development. The screening concluded that <i>“the proposed development by itself or in combination with other development in the vicinity, would not be likely to have a significant effect on European site(s)”</i>.</p>	No significant in-combination effects are predicted to arise from this project and the proposed development due to the nature and duration of the works, the distance between the two sites and the conclusions of the biodiversity assessments from both developments.
<p>Mayo County Council Planning Application No. 181005 Decision Date: 26/03/2019 Location: Convent of Mercy, Castlebar, Co. Mayo</p>	<p>Construct a single storey extension within the school site. The block will include 7 no. general classrooms, 1 no. home economics room, boiler room, sanitary facility, circulation and link corridor to main school building. The development will also include all associated site works and connections to existing services.</p> <p>An AA Screening was carried for this development. The screening concluded that <i>“the proposed development by itself or in combination with other development in the vicinity, would not be likely to have a significant effect on European site(s)”</i>.</p>	No significant in-combination effects are predicted to arise from this project and the proposed development due to the nature and duration of the works, the distance between the two sites and the conclusions of the biodiversity assessments from both developments.

Plan or project	Description of plan or project	In-combination effect(s)
<p>Mayo County Council Planning Application No. 18806 Decision Date: 10/12/2018 Location: Rinshinna, Castlebar, Co. Mayo</p>	<p>Demolition of existing meetings rooms and to construct new building to facilitate changing rooms, meeting room and ancillary facilities along with all associated services.</p> <p>No NIS or EIAR submitted or required as part of planning.</p>	<p>There are no likely significant effects predicted to arise from the combination of this project with the proposed development due to the nature and duration of the works as well as the distance between the two developments.</p>
<p>Mayo County Council Planning Application No. 18777 Decision Date: 14/02/2019 Location: Sacred Heart Hospital, Pontoon Road, Castlebar, Co. Mayo</p>	<p>Partial demolition of our lady's ward located to the west of the site. The building block up to the existing link corridor, 683 sqm gross floor area will be demolished including the former bedroom accommodation, sanitary facilities, offices and other support/ancillary accommodation but retaining the link corridor, the common room and pantry to the east of the corridor with modifications to the existing corridor wall and roof over to provide a weatherproof enclosure with associated hard and soft landscaping to the reinstated ground levels.</p> <p>No NIS or EIAR submitted or required as part of planning.</p>	<p>There are no likely significant effects predicted to arise from the combination of this project with the proposed development due to the nature and duration of the works as well as the distance between the two developments.</p>
<p>Mayo County Council Planning Application No. 18640 Decision Date: 27/03/2019 Location: Moneenbradagh, Castlebar, Co. Mayo</p>	<p>Construct a 2 storey 3,907sqm extension to the existing primary care centre, (p13/12500 refers) with all ancillary and associated works.</p> <p>No NIS or EIAR submitted or required as part of planning.</p>	<p>There are no likely significant effects predicted to arise from the combination of this project with the proposed development due to the nature and duration of the works as well as the distance between the two developments.</p>
<p>Mayo County Council Planning Application No. 18327 Decision Date: 16/08/2018 Location: Moneenbradagh, Castlebar, Co. Mayo</p>	<p>Construct new entrance/exit with associated adjustments to boundary treatment, footpaths, landscaping, lighting, signage and all ancillary site works.</p> <p>No NIS or EIAR submitted or required as part of planning.</p>	<p>There are no likely significant effects predicted to arise from the combination of this project with the proposed development due to the nature and duration of the works as well as the distance between the two developments.</p>
<p>Mayo County Council Planning Application No. 18308</p>	<p>Conditional permission was granted by Mayo County Council to construct dwelling house, outbuildings, and vehicular entrance with connection to public foul sewer</p>	<p>There are no likely significant effects predicted to arise from</p>

Plan or project	Description of plan or project	In-combination effect(s)
<p>Decision Date: 13/11/2018 Location: Ashwood, Drumconlan, Castlebar</p>	<p>including all ancillary site services. This development is located immediately north of the proposed development. No NIS or EIAR submitted or required as part of planning.</p>	<p>the combination of this project with the proposed development due to the nature and duration of the works as well as the distance between the two developments.</p>
<p>Mayo County Council Planning Application No. 18302 Decision Date: 28/08/2018 Location: The Humbert Way, The Curragh, Co. Mayo</p>	<p>Revisions to house types for 16 no. houses previously granted residential development under p16/989. Alterations to house type A, change of house type B, replacing house type D with house type B, replacing house type F with house type A, together with all ancillary site works.</p> <p>No NIS or EIAR submitted or required as part of planning</p>	<p>There are no likely significant effects predicted to arise from the combination of this project with the proposed development due to the nature and duration of the works as well as the distance between the two developments.</p>
<p>Mayo County Council Planning Application No. 18244 Decision Date: 24/07/2018 Location: Kilkenny Cross, Castlebar, Co. Mayo</p>	<p>Demolition of an existing dwelling house and the construction of 3 no. detached houses, together with access road, connections to public services and all ancillary siteworks.</p> <p>No NIS or EIAR submitted or required as part of planning.</p>	<p>There are no likely significant effects predicted to arise from the combination of this project with the proposed development due to the nature and duration of the works as well as the distance between the two developments.</p>
<p>An Bord Pleanala Planning Application No. PL16.246632 Mayo County Council Planning Application No. 18226 Decision Date: 11/05/2017 Location: Moneenbradagh, Castlebar</p>	<p>An Bord Pleanala have granted conditional planning permission for the relocation of access into site from that previously granted, the relocation of a weigh-bridge consequent of revised access location and to increase in building height by one metre over previously approved height. This development is located 320m north of the proposed development. No NIS or EIAR submitted or required as part of planning.</p>	<p>There are no likely significant effects predicted to arise from the combination of this project with the proposed development due to the nature and duration of the works as well as the distance between the two developments.</p>
<p>Mayo County Council Planning Application No. 18224 Decision Date: 24/07/2018</p>	<p>Conditional permission was granted by Mayo County Council for the demolition of an existing dwelling house and the construction of 3no. detached houses, together with access road, connections to public services and all. No NIS or EIAR submitted or required as part of planning.</p>	<p>There are no likely significant effects predicted to arise from the combination of this project with the proposed development</p>

Plan or project	Description of plan or project	In-combination effect(s)
Location: Kilkenny Cross, Castlebar		due to the nature and duration of the works.
Mayo County Council Planning Application No. 17367 Decision Date: 24/09/2017 Location: Hawthorn Lodge, Castlebar, Co. Mayo	<p>Extension of the existing golf course area and the construction of 5 new golf holes on the extended area as part of the overall reconfiguration of the golf course.</p> <p>An AA Screening was carried for this development. The screening concluded that <i>“it / possible to rule out likely significant impacts on any Natura 2000 sites considered in the assessment. It is possible to conclude that there would be no adverse effects on the site integrity resulting from the project and that there would be no significant effects, no potentially significant effects and no uncertain effects if the project were to proceed”</i>.</p>	No significant in-combination effects are predicted to arise from this project and the proposed development due to the nature and duration of the works, the distance between the two sites and the conclusions of the biodiversity assessments from both developments.
Mayo County Council Planning Application No. 17329 Decision Date: 26/09/2017 Location: Castlebar Technology Park, Drumconlan, Castlebar, Co. Mayo	<p>Construct new industrial building consisting of office space, staff facilities over two floors and light manufacturing space along with a new ESB substation, car parking, cycle shelter, compound for gas storage, landscaping, security fence to site boundaries along with all ancillary site works.</p> <p>No NIS or EIAR submitted or required as part of planning.</p>	There are no likely significant effects predicted to arise from the combination of this project with the proposed development due to the nature and duration of the works as well as the distance between the two developments.
Mayo County Council Planning Application No. 17306 Decision Date: 20/06/2017 Location: Rinshinna, Castlebar, Co. Mayo	<p>Retention of an existing 18m multi-user monopole, carrying associated telecommunications antenna, dish, associated equipment, associated equipment cabin, and a 2.4m high security fence and access track.</p> <p>No NIS or EIAR submitted or required as part of planning.</p>	There are no likely significant effects predicted to arise from the combination of this project with the proposed development due to the nature and duration of the works as well as the distance between the two developments.
River Moy Arterial Drainage Scheme 2016-2020	<p>This plan details the drainage maintenance works required for the River Moy, including silt and vegetation management, aquatic vegetation cutting, bush cutting/branch trimming and tree cutting.</p> <p>A Natura Impact Statement was submitted with this application which concluded that <i>“the avoidance and mitigation measures suggested, the proposed drainage maintenance</i></p>	No significant in-combination effects are predicted to arise from this scheme and the proposed development due to the conclusions of the biodiversity assessments from

Plan or project	Description of plan or project	In-combination effect(s)
	<p><i>operations in the MOY Arterial Drainage Scheme will not have a significant adverse impact on the above Natura 2000 sites”.</i></p>	<p>both the proposed development and the scheme.</p>
<p>N5 Westport to Turlough Road</p>	<p>The proposed N5 road project stretches from northwest of Westport in the townland of Deerpark East to a point East of Castlebar in the townland of Ballyneggin. The design of the proposed N5 mainline is a Type 2 Dual Carriageway with major junctions proposed at the intersection of the N59, existing N5, N84 and N60. The proposed road development includes: 20.3km of type 2 Dual Carriageway, 5.2km of Type 2 Single Carriageway, 3 compact grade separated junctions including overbridges, 6 roundabouts, 2 at grade “left in-left out” junctions and 1 all movements at grade junction, 1 bridge widening over the Castlebar River, 2 rail bridges over the Westport to Manulla Junction railway line, 11 overbridges, 2 underbridges and 7 farm underpasses and other associated works.</p> <p>A NIS was submitted as part of this application. The NIS concluded that “<i>Beyond reasonable scientific doubt, there will be no significant impacts from the proposed development on the qualifying interests, integrity or conservation objectives of the River Moy SAC</i></p> <p><i>The proposed scheme will result in an improvement in the quality of road runoff from the existing N5 in the vicinity of the Castlebar River and also provides for spill containment in the event of accidental spillages which is currently absent, thus contributing to an improvement in water quality within the Castlebar River and downstream within the River Moy SAC”.</i></p>	<p>No significant in-combination effects are predicted to arise from this project and the proposed development due to the nature and duration of the works, and the conclusions of the biodiversity assessments from both developments.</p>
<p>N60 Castlebar to Balla Road Improvement Scheme at Manulla</p>	<p>This project involves the construction and improvement of approximately 4.0km of road infrastructure for the N60 National Secondary Road between the townlands of Manulla and Carrownrober Oughter, Balla in County Mayo. The proposed road development includes 4.0km of Type 1 Single Carriageway road (online and offline), construction of a cycleway, local road alignments & junction improvements and a bridge over the existing railway line at Manulla Junction. There may be an overlap with the construction programmes.</p> <p>This project is currently at Phase 4 (Statutory Process).</p>	<p>There are no likely significant effects predicted to arise from the combination of this project with the proposed development due to the nature and duration of the works.</p>
<p>N60 Castlebar to Balla at Lagnamuck</p>	<p>The Project involves the construction and improvement of approximately 1.4 km of road infrastructure on the N60 National Secondary Road between the townlands of Carrownrober Oughter and Legaun, immediately west of Balla town in County Mayo. The</p>	<p>No significant in-combination effects are predicted to arise from this project and the</p>

Plan or project	Description of plan or project	In-combination effect(s)
	<p>proposed road development includes 1.4km of Type 2 carriageway road, construction of cycleways and footpaths and 3 local road alignments and junction improvements. This project has been constructed and as a result there will be no significant cumulative effects during the construction phase. During the operation phase, there will likely be a positive, moderate long-term cumulative effect as this project and the proposed development both provide walking and cycling infrastructure that will form part of a larger 24km route from Castlebar to Claremorris. A NIS was submitted as part of this application and concluded that <i>“as a result of the appropriate design of the proposal and proposed mitigation measures, there will be no adverse impacts to the integrity of the Balla Turlough SAC [or any other European site] as a result of the proposed development”</i> (Complete)</p>	<p>proposed development due to the nature and duration of the works, and the conclusions of the biodiversity assessments from both developments.</p>
<p>N60 Balla to Claremorris at Heathlawn</p>	<p>The proposed road development includes the realignment of 3.6km of the N60 at Heathlawn approximately 1km east of Balla. The proposed development includes 3.6km of Type 2 Single Carriageway road (online and offline), construction of a cycleway and local road realignments & junction improvements. There may be an overlap with the construction programmes. This project is located approximately 8.5km from the proposed development. An AA Screening Report and NIS were prepared for this project which concluded that, there will be no adverse impacts to the integrity of the Balla Turlough SAC (or any other European site) as a result of the project. This project is currently at Phase 5 (Advance Works, Tender & Award).</p>	<p>No significant in-combination effects are predicted to arise from this project and the proposed development due to the nature and duration of the works, and the conclusions of the biodiversity assessments from both developments.</p>
<p>Mayo County Development Plan 2022-2028</p>	<p>The Mayo County Development Plan 2022-2028 supports the development of sustainable modes of transport including cycling and walking facilities and the implementation of road safety measures under the following objectives and policies:</p> <p>Strategic County Development Plan Objectives</p> <p>SO4 <i>“Low carbon and Climate Resilience: To transition to a low carbon and climate resilient county, by promoting sustainable settlement patterns, the integration of land-use and sustainable modes of transport, encourage walking, cycling and public transport, increasing reliance on green energy sources, encouraging urban and rural communities to facilitate effective change and by building climate change resilience and climate action into all services and functions of Mayo County Council.”</i> (p.30)</p>	<p>This is a high-level strategic plan which sets out policies and objectives. Considering the nature of the plan and the conclusion of its biodiversity assessment and that any future projects stemming from the plan will be subjected to their own AA if necessary, there is no potential for adverse effects on any European site in combination with the proposed development.</p>

Plan or project	Description of plan or project	In-combination effect(s)
	<p>SO5 <i>“Development of Sustainable Communities: To transition to a low carbon and climate resilient county, by promoting sustainable settlement patterns, the integration of land-use and sustainable modes of transport, encourage walking, cycling and public transport, increasing reliance on green energy sources, encouraging urban and rural communities to facilitate effective change and by building climate change resilience and climate action into all services and functions of Mayo County Council.” (p.31)</i></p> <p>SO12 <i>“Integrated Land Use and Transportation Planning: Integrate land use planning and sustainable transportation planning, promote the consolidation of development, encourage sustainable travel patterns by reducing the need to travel particularly by private transport, while prioritising walking, cycling and public transport.” (p.32)</i></p> <p>Settlement Strategy Policies</p> <p>SSP 6 <i>“To support the creation of healthy and sustainable communities that encourages and facilitates walking and cycling and general physical activity through the implementation of best practices in urban design that promotes permeability and interconnecting spaces.” (p.44)</i></p> <p>SSP 7 <i>“To promote the integration of land use and transportation policies and to prioritise provision for cycling and walking travel modes and the strengthening of public transport.” (p.44)</i></p> <p>Integrated Land Use and Transportation Policies</p> <p>MTP 3 <i>“To support and facilitate any ‘Smarter Travel’ initiatives that will improve sustainable transportation within the county, including public transport, electric and hybrid vehicles, car clubs, public bike schemes, improved pedestrian and cycling facilities, as appropriate.” (p.111)</i></p> <p>Pedestrian and Cyclist Policies</p> <p>MTP 6 <i>“To support safer cycling/walking routes to encourage people to be more physically active for transport and leisure purposes.” (p.112)</i></p> <p>MTO 5 <i>“To encourage and facilitate the maintenance and further development of the public footpath network, walking and cycling routes and associated</i></p>	

Plan or project	Description of plan or project	In-combination effect(s)
	<p><i>infrastructure and where possible the retrofitting of cycle and pedestrian routes into the existing urban road network.” (p. 116)</i></p> <p>MTO 6 <i>“To support the establishment of a network of interlinked cycle ways and walk ways in the county and the adjoining counties, having regard to best practice standards including the Design Manual for Urban Roads and Streets and the NTA Cycle Manual or any amending/superseding national guidance or manuals.” (p. 116)</i></p> <p>National Roads Policies</p> <p>MTP4 <i>“To support sustainable mobility, enhanced regional accessibility and connectivity within County Mayo in accordance with the National Strategic Outcomes of Project 2040 and the Regional Spatial and Economic Strategy for the Northern and Western Region.” (p.112)</i></p> <p>MTP5 <i>“To promote the transition to a low carbon integrated transport system by firstly reducing the need for travel through the use of design solutions and innovative approaches with regards to the Design Manual for Urban Roads and Streets, and subsequently to shift to environmentally sustainable modes of transport.” (p.112)</i></p> <p>MTP22 <i>“To protect the capacity, efficiency and safety of the national road network in Mayo by complying with the ‘Spatial Planning and National Roads -Guidelines for planning authorities’ (2012).” (p.122)</i></p> <p>MTP20 <i>“To enhance regional accessibility between key urban centres of population and their regions through the protection of the capacity, efficiency and safety of the national road network in County Mayo” (p.123)</i></p> <p>MTO24 <i>“To seek to progress the National Road projects, listed in Table 6.5 subject, to required environmental assessments.” (p.124)</i></p> <p>MTO25 <i>“To seek to review, in conjunction with TII, a reduction of the maximum speed limit along National Routes, where such routes pass through identified settlements in the Settlement Strategy of this Plan” (p.124)</i></p>	

Plan or project	Description of plan or project	In-combination effect(s)
	<p>Rural Settlement and Village Settlement Plan Policies</p> <p>RSVP 6 <i>“To support public realm enhancements in rural settlements and villages, including signage, public lighting (Dark Sky Friendly), public seating, hard and soft landscaping and improvements to the road and footpath network, where appropriate.” (p.309)</i></p> <p>RSVP 11 <i>“To support the creation of cycling infrastructure within the rural villages and settlements, their hinterlands and at areas of interest and attractions.” (p. 309)</i></p> <p>RSVO 6 <i>“To seek the improvement, consolidation and expansion of the public lighting and footpath network in rural settlements and village, including a footpath / cycle link, where appropriate and feasible.” (p.310)</i></p> <p>RSVO 15 <i>“To seek the improvement, consolidation and expansion of the public lighting and footpath network in rural settlements and village, including a footpath / cycle link, where appropriate and feasible.” (p.311)</i></p> <p>An SEA , and AA have been completed to support the plan.</p>	

5. CONCLUSION

In accordance with Article 6(3) of the Habitats Directive, Part 5 of the Birds and Natural Habitats Regulation, Part XAB of the Planning and Development Acts, the relevant case law, established best practice and the Precautionary Principle, this AA Screening Report has examined the details of the proposed N60 Breaffy Active Travel and Safety Measure Scheme and its potential to significantly affect European sites. This report has concluded, on the basis of objective information, that the proposed development, either individually or in combination with other plans or projects, is not likely to give rise to impacts which would constitute significant effects on the River Moy SAC, in view of its Conservation Objectives.

In light of this conclusion, it is the considered opinion of ROD, as the author of this AA Screening Report, that Mayo County Council, as the Competent Authority in this case, in completing its AA Screening in respect of the proposed development, should find that the proposed development, either individually or in combination with other plans or projects, is not likely to have a significant effect the River Moy SAC, in view of their Conservation Objectives. Therefore, Mayo County Council should determine that AA is not required in respect of the proposed development.

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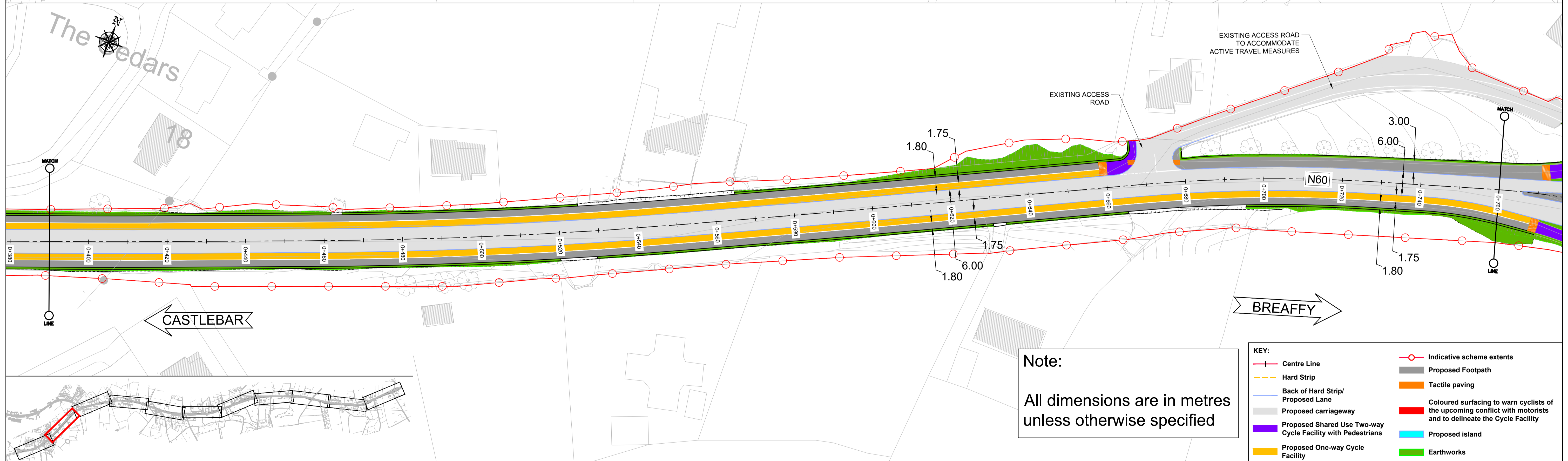
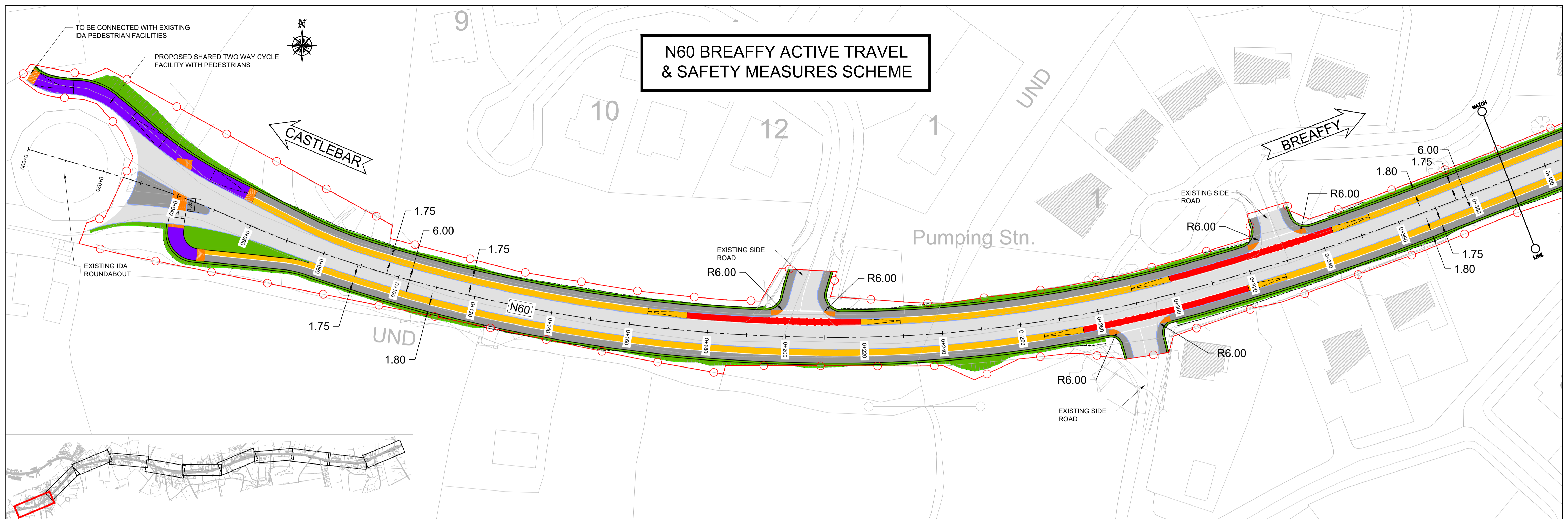
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APPENDIX A
DEVELOPMENT DRAWINGS

N60 BREAFFY ACTIVE TRAVEL & SAFETY MEASURES SCHEME



Note:
All dimensions are in metres unless otherwise specified

KEY:	
	Centre Line
	Hard Strip
	Back of Hard Strip/ Proposed Lane
	Proposed carriageway
	Proposed Shared Use Two-way Cycle Facility with Pedestrians
	Proposed One-way Cycle Facility
	Indicative scheme extents
	Proposed Footpath
	Tactile paving
	Coloured surfacing to warn cyclists of the upcoming conflict with motorists and to delineate the Cycle Facility
	Proposed island
	Earthworks

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National Roads Office
Oifig Bhóthre Náisiúnta Mhaigh Eo

Glenpark House, The Mall, Castlebar, Co. Mayo

Senior Engineer: Paul Hyland, BE CE Eng MIEI Chartered Engineer
Senior Executive Engineer: Marian McHugh, BE MIEI

Tel: 014 900 4321
Email: nro@regisign.com Web: www.mayo.ie

Roughan & O'Donovan
Consulting Engineers

Arena House, Arena Road, Sandford, Dublin 18.
Tel: +353 (1) 2940800
Fax: +353 (1) 2940820
e-mail: info@rod.ie
Website: www.rod.ie
www.aecom.com

Revisions			
Description	Rev	By	Date

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Designed: MMB Drawn: AG Checked: JET Date: AUG 2022

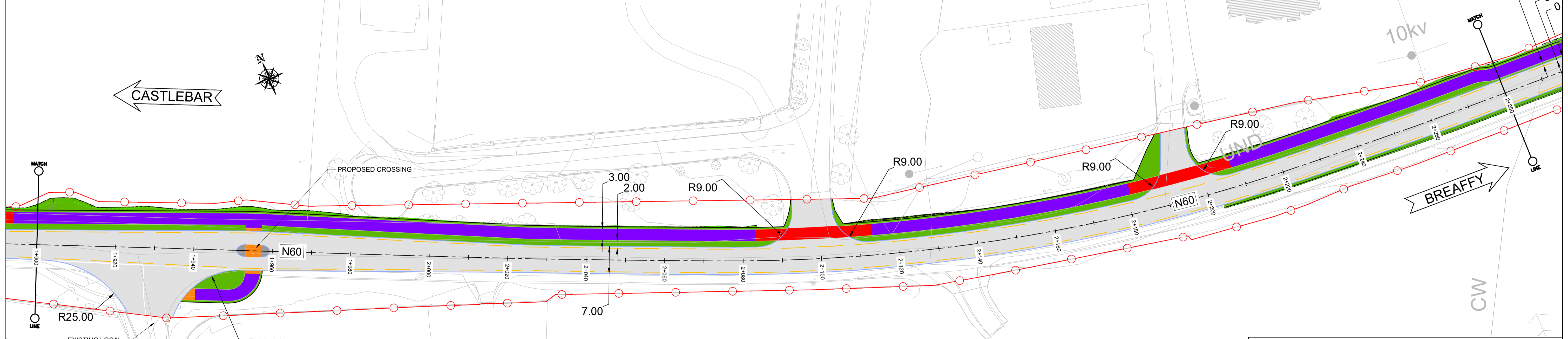
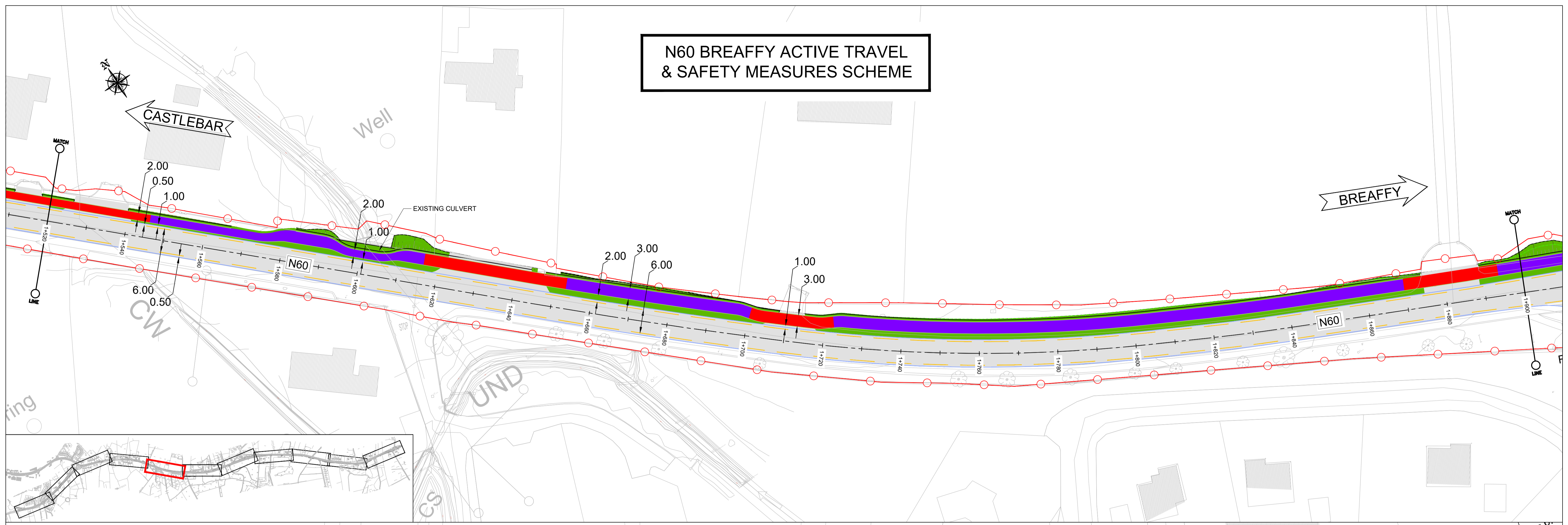
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Drawing No: N60BA-ROD-HWY-SW_AE-DR-CH-40005 Revision No: P0

S4 - Stage Approval
17 August 2022

N60 BREAFFY ACTIVE TRAVEL & SAFETY MEASURES SCHEME



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National Roads Office
Oifig Bhothre Náisiúnta Mhaigh Eo

Glenpark House, The Mall, Castlebar, Co. Mayo

Senior Engineer: Paul Hyland, BE CE Eng MIEI, Chartered Engineer
Senior Executive Engineer: Marian McHugh, BE MIEI

Tel: 094 900 4321
Email: nro@nro.ie
Web: www.nro.ie

Roughan & O'Donovan

Arena House, Arena Road, Sandford, Dublin 18.
Tel: +353 (1) 2940800
Fax: +353 (1) 2940820
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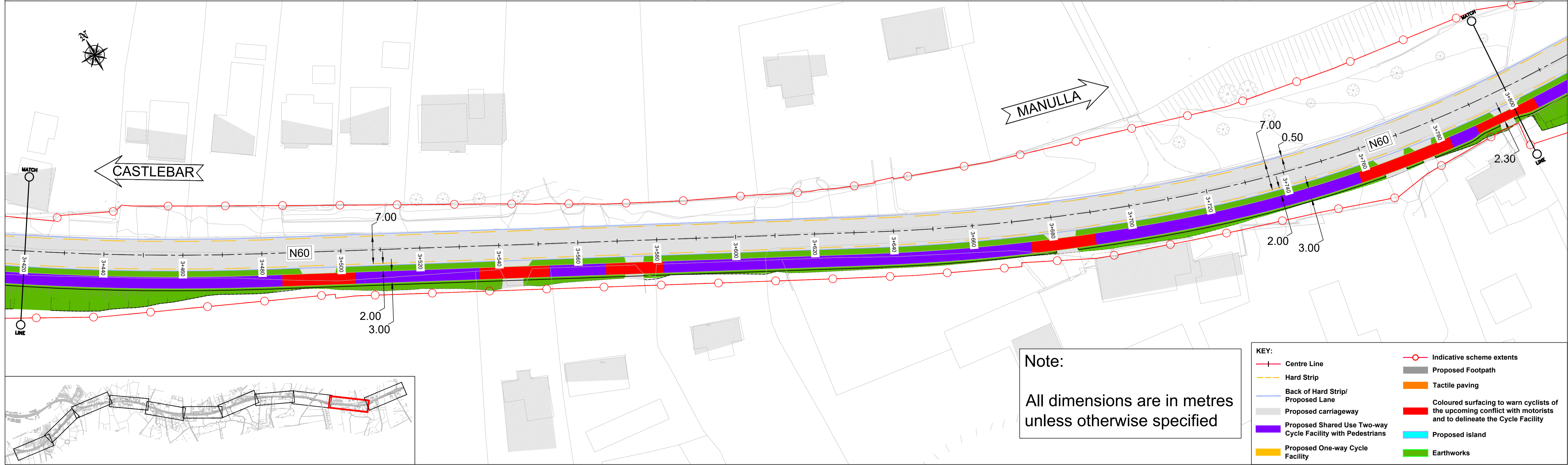
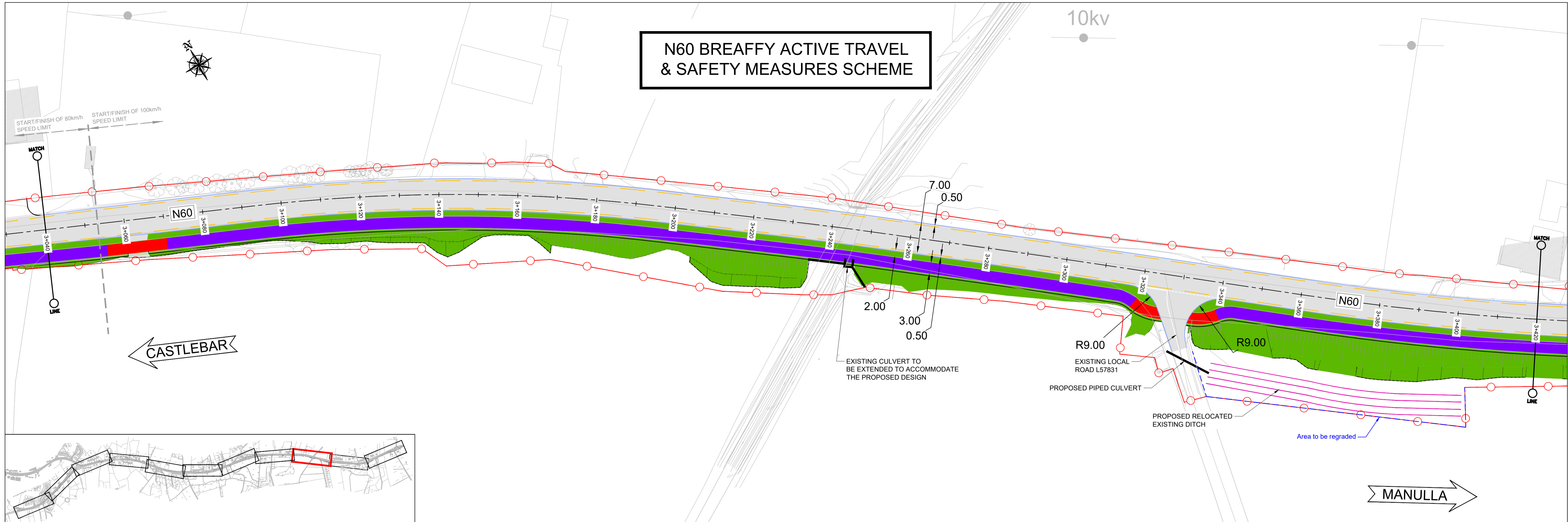
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Revision No: P0

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An Roinn Iompair
Department of Transport



National Roads Office
Oifig Bhothre Náisiunta Mhaigh Eo
Glenpark House, The Mall, Castlebar, Co. Mayo
Senior Engineer: Paul Hyland, BE CE Eng MIEI, Chartered Engineer
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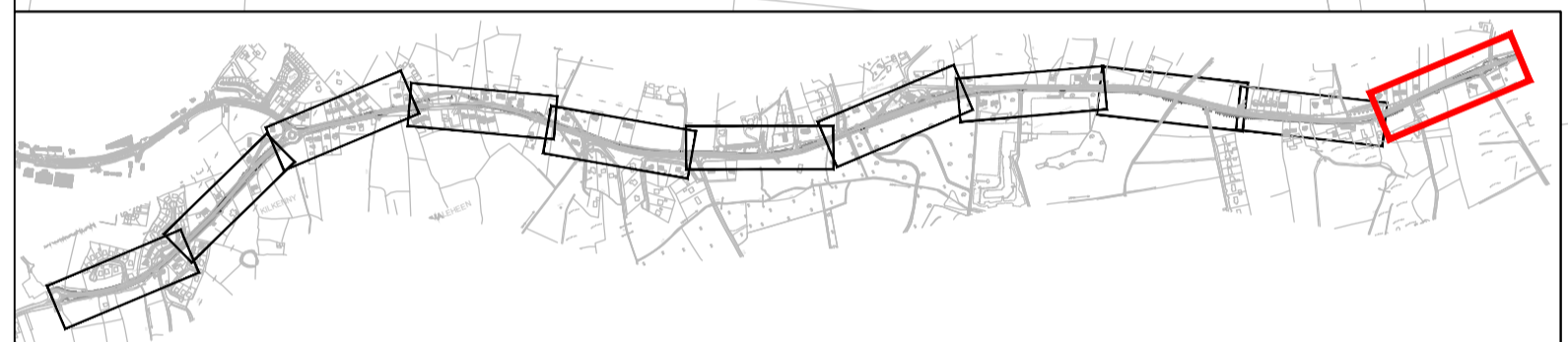
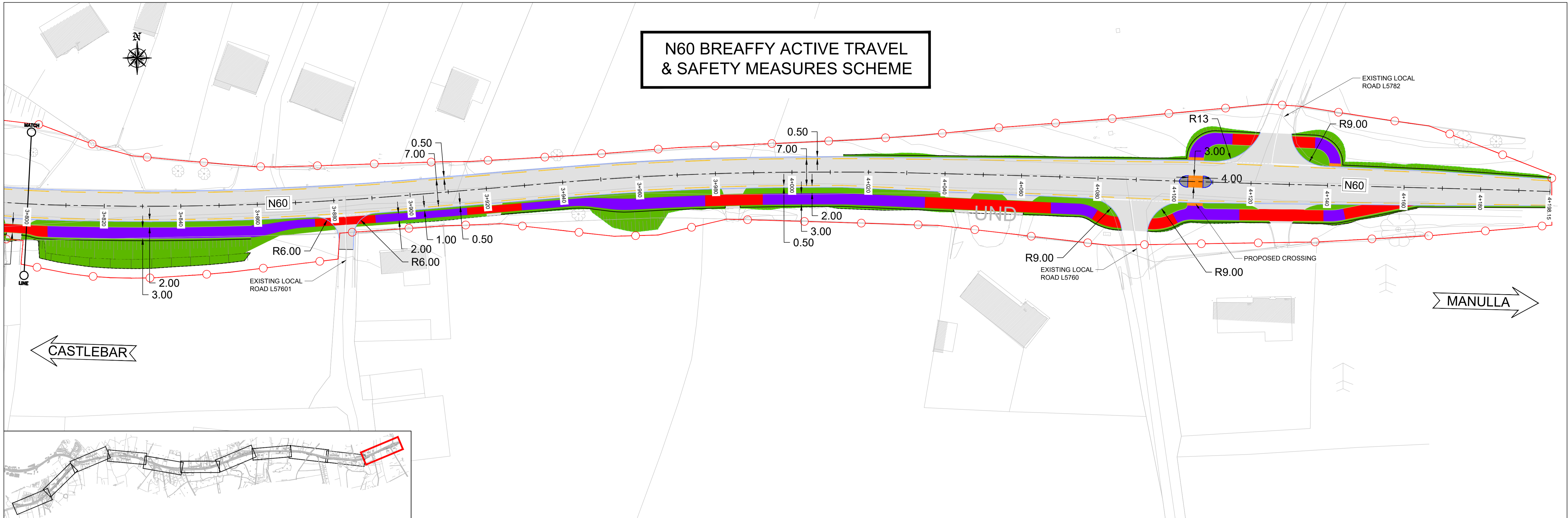
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National Roads Office
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Glenpark House, The Mall, Castlebar, Co. Mayo
Senior Engineer: Paul Hyland, BE CE Eng MIEI
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