



**COMHAIRLE CONTAE CILL MHANTAIN
WICKLOW COUNTY COUNCIL**

**Planning and Development Act 2000 (as amended) Planning
and Development Regulations 2001 (as amended)**

Proposed Wicklow Port Access Road Link, Wicklow Town, Co. Wicklow

Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Screening Determination

General

AECOM was commissioned by Wicklow County Council to prepare an Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Screening Report with regards to the Wicklow Port Access Road Link scheme (herein referred to as 'Wicklów PARL' or the 'Proposed Development'). The Proposed Development involves the construction of a new pedestrian and cycle bridge over the Dublin to Rosslare Railway Line and includes infrastructure such as access lifts and stairs to Wicklow Train Station's platforms, and a new parking and set-down facility to the north of the station

It is intended to place the plans and particulars for the proposed development on public display in accordance with the requirements of the Part XI of the Planning and Development Act 2000 (as amended) and Part 8 of the Planning and Development Regulations, 2001 (as amended).

Legislative Context

The EIA Directive had direct effect in Ireland from May 2017 and was transposed into Irish planning law in September 2018 in the form of the European Union (EU) (Planning and Development) (Environmental Impact Assessment) Regulations 2018. The regulation sets out the amendments made to a number of Irish acts and regulations in line with the EIA Directive (as transposed into Irish legislation). This includes amendments to the Planning and Development Act 2000 (as amended) and the Planning and Development Regulations 2001 (as amended). The Planning and Development Act 2000 (as amended) and the Planning and Development Regulations 2001 (as amended) provide guidance as to the specific requirements for both public and private projects to assess their potential effects on

the environment and the steps to be undertaken in relation to whether a full EIA (in the format of an EIAR) is required.

EIA Screening

AECOM determined it was necessary to consider whether the Proposed Development constitutes EIA development under the Planning and Development Regulations (2001) (as amended) and the Roads Act 1993 (as amended).

Conclusion

Having undertaken the required EIA screening process, AECOM concluded the following;

The prescribed classes of development and thresholds that trigger a full EIA are set out in Schedule 5 of the Planning and Development Regulations, 2001 (as amended). A review of the project types listed in the aforementioned Schedule 5 (as amended) has been carried out, using the steps set out in Section 3 of this report.

The Proposed Development is not a type of development listed in Schedule 5, Part 1 and as the Proposed Development does not equal or exceed a development of a type listed in Part 2 of Schedule 5, a full EIA culminating in the preparation of an EIAR is not required. In addition, the Proposed Development is not a type of development requiring a mandatory EIA under the Roads Act 1993 (as amended).

The Proposed Development is of a class set out in Schedule 5, Part 2 (Schedule 5, Part 2, 10 (b)(iv)), but does not meet or exceed the relevant threshold. The Proposed Development was screened for EIA in line with Schedule 7 and 7A of the Planning and Development Regulations 2001 (as amended). No likely significant effects have been identified during the screening process and, as such, a full EIA culminating in the preparation of an EIAR is not required.

Based on the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Screening Report prepared by Consultants AECOM dated 3rd October 2024 and for the reasons outlined above, it is now recommended that Wicklow County Council accept the Consultants evaluation that a Stage 2 Environmental Impact Assessment will not be required to accompany the proposed Wicklow Port Access Road Link, Wicklow Town.

That Wicklow County Council as the competent Authority having considered the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Screening Report prepared AECOM Consultants makes a determination that, when considered either alone or in combination with other plans or projects, a Stage 2 Environmental Impact Assessment will not be required for the proposed Wicklow Port Access Road Link, Wicklow Town.

Signed: _____

Michael Flynn
Senior Engineer

Date: 8th October 2024

Signed: _____

Leonora Earls
Director of Services
Planning, Economic & rural Development

Date: _____

9/10/24

