

HABITATS DIRECTIVE ASSESSMENT SCREENING REPORT

Part 8 Ref:

(A) DESCRIPTION OF PROJECT AND LOCAL SITE:	
Site location:	Main Street, Templemore.
Proposed development:	The proposed development consists of: (a) the refurbishment of Templemore Town Hall for re-use as a Cultural and Economic Centre. (b) the development of a Civic Plaza
(B) IDENTIFICATION OF THE RELEVANT NATURA 2000 SITE(S):	
Natura 2000 site(s) within 15km and distance to same:	Special Area of Conservation: Kilduff, Devilsbit Mountain, Site Code 000924. Circa. 5km from the proposed site. Lower River Suir. Site Code 002137. Circa. 14km from the site.
Conservation objectives/qualifying interests of the site and the factors that contributes to the conservation value of the site: (which are taken from the Natura 2000 site synopses and, if applicable, a Conservation Management Plan: (all available at www.npws.ie) (ATTACH INFO if necessary)	The proposed development is located in Main Street, Templemore in an established urban environment. The proposed development does not come within the zone of influence of these sites, taking into account the the significant distance to the Natura 2000 sites and the nature and extent of the development.
Key Environmental conditions to support site integrity.	N/A

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(C) POSSIBLE IMPACTS ARISING FROM THE PROJECT:		
Consider the potential for direct impacts on habitats <i>Consider proposed developments within 200m of the SAC/SPA</i>		Y/N and Comment
1.1	Could the proposed project give rise to direct loss of habitats for which the SAC/SPA is designated, or other habitats occurring within the SAC/SPA?	No
1.2	Could the proposed project give rise to increased human usage/access to the site, which could potentially cause deterioration of certain habitat types eg woodlands, wetlands or riverbanks. Consider proposals for development of a large scale within 1km of sensitive woodlands eg large scale residential development or hotels. Consider proposals for the development of paths or cycleways along the river.	No
1.3	Does the proposed project involve development of drainage systems? If yes, could this cause drying out of wetland or woodland habitats within the SAC/SPA?	No
Consider the potential for impacts on water quality within the SAC/SPA <i>Consider all proposed developments within the catchment of the SAC/SPA</i>		Y/N and Comment
2.1	Are there any rivers, streams or drains connecting the proposed development site and the SAC/SPA? If yes, consider whether there is potential for construction related impacts on water quality.	No
2.2	Would the proposed project result in surface water or other discharges to rivers, streams or drains directly connected to the SAC/SPA? If yes, consider whether the discharges could give rise to increased eutrophication or other pollution risk within the cSAC/SPA. Consider whether increased surface water discharge could give rise to increased risk of downstream storm water surges.	No

2.3	Would the proposed project require an industrial waste water discharge license? If yes, consider the potential impacts of the discharge on water quality in the SAC/SPA.	No
2.4	Is the proposed project located within a flood zone? If yes, consider whether there is potential for construction or operational related impacts on water quality in the SAC/SPA; consider whether the proposed project increases flood risk elsewhere in the catchment and particularly the cSAC/SPA; or increases the risk of stormwater surges downstream.	No
2.5	Are the proposals for waste water treatment in compliance with EPA requirements?	N/A:
2.6	Could the proposed project contribute to cumulative negative impacts on water quality? Consider the current status of the freshwater system (see www.wfdireland.ie).	No
2.7	Would the proposed project involve dredging (construction or ongoing maintenance related)?	No
Consider potential for impact on species		Y/N and Comment
<i>Freshwater Pearl Mussel</i>		
3.1	Protection of this species will be achieved by the protection of water quality (see section 2 above), by the protection of river habitats (see section 1 above), and by the maintenance of free passage for fish.	N/A
<i>Freshwater Crayfish</i>		
3.2	Protection of this species will be achieved by the protection of river habitats (see section 1 above).	N/A
<i>Fish species including Salmon, Lamprey spp. and Twaite Shad</i>		
3.3	Protection of these species will be achieved by the protection of water quality (see section 2 above), by the protection of river habitats (see section 1 above), and by the maintenance of free passage for fish.	N/A
<i>Otter</i>		
3.4	Would the proposed project result in any interference with river banks within the SAC/SPA?	N/A
3.5	Would the proposed project result in increased levels of disturbance to the habitat of the Otter?	N/A

<i>Bats</i>		
3.6	Would the proposed project involve the removal of trees, hedgerow or woodland?	N/A
3.7	Does the proposed project involve the repointing of old bridges or the restoration or demolition of old buildings or other structures?	Yes. Bird Watch Ireland completed a County Swift Survey in 2018 and identified a colony in Templemore Town Hall. Nesting boxes are being installed as part of on-going conservation work. These boxes will not be affected by the proposal and works will take place outside the nesting season.

D) NPWS ADVICE:	
Summary of advice received from NPWS:	N/A

(E) SCREENING CONCLUSION:	
Screening concludes that : (Tick [✓] the appropriate box A, B or C)	
A) Appropriate Assessment is not required because the project is directly connected with or necessary to the nature conservation management of the site.	X
B) No potential for significant effects therefore Appropriate Assessment is not required.	
C) Significant effects are certain, likely or uncertain. (In this situation seek a Natura Impact Statement from the applicant or reject the project. Reject if too potentially damaging or inappropriate.	