

Comhairle Chontae Liatroma Leitrim County Council Áras an Chontae Cora Droma Rúisc Contae Liatroma N41 PF67 Áras an Chontae Carrick on Shannon County Leitrim N41 PF67

7th January 2025

Mr. Justin Fannon, Acting Director of Economic Development, Planning & Infrastructural Services, Leitrim County Council

RE: Appropriate Assessment Screening Determination – Proposed Dromahair Flood Relief Scheme

Justin,

Leitrim County Council proposes to construct a Flood Relief Scheme at three locations in the townlands of Ardakip More, Killananima and Corcusconny, Dromahair, County Leitrim. The proposed development comprises:

- Construction of earthen flood defence embankments at 2 residential properties
- Construction of concrete flood defence walls along the boundary of The Clubhouse Bar and Riverbank Restaurant, the Mill Master House Accommodation and the Mill Apartments replacing the existing boundary wall. Significant sections of the existing boundary wall which it is proposed to demolish and reuse the stone to face the southern (site) side of the proposed flood defence walls are original boundary walls which would have served the railway station complex. The railway complex comprises 5 no. Protected Structures – RPS 69 Locomotive Shed, RPS 70 – former Goods Shed, RPS 71 former Warehouse, RPS 72 former Station Master's House and RPS 68 former Railway Station House or Workers House. These works are therefore contained within the curtilage of the aforementioned Protected Structures.
- Surface water drainage at all sites
- Replanting all earthen embankments with grass seed
- Post and wire fencing around earthen embankments
- Ancillary site development and accommodation works.

TOBIN Consultant Engineers were appointed on behalf of the Council to design the above scheme.

I have considered the submitted Appropriate Assessment Screening Report prepared by Ms. Sinead O'Reilly (M.Res.), Senior Ecologist for TOBIN Consultant Engineers on behalf of Leitrim County Council with respect to the proposed development as described above.

I am satisfied that the evaluation submitted is based on available information and using best scientific knowledge. The report concludes that it has been determined that, in the absence of mitigation, that the project does pose a risk to Lough Gill SAC (SITE CODE: I Phone: 071 96 20005

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001976). In reaching this conclusion, the nature of the project, individually and in combination with other plans or projects and its potential relationship with all European sites within the zone of influence, and their conservation objectives, have been fully considered. It is the opinion of the author that the proposed works do require Stage II Appropriate Assessment, namely the preparation of a Natura Impact Statement (NIS).

Having reviewed the documentation submitted, I am satisfied on the basis of the Appropriate Assessment Screening Report undertaken by Ms. Sinead O'Reilly (M.Res.), Senior Ecologist for TOBIN Consultant Engineers that the proposed Dromahair Flood Relief Scheme would be likely to have a significant impact or effect on the qualifying interests and / or conservation objectives of a Natura 2000 site, namely Lough Gill SAC (SITE CODE: 001976). The proposed development does, in my opinion, require a Stage II Appropriate Assessment to be undertaken.

Is mise le meas,

Bernard Greene, Senior Planner