

AA SCREENING DETERMINATION

Of

Site Investigations for Mountbellew Sewerage Scheme, Co. Galway



In accordance with Article 6(3) of the EU Habitats Directive (Directive 92/43/EEC) and Regulation 42(1) of the European Communities (Birds and Natural Habitats) Regulations 2011 as amended, Irish Water has undertaken Appropriate Assessment screening to assess, in view of best scientific knowledge and the conservation objectives of the site, if the project, individually or in combination with other plans or projects is likely to have a significant effect on European Site(s).

Site investigation works for the Mountbellew Sewerage Scheme will be located at a number of locations in Mountbellew, including the existing Wastewater Treatment Plant (WwTP), access road to the existing WwTP, N63 National Secondary Road, proposed access road to the new WwTP site and at the proposed WwTP site. Site investigation works will comprise no.8 boreholes, no. 18 trial pits and no.6 silt trenches. Site investigation works within the existing WwTP, access roads and N63 will be carried out in hardstanding areas and the carriageway of access roads and the N63. Site investigation works for the new WwTP and associated access road will be carried out within an existing agricultural field.

In this context, particular attention was paid to the European Site(s) listed below:

- *River Suck Callows SPA (004097)*
- *Shankill West Bog SAC (000326)*
- *Carrownagappul Bog SAC (001242)*
- *Curraghlahanagh Bog SAC (002350)*
- *Camderry Bog SAC (002347)*
- *Lough Lurteen Bog/ Glenmaddy Turlough SAC (000301)*
- *Ballygar (Aghrane) Bog SAC (002199)*

In accordance with Regulation 42(7) of the European Communities (Birds and Natural Habitats) Regulations 2011 as amended, **Irish Water has made a determination following screening that an Appropriate Assessment is not required** as the project is not directly connected with or necessary to the management of the sites as European site(s) and **as it can be excluded**, on the basis of objective information and in light of the conservation objectives of the relevant European Site(s), **that the**

project, individually or in combination with other plans and projects, would have a significant effect on a European Site.

This determination is based on the nature, location, scale and duration of the proposed works, including any temporary works and excludes any consideration of mitigation measures.

Full records of the assessment, reports, surveys, consultations, and observations are held by the competent authority and available for public review as requested.

Signed:

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'John Casey', with a large, stylized 'S' or 'C' flourish.

JOHN CASEY

CHIEF TECHNICAL ADVISOR

DATE: 17th August 2022