

## A. Screening Report for Appropriate Assessment for Part 8 Housing Project at Moanbaun, Mountrath, County Laois.

### *Proposed Development*

Carry out a residential development at Moanbaun, Mountrath, County Laois.

In particular, the proposed development comprises the following main elements:

- Construction of a 17 no. unit residential development comprising 11 no. detached units and 4 no. semi-detached units of a detached, two-storey property which is currently vacant to 2 no. semi-detached residential units of 68m<sup>2</sup> and 56m<sup>2</sup> respectively and
- ancillary site works.

### *Site Location*

The development site is located on zoned lands at Moanbaun, Mountrath off Shannon Street, French Church Street, west of Portarlinton town centre.

### *Site Size*

The overall curtilage is 0.5762 hectares [1.4 acres] in size.

### *Floor area of proposed development*

The total floor area of the proposed development is c. 1,600 square metres.

### *Identification of nearby Natura 2000 site(s)*

The development site is not but is relatively to a Natura 2000 site, namely the River Barrow and River Nore SAC [site code 2162] which is c. 180 metres due west.

### *The characteristics of existing, proposed or other approved projects which may cause interactive/cumulative impacts with the project being assessed and which may affect the Natura 2000 site*

None.

### *Is the application accompanied by a NIS?*

No.

## **B. IDENTIFICATION OF THE RELEVANT NATURA 2000 SITE(S)**

### *The reasons for the designation of the Natura 2000 site*

A site synopsis is attached to this report (sourced on [www.npws.ie](http://www.npws.ie)).

*The conservation objectives/qualifying interests of the site and the factors that contributes to the conservation value of the site*

A site synopsis is attached to this report (sourced on [www.npws.ie](http://www.npws.ie)).

### **C. NPWS ADVICE**

*Summary of advice received from NPWS in written form*

None received.

### **D. ASSESSMENT OF LIKELY SIGNIFICANT EFFECTS**

(Purpose of this is to identify if the effect(s) identified could be significant – if uncertain assume the effect(s) are significant).

If answer yes to any of the questions, below then the effect is significant.

*Would there be any impact on an Annex 1 habitat? (Annex 1 habitats are listed in Appendix 1 of AA Guidance)*

No. The development is not located within or close to a Natura 2000 site.

*Would there be a reduction in habitat area on a Natura 2000 site?*

No. The development is not located within or close to a Natura 2000 site.

*Would there be direct/indirect damage to the physical quality of the environment (e.g., water quality and supply, soil compaction) in the Natura 2000 site?*

No. There is a very low level of potential for connectivity of the development site with sites designated for environmental protection.

*Would there be serious/ongoing disturbance to species/habitats for which the Natura 2000 site is selected (e.g., because of increased noise, illumination and human activity)?*

No. There is a very low level of potential for connectivity of the development site with sites designated for environmental protection.

*Would there be direct/indirect damage to the size, characteristics or reproductive ability of populations on the Natura 2000 site?*

No. The development is not located within or close to a Natura 2000 site and there is a very low level of potential for connectivity of the development site with sites designated for environmental protection.

*Would the project interfere with mitigation measures put in place for other plans/projects. (Look at in-combination effects with completed, approved but not completed, and proposed plans/projects. Look at projects/plans within and adjacent to Natura 2000 sites and identify them).*

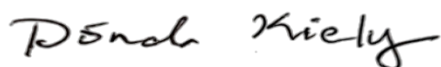
No.

#### **E. SCREENING CONCLUSION**

Taking account of the following:

- [i] the distance between the development site and the nearest Natura 2000 site,
- [ii] the availability of a connection to public foul and surface water drainage infrastructure,
- [iii] the nature and extent of the proposed development and of the site curtilage including the low level of potential for connectivity of the development site with water bodies or with sites designated for environmental protection,
- [iv] the characteristics of the conservation objectives involved and
- [v] best scientific knowledge.

it can be concluded with reasonable certainty that the development in itself or in combination with other plans or projects would not be likely to have a significant effect on the Natura 2000 sites network and therefore an appropriate assessment is not required.



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*Donal Kiely, SEP, 13<sup>th</sup> December 2024*