

14TH OF AUGUST 2020

**SCREENING FOR APPROPRIATE ASSESSMENT OF SPECIFIC WORKS ASSOCIATED WITH ‘MUNSTER BRIDGES – TERM
MAINTENANCE CONTRACT NO. 3’
REASONED DETERMINATION**

Regulation 42(1) of the European Communities (Birds and Natural Habitats) Regulations, 2011 (‘the Habitats Regulations’) states, *inter alia*, ‘A screening for Appropriate Assessment of a [...] project [...] which a public authority wishes to undertake [...] shall be carried out by the public authority to assess, in view of best scientific knowledge and in view of the conservation objectives of the site, if that [...] project, individually or in combination with other plans or projects is likely to have significant effects on the European site.’¹ Regulation 42(2) of the Habitats Regulations states ‘A public authority shall carry out a screening for Appropriate Assessment under paragraph (1) before [...] a decision to undertake [...] a project is taken.’² Having taken the view that the works required under ‘Munster Bridges – Term Maintenance Contract No. 3’ might constitute ‘projects’³ within the meaning of the Habitats Regulations, Transport Infrastructure Ireland⁴ (TII) decided that the works required under the contract should be subject to screening for Appropriate Assessment pursuant to, *inter alia*, Regulation 42 of the Habitats Regulations and Article 6(3) of the Habitats Directive.⁵ Mr. Michael Nolan (Chief Executive of Transport Infrastructure Ireland) delegated the function of screening for Appropriate Assessment to me, Dr. Vincent O’Malley, Head of Environmental Policy and Compliance Section, Transport Infrastructure Ireland, on the 21st of June, 2018.

In performing this screening for Appropriate Assessment, I had regard, *inter alia*, to information contained in the following documents:

¹ Regulation 42(1) of the European Communities (Birds and Natural Habitats) Regulations, 2011 (S.I. No. 477 of 2011).

² Regulation 42(2) of the European Communities (Birds and Natural Habitats) Regulations, 2011 (S.I. No. 477 of 2011).

³ Regulation 2(1) of the European Communities (Birds and Natural Habitats) Regulations, 2011 (S.I. No. 477 of 2011) defines ‘project’ to include ‘land use or infrastructural developments, including any development of land or on land.’ Given the breadth of the term ‘project’ under the Habitats Regulations, Transport Infrastructure Ireland is uncertain as to whether or not works required under ‘Munster Bridges – Term Maintenance Contract No. 3’ constitute ‘projects’. It notes, however, that Section 3(1) of the Planning and Development Act, 2000, defines ‘development’ to include ‘[...] the carrying out of any works on, in, over, or under land [...]’ and that Section 2(1) of the Planning and Development Act, 2000 defines ‘works’ to include ‘[...] any act or operation of construction, excavation, demolition, extension, alteration, repair or renewal [...]’. As such, Transport Infrastructure Ireland acknowledges that works required under ‘Munster Bridges – Term Maintenance Contract No. 3’ might constitute ‘projects’ within the meaning of the Habitats Regulations.

⁴ Article 2 of the Roads Act 2015 (Operational Name of National Roads Authority) Order, 2015 (S.I. No. 297 of 2015) provides that the National Roads Authority may describe itself as Transport Infrastructure Ireland for operational purposes.

⁵ Council Directive 92/43/EEC of 21 May 1992 on the conservation of natural habitats and of wild fauna and flora [1992] OJ L 206.

- *Munster Bridges – Term Maintenance Contract No. 3 – Ecological Assessment* (Atkins Limited, July 2018); and,
- CN130820_Munster Bridges_Yr3 (2020)__Screening_duplicates removed (12-08-20).xls.⁶

In performing this screening for Appropriate Assessment I also communicated with various members of staff from TII (e.g., from the legal, structures and environmental sections); and, the consultant engaged by TII to prepare and administer the contract (including the consultant’s ecological expert).

The specific works that I screened for Appropriate Assessment were the works detailed in CN130820_Munster Bridges_Yr3 (2020)__Screening_duplicates removed (12-08-20).xls, which I am advised and believe to be routine maintenance works required under the contract in Munster in year 3 of its duration.

Having performed screening for Appropriate Assessment in respect of the specific works detailed in CN130820_Munster Bridges_Yr3 (2020)__Screening_duplicates removed (12-08-20).xls, I accept the recommendations of Atkins Limited that the year 3 routine maintenance works proposed on the structures (both works and structures specifically listed in the table below), individually or in combination with other plans or projects, would not be likely to have a significant effect on any European site in view of the best scientific knowledge and the site’s conservation objectives. I determine that an Appropriate Assessment of these proposed works is not required, as *it can be excluded* on the basis of objective scientific information following the screening done that the proposed works, individually or in combination with other plans or projects, will have a significant effect on any European site.



Dr. Vincent O'Malley

Head of the Environmental Policy and Compliance Section
Transport Infrastructure Ireland

⁶ The spreadsheet ‘CN130820_Munster Bridges_Yr3 (2020)__Screening_duplicates removed (12-08-20).xls’ was first prepared by Atkins Limited and provided, amongst other things, the recommendations of Atkins Limited’s ecologist as to whether or not specified works could be ‘screened out’. The Environmental Policy and Compliance Section of TII reviewed the information contained in the spreadsheet and indicated whether or not it agreed with these recommendations.

Structure ID	Structure Name	TII Determination	Applicable Works
CL-N67-004.00	Kilrush South Bridge	Screened Out	<p>5 Embankments/Revetments Clearance of 1m strip of vegetation from structure on all embankments. (24 m²) 1 Bridge surface Clear 2 no drain gullies on the edges of the carriageway (2 no)</p>
CL-N67-005.00	Moyasta Bridge South	Screened Out	<p>5 Embankments/Revetments Clearance of 1m strip of vegetation from structure on north embankments. Clearance of 1m strip of vegetation from top edge of south embankment rock armours and removal of refuse. (20 m²)</p>
CL-N67-006.00	Moyasta Bridge North	Screened Out	<p>5 Embankments/Revetments Clearance of 1m strip of vegetation from structure on all embankments. (24 m²)</p>
CL-N67-008.00	Kilkee Bridge	Screened Out	<p>5 Embankments/Revetments Clearance of 1m strip of vegetation from structure on all embankments. (20 m²) 6 Wing/Spandrel/Retaining Walls Masonry repointing to wingwalls over embankments, 12m². (12 m²)</p>

Structure ID	Structure Name	TII Determination	Applicable Works
CL-N67-014.00	Lissyneillan Bridge	Screened Out	<p>5 Embankments/Revetments Removal of vegetation from embankments 1m strip clearance on downstream side (10 m2)</p>
CL-N67-016.00	Bealaclogga Bridge	Screened Out	<p>5 Embankments/Revetments Clearance of 1m strip of vegetation away from structure on all embankments. (24 m2) 6 Wing/Spandrel/Retaining Walls Kill off roots of vegetation on NE wingwall. (20 m2) 1 Bridge surface Clearance of vegetation from combined kerb drainage. (1 no)</p>
CL-N67-032.00	Croagh Bridge	Screened Out	<p>5 Embankments/Revetments Removal of vegetation from embankments 1m strip clearance on upstream sides heavy growth and small tree (20 m2)</p>
CL-N68-007.00	Drehidnabahaboy Bridge	Screened Out	<p>5 Embankments/Revetments Clearance of 1m strip of vegetation away from structure on all embankments. (24 m2) 6 Wing/Spandrel/Retaining Walls Clean moss off buttresses over embankments, 15m². (1 m2) 6 Wing/Spandrel/Retaining Walls Masonry repointing to wingwalls over embankment, 18m². (18 m2) Local repointing to arch barrels, 4m² (7 m2)</p>

Structure ID	Structure Name	TII Determination	Applicable Works
CL-N85-003.00	Croaghaun Bridge	Screened Out	5 Embankments/Revetments Vegetation clearance from all embankments (16 m2)
CC-N20-028.00	Castle-land culvert	Screened Out	5 Embankments/Revetments Remove vegetation from both elevations of the structure (500 m2)
CC-N71-013.00	Bawnaknockane River Bridge	Screened Out	5 Embankments/Revetments Eastern embankments and wing walls require majority of vegetation removal (40 m2) 6 Wing/Spandrel/Retaining Walls Removal of moss from wingwalls over embankments, 10m ² . (10 m2)
CC-N71-015.00	Meen Bridge	Screened Out	5 Embankments/Revetments All Embankments to be cleared of vegetation (40 m2) 1 Bridge surface All debris, silt and vegetation to be removed from bridge drainage gullies (3 no)
CC-N71-017.00	New Court Bridge	Screened Out	5 Embankments/Revetments Western embankments require clearance (20 m2)
KY-N70-043.00	Coomnahorna River Bridge	Screened Out	4 Parapets/Safety barrier Removal of vegetation from parapets. (10 m2) 5 Embankments/Revetments All trees, bushes and deep rooted vegetation within 1m of structure to be removed (20 m2) 6 Wing/Spandrel/Retaining Walls Removal of vegetation from spandrel walls. (15 m2) 1 Bridge surface All debris, silt and vegetation to be removed from bridge drainage gullies (2 no) 6 Wing/Spandrel/Retaining Walls Repointing of spandrel walls following removal of vegetation. (15 m2) 10 Deck/slab/arch barrel Repointing of arch. (8 m2)

Structure ID	Structure Name	TII Determination	Applicable Works
KY-N70-048.00	Glanlough Bridge	Screened Out	<p>5 Embankments/Revetments All trees, bushes and deep rooted vegetation within 1m of structure to be removed (20 m2)</p> <p>6 Wing/Spandrel/Retaining Walls Remove vegetation from wingwalls over the embankments (20 m2)</p> <p>7 Abutments Removal of vegetation at abutment at interface with box. (6 m2)</p>
KY-N86-017.00	Glasheen Bridge	Screened Out	<p>5 Embankments/Revetments Removal of vegetation required from all embankments within 1m of bridge structure. (16 m2)</p> <p>7 Abutments Localised missing stone 330mm length x 200mm high x 140mm deep located 1.21m from north end of east abutment at the base to be repaired, 0.05m³. (0.05 m3)</p>
LC-N21-001.00	Bridge Street Structure Abbeyfeale	Screened Out	<p>5 Embankments/Revetments Vegetation clearance from south embankments to maintain 1m clearance around structure (10 m2)</p>
LC-N21-009.00	Ballyfraleay Bridge	Screened Out	<p>5 Embankments/Revetments Vegetation clearance from embankments to maintain 1m clearance around structure and to maintain area between portals and safety barriers. (200 m2)</p>
LC-N21-017.00	Adare Library Bridge	Screened Out	<p>5 Embankments/Revetments Vegetation clearance to embankment to maintain 1m clearance around structure (20 m2)</p> <p>1 Bridge surface Clear drain gullies at either footway (2 no)</p>

Structure ID	Structure Name	TII Determination	Applicable Works
TN-N52-002.00	Nenagh River Bridge	Screened Out	<p>5 Embankments/Revetments Remove vegetation from revetments on both elevations of the structure (200 m2) 8 Piers Concrete repair to revetment at NE corner over pier. 5m² (5 m2)</p>
TN-N52-009.00	Bridge at Ballylognane	Screened Out	<p>5 Embankments/Revetments Clearance of vegetation from embankments. (10 m2) 4 Parapets/Safety barrier Masonry repointing to parapets. 25m² (25 m2) 6 Wing/Spandrel/Retaining Walls Masonry repointing to open joints wing/spandrel walls. Repoint cracking on east spandrel wall, 40m² (40 m2) 8 Piers Masonry repair to pier cutwater NE corner. 1m³ (1 m3)</p>
TN-N62-002.00	Turtulla Bridge	Screened Out	<p>5 Embankments/Revetments Clearance of 1m strip of vegetation away from structure on all embankments. (20 m2) 1 Bridge surface Clear blocked drainage gullies. (2 no)</p>
TN-N65-002.00	Carrigahorig Bridge	Screened Out	<p>4 Parapets/Safety barrier Removal of vegetation from parapet over embankment. 2m² (2 m2)</p>

Structure ID	Structure Name	TII Determination	Applicable Works
TN-N75-001.00	Suir River Bridge	Screened Out	<p>5 Embankments/Revetments Clearance of vegetation away from structure on all embankments. (20 m²) 6 Wing/Spandrel/Retaining Walls Removal of vegetation north spandrel. 40m² (40 m²) 6 Wing/Spandrel/Retaining Walls Masonry repointing of north spandrel wall. 40m² (40 m²)</p>
TS-N24-003.00	Carrick-on-Suir Bridge 2	Screened Out	<p>5 Embankments/Revetments Clearance of 1m strip of vegetation away from structure on all embankments. Removal of rubbish and debris also. (20 m²) 4 Parapets/Safety barrier Concrete repair to parapet at NW corner over embankment, 2m². (2 m²)</p>
TS-N24-010.00	Kilmurry Bridge	Screened Out	<p>5 Embankments/Revetments Removal of vegetation to embankments. (100 m²)</p>
TS-N74-005.00	Golden Bridge	Screened Out	<p>5 Embankments/Revetments Clearance of 1m strip of vegetation away from structure on all embankments. (20 m²)</p>
TS-N76-003.00	Glenbower Bridge	Screened Out	<p>5 Embankments/Revetments Vegetation clearance along top and base of wing walls. (100 m²)</p>

Structure ID	Structure Name	TII Determination	Applicable Works
CC-N71-014.00	Leamawaddra River Bridge	Screened Out	<p>4 Parapets/Safety barrier Removal of vegetation from parapets over embankments, 15m². (15 m2)</p> <p>5 Embankments/Revetments All trees, bushes and deep rooted vegetation within 1m of structure to be removed (40 m2)</p> <p>6 Wing/Spandrel/Retaining Walls Removal of deep rooted ivy and moss from wingwalls over embankments, 30m². (30 m2)</p> <p>4 Parapets/Safety barrier Masonry repointing to parapet after devegetation, 10m². (10 m2)</p> <p>6 Wing/Spandrel/Retaining Walls Masonry repointing of wingwalls over embankments following removal of vegetation, 20m². (20 m2)</p> <p>10 Deck/slab/arch barrel Masonry repointing to local open joint especially at south elevation behind voussoirs. (10 m2)</p> <p>4 Parapets/Safety barrier Masonry repair of loose capping on north parapet, 0.5m³. (0.5 m3)</p>