

HABITATS DIRECTIVE APPROPRIATE ASSESSMENT (AA) SCREENING REPORT

STEP 1. Description of the project/proposal and local site characteristics:

(a) File Reference No:	Fethard Graveyard Part 8
(b) Brief description of the project or plan:	Lawn Cemetery and Associated Works adjoining Fethard Graveyard
(c) Brief description of site characteristics:	Site comprises agricultural lands and narrow section of lands along side public road located north of the Calvary Cemetery, Fethard, Co. Tipperary.
(d) Relevant prescribed bodies consulted: e.g. DHLGH (NPWS), EPA, OPW	None
(e) Response to consultation:	None

STEP 2. Identification of relevant Natura 2000 sites using Source-Pathway-Receptor model and compilation of information on Qualifying Interests and conservation objectives.

European Site (code)	List of Qualifying Interest/Special Conservation Interest ¹	Distance from proposed development ² (km)	Connections (Source-Pathway-Receptor)	Considered further in screening Y/N
002137 Lower River Suir	https://www.npws.ie/protected-sites/sac/002137	Within 10km	None	Yes
002162 River Barrow and Nore SAC	https://www.npws.ie/protected-sites/sac/002162	Within 15km	None	No

STEP 3. Assessment of Likely Significant Effects

(a) Identify all potential direct and indirect impacts that may have an effect on the conservation objectives of a European site, taking into account the size and scale of the project under the following headings:

Impacts:	Possible Significance of Impacts: (duration/magnitude etc.)
<p>Construction phase e.g.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Vegetation clearance Demolition Surface water runoff from soil excavation/infill/landscaping (including borrow pits) Dust, noise, vibration Lighting disturbance Impact on groundwater/dewatering 	<p>Site has weak hydrological connectivity with the Lower River Suir SAC.</p> <p>Indirect drainage pathways link the site to the SAC through the surface water drainage network serving the site however impacts on waters during</p>

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Storage of excavated/construction materials • Access to site • Pests 	<p>construction and operation are not anticipated. Information in Hydrology report shows the development will not impact on groundwaters or surface waters.</p> <p>The potential for impacts on the SAC arising from the construction phase of the development is low.</p>
<p>Operational phase e.g.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Direct emission to air and water • Surface water runoff containing contaminant or sediment • Lighting disturbance • Noise/vibration • Changes to water/groundwater due to drainage or abstraction • Presence of people, vehicles and activities • Physical presence of structures (e.g. collision risks) • Potential for accidents or incidents 	<p>No potential for impacts during operational phase. Information in Hydrology report shows the development will not impact on groundwaters or surface waters.</p>
In-combination/Other	No potential for impacts.

(b) Describe any likely changes to the European site:

<p>Examples of the type of changes to give consideration to include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reduction or fragmentation of habitat area • Disturbance to QI species • Habitat or species fragmentation • Reduction or fragmentation in species density • Changes in key indicators of conservation status value (water or air quality etc.) • Changes to areas of sensitivity or threats to QI • Interference with the key relationships that define the structure or ecological function of the site 	No changes anticipated.
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(c) Are ‘mitigation’ measures necessary to reach a conclusion that likely significant effects can be ruled out at screening?

☐ Yes ☒ No

STEP 4. Screening Determination Statement

The assessment of significance of effects:

Describe how the proposed development (alone or in-combination) is/is **not likely** to have **significant** effects on European site(s) in view of its conservation objectives.

The proposed development is not likely to have significant effects.

Conclusion:

	Tick as	Recommendation:
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	Appropriate:	
(i) It is clear that there is no likelihood of significant effects on a European site.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	The proposal can be screened out: Appropriate assessment not required.
(ii) It is uncertain whether the proposal will have a significant effect on a European site.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> Request further information to complete screening <input type="checkbox"/> Request NIS <input type="checkbox"/> Refuse planning permission
(iii) Significant effects are likely.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> Request NIS <input type="checkbox"/> Refuse planning permission
Signature and Date of Recommending Officer:	<i>Muhammad Balad</i> S.E.E	Date: 17/2/2023

EIA Pre-Screening Establishing a development is a 'sub-threshold development'	
File Reference:	Fethard Graveyard Part 8
Development Summary:	Lawn Cemetery and Associated Works adjoining Fethard Graveyard
Was a Screening Determination carried out under Section 176A-C?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes, no further action required <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No, Proceed to Part A
A. Schedule 5 Part 1 - Does the development comprise a project listed in Schedule 5, Part 1, of the Planning and Development Regulations 2001 (as amended)? (Tick as appropriate)	
<input type="checkbox"/> Yes, specify class _____ <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	EIA is mandatory No Screening required Proceed to Part B
B. Schedule 5 Part 2 - Does the development comprise a project listed in Schedule 5, Part 2, of the Planning and Development Regulations 2001 (as amended) and does it meet/exceed the thresholds? (Tick as appropriate)	
<input type="checkbox"/> No, the development is not a project listed in Schedule 5, Part 2	No Screening required
<input type="checkbox"/> Yes the project is listed in Schedule 5, Part 2 and meets/exceeds the threshold, specify class (including threshold): _____	EIA is mandatory No Screening required
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes the project is of a type listed but is <i>sub-threshold</i> : Class 10 b) iv), Part 2 of Schedule 5 (iv) Urban development which would involve an area greater than 2 hectares in the case of a business district, 10 hectares in the	Proceed to Part C

<p>case of other parts of a built-up area and 20 hectares elsewhere.</p> <p>Project site is 0.97 ha. This is significantly below 20ha threshold.</p> <p>_____</p>	
<p>C. If Yes, has Schedule 7A information/screening report been submitted?</p>	
<p><input type="checkbox"/> Yes, Schedule 7A information/screening report has been submitted</p>	<p>Screening Determination required</p>
<p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No, Schedule 7A information/screening report has not been submitted</p>	<p>Preliminary Examination required</p>

<p>EIA Preliminary Examination:</p> <p>The planning authority shall carry out a preliminary examination of, at the least, the nature, size or location of the development.</p>		
	<p>Comment:</p>	<p>Yes/No/ Uncertain:</p>
<p>Nature of the development:</p> <p><i>Is the nature of the proposed development exceptional in the context of the existing environment?</i></p> <p><i>Will the development result in the production of any significant waste, or result in significant emissions or pollutants?</i></p>	<p>Development small in scale and not exceptional in the context of the existing environment.</p> <p>Development does not result in production of waste, emissions or pollutants.</p> <p>Environmental effects associated with decay of buried remains considered to be low due to slow timescale for this process and low intensity of this process.</p>	<p>No</p>

<p>Size of the development:</p> <p>Is the size of the proposed development exceptional <i>in the context of the existing environment</i>?</p> <p><i>Are there cumulative considerations having regard to other existing and/or permitted projects?</i></p>	<p>Development small in scale. No cumulative issues arise.</p>	<p>No</p>
<p>Location:</p> <p><i>Is the proposed development located on, in, adjoining or does it have the potential to impact on an ecologically sensitive site or location?</i></p> <p><i>Does the proposed development have the potential to affect other significant environmental sensitivities in the area?</i></p>	<p>Site is not environmentally sensitive.</p>	<p>No</p>
<p>Preliminary Examination Conclusion:</p>		
<p>Based on a preliminary examination of the nature, size or location of the development. (Tick as appropriate)</p>		
<p style="text-align: center;">✓</p> <p>There is no real likelihood of significant effects on the environment.</p> <p>EIA is not required.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>There is real likelihood of significant effects on the environment.</p> <p>An EIAR is required.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>There is significant and realistic doubt regarding the likelihood of significant effects on the environment.</p> <p>Request the applicant to submit the Information specified in Schedule 7A for the purposes of a screening determination.</p> <p>Proceed to Screening Determination.</p>