FEHILY TIMONEY

CONSULTANTS IN ENGINEERING, ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE & PLANNING

PART VIII PLANNING APPLICATION FOR THE NAVAN CCTV DEVELOPMENT SCHEME EXTENSION

SCREENING FOR APPROPRIATE ASSESSMENT

Prepared for: Meath County Council

comhairle chontae na mí
meath county council

Date: May 2022

J5 Plaza, North Park Business Park, North Road,
Dublin 11, D11 PXT0, Ireland **T: +353 1 658 3500 E: info@ftco.ie**
CORK | DUBLIN | CARLOW
www.fehilytimoney.ie

PART VIII PLANNING APPLICATION FOR THE NAVAN CCTV DEVELOPMENT SCHEME EXTENSION

SCREENING FOR APPROPRIATE ASSESSMENT

User is responsible for Checking the Revision Status of This Document

Rev. No.	Description of Changes	Prepared by:	Checked by:	Approved by:	Date:
1	Issue for Planning	CW/RD/AMW	RM/RD	BG	24.03.2022
2	Correction of no. CCTV poles	JG/BF	JON	BG	24.05.2022

Client: Meath County Council

Keywords: Meath, Navan, Screening, Appropriate Assessment

Abstract: Report to inform Screening for Appropriate Assessment, Navan CCTV

TABLE OF CONTENTS

LIST OF FIGURES

LIST OF TABLES

1 INTRODUCTION

Fehily Timoney & Company (FT) were commissioned by Meath County Council to provide consultancy services in respect of the Navan CCTV Development Scheme Extension. An Appropriate Assessment Screening Report has been prepared in respect of the proposed project, as required by Article 6 of Council Directive 92/43/EEC (Habitats Directive).

This Appropriate Assessment Screening is part of the submission for the Part 8 Planning Application for the installation of 58 CCTV cameras on poles in Navan under the scheme. The CCTV pole development site locations are located within the townland of TownParks, Abbeyland, Abbeyland South, Dillons Land, Moathill, Johnstown, Limekiln Hill, Balreask Old, Bailis, Athlumney, Blackcastle Demesne.

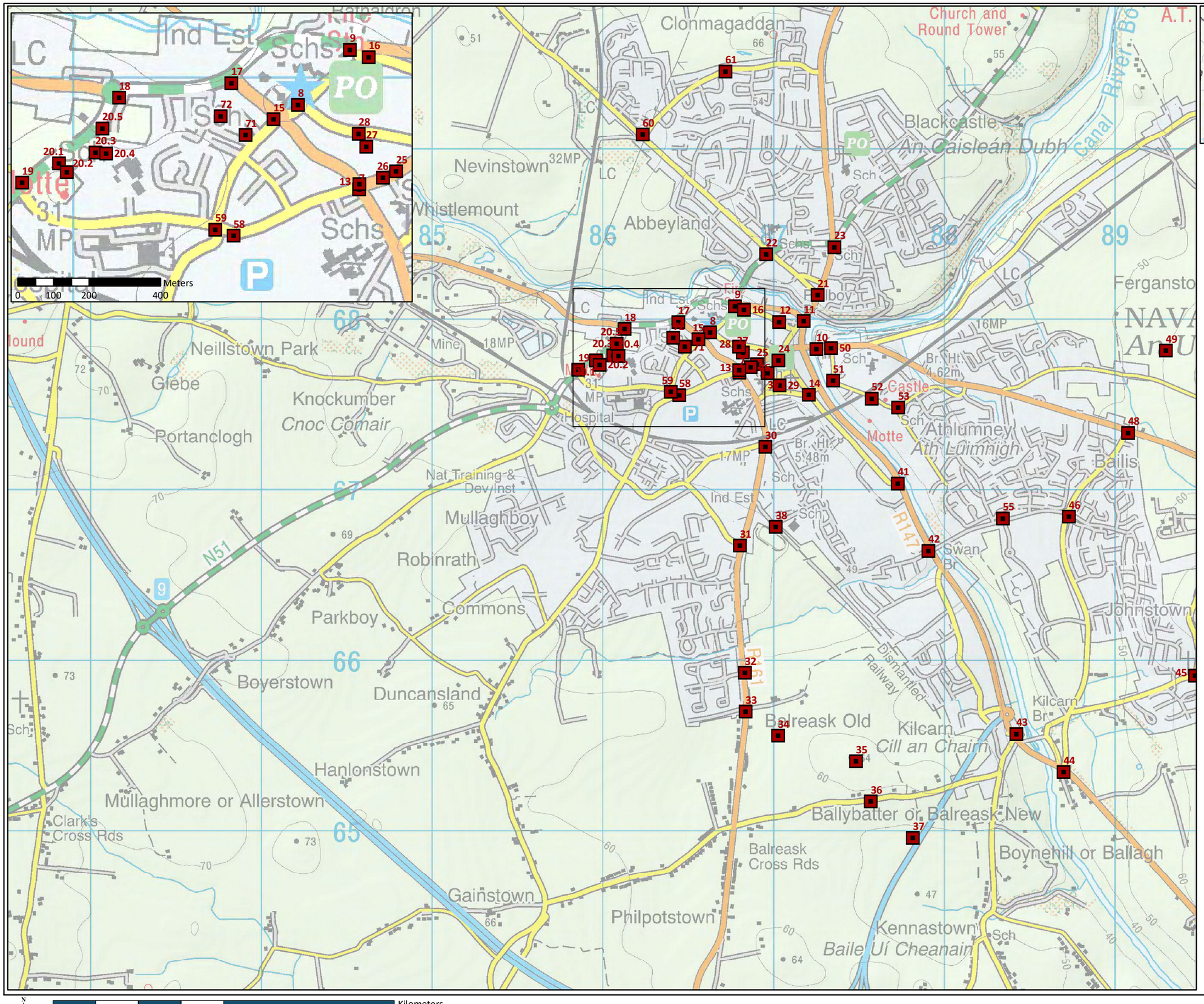
The Project Brief identifies the following over-arching objectives for the installation of the CCTV cameras as follows:

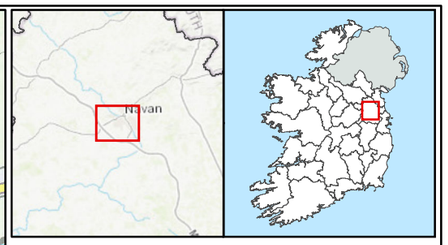
The development will consist of the erection of 58 poles throughout Navan town and varying numbers of CCTV cameras will be mounted on each pole. These poles will be erected at the designated locations for the purposes of a CCTV scheme throughout Navan town, between 7.3 metres and 10 metres in height.

This report is an assessment of the likelihood of the proposed development to have a significant effect on a European site (either alone or in combination with other plans or projects) and is based on best available scientific knowledge.

Figure 1-1: Study Area from Project Brief

Path: P:\Bruna\P21-186\Workspaces\P21-186_GIS_INFO_Locations_A3.mxd





Legend

P21186_UpdatedCameraLocation

TITLE:	Camera Locations		
PROJECT:	Navan CCTV Poles		
FIGURE NO:	INFO		
CLIENT:	Meath County Council		
SCALE:	1:21761	**REVISION:**	1
DATE:	24/05/2022	**PAGE SIZE:**	A3

FEHILY TIMONEY
Cork | Dublin | Carlow
www.fehilytimoney.ie

1.1 Legislative Context

Council Directive 92/43/EEC on the Conservation of Natural Habitats and of Wild Fauna and Flora (Habitats Directive) provides legal protection for habitats and species of European importance. The Directive requires that where a plan or project is likely to have a significant effect on a European Site, while not directly connected with or necessary to the nature conservation management of the site, it will be subject to 'Appropriate Assessment' to identify any implications for the European site in view of the site's Conservation Objectives.

Specifically, Article 6(3) of the Habitats Directive states:

> *6(3) Any plan or project not directly connected with or necessary to the management of the site (Natura 2000 sites) but likely to have significant effect thereon, either individually or in combination with other plans or projects, shall be subject to Appropriate Assessment of its implications for the site in view of the site's conservation objectives. In the light of the conclusions of the assessment of the implications 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.*
>
> *6(4) 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.*

The provisions of Article 6 do not apply where the proposed plan or project is '*connected with or necessary to the management of the site'.* In this case, installation of cameras in Navan are not directly connected with or necessary to the management of any European site(s) and as such an assessment as to whether the project would be likely to have significant effects on European Sites must be carried out. This assessment has been termed as 'Report to inform the Screening for Appropriate Assessment' in the transposing national legislation: Part XAB of the Planning and Development Act, 2000 - 2020 and the European Communities (Birds and Natural Habitats) Regulations 2011 (S.I. 477/2011) as amended.

This national legislation requires that the Screening for Appropriate Assessment is carried out by the competent authority before consent for a plan or project is given. The competent authority in carrying out the screening assessment, is required to make an examination, analysis, evaluation, findings, conclusions and a final determination as to whether or not the proposed works either alone or in combination with other plans or projects would be likely to have significant effects on the relevant European site(s) in view of their conservation objectives.

2 METHODOLOGY

2.1 Guidance

In the preparation of this assessment regard has been had to the relevant guidance, in particular:

- *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*, Office for Official Publications of the European Communities, Luxembourg (EC, 2002);
- *Appropriate Assessment of Plans and Projects in Ireland: Guidance for Planning Authorities*. National Parks and Wildlife Service, Department of the Environment, Heritage and Local Government, Dublin (2010);
- *Managing Natura 2000 sites. The provisions of Article 6 of the Habitats Directive 92/43/EEC*. European Commission (2018). Brussels, 21.11.2018 C (2018) 7621 final;
- Office of the Planning Regulator Practice Note PN01 Appropriate Assessment Screening for Development Management.

2.2 Assessment Protocol

The process of determining the likelihood of significant effects from a proposed project on European sites is an iterative process centred around a Source-Pathway-Receptor assessment.

The assessment commences with a description of the project and the associated likely significant environmental effects. The type of impacts which are likely due to the project are identified having regard to the spatial and temporal scale of the project, likely resource requirements and likely emissions. The zone of influence (ZoI) of the project is therefore defined, and the potential source-pathway-receptor (S-P-R) connectivity to any European Sites and their qualifying interests (QI) / special conservation interests (SCI) are identified.

The potential for in-combination effects with other plans and projects is also assessed having regard to the identified impacts of the project.

The likelihood of significant effects on the European Sites within the ZoI is determined having regard to the sensitivity of the European site to the impacts associated with the project on its own and in combination with other plans and projects. Having regard to the European Commission Communication on the Precautionary Principle (EC, 2000), where the likelihood of significant effects cannot be demonstrated on the basis of scientific evidence (e.g. through quantifiable cause and effect relationship), the precautionary principle is adopted and significant effects are assumed.

Where significant effects are determined to be likely, or where there is uncertainty regarding the likelihood of significant effects, the project will be required under law to be subjected to Appropriate Assessment.

2.3 Information Consulted in the Preparation of this Report

A desk study was conducted and comprised a review of the following publications, data and datasets:

- National Parks and Wildlife Service – online European site network information, including site conservation objectives www.npws.ie;
- National Parks and Wildlife Service – Information on the status of EU protected habitats in Ireland (Article 17 Reports);
- National Biodiversity Data Centre – www.biodiversityireland.ie;
- Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) (on-line map-viewer);
- Water Framework Directive website – www.catchments.ie;

3 DESCRIPTION OF THE PROJECT

3.1 Project Location and Context

The proposed CCTV poles will be developed across public realm areas throughout the town of Navan, Co. Meath, including major junctions, along roadways throughout the town, and at other notable locations. Navan is a sizeable town with a population of 30,173 according to the census of 2016 (CSO). It serves as a commuter town.

A mixed and wide variety of land uses exist in the vicinity of the CCTV Camera Pole locations including commercial, residential, community, light industrial land uses and public realm areas, and amenity open space areas.

Many of the CCTV poles will be located along public transportation routes including the N51, the R163 and the R147).

Some of the CCTV poles will be located in the Architectural Conservation Area situated in the centre of the town, otherwise known as the Navan Historic Core.

Some will be located adjacent to public transport bus stops, namely the Kennedy Road bus stop and the Park and Ride stop in Moathill.

Some will be located at notable town junctions and notable commercial establishments within the town such Chadwicks, Supervalu, Camile Restaurant and Kingscroft Development.

A CCTV Camera Location Map depicting the location of all 58 proposed CCTV poles is shown in Figure 1-1.

Other notable human land uses situated within the town centre are that of Our Lady's Hospital to the south, large retail parks/outlets and grocery stores to the north and west of the town, Navan Business and Technology Park to the west as well as Mullaghboy and Beechmount Industrial Estates to the south.

Land uses within the wider expanse on all sides of Navan town centre consist of agricultural land comprising of a mixture of pasture and arable land.

The River Boyne and Blackwater pass through the town of Navan and greatly contribute to the character and setting of Navan town as they merge together in the town centre. The River Boyne and River Blackwater Special Area of Conservation (SAC) and Special Protection Area (SPA) pass through the town centre. The River Blackwater meets the River Boyne in the town centre by the junction of Pollboy Street (R161) and the Inner Relief Road (R147). The River Boyne passes through the town travelling in a south east to north east direction. The stormwater drainage system serving the town creates a hydrological connection between the proposed CCTV pole locations and these rivers/protected areas.

Table 3-1 details the proposed CCTV pole locations relative to the SAC and SPA locations.

Table 3-1: CCTV pole locations and distances to SAC and SPA

CCTV Pole Number	Easting	Northing	distance to SAC (m)	distance to SPA (m)
7	686732	767705	404	404
8	686561	767943	215	231
9	686707	768097	105	122
10	687183	767844	19	12
11	687110	768008	16	13
12	686967	768005	89	108
14	687140	767577	82	88
15	686493	767902	224	241
17	686375	768003	105	129
18	686060	767962	170	197
19	685789	767724	454	481
20.1	685892	767779	389	409
20.2	685914	767753	411	431
20.3	685994	767809	336	363
20.4	686024	767806	330	356
20.5	686013	767877	265	293
22	686889	768400	161	189
23	687289	768441	358	393
30	686885	767272	458	461
24	686960	767777	165	166
25	686836	767756	289	289
26	686799	767738	330	330
27A	686753	767826	290	354
27B	686799	767804	300	364
28A	686731	767861	263	328
28B	686743	767878	233	298
31	686735	766692	955	955
38	686945	766802	732	732
39	686898	767704	250	255
21	687190	768162	69	121
42	687839	766663	23	44

CCTV Pole Number	Easting	Northing	distance to SAC (m)	distance to SPA (m)
41	687661	767057	21	21
52	687507	767555	18	158
51	687281	767659	43	39
58	686381	767575	532	556
59	686330	767593	518	541
16	686760	768076	72	113
29	686968	767632	214	222
13	686733	767720	398	399
50	687271	767852	64	98
53	687663	767501	182	225
46	688664	766862	596	653
55	688276	766853	285	367
45	689403	765932	889	941
48	689009	767354	1171	1239
43	688355	765589	13	57
44	688632	765365	18	63
49	689230	767835	1154	1225
32	686765	765946	1313	1335
33	686769	765719	1432	1468
34	686959	765578	1326	1402
35	687415	765428	902	1000
36	687503	765192	868	984
37	687750	764979	573	795
60	686166	769103	798	854
61	686651	769473	1088	1129
71	686414	767858	250	274
72	686345	767911	201	223

3.2 Description of the Project

The Navan CCTV Development Scheme Extension project involves the erection of 58 CCTV poles across the following townlands situated in the town of Navan, Co. Meath: TownParks, Abbeyland, Abbeyland South, Dillons Land, Moathill, Johnstown, Limekiln Hill, Balreask Old, Bailis, Athlumney, and Blackcastle Demesne. The proposed CCTV poles will consist of 58 no. steel pole structures measuring between 7.3 metres and 10 metres in height.

Each pole will be fitted with a combination of both 'Fixed' cameras and 'Pan, Tilt, Zoom (PTZ)' cameras. All poles will be painted black, in a style closely similar to existing traffic management structures and poles in the town.

The cameras will be utilized by An Garda Síochána in the interests of public realm surveillance, public safety and crime prevention.

3.3 Description of Construction Works involved in CCTV Installation

The proposed CCTV poles will be constructed in the following manner:

1. The site in which the CCTV pole is being erected will be temporarily cordoned off.
2. Parking spaces adjoining each CCTV pole location will be occupied by construction vehicles (to avoid traffic obstruction and diversions). These areas will also be cordoned off.
3. Materials, plant and equipment which will be utilize during construction will be brough to the site by construction vehicles.
4. Where works impinging on nearby or adjoining roads cannot be avoided, a single lane traffic management system will be adopted on the affected roadway.
5. Minor breaking works will be carried out at each proposed pole location to gain underground access. This rock breaking will be minor by virtue of the very small area size to be broken, and the temporary timescale and limited nature of the rock breaking works.
6. Excavation to a depth of 1.2 metre will be undertaken utilizing a hand digging and a mini digger.
7. Poles will be placed in-situ into a 37.5 cm fitted sleeve. This sleeve will be backfilled with hardcore material which will subsequently be compacted.
8. A fresh pour of concrete around the pole will then take place. Concrete will be mixed in-situ with a small mixer. It is important to note that all Concrete mixing and pouring will not be carried out in rainfall (not practical), thereby eliminating run-off risk during these processes. Also, standard construction housekeeping will ensure no residual debris or dust remains after any of the works to be undertaken.
9. Poles will be connected to the public electrical system utilizing existing cable ducts wherever possible. In some cases, new ducting will need to be installed and minor excavation, backfilling and re-paving work will be required to accommodate this.
10. Minor levels of construction and demolition waste will be generated during the process. It is expected that soil and stone generated during the works will be backfilled to some extent. Waste soil and stone and other construction and demolition waste such as waste concrete, bricks and/or pavers will be stored in a receptable adjoining the working area and taken off-site at the end of a working day. This waste will be sent to an appropriately authorized construction and demolition waste management facility for recovery.

Each CCTV pole will be installed over the course of a single working day. The cameras will be installed over half a day.

Construction works will be undertaken within the following defined operating hours in order to prevent noise nuisance:

- Monday to Friday: 8 a.m. to 7 p.m.
- Saturdays: 8 a.m. to 2 p.m.
- Sundays & Bank Holidays: Works normally not permitted.

3.4 Operational Phase of the Proposed Development

The operation and utilization of the CCTV poles by An Garda Síochána will facilitate better public realm surveillance, crime prevention and improved public safety.

The presence and visibility of the CCTV poles and their positioning and views toward roadways will act as a traffic calming measure in the town and will prevent traffic related crime.

The CCTV cameras will be subject to occasional maintenance and repair activities.

Land use in the vicinity of each proposed CCTV pole location will remain the same as it was before (i.e., public realm area used by pedestrians and vehicles).

4 APPROPRIATE ASSESSMENT SCREENING

4.1 Potential Impacts

Based on the construction phase outlined above, the following potential impacts were identified:

1. Runoff

The excavation and backfilling works for the base of each camera pole will be completed within one day and will be completed under dry conditions to allow concrete to cure effectively. As such there is negligible potential for polluting surface water runoff from the works areas.

Small amounts of concrete will be used during the installation of each camera pole. There is limited potential for concrete to spill into the environment given the small amounts of concrete to be used at each pole location.

As with any construction activity, there is a slight potential for spills/leaks of fuel or oils from machinery. Any spills will likely be localised given the scale of the works.

Dewatering of excavations will not be required given that pipe sleeves will be pushed into the excavations and backfilled with excavated material before concrete pouring.

2. Dust

Small amounts of dust may be created by the process of concrete mixing as well as road excavation. Due to the works taking only 1 day to 1.5 days, no stockpiling of potentially dust producing material will occur. Standard good housekeeping practices will be utilized to prevent debris and dust generation at each development site.

3. Noise & Vibration

Some rock breaking will take place break through existing hard stand surfaces. For each camera pole a small area has to be broken through for pole installation and consequently duration of rock breaking will be limited.

4.2 Characteristics of the European Site

National Guidance (DEHLG, 2010) states that screening for Appropriate Assessment should be carried out for any European Site(s) within the likely 'Zone of Influence' (ZoI) of a plan or project. CIEEM (2018) defines the ZoI as *"… the area over which ecological features may be affected by biophysical changes as a result of the proposed project and associated activities*."

In defining the ZoI, as a precautionary approach, a site buffer of 15km was first applied to identify sites which may be affected by the proposals; these were then assessed on a case-by-case basis having regard to the likely spatial and temporal biophysical changes associated with the likely impacts of an urban development at this location (which was determined with reference to relevant published literature and guidance documents), and aided by the EPA's Appropriate Assessment tool to determine hydrological pathways (https://gis.epa.ie/EPAMaps/AAGeoTool).

All proposed CCTV camera poles are fully outside of any area designated as a European site. As the River Boyne and the Blackwater River flow through Navan town join together in the town centre, several camera locations are in close proximity to the River Boyne and River Blackwater SAC (002299) and SPA (004232). The above SAC and SPA are considered in detail in the Source-Pathway-Receptor Assessment.

All other European sites are further than a 15km distance to Navan. No potential pathways to any other European sites were identified, therefore no further consideration is given to European sites other than the River Boyne and River Blackwater SAC and SAC as part of this assessment.

This conclusion was reached by considering likely impacts from the proposed development and any pathways that would lead to likely effects on any European sites at a distance greater than 15km from the proposed development. The distance between the proposed site of development to these European sites would preclude effects from dust, noise and vibration. The proposed development site is urban in nature and therefore no ecological link of species of conservation concern for these European Sites using the site exists. Finally, there is a lack of a hydrological connection, as these sites are located in a different catchment area to the proposed development.

The River Boyne and River Blackwater SAC is an internationally important wetland site and has been designated for: Alkaline fens, Alluvial forests with Alnus glutinosa and Fraxinus excelsior (Alno-Padion, Alnion incanae, Salicion albae), River Lamprey, Salmon and Otter.

The conservation objectives for the River Boyne and River Blackwater SAC are:

- To maintain or restore the favourable conservation conditions of Alkaline fens
- To maintain or restore the favourable conservation conditions of Alluvial forests with Alnus glutinosa and Fraxinus excelsior (Alno-Padion, Alnion incanae, Salicion, which is a priority habitat
- To maintain or restore the favourable conservation conditions of River Lamprey (*Lampetra fluviatilis)*
- To maintain or restore the favourable conservation conditions of Salmon (*Salmo salar)*
- To maintain or restore the favourable conservation conditions of Otter *(Lutra lutra)*

The site-specific conservation objectives have not yet been set for this SAC, therefore generic conservation objectives are currently ascribed for this site. Threats to the conservation objectives of the River Boyne and River Blackwater SAC are laid out in Table 3-2.

Table 3-1: River Boyne and River Blackwater SAC Conservation Information

Qualifying Interests	Threats (occurs: I = inside the site, O = outside the site and B = both inside and outside the site)
• Alkaline Fens • Alluvial Forests with *Alnus glutinosa* and *Fraxinus excelsior* (Alno-Padion, Alnion incanae, Salicion albae) • River Lamprey (*Lampetra fluviatilis*) • Salmon (*Salmo salar*) • Otter (*Lutra lutra*)	High Risk Threats: • H01 - Pollution to surface waters (limnic, terrestrial, marine & brackish) (i) • J02.15 - Other human induced changes in hydraulic conditions (i) • E03.04 - Other discharges (i) • E02 - Industrial or commercial areas (i) • I01 invasive non-native species (i) Medium risk threats: • G02.10 - other sport / leisure complexes (i) • A07 - use of biocides, hormones and chemicals • A08 - fertilisation (i) • A05.02 - stock feeding (o) • A01 – Cultivation (i) • A10.01 - removal of hedges and copses or scrub (i) • C01.01 - Sand and gravel extraction (i) • E05 - Storage of materials (i) • E01.04 - other patterns of habitation (i) • J02.11 - Siltation rate changes, dumping, depositing of dredged deposits (i) • J02.10 - management of aquatic and bank vegetation for drainage purposes (i) • D01.02 - Roads, motorways (i) • E03.02 - disposal of industrial waste (i) • J02 - human induced changes in hydraulic conditions (i) • B01.02 - artificial planting on open ground (non-native trees) (i) Low risk threats: • D01.05 - Bridge, viaduct (i) • G01 - Outdoor sports and leisure activities, recreational activities (i) • G05.06 - tree surgery, felling for public safety, removal of roadside trees (i) • G05 - Other human intrusions and disturbances (i)

The River Boyne and River Blackwater Special Protection Area is of high ornithological importance as it supports a nationally important population of Kingfisher, a species that is listed on Annex I of the E.U. Birds Directive.

The Conservation Objective for the site is to 'maintain the favourable conservation condition' for Kingfisher and its supporting habitat.

The site-specific conservation objectives have not yet been set for this SPA, therefore generic conservation objectives are currently ascribed for this site. Threats to the conservation objectives of the River Boyne and River Blackwater SPA are laid out in Table 3-3.

Table 3-2: River Boyne and River Blackwater SPA Conservation Information

Special Conservation Interests	Threats (occurs: I = inside the site, O = outside the site and B = both inside and outside the site)
• Kingfisher (*Alcedo atthis*)	High risk threats: • E01 - Urbanised areas, human habitation (o) • D01.02 - roads, motorways (i)(o) • E01.03 - dispersed habitation (o) Medium risk threats: • J02 - human induced changes in hydraulic conditions (i)

4.3 Source Pathway Receptor Assessment

The OPR (2021) Practice Note PN01 recommends that the zone of influence of a project should be considered using the Source-Pathway-Receptor model.

European sites which may potentially be significantly affected by the proposed skate park are identified using the 'source-pathway-receptor' (S-P-R) conceptual model. The S-P-R model is a standard tool in environmental assessment to determine links between sensitive features and sources of impacts. In order for an effect to occur, all three elements of this mechanism must be in place. The absence of one of the elements of the mechanism means there is no likelihood for the effect to occur e.g. if there is no ecological pathway or functional link between the proposed development and the European site, there is no potential for impact and as such no potential for significant effects.

It is important to note that an impact may occur without having a significant effect. An impact is essentially the 'source' in the S-P-R assessment. It is the biophysical change caused to the environment by the project e.g. increase in sediment runoff due to ground disturbance. For the effect to be significant, the Qualifying Interests / Special Conservation Interests of the European site must be sensitive to the biophysical change.

Having regard to the 'Habitats directive assessment review package' set out in the guidance document 'Assessment of Plans and Projects significantly affecting European Sites: Methodological guidance on the provisions of Article 6(3) and (4) of the Habitats Directive 92/43/EEC', (European Commission, 2001), the likely impacts of proposed works are set out relative to the following project features:

- Size and scale;
- Land-take;
- Physical changes to the environment;

- Resource requirements;
- Emissions, wastes and residues;
- Transportation requirements;
- Duration of construction, operation, decommissioning.

The source-pathway-receptor connectivity between these impacts and European sites is set out for the proposed development in Table 3-4.

Table 3-3: Source-Pathway-Receptor

Source		Pathway	Receptor	S-P-R connectivity
Potential Land-take & Scale of Development & physical change to the environment	The development of 58 camera poles across the town of Navan requires 58 very small patches, encompassing land which is already part of the urban fabric.	All proposed camera poles are wholly outside of any European Site. There will be no direct land take or physical change to any European site. Kingfisher, the species for which the River Boyne and River Blackwater SPA is designated for, is a waterway bird which will stay close to water and as such the lands which will be disturbed in association with the installation of the CCTV poles in Navan are not of significant value to this species. Otter, a species for which the River Boyne and River Blackwater SAC is designated for, usually stays close to water and prefers habitats with plenty of cover. As such the lands which will be disturbed in association with the installation of the CCTV poles in Navan	Only Kingfisher, the bird species qualified as conservation objective in the River Boyne and River Blackwater SPA is discussed here: Kingfisher is a waterway species which favours riparian habitats. It perches in trees and dives into the water for small fish and it nests in earth-holes in suitable riverbanks. There were 28 recorded instances of Kingfisher sightings in the 10km square the proposed development site is included in. The most recent records were on the 29th of October 2020 as part of the Birds of Ireland survey. Otter is a designated conservation interest of the River Boyne and River Blackwater SAC. Otter is a semi-aquatic mammal species which mostly feeds on fish and amphibians. Otter needs access to fresh-water bodies which are surrounded by plenty of cover.	S-P-R NO connectivity identified between the proposed camera poles and the River Boyne and River Blackwater SPA through a biological link (effect on birds), as Kingfisher from the SPA are unlikely to use any sites identified for proposed camera poles according to available data. S-P-R NO connectivity identified between the proposed CCTV poles and the River Boyne and River Blackwater SAC through a biological link (effect on Otter) as Otter are unlikely to use any sites identified for proposed camera poles according to available data.

Source		Pathway	Receptor	S-P-R connectivity
		are not of significant value to this species.	There were 13 recorded instances of Otter sightings in the 10km square the proposed development site is included in. The most recent sighting was from the 14th of June 2015 as part of the Atlas of Mammals in Ireland 2010-2015 surveys.	
Potential Resource Requirements	There will be no resources required from European Sites.	None	None	No S-P-R connectivity to the River Boyne and River Blackwater SAC and SPA
Potential Emissions	**Noise Emissions** Noise, vibration, lighting and human presence, presence of machinery during pole installation. Small-scale rock-breaking activities. The installation of each pole and associated activities will take at most one day.	The majority of proposed CCTV pole locations are so far removed from the River Boyne and River Blackwater SPA and SAC that any noise, vibration and lighting emissions would not affect these European sites. CCTV poles 10, 11, 41, 42, 43, 44, 51, 52 are all closer than 50m to the SAC boundary, however SCI species of the SPA and SAC are not using these locations as they are not of suitable quality for Kingfisher or Otter. Poles are being installed along roads within the urban fabric and any wildlife will be used to human presence, urban lighting and noise from vehicles.	None	S-P-R NO connectivity identified between the proposed development of CCTV poles and the River Boyne and River Blackwater SPA through a biological link (effect on birds: Kingfisher). S-P-R NO connectivity identified between the proposed CCTV poles and the River Boyne and River Blackwater SAC through a biological link (effect on Otter).

Source		Pathway	Receptor	S-P-R connectivity
	Dust Emissions Dust produced by rock breaking, concrete mixing, and machinery. Levels of dust will be minimal and limited to the day of CCTV pole installation.	The majority of proposed CCTV pole locations are so far removed from the River Boyne and River Blackwater SPA and SAC that any dust emissions would not affect these European sites. CCTV poles 10, 11, 41, 42, 43, 44, 51, 52 are all closer than 50m to the SAC boundary. However given the scale of the works no dust effects are likely.	None.	S-P-R NO connectivity identified between the proposed development and the River Boyne and River Blackwater SPA and SAC.
	Water Emissions The installation of the proposed CCTV poles could result in minor silt sediment and concrete/hydrocarbon emissions.	No hydrological link to the River Boyne and River Blackwater SPA and SAC as CCTV pole locations are outside these sites and on roads or along road verges.	None	No S-P-R for a significant effect exists due to the absence of a hydrological link between the CCTV pole locations and the River Boyne.

4.4 Potential Cumulative Impacts

As no S-P-R connectivity could be established between the activities associated with the installation of the proposed CCTV poles and cameras, and any European sites, no potential cumulative impacts are possible.
A planning search was therefore not conducted for this project.

5 CONCLUSION

This assessment, based on the available scientific information and best scientific knowledge, demonstrates that:

The proposed installation of 58 CCTV poles and mounted cameras in across the town of Navan, alone and in combination with other plans and projects, is unlikely to have significant effect(s) on the River Boyne and River Blackwater SAC (002299) and SPA (004232) (or any other European site), when considered in light of the conservation objectives of those European sites. No Source-Pathway-Receptor for a significant effect exists due to small scale of the project, the urban nature of the CCTV pole locations and the short duration of works of less than one day for the installation of each pole.

For these reasons we therefore submit that the competent authority can determine that, in view of best scientific knowledge, an appropriate assessment is not required in order to ascertain if the proposed CCTV poles and mounted cameras, in combination with other plans and projects, will not adversely affect the integrity of a European site.

Mitigation measures to reduce or avoid a significant effect where not considered within this screening for appropriate assessment to reach this conclusion.

6 REFERENCES

Cummins, S., Fisher, J., McKeever, R., McNaghten, L., Crowe, O. (2010). Assessment of the distribution and abundance of Kingfisher Alcedo atthis and other riparian birds on six SAC river systems in Ireland. A report commissioned by the National Parks and Wildlife Service and prepared by BirdWatch Ireland

DoEHLG, (2009 / 2010). Appropriate Assessment of Plans and Projects in Ireland: Guidance for Planning Authorities. National Parks and Wildlife Service, Department of the Environment, Heritage and Local Government, Dublin 2009.

EC (2000) Communication from the Commission on the precautionary principle. Brussels, 2.2.2000 COM(2000) 1 final.

EC (2001). 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, European Commission 2002.

EC (2018). Managing Natura 2000 sites. The provisions of Article 6 of the Habitats Directive 92/43/EEC. European Commission Brussels, 21.11.2018 C (2018) 7621 final.

Meath County Council Website - www.meath.ie/council/council-services/planning-and-building/planning-permission/view-or-search-planning-application accessed August 2021.

National Biodiversity Data Centre. - Maps - Biodiversity Maps (biodiversityireland.ie) accessed August 2021.

NPWS (2021) Conservation objectives for River Boyne and River Blackwater SPA [004232]. Generic Version 8.0. Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage.

NPWS (2021) Conservation objectives for River Boyne and River Blackwater SAC [002299]. Generic Version 8.0. Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage.

O'Connor W. (2006) A survey of juvenile lamprey populations in the Boyne Catchment. Irish Wildlife Manuals, No. 24 National Parks and Wildlife Service, Department of Environment, Heritage and Local Government, Dublin, Ireland

Office of the Planning Regulator (2021). Practice Note PN01 Appropriate Assessment Screening for Development Management

FEHILY TIMONEY

CONSULTANTS IN ENGINEERING,
ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE & PLANNING

www.fehilytimoney.ie

CORK OFFICE
Core House,
Pouladuff Road,
Cork, T12 D773,
Ireland
+353 21 496 4133

Dublin Office
J5 Plaza,
North Park Business Park,
North Road, Dublin 11, D11 PXT0,
Ireland
+353 1 658 3500

Carlow Office
Unit 6,
Bagenalstown Industrial Park,
Royal Oak Road, Muine Bheag,
Co. Carlow, R21 XW81,
Ireland
+353 59 972 3800