

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>
<p>In-combination/Other</p>	<p>No potential for impacts.</p>

(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 	<p>No changes anticipated.</p>
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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:

	<p>Tick as</p>	<p>Recommendation:</p>
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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>Muamir 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 _____	EIA is mandatory
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	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

case of other parts of a built-up area and 20 hectares elsewhere.

Project site is 0.97 ha. This is significantly below 20ha threshold.

C. If Yes, has Schedule 7A information/screening report been submitted?

Yes, Schedule 7A information/screening report has been submitted

Screening Determination required

No, Schedule 7A information/screening report has not been submitted

Preliminary Examination required

EIA Preliminary Examination:		
The planning authority shall carry out a preliminary examination of, at the least, the nature, size or location of the development.		
	Comment:	Yes/No/ Uncertain:
Nature of the development: <i>Is the nature of the proposed development exceptional in the context of the existing environment?</i> <i>Will the development result in the production of any significant waste, or result in significant emissions or pollutants?</i>	Development small in scale and not exceptional in the context of the existing environment. Development does not result in production of waste, emissions or pollutants. 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.	No

<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>