



Appropriate Assessment Screening

Turners Cross, Co. Cork

Project: Refuge Centre
Evergreen Road, Turners Cross, Co. Cork

Written by: Darragh Murphy, Flynn Furney Environmental Consultants

Reviewed by: Deborah McCormick & Jason Nash, Flynn Furney Environmental Consultants

For: Cotter and Naessens Architects.

Date: 10 October 2024

Contents

| | | |
|----------|---|-----------|
| 1 | Introduction | 2 |
| 2 | Background to Screening for Appropriate Assessment..... | 3 |
| 2.1 | Designated Sites | 3 |
| 2.2 | Legislative context | 3 |
| 2.3 | Stage 1 Screening for Appropriate Assessment..... | 4 |
| 3 | Ecological Assessment Methodology | 5 |
| 3.1 | Desk Study | 5 |
| 3.2 | Data used to carry out the assessment | 5 |
| 3.3 | SPR Model..... | 5 |
| 4 | Screening of site | 6 |
| 4.1 | Summary of Proposed Works | 6 |
| 4.2 | Receiving Environment | 8 |
| 4.2.1 | Field Surveys..... | 8 |
| 4.2.2 | Habitats Description..... | 8 |
| 4.2.3 | Breeding Birds | 10 |
| 4.2.4 | Mammal Activity | 10 |
| 4.2.5 | Amphibian | 10 |
| 4.2.6 | Invasive Species..... | 11 |
| 5 | Article 6(3) Screening Assessment | 12 |
| 5.1 | Article 6(3) Assessment Criteria | 12 |
| 5.2 | Description of Any Likely Changes to the Natura 2000 Sites..... | 13 |
| 6 | Findings of No Significant Effects | 14 |
| 6.1 | Conclusion | 15 |
| 7 | References..... | 16 |
| 8 | Appendices | 17 |

1 Introduction

Flynn Furney Environmental Consultants have been commissioned by Cotter and Naessens Architects to carry out a Stage 1 Screening for Appropriate Assessment for the proposed works at Christ the King Presentation Convent, Turners Cross, Co. Cork. This screening exercise aims to determine whether the proposed works have the potential to significantly impact upon the conservation objectives and overall integrity of any Natura 2000 sites. This assessment is based upon a desk study and field work carried out by suitably qualified ecologists.

This report has been completed to provide information regarding the ecological status of the proposed sites of works. The report includes a general ecological assessment of the potential impacts of the proposed works on the ecology of the surrounding area, including designated sites. This report has been completed to provide the information necessary to allow the competent authority to conduct an Article 6[3] Appropriate Assessment (AA) Screening of the proposed development. The legislation and methodology for which is detailed in the following sections.

Sections 4 of the report comprises the AA Screening that specifically focuses on the potential for impacts on Natura 2000 sites deemed to be at risk from the proposed development.

2 Background to Screening for Appropriate Assessment

2.1 Designated Sites

Sites designated for the conservation of nature in Ireland include:

- Special Areas of Conservation (SACs) and:
- Special Protection Areas (SPAs).
- Natural Heritage Areas (NHAs)
- proposed Natural Heritage Areas (pNHAs)

SPA's and SAC's form the *Natura 2000* network of sites. It is these sites that are of relevance to the screening process for this Appropriate Assessment Screening.

SPA's and SAC's are prime wildlife conservation areas in the country, considered to be important on a European as well as Irish level. SPA's and SAC's are designated under EU Habitats Directive, transposed into Irish law by the European Communities (Birds and Natural Habitats) Regulations 2011 (S.I. No. 477 of 2011), as amended.

2.2 Legislative context

The methodology for this screening statement is clearly set out in a document prepared for the Environment DG of the European Commission entitled 'Assessment of plans and projects significantly affecting Natura 2000 sites Methodological guidance on the provisions of Article 6(3) and (4) of the Habitats Directive 92/43/EEC' (Oxford Brookes University, 2001). This report and contributory fieldwork were carried out in accordance with guidelines given by the Department of Environment, Heritage and Local Government (2009, amended February 2010).

The process is given in Articles 6(3) and 6(4) of the Habitats Directive and is commonly referred to as 'Appropriate Assessments' (which in fact refers to Stage 2 in the sequence under the Habitats Directive Article 6 assessment). Article 6 of the Habitats Directive sets out provisions which govern the conservation and management of Natura 2000 sites. Article 6(3) and 6(4) of the Habitats Directive set out the decision-making tests for plans and projects likely to affect Natura 2000 sites (Annex 1.1). Article 6(3) establishes the requirement for Appropriate Assessment:

"Any plan or project not directly connected with or necessary to the management of the [Natura 2000] site but likely to have a significant effect thereon, either individually or in combination with other plans and projects, shall be subjected to appropriate assessment of its implications for the site in view of the site's conservation objectives. In light of the conclusions of the assessment of the implication for the site and subject to the provisions of paragraph 4, the competent national authorities shall agree to the plan or project only after having ascertained that it will not adversely affect the integrity of the site concerned and, if appropriate, after having obtained the opinion of the general public."

Article 6(4) of the same directive states: If, in spite of a negative assessment of the implications for the site and in the absence of alternative solutions, a plan or project must nevertheless be carried out for imperative reasons of overriding public interest, including those of social or economic nature, the Member State shall take all compensatory measures necessary to ensure that the overall coherence of Natura 2000 is protected. It shall inform the Commission of the compensatory measures adopted. Where the site concerned hosts a priority natural habitat type and/or a priority species the only considerations which may be raised are those relating to human health or public safety, to beneficial

consequences of primary importance for the environment or, further to an opinion from the Commission, to other imperative reasons of overriding public interest.

It is the responsibility of the proponent of the plan or project to provide the relevant information (ecological surveys, research, analysis etc.) for submission to the 'competent national authority'. If satisfied that the information is complete and objective, the competent authority will use this information to screen the project, i.e. to determine if an AA is required and to carry out the AA, if one is deemed necessary. The competent authority shall agree to the plan or project only after having ascertained that it will not adversely affect the integrity of the site concerned.

The appropriate assessment process has four stages. Each stage determines whether a further stage in the process is required. If, for example, the conclusions at the end of Stage One are that there will be no significant impacts on the Natura 2000 site, there is no requirement to proceed further. The four stages are:

1. Screening to determine if an appropriate assessment is required
2. Appropriate assessment
3. Consideration of alternative solutions
4. Imperative Reasons of Overriding Public Interest/Derogation

2.3 Stage 1 Screening for Appropriate Assessment

This report provides stage one: Screening for Appropriate Assessment. It aims to establish whether a plan or project is likely to have an effect on any Natura 2000 sites. The study is based on a preliminary impact assessment using both publicly available data and data collected during site visits and ecological surveys. This is followed by a determination of whether there is a risk that the effects identified could significantly impact any Natura 2000 sites, and if so an Appropriate Assessment (AA) is required. The need to apply the precautionary principle in making any key decisions in relation to the tests of AA has been confirmed by European Court of Justice case law. Therefore, this report provides stage one: Screening for Appropriate Assessment. It aims to establish whether a plan or project is likely to have an effect on any Natura 2000 sites. The study is based on a preliminary impact assessment using both publicly available data and data collected during site visits and ecological surveys. This is followed by a determination of whether there is a risk that the effects identified could significantly impact any Natura 2000 sites, and if so an Appropriate Assessment (AA) is required. The need to apply the precautionary principle in making any key decisions in relation to the tests of AA has been confirmed by European Court of Justice case law. Therefore, where significant effects are likely, possible or uncertain at screening stage, AA will be required.

3 Ecological Assessment Methodology

3.1 Desk Study

A desktop study was carried out as part of this screening process. This included a review of available literature on the site and its immediate environs. Sources of information included the National Parks and Wildlife Service databases on protected sites and species data, and from the Environmental Protection Agency on watercourses.

3.2 Data used to carry out the assessment

The following sources of data were employed:

- Environmental Protection Agency Envision Database
- EPA Maps (to identify watercourses, hydrology and Natura 2000 site boundaries)
- NPWS protected species database and online mapping

3.3 SPR Model

This assessment was carried out with regard the source-pathway-receptor (SPR) approach, a standard tool in environmental assessment. The SPR concept in ecological impact assessment relates to the idea that for the risk of an impact to occur, a source is needed (a developmental site); an environmental receptor is present (e.g. an estuary); and finally there must be a pathway between the source and the receptor (e.g. a watercourse linking the development to the estuary). Even though there may be a risk of an impact occurring, that does not necessarily mean that it will occur, and even if it does occur, it may not be significant. Identification of a risk means that there is a possibility of environmental damage occurring, with the level and significance of the impact depending upon the nature and exposure to the risk and the characteristics of the receptor.

In this instance, the most relevant receptors are any relevant Natura 2000 sites with connectivity of the proposed works. There were considered during the desktop study stage of this screening assessment to assess the potential for significant effects upon their Qualifying Interests (Qis), Sites of Community Importance (SCIs) and Conservation Objectives (Cos). This stage of the process is used to determine whether any of the Natura sites may be 'screened out', i.e. regarded as not being relevant to the process due to lack of risk of impact by the development in question.

4 Screening of site

4.1 Summary of Proposed Works

This project involves the development of housing on the site of Christ the King Presentation Convent, Evergreen Road, Cork City (Fig. 1). The project will entail the renovation of the disused convent building, construction of new housing in a field to the west, and the demolition of the chapel and other minor buildings attached to the convent (Fig. 2).

The designated sites associated with the works area are described in Table 1 with details given on the proximity of the works area to Natura 2000 sites and risks posed by the works. Fig. 3 shows the location of the proposed works area and the nearby SPAs and SACs within Cork Harbour. There are no high status river water bodies (Water Framework Directive) with 10km of the site. As the site is not connected to the nearest SPA, SAC or WFD sites of interest by any waterbodies, the risk of contamination of these by the proposed works is minimal. The proposed works are highly unlikely to affect any breeding habitats of shore birds in these coastal areas.

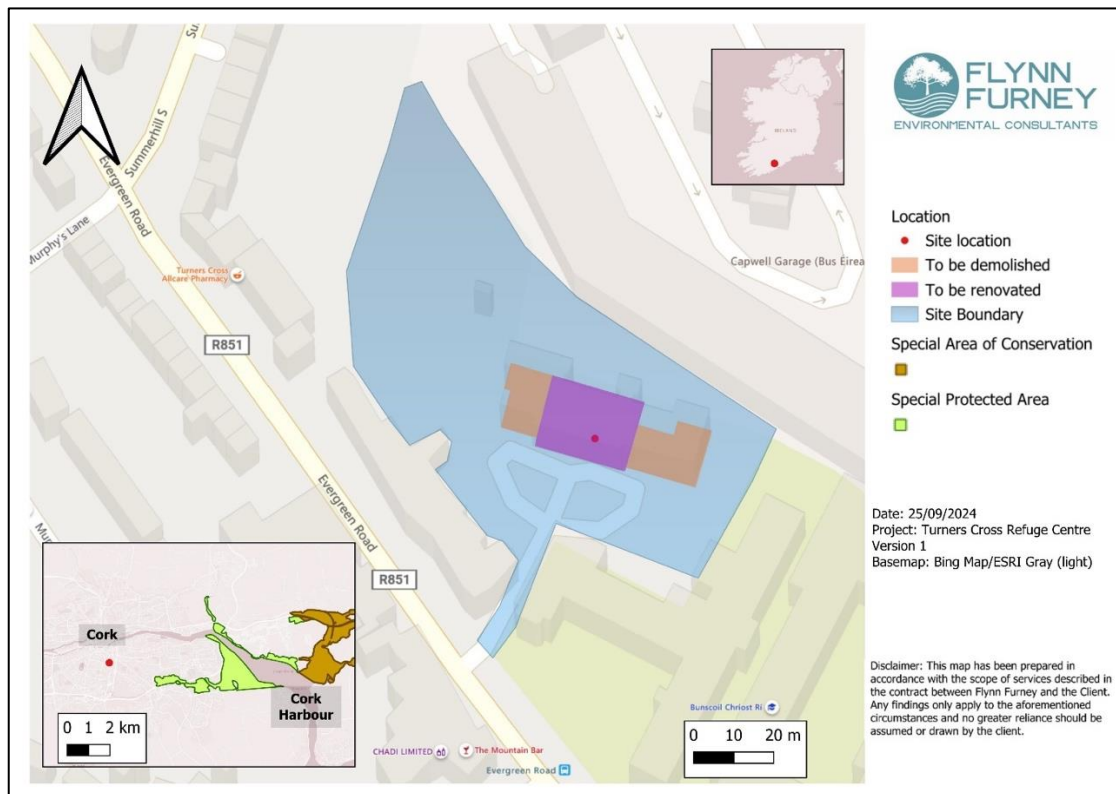


Figure 1 Site location and proposed works routes at Evergreen Road, Turners Cross, Cork City. The site location within Cork harbour and Ireland are shown inset.

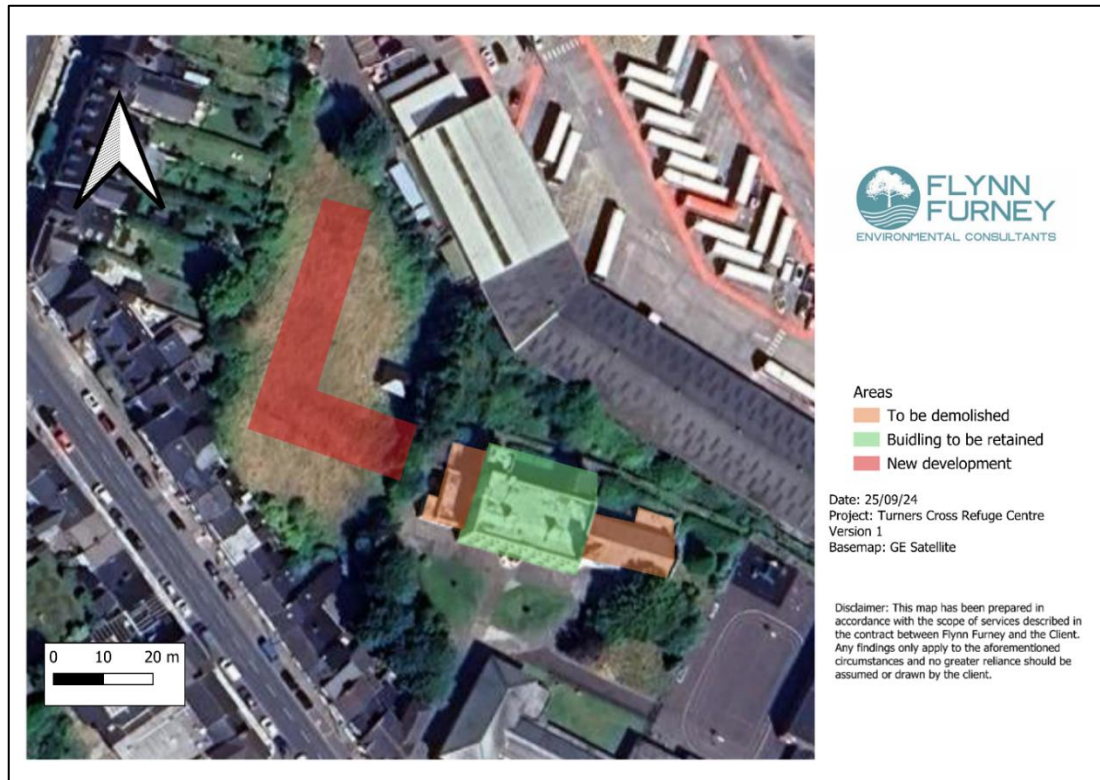


Figure 2 Site location and proposed works including the convent (Green, to be retained and developed), the attached buildings to be demolished and the field area to the west of the convent buildings which is to be developed.

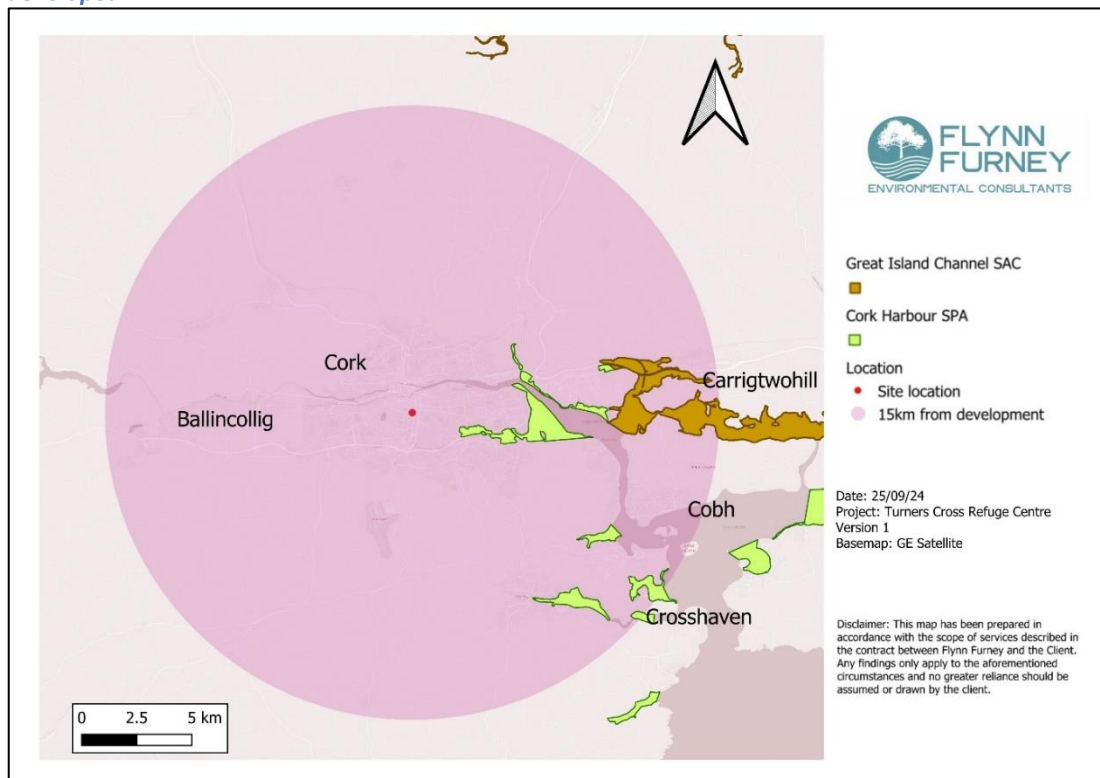


Figure 3 Natura 2000 sites within 15km of proposed works area (Pink circle around red dot, respectively). Special Areas of Conservation (SAC) are shown in brown, and Special Protected Areas (SPA) are shown in yellow.

Table 1 Designated Sites within 15km of or connected to Project Works Area

| Site Code | Site Name | Distance from Proposed Works (m) | Risk from Proposed Works | Screening Rationale |
|-----------|------------------|----------------------------------|--------------------------|--|
| 004030 | Cork Harbour SPA | 2.3km | Nil | Cork Harbour SPA is located south and east of the proposed works with a minimum distance of c. 2.3km between the SPA and the works area. Works areas are well outside of the SPA. Breeding habitat here is absent. |
| 001058 | Great Island SAC | 10km | Nil | The boundary of this Natura 2000 site is located 10 km to the east of the works area. Screening of this site is not required due to the Qualifying Interests being located 10km away and is considered highly unlikely that any negative effect could be caused from the proposed works. |

4.2 Receiving Environment

4.2.1 Field Surveys

An initial site visit and walkover survey was carried out on 18th September 2024. Baseline ecological conditions were assessed. Habitats were classified according to Fossitt (2000). Where applicable, the habitat types and species usage were recorded (Smith et al. 2011; Scannell and Synnott, 1987; Wyse Jackson et al. 2016). Habitats were classified and dominant plant species noted according to the guidelines given by the JNCC (2010) with reference to Smith et al. (2011) & Scannell and Synnott (1987).

4.2.2 Habitats Description

The proposed works are proposed to occur at the convent buildings and on a green field site to the west, which was previously utilised as recreational grounds. Additionally, green areas close to the convent buildings are present in varying degrees of management and may be within the footprint of the works: the lawn area in front of the convent building is regularly mowed and maintained, while the green areas to the east and south of these lawns are becoming overgrown. The convent itself and associated buildings have been unoccupied in the last 5-10 years but are relatively well maintained with little evidence of dilapidation e.g. broken windows or gaps in the roof or facias. The internal structure, therefore, has low roosting potential for birds or bats.

The habitats in the area are outlined in Figure 4. These have been described based on the plant species present (Fossitt, 2000). Table 2 (Appendix 1) outlines the observed species and their ascribed habitats and habitat codes, as described by Fossitt.

The majority of the habitat types found within the site are those associated with urban areas and are of low ecological significance. There are no habitats listed on Annex I of Directive 92/43/EEC (Habitats Directive) within the survey area. No species of rare, threatened or protected species of plants as per the Red Data List (Wyse Jackson et al., 2016) and no species listed on the Flora (Protection) Order 2022 were present. Much of the flora present are non-native, ornamental species (Fossit code: WS3) and are of poor ecological value to native species. There were some examples of native plant species of note such as hawkweed (Rough Hawkbit, *Leontodon hispidus*) on the managed lawn in front of the convent (Fossit code: GA2) which provide good forage for pollinating insects. The dense bramble and unmanaged grassy areas in the field to the west and north of the convent (GS2, WS1) may offer foraging opportunities for small mammals, birds and bats during summer months. There are numerous mature native tree species surrounding the field (Treelines WL2) including elder, birch and holly, as well as a Sessile Oak in the area to the east of the convent (Ornamental Trees WS3) which may provide valuable foraging and nesting habitat for birds and insects. If tree some removal is necessary, it is recommended that these specimens are retained (Fig. 5).



Figure 4 Habitats present at the proposed site. Habitats are classified according to Fossit (2000) and based on plant species present and other environmental and abiotic factors such as growth substrate (e.g. stone walls, buildings).

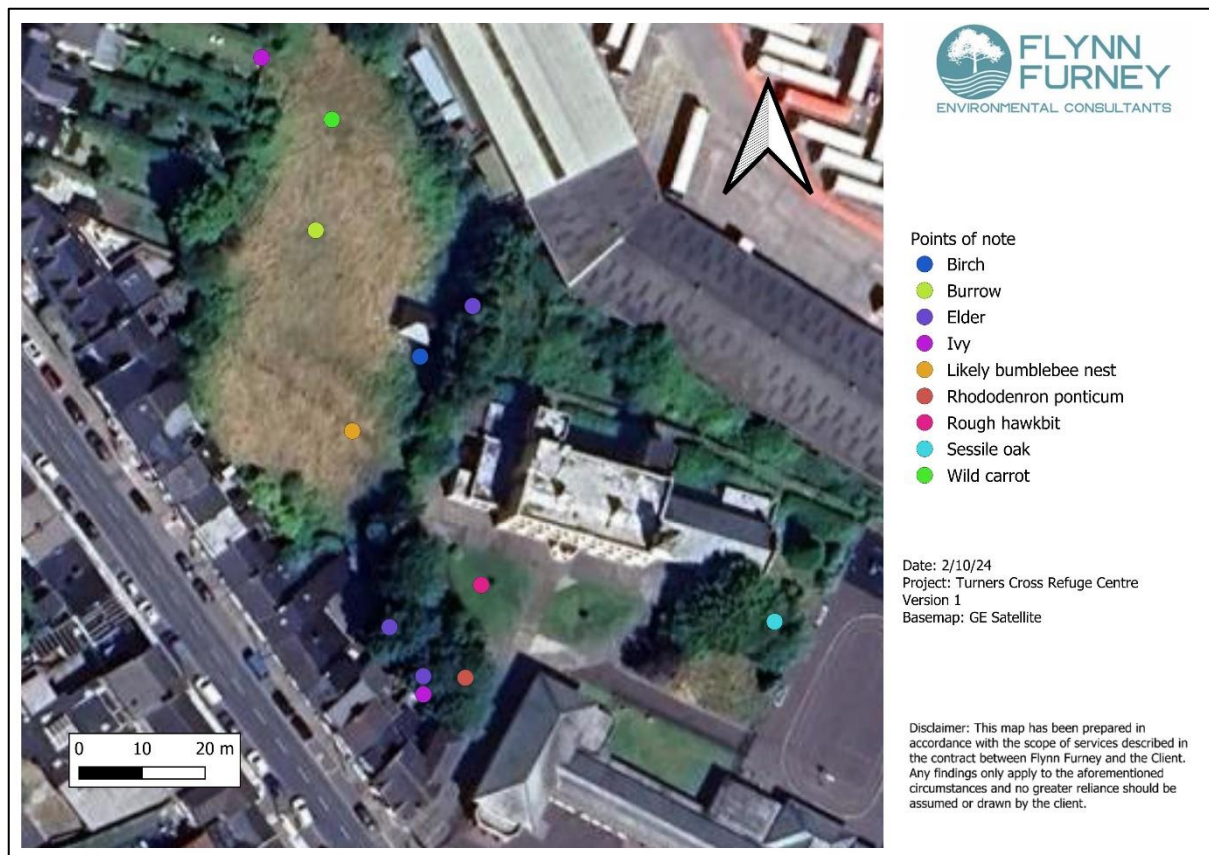


Figure 5 Plant species and points of note within the proposed site as identified during survey on 18th September 2024. All of these points, with the exception of Rhododendron ponticum, have some ecological value. The spread of Rhododendron should be minimised, as this can become invasive.

4.2.3 Breeding Birds

A dedicated bird survey was not carried out. No birds of conservation concern were identified during surveys but viable nesting habitat is present in the field area to the west of the site (dry meadow and grass verges, scrub, treelines). Any tree-felling and clearance of the scrub around in this area occur outside of the March to September nesting season and in the presence of an ecologist.

4.2.4 Mammal Activity

Minimal mammal activity, such as holes, burrows, setts, couches or spraint were found during the field survey. A burrow (likely a rabbit burrow – *Oryctolagus cuniculus*) was found in the dry meadow area in the field to the west. The treeline areas surrounding the field to the west of the site have, in places, good ivy cover which may be utilised by bats in summer months. The Convent buildings have been well sealed and there was little evidence of bat presence (e.g., guano, holes in windows, roof or ceilings) from the outside or within the building. It is recommended, however, that at least one bat survey is conducted prior to any demolition/renovation works on the extant buildings. Some open and broken windows are present in the convent building (Fig. 6, 7).

4.2.5 Amphibian

Amphibians were not recorded with suitable habitat absent.

4.2.6 Invasive Species

Cherry Laurel (*Prunus laurocerasus*), *Rhododendrum ponticum*, Old Man's Beard (*Clematis vitalba*) and Buddleja (*Buddleja davidii*) are present within the site. Of these species, *Rhododendrum ponticum* is listed as a Third Schedule Non-native invasive species under Regulations 49 and 50 of European Communities (Birds and Natural Habitats) Regulations 2011 (SI 477). Works which may further spread these plants should be avoided. Japanese Knotweed (*Fallopia japonica*) is established locally, although not within the proposed works area. Those entering the site should be familiar with this plant and avoid transmission to the site.

5 Article 6(3) Screening Assessment

This screening assessment questionnaire (EC, 2001) is used to assess whether this project has the potential to impact upon Natura 2000 sites (Fig. 4). The consideration criteria of potential for impacts on Natura 2000 sites is detailed below.

5.1 Article 6(3) Assessment Criteria

Any likely direct, indirect or secondary impacts of the proposed development, both alone and in combination with other plans or projects, are detailed in the Table 3 below.

Table 3: Assessment of Likely Impacts

| Assessment of Likely Impacts | |
|--|---|
| Size and scale | The overall area of the site to be developed is approximately 0.7ha in south Cork City. The proposed project involves the renovation of a disused convent building and the demolition of certain ancillary buildings on this site, as well as the construction of housing in the field area to the west of the convent. |
| Land-take | Land-take is nil as no works will take place within any Natura 2000 site (Fig. 4). |
| Distance from the Natura 2000 site or key features of the site; | The project works are 2.3km away from the nearest Natura 2000 site (Fig. 4). There are no watercourses which may connect the works area to the nearest Natura 2000 site and the road network is unlikely to serve as a viable link. |
| Resource requirements (water abstraction etc.); | There will be no resource requirement from any Natura 2000 site. Water will be utilised from the local network. |
| Emissions (disposal to land, water or air); | There will be no additional emissions to land, air or water beyond those typical of any small-scale maintenance project. No emissions are predicted that will impact upon the local environment or any Natura 2000 sites. |
| Excavation requirements; | This project will not require an excavation within a Natura 2000 site. |
| Transportation requirements; | No transportation requirements are required which may impact upon any Natura 2000 site. |
| Duration of construction, operation, etc.; | As yet unknown |
| Timing of works | As yet unknown |
| Cumulative or In-combination Impacts with other Projects and Plans | Due to reasons listed above, there will be no impact of these works, or no impact of any cumulative or in combination effects of this project with other projects or plans, on any surrounding Natura site. |

5.2 Description of Any Likely Changes to the Natura 2000 Sites.

Table 4: Likely changes to the Nature 2000 site.

| Potential Impacts to the Natura 2000 Site | |
|--|--|
| Reduction of habitat area | Works will not alter the size of any Natura 2000 site. |
| Disturbance to key species | All works are outside of the adjacent Natura 2000 site boundary lines. Works will be taking place on land and in buildings which are unsuitable for Qualifying Interests of adjacent Natura 2000 sites. There will be no disturbance to key species due to this. |
| Habitat or species fragmentation | There will be no modification to any habitat within any Natura 2000 site. Works will not lead to any fragmentation of any Qualifying Interests associated with adjacent Natura 2000 sites. |
| Reduction in species density | Works will not lead to any reduction in species density of any Qualifying Interests associated with adjacent Natura 2000 sites. |
| Changes in key indicators of conservation value (water quality etc.); | Changes in key indicators of conservation value is unlikely to occur in any adjacent Natura 2000 sites. |
| Climate change | No damage to any Natura 2000 sites as a result of climate change is predicted as a consequence of the proposed works. |
| Likelihood of Interference with the key relationships that define the structure and function of the Natura 2000 Site as a whole: | There will be no interference with the key relationships that define the structure of any Natura 2000 site as a result of the proposed works. |
| Description of the individual elements of the project likely to give rise to impacts on the Natura 2000 site. | It is considered that no individual elements of the proposed project will likely give rise to impacts on any adjacent Natura 2000 site. This is due to lack of pathways for impact, duration, distance from boundary of nearest Natura 2000 site and scale. |
| Description of any Likely Significant Impacts or Indeterminate Impacts of the Project on the Natura 2000 Site | Based on a consideration of the proposed works in relation to the relevant Natura 2000 sites, impacts on adjacent Natura 2000 sites are not considered likely to be significant or indeterminate. |

6 Findings of No Significant Effects

Table 5: Finding of No Significant Effects

| Finding of No Significant Effects Matrix | |
|--|--|
| Name of Project | Refuge Centre Turners Cross |
| Name and Location of Natura 2000 site | Outside of Natura 2000 sites. |
| Description of Project | Demolition, renovation and construction of housing, plus provision of underground/overground services |
| Is the project directly connected or necessary to the management of the site? | No. |
| Are there other projects or plans that together with project being assessed could affect the site? | No plans or projects were found that are likely to lead to cumulative, or in combination impacts to any Natura 2000 site. |
| The Assessment of Significance of Effects | |
| Describe how the project is likely to affect the Natura 2000 site | It is considered that the proposed project will not have any negative impacts upon the Qualifying Interests of adjacent Natura 2000 sites. |
| Explain why these effects are not considered significant | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> No impacts are predicted for the Cork Harbour SPA Works are >1km outside Natura 2000 site boundary line and duration of works here will be very short in nature. Breeding habitat here is absent. Long distance to Great Island Channel SAC. |
| Describe how the project is likely to affect species designated under Annex II of the Habitats Directive | It is considered that the proposed project is not likely to have any negative effects on species designated under Annex II of the Habitats Directive. |
| Data Collected to Carry out the Assessment | |
| Who carried out the assessment? | Darragh Murphy, Environmental Consultant. |
| Sources of Data | EPA, NPWS, IFI, Cork County Council, National Planning Application Database, An Bord Pleanála's online database. |
| Level of Assessment Completed | Stage I Appropriate Assessment Screening |
| Where can the full results of the assessment be accessed and viewed | Full results included in this present reporting. |

6.1 Conclusion

In conclusion, no impacts are likely as a result of the proposed works on the conservation objectives or overall integrity of *Cork Harbour SPA* or any other Natura 2000 site, due to the location, nature and scale of the works, and the lack of any pathways for indirect impact.

It is therefore recommended that Stage 2 Appropriate Assessment is not required, and the project is screened out.

7 References

- European Commission (2002) Assessment of plans and projects significantly affecting Natura 2000 sites – Methodological guidance on the provisions of Article 6(3) and (4) of the Habitats Directive 92/43/EEC. Impact Assessment Unit, Oxford Brookes University, Oxford.
- Fossitt, J.A. (2000) A Guide to Habitats in Ireland. The Heritage Council, Kilkenny.
- JNCC (2010) Handbook for Phase 1 Habitat Survey. Joint Nature Conservation Committee, Peterborough, UK.
- National Roads Authority (2009) Ecological Surveying Techniques for Protected flora and fauna during the Planning of National Road Schemes. NRA (now Transport Infrastructure Ireland), Dublin.
- NPWS (2014) Conservation Objectives: Cork Harbour SPA 004030. Version 1. National Parks and Wildlife Service, Department of Arts, Heritage and the Gaeltacht.
- NPWS (2014) Conservation Objectives: Great Island Channel SAC 001058. Version 1. National Parks and Wildlife Service, Department of Arts, Heritage and the Gaeltacht.
- Scannell, M J P and Synott, D M, 1987, Census Catalogue of the Flora of Ireland. Stationary Office, Dublin.
- Smith, G.F., O'Donoghue, P., O'Hora, K. and Delaney, E., 2011. Best practice guidance for habitat survey and mapping. The Heritage Council: Ireland.
- Wyse Jackson, M., FitzPatrick, Ú., Cole, E., Jebb, M., McFerran, D., Sheehy Skeffington, M. & Wright, M. (2016) Ireland Red List No. 10: Vascular Plants. National Parks and Wildlife Service, Department of Arts, Heritage, Regional, Rural and Gaeltacht Affairs, Dublin, Ireland.

8 Appendices

Appendix 1 – Plant Species

Table 2 Species identified and associated locations in proposed development and Fossit habitat designations

| Zone | Sub-zone | Common name | Latin name | Fossit Designation |
|---------|---|------------------|---------------------------------|---|
| Convent | Convent and associated buildings building | | | Buildings and artificial surfaces BL3 |
| | Brambles / overgrown hedge | Bramble | <i>Rubus fruticosus</i> | Scrub WS1 |
| | | Clematis | <i>Clematis vitalba</i> | |
| | | Elder | <i>Sambucus nigra</i> | |
| | | Large bindweed | <i>Calystegia silvatica</i> | |
| | Brambles / overgrown hedge | Privet | <i>Ligustrum ovalifolium</i> | Hedgerow WL1 |
| | Managed Lawn | Buttercup | <i>Ranunculus repens</i> | Amenity grassland (improved) GA2/Ornamental/Non-native shrub WS3 |
| | | Cotoneaster | <i>Cotoneaster horizontalis</i> | |
| | | Dandelion | <i>Taraxacum vulgaria</i> | |
| | | Rough Hawkbit | <i>Leontodon hispidus</i> | |
| | | Hydrangea | <i>Hydrangea spp.</i> | |
| | | Rose | <i>Rosa spp.</i> | |
| | | Rough hawkbit | <i>Leontodon hispidus</i> | |
| | Ornamental trees | Cabbage palm | <i>Sabal palmetto</i> | Ornamental/Non-native shrub WS3/ Scrub WS1 |
| | | Cherry laurel | <i>Prunus laurocerasus</i> | |
| | | Cherry plum | <i>Prunus cerasifera</i> | |
| | | Cypress | <i>Cupressus macrocarpa</i> | |
| | | David's viburnum | <i>Viburnum davidii</i> | |
| | | Monteray cypress | <i>Cupressus macrocarpa</i> | |
| | | Sessile oak | <i>Quercus petrea</i> | |
| | | Sycamore | <i>Acer pseudoplatanus</i> | |
| | | Topiarists hebe | <i>Veronica topiaria</i> | |
| | Overgrown lawn/hedge | Bramble | <i>Rubus fruticosus</i> | |
| | | Dock | | |
| | | Elder | <i>Sambucus nigra</i> | |
| | | Elder | <i>Sambucus nigra</i> | |
| | | Fuchsia | <i>Fuchsia Riccartonii</i> | |

| | | | | |
|-------|-------------------|---------------------------------------|---|---|
| Field | | Holly | <i>Ilex aquifolium</i> | |
| | | Ivy | <i>Hedera hibernica</i> | |
| | | Linden | <i>Tilia cordata</i> | |
| | | Magnolia | <i>Magnolia</i> spp. | |
| | | Rhododendron ponticum | <i>Rhododendron ponticum</i> | |
| | | Thistle | <i>Cirsium vulgare</i> | |
| | Centre/Grass | Meadow Fescue | <i>Festuca pratensis</i> | Dry meadow and grassy verges GS2 |
| | | Wild carrot | <i>Daucus carota</i> | |
| | | False oat grass | <i>Arrhenatherum elatius</i> | |
| | | Field bindweed | <i>Convolvulus arvensis</i> | |
| | | Hydrangea | <i>Hydrangea</i> spp. | |
| | | Lady's bedstraw | <i>Galium verum</i> | |
| | | Red clover | <i>Trifolium pratense</i> | |
| | Edge/Mature trees | Bentham's cornel/himalayan strawberry | <i>Cornus capitata</i> | Ornamental/Non-native shrub WS3/Treelines WL2 |
| | | Downy Birch | <i>Betula pubescens</i> | |
| | | Cherry laurel | <i>Prunus laurocerasus</i> | |
| | | Common myrtle | <i>Myrtus communis</i> | |
| | | Garden rose | <i>Rosa</i> spp. | |
| | | Horse chestnut | <i>Aesculus hippocastanum</i> | |
| | | Ivy | <i>Hedera hibernica</i> | |
| | | Japanese laurel | <i>Aucuba japonica</i> <i>Crotonifolia</i> | |
| | | Leatherleaf mahonia | <i>Mahonia japonica</i> <i>Bealei</i> | |
| | | New Zealand holly | <i>Olearia macrodonta</i> | |
| | | Red tip photinia | <i>Red tip photinia</i> spp. | |
| | | Grey Willow | <i>Salix cinerea</i> | |

Appendix 2 - Photos



Figure 6 Gable end of chapel (to be demolished). Points of entry to building by birds/bats are largely absent



Figure 7 Open window at eastern side of front of convent building.



Figure 8 Rough Hawkbit on lawn in front of convent building.



Figure 9 Scrub area at margins of field dominated by briars. This may offer foraging habitat and cover during summer months. Clearance should be performed outside of summer bird breeding season (March to September).

Appendix 2- Natura 2000 Site Information (* denotes a priority habitat)

| Site Code | Site Name | Distance From Proposed Works (m) | Qualifying Interests (QI's) | Site Conservation Objectives |
|-----------|--------------------------|----------------------------------|--|--|
| 004030 | Cork Harbour SPA | 5m | Birds: Little Grebe (<i>Tachybaptus ruficollis</i>) [A004] Great Crested Grebe (<i>Podiceps cristatus</i>) [A005] Cormorant (<i>Phalacrocorax carbo</i>) [A017] Grey Heron (<i>Ardea cinerea</i>) [A028] Shelduck (<i>Tadorna tadorna</i>) [A048] Wigeon (<i>Anas penelope</i>) [A050] Teal (<i>Anas crecca</i>) [A052] Pintail (<i>Anas acuta</i>) [A054] Shoveler (<i>Anas clypeata</i>) [A056] Red-breasted Merganser (<i>Mergus serrator</i>) [A069] Oystercatcher (<i>Haematopus ostralegus</i>) [A130] Golden Plover (<i>Pluvialis apricaria</i>) [A140] Grey Plover (<i>Pluvialis squatarola</i>) [A141] Lapwing (<i>Vanellus vanellus</i>) [A142] Dunlin (<i>Calidris alpina</i>) [A149] Black-tailed Godwit (<i>Limosa limosa</i>) [A156] Bar-tailed Godwit (<i>Limosa lapponica</i>) [A157] Curlew (<i>Numenius arquata</i>) [A160] Redshank (<i>Tringa totanus</i>) [A162] Black-headed Gull (<i>Chroicocephalus ridibundus</i>) [A179] Common Gull (<i>Larus canus</i>) [A182] Lesser Black-backed Gull (<i>Larus fuscus</i>) [A183] Common Tern (<i>Sterna hirundo</i>) [A193] Wetland and Waterbirds [A999] | Cork Harbour SPA National Parks & Wildlife Service (npws.ie) |
| 001058 | Great Island Channel SAC | 7000m | Habitats: Mudflats and sandflats not covered by seawater at low tide [1140] Atlantic salt meadows (<i>Glauco-Puccinellietalia maritimae</i>) [1330] | Great Island Channel SAC National Parks & Wildlife Service (npws.ie) |