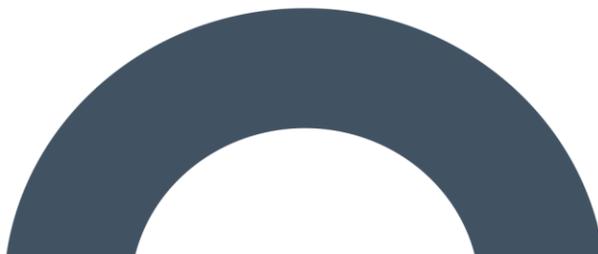


# Article 6 (3) Appropriate Assessment Screening Report

Proposed Housing  
Development at Cross  
West, Co. Mayo





## DOCUMENT DETAILS

Client: **Mayo County Council**

Project title: **Proposed Housing Development at Cross West, Co. Mayo**

Project Number: **200813**

Document Title: **Article 6 (3) Appropriate Assessment Screening Report**

Document File Name: **AASR F – 2021.03.03 - 200813**

Prepared By: **MKO  
Tuam Road  
Galway  
Ireland  
H91 VW84**



Rev	Status	Date	Author(s)	Approved By
01	Final	03/03/2021	JOS	PR

# Table of Contents

1.	<b>INTRODUCTION</b> .....	<b>2</b>
1.1	Background.....	2
1.2	Appropriate Assessment.....	2
1.2.1	Screening for Appropriate Assessment.....	2
1.2.2	Statement of Authority.....	3
2.	<b>DESCRIPTION OF THE PROPOSED WORKS</b> .....	<b>4</b>
2.1	Site Location.....	4
2.2	Characteristics of the Proposed Works.....	4
2.2.1	Description of the Baseline Ecological Environment.....	7
2.2.2	Habitats.....	7
2.2.3	Fauna.....	10
3.	<b>IDENTIFICATION OF RELEVANT EUROPEAN SITES</b> .....	<b>11</b>
3.1	Identification of the European Sites within the Likely Zone of Impact.....	11
3.2	European Sites with the Potential to be Significantly Affected by the Proposed Works.....	25
3.3	Likely Cumulative Impact of the Proposed Works on European Sites, in-combination with other plans and projects .....	25
4.	<b>ARTICLE 6(3) APPROPRIATE ASSESSMENT SCREENING STATEMENT AND CONCLUSIONS</b> .....	<b>26</b>
4.1	Data Collected to Carry Out Assessment.....	26
4.2	Concluding Statement.....	26
5.	<b>BIBLIOGRAPHY</b> .....	<b>27</b>
	<b>TABLE OF TABLES</b>	
	<i>Table 3.1 Identification of Designated sites within the Likely Zone of Impact</i> .....	12
	<b>APPENDICES</b>	
	Appendix 1 .....	Irish Water Confirmation of Feasibility

# 1. INTRODUCTION

## 1.1 Background

MKO has been appointed to provide the information necessary to allow the competent authority to conduct an Article 6(3) Screening for Appropriate Assessment of proposed housing development at Cross West, Co. Mayo.

Screening for Appropriate Assessment is required under Council Directive 92/43/EEC on the conservation of natural habitats and of wild fauna and flora (the Habitats Directive). Where it cannot be excluded that a project or plan, either alone or in combination with other projects or plans, would have a significant effect on a European Site then same shall be subject to an appropriate assessment of its implications for the site in view of the site's conservation objectives. The current project is not directly connected with, or necessary for, the management of any European Site consequently the project has been subject to the Appropriate Assessment Screening process.

The assessment in this report is based on a desk study and field surveys undertaken in January 2021. It specifically assesses the potential for the proposed works to result in significant effects on European sites in the absence of any best practice, mitigation or preventative measures.

This Appropriate Assessment Screening Report has been prepared in accordance with the European Commission's *Assessment of Plans and Projects Significantly affecting Natura 2000 Sites: Methodological Guidance on the provisions of Article 6(3) and 6(4) of the Habitats Directive 92/43/EEC* (EC, 2001) and *Managing Natura 2000 Sites: the provisions of Article 6 of the 'Habitats' Directive 92/43/EEC* (EC, 2018) as well as the Department of the Environment's *Appropriate Assessment of Plans and Projects in Ireland - Guidance for Planning Authorities* (DoEHLG, 2010).

In addition to the guidelines referenced above, the following relevant documents were also considered in the preparation of this report:

1. *Council of the European Commission (1992) Council Directive 92/43/EEC of 21 May 1992 on the conservation of natural habitats and of wild fauna and flora. Official Journal of the European Communities. Series L 20, pp. 7-49.*
2. *EC (2019) Managing Natura 2000 Sites: the provisions of Article 6 of the 'Habitats' Directive 92/43/EEC, Office for Official Publications of the European Communities, Luxembourg.*
3. *EC (2007) Guidance document on Article 6(4) of the 'Habitats Directive' 92/43/EEC – Clarification of the concepts of: alternative solutions, imperative reasons of overriding public interest, compensatory measures, overall coherence. Opinion of the commission.*
4. *EC (2013) Interpretation Manual of European Union Habitats. Version EUR 28. European Commission.*

## 1.2 Appropriate Assessment

### 1.2.1 Screening for Appropriate Assessment

Screening is the process of determining whether an Appropriate Assessment is required for a plan or project. Under Part XAB of the Planning and Development Act, 2000, as amended, screening must be carried out by the Competent Authority. As per Section 177U of the Planning and Development Act, 2000, as amended 'A screening for appropriate assessment shall be carried out by the competent authority to assess, in view of best scientific knowledge, if that Land use plan or proposed development, individually or in combination with another plan or project is likely to have a significant effect on the European site'. The Competent Authority's determination as to whether an Appropriate Assessment is

required must be made on the basis of objective information and should be recorded. The Competent Authority may request information to be supplied to enable it to carry out screening.

Consultants or project proponents may provide for the competent authority, the information necessary for them to determine whether an Appropriate Assessment is required and provide advice to assist them in the Article 6(3) Appropriate Assessment Screening decision.

Where it cannot be excluded beyond reasonable scientific doubt at the Screening stage, that a proposed plan or project, individually or in combination with other plans and projects, would have a significant effect on the conservation objectives of a European site, an Appropriate Assessment is required.

Where an Appropriate Assessment is required, the Competent Authority may require the applicant to prepare a Natura Impact Statement.

The term Natura Impact Statement (NIS) is defined in legislation<sup>1</sup>. An NIS, where required, should present the data, information and analysis necessary to reach a definitive determination as to 1) the implications of the plan or project, alone or in combination with other plans and projects, for a European site in view of its conservation objectives, and 2) whether there will be adverse effects on the integrity of a European site. The NIS should be underpinned by best scientific knowledge, objective information and by the precautionary principle.

This Article 6(3) Appropriate Assessment Screening Report has been prepared in compliance with the provision of section 177U of the Planning & Development Act 2010 as amended.

## 1.2.2 Statement of Authority

A baseline ecological survey was undertaken on the 26<sup>th</sup> of January 2021 by Julie O’Sullivan (BSc, MSc). Julie is an experienced ecologist with over 5 years’ experience working in the ecology sector. This report was prepared by Julie O’Sullivan. This report has been reviewed by Pat Roberts (B.Sc., MCIEEM) who has over 15 years’ experience in ecological consultancy.

---

<sup>1</sup> As defined in Section 177T of the Planning and Development Act, 2000 as amended, an NIS means a statement, for the purposes of Article 6 of the Habitats Directive, of the implications of a proposed development, on its own and in combination with other plans and projects, for a European site in view of its conservation objectives. It is required to include a report of a scientific examination of evidence and data, carried out by competent persons to identify and classify any implications for the European site in view of its conservation objectives

## 2. DESCRIPTION OF THE PROPOSED WORKS

### 2.1 Site Location

The proposed residential housing development is located in the townland of Cross West, approximately 180m east of Cross Village, Co. Mayo (grid reference: M 19624 55328). The site will be accessed via the L1614 to the south of the site. The proposed site has an area of 1.08 ha.

The site location is shown in Figure 2.1 along with the nearby EU designated sites.

### 2.2 Characteristics of the Proposed Works

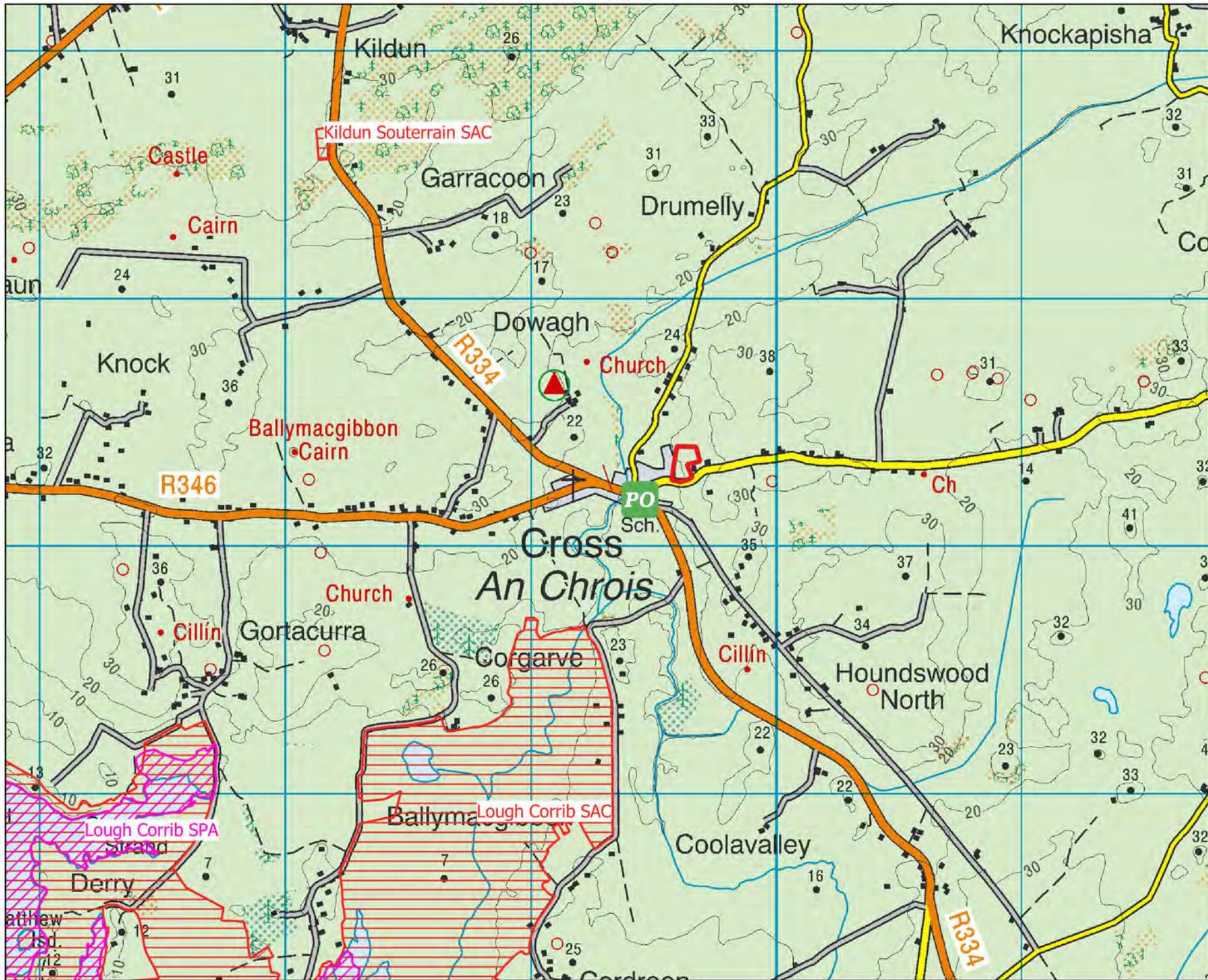
The proposed development will consist of the construction of 8 no. dwellings comprising the following:

- > 5 no. 2 bed two storey dormer houses
- > 3 no. 3 bed two storey dormer houses
- > Provision of shared communal and private open space, site landscaping, site services and all associated site development works.

The proposed site layout is outlined on Figure 2.2.

The surface water network has been designed in line with standard sustainable urban drainage best practice and surface water will discharge to the public stormwater network.

It is proposed to discharge the wastewater from the proposed development to the existing public wastewater network. The wastewater layout has been designed in accordance with Irish Water's latest standard details and codes of practice. Irish water have confirmed that there is capacity for the proposed development to connect to the public foul water supply, subject to the completion and commissioning of the newly constructed Cross foul sewer network and wastewater treatment plant (Reference No CDS19003193, included as Appendix 1). At the time of writing this report the Cross foul sewer network and wastewater treatment plant has been constructed and commissioned. The proposed development will comply with all Irish Water requirements prior to connections.



- Map Legend**
-  Site boundary
  -  Special Protection Area (SPA)
  -  Special Area of Conservation (SAC)

Microsoft product screen shots reprinted with permission from Microsoft Corporation  
 Ordnance Survey Ireland Licence No. AR 0021821©  
 Ordnance Survey Ireland/Government of Ireland



Drawing Title  
**Site Location**

Project Title  
Housing Development Cross West

Drawn By <b>JOS</b>	Checked By <b>PR</b>
Project No. <b>200813</b>	Drawing No. <b>Figure 2.1</b>
Scale <b>1:20000</b>	Date <b>16.02.21</b>

**MKO**  
 Planning and Environmental Consultants  
 Tuam Road, Galway  
 Ireland, F91 VV84  
 +353 (0)91 235611  
 email: info@mkoltd.ie  
 Website: www.mkoltd.ie

**2 BED (4P) DORMER**  
SCALE: 1:250

(90) 2 BED DORMER SCHEDULE-PHASE 01	
HOUSE TYPE COMMENT	NUMBER
DORMER-2B (4P) HANDED	UNIT 03
DORMER-2B (4P)	UNIT 04
DORMER-2B (4P) HANDED	UNIT 05
DORMER-2B (4P)	UNIT 06
DORMER-2B (4P) HANDED	UNIT 07
2 BED DORMER TOTAL: 5	

**3 BED (6P) DORMER**  
SCALE: 1:250

(90) 3 BED DORMER- SCHEDULE- PHASE 01	
HOUSE TYPE COMMENT	UNIT NUMBER
DORMER-3B (6P)	UNIT 01
GABLE-ENTRANCE	
DORMER-3B (6P) HANDED	UNIT 02
DORMER-3B (6P)	UNIT 08
3 BED DORMER TOTAL: 3	

<b>SITE:</b>	SITE OUTLINED IN RED. 1.08 HECTARES ITM Co-ordinates = 518650,755350 INC Co-ordinates=119631, 255227 08 NO UNITS. DENSITY 7.4 PER HA THE SITE IS LOCATED ON THE L1614 NEAR TO CROSS NATIONAL SCHOOL. ACCESS TO THE COMPLETED DEVELOPMENT TO BE VIA THE L1614 APPROX 250 METERS FROM THE JUNCTION WITH THE 6334 ENTRANCE VISIBILITY ZONE MEASURED 90MM ALONG ROADSIDE CARRIAGEWAY EACH SIDE OF NEW ENTRANCE. LOCAL ROAD HAS 80KM SPEED LIMIT.	<b>PROPOSAL:</b>	CONSTRUCTION OF 15 NO. DWELLINGS COMPRISING OF 11 NO. 2 BED TWO STOREY DORMER HOUSES AND 4 NO. 3 BED TWO STOREY DORMER HOUSES. SCALE, MASSING, ARCHITECTURAL EXPRESSION AND DETAILING ARE DESIGNED TO BE IN KEEPING WITH THE TRADITIONAL HOUSES OF THE AREA.
	NEW NATIVE TREES TO DETAIL.	<b>MATERIALS: (EXTERNAL)</b>	EXTERNAL ROOF FINISH: NATURAL SLATE BLUE BLACK IN COLOUR EXTERNAL WINDOWS & DOORS: TIMBER ALU CLAD FRAMES IN SELECTED COLOURS EXTERNAL WALLS: RENDERED FINISH PAINTED TO SELECTED NEUTRAL COLOUR  NEW PLANTING-NATURAL HEDGEROW AND NATIVE TREES TO DETAIL.

© COPYRIGHT - This drawing is protected by copyright and is the property of Mayo County Council. It may not be used, reproduced or disclosed to anyone without the prior written approval of Mayo County Council.

Do not scale this drawing. Use written dimensions only

- Scales as stated are valid on the original drawing only. Written dimensions take precedence. Detail dimensions take precedence over plan dimensions. Notify architect of any dimensional discrepancies. Any modifications or deviation to be brought to the attention of the architect for review and approval.
- All vertical dimensions shall be taken from a "bench mark" or other similar guide established prior to the start of construction. High points, low points, irregularities in floor slab which could affect fabrication / installation, work of other trades or vendors shall be brought to the attention of Mayo County Council Architects immediately.
- All drawings are to be read in conjunction with other consultant's drawings.
- All dimensions, unless otherwise stated, are given in millimetres and must be confirmed and checked by the Contractor on site.
- Levels are generally given in metres from a specified datum.
- All Levels must be confirmed and checked by the Contractor on site.
- Any discrepancies on this drawing are to be brought to the attention of Mayo County Council Architects immediately.

Includes Ordnance Survey Ireland data reproduced under OSI licence number : NMA 2020 / Mayo County Council.  
Unauthorised reproduction infringes Ordnance Survey Ireland and Government of Ireland copyright Ordnance Survey Ireland.  
© Ordnance Survey Ireland, 2020

Rev No.	Date	Comment



01/03/2021 14:25:40 C:\Users\cmorgan\Myo County Council\Architects Section - A586-CROSS\_WEST\A3\Drawings\REVIT\A586-MCC-XX-90-M3-A-0000.rvt

**STATUS KEY**

SHARED / FOR INFORMATION	WORK IN PROGRESS
B0	B1
B2	B3
B4	B5
B6	B7
B8	B9
B10	B11
B12	B13
B14	B15
B16	B17
B18	B19
B20	B21
B22	B23
B24	B25
B26	B27
B28	B29
B30	B31
B32	B33
B34	B35
B36	B37
B38	B39
B40	B41
B42	B43
B44	B45
B46	B47
B48	B49
B50	B51
B52	B53
B54	B55
B56	B57
B58	B59
B60	B61
B62	B63
B64	B65
B66	B67
B68	B69
B70	B71
B72	B73
B74	B75
B76	B77
B78	B79
B80	B81
B82	B83
B84	B85
B86	B87
B88	B89
B90	B91
B92	B93
B94	B95
B96	B97
B98	B99
B100	B101

**ARCHITECTS DEPARTMENT**  
**MAYO COUNTY COUNCIL**



Project No: <b>A 586</b>	Project Title: Housing CROSS WEST, CO. MAYO	Dwg Type: <b>90</b>	Status: <b>S0</b>
Drawing Title: SITE LAYOUT PLAN-PHASE 01	Figure 2.2	Drawing No. <b>1001</b>	Revision: /
Drawn By: cm/ mw	No. - Orig - Cat - Lvl - Type - Role - No. - Status A_586 - MCC - 90 - XX - DR - A - 1001 - S0	Scale: <b>1 : 250</b>	First Issue: 01/03/21

**MAYO.IE**

**FOR DISCUSSION**

## 2.2.1 Description of the Baseline Ecological Environment

Assessing the impacts of any project and associated activities requires an understanding of the ecological baseline conditions prior to and at the time of the project proceeding. Ecological Baseline conditions are those existing in the absence of proposed activities (CIEEM, 2018).

A multidisciplinary walkover survey was conducted on the 26<sup>th</sup> of January 2019 in line with NRA (2009) guidelines (Ecological Surveying Techniques for Protected Flora and Fauna during the Planning of National Road Schemes) by Julie O'Sullivan (BSc., MSc). Although the ecological survey was not undertaken within the optimal time of year to undertake a habitat and flora survey (Smith et. al, 2011) and all habitats were readily identifiable at the time of the visit. A dedicated invasive species survey was also undertaken during the site visit. During the survey, the site was searched for species listed on the Third Schedule of the European Communities (Birds and Natural Habitats) Regulations (S.I. 477 of 2011).

## 2.2.2 Habitats

The site comprises a single field of **Improved Agricultural Grassland (GAI)** (Plate 2-1 & Plate 2-2) Species recorded in this habitat included abundant Yorkshire fog (*Holcus lanatus*), annual meadow grass (*Poa annua*), perennial rye-grass (*Lolium perenne*), creeping buttercup (*Ranunculus repens*), daisy (*Bellis perennis*) and ribwort plantain (*Plantago lanceolata*).

Other species recorded frequently in the vegetation included occasional soft rush (*Juncus effusus*), cock's-foot (*Dactylis glomerata*), nettle (*Urtica dioica*), crested dogs-tail (*Cynosaurus cristatus*), red fescue (*Festuca rubra*), creeping thistle (*Cirsium arvense*), clovers (*Trifolium* spp.), broad-leaved dock (*Rumex obtusifolius*), meadow buttercup (*Ranunculus acris*), with occasional spear thistle (*Cirsium vulgare*), mouse-ear chickweed (*Cerastium fontanum*), ragwort (*Jacobaea vulgaris*), pointed spear-moss (*Calliergonella cuspidata*), common bent (*Agrostis capillaris*), germander speedwell (*Veronica chamaedrys*), procumbent pearlwort (*sagina procumbens*) and common sorrel (*Rumex acetosa*). In the north-west corner of the site a small area of bramble scrub occurs, formed on a pile of rocks cleared from the agricultural grassland.

Field boundaries are formed by stone walls and are classified as **Stone Walls and Other Stonework (BL1)** (Plate 2-3). Scattered trees occur along the western site boundary, and include mature sycamore (*Acer pseudoplatanus*), willows (*Salix* spp.) and spindle (*Euonymus europaeus*), with a sparse bramble (*Rubus fruticosus*) understory in places. A mature treeline (WL2) of non-native conifer trees occurs on the roadside of this wall, outside the site western boundary. A species poor hedgerow formed of bramble (*Rubus fruticosus*) occurs along the north-eastern boundary wall. The south east boundary wall has been constructed with concrete blocks and is classified as **Buildings and Artificial Surfaces (BL3)**.

Species recorded along the margins of the field, adjacent to the stone walls, included sowthistle (*Sonchus* spp.), cleavers (*Galium aparine*), herb Robert (*Geranium robertianum*), ivy (*Hedera helix*), hedgerow cranes bill (*Geranium pyrenaicum*), dandelion (*Taraxacum officinale* agg.), primrose (*Primula veris*), willowherb (*Epilobium* spp.), hogweed (*Heracleum sphondylium*) and figwort (*Scrophularia nodosa*).

No drainage ditches or watercourses occur within or immediately adjacent to the site.

There are no Annex I habitats listed under the EU Habitats Directive present within the Proposed development site boundary. No botanical species protected under the Flora (protection) Order (1999, as amended 2015), listed in the EU Habitats Directive (92/43/EEC), or listed in the Irish Red Data Books were recorded on the site and no suitable habitat occurs within the site. All species recorded are common in the Irish landscape. No invasive species were observed within the proposed development site.



*Plate 2-1 Improved Agricultural Grassland (GAI), view looking north-west.*



*Plate 2-2 Improved agricultural grassland (GAI), view looking south-east*



Plate 2-3 Field boundaries are formed by stonewalls and are classified as Stone Walls and Other Stonework (BL1), with non-native conifers outside the western boundary wall.



Plate 2-4 Field boundaries are formed by stonewalls and are classified as Stone Walls and Other Stonework (BL1), with scattered trees growing along the western boundary.

### 2.2.3 Fauna

The walkover survey was designed to detect the presence, or likely presence, of a range of protected species associated with European protected sites. No Annex listed faunal species were recorded within the proposed works area during the site visit.

No evidence of otter was recorded within the proposed development site including holts, couches, lay-up sites, prints or spraints. There are no drainage ditches or watercourses within the site and the proposed development site does not offer suitable habitat for otter.

A total of seven bird species were recorded within or flying over the site during the field survey, including chaffinch, mistle thrush, robin, wren, rook, jackdaw and starling. Bird species recorded within the site boundaries during the site visit were an assemblage of common birds that are typical of the agricultural grassland habitats in the wider area of the proposed development site.

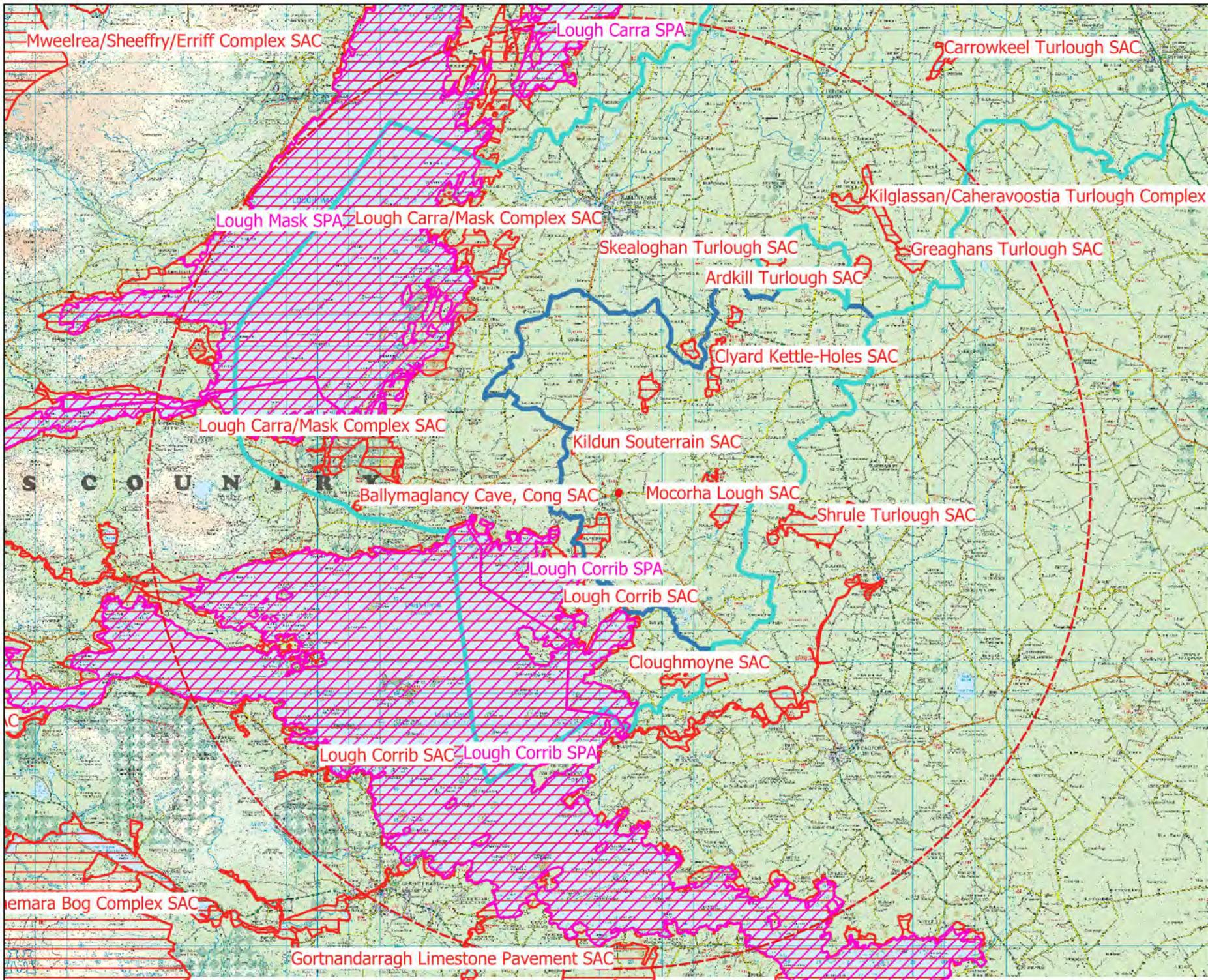
No Annex I bird species or species of conservation concern were recorded within the proposed development site during the field survey. The site is dominated by improved agricultural grassland habitat and does not provide supporting habitat for any bird species that are among the SCIs of any European Site. Given the lack of significant habitat for rare or protected bird species identified within the site, there is no requirement for further bird surveys at the site.

### 3. IDENTIFICATION OF RELEVANT EUROPEAN SITES

#### 3.1 Identification of the European Sites within the Likely Zone of Impact

The following methodology was used to establish which European Sites are within the Likely Zone of Impact of the proposed development:

- › Initially the most up to date GIS spatial datasets for European designated sites and water catchments were downloaded from the NPWS website ([www.npws.ie](http://www.npws.ie)) and the EPA website ([www.epa.ie](http://www.epa.ie)) on the 01/03/2021. The datasets were utilized to identify European Sites which could feasibly be affected by the proposed development.
- › All European Sites within a distance of 15km surrounding the works site were identified and are shown on Figure 3.1. In addition, the potential for connectivity with European Sites at distances of greater than 15km from the proposed works was also considered in this initial assessment. In this case, no potential connectivity with sites located at a distance of over 15km from the proposed works was identified.
- › The catchment mapping was used to establish or discount potential hydrological connectivity between the site of the proposed works and any European Sites. The hydrological catchments are also shown in Figure 3.1.
- › In relation to Special Protection Areas, in the absence of any specific European or Irish guidance in relation to such sites, the Scottish Natural Heritage (SNH) Guidance, *'Assessing Connectivity with Special Protection Areas (SPA)'* (2016) was consulted. This document provides guidance in relation to the identification of connectivity between proposed development and Special Protection Areas. The guidance takes into consideration the distances species may travel beyond the boundary of their SPAs and provides information on dispersal and foraging ranges of bird species which are frequently encountered when considering plans and projects.
- › Table 3.1 provides details of all relevant European Sites as identified in the preceding steps and assesses which are within the likely Zone of Impact. The assessment considers any likely direct or indirect impacts of the proposed development, both alone and in combination with other plans and projects, on European Sites by virtue of the following criteria: size and scale, land-take, distance from the European Site or key features of the site, resource requirements, emissions, excavation requirements, transportation requirements and duration of construction, operation and decommissioning were considered in this screening assessment
- › The site synopses and conservation objectives of these sites, as per the NPWS website ([www.npws.ie](http://www.npws.ie)), were consulted and reviewed at the time of preparing this report. Figure 3.1 shows the location of the proposed works in relation to all European sites within 15km of the proposed development.
- › Where potential pathways for Significant Effect are identified, the site is included within the Likely Zone of Impact and considered in the Screening Assessment



### Map Legend

- Site boundary
- 15km buffer
- Special Protection Area (SPA)
- Special Area of Conservation (SAC)
- Cong Robe Groundwater Catchment
- Kilmaine Subcatchment

Microsoft product screen shots reprinted with permission from Microsoft Corporation  
 Ordnance Survey Ireland Licence No. AR 0021821©  
 Ordnance Survey Ireland/Government of Ireland

Drawing Title  
**EU Designated Sites within 15km**

Project Title  
**Housing Development Cross West**

Drawn By <b>JOS</b>	Checked By <b>PR</b>
Project No. <b>200813</b>	Drawing No. <b>Figure 3.1</b>
Scale <b>1:157000</b>	Date <b>16.02.21</b>

**MKO**  
 Planning and Environmental Consultants  
 Tuam Road, Galway  
 Ireland, H91 W884  
 +353 (0)91 235611  
 email: info@mkoireland.ie  
 Website: www.mkoireland.ie

Table 3.1 Identification of Designated sites within the Likely Zone of Impact

European Sites and distance from proposed works	Qualify Interests/Special Conservation Interests for which the European site has been designated (Sourced from NPWS online Conservation Objectives, www.npws.ie on the 01/03/2021	Conservation Objectives	Likely Zone of Impact Determination
<b>Special Areas of Conservation (SAC)</b>			
<p>Lough Corrib SAC [000279]</p> <p>Distance: 687m</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>› 3110 Oligotrophic waters containing very few minerals of sandy plains (<i>Littorelletalia uniflorae</i>)</li> <li>› 3130 Oligotrophic to mesotrophic standing waters with vegetation of the <i>Littorelletea uniflorae</i> and/or Isoeto-Nanojuncetea</li> <li>› 3140 Hard oligo-mesotrophic waters with benthic vegetation of <i>Chara</i> spp.</li> <li>› 3260 Water courses of plain to montane levels with the <i>Ranunculion fluitantis</i> and <i>Callitricho-Batrachion</i> vegetation</li> <li>› 6210 Semi-natural dry grasslands and scrubland facies on calcareous substrates (<i>Festuco-Brometalia</i>) (* important orchid sites)</li> <li>› 6410 <i>Molinia</i> meadows on calcareous, peaty or clayey-silt-laden soils (<i>Molinion caeruleae</i>)</li> <li>› 7110 Active raised bogs*</li> <li>› 7120 Degraded raised bogs still capable of natural regeneration</li> <li>› 7150 Depressions on peat substrates of the <i>Rhynchosporion</i></li> <li>› 7210 Calcareous fens with <i>Cladium mariscus</i> and species of the <i>Caricion davallianae</i>*</li> <li>› 7220 Petrifying springs with tufa formation (Cratoneurion)*</li> <li>› 7230 Alkaline fens</li> <li>› 8240 Limestone pavements*</li> <li>› 91A0 Old sessile oak woods with <i>Ilex</i> and <i>Blechnum</i> in the British Isles</li> </ul>	<p>Detailed conservation objectives for this site, (Version 1, August 2017), were reviewed as part of the assessment and are available at www.npws.ie</p>	<p>This European Site is located 687m south-west of the proposed development site. The proposed development site is located outside the boundary of this European Site and therefore no pathway for direct effect exists.</p> <p>There are no watercourses or drainage ditches within the proposed development site that could act as a conduit for pollution to any aquatic habitat or supporting habitat for aquatic species listed as QIs of this SAC. All surface water and wastewater will discharge to the existing public services network and there is no potential for deterioration in groundwater. There is no potential for indirect effects on the listed aquatic habitats or supporting habitats for aquatic QI species for which this SAC has been designated:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>› 3110 Oligotrophic waters containing very few minerals of sandy plains (<i>Littorelletalia uniflorae</i>)</li> <li>› 3130 Oligotrophic to mesotrophic standing waters with vegetation of the <i>Littorelletea uniflorae</i> and/or Isoeto-Nanojuncetea</li> <li>› 3140 Hard oligo-mesotrophic waters with benthic vegetation of <i>Chara</i> spp.</li> <li>› 3260 Water courses of plain to montane levels with the <i>Ranunculion fluitantis</i> and <i>Callitricho-Batrachion</i> vegetation</li> <li>› 7210 Calcareous fens with <i>Cladium mariscus</i> and species of the <i>Caricion davallianae</i>*</li> <li>› 7220 Petrifying springs with tufa formation (Cratoneurion)*</li> <li>› 7230 Alkaline fens</li> </ul>

European Sites and distance from proposed works	Qualify Interests/Special Conservation Interests for which the European site has been designated (Sourced from NPWS online Conservation Objectives, www.npws.ie on the 01/03/2021	Conservation Objectives	Likely Zone of Impact Determination
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>&gt; 91D0 Bog woodland*</li> <li>&gt; 1096 Brook Lamprey (<i>Lampetra planeri</i>)</li> <li>&gt; 1092 White-clawed Crayfish (<i>Austropotamobius pallipes</i>)</li> <li>&gt; 1095 Sea Lamprey (<i>Petromyzon marinus</i>)</li> <li>&gt; 1393 Slender Green Feather-moss (<i>Drepanocladus vernicosus</i>)</li> <li>&gt; 1106 Salmon (<i>Salmo salar</i>)</li> <li>&gt; 1303 Lesser Horseshoe Bat (<i>Rhinolophus hipposideros</i>)</li> <li>&gt; 1355 Otter (<i>Lutra lutra</i>)</li> <li>&gt; 1029 Freshwater Pearl Mussel (<i>Margaritifera margaritifera</i>)</li> <li>&gt; 1833 Slender Naiad (<i>Najas flexilis</i>)</li> </ul>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>&gt; 1096 Brook Lamprey (<i>Lampetra planeri</i>)</li> <li>&gt; 1092 White-clawed Crayfish (<i>Austropotamobius pallipes</i>)</li> <li>&gt; 1095 Sea Lamprey (<i>Petromyzon marinus</i>)</li> <li>&gt; 1106 Salmon (<i>Salmo salar</i>)</li> <li>&gt; 1355 Otter (<i>Lutra lutra</i>)</li> <li>&gt; 1029 Freshwater Pearl Mussel (<i>Margaritifera margaritifera</i>)</li> <li>&gt; 1833 Slender Naiad (<i>Najas flexilis</i>)</li> </ul> <p>No pathway for indirect effect on the terrestrial habitats/species for which this site has been designated exists, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>&gt; 6210 Semi-natural dry grasslands and scrubland facies on calcareous substrates (<i>Festuco-Brometalia</i>) (* important orchid sites)</li> <li>&gt; 6410 <i>Molinia</i> meadows on calcareous, peaty or clayey-silt-laden soils (<i>Molinion caeruleae</i>)</li> <li>&gt; 7110 Active raised bogs*</li> <li>&gt; 7120 Degraded raised bogs still capable of natural regeneration</li> <li>&gt; 7150 Depressions on peat substrates of the <i>Rhynchosporion</i></li> <li>&gt; 7210 Calcareous fens with <i>Cladium mariscus</i> and species of the <i>Caricion davallianae</i>*</li> <li>&gt; 8240 Limestone pavements*</li> <li>&gt; 91A0 Old sessile oak woods with <i>Ilex</i> and <i>Blechnum</i> in the British Isles</li> <li>&gt; 91D0 Bog woodland*</li> <li>&gt; 1393 Slender Green Feather-moss (<i>Drepanocladus vernicosus</i>)</li> </ul> <p>Disturbance effects to the QI species otter, can be ruled out, given the intervening distance between the SAC and the proposed development site.</p>

European Sites and distance from proposed works	Qualify Interests/Special Conservation Interests for which the European site has been designated (Sourced from NPWS online Conservation Objectives, www.npws.ie on the 01/03/2021	Conservation Objectives	Likely Zone of Impact Determination
			<p>According to the site-specific conservation objectives document (map 11), Lough Corrib SAC has been selected for lesser horseshoe bats because of the presence of one important summer roost, located near Cong. The proposed development site is outside of the core foraging range of Lesser horseshoe bat (2.5km, NPWS, 2018). There is no potential for effect on the lesser horseshoe bat as a result of the proposed development.</p> <p>No source-pathway-receptor chain for effect was identified between the site of the proposed development and the habitats and species for which this site has been designated. Potential for direct or indirect effects on the European Site can be excluded. <b>This site is not within the likely zone of impact and no further assessment is required.</b></p>
<p>Kildun Souterrain SAC [002320]</p> <p>Distance: 1.8km</p>	<p>&gt; 1303 Lesser Horseshoe Bat (<i>Rhinolophus hipposideros</i>)</p>	<p>Detailed conservation objectives for this site, (Version 1, June 2018), were reviewed as part of the assessment and are available at www.npws.ie</p>	<p>This SAC is located 1.8km north-west of the proposed development site. The proposed development site is located outside the boundary of this European Site and therefore no pathway for direct effect exists.</p> <p>The proposed development site is located within the core foraging range of the Lesser Horseshoe Bat 2.5km (NPWS 2018), as mapped in Map 2 of the Site Detailed Conservation Objective document. Lesser horseshoe bats normally forage in woodlands/scrub within 2.5km of their roosts (Schofield, 2008).</p> <p>The proposed development site is located 175m from the closest mapped potential foraging ground, located at golf course west of the development site and is separated from it by existing dwelling houses. There is no suitable foraging habitat for Lesser horseshoe bat within the proposed development site.</p>

European Sites and distance from proposed works	Qualify Interests/Special Conservation Interests for which the European site has been designated (Sourced from NPWS online Conservation Objectives, www.npws.ie on the 01/03/2021	Conservation Objectives	Likely Zone of Impact Determination
			<p>This species follows commuting routes from its roost to its foraging grounds. Lesser horseshoe bats will not cross open ground. Consequently, linear features such as hedgerows, treelines and stone walls provide vital connectivity for this species within 2.5km around each roost (Schofield, 2008). There will be no loss of linear commuting habitat associated with the proposed development. Stonewalls and hedgerows along the boundary will be retained, and there will be no lighting along these linear features. No pathway for indirect effects in the form of habitat loss or disturbance exists.</p> <p><b>This site is not within the likely zone of impact and no further assessment is required.</b></p>
<p>Clyard Kettle-holes SAC [000480]</p> <p>Distance: 2.6km</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>› 3180 Turloughs*</li> <li>› 7210 Calcareous fens with <i>Cladium mariscus</i> and species of the <i>Caricion davallianae</i>*</li> </ul>	<p>Generic conservation objectives for this site, (Version 7, 2020), were reviewed as part of the assessment and are available at www.npws.ie</p>	<p>This SAC is located 2.6km north-east of the proposed development site. The proposed development site is located outside of this European Site. No pathway for direct effect exists.</p> <p>There are no watercourses or drainage ditches within the proposed development site that could act as a conduit for pollution to any QI habitat of this SAC. All surface water and wastewater will discharge to the existing public services network and there is no potential for deterioration of groundwater. There is no potential for indirect effect.</p> <p><b>This site is not within the likely zone of impact and no further assessment is required.</b></p>
<p>Mocorha Lough SAC [001536]</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>› 7210 Calcareous fens with <i>Cladium mariscus</i> and species of the <i>Caricion davallianae</i>*</li> </ul>	<p>Detailed conservation objectives for this site, (Version 1, October 2019), were</p>	<p>This SAC is located 2.6km east of the proposed development site. The proposed development site is located outside of this European Site. No pathway for direct effect exists.</p>

European Sites and distance from proposed works	Qualify Interests/Special Conservation Interests for which the European site has been designated (Sourced from NPWS online Conservation Objectives, www.npws.ie on the 01/03/2021	Conservation Objectives	Likely Zone of Impact Determination
Distance: 2.6km		reviewed as part of the assessment and are available at www.npws.ie	<p>There are no watercourses or drainage ditches within the proposed development site that could act as a conduit for pollution to the listed QI habitat of this SAC. All surface water and wastewater will discharge to the existing public services network and there is no potential for deterioration of groundwater. There is no potential for indirect effects.</p> <p><b>This site is not within the likely zone of impact and no further assessment is required.</b></p>
<p>Shrule Turlough SAC [000525]</p> <p>Distance: 4.8km</p>	<p>› 3180 Turloughs*</p>	<p>Detailed conservation objectives for this site, (Version 1, January 2021), were reviewed as part of the assessment and are available at www.npws.ie</p>	<p>This SAC is located 4.8km east of the proposed development site. The European Site is located entirely outside the boundary of the proposed development site and no pathway for direct effect exists.</p> <p>This site is designated for a groundwater dependent habitat and is located in a separate groundwater catchment. No pathway for indirect effect exists.</p> <p><b>This site is not within the likely zone of impact and no further assessment is required.</b></p>
<p>Cloughmoyno SAC [000479]</p> <p>Distance: 5.6km</p>	<p>› 8240 Limestone pavements*</p>	<p>Detailed conservation objectives for this site, (Version 1, April 2019), were reviewed as part of the assessment and are available at www.npws.ie</p>	<p>This SAC is located 5.6km south-east of the proposed development site. The European Site is located entirely outside the boundary of the proposed development site and no pathway for direct effect exists.</p> <p>This site is designated for a terrestrial habitat. No pathway for indirect effect on the terrestrial habitats for which the site has been designated exists.</p> <p><b>This site is not within the likely zone of impact and no further assessment is required.</b></p>

European Sites and distance from proposed works	Qualify Interests/Special Conservation Interests for which the European site has been designated (Sourced from NPWS online Conservation Objectives, www.npws.ie on the 01/03/2021	Conservation Objectives	Likely Zone of Impact Determination
<p>Lough Carra/Mask Complex SAC [001774]</p> <p>Distance: 6.7km</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>› 3110 Oligotrophic waters containing very few minerals of sandy plains (<i>Littorelletalia uniflorae</i>)</li> <li>› 3130 Oligotrophic to mesotrophic standing waters with vegetation of the <i>Littorelletea uniflorae</i> and/or <i>Isoeto-Nanojuncetea</i></li> <li>› 3140 Hard oligo-mesotrophic waters with benthic vegetation of <i>Chara</i> spp.</li> <li>› 4030 European dry heaths</li> <li>› 6210 Semi-natural dry grasslands and scrubland facies on calcareous substrates (<i>Festuco-Brometalia</i>) (* important orchid sites)</li> <li>› 7210 Calcareous fens with <i>Cladium mariscus</i> and species of the <i>Caricion davallianae</i>*</li> <li>› 7230 Alkaline fens</li> <li>› 8240 Limestone pavements*</li> <li>› 91E0 Alluvial forests with <i>Alnus glutinosa</i> and <i>Fraxinus excelsior</i> (<i>Alno-Padion</i>, <i>Alnion incanae</i>, <i>Salicion albae</i>)*</li> <li>› 1303 Lesser Horseshoe Bat (<i>Rhinolophus hipposideros</i>)</li> <li>› 1393 Slender Green Feather-moss (<i>Drepanocladus vernicosus</i>)</li> <li>› 1355 Otter (<i>Lutra lutra</i>)</li> </ul>	<p>Generic conservation objectives for this site, (Version 7, 2020), were reviewed as part of the assessment and are available at www.npws.ie</p>	<p>This SAC is located 6.7km north-west of the proposed development site. The European Site is located entirely outside the boundary of the proposed development site and no pathway for direct effect exists.</p> <p>This SAC is located within a separate hydrological sub-catchment. All surface water and wastewater will discharge to the existing public services network and there is no potential for deterioration of groundwater. There is no potential for indirect effects on the listed aquatic habitats for which this SAC has been designated:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>› 3110 Oligotrophic waters containing very few minerals of sandy plains (<i>Littorelletalia uniflorae</i>)</li> <li>› 3130 Oligotrophic to mesotrophic standing waters with vegetation of the <i>Littorelletea uniflorae</i> and/or <i>Isoeto-Nanojuncetea</i></li> <li>› 3140 Hard oligo-mesotrophic waters with benthic vegetation of <i>Chara</i> spp.</li> <li>› 7210 Calcareous fens with <i>Cladium mariscus</i> and species of the <i>Caricion davallianae</i>*</li> <li>› 7230 Alkaline fens</li> <li>› 91E0 Alluvial forests with <i>Alnus glutinosa</i> and <i>Fraxinus excelsior</i> (<i>Alno-Padion</i>, <i>Alnion incanae</i>, <i>Salicion albae</i>)*</li> <li>› 1355 Otter (<i>Lutra lutra</i>)</li> </ul> <p>No pathway for indirect effect on the terrestrial habitats/species for which this site has been designated exists:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>› 4030 European dry heaths</li> </ul>

European Sites and distance from proposed works	Qualify Interests/Special Conservation Interests for which the European site has been designated (Sourced from NPWS online Conservation Objectives, www.npws.ie on the 01/03/2021	Conservation Objectives	Likely Zone of Impact Determination
			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>› 6210 Semi-natural dry grasslands and scrubland facies on calcareous substrates (<i>Festuco-Brometalia</i>) (* important orchid sites)</li> <li>› 8240 Limestone pavements*</li> <li>› 1393 Slender Green Feather-moss (<i>Drepanocladus vernicosus</i>)</li> </ul> <p>The proposed development site is located outside the core foraging range of the Lesser Horseshoe Bat 2.5km (NPWS 2018), and no pathway for indirect effect exists.</p> <p><b>This site is not within the likely zone of impact and no further assessment is required.</b></p>
<p>Ballymaglancy Cave, Cong SAC [000474]</p> <p>Distance: 8km</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>› 8310 Caves not open to the public</li> <li>› 1303 Lesser Horseshoe Bat (<i>Rhinolophus hipposideros</i>)</li> </ul>	<p>Detailed conservation objectives for this site, (Version 1, August 2018), were reviewed as part of the assessment and are available at www.npws.ie</p>	<p>This SAC is located 8km west of the proposed development site. The proposed development site is located entirely outside the boundary of this European Site. No pathway for direct effect exists.</p> <p>The proposed development site is located outside the core foraging range of the Lesser Horseshoe Bat 2.5km (NPWS 2018), and no pathway for indirect effect exists.</p> <p><b>This site is not within the likely zone of impact and no further assessment is required.</b></p>
<p>Skealaghan Turlough SAC</p> <p>Distance: 8.5km</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>› 3180 Turloughs*</li> </ul>	<p>Detailed conservation objectives for this site, (Version 1, January 2021), were reviewed as part of the assessment and are available at www.npws.ie</p>	<p>This SAC is located 8.5km north-east of the proposed development site. The proposed development site is located outside of this European Site. No pathway for direct effect exists.</p> <p>There are no watercourses or drainage ditches within the proposed development site that could act as a conduit for pollution to the listed QI habitat of this SAC. All surface water and wastewater will discharge</p>

European Sites and distance from proposed works	Qualify Interests/Special Conservation Interests for which the European site has been designated (Sourced from NPWS online Conservation Objectives, www.npws.ie on the 01/03/2021	Conservation Objectives	Likely Zone of Impact Determination
			<p>to the existing public services network and there is no potential for deterioration of groundwater. There is no potential for indirect effects.</p> <p><b>This site is not within the likely zone of impact and no further assessment is required.</b></p>
<p>Ardkill Turlough SAC</p> <p>Distance: 10.2km</p>	<p>› 3180 Turloughs*</p>	<p>Detailed conservation objectives for this site, (Version 1, December 2020), were reviewed as part of the assessment and are available at www.npws.ie</p>	<p>The proposed development site is located outside of this European Site. No pathway for direct effect exists.</p> <p>There are no watercourses or drainage ditches within the proposed development site that could act as a conduit for pollution to the listed QI habitat of this SAC. All surface water and wastewater will discharge to the existing public services network and there is no potential for deterioration of groundwater. There is no potential for indirect effects.</p> <p><b>This site is not within the likely zone of impact and no further assessment is required.</b></p>
<p>Kilglassan/Caheravoostia Turlough Complex SAC</p> <p>11.4km</p>	<p>› 3180 Turloughs*</p>	<p>Detailed conservation objectives for this site, (Version 1, January 2021), were reviewed as part of the assessment and are available at www.npws.ie</p>	<p>The proposed development site is located outside of this European Site. No pathway for direct effect exists.</p> <p>There are no watercourses or drainage ditches within the proposed development site that could act as a conduit for pollution to the listed QI habitat of this SAC. All surface water and wastewater will discharge to the existing public services network and there is no potential for deterioration of groundwater. There is no potential for indirect effects.</p> <p><b>This site is not within the likely zone of impact and no further assessment is required.</b></p>

European Sites and distance from proposed works	Qualify Interests/Special Conservation Interests for which the European site has been designated (Sourced from NPWS online Conservation Objectives, www.npws.ie on the 01/03/2021	Conservation Objectives	Likely Zone of Impact Determination
<p>Greaghans Turlough SAC</p> <p>11.5km</p>	<p>› 3180 Turloughs*</p>	<p>Detailed conservation objectives for this site, (Version 1, January 2021), were reviewed as part of the assessment and are available at www.npws.ie</p>	<p>The proposed development site is located outside of this European Site. No pathway for direct effect exists.</p> <p>There are no watercourses or drainage ditches within the proposed development site that could act as a conduit for pollution to the listed QI habitat of this SAC. All surface water and wastewater will discharge to the existing public services network and there is no potential for deterioration of groundwater. There is no potential for indirect effects.</p> <p><b>This site is not within the likely zone of impact and no further assessment is required.</b></p>
<p>Gortnandarragh Limestone Pavement SAC</p> <p>Distance: 14.2km</p>	<p>› 8240 Limestone pavements*</p>	<p>Detailed conservation objectives for this site, (Version 1, April 2019), were reviewed as part of the assessment and are available at www.npws.ie</p>	<p>The proposed development site is located outside of this European Site. No pathway for direct effect exists.</p> <p>This site is designated for a terrestrial habitat. No pathway for indirect effect on the terrestrial habitats for which the site has been designated exists.</p> <p><b>This site is not within the likely zone of impact and no further assessment is required.</b></p>
<p>Special Protection Area (SPA)</p>			
<p>Lough Corrib SPA [004042]</p>	<p>› A395 Greenland White-fronted Goose (<i>Anser albifrons flavirostris</i>)</p> <p>› A194 Arctic Tern (<i>Sterna paradisaea</i>)</p> <p>› A082 Hen Harrier (<i>Circus cyaneus</i>)</p>	<p>This site has the generic conservation objective:</p> <p><i>To maintain or restore the favourable conservation</i></p>	<p>This European Site is located 2.1km south-west of the proposed development site. The proposed development is entirely outside the SPA boundary therefore no potential pathway for direct effect exists.</p>

European Sites and distance from proposed works	Qualify Interests/Special Conservation Interests for which the European site has been designated (Sourced from NPWS online Conservation Objectives, www.npws.ie on the 01/03/2021	Conservation Objectives	Likely Zone of Impact Determination
Distance: 2.1km	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>› A061 Tufted Duck (<i>Aythya fuligula</i>)</li> <li>› A051 Gadwall (<i>Anas strepera</i>)</li> <li>› A059 Pochard (<i>Aythya ferina</i>)</li> <li>› A140 Golden Plover (<i>Pluvialis apricaria</i>)</li> <li>› A179 Black-headed Gull (<i>Chroicocephalus ridibundus</i>)</li> <li>› A182 Common Gull (<i>Larus canus</i>)</li> <li>› A125 Coot (<i>Fulica atra</i>)</li> <li>› A065 Common Scoter (<i>Melanitta nigra</i>)</li> <li>› A193 Common Tern (<i>Sterna hirundo</i>)</li> <li>› A056 Shoveler (<i>Anas clypeata</i>)</li> <li>› A999 Wetlands</li> </ul>	<p><i>condition of the bird species listed as Special Conservation Interests for this SPA'</i></p> <p>And the additional objective, 'To maintain or restore the favourable conservation condition of the wetland habitat at Lough Corrib SPA as a resource for the regularly-occurring migratory waterbirds that utilise it'.</p> <p>(Generic Version 7.0 NPWS 2020)</p>	<p>The proposed works area does not offer suitable supporting habitat for the SCI species associated with the SPA.</p> <p>Indirect impact in the form of deterioration in surface water quality was considered with respect to the 'Wetland and Waterbirds [A999]' supporting wetland habitat for SCI species within the SPA, however impacts can be ruled out as there are no watercourses or drainage ditches within the proposed development site that could act as a conduit for pollution. All surface water and wastewater will discharge to the existing public services network and there is no potential for deterioration of groundwater. There is no potential for indirect effects in terms of deterioration of supporting habitat.</p> <p>The potential for disturbance to SCI species was also considered. Given the intervening buffer distance from the SPA and the nature and scale of the proposed development, no potential pathway for disturbance related impacts to SCI populations associated with the SPA was identified.</p> <p><b>This site is not within the likely zone of impact and no further assessment is required.</b></p>
Lough Mask SPA [004062]  Distance: 7km	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>› A179 Black-headed Gull (<i>Chroicocephalus ridibundus</i>)</li> <li>› A193 Common Tern (<i>Sterna hirundo</i>)</li> <li>› A061 Tufted Duck (<i>Aythya fuligula</i>)</li> <li>› A182 Common Gull (<i>Larus canus</i>)</li> <li>› A395 Greenland White-fronted Goose (<i>Anser albifrons flavirostris</i>)</li> </ul>	<p>This site has the generic conservation objective:</p> <p>'To maintain or restore the favourable conservation condition of the bird species listed as Special Conservation Interests for this SPA'</p>	<p>This European Site is located 7km west of the proposed development site. The proposed development is entirely outside the SPA boundary therefore no potential pathway for direct effect exists.</p> <p>The proposed works area does not offer suitable supporting habitat for the SCI species associated with the SPA.</p>

European Sites and distance from proposed works	Qualify Interests/Special Conservation Interests for which the European site has been designated (Sourced from NPWS online Conservation Objectives, www.npws.ie on the 01/03/2021	Conservation Objectives	Likely Zone of Impact Determination
	<p>› A183 Lesser Black-backed Gull (<i>Larus fuscus</i>) A999 Wetlands</p>	<p>This site has a second conservation objective:  <i>‘To maintain or restore the favourable conservation condition of the wetland habitat at Lough Mask SPA as a resource for the regularly-occurring migratory waterbirds that utilise it.’</i></p> <p>(Generic version 7.0 NPWS 2020)</p>	<p>Indirect impact in the form of deterioration in surface water quality was considered with respect to the ‘Wetland and Waterbirds [A999]’ supporting wetland habitat for SCI species within the SPA, however impact can be ruled out as there are no watercourses or drainage ditches within the proposed development site that could act as a conduit for pollution. All surface water and wastewater will discharge to the existing public services network and there is no potential for deterioration of groundwater. There is no potential for indirect effect in terms of deterioration of supporting habitat.</p> <p>Given the intervening buffer distance from the SPA no potential pathway for disturbance related impact on SCI populations associated with the SPA was identified.</p> <p><b>This site is not within the likely zone of impact and no further assessment is required.</b></p>
<p>Lough Carra SPA [004051]</p> <p>Distance: 12.8km</p>	<p>› A182 Common Gull (<i>Larus canus</i>)</p>	<p>This site has the generic conservation objective:  <i>‘To maintain or restore the favourable conservation condition of the bird species listed as Special Conservation Interests for this SPA’,</i> (Generic version 7.0 NPWS 2020).</p>	<p>This European Site is located 12.8km north-west of the proposed development site. The proposed development is entirely outside the SPA boundary therefore no potential pathway for direct effect exists.</p> <p>The proposed works area does not offer suitable supporting habitat for the SCI species associated with the SPA.</p> <p>Indirect impact in the form of deterioration in surface water quality was considered with respect to the ‘Wetland and Waterbirds [A999]’ supporting wetland habitat for SCI species within the SPA, however impact can be ruled out as this SPA is located in a separate groundwater catchment. There is no potential for indirect effects in terms of deterioration of supporting wetland habitat.</p>

European Sites and distance from proposed works	Qualify Interests/Special Conservation Interests for which the European site has been designated (Sourced from NPWS online Conservation Objectives, www.npws.ie on the 01/03/2021	Conservation Objectives	Likely Zone of Impact Determination
			<p>Given the intervening buffer distance from the SPA no potential pathway for disturbance related effects on SCI populations associated with the SPA was identified.</p> <p><b>This site is not within the likely zone of impact and no further assessment is required.</b></p>

### 3.2 **European Sites with the Potential to be Significantly Affected by the Proposed Works**

No European Sites with the potential to be significantly affected by the proposed development have been identified.

### 3.3 **Likely Cumulative Impact of the Proposed Works on European Sites, in-combination with other plans and projects**

The potential for the proposed works to contribute to a cumulative impact on European Sites was considered. The online planning system for Mayo County Council was consulted on the 01/03/2021. Additional projects identified in the area include;

- › Planning permission to retain utility/garage to rear of dwelling. Planning reference: 20259
- › Permission to construct extension to the side and front of the existing dwelling house along with all associated services. Planning reference: 17591
- › Permission to construct dwelling house and garage with provision for septic tank and percolation area, together with all ancillary site works. Planning reference: 18740
- › Permission to retain serviced dwelling house with septic tank, percolation area on revised site boundaries from that granted under p99/1242. Planning reference: 16630
- › Permission to construct a 5 bay enclosed slatted shed and underground slurry storage tank along with all associated site works. Planning reference: 20818
- › Permission for the construction of a detached dwelling house, connection to existing services and all associated site works. Planning reference: 19228
- › Permission to construct an extension to the rear of the existing dwelling house and renovation works together with all ancillary site works and services. Planning reference: 17982
- › Permission to construct a dwelling house, proprietary effluent treatment unit, percolation area and domestic garage along with all ancillary site works. Planning reference: 19461

No pathway or mechanism for the proposed works to result in any significant effect on any European Site was identified when considered on its own during the assessment process and therefore there is no potential for it to contribute to any such effects when considered in-combination with other developments.

## 4. ARTICLE 6(3) APPROPRIATE ASSESSMENT SCREENING STATEMENT AND CONCLUSIONS

The findings of this Screening Assessment are presented following the European Commission's Assessment of Plans and Projects Significantly affecting Natura 2000 Sites: Methodological Guidance on the provisions of Article 6(3) and 6(4) of the Habitats Directive 92/43/EEC (EC, 2001) and Managing Natura 2000 Sites: the provisions of Article 6 of the 'Habitats' Directive 92/43/EEC (EC, 2018) as well as the Department of the Environment's Appropriate Assessment of Plans and Projects in Ireland - Guidance for Planning Authorities (DoEHLG, 2010).

### 4.1 Data Collected to Carry Out Assessment

**In preparation of the report, the following sources were used to gather information:**

- › Review of NPWS Site Synopses, Conservation Objectives for the European Sites.
- › Review of 2019, 2013 and 2007 EU Habitats Directive (Article 17) Reports.
- › Review of online web-mappers: National Parks and Wildlife Service (NPWS)
- › Review of OS maps and aerial photographs of the site of the proposed project.
- › Site visits conducted by Julie O'Sullivan (BSc, MSc) on the 26<sup>th</sup> of January 2021.

### 4.2 Concluding Statement

It is concluded beyond reasonable scientific doubt, in view of best scientific knowledge, on the basis of objective information and in light of the conservation objectives of the relevant European sites, that the proposed works, individually or in combination with other plans and projects, will not have a significant effect on any European Site.

5.

## BIBLIOGRAPHY

Birds Directive (2009/47/EC) – [http://ec.europa.eu/environment/nature/legislation/birdsdirective/index\\_en.htm](http://ec.europa.eu/environment/nature/legislation/birdsdirective/index_en.htm)

CIEEM, 2018, Guidelines for Ecological Impact Assessment in the UK and Ireland. Terrestrial, Freshwater, Coastal and Marine.

Council Directive 92/43/EEC of 21 May 1992 on the conservation of natural habitats and of wild fauna and flora (Habitats Directive) and Directive 2009/147/EC (codified version of Directive 79/409/EEC as amended) (Birds Directive) – transposed into Irish law as European Communities (Birds and Natural Habitats) Regulations 2011 (SI 477/2011).

DEHLG (2009) Appropriate Assessment of Plans and Projects in Ireland: Guidance for Planning Authorities. DEHLG, Dublin.

DoEHLG (2010). Appropriate Assessment of Plans and Projects in Ireland. Guidance for Planning Authorities. Revision, February, 2010. Department of the Environment, Heritage and Local Government.

EC (2000) Managing Natura 2000 Sites: the provisions of Article 6 of the 'Habitats' Directive 92/43/EEC, Office for Official Publications of the European Communities, Luxembourg. European Commission.

EC (2001) Assessment of plans and projects significantly affecting Natura 2000 sites: Methodological guidance on the provisions of Articles 6(3) and (4) of the Habitats Directive 92/43/EEC.

EC (2002) Assessment of Plans and Projects Significantly Affecting Natura 2000 Sites: Methodological guidance on the provisions of Article 6(3) and (4) of the Habitats Directive 92/43/EEC, Office for Official Publications of the European Communities, Luxembourg. European Commission.

EC (2006) Nature and biodiversity cases: Ruling of the European Court of Justice. Office for Official Publications of the European Communities, Luxembourg.

EC (2007a) Guidance document on Article 6(4) of the 'Habitats Directive' 92/43/EEC – Clarification of the concepts of: alternative solutions, imperative reasons of overriding public interest, compensatory measures, overall coherence, opinion of the commission. Office for Official Publications of the European Communities, Luxembourg. European Commission.

EC (2007b) Interpretation Manual of European Union Habitats. Version EUR 27. European Commission, DG Environment.

European Communities (Conservation of Wild Birds) Regulations, 1985, SI 291/1985 & amendments – <http://www.irishstatutebook.ie>.

European Communities (Natural Habitats) Regulations, SI 94/1997, SI 233/1998 & SI 378/2005 – <http://www.irishstatutebook.ie>.

Fossitt, J. A. (2000). A Guide to Habitats in Ireland. Dublin: The Heritage Council.

Habitats Directive (92/43/EEC).

NPWS (2008) The Status of EU Protected Habitats and Species in Ireland. Conservation Status in Ireland of Habitats and Species listed in the European Council Directive on the Conservation of Habitats, Flora and Fauna 92/43/EEC.

NPWS of the DEHLG (2008) The Report on Status of Habitats and Species in Ireland: Technical Reports and Forms.

NPWS Protected Site Synopses and maps available on <http://www.npws.ie/en/ProtectedSites/>.

Scottish Natural Heritage (SNH) (July 2013) Assessing Connectivity with Special Protection Areas (SPA)



## APPENDIX 1

### IRISH WATER CONFIRMATION OF FEASIBILITY LETTER



Uisce Éireann  
Bosca OP 6000  
Baile Átha Cliath 1  
Éire

Irish Water  
PO Box 6000  
Dublin 1  
Ireland

T: +353 1 89 25000  
F: +353 1 89 25001  
[www.water.ie](http://www.water.ie)

Paul Downes  
Cashel Business Centre  
Cashel Road  
Kimmage, Dublin 12 D12XY86

10 July 2019

Dear Paul Downes,

**Re: Connection Reference No CDS19003193 pre-connection enquiry - Subject to contract | Contract denied**

**Connection for Housing Development of 15 unit(s) at On the L1614 Road to Kilmaine, Cross West, Mayo.**

Irish Water has reviewed your pre-connection enquiry in relation to a water connection at On the L1614 Road to Kilmaine, Cross West, Mayo.

Based upon the details that you have provided with your pre-connection enquiry and on the capacity currently available in the network(s), as assessed by Irish Water, we wish to advise you that, subject to a valid connection agreement being put in place, your proposed connection to the Irish Water network(s) can be facilitated.

A connection to the Irish Water owned foul sewer can be facilitated subject to the completion and commissioning of the newly constructed Cross foul sewer network and wastewater treatment plant.

The nearest existing Irish Water owned water main is located approx. 300m to the east of the proposed site. The new Irish Water Connection Charging policy became live from the 1st April 2019 following a transition period from the 1st January 2019. As a result, the connection charges for this proposed housing development shall be in accordance with this charging regime, please see the Irish Water website which details what the connection charges will be based on the number of domestic connections you are proposing.

Furthermore, as your connection appears to be located approx. 300m from the nearest Irish Water owned water main, a network extension will be required, this is referred to as a quotable connection and will be charged in addition to the standard charges. As the Irish Water Regional Connections Contractor has been live in Mayo since the 22nd March 2019, all works in the public road will be required to be completed by either Mayo Co Co or the Irish Water Regional Contractor and shall be funded by the customer at the quotable rates provided by IW. The below link may be useful as an approximate guide on the quotable element as there are indicative per metre rates (pro-rata depending on distance) for extensions above and beyond the standard connection (above 10m) distance.

<https://www.water.ie/connections/information/connection-charges/>

All infrastructure should be designed and installed in accordance with the Irish Water Codes of Practice and Standard Details. A design proposal for the water and/or wastewater infrastructure should be submitted to Irish Water for assessment. Prior to submitting your planning application, you are required to submit these detailed design proposals to Irish Water for review.

**Stiúrthóirí / Directors:** Mike Quinn (Chairman), Eamon Gallen, Cathal Marley, Brendan Murphy, Michael G. O'Sullivan

**Oifig Chláraithe / Registered Office:** Teach Colvill, 24-26 Sráid Thalbóid, Baile Átha Cliath 1, D01 NP86 / Colvill House, 24-26 Talbot Street, Dublin 1, D01 NP86

Is cuideachta ghníomhaíochta ainmnithe atá faoi theorainn scaireanna é Uisce Éireann / Irish Water is a designated activity company, limited by shares.

**Uimhir Chláraithe in Éirinn / Registered in Ireland No.:** 530363

You are advised that this correspondence does not constitute an offer in whole or in part to provide a connection to any Irish Water infrastructure and is provided subject to a connection agreement being signed at a later date.

A connection agreement can be applied for by completing the connection application form available at **[www.water.ie/connections](http://www.water.ie/connections)**. Irish Water's current charges for water and wastewater connections are set out in the Water Charges Plan as approved by the Commission for Regulation of Utilities.

If you have any further questions, please contact Cormac Healy from the design team on 094 90 43347 or email [corhealy@water.ie](mailto:corhealy@water.ie). For further information, visit [www.water.ie/connections](http://www.water.ie/connections).

Yours sincerely,



**Maria O'Dwyer**

**Connections and Developer Services**

