

Part 8 Planning



Briefing Document

For

**Construction of a Combined
Footway/Cycleway along the R280 at Melvin
Fields, Kinlough, Co Leitrim.**

4th February 2022



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1 Introduction

Leitrim County Council proposes to construct a new footway and cycleway along the R280 north of Kinlough, Co. Leitrim. The main objective of this proposal is to provide walking and cycling infrastructure linking two housing developments to the village centre of Kinlough and to discourage the use of motor vehicles for journeys to local amenities. The development will also aid in the reduction of traffic speed in the area.

The proposed development will consist of a combined footway/cycleway and associated public lighting along both sides of the R280, north of Kinlough, Co. Leitrim, from the end of the existing (outbound) footpath, extending for a distance of approximately 246 metres. It is envisaged that this development will enable future development of a proposed greenway linking the town of Kinlough to the town of Bundoran in Co. Donegal.

2 Principal Features of the Scheme

The proposed development consists of the following:

2.1 Footway / Cycleway

The proposed development is 246 meters in length and will consist of a 3.3m / 3.6m combined footway/cycleway along both sides of the R280 from Oaklands Manor north to the end of the existing hard shoulder past Melvin Fields housing development. The footway will also consist of a 225mm wide concrete kerb with a macadam finished surface.

Access will be provided via dished kerbing at each end of the scheme.

2.2 Drainage

There are existing drainage services in place however additional services may be required at construction stage (i.e., drainage channels across existing vehicular entrances where challenging gradients are involved)

2.3 Public Lighting

One additional lighting pole is required and will be installed as part of these works.

2.4 Timescale

It is expected that the project (if approved) will be constructed in Q3 of 2022.

3 Leitrim County Development Plan 2015-2021

The provision of the combined footway/cycleway is aligned with the following policy and objectives of the County Development Plan:

- **Policy 46**

It is the policy of the Council to encourage safe walking and cycling by providing linear parks, footpaths, cycle paths and public lighting in towns and villages.

- **Objective 39**

It is an objective of the Council to ensure all towns and villages have adequate footpaths and public lighting.

- **Objective 113**

It is an objective of the Council to facilitate the provision of cycle lanes along public roads in urban/built up areas and in tourist areas, where appropriate and as funds allow.

4 Appropriate Assessment Screening Report

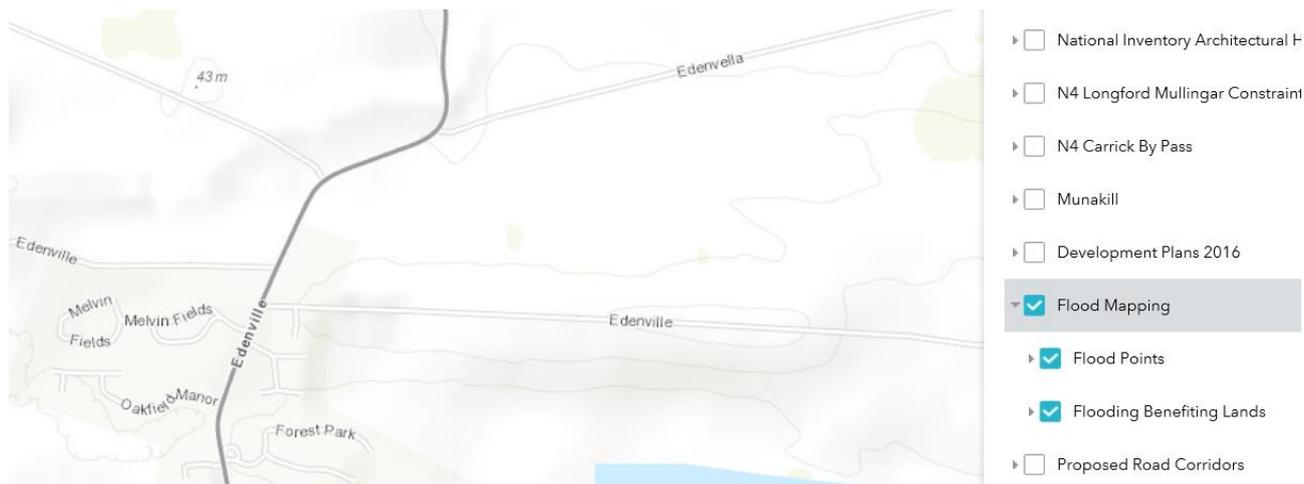
The Appropriate Assessment Screening Report can be found in Appendix B of this report and concludes that the project will have no significant impact on the conservation objectives of designated European sites.

In accordance with Article 120 (3) as amended by SI No 296 of 2018, a person may, within 4 weeks from the date of the site notice (25th February 2022) apply to An Bord Pleanála for a screening determination as to whether the development would be likely to have significant effects on the environment. Such a submission should be addressed to the Secretary, An Bord Pleanála, 64 Marlborough Street, Dublin 1.

5 Flood Risk

As per the Flood Risk Management Guidelines (2009), where flood risk may be an issue for any proposed development, a flood risk assessment (FRA) should be carried out that is appropriate to the scale and nature of the development and the risks arising. An FRA is intended to be sufficiently detailed to quantify the risks and effects of any flooding, necessary mitigation measures, together with recommendations on how to best manage any residual risks.

The following extract shows that there are no flood points or benefitting lands in the vicinity of the site and therefore an FRA is not required.



6 Archaeology

An initial archaeological screening assessment has been undertaken in order to ascertain the potential impact of the proposed development on the archaeological and historical resource that may exist within the area and identify whether further studies are required in order to define potential impacts. There are no recorded monuments within the proposed development area.

Given the low archaeological potential of the proposed development area, no further archaeological assessments or mitigation is deemed to be necessary in association with future development.



7 Protected Structures

There are no protected structures in the vicinity of this project. Therefore, the implementation of this project will not have any impact on Protected Structures.

8 Conclusion

The proposed works are consistent with proper planning and sustainable development of the area in which it relates. Leitrim County Council proposes to carry out these works to improve the approaches to the town centre and to encourage people to walk and cycle to their local amenities.

