

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT (EIA) SCREENING REPORT FOR

COLLINS LANE (TULLAMORE) ACTIVE TRAVEL SCHEME – PERMEABILITY LINK ROAD

- PART 8



Offaly County Council Áras an Chontae, Charleville Road, Tullamore, County Offaly, R35 F893

Director of Services Transport and Active Travel

2025

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT (EIA) SCREENING REPORT FOR

COLLINS LANE (TULLAMORE) ACTIVE TRAVEL SCHEME – PERMEABILITY LINK ROAD - PART 8

Brief Project Description: Collins Lane (Tullamore) Active Travel Scheme – Permeability Link Road (L6062-3 to L60623-1) at Collins Lane, Tullamore, County Offaly

This project includes improvements to the public realm as follows:

- Construction of approximately 180 metres of single carriageway.
- Construction of approximately 360 linear metres of footpaths and cycle paths.
- Pedestrian crossings and uncontrolled crossings including drop kerbs and tactile paving.
- Provision of road drainage within the scheme.
- Installation of public lighting.
- Installation of road markings and road signage.
- Construction of boundary fencing, where appropriate.
- Re-Location / diversion of existing utilities where necessary.
- Associated ancillary works.

These works are medium in scale with a construction period expected to be approximately 24 weeks.

1. Will construction, operation or decommissioning of the Project involve actions which will cause physical changes in the locality (topography, land use, changes in waterbodies, etc)?	Yes - The project will involve the construction of 180 metres of new single carriageway with footpaths and cycle paths. The installation junctions to service the adjoining lands (Zoned New Residential). Re-Location / diversion of existing utilities where necessary.	No
2. Will construction or operation of the Project use natural resources such as land, water, materials, or energy, especially any resources which are non- renewable or in short supply?	Yes	No - The works will require the use of standard construction materials.
3. Will the Project involve use, storage, transport, handling or production of substances or materials which could be harmful to human health or the environment or raise concerns about actual or perceived risks to human health?	Yes	No – Standard Construction Works managed by Offaly County Council Contractor. Non- Hazardous Construction and Demolition Waste from the works will need to be transported to an authorised waste facility.
4. Will the Project produce solid wastes during construction or operation or decommissioning?	Yes - The proposed project will produce Construction and Demolition Waste.	No - Construction and Demolition Waste to be transported to an authorised waste facility.

Questions to be Considered For further guidance on factors to be considered see the more detailed questions listed in the <u>Scoping Guidance</u>	Yes / No /Briefly describe	Is this likely to result in a significant effect? Yes/No/? – Why?
5. Will the Project release pollutants or any hazardous, toxic, or noxious substances to air?	Yes - The construction of the link road will increase dust levels for the duration of the construction works. Dust suppression measures and appropriate PPE to be utilised by the contractor for duration of the construction works.	No - Dust suppression measures to be utilised by the contractor. On completion of the works the dust levels will revert to existing levels.
6. Will the Project cause noise and vibration or release of light, heat energy or electromagnetic radiation?	Yes - There will be an increase in noise and vibration for the duration of the construction works. The installation of public lighting will increase the light pollution in the area.	No - On completion of the construction works the vibration levels will revert to existing levels. Noise levels will be at a similar level to adjoining road noise levels. The installation of public lighting for the roadway will increase the light pollution in the area. This increase in light pollution is necessary to provide adequate lighting for pedestrian, cyclists and vehicles using the new roadway. Lighting to be designed by lighting contractor to minimise light pollution.
7. Will the Project lead to risks of contamination of land or water from releases of pollutants onto the ground or into surface waters, groundwater, coastal waster's or the sea?	No - The proposed construction works are not contained within any Source Protected Zone.	No – The works are not expected to have any negative effects on the groundwater quality.
8. Will there be any risk of accidents during construction or operation of the Project which could affect human health or the environment?	Yes – The construction works are located on a greenfield site adjoining Colins Lane (Local Secondary Road L-6062) and Driom Liath Housing Development. Site to be securely fenced for duration of the works. Pedestrians and Vehicular traffic to be controlled by traffic management plan for the duration of the construction works.	No – Site to be securely fenced for duration of works, Traffic Management Plan to be designed and implemented by the contractors for the duration of the construction works.
9. Will the Project result in social changes, for example, in demography, traditional lifestyles, employment?	Yes - The aim of this project is to provide a new transport link within Collins Lane Tullamore. The works include a new link road, footpaths, cycle lanes.	No – The aim of the project is to provide new transport link within Collins Lane area of Tullamore.
10. Are there any other factors which should be considered such as consequential development which could lead to environmental effects or the potential for cumulative impacts with other existing or planned activities in the locality?	No	No
11. Are there any areas on or around the location which are protected under international or national or local legislation for their ecological, landscape, cultural or other value, which could be affected by the project?	See AA Screening report for details on Natura 2000 site within 15KM of proposed development. No Heritage Site Located within the development site.	No

Questions to be Considered For further guidance on factors to be considered see the more detailed questions listed in the <u>Scoping Guidance</u>	Yes / No /Briefly describe	Is this likely to result in a significant effect? Yes/No/? – Why?
12. Are there any other areas on or around the location which are important or sensitive for reasons of their ecology e.g. wetlands, watercourses or other waterbodies, the coastal zone, mountains, forests, or woodlands, which could be affected by the project?	No - See AA Screening report for details on Natura 2000 site within 15KM of proposed development.	No – See AA Screening report.
13. Are there any areas on or around the location which are used by protected, important or sensitive species of fauna or flora e.g. for breeding, nesting, foraging, resting, overwintering, migration, which could be affected by the project?	No - See AA Screening report for details on Natura 2000 site within 15KM of proposed development.	No – See AA Screening report.
14. Are there any inland, coastal, marine, or underground waters on or around the location which could be affected by the project?	No - Source Protection Zones within proposed works area.	No
15. Are there any areas or features of high landscape or scenic value on or around the location which could be affected by the project?	No	No
16. Are there any routes or facilities on or around the location which are used by the public for access to recreation or other facilities, which could be affected by the project?	No – The works are located on a greenfield site, existing roads adjoining the site will be affected, Traffic management will be in place for the duration of the works.	No – This project will not have any negative affects to routes or facilities on completion of the construction works. Access to be maintained during construction works.
17. Are there any transport routes on or around the location which are susceptible to congestion, or which cause environmental problems, which could be affected by the project?	Yes – The construction works are located on a greenfield site adjoining Colins Lane (Local Secondary Road L-6062) and Driom Liath Housing Development. Pedestrians and Vehicular traffic to be controlled by traffic management plan for the duration of the construction works.	No
18. Is the project in a location where it is likely to be highly visible to many people?	Yes – The project is located within Tullamore Town.	No – This project will result in improvements to the transport links for Tullamore Town.
19. Are there any areas or features of historic or cultural importance on or around the location which could be affected by the project?	Νο	No
20. Is the project located in a previously undeveloped area where there will be loss of greenfield land?	Yes	No – Land currently Zoned for New Residential development in Offaly County Council's County Development Plan 2021- 2027
21. Are there existing land uses on or around the location e.g. homes, gardens, other private property, industry, commerce, recreation, public open space, community facilities, agriculture, forestry, tourism, mining or quarrying which could be affected by the project?	Yes – The works are located in a greenfield site in adjoining the Driom Liath Housing Estate and in close proximity to Tullamore Educate Together National School & the Kingdom Hall of Jehovah's Witnesses.	No – This project will result in improvements to the transport links for Tullamore Town.

Questions to be Considered For further guidance on factors to be considered see the more detailed questions listed in the <u>Scoping Guidance</u>	Yes / No /Briefly describe	Is this likely to result in a significant effect? Yes/No/? – Why?
22. Are there any plans for future land uses on or around the location which could be affected by the project?	Yes – Land currently Zoned for New Residential development in Offaly County Council's County Development Plan 2021-2027	No - The proposed project aims to provide access to the existing Zoned (New Residential) Land in the areas.
23. Are there any areas on or around the location which are densely populated or built-up, which could be affected by the project?	Yes – The works are located in a greenfield site in adjoining the Driom Liath Housing Estate and in close proximity to Tullamore Educate Together National School & the Kingdom Hall of Jehovah's Witnesses.	No – This project will result in improvements to the transport links for Tullamore Town.
24. Are there any areas on or around the location which are occupied by sensitive land uses e.g. hospitals, schools, places of worship, community facilities, which could be affected by the project?	Tullamore Educate Together National School & the Kingdom Hall of Jehovah's Witnesses are within 100m of the proposed project, they are accessed off the Local Secondary Road L-6062	No - Traffic Management will be in place on the Local Secondary Road L-6062 for the duration of the construction works to maintain access to local facilities.
25. Are there any areas on or around the location which contain important, high quality or scarce resources e.g. groundwater, surface waters, forestry, agriculture, fisheries, tourism, minerals, which could be affected by the project?	No	No
26. Are there any areas on or around the location which are already subject to pollution or environmental damage e.g. where existing legal environmental standards are exceeded, which could be affected by the project?	No	No
27. Is the project location susceptible to earthquakes, subsidence, landslides, erosion, flooding or extreme or adverse climatic conditions e.g. temperature inversions, fogs, severe winds, which could cause the project to present environmental problems?	No	No

Conclusion:

It is considered that the proposed development does not constitute a development listed in Schedule 5 of the Planning and Development Regulations 2001 as amended. Furthermore, it is not a sub-threshold development. Accordingly, an EIAR is not required.

Name: Thomas Ru-

Date: 4th March 2025

Position: Executive Engineer