



Comhairle Chontae na Gaillimhe
Galway County Council

CHIEF EXECUTIVE ORDER NO: E4765

SUBJECT: Proposed Development - N59 Oughterard Footbridge, Oughterard, Co. Galway.

I, Sean Devaney, A/Director of Services, Physical Infrastructure, Fire & Emergency Services, Climate Change, Galway County Council, by virtue of the powers conferred on me by the Local Government Acts 1925 to 2019, hereby order that in accordance with Article 250(1) of the Planning and Development Regulations, 2001 (as amended) and having considered the report entitled "Appropriate Assessment Screening – N59 Oughterard Footbridge" (AtkinsRéalis dated 20th June 2025) and having agreed with the conclusions of same, Galway County Council make the following determination:

**Galway County Council
Proposed N59 Oughterard Footbridge
Appropriate Assessment Screening Determination**

An Appropriate Assessment Screening decision regarding the above referenced proposed N59 Oughterard Footbridge has been made by Galway County Council under Article 6(3) of the EU Habitats Directive (Directive 92/43/EEC) on the Conservation of Natural Habitats and of Wild Fauna and Flora; the Planning and Development Act 2000 (as amended); and the European Communities (Birds and Natural Habitats) Regulations 2011 (S.I. No. 477/2011) ("Habitats Regulations"). This decision has been informed by an Appropriate Assessment Screening Report titled "Appropriate Assessment Screening –N59 Oughterard Footbridge" (dated 20/06/2025) prepared by AtkinsRéalis.

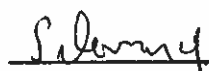
This screening report has examined the likely significant effects of the proposed development on European Sites, in view of best scientific knowledge and in view of the conservation objectives of European Sites. The report sets out the nature of the proposed development and assesses any potential for direct, indirect or cumulative impacts of the proposed development on European Sites.

Having reviewed and considered this screening report, Galway County Council has been able to conclude and make this determination for the following reasons:-

- i. Galway County Council carried out a screening for Appropriate Assessment which adequately identified all of the relevant issues for consideration;
- ii. Galway County Council has all relevant information for the purpose of this determination on the proposed development;
- iii. Given the sensitive nature of several QI species of Lough Corrib SAC located immediately adjacent to the proposed development, it is not possible to rule out the likelihood of significant effects to European sites arising from the proposed development individually or in combination with other plans or projects in view of best scientific knowledge and in view of the conservation objectives of the sites, and there is no doubt in that conclusion and that a Stage 2 Appropriate Assessment under Article 6(3) of the Habitats Directive 92/43/EEC is required and an Natura Impact Assessment will be prepared.

Therefore, it is the view of Galway County Council, in relying on the Appropriate Assessment Screening Report "Appropriate Assessment Screening – N59 Oughterard Footbridge" prepared by AtkinsRéalis and for the reason that it is not possible to rule out likely significant effects arising from the proposed development on European Sites, that an Appropriate Assessment is required for the proposed development and that a Stage 2 Appropriate Assessment under Article 6(3) of the Habitats Directive 92/43/EEC is required and an Natura Impact Assessment will be prepared.

Signed this 24 day of June 2025



Sean Devahey

A/Director of Services

Physical Infrastructure, Fire and Emergency Services, Climate Change.