

WOODSTOCK TO SOUTH EAST GREENWAY LINK

Constraints and Opportunities Report



IE000847-RPS-00-XX-RP-Z-0003

S3 P03

23 June 2025

CONSTRAINTS AND OPPORTUNITIES REPORT

Document status					
Version	Purpose of document	Authored by	Reviewed by	Approved by	Review date
S0	Author Draft	JG/PJM/IAC	CW	AQ	18.02.2025
S3.P01	Issue to Client	JG/PJM/IAC	CW	AQ	20.02.2025
S3.P02	Post Client Comments	JG/PJM/IAC	CW	AQ	17.04.2025
S3.P03	Post TII Comments	JG/PJM/IAC	CW	AQ	23.06.2025

Approval for issue	
AQ	23.06.2025

The report has been prepared for the exclusive use and benefit of our client and solely for the purpose for which it is provided. Unless otherwise agreed in writing by R P S Group Limited, any of its subsidiaries, or a related entity (collectively 'RPS') no part of this report should be reproduced, distributed or communicated to any third party. RPS does not accept any liability if this report is used for an alternative purpose from which it is intended, nor to any third party in respect of this report. The report does not account for any changes relating to the subject matter of the report, or any legislative or regulatory changes that have occurred since the report was produced and that may affect the report.

The report has been prepared using the information provided to RPS by its client, or others on behalf of its client. To the fullest extent permitted by law, RPS shall not be liable for any loss or damage suffered by the client arising from fraud, misrepresentation, withholding of information material relevant to the report or required by RPS, or other default relating to such information, whether on the client's part or that of the other information sources, unless such fraud, misrepresentation, withholding or such other default is evident to RPS without further enquiry. It is expressly stated that no independent verification of any documents or information supplied by the client or others on behalf of the client has been made. The report shall be used for general information only.

Prepared by:

RPS

Prepared for:

Kilkenny County Council

CONSTRAINTS AND OPPORTUNITIES REPORT

Contents

1	INTRODUCTION	1
1.1	Project Overview	1
1.2	Project Objective	1
2	PROJECT STRATEGIC FIT	3
2.1.1	Project Ireland 2040 National Planning Framework	3
2.1.2	National Development Plan 2021-2030	3
2.1.3	National Investment Framework for Transport in Ireland	3
2.1.4	National Sustainable Mobility Policy	4
2.1.5	Climate Action Plan 2024	5
2.1.6	Transport Appraisal Framework (TAF)	5
2.1.7	Strategy for the Future Development of National and Regional Greenways	6
2.1.8	Code of Best Practice National and Regional Greenways	7
2.1.9	Embracing Ireland's Outdoors: National Outdoor Recreation Strategy 2023-2027	7
2.1.10	National Cycle Network	7
2.1.11	CycleConnects	7
3	ENVIRONMENTAL CONSTRAINTS	7
3.1	Population and Human Health	7
3.1.1	Introduction	7
3.1.2	Existing Environment	8
3.1.3	Identified Constraints	10
3.1.4	Identified Opportunities	11
3.2	Biodiversity	11
3.2.1	Introduction	11
3.2.2	Existing Environment	12
3.2.3	Identified Constraints	22
3.2.4	Identified Opportunities	23
3.3	Lands, Geology & Soils	23
3.3.1	Introduction	23
3.3.2	Existing Environment	25
3.3.3	Identified Constraints	37
3.3.4	Identified Opportunities	37
3.4	Water	37
3.4.1	Introduction	37
3.4.2	Existing Environment	38
3.4.3	Identified Constraints	47
3.4.4	Identified Opportunities	47
3.5	Air, Climate & Noise	47
3.5.1	Introduction	47
3.5.2	Existing Environment	47
3.5.3	Identified Constraints	52
3.5.4	Identified Opportunities	52
3.6	Material Assets – Non-Agricultural	52
3.6.1	Introduction	52
3.6.2	Existing Environment	52
3.6.3	Identified Constraints	61
3.6.4	Identified Opportunities	61
3.7	Material Assets – Agricultural	61
3.7.1	Introduction	61
3.7.2	Existing Environment	62
3.7.3	Identified Constraints	65
3.7.4	Identified Opportunities	67

CONSTRAINTS AND OPPORTUNITIES REPORT

3.8	Cultural Heritage	67
3.8.1	Introduction	67
3.8.2	Extract from Cultural Heritage Constraints Study	67
3.8.3	Identified Opportunities	68
3.9	Landscape and Visual	69
3.9.1	Introduction	69
3.9.2	Existing Environment	69
3.9.3	Identified Constraints	74
3.9.4	Identified Opportunities	74
4	ENGINEERING	75
4.1	Topography	75
4.2	Transport Infrastructure - Roads	75
4.3	Transport Infrastructure – Public Transport	75
4.4	Safety	75
5	EXTERNAL PARAMETERS	76
5.1	Funding and Scope	76
5.2	Construction Phasing	76
5.3	Required Level of Service	76
5.4	Technical Standards	76
5.5	Access Control	76
5.6	Policy Documents	76
5.7	Procedural and Legal Requirements	76
	REFERENCES	77

Tables

Table 2.1:	National Sustainable Mobility Policy Principles and Goals	4
Table 3.1:	Study Area Electoral Division Populations	9
Table 3.2:	Population Density of the Electoral Divisions within the Study Area	9
Table 3.3:	Qualifying Interests, Special Conservation Interests and Conservation Objectives of the European sites being considered	12
Table 3.4:	Site Synopsis off the pNHAs within the Zol of the Study Area	17
Table 3.5:	Invasive Alien Species Records within the Various Database Searches for Grid Squares	17
Table 3.6:	WFD Status and Risk Level of the Surface Watercourses and Waterbodies within the Study Area	41
Table 3.7:	Summary of Historic Flooding Incidents within the Study Area	44
Table 3.8	Farming Practices within County Kilkenny (2020 Census of Agriculture)	62
Table 3.9	Livestock Types within County Kilkenny (Census of Agriculture 2010 and 2020)	63
Table 3.10	Farm statistics for each electoral division that overlaps with the Study Area	63
Table 3.11	Estimated Scale of Dairy Farming within Study Area	65

Figures

Figure 2-1:	NIFTI Modal and Intervention Hierarchies	4
Figure 2-2:	Five S Criteria for Greenways	6
Figure 3-1:	Population Density within the Study Area	10
Figure 3-2:	European and National Designated Sites within the Study Area	16
Figure 3-3:	Stepwise procedure of Article 6 of the Habitats Directive	21
Figure 3-4:	Corine 2018 Land Cover	25
Figure 3-5:	Soils within the Study Area	27

CONSTRAINTS AND OPPORTUNITIES REPORT

Figure 3-6: Quaternary Sediments within the Study Area	28
Figure 3-7: Teagasc Subsoils Map within the Study Area.....	29
Figure 3-8: Bedrock Geology within the Study Area	30
Figure 3-9: Waste Facilities within and Adjacent to the Study Area.....	31
Figure 3-10: County Geological Site within the Study Area	32
Figure 3-11: Landslide Susceptibility within the Study Area.....	33
Figure 3-12: Radon Risk within the Study Area	34
Figure 3-13: Groundwater Vulnerability within the Study Area.....	35
Figure 3-14: Groundwater Resources within the Study Area	36
Figure 3-15: Overview of Sub Catchments within the Study Area	39
Figure 3-16: Ecological Status.....	41
Figure 3-17: Surface Water Risk Cycle 3	43
Figure 3-18: Flooding within the Study Area	46
Figure 3-19: Daytime Noise Map (TII Strategic Noise Data)	50
Figure 3-20: Night-time Noise Map (TII Strategic Noise Data).....	51
Figure 3-21: Amenity Facilities within the Study Area	54
Figure 3-22: Tourist Attractions Within and Near The Study Area	55
Figure 3-23: Kilkenny Public Transport Network	57
Figure 3-24: : Wexford Public Transport Network	58
Figure 3-25: Utilities within the Study Area.....	60
Figure 3-26 Electoral Divisions overlapping Study Area.....	64
Figure 3-27: Landscape Character Areas within County Kilkenny	71
Figure 3-28: Landscape Sensitivities within County Kilkenny	72
Figure 3-29: Landscape Character Area within County Wexford	73

Appendices

Appendix A Cultural Heritage Constraints Study	78
Appendix B Summary of Constraints and Opportunities	79

CONSTRAINTS AND OPPORTUNITIES REPORT

1 INTRODUCTION

Prior to commencing the two-step option selection process, RPS has identified the nature and extent of constraints and opportunities, at an appropriate level of detail, within the Study Area¹. These constraints are documented and mapped such that options under consideration can be designed taking cognisance of such constraints. Moreover, opportunities that will benefit the respective environmental factors have been identified throughout this report. A summary of the constraints and opportunities are outlined in **Appendix B**.

In advance of undertaking the Constraints Study, RPS have examined previous studies and documents relevant to the that may provide an insight of the constraints likely to be encountered. These include, but were not limited to the following:

- Kilkenny County Development Plan (2021 – 2027);
- Local Area Plans (Woodstock, Inistioge and New Ross Environs);
- The Nore Vision;
- Irelands-Ancient-East-Regional-Tourism-Development-Strategy-Web;
- Kilkenny County Council (KCC) tourism-development-strategy 2023-2028; and
- National Cycle Network Plan Report 2023.

1.1 Project Overview

KCC seek to develop a greenway between Woodstock Estate near Inistioge and the South East Greenway using an integrated, comprehensive, and planned approach. The Woodstock to Southeast Greenway Link (hereafter referred to as the 'Proposed Scheme') is being delivered by KCC in partnership with Transport Infrastructure Ireland (TII).

The Proposed Scheme will extend approximately 16 km to 20 km and forms part of an overall strategy for the development of an integrated network of active travel routes, greenways and blueways, as outdoor recreational amenities, for the region. The development of the Proposed Scheme, as part of the overall regional strategy, will attract domestic and international visitors to the region. It also has the potential to connect with existing and planned active travel routes and greenways and to other local cycling and walking trails, and tourism attractions in towns and villages along its route. The Proposed Scheme is in the heart of "Ireland's Ancient East" and will constitute a major part of the "missing link" required to connect Kilkenny City to Waterford City via the South East Greenway. This will create a recreational pathway for use by locals and tourists, encouraging walking and cycling in a safe and controlled environment.

The Proposed Scheme will likely tie into the South East Greenway near the existing trailhead at Rosbercon, which is located immediately to the west of New Ross. In addition to the South East Greenway, New Ross offers numerous attractions to users of the Greenway, including the Dunbrody Famine Ship.

The Proposed Scheme is well connected to other towns and villages in the region, including Kilkenny City, Thomastown, Graiguenamanagh, Bennettsbridge and Waterford City and the numerous amenities that they offer.

1.2 Project Objective

In accordance with the Project Manager's Manual for Greenway projects (TII, 2022), project objectives are specifically chosen to address the problem as defined whilst aligning to government policies and plans.

The Transport Appraisal Framework (TAF) (DoT, 2024) states that the project objectives:

"[...] should demonstrate a clear link between the desired outcomes of an intervention and the rationale for intervention originally identified. As multiple possible solutions (including different modal options or non-infrastructural options) may be available to address an issue, objectives

¹ TII (2022) Project Manager's Manual for Greenway Projects - PE-PMG-02047. Available at: [PE-PMG-02047](#)

CONSTRAINTS AND OPPORTUNITIES REPORT

should not be framed in a manner that may lead to some options being precluded or in a manner that promotes bias in the option selection process.”

The key objectives of these project types are to provide a greenway which is sustainable, accessible, safe and attractive for locals and visitors.

2 PROJECT STRATEGIC FIT

2.1.1 Project Ireland 2040 National Planning Framework

The National Planning Framework (NPF) was published by the Government of Ireland in 2018 and is the Government's high-level strategic plan for shaping the future growth and development of the country to the year 2040 (DHPLG, 2018). The updated draft of the NPF is currently under draft with the latest revision becoming available as of November 2024. The latest NPF includes ten national strategic outcomes (NSO). The following NSOs are particularly relevant:

- NSO 1: Compact Urban Growth;
- NSO 3: Strengthened Rural Economies and Communities;
- NSO 4: Sustainable Mobility;
- NSO 7: Enhanced Amenity and Heritage; and
- NSO 8: Transition to a Low Carbon and Climate Resilient Society.

Criteria to achieve those outcomes include, amongst others, a transition to more sustainable travel modes such as walking and cycling.

NSO 1 seeks to promote and manage growth in urban areas. Greenways support this by providing alternative travel modes to urban dwellers.

NSO 3 acknowledges that, "Rural areas play a key role [...] in driving our economy [...] and must be a major part of our country's strategic development to 2040." Improved connectivity is seen as one of the keys to strengthening rural economies and communities, and greenways will provide this connectivity.

NSO 4 is part of the de-carbonisation of transport strategy. Greenways help in achieving this by providing alternative modes of transport leading to a "cleaner, quieter environment free of combustion engine driven transport systems."

NSO 7 sets out the need for walking and cycling facilities throughout the country, including continuous greenway networks. This enhancement is noted as including a number of different elements, including cycleways. This is linked to and must integrate with built, cultural and natural heritage. The criteria to achieve the objective include "a major focus on improving walking and cycling routes, including continuous greenway networks, and investing in and enabling access to recreational facilities, including trails networks, designed and delivered with a strong emphasis on conservation."

NSO 8 shapes the investment priorities over the lifetime of the plan including more climate-resilient and environmentally sustainable methods. Greenways will contribute to a sustainable transport network.

The NPF notes the health and economic benefits of extensive cycle infrastructure along with the climate change benefits of same.

National Policy Objectives (NPOs) are also included; for example, NPO 22 encourages cycle networks through the facilitation of the development of a national greenways/ blueways strategy which prioritises developments on the basis of achieving maximum impact and connectivity at national and regional level and NPO 27 facilitates healthy communities through the provision of alternative means of transport to the car.

2.1.2 National Development Plan 2021-2030

The National Development Plan (NDP) 2021-2030 (DPE, 2021) sets out the Government's over-arching investment strategy and budget for the period 2021-2030. The NDP states that the Government is firmly committed to encouraging the use of walking, cycling and other active travel methods. The NDP commits to the investment of approximately €360 million per annum over the lifetime of the NDP to be invested in walking and cycling infrastructure in cities, towns and villages across the country, including Greenways.

2.1.3 National Investment Framework for Transport in Ireland

The National Investment Framework for Transport in Ireland (NIFTI) (DoT, 2021), supports the consideration and prioritisation of future investment in land transport and "the delivery of the national planning framework."

CONSTRAINTS AND OPPORTUNITIES REPORT

It supports achieving the National Strategic Outcomes set out in the NPF. The framework identifies four priorities for transport investment:

- Decarbonisation;
- Protection and renewal;
- Mobility of people and goods in urban areas; and
- Enhanced regional and rural connectivity.

NIFTI also provides a modal hierarchy and an intervention hierarchy. The order of preference for each is shown in **Figure 2-1**:

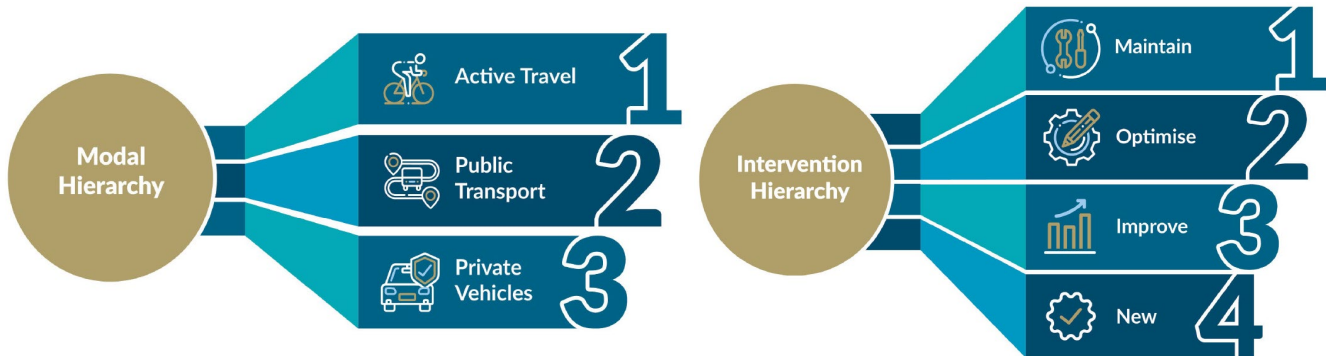


Figure 2-1: NIFTI Modal and Intervention Hierarchies

Source: Figure 6 and Figure 7 from the NIFTI. Available at: gov.ie - National Investment Framework for Transport in Ireland (NIFTI)

Under the Modal Hierarchy, active travel (of which Greenways form a part) is considered the most sustainable mode of transport. Increasing the share of active travel can reduce the carbon footprint of the transport sector, improve air quality, reduce urban congestion, and bring about positive health impacts as a result of increased physical activity.

The intervention hierarchy supports the

- Optimisation of existing infrastructure through enabling and encouraging more efficient behaviour and sustainable use of the network;
- Improvement of existing infrastructure, through increasing the standards of that infrastructure, or measures which shift existing capacity to more sustainable modes; and
- New infrastructure which encompasses all measures which entail significant increases to transport infrastructure capacity.

2.1.4 National Sustainable Mobility Policy

In 2022, the Department of Transport published the National Sustainable Mobility Policy (DoT, 2022). The policy sets out a strategic framework to 2030 for active travel and public transport to support Ireland’s overall requirement to achieve a 51% reduction in carbon emissions by the end of this decade. The policy contains a target to deliver at least 500,000 additional daily active travel and public transport journeys by 2030 in line with metrics for transport set out in the Climate Action Plan 2021. The principles and goals of the policy are set out alongside how the Proposed Scheme will assist in meeting those goals in **Table 2.1**.

Table 2.1: National Sustainable Mobility Policy Principles and Goals

Principles	Goals	Proposed Scheme
Safe and Green Mobility	1. Improve mobility safety.	Yes. The Greenway will be substantially segregated from vehicular traffic.
	2. Decarbonise public transport.	N/A

CONSTRAINTS AND OPPORTUNITIES REPORT

Principles	Goals	Proposed Scheme
	3. Expand availability of sustainable mobility in metropolitan areas.	N/A.
	4. Expand availability of sustainable mobility in regional and rural areas.	Yes. Will benefit rural communities between Inistioge and New Ross.
	5. Encourage people to choose sustainable mobility over the private car.	Yes. Provides alternative walking and cycling routes for local communities, tourists and commuters.
People Focused Mobility	6. Take a whole of journey approach to mobility, promoting inclusive access for all.	Yes. Greenway will be designed for all abilities and users of non-motorised transport.
	7. Design infrastructure according to Universal Design Principles and the Hierarchy of Road Users model.	Yes. Greenway will be designed for all abilities and users of non-motorised transport.
	8. Promote sustainable mobility through research and citizen engagement.	n/a
Better Integrated Mobility	9. Better integrate land use and transport planning at all levels.	Yes. The Proposed Scheme will link to other Greenways, public transport hubs, and the national road network.
	10. Promote smart and integrated mobility through innovative technologies and development of appropriate regulation.	n/a

2.1.5 Climate Action Plan 2024

The Proposed Scheme has the potential to contribute to national policy on tackling climate change. The transport sector accounts for approximately 18% of Ireland's national Greenhouse Gas (GHG) emissions and is one of the most significant contributors. The Climate Action Plan 2024 (DECC, 2023) outlines a target of a 51% reduction in public sector greenhouse gas emissions by 2030 and to reach net-zero emissions by no later than 2050. This plan promotes a strong shift to sustainable travel modes which means reducing current overreliance on the private car.

The current mode share both locally and nationally indicates a strong reliance on private cars. From the Transport Trend 2021 Report, the way that people in Ireland travel continues to rely heavily on the private car, although recent years have seen increases in the use of public transport and active modes. Eurostat data from 2019 shows that 81.8% of journeys in Ireland were completed by car. A greenway will therefore provide alternative modes of transport for communities linked by the greenway, including cycling and walking, thereby contributing to a reduction in transport emissions.

2.1.6 Transport Appraisal Framework (TAF)

The Transport Appraisal Framework (TAF) provides appraisal and implementation guidance that aims to promote investment in the transport system which meets the needs of society, fulfils strategic policy objectives, and delivers value for money to develop a common framework for appraising transport investments in accordance with the Public Spending Code (PSC).

CONSTRAINTS AND OPPORTUNITIES REPORT

2.1.7 Strategy for the Future Development of National and Regional Greenways

The Strategy for the Future Development of National and Regional Greenways (DTTaS, 2018) sets out how greenways are strategic infrastructure at both the national and regional levels. Greenways will be developed in appropriate locations and constructed to an appropriate standard in order to deliver a quality experience for all cycleway users.

The development of options will be steered with reference to the **Five S** criteria as set out in the Strategy. These are:

- Scenic
- Sustainable
- Substantially segregated and shared use
- (Offer lots to) See and do
- Strategic

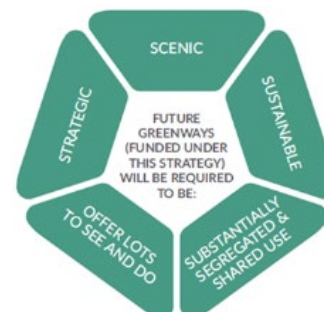


Figure 2-2: Five S Criteria for Greenways

2.1.7.1 Scenic

The River Nore consists of many scenic locations that can provide memorable cycling and walking experiences attractive to tourists and residents alike. There are also wooded grounds near Inistioge, including Woodstock Forest Loop Walk, where visitors and locals can slow down and enjoy flora and fauna.

It will be an objective of the Proposed Scheme to route it through the more scenic areas where practicable (having regard to the various engineering, environmental and other constraints), while also providing a variety of landscapes and environments for the user to enjoy.

2.1.7.2 Sustainable

The Proposed Scheme will give those living within its locality an improved opportunity to enjoy walking and cycling. It will also aim to promote localised modal shift by way of providing an infrastructure that will link townlands along its route that will encourage a shift away from car usage.

The Proposed Scheme will also provide opportunities for the development of local businesses and other enterprises in the area. It will promote cycle tourism which is eco-friendlier and more sustainable than other forms of tourism. Part of the attraction in cycle tourism is the knowledge that it contributes to a reduction of carbon and transport emissions and promotes healthy lifestyles.

2.1.7.3 Substantially Segregated and Shared Use

Under the National Strategy, greenways must be substantially segregated from vehicular traffic. This requirement is key to providing a good quality of service that ensures greenway users have a safe and enjoyable experience. The provision of segregated facilities is key to attracting international cyclists to Ireland. It is also essential to compete with other international greenways that are established as premier cycle holiday destinations.

It will be an objective of the Proposed Scheme to provide a segregated route. However, it is recognised that it may be impractical to achieve full segregation over the entire route length.

2.1.7.4 (Offer lots to) See and Do

New Ross, as a designated settlement within the Ancient East, has plenty of things to see and provides many opportunities to immerse oneself in Irish culture. The historical and cultural significance is highlighted within the town via wayfinding, interpretation, photography, maps and other signage.

There are existing amenities within and adjacent to Inistioge and New Ross, such as New Ross Golf Club and existing walking / cycling facilities (Nore Valley Walk, Woodstock Loop, East Kilkenny Cycle Route, ladies loop and Woodstock Waterfall Loop). Moreover, there is a number of Failte Ireland attractions / activities and points of interest within the Study Area (concentrated mainly in New Ross and Inistioge areas).

CONSTRAINTS AND OPPORTUNITIES REPORT

There are also several amenities identified within the Study Area (primarily in Inistioge) such as places to eat and drink, which provide a suitable setting to stay in these areas for a longer period of time. Moreover, there is a number of amenity facilities adjacent to the south of the Study Area, located in New Ross.

2.1.7.5 Strategic

The research also indicates that the scale of the project is very important in attracting international cycling tourists who will typically wish to partake in a weeklong holiday. Therefore, the minimum length required for a cycle route to be marketable internationally is 200 km and preferably 300 km. The Proposed Scheme is anticipated to be approximately 16 to 20 km; however, the Proposed Scheme will connect with the South East Greenway. Thus, the Proposed Scheme will open up the prospect of long-distance greenway routes of the required scale to be attractive to both the international and domestic markets.

2.1.8 Code of Best Practice National and Regional Greenways

The Code of Best Practice (DoT, 2021) was prepared in accordance with the Strategy for the Future Development of National and Regional Greenways (DoT, 2018). The Code provides comprehensive information in relation to the process involved in planning, designing and constructing national and regional greenways. It includes an overview of the public consultation processes, constraints study, route selection and statutory processes, as well as information about the use of State-owned lands and the acquisition of private lands for developing greenways. The Code also outlines the relevant roles of the 'project promoter', which is comprised of the Department of Transport, Transport Infrastructure Ireland, local authorities and other specific stakeholders. The Code acknowledges the important role of farmers / landowners in the process and outlines the procedures to ensure that they are treated fairly and equitably.

2.1.9 Embracing Ireland's Outdoors: National Outdoor Recreation Strategy 2023-2027

This Plan for outdoor recreation has been recently published to provide a strategic focus for investment in outdoor recreation facilities. It recognizes the growing network of trails and cycleways nationally as a sector opportunity.

2.1.10 National Cycle Network

The National Cycle Network (NCN) Plan was published by the Department of Transport and TII in January 2024. The NCN focuses on linking cities and towns of over 5,000 people with a safe, connected and inviting cycle network.

The NCN builds on previous work completed by TII and aligns with the work being undertaken by the National Transport Authority (NTA) in developing urban and county level cycle networks.

2.1.11 CycleConnects

The NTA are developing proposals for a proposed safe, accessible and convenient cycle network for Ireland, CycleConnects. This should connect more people to more places and encourage sustainable travel. Cycling links are proposed in key cities, towns and villages in each county along with connections between settlements. The plan includes both existing and planned cycle routes including greenways and blueways. CycleConnects includes proposed cycleways in County Kilkenny and County Wexford.

3 ENVIRONMENTAL CONSTRAINTS

3.1 Population and Human Health

3.1.1 Introduction

This Section identifies the constraints in relation to population and human health within the Study Area.

CONSTRAINTS AND OPPORTUNITIES REPORT

During the construction phase, activities have the potential to result in temporary impacts on local population and human health, as a result of disturbance from increases in noise levels and atmospheric emissions, potential impacts on water supplies, disruption to traffic on the surrounding network, disruption to local amenities from restricted access, etc.

During the operation and maintenance phase, the Proposed Scheme will result in positive effects arising from gaining better access to scenic landscapes, high quality recreational facility and greater potential to adopt a healthier lifestyle.

3.1.2 Existing Environment

3.1.2.1 Population

The 2022 Census² recorded a population of 104,160 in County Kilkenny, which comprised of 52,277 females and 51,883 males. This is an increase of 4.7% since the previous census in 2016. Part of the Study Area also falls into the County Wexford administration boundary. In the 2022 Census, County Wexford recorded a population of 163,919, consisting of 83,142 females and 80,777 males, an increase of 8.7% since the previous census in 2016.

Between 2016 to 2022, the two main settlements within the Study Area, New Ross Town and Inistioge, experienced a population increase of 6.6% (8,040 to 8,610) and 9.5% (285 to 315), respectively.

Study Area Characteristics

New Ross is designated as a large town under the Wexford County Development Plan 2022-2027 and it is the fourth largest town in county Wexford. New Ross serves a variety of important functions such as housing, employment, education, health care, retail, recreation, tourism and culture. Tourism plays a key role in New Ross's economic strength (See **Section 3.6.2** for further details).

New Ross is the largest town in the Study Area and the eastern section of the South East Greenway enters New Ross. Inistioge Village is the second largest settlement within the Study Area. The Nore Valley Walk connects Inistioge with Thomastown (See **Section 3.6.2** for further details).

The River Nore traverses through the Study Area in a north - south direction. The River Nore passes through Inistioge. The River Nore diverges within the southern section of the Study Area and becomes the River Barrow which passes through New Ross. The N25 (national road) bypasses New Ross to the south of the town. The N25 is a strategic route providing access to urban centres such as Enniscorthy, Wexford Town and Waterford City.

Inistioge had a greater population (percentage) increase compared to the population increase in County Kilkenny as a whole between 2016 to 2022. New Ross Town represented a lower increase in comparison to County Wexford's average percentage increase between the 2016 to 2022 Census period.

Settlement Hierarchy

In the Wexford County Development Plan Settlement Hierarchy, New Ross Town is identified as being a "Large Town." The WCDP outlines that New Ross Town plays "*an important part of the region's economic fabric.*" Moreover, the Regional Spatial & Economic Strategy (RSES) for the Southern Region defines New Ross Town as '*an important retail and service centre with its own hinterland area where a continued focus on improvements to the public realm and urban regeneration in the town centre will support rejuvenation of the town. Improved linkages to the Eastern Corridor and to Waterford are a priority with limited public transport (bus) services serving the town*' (Southern Regional Assembly, 2020).

Settlements & Census Data²

The Small Areas identified within and surrounding the Study Area are listed below in **Table 3.1**, with population figures obtained from the CSO 2022 Census.

² Source: CSO (2022) Census Interactive Map. Available at: [Interactive Data Visualisations | CSO Ireland](#)

CONSTRAINTS AND OPPORTUNITIES REPORT

Table 3.1: Study Area Electoral Division Populations

Electoral Division	2016 Population	2022 Population	Percentage Change (+/-)
Inistioge	156	165	+5.5
Coolhill	226	244	+7.4
Brownsford	150	148	-1.4
The Rower	234	256	+8.6
Dysartmoon	279	265	-5.3
Rosbercon Rural	684	704	+2.8
Rosbercon Urban	643	699	+8.0
New Ross Rural	3,942	4,164	+5.3%

Population Density

New Ross Town and Inistioge are both not accessible by the Irish rail network. The closest railway station is located in Thomastown (approximately 7 km away from Inistioge). New Ross Town is strategically located in between Wexford Town and the Waterford Metropolitan Area. Under the Regional Spatial and Economic Strategy (RSES), New Ross Town is designated as a Hinterland Town of the Waterford Metropolitan Area (Southern Regional Assembly, 2020). Moreover, New Ross Town is positioned strategically along the Eastern Economic Corridor to the Southern Region and the Atlantic Economic Corridor. New Ross Town is likely to see a population increase following the completion of the N25 Bypass and utility improvements.

Table 3.2 and **Figure 3-1** represents the population density of the respective Electoral Divisions within the Study Area based on the 2016 Census data.

Table 3.2: Population Density of the Electoral Divisions within the Study Area

Electoral Division	Population Density (per sq.km)
Inistioge	16.0
Coolhill	16.3
Brownsford	24.4
The Rower	21.5
Dysartmoon	25.6
Rosbercon Rural	48.9
Rosbercon Urban	496.96
New Ross Rural	72.9

CONSTRAINTS AND OPPORTUNITIES REPORT

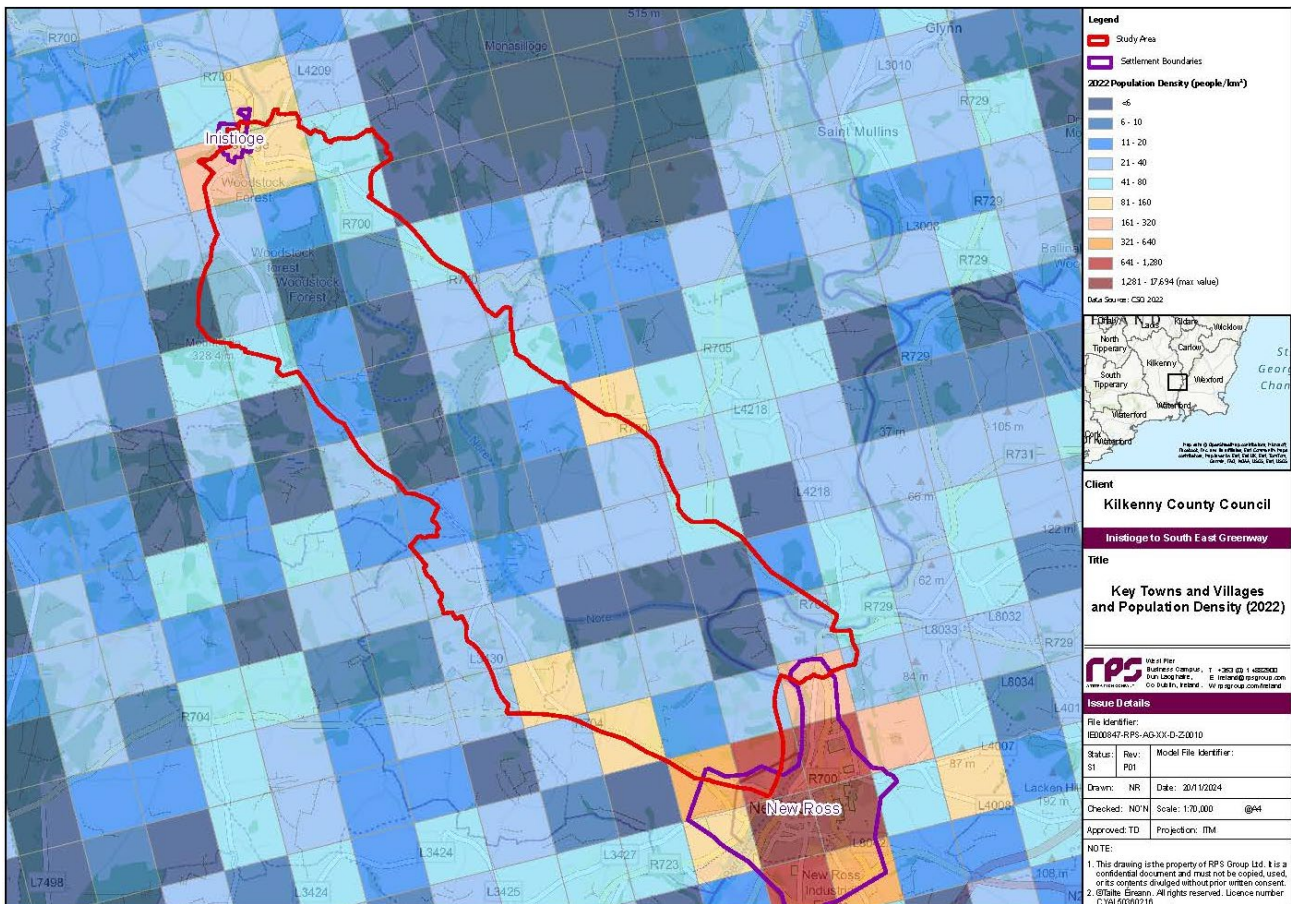


Figure 3-1: Population Density within the Study Area

3.1.2.2 Human Health

Human health has the potential to be impacted by environmental vectors (i.e., environmental components such as air, water or soil through which contaminants or pollutants, which have the potential to cause harm, can be transported so that they come into contact with human beings). Hazards or nuisances to human health can arise as a result of exposure to these vectors arising from incompatible adjacent land uses for example. These factors have been considered with regard to the description of the baseline of each environmental component; and the identification and evaluation of the likely significant environmental effects of implementing the Plan.

One of the principal health benefits of the Proposed Scheme is the provision of an alternative mode of transport for commuters. Increasing the levels of walking and cycling is widely regarded as beneficial because of the improvements in public health. This is as a result of the increased levels of physical activity and because of a modal shift from private motorised forms of transport that reduces congestion and environmental pollution.

From a user’s perspective, options which run adjacent to the existing roads could be considered to have a more negative impact in terms health, as it exposes users to more air pollution.

3.1.3 Identified Constraints

Settlements and population densities have been identified within the Study Area. Potential routes to these towns and villages will be considered as part of the development of the Phase 2 Options. The Study Area has several settlement types but it is predominantly characterised as a rural landscape. The largest settlements within the Study Area are New Ross Town and Inistioge. Careful consideration of these settlements to reduce disruptions to the residents and tourism features within the Study Area will be undertaken. Furthermore, cognisance of the location of socio-economic and community facilities and how

CONSTRAINTS AND OPPORTUNITIES REPORT

they may align with the Proposed Scheme will also be undertaken. It will be important to note that New Ross Town has high potential for population growth in the future. This should be considered as an evolving constraint, as the population density may be even greater when the Proposed Scheme undergoes construction.

The health benefits to populated areas will be considered when designing potential greenway options. Route options should be located away from busy existing roads and sensitive receptors i.e. houses, community facilities etc as much as possible to avoid exposure for greenway users to traffic pollution.

3.1.4 Identified Opportunities

The following opportunities were identified for Population and Human Health:

- Consider integrating existing hedgerows and trees into the design of the Proposed Scheme. This will help screen the Proposed Scheme from the view of people.
- Opportunity to provide extra footfall to businesses within the Study Area (predominantly Inistioge and New Ross) due to the improved connectivity between these settlements.
- Opportunity for the Proposed Scheme to provide an active travel alternative and outdoor recreational facility to the residents / visitors of Inistioge and New Ross. This will better link community properties in Inistioge and New Ross Town.

3.2 Biodiversity

3.2.1 Introduction

This Section provides information on the known biodiversity constraints (terrestrial and aquatic) within the Study Area following a desktop study. The principal legislation, planning policy and supplementary guidance in Ireland relating to natural heritage and relevant to the Proposed Scheme are set out below. The context and application of the legislation, planning policy and guidance are explained in the relevant sections of this report.

International Directives

- Council Directive on the Conservation of Natural Habitats of Wild Fauna and Flora (92/43/EEC) (The Habitats Directive), as amended
- Council Directive on the Conservation of Wild Birds (2009/147/EC) (The Birds Directive)

Irish Legislation

- S.I. No. 355 of 2015 provides that the following shall be construed together as one:
- Wildlife Act 1976;
- Wildlife (Amendment) Acts of 2000 to 2023;
- European Communities (Birds and Natural Habitats) (Restrictions of the Use of Poison Bait) Regulations 2010, as amended;
- European Communities (Birds and Natural Habitats) Regulations 2011, as amended;
- European Communities (Birds and Natural Habitats) (Amendment) Regulations of 2013 to 2021; and
- Wildlife Amendment Bill 2023.

Planning Policy

- Kilkenny County Development Plan 2021-2027
- Wexford County Development Plan 2022-2028
- National Biodiversity Action Plan 2023-2030
- Wexford Biodiversity Action Plan 2013-2018
- Draft Kilkenny Biodiversity Action Plan 2025-2030

CONSTRAINTS AND OPPORTUNITIES REPORT

- New Ross Local Area Plan 2005
- Inistioge Local Area Plan 2004

3.2.2 Existing Environment

3.2.2.1 Natura 2000 Sites

With the introduction of the Habitats Directive (Council Directive 92/43/EEC on the Conservation of natural habitats and of wild fauna and flora) came the obligation to establish the Natura 2000 network of Sites of Community Interest (SCIs), comprising a network of areas of highest biodiversity importance for rare and threatened habitats and species across the European Union (EU).

The Natura 2000 network of sites comprises Special Areas of Conservation (SACs), (including candidate SACs) designated under legislation transposing the obligations under Directive 92/43/EEC, and Special Protection Areas (SPAs, including proposed SPAs) classified under the Birds Directive (Directive 2009/147/EC on the conservation of wild birds) and designated under Irish legislation. SACs and SPAs make up the pan-European network of Natura 2000 sites in Ireland and they are referred to as European sites.

SACs are designated for the conservation of Annex I habitats (including priority types which are in danger of disappearance) and Annex II species (other than birds). SPAs are designated for the conservation of Annex I birds and other regularly occurring migratory birds and their habitats. The annexed habitats and species for which each site is designated correspond to the Qualifying Interests (QIs) of the sites in the case of SACs and Special Conservation Interests (SCIs) of the sites in the case of SPAs. From these qualifying features, the Conservation Objectives (COs) of the site are derived. Such sites form part of an EU network of ecologically important and protected sites known as the Natura 2000 network and comprise:

SACs - These sites are designated for the conservation and protection of plants, animals (other than birds) and wildlife habitats that are of importance to the EU. The sites are designated for habitats and species listed in Annex I and Annex II of the EU Habitats Directive (92/43/EEC) as amended, respectively.

SPAs – These sites are designated for the conservation and protection of birds and their habitats designated under the EU Birds Directive 2009 (first adopted by Member States in 1979), which was implemented in Ireland through the Conservation of Wild Birds Regulations (Statutory Instrument 291 of 1985). These sites are for the protection and conservation of rare and threatened bird species and their habitats.

There are a total of 26 Natura 2000 sites within County Wexford and nine in County Kilkenny³. The European sites which may potentially be affected by the Proposed Scheme are detailed in **Table 3.3** and illustrated in **Figure 3-2**. The boundaries of protected sites may change and/or new sites may be proposed for designation during the lifetime of the Proposed Scheme but these will be monitored and assessed through the development of the design of the Proposed Scheme.

Table 3.3: Qualifying Interests, Special Conservation Interests and Conservation Objectives of the European sites being considered

Qualifying Interest	Comment
River Nore SPA [004233]	
Kingfisher (<i>Alcedo atthis</i>) [A229]	The site is an SPA under the E.U. Birds Directive, of special conservation interest for Kingfisher. A survey completed in 2010 identified 22 pairs of Kingfisher (based on 16 probable and 6 possible territories) within the SPA. Other species which occur within the site include Mute Swan (35), Mallard (267), Cormorant (14), Grey Heron (45), Moorhen (14), Snipe (17) and Sand Martin (1,029) – all figures are peak counts recorded during the 2010 survey ⁴ .
River Barrow and River Nore SAC [002162]	
Estuaries [1130]	This site consists of the freshwater stretches of the Barrow and Nore River catchments as far upstream as the Slieve Bloom Mountains, and it also includes the tidal elements and estuary as far downstream as Creadun Head in Waterford.
Mudflats and sandflats not covered by seawater at low tide [1140]	

³ Source: NPWS (2024) Protected Sites in Ireland. Available at: [Protected Sites in Ireland | National Parks & Wildlife Service](#). Accessed at 13/11/2024.

⁴ Source: NPWS (2011) River Nore SPA Site Synopsis. Available at: [SITE SYNOPSIS](#)

CONSTRAINTS AND OPPORTUNITIES REPORT

Qualifying Interest	Comment
Reefs [1170]	The Nore, for a large part of its course, traverses limestone plains and then Old Red Sandstone for a short stretch below Thomastown.
Salicornia and other annuals colonising mud and sand [1310]	Oak woodland covers parts of the valley side south of Woodstock and is well developed at Brownsford where the Nore takes several sharp bends. The steep valley side is covered by oak (<i>Quercus</i> spp.), Holly (<i>Ilex aquifolium</i>), Hazel (<i>Corylus avellana</i>) and Downy Birch (<i>Betula pubescens</i>), with some Beech (<i>Fagus sylvatica</i>) and Ash (<i>Fraxinus excelsior</i>). All the trees are regenerating through a cover of Bramble (<i>Rubus fruticosus</i> agg.), Foxglove (<i>Digitalis purpurea</i>), Great Wood-rush (<i>Luzula sylvatica</i>) and Broad Buckler-fern (<i>Dryopteris dilatata</i>).
Atlantic salt meadows (<i>Glaucopuccinellietalia maritima</i>) [1330]	On the steeply sloping banks of the River Nore, about 5 km west of New Ross, in Co. Kilkenny, Kylecorragh Woods form a prominent feature in the landscape. This is an excellent example of relatively undisturbed, relict oak woodland with a very good tree canopy. The wood is quite damp and there is a rich and varied ground flora. At Brownstown, a small, mature oak dominated woodland occurs on a steep slope.
Mediterranean salt meadows (<i>Juncetalia maritimi</i>) [1410]	There is younger woodland to the north and east of it. Regeneration throughout is evident. The understorey is similar to the woods at Brownsford. The ground flora of this woodland is developed on acidic, brown earth type soil and comprises a thick carpet of Bilberry (<i>Vaccinium myrtillus</i>), Heather (<i>Calluna vulgaris</i>), Hard Fern (<i>Blechnum spicant</i>), Common Cow-wheat (<i>Melampyrum pratense</i>) and Bracken (<i>Pteridium aquilinum</i>).
Water courses of plain to montane levels with the <i>Ranunculion fluitantis</i> and <i>Callitriche-Batrachion</i> vegetation [3260]	Dry heath at the site generally grades into wet woodland or wet swamp vegetation lower down the slopes on the riverbank. Close to the Blackstairs Mountains, in the foothills associated with the Aughnabrisky, Aughavaud and Mountain Rivers there are small patches of wet heath dominated by Purple Moor-grass (<i>Molinia caerulea</i>) with Heather, Tormentil (<i>Potentilla erecta</i>), Carnation Sedge (<i>Carex panicea</i>) and Bell Heather (<i>Erica cinerea</i>).
European dry heaths [4030]	The site is very important for the presence of a number of E.U. Habitats Directive Annex II animal species including Freshwater Pearl Mussel (<i>Margaritifera margaritifera</i>), White-clawed Crayfish, Salmon, Twaite Shad, three lamprey species – Sea Lamprey, Brook Lamprey and River Lamprey, Desmoulin's whorl snail (<i>Vertigo moulinsiana</i>) and Otter. This is one of only a handful of spawning grounds in the country for Twaite Shad. The freshwater stretches of the River Nore main channel is a designated salmonid river. The Barrow/Nore is mainly a grilse fishery though spring salmon fishing is good in the vicinity of Thomastown and Inistioge on the Nore.
Hydrophilous tall herb fringe communities of plains and of the montane to alpine levels [6430]	The site supports many other important animal species. Those which are listed in the Irish Red Data Book include Daubenton's Bat, Badger, Irish Hare and Common Frog.
Petrifying springs with tufa formation (Cratoneurion) [7220]	The rare Red Data Book fish species Smelt (<i>Osmerus eperlanus</i>) occurs in estuarine stretches of the site. In addition to the Freshwater Pearl Mussel, the site also supports two other freshwater mussel species, <i>Anodonta anatina</i> and <i>Anodonta cygnea</i> .
Old sessile oak woods with <i>Ilex</i> and <i>Blechnum</i> in the British Isles [91A0]	The site is of ornithological importance for a number of E.U. Birds Directive Annex I species, including Greenland White-fronted Goose, Whooper Swan, Bewick's Swan, Bar-tailed Godwit, Peregrine and Kingfisher. Nationally important numbers of Golden Plover and Bar-tailed Godwit are found during the winter. Wintering flocks of migratory birds are seen in Shanahoe Marsh, the Curragh and Goul Marsh, both in Co. Laois, and also along the Barrow Estuary in Waterford Harbour.
Alluvial forests with <i>Alnus glutinosa</i> and <i>Fraxinus excelsior</i> (<i>Alno-Padion</i> , <i>Alnion incanae</i> , <i>Salicion albae</i>) [91E0]	
<i>Vertigo moulinsiana</i> (Desmoulin's Whorl Snail) [1016]	
<i>Margaritifera margaritifera</i> (Freshwater Pearl Mussel) [1029]	
<i>Austropotamobius pallipes</i> (White-clawed Crayfish) [1092]	
<i>Petromyzon marinus</i> (Sea Lamprey) [1095]	
<i>Lampetra planeri</i> (Brook Lamprey) [1096]	
<i>Lampetra fluviatilis</i> (River Lamprey) [1099]	
<i>Alosa fallax fallax</i> (Twaite Shad) [1103]	
<i>Salmo salar</i> (Salmon) [1106]	
<i>Lutra lutra</i> (Otter) [1355]	
<i>Trichomanes speciosum</i> (Killarney Fern) [1421]	
Blackstairs Mountains SAC [000770]	
Northern Atlantic wet heaths with <i>Erica tetralix</i> [4010]	The Blackstairs Mountains are located along the border of the Counties Wexford and Carlow, forming a mountain chain that runs in a north-east/south-west direction for approximately 22 km, and includes six peaks over 520 m. The range has a core of granite, and on the Carlow side, erosion has cut deeply into the dome exposing successive layers of granite, giving a steeply stepped slope. On the east side some overlying Ordovician slates and sandstones are evident.
European dry heaths [4030]	The site is important for extensive areas of dry heath. The higher, steeper slopes are covered with a dense, tall carpet dominated by Heather (<i>Calluna vulgaris</i>) and Bilberry (<i>Vaccinium myrtillus</i>), with small amounts of Crowberry (<i>Empetrum nigrum</i>), Bell Heather (<i>Erica cinerea</i>) and Cross-leaved Heath (<i>E. tetralix</i>).

CONSTRAINTS AND OPPORTUNITIES REPORT

Qualifying Interest	Comment
	<p>Occasionally Common Bent (<i>Agrostis capillaris</i>) and Mat-grass (<i>Nardus stricta</i>) are also found.</p> <p>Abundant moss cover is present, particularly in those areas which have escaped burning – species include <i>Racomitrium lanuginosum</i>, <i>Hypnum cupressiforme</i>, <i>Polytrichum commune</i>, <i>Hylocomnium splendens</i> and <i>Rhytidiadelphus squarrosus</i>. Stiff Sedge (<i>Carex bigelowii</i>) occurs on the stony ground on the west side of the range.</p> <p>Lower down the slopes the heath is dominated by Gorse (<i>Ulex europaeus</i>), with some of the species listed above, along with Heath Bedstraw (<i>Galium saxatile</i>) and Tormentil (<i>Potentilla erecta</i>). Bracken (<i>Pteridium aquilinum</i>) is also abundant on the lower slopes, particularly on the western flanks.</p> <p>Upland grassland is found on those slopes which have been heavily grazed. Grassland species include Mat-grass and Common Bent. Heath Bedstraw and the mosses <i>H. splendens</i> and <i>R. squarrosus</i> are also found. Wet heath occurs in mosaic with dry heath towards the base of some of the steeper slopes and is also found outside the western edge of the commonage. Typical species include Purple Moor-grass (<i>Molinia caerulea</i>), bog mosses such as <i>Sphagnum capillifolium</i> and <i>S. palustre</i>, and sometimes Bog Asphodel (<i>Narthecium ossifragum</i>).</p> <p>There are relatively extensive tracts of a peat/heath mosaic on the gentle slopes at the east of the southern section of the site and within the commonage. Cottongrasses (<i>Eriophorum</i> spp.) are dominant here, with small amounts of Purple Moor-grass and over 90% cover of bog mosses. Some very wet patches with Soft Rush (<i>Juncus effusus</i>) occur. A series of lowland bogs north of Mount Leinster and around Black Rock Mountain have recently been identified which have considerable local importance. These occur around Ballycrystal, south-west of Black Rock Mountain, where the highest feeders of the Urrin River rise, and around Crann on the north of the Black Rock ridge, where feeders of the Clody River rise just south of the Wexford/Carlow border. In these bogs considerable populations of Cranberry (<i>Vaccinium oxycoccos</i>) occur. The Crann bogs also have abundant Bog-myrtle (<i>Myrica gale</i>), uncommon in the county. Other species of interest that occur in the Urrin and Clody bogs include Marsh St. John's-wort (<i>Hypericum elodes</i>), Pale Butterwort (<i>Pinguicula lusitanica</i>) and Lesser Skullcap (<i>Scutellaria minor</i>). The Crann bogs include quite extensive stands of Purple Moor-grass, and Water Horsetail (<i>Equisetum fluviatile</i>) is widespread. The bogs are reduced to fragments bordering improved grassland or forestry. Mount Leinster is the highest mountain of the range (795 m). On the east side of the summit a few plants with arctic or alpine affinities occur such as the scarce Starry Saxifrage (<i>Saxifraga stellaris</i>) and the Stag's-horn Clubmoss (<i>Lycopodium clavatum</i>). The headwaters of the Urrin River are included within the site. Habitats along it include patches of deciduous woodland dominated by Downy Birch (<i>Betula pubescens</i>). Further south the woodland becomes denser and consists of Alder (<i>Alnus glutinosa</i>), willows (<i>Salix</i> spp.), Hazel (<i>Corylus avellana</i>) and Holly (<i>Ilex aquifolium</i>). The woodland in the south of the area is comprised of Sessile Oak (<i>Quercus petraea</i>). There are also patches of peaty marsh, with species similar to those listed for the lowland bog. The scarce species Ivy-leaved Bellflower (<i>Wahlenbergia hederacea</i>) and Mountain Fern (<i>Thelypteris limbosperma</i>) occur along the Urrin River, while Cowberry (<i>Vaccinium vitis-idaea</i>), also a scarce species, is found in heath in a number of areas of the site. Small Cudweed (<i>Logfia minima</i>), a Red Data Book species that is protected under the Flora (Protection) Order, 1999, has been recorded in heathy grassland on the site. The rare, Red Data Book species Bird's-foot (<i>Ornithopus perpusillus</i>) is found in dry, sandy places at Knockroe in Co. Carlow. Small numbers of Red Grouse use the site – their numbers have declined here in recent years. Land use within the site is centred on grazing. Overall, sheep numbers are low, though there are some pockets where high numbers are found. In these areas there are patches of bare ground, an abundance of Mat-grass and in some places upland grassland replaces the heath. Burning of the Heather is carried out on what appears to be a rotational basis. Heather is regenerating in the burnt areas. From a distance the age structure is evident in the different hues of brown to be seen. Cattle are outwintered on the slopes just inside the boundary of the commonage. Severe poaching is associated with this, especially where supplementary feeding is carried out.</p>

CONSTRAINTS AND OPPORTUNITIES REPORT

Qualifying Interest	Comment
	<p>Coniferous forestry is present over much of the slopes of the mountain (outside of the site), extending to a height of 640 m north of Mount Leinster.</p> <p>The Blackstairs Mountains SAC is the only example of moorland above 300 m in Counties Wexford and Carlow. It includes good examples of dry heath, a habitat listed on Annex I of the E.U. Habitats Directive. The plant and animal communities are typical of upland habitats, and the growth of Heather is particularly profuse, rivalling some of the larger areas of Heather cover in Co. Wicklow. The presence of rare and scarce species adds significantly to the conservation value of the site.⁵</p>

⁵ Source: NPWS (2013) Blackstairs Mountains SAC Site Synopsis. Available at: [SITE SYNOPSIS](#)

CONSTRAINTS AND OPPORTUNITIES REPORT

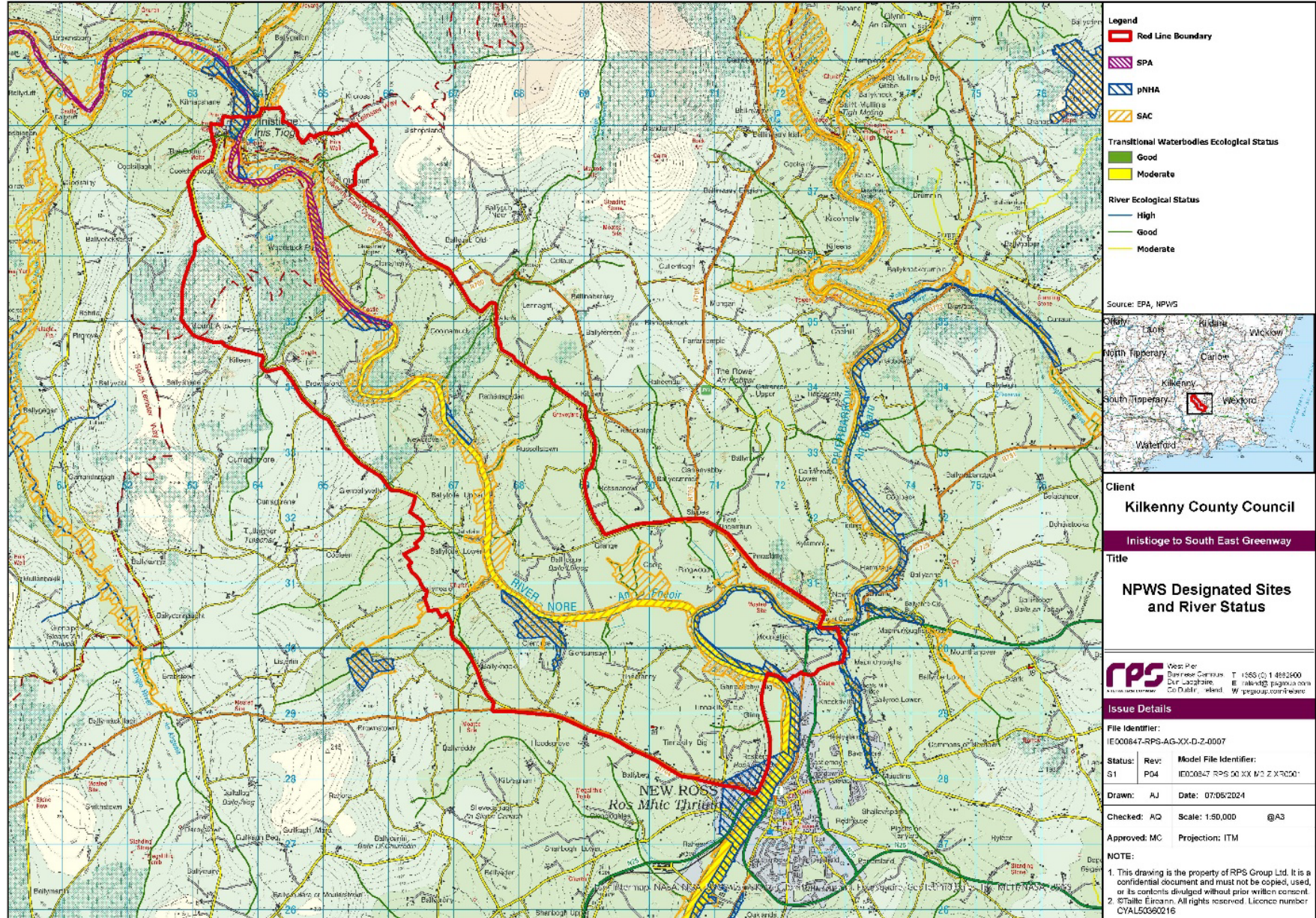


Figure 3-2: European and National Designated Sites within the Study Area

CONSTRAINTS AND OPPORTUNITIES REPORT

3.2.2.2 National Designated Sites

Natural Heritage Areas (NHAs) are sites that support elements of our natural heritage which are unique or they are of outstanding importance at the national level. Any development in, near or adversely affecting an NHA should avoid any significant adverse impact on the features for which the site has been designated. There are currently zero NHAs in County Wexford and one NHA in County Kilkenny. There are many more proposed NHAs (pNHA) in County Wexford and County Kilkenny which will be designated on a phased basis at a later date. There was no NHAs identified within the Zone of Influence (Zol) of the Study Area, however, seven pNHAs were identified within the Zol and assessed as having potential to be negatively affected (pathway shared by being located within the Study Area, i.e sharing hydrological or hydrogeological pathway) (See **Table 3.4**).

Table 3.4: Site Synopsis off the pNHAs within the Zol of the Study Area

pNHA Name	Pathway Identified	Site Synopsis
Barrow River Estuary	Physical overlap	Site synopsis is unavailable for these pNHAs.
Duncannon Sandhills	Hydrological connection	
Pollmounty River Valley	Hydrogeological connection	
Inistioge	Physical overlap	Site synopsis is unavailable for these pNHAs.
Kylecorragh Wood	Physical overlap	
Rathsnagadan Wood	Physical overlap	
Waterford Harbour	Hydrological connection	

3.2.2.3 Invasive Alien Species

A number of different Third Schedule invasive alien species were identified from the various databases queried for grid squares S54 and S63 (See **Table 3.5**).

Table 3.5: Invasive Alien Species Records within the Various Database Searches for Grid Squares

Common Name	Scientific Name	Grid Square	Data Source	Year of Last Record	Status*
American Mink	<i>Mustela vison</i>	S54, S63	Road Kill Survey & Atlas of Mammals in Ireland 2010-2015	2014	SI 477 of 2011 High Impact
Brown Rat	<i>Rattus norvegicus</i>	S54, S63	Mammals of Ireland 2016-2025	2017	SI 477 of 2011 High Impact
Canadian Waterweed	<i>Elodea canadensis</i>	S54	BSBI	1999	SI 477 of 2011 High Impact
Dace	<i>Leuciscus leuciscus</i>	S54, S63	National Invasive Species Database	2008	SI 477 of 2011 Medium Impact
Eastern Grey Squirrel	<i>Sciurus carolinensis</i>	S54	Mammals of Ireland 2016-2025 & Atlas of Mammals in Ireland 2010-2015	2017	SI 477 of 2011 High Impact
Giant Hogweed	<i>Heracleum mantegazzianum</i>	S54, S63	Vascular plants: Online Atlas of Vascular Plants 2012 Onwards	2023	SI 477 of 2011 High Impact

CONSTRAINTS AND OPPORTUNITIES REPORT

Common Name	Scientific Name	Grid Square	Data Source	Year of Last Record	Status*
Giant-rhubarb	<i>Gunnera tinctoria</i>	S63	BSBI	2015	SI 477 of 2011 High Impact
Golden clam	<i>Corbicula fluminea</i>	S63	National Invasive Species Database	2010	SI 477 of 2011 High Impact
Harlequin Ladybird	<i>Harmonia axyridis</i>	S63	Ladybirds of Ireland	2023	SI 477 of 2011 High Impact
Himalayan Honeysuckle	<i>Leycesteria formosa</i>	S63	Vascular plants: Online Atlas of Vascular Plants 2012 Onwards	2024	SI 477 of 2011 Medium Impact
Himalayan Knotweed	<i>Persicaria wallichii</i>	S63	Vascular plants: Online Atlas of Vascular Plants 2012 Onwards	2012	SI 477 of 2011 Medium Impact
Indian Balsam	<i>Impatiens glandulifera</i>	S54, S63	National Invasive Species Database	2024	SI 477 of 2011 High Impact
Japanese Knotweed	<i>Fallopia japonica</i>	S54, S63	Vascular plants: Online Atlas of Vascular Plants 2012 Onwards	2023	SI 477 of 2011 High Impact
Rhododendron	<i>Rhododendron ponticum</i>	S63	Vascular plants: Online Atlas of Vascular Plants 2012 Onwards	2022	SI 477 of 2011 High Impact
Spanish Bluebell	<i>Hyacinthoides hispanica</i>	S54	Vascular plants: Online Atlas of Vascular Plants 2012 Onwards	2015	SI 477 of 2011 Impact Status not provided
Three-cornered Garlic	<i>Allium triquetrum</i>	S54, S63	Vascular plants: Online Atlas of Vascular Plants 2012 Onwards	2022	SI 477 of 2011 Medium Impact

*Impact (High, Medium) status based on Kelly *et al.* (2013); SI 477 refers to the Third Schedule of Irish Statutory Instrument S.I. No. 477 of 2011 (European Union (Birds and Natural Habitats) Regulations 2011). Note: this SI has been amended by S.I. No. 293 of 2021. Under this legislation it is an offence to plant, disperse, allow or cause to disperse, spread or otherwise cause to grow any plant listed under the Third Schedule of this legislation.

3.2.2.4 The Habitats Directive

Article 6(3) of the Habitats Directive requires that–

“Any plan or project not directly connected with or necessary to the management of the site but likely to have a 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.”

Thus, Article 6(3) provides a two-stage process:

- The first stage involves a screening for appropriate assessment; and

CONSTRAINTS AND OPPORTUNITIES REPORT

- The second stage arises where, having screened the Proposed Scheme, the competent authority determines that an appropriate assessment is required, in which case it must then carry out that appropriate assessment.

Appropriate Assessment Guidelines for Planning Authorities have been published by the Department of the Environment, Heritage and Local Government (DEHLG, 2009). In addition to the advice available from the Department, the European Commission has published a number of documents which provide a significant body of guidance on the requirements of Appropriate Assessment, most notably including, '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' (EC, 2021), which sets out the principles of how to approach decision making during the process.

These principal national and European guidelines have been followed in the preparation of this Report. The following list identifies these and other pertinent guidance documents:

- Communication from the Commission on the Precautionary Principle., Office for Official Publications of the European Communities, Luxembourg (EC, 2000);
- Estuaries and Coastal Zones within the Context of the Birds and Habitats Directives - Technical Supporting Document on their Dual Roles as Natura 2000 Sites and as Waterways and Locations for Ports. European Commission (EC, 2009);
- Appropriate Assessment of Plans and Projects in Ireland. Guidance for Planning Authorities. Department of the Environment, Heritage and Local Government, Dublin (DEHLG, 2009);
- Department of Environment Heritage and Local Government Circular NPW 1/10 and PSSP 2/10 on Appropriate Assessment under Article 6 of the Habitats Directive – Guidance for Planning Authorities (DEHLG, 2010);
- Guidelines on the implementation of the birds and habitats directives in estuaries and coastal zones with particular attention to port development and dredging. European Commission (EC, 2012);
- European Commission Staff Working Document 'Integrating biodiversity and nature protection into port development (EC, 2011);
- Assessment of plans and projects significantly affecting Natura 2000 sites: Methodological guidance on the provisions of Articles 6(3) and (4) of the Habitats Directive 92/43/EEC. Office for Official Publications of the European Communities, Brussels (EC, 2021).
- Managing Natura 2000 sites: The Provisions of Article 6 of the 'Habitats' Directive 92/43/EEC'
-

3.2.2.5 Irish legislation

For the purposes of applications for planning permission, Part XAB of the Planning and Development Act 2000, and as amended ("the PDA"), implement the obligations under Article 6(3) into Irish law. In relation to other consent regimes, the provisions of the European Communities (Birds and Natural Habitats) Regulations 2011, as amended ("the 2011 Regulations"), transpose those obligations.

3.2.2.6 Screening for an Appropriate Assessment

Section 177V of the PDA requires inter alia that an appropriate assessment carried out by the competent authority shall include a determination under Article 6(3) of the Habitats Directive as to whether or not a Proposed Scheme would adversely affect the integrity of a European site and an appropriate assessment shall be carried out by the competent authority where it has made a determination under section 177U(4) that an appropriate assessment is required, before consent is given for the Proposed Scheme.

3.2.2.7 Stepwise procedure

According to European Commission guidance documents 'Assessment of plans and projects significantly affecting Natura 2000 sites' (EC, 2021) and the 'Managing Natura 2000 sites: The Provisions of Article 6 of the 'Habitats' Directive 92/43/EEC' (EC, 2019), the obligations arising under Article 6 establish a step-wise procedure for Habitats Regulations Appraisal as follows, and as illustrated in **Figure 3-3**.

CONSTRAINTS AND OPPORTUNITIES REPORT

The first part of this procedure consists of a pre-assessment stage ('screening') to determine whether, firstly, a plan or project is directly connected with or necessary to the management of the site, and secondly, whether it is likely to have a significant effect on the site either alone or in combination with other plans or projects; it is governed by the first sentence of Article 6(3).

The second part of the procedure, governed by the second sentence of Article 6(3), relates to the appropriate assessment and the decision of the competent national authorities.

A third part of the procedure (governed by Article 6(4)) comes into play if, despite a negative assessment, it is proposed not to reject a plan or project but to give it further consideration. In this case Article 6(4) allows for derogations from Article 6(3) under certain conditions.

The extent to which the sequential steps of Article 6(3) apply to a given plan or project depends on several factors, and in the sequence of steps, each step is influenced by the previous step. The order in which the steps are followed is therefore essential for the correct application of Article 6(3).

Each step determines whether a further step in the process is required. If, for example, the conclusion at the end of a Stage 1 screening appraisal is that significant effects on European sites can be excluded, there is no requirement to proceed to the next step.

CONSTRAINTS AND OPPORTUNITIES REPORT

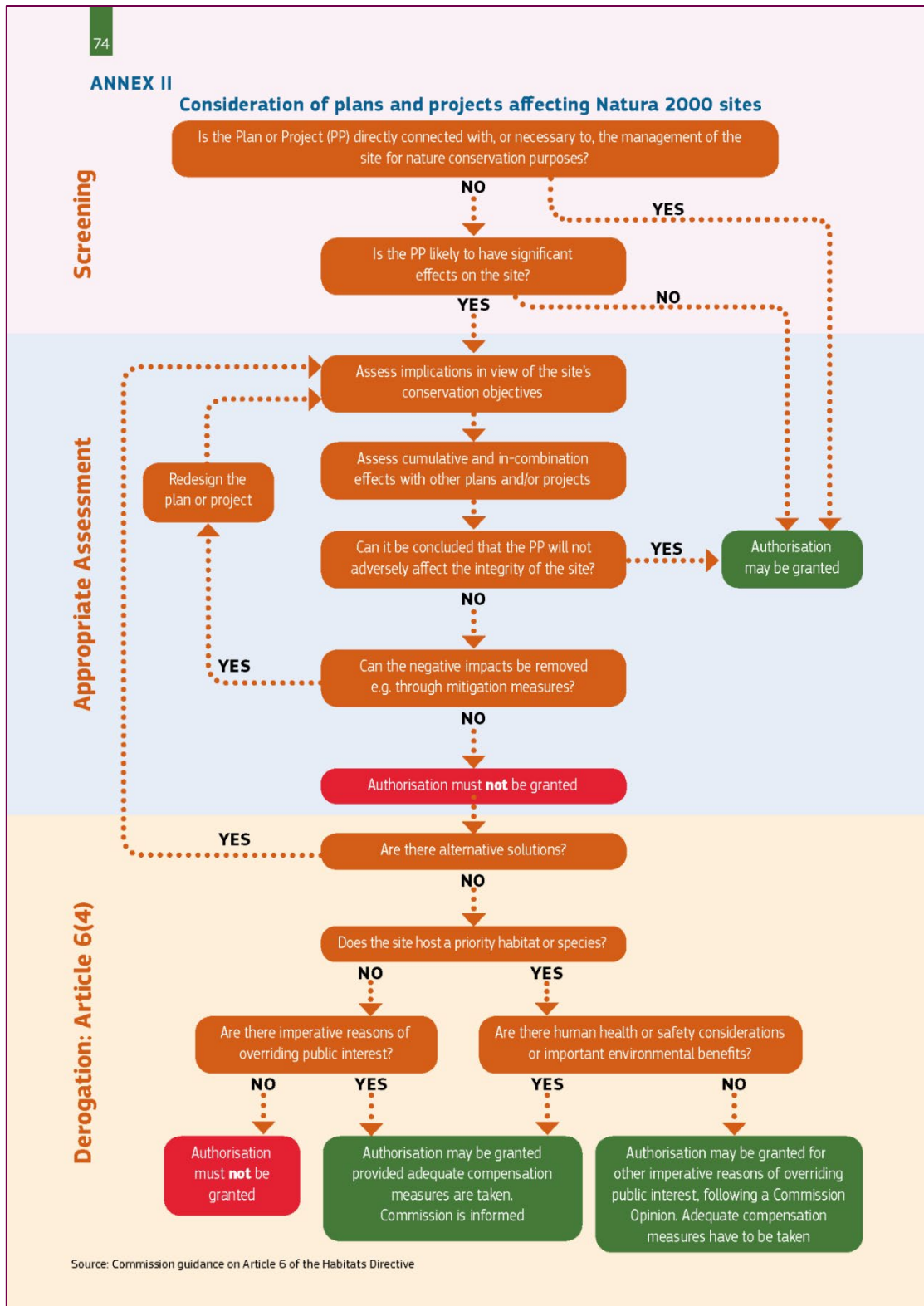


Figure 3-3: Stepwise procedure of Article 6 of the Habitats Directive

This methodology will be employed in the assessment of the preferred alignment for the Proposed Scheme.

CONSTRAINTS AND OPPORTUNITIES REPORT

3.2.3 Identified Constraints

There will be potential pathways between the River Nore SPA, River Barrow and River Nore SAC as they are all contiguous and partially within the Study Area. Furthermore, the Blackstairs Mountains SAC shares the New Ross Groundwater Body (EU Code: IE_SE_G_152) which is also partially within the Study Area.

The Annex I habitats acting as Qualifying Interests for the Blackstairs Mountains SAC are not water dependant and so it is highly unlikely that the Proposed Scheme will result in a negative impact on this European Site. There is potential for negative effects to occur to the River Nore SPA and River Barrow and River Nore SACs as a result of the Proposed Scheme. To avoid significant effects to the River Barrow and River Nore SACs, the following should be followed.

3.2.3.1 River Barrow and River Nore SAC [002162]

- Works should be set back from the SAC as much as possible.
- Adhere to the conservation objectives of the River Barrow and Nore SAC 002162⁶
- Ensure the river can interact with its flood plain.
- Ensure strict biosecurity measures are adhered to, to ensure invasive alien plant species do not spread and proliferate across the SAC.
- Avoid excavation as much as practicable to not negatively affect the petrifying springs with Tufa.
- Avoid interaction with QI species and habitats.

The following includes the likely surveys recommended to be completed:

Potential Terrestrial Surveys⁷

- Detailed habitat survey (Preliminary habitat, detailed habitat survey including Annex I and Flora (Protection) Order (FPO))
- Species surveys (otter, Desmoulin's whorl snail, Killarney fern, Bats)
- Breeding bird surveys (including species specific for Kingfisher)
- Invasive alien plant species surveys

Potential Aquatic Species⁷

- Species Surveys (freshwater pearl mussel, white-clawed crayfish, fish species, Smooth Newt, Common Lizard)
- Fisheries habitat assessment
- River Hydromorphology Assessment Technique (RHAT)
- Biological water quality assessment

Moreover, to collate a robust baseline dataset, surveying periods are restricted seasonally. It will be important to identify surveys at an early stage, otherwise, there is potential for delays to occur to programme and delivery of the Proposed Scheme.

3.2.3.2 River Nore SPA [004233]

To avoid negative effects to the River Nore SPA, the following should be implemented:

⁶ - https://www.npws.ie/sites/default/files/protected-sites/conservation_objectives/CO002162.pdf

⁷ TBD based on the development of the baseline of the Proposed Scheme. Additional surveys may be required as the impact assessment develops.

CONSTRAINTS AND OPPORTUNITIES REPORT

- Undertake targeted species-specific surveys of the Kingfisher.
- Adhere to the conservation objectives of the River Nore SPA 004233⁸
- Avoid interactions which would impact on the Kingfisher species.
- Adhere to all water protection measures.

3.2.3.3 Proposed Natural Heritage Areas

It was identified there is a total of seven pNHAs within the Study Areas Zol. As discussed in **Section 3.2.2**, pNHAs are important and so the Proposed Scheme should ensure that there are no significant impacts to occur to these sites. The following steps should be taken to avoid negative impacts occur, including:

- Create appropriate setbacks from the respective pNHAs as much as practicable.
- Avoid interaction with designated habitats.
- Ensure strict biosecurity measures are adhered to, to ensure invasive alien plant species do not spread and proliferate to the pNHAs downstream or adjacent to the proposed works.
- Avoid instream works within or upstream from a pNHA, however, where this not possible, such works should be limited and appropriate measures implemented to minimise impacts. Adhere to all water protection mitigation and/or standard water protection measures.

3.2.3.4 Additional Considerations

From a desktop review of the aerial view of the Study Area, it was identified that there are patches of riparian woodlands adjacent to the River Nore. This would be suitable for supporting populations of bat species. It is recommended that the following surveys should be completed to inform the design and environmental assessment of the Proposed Scheme, including:

- Bat activity (Transect- and/or static detector-based surveys) should be conducted during the option selection stage.
- Preliminary tree roost assessment is recommended during the environmental evaluation stage (once the project description has been identified).
- Roost confirmation surveys (trees and structures). Possible combination of tree climbing and/or emergence/ re-entry surveys to be completed at the environmental evaluation stage.

3.2.4 Identified Opportunities

The following opportunities were identified for Biodiversity:

- There are a number of existing structures for water crossings. The design team should identify these crossings and utilise them, where possible. This will minimise, and possibly avoid, potential environmental impacts on these water courses.
- There is an opportunity to plant native tree species along the route of the Proposed Scheme. This will potentially improve the habitat connectivity and integrity.

3.3 Lands, Geology & Soils

3.3.1 Introduction

This Section provides an overview of the land cover and baseline geological and hydrogeological conditions to identify any constraints which may influence the development or design of the Proposed Scheme. The online databases of the Geological Survey of Ireland (GSI) – <https://www.gsi.ie/en-ie/data-and-maps/Pages/default.aspx>, the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) - <https://gis.epa.ie/SeeMaps>,

⁸ https://www.npws.ie/sites/default/files/protected-sites/conservation_objectives/CO004233.pdf

CONSTRAINTS AND OPPORTUNITIES REPORT

Teagasc's Irish Soil Information System - <http://gis.teagasc.ie/soils/>, were consulted for information on the following:

- Soils and subsoils;
- Bedrock geology;
- Aquifer classification;
- Groundwater vulnerability;
- Groundwater well information;
- Corine dataset;
- Geoheritage sites;
- Water Framework Directive (WFD) data.

A detailed desktop assessment was undertaken to identify areas of constraint in relation to land, soils, geology and hydrogeology within the Study Area. The European Commission, in February 2012 published the Soil Thematic Strategy, which was a proposal for European Law for the protection of soil. In May 2014, the Commission withdrew the proposal for a Soil Framework Directive. Thus, other than geological heritage sites (which include proposed Geological Natural Heritage Areas and County Geological Sites and are identified in respective County Development Plans), geological features (soils and bedrock) in Ireland are not afforded legal protection.

There is a statutory requirement placed on local authorities to have due regard for conservation of geological heritage features such as under the following legislation:

- Planning and Development Act 2000, as amended;
- Planning and Development Regulations 2001, as amended; and
- Wildlife (Amendment) Act 2000 [enabling Natural Heritage Areas].

Since 2000, water management in the EU has been directed by the Water Framework Directive (WFD) 2000/60/EC, as amended. It requires that all member states implement the necessary measures to prevent a deterioration of all water status. These include surface, ground, estuarine and coastal waterbodies. The WFD aims to protect, enhance and restore all of these waters with the aim of achieving 'good status'. River Basin Management Plans (RBMPs) are required to be produced under the WFD. The first cycle RBMP covered the period 2009–2015. Due to delays in developing a second cycle, this second cycle covers the period 2018–2021. The Water Action Plan for 2022 to 2027 found that 91% of groundwater bodies are in good chemical and quantitative status.

The main Irish and EU protection for groundwater is established under the following legislation:

- European Communities Environmental Objectives (Groundwater) Regulations, 2010 (S.I. No. 9 of 2010) and
- Groundwater Directive (2006/1118/EC)

The following publicly available data sources were reviewed to obtain information on the land, soils, geology, hydrology and hydrogeology of the Study Area:

- Geological Survey of Ireland Spatial Viewer (<https://www.gsi.ie/en-ie/data-and-maps/Pages/default.aspx>);
- OPW, Flood Maps (<https://www.floodinfo.ie/map/floodmaps/>);
- Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) (<https://gis.epa.ie/EPAMaps/>);
- Teagasc (<http://gis.teagasc.ie/soils/>).

CONSTRAINTS AND OPPORTUNITIES REPORT

3.3.2 Existing Environment

3.3.2.1 Land Cover

The CORINE 2018 landcover map is shown in **Figure 3-4** and is dominated by pastures (CORINE 2018 Code 231). The remainder of the Study Area consists of patches of mixed forest (CORINE 2018 Code 313) predominantly to the north of the Study Area. There is a small patch of broad-leaved forests (CORINE 2018 Code 311) within the centre of the Study Area. There is several patches of non-irrigated arable land (CORINE 2018 Code 211) within the centre and south of the Study Area. Moreover, there is small patches of complex cultivation patterns (CORINE 2018 Code 242) along the east of the Study Area. A section of coniferous forest (CORINE 2018 Code 312) was identified to the northwest section of the Study Area. A small patch of inland marsh (CORINE 2018 Code 411) was identified along the southern boundary of the Study Area.

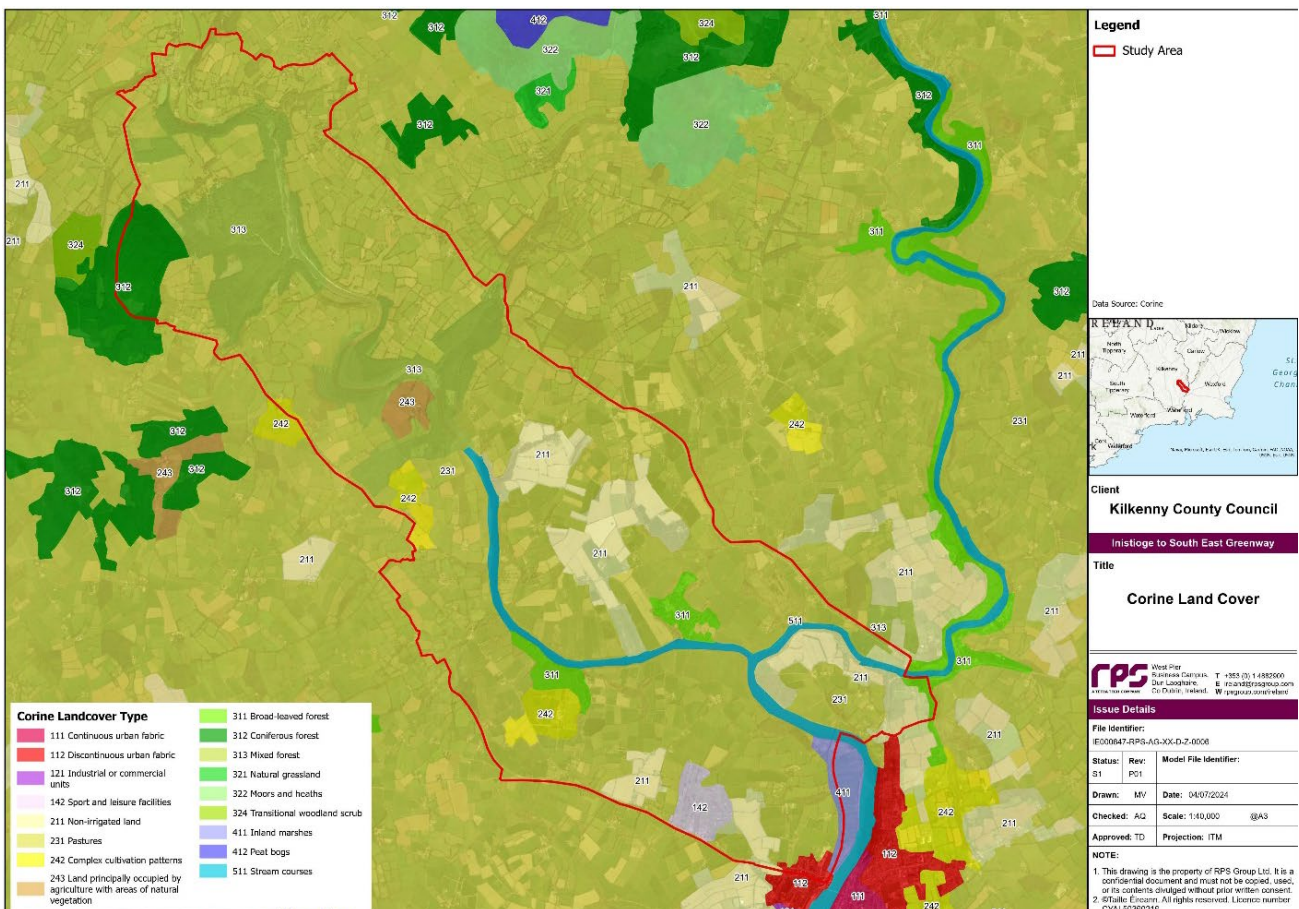


Figure 3-4: Corine 2018 Land Cover

The Corine land cover database for Ireland has been updated for the reference year 2018. The CORINE 2018 25 ha landcover dataset is one of three deliverables of the CORINE 2018 project. The main objective of the project was the detection, identification and mapping of all land cover status above 25 ha. Satellite image from April 2017 to March 2018 served as the basis for image interpretation. The Irish CORINE 2018 project follows on from the semi-automated production methodology which was designed during the CORINE 2012 project. This approach uses national in-situ geo-spatial information on agriculture, forestry and water bodies from the Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine (DAFM), the Forest Service, Coillte and the EPA. These data sources were used alongside remote sensing-based interpretation of satellite imagery (Sentinel 2, Landsat, SPOT and IRS) to identify landcover status and landcover change.

CONSTRAINTS AND OPPORTUNITIES REPORT

3.3.2.2 Soils and Subsoils

Quaternary Sediments, soils and subsoil mapping within the Study Area are illustrated in **Figure 3-5**, **Figure 3-6** and **Figure 3-7**.

The dominant soil type throughout the Study Area is (AminDW) deep well drained mineral (mainly acidic). The southern section of the Study Area either side of the River Nore and River Barrow has a large concentration of (A) alluvium soil. Other soils within the Study Area include (AminSW) shallow well drained mineral (mainly acidic).

CONSTRAINTS AND OPPORTUNITIES REPORT

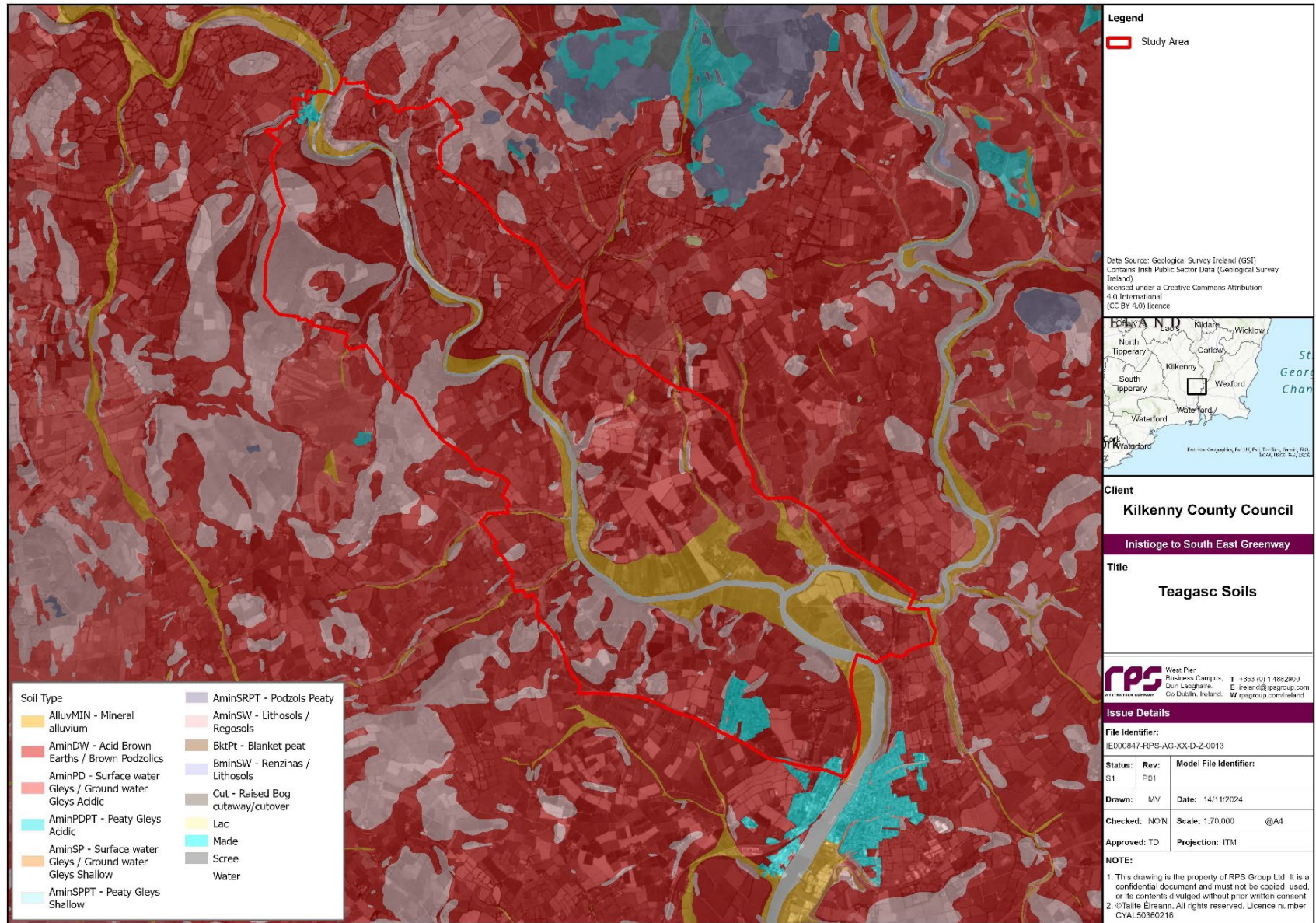


Figure 3-5: Soils within the Study Area

CONSTRAINTS AND OPPORTUNITIES REPORT

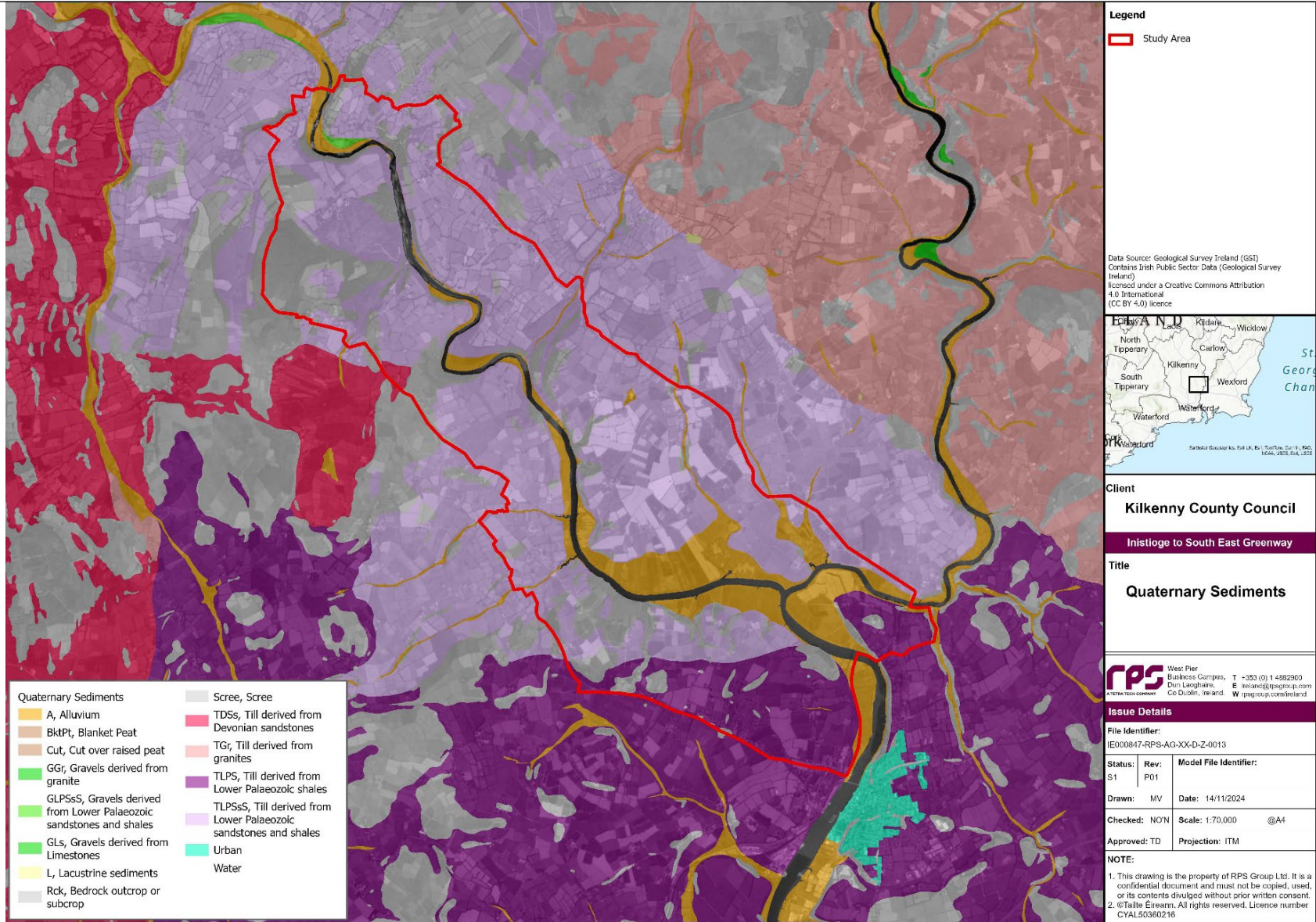


Figure 3-6: Quaternary Sediments within the Study Area

CONSTRAINTS AND OPPORTUNITIES REPORT

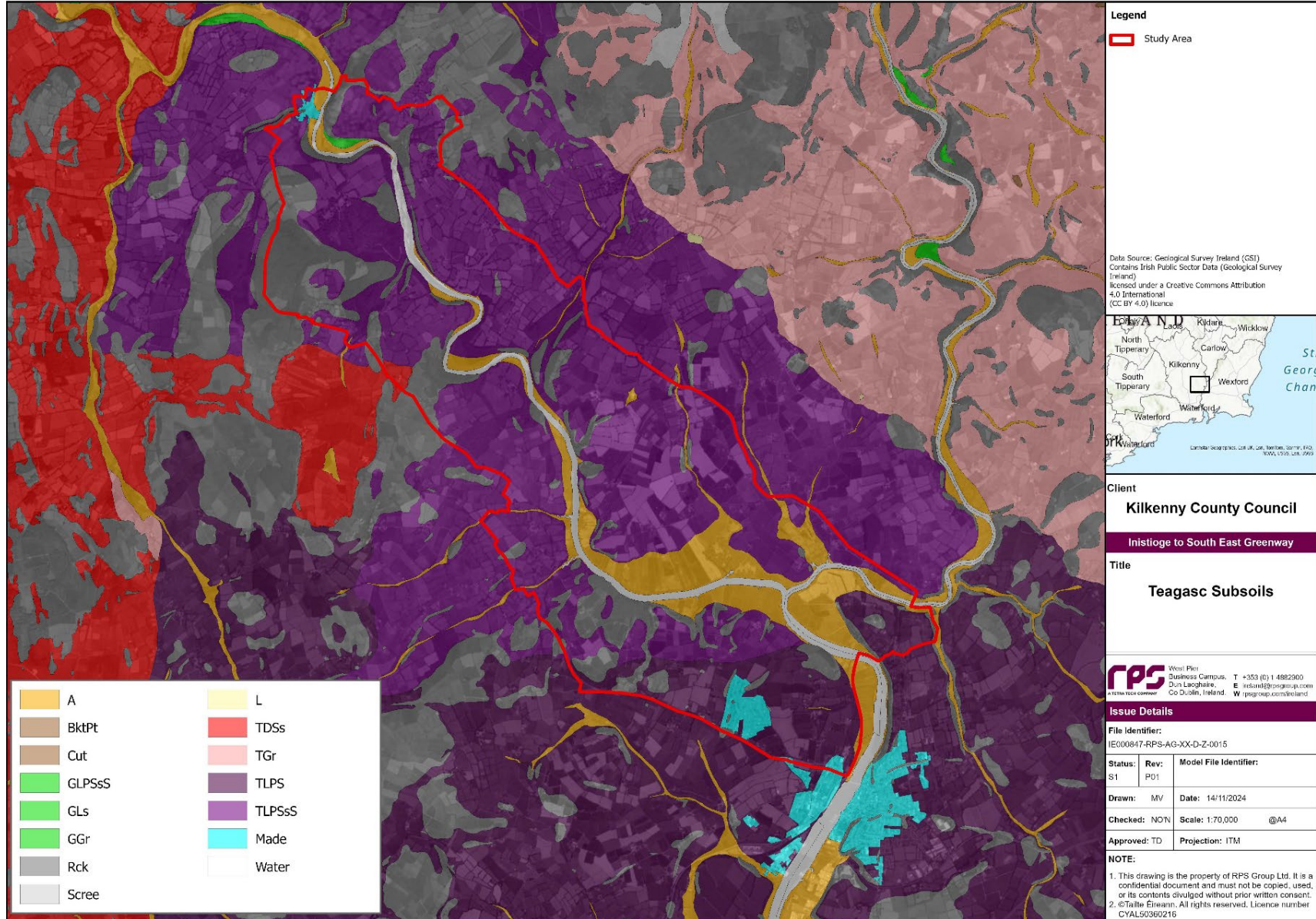


Figure 3-7: Teagasc Subsoils Map within the Study Area

CONSTRAINTS AND OPPORTUNITIES REPORT

The Teagasc Subsoils map classifies the subsoils of Ireland into 16 themes, using digital stereo photogrammetry supported by field work, and is produced by Teagasc (Kinsealy), EPA and GSI.

A national dataset of subsoils was required to assist in implementing the WFD River Basin Management Plans. It describes and maps subsoils in the Republic of Ireland based on the GSI Quaternary sediment types. Till (Sandstone and shale till (Lower Palaeozoic)) is the dominant subsoil type which overlays the centre of the Study Area. Other subsoils within the Study Area include bedrock at surface and alluvium undifferentiated. The alluvium subsoil is derived from the post glacial sand and gravel deposits.

3.3.2.3 Bedrock Geology

The bedrock geology within the Study Area is shown in **Figure 3-8**. The dominant bedrock types in the Study Area are Lower-Middle Ordovician slate, sandstone, greywacke and conglomerate. There was also a patch of Ordovician volcanic rock along the western section of the Study Area. Siluro-Devonian granitic rocks & appinite was identified along the northwestern section of the Study Area. A small patch of Siluro-Devonian granitic rocks & appinite traverses through the northeastern section of the Study Area. This section is not discussed in detail as the bedrock is not a constraint for this Proposed Scheme.

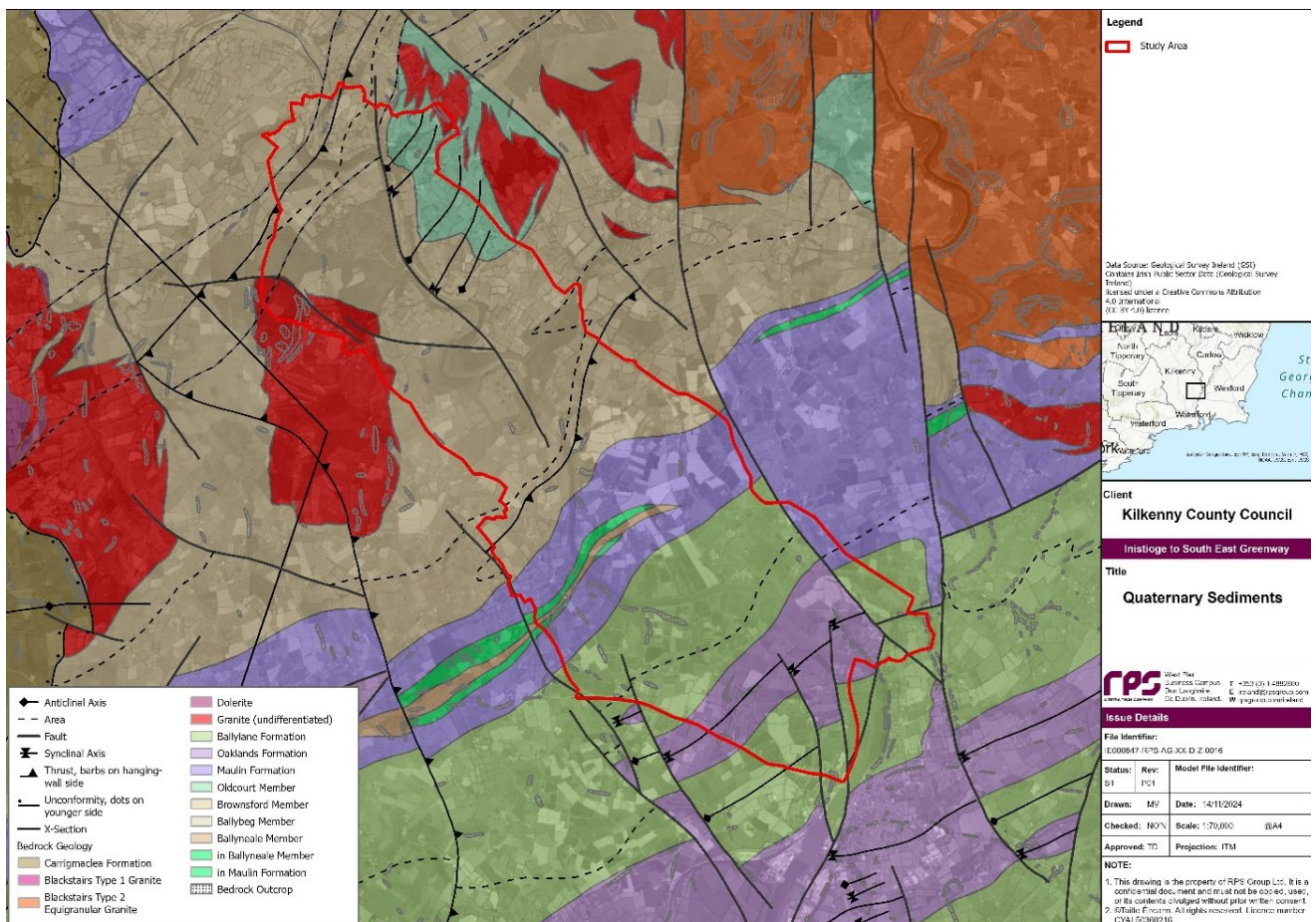


Figure 3-8: Bedrock Geology within the Study Area

3.3.2.4 Hydrogeology

There are two primary aquifers within the Study Area, as shown in **Figure 3-14**. The majority of the Study Area is underlain with a locally important aquifer-bedrock, which is moderately productive only in local zones, poor aquifers with bedrock, which is moderately productive only in local zones, and locally important aquifer with bedrock, which is moderately productive only in local zones. There are aquifer geological lines

CONSTRAINTS AND OPPORTUNITIES REPORT

traversing the Study Area, predominantly along the northern half (See **Figure 3-14**). According to the OPW flood map viewer⁹, there is no groundwater flood risk associated with the Study Area.

3.3.2.5 Groundwater Risk

The two groundwater bodies within the Study Area, (Inistioge (IE_SE_G_076) and New Ross (IE_SE_G_152)) are both assessed as 'Not at Risk'.¹⁰

3.3.2.6 Landfills & Licensed Facilities

There are no landfill sites located within the Study Area. The closest licensed waste facility is the CHI Environmental Limited (W0260) which is located approximately 18 km southwest of the Study Area. This waste facility is located adjacent to the N25 and it is an EPA Licensed site. It was identified that there is a historic waste facility located to the northeast of the Study Area (east of Inistioge). Moreover, there is an urban waste water treatment plant located in the north of the Study Area (within Inistioge). Green Biofuels Ireland Limited (P0829) is the closest EPA licensed facility (IE), which is located approximately 2 km south of the Study Area (south of New Ross Town).

The location of these waste facilities within or adjacent to the Study Area has been illustrated in **Figure 3-9**.

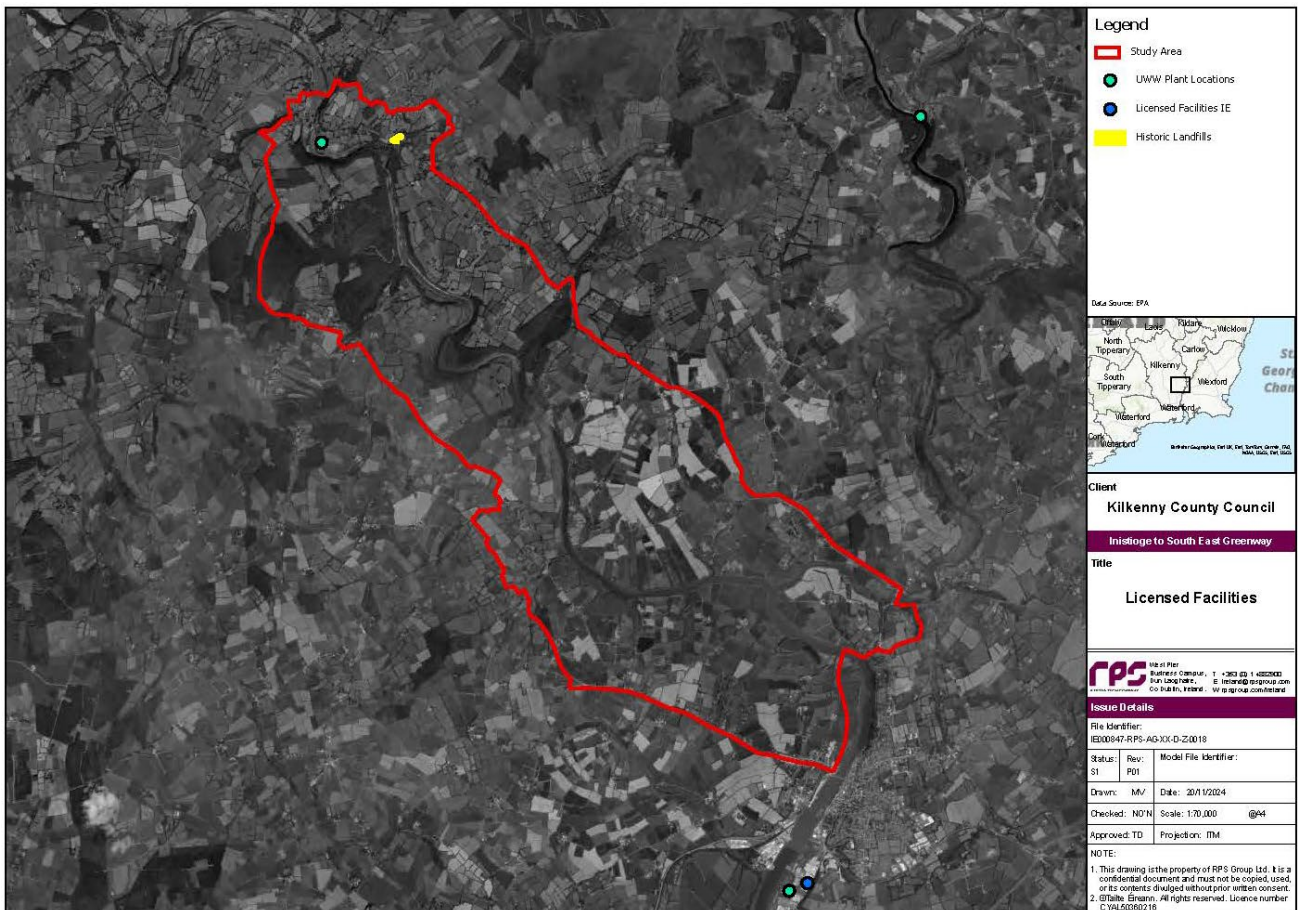


Figure 3-9: Waste Facilities within and Adjacent to the Study Area

⁹ OPW (2024) Flood Maps. Available at: [Flood Maps - Floodinfo.ie](https://www.floodinfo.ie/). Accessed at: 19/11/2024

¹⁰ EPA (2024) EPA Maps. Available at: <https://gis.epa.ie/EPAMaps/>. Accessed at 17/11/2024.

CONSTRAINTS AND OPPORTUNITIES REPORT

3.3.2.7 Geological Heritage

The Geological Survey of Ireland (GSI) and the Irish Geological Heritage programme (IGH) are in partnership with the NPWS of the Department of Tourism, Culture, Arts, Gaeltacht, Sport and Media to identify and select important geological and geomorphological sites throughout the country for designation as Natural Heritage Areas (NHAs). The GSI has identified some of these areas as County Geological Sites (CGS-surveyed and audited or unaudited sites of national or local geological importance) as part of their Irish Geological Heritage Programme and this data is available to view on the GSI's online spatial resources viewer. Although CGSs may not be protected under statutory conditions, they are noted as the most significant sites which will be recommended for designation as NHAs in the future.

Within the Study Area, there one CGS identified. The CGS within the Study Area is called Inistioge (KK006) and is a glacial meltwater channel with localised exposures of schist. The location of this CGS is illustrated in **Figure 3-10**.

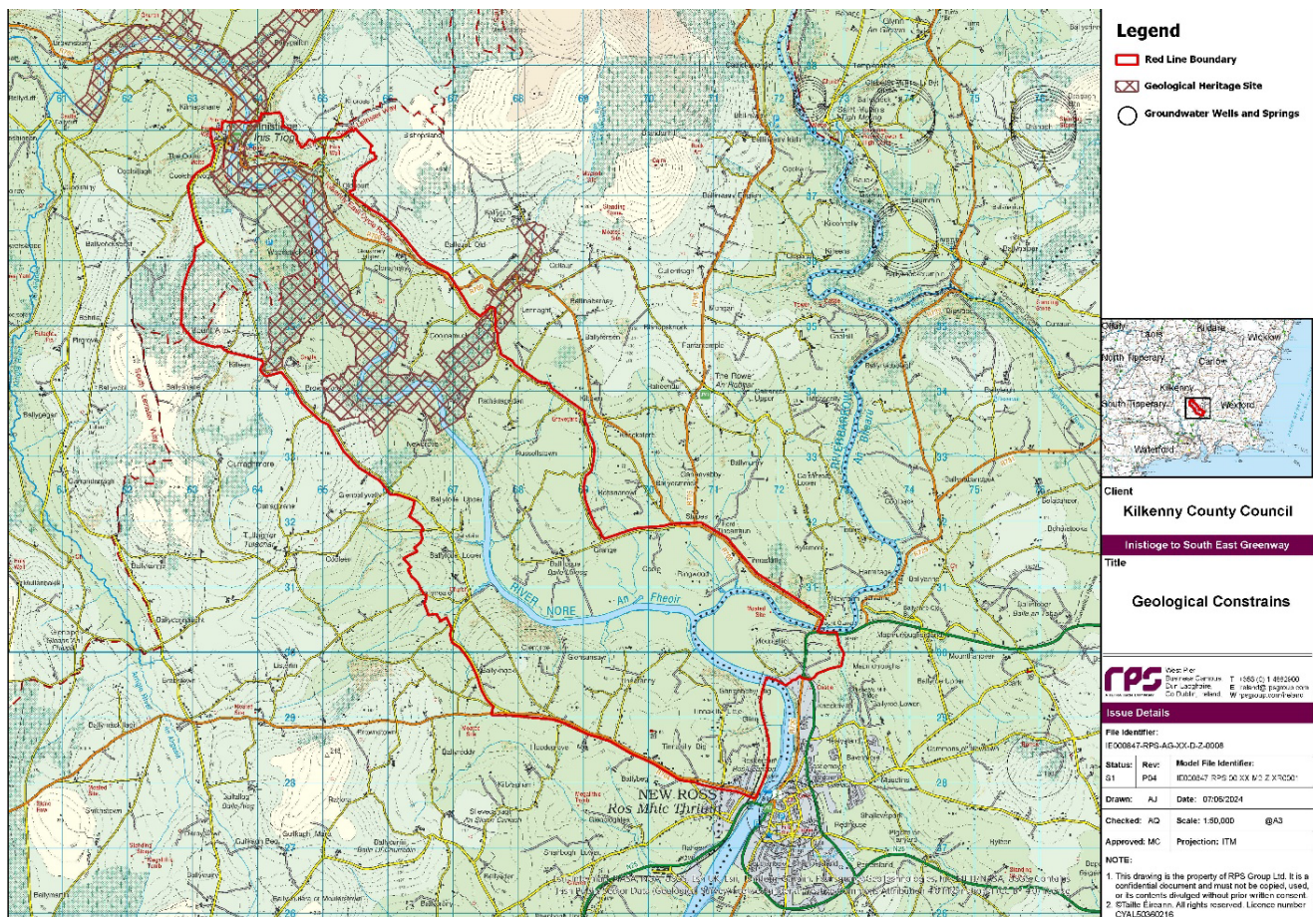


Figure 3-10: County Geological Site within the Study Area

3.3.2.8 Geohazards

Geohazards are natural earth processes that pose a risk to human life. They can range from geological hazards such as landslides, bog-bursts, coastal erosion and subsidence to hydrometeorological hazards like floods and high tides. Soft ground areas are also considered to be geo-hazards. Such hazards are identified as part of this constraints assessment and will be considered throughout each stage of the scheme development. There are no karst features identified within or adjacent to the Study Area.

3.3.2.9 Landslides

The GSI has been compiling national data on landslides in the past decade, although there were no events recorded within the Study Area. The majority of the Study Area is characterised by 'Low' landslide susceptibility. There are pockets of 'High' landslide susceptibility adjacent to the east and west bank of the

CONSTRAINTS AND OPPORTUNITIES REPORT

River Nore. The western section of the Study Area has a heavy concentration of ‘Moderately Low’ and ‘Moderately High’ pockets of landslide susceptibility. There is a lower concentration of ‘Moderately Low’ and ‘Moderately High’ pockets of landslide susceptibility along the eastern section of the Study Area. See **Figure 3-11**.

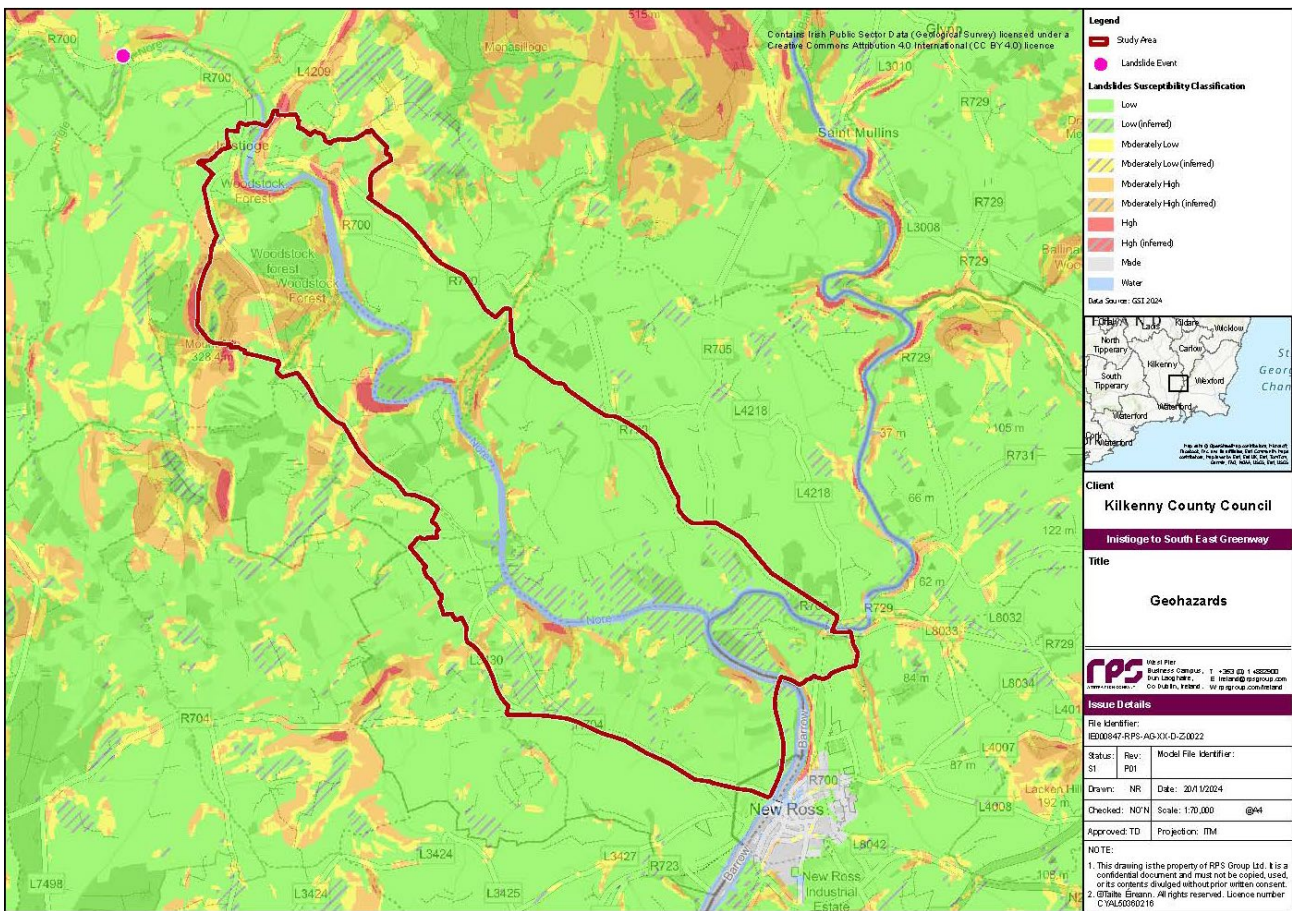


Figure 3-11: Landslide Susceptibility within the Study Area

3.3.2.10 Radiation

Radioactive minerals and gases at higher concentrations can be carcinogenic. Radon can seep into homes and workplaces and can be carried in water supplies. The Study Area is predominantly located where approximately 1 in 10 homes are likely to have high radon. On the periphery of the Study Area, there is a higher risk of 1 in 5 homes having risk of having high radon. A map showing the areas predicted to be at particular risk from radon in Ireland, called High Radon Areas, can be seen below in **Figure 3-12**.

CONSTRAINTS AND OPPORTUNITIES REPORT

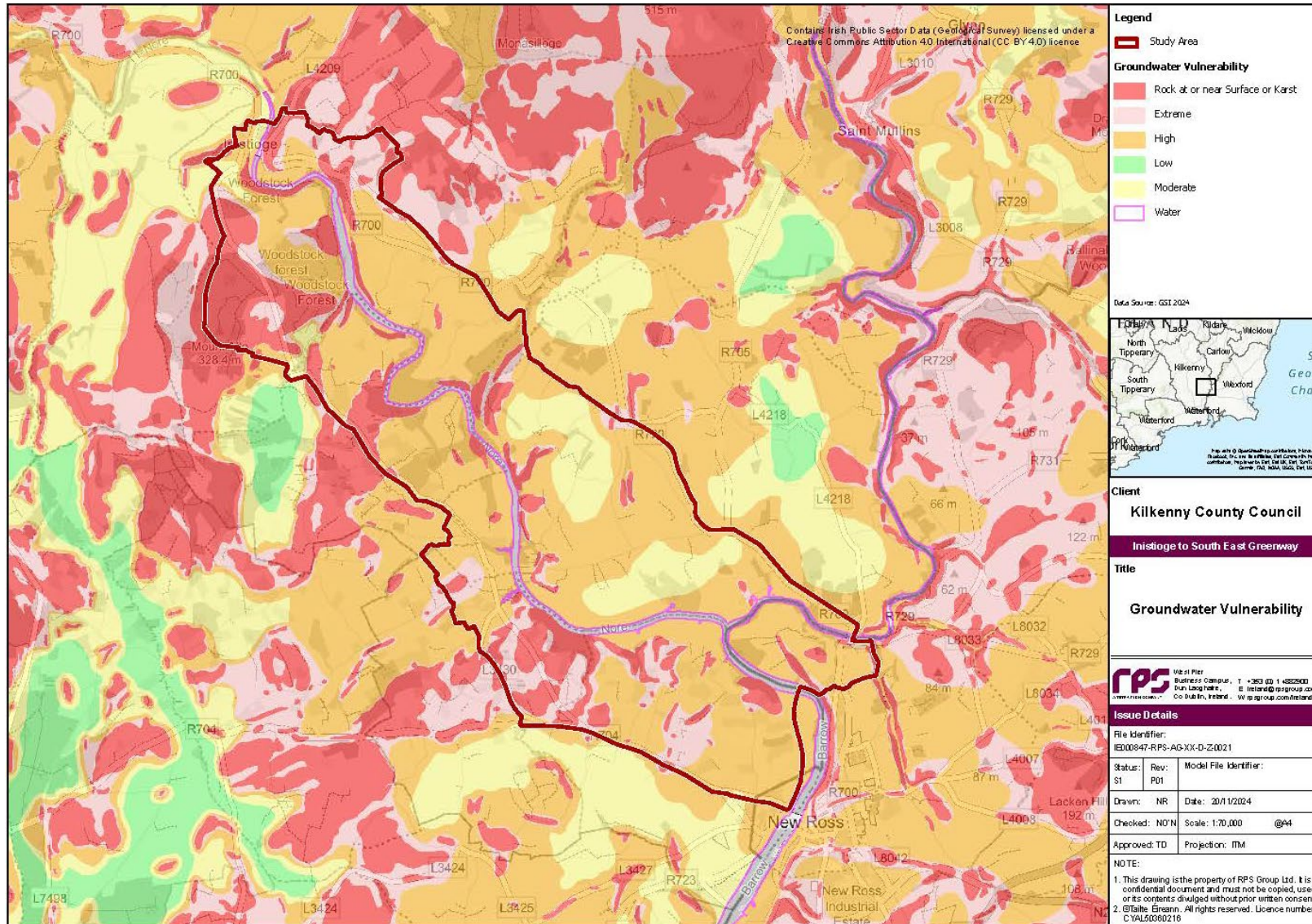


Figure 3-13: Groundwater Vulnerability within the Study Area

CONSTRAINTS AND OPPORTUNITIES REPORT



Figure 3-14: Groundwater Resources within the Study Area

CONSTRAINTS AND OPPORTUNITIES REPORT

3.3.3 Identified Constraints

The CORINE 2018 landcover indicates the dominant land use type is pasture with a significant area of alluvial soils. The remainder of landcover for the Study Area consists of mixed forests, broad leaved forests and irrigated arable land. During the design stage, efforts should be made to avoid lands occupied by agriculture due to the sensitivity associated with land take.

Within the Study Area there is one identified County Geological Site (CGS). Inistioge (KK006) CGS is located along the northern half of the Study Area. Some thought will need to be given in the Proposed Scheme design to ensure this site is avoided if possible or the effect is minimised

Construction associated with soft and made ground soil types will require adherence to best practice and construction standards to avoid any potential negative impacts. Interaction with potential (unknown) contaminated ground must also be considered as part of the scheme. The Study Area contains Alluvial soil, which would be a soft soil, running along either side of the River Nore and Barrow.

The majority of the Study Area is dominated by Locally Important Aquifer with bedrock which is moderately productive only in local zones.

There is a historic landfill located in the northern section of the Study Area which has the potential to result in contaminated soils. Careful consideration will need to be provided to either avoid development in close proximity to the historical landfill or where avoidance is not possible soil sampling should be conducted to determine whether there is contamination.

Cognisance must be given to the constraints posed by the presence of the high to extreme groundwater vulnerability areas in conjunction with the wells and springs identified in close proximity to the Study Area, which will require further assessments. Due consideration is to be given to any design and option selection process to avoid any negative adverse impacts to these receptors.

3.3.4 Identified Opportunities

The below opportunity was identified for Lands, Geology and Soil:

- The Study Area displays a number of Nye channels (subglacial water channels) that are a good example of geomorphological features produced by glacial meltwaters. These channels represent a window into Ireland's past, when areas like the Study Area were extensively covered by glacial ice sheets. There is an opportunity that these sites may be made known to users of the Proposed Scheme.

3.4 Water

3.4.1 Introduction

This Section identifies the key constraints within the Study Area relating to water resources, including hydrology and drainage. This Section should be read in conjunction with the assessments presented within the Biodiversity, Lands, Geology, and Soils sections of this Report.

The hydrological and drainage features of the Study Area were determined by consulting the following data sources:

- OS survey vector, six inch and 'discovery' series mapping; Aerial photography;
- The Office of Public Works (<https://www.floodinfo.ie/>);
- Water Framework Directive (WFD) national website and Water Maps viewer; (<https://gis.epa.ie/EPAMaps/Water>); and
- Environmental Protection Agency Maps (<https://gis.epa.ie/EPAMaps/>).

CONSTRAINTS AND OPPORTUNITIES REPORT

3.4.2 Existing Environment

3.4.2.1 Catchments & Sub-Catchments

The Study Area is predominantly contained within the Nore catchment (Code 15) and an eastern section of the Study Area enters the Barrow Catchment (Code 14) (See **Figure 3-15**).

The Sub-Catchments in the Study Area are:

- Nore_SC_120 (15_17)
- Nore_SC_130 (15_20)
- Nore_SC_140 (15_18)
- Barrow_SC_130 (14_7)

CONSTRAINTS AND OPPORTUNITIES REPORT

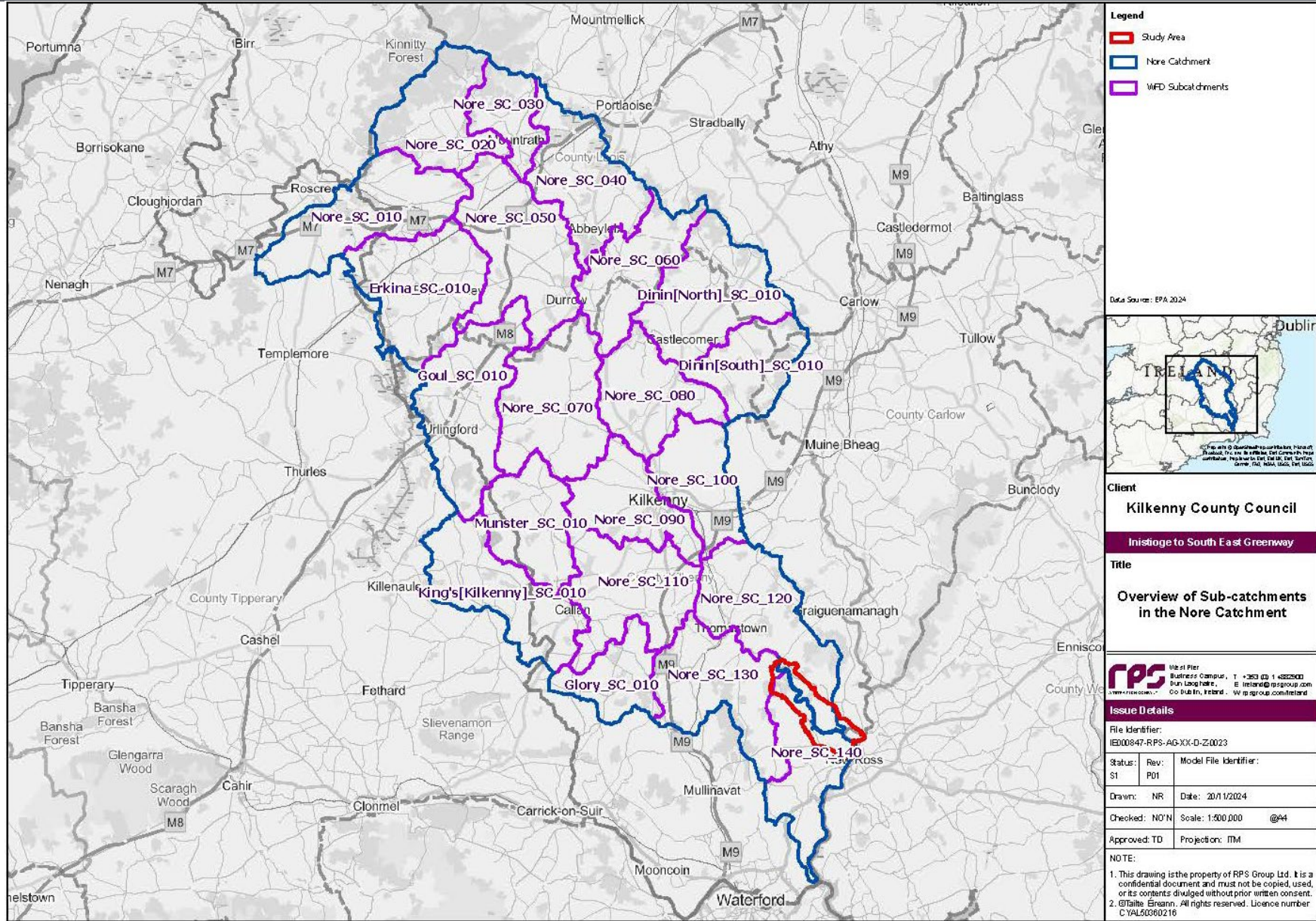


Figure 3-15: Overview of Sub Catchments within the Study Area

CONSTRAINTS AND OPPORTUNITIES REPORT

3.4.2.2 Protected Waters

Drinking Water

There is one surface waterbody within the Study Area identified as Drinking Water Protected Areas (DWPA) based on water abstraction data on the abstraction register. All groundwater bodies nationally are identified as DWPA (See **Section 3.3.2.4** for more detail regarding groundwater bodies overlaying the Study Area).

Bathing Waters

There is no bathing area located within the Study Area, however, there is a bathing area (Duncannon IESEBWT100_0100_0100) which is approximately 20 km downstream from the Study Area. This bathing water is protection under the S.I. No. 351/2011 Bathing Water Quality (Amendment) Regulations 2011. The bathing season water quality of Duncannon is 'Excellent', with the most recent sample date being 2nd September 2024 at the time of writing¹².

Shellfish Areas

There is no designated shellfish area within the Study Area, however, the Waterford Harbour (Cheekpoint/ Arthurstown / Creadan) (Code IE_SE_100_0100) is located approximately 13 km downstream from the Study Area.

Hydrological Connections with Natura 2000 Sites

Many of the habitats and species listed for protection in the Birds and Habitats Directives are water dependent. (See **Table 3.3**) The Special Protection Areas (SPAs) and Special Areas of Conservation (SACs) with water dependent habitats or species in this catchment, along with waterbodies designated as salmonid waters (S.I. No. 293 of 1988) and waterbodies with Fresh Water Pearl Mussel sensitive area upstream from the Study Area, where identified.

3.4.2.3 Water Quality & the Water Framework Directive (WFD)

Directive 2000/60/EC (the Water Framework Directive) was adopted by the European Parliament and Council in 2000. The Water Framework Directive (WFD) establishes a legal framework for the protection, improvement and sustainable management of inland surface waters, transitional waters, coastal waters and groundwater. The aim of the WFD is to prevent the deterioration in the existing status of waters (including the maintenance of "High Status" where it exists) and to ensure that all waters, with some limited exceptions, achieve at least "Good Status", see **Table 3.6** and **Figure 3-16** below.

¹² Beaches.ie (2024) Duncannon. Available at: [Find A Beach - Beaches.ie - Beaches.ie](#). Accessed at 15/11/2024

CONSTRAINTS AND OPPORTUNITIES REPORT

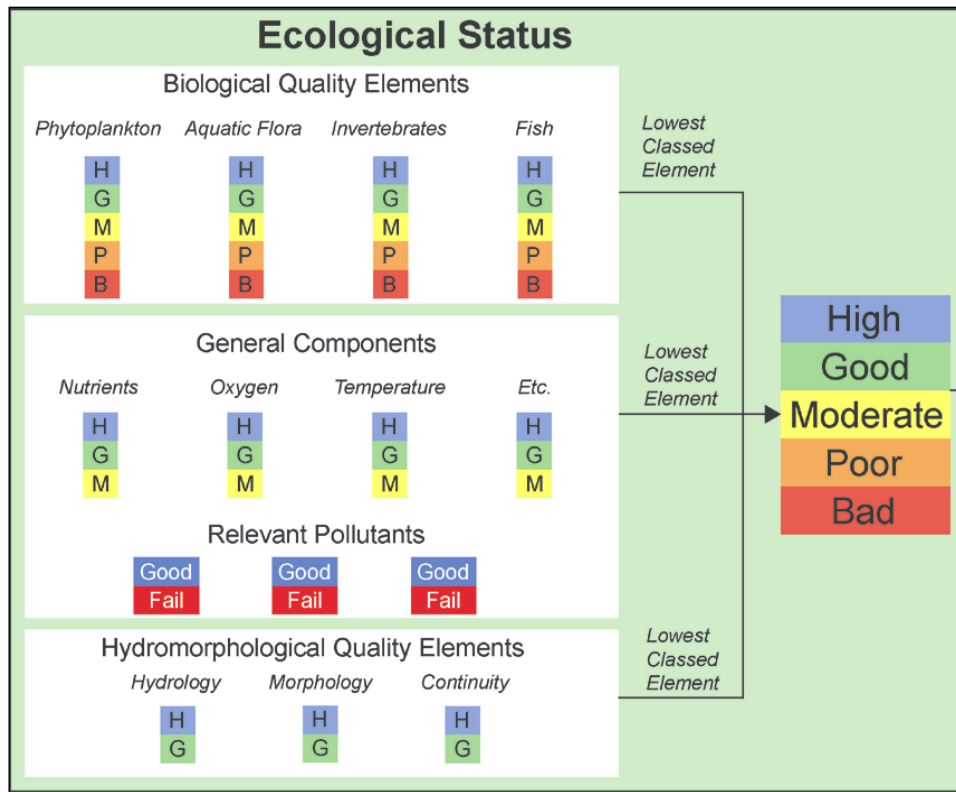


Figure 3-16: Ecological Status

Table 3.6 provides an overview of the Waterbody WFD Status of the respective waterbodies within and adjacent to the Study Area.

Table 3.6: WFD Status and Risk Level of the Surface Watercourses and Waterbodies within the Study Area

Local / EPA Name	Waterbody Code (EU_CD)	River Waterbody WFD Status 2016-2021	Risk
Barrow Nore Estuary Upper	IE_SE_100_0250	Moderate	At Risk
Nore Estuary	IE_SE_100_0400	Moderate	At Risk
Clodiagh_10	IE_SE_15C050100	Good	Not at Risk
Tullagher_010	IE_SE_15T360920	Good	Review
Oaklands_010	SE_14O130860	Good	Review
Nore_0250	IE_SE_15N012500	Good	Not at Risk
Upper Carranroe_010	IE_SE_14U080790	Good	Not at Risk

3.4.2.4 Waterbody Risk

A waterbody that is *At Risk* means that either the waterbody is currently not achieving its Water Framework Directive (WFD) environmental objective of Good or High Ecological Status or that there is an upward trend in nutrients or ammonia and if this trend continues the waterbody Status will decline by the end of Cycle 3¹³ and will fail to meet its environmental objective.

A waterbody can be considered in 'Review' for the following three reasons:

¹³ Catchment Assessments based on the Cycle 3 characterisation and assessment were published in August 2021.

CONSTRAINTS AND OPPORTUNITIES REPORT

- The waterbody does not have status assigned to it yet, it is referred to as an unassigned waterbody, and therefore there is not enough evidence to determine if it is At Risk or Not At Risk.
- The waterbody has shown some slight evidence of improvement, but more evidence is needed before it can be considered as Not At Risk.
- Measures are planned or have already been implemented for the waterbody and no further measures should be applied until there is enough time to assess if these measures are working.

In total there are 176 waterbodies in the Nore (Code: 15) Catchment and 70 (40%) are currently At Risk, 34 (19%) in Review and 72 (41%) are Not At Risk.

Of the 123 rivers waterbodies, 58 (47%) are At Risk, 33 (27%) are in Review and 32 (26%) are Not At Risk. There are no lake waterbodies within the Nore catchment. The largest proportion of At Risk waterbodies are found in transitional waterbodies, where five (100%) were assessed as being At Risk within the Study Area. **Figure 3-17** details these waterbodies.

CONSTRAINTS AND OPPORTUNITIES REPORT

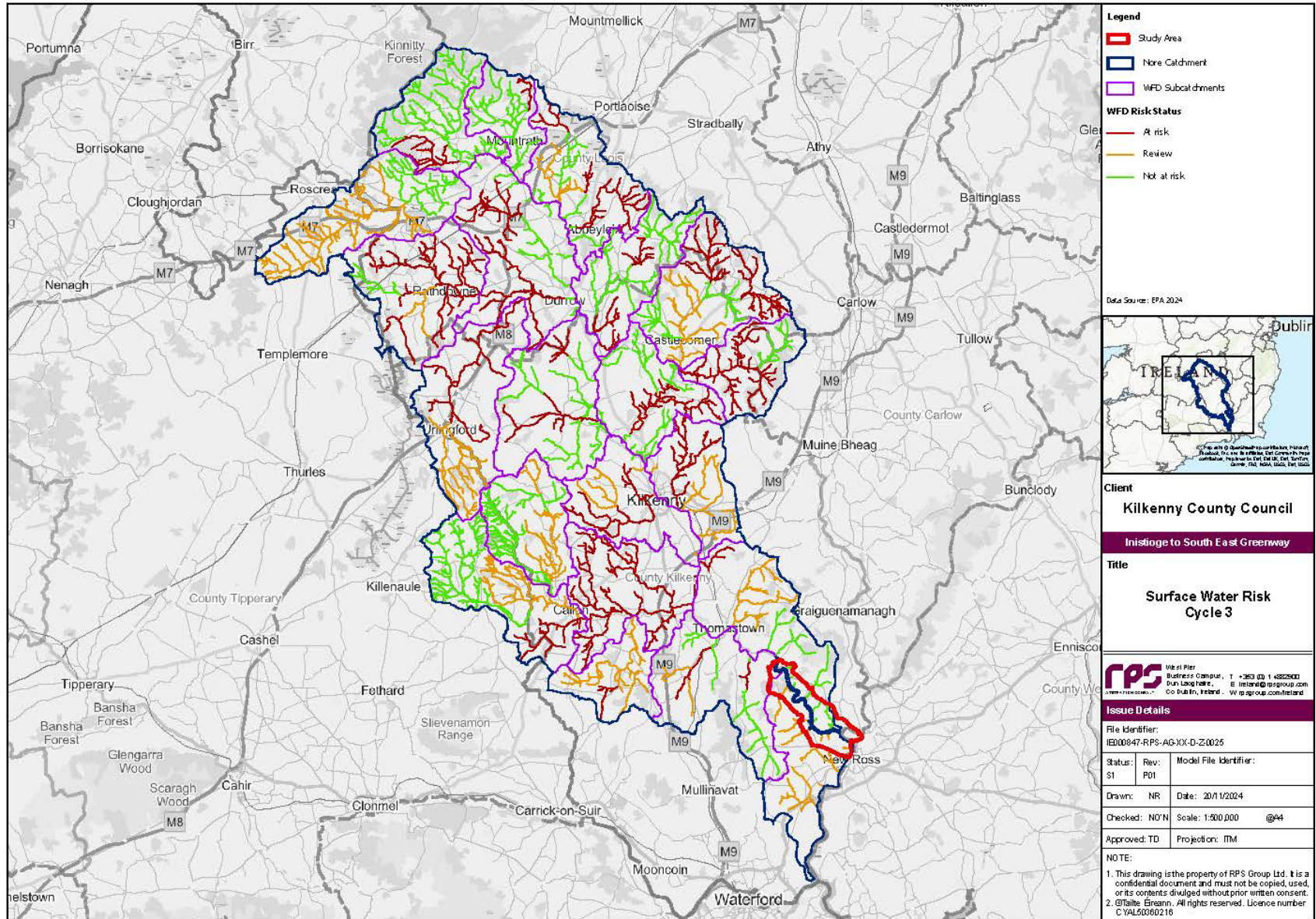


Figure 3-17: Surface Water Risk Cycle 3

CONSTRAINTS AND OPPORTUNITIES REPORT

3.4.2.5 Flooding and Flood Risk

The Office of Public Works (OPW) Past Floods Database (<https://www.floodinfo.ie/>) was used to obtain information on the flood history of the Study Area. The OPW indicative flood maps were consulted to identify areas that have the potential for significant flooding within the Study Area and to identify areas where hazards of flooding are likely due to historical flooding of those areas. The OPW undertook a National Catchment Flood Risk Assessment and Management (CFRAM) Programme to give a clear and comprehensive picture of flood risk in areas of potentially significant flood risk and to set out how to manage the flood risk effectively and sustainably. The Programme focussed on 300 communities at potentially significant flood risk, referred to as Areas for Further Assessment (AFAs). These were identified through a national screening exercise and include approximately 80% of properties at risk in Ireland from rivers and seas, the primary sources of flooding in Ireland. The River Nore was identified as one such AFA.

Based on the OPWs' CFRAMS flood mapping, the Study Area lies within a 1% Annual Exceedance Probability (AEP) or medium probability fluvial flood zone which traverses through the centre of the Study Area (New Ross Town to Inistioge)¹⁴. The River Nore is the main source of flooding (see **Figure 3-18**).

3.4.2.6 Historic Flooding

There is historic and predictive evidence of elevated levels of flood risk from fluvial and pluvial sources at various locations across the Study Area. **Table 3.7** and **Figure 3-18** detail the historic flooding identified in in the OPW Flood Maps¹⁴ and, as shown, include a number of incidents within the Study Area.

Table 3.7: Summary of Historic Flooding Incidents within the Study Area

Flood Event ID	Flood Event	Record Type	Flood Source
4030	Nore Inistioge R800 near school recurring	Recurring Flood	River
1449	Nore Inistioge Jan 1996	Dated Flood - 12/01/1996	River
13448	Flooding at Inistioge on 27/12/2015	Dated Flood - 27/12/2015	River
2421	Nore Inistioge February 1994	Dated Flood - 01/02/1994	River
2816	Nore Inistioge March 1947	Dated Flood - 16/03/1947	River
250	Nore Inistioge Bridge Recurring	Recurring Flood	River
4035	Barrow Ringwood recurring	Recurring Flood	River
3010	Barrow New Ross Mountelliott recurring	Recurring Flood	River
3009	Barrow New Ross Annefield recurring	Recurring Flood	River
12174	Flooding at New Ross, Co. Wexford 3rd February 2014	Dated Flood - 03/02/2014	Null
4819	Barrow New Ross Rosbercon Oct 2004	Dated Flood - 26/10/2004	River

¹⁴ OPW (n.d) Flood Maps. Available at: [Flood Maps - Floodinfo.ie](https://www.floodinfo.ie/)

CONSTRAINTS AND OPPORTUNITIES REPORT

Flood Event ID	Flood Event	Record Type	Flood Source
4818	Barrow New Ross Rosbercon Nov 1997	Dated Flood - 18/11/1997	River
12520	Flood event for New Ross 2nd January 2014	Dated Flood - 02/01/2014	Null
12165	Flooding New Ross on 31st January 2014	Dated Flood - 31/01/2014	Null
12171	Flooding at New Ross, Co. Wexford on 31st January 2014	Dated Flood - 31/01/2014	Null

CONSTRAINTS AND OPPORTUNITIES REPORT

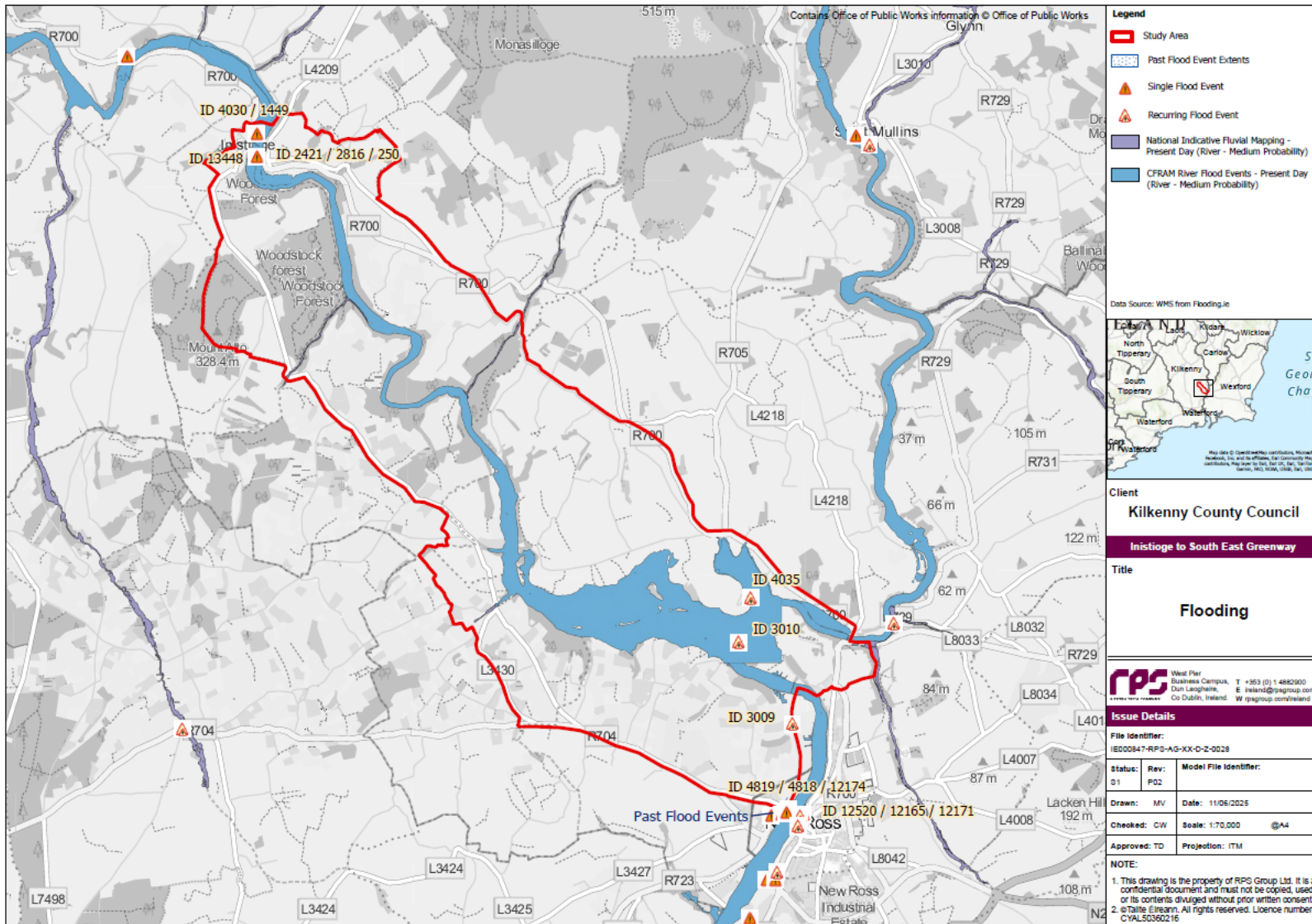


Figure 3-18: Flooding within the Study Area

CONSTRAINTS AND OPPORTUNITIES REPORT

3.4.3 Identified Constraints

The WFD status of most of the rivers within the County and Study Area is classified as moderate or good; however, within the Study Area the River Nore (transitional waterbody) is classified moderate but it is classified as being at risk. The application of design standards and construction best practice will be required in order to avoid degrading any surface or groundwater quality rating for the Study Area.

The River Nore is a transitional waterbody and if construction takes place within the high-water mark, then a Maritime Area Consent (MAC) is required before a planning application may be made.

There is one bathing area and one protected shellfish area located downstream from the Study Area. Due to the distance between the Study Area and these protected areas, it is not envisaged that any likely significant effects will occur.

The Proposed Scheme has the potential to impact on the biology, water quality, hydrology, and morphology of watercourses. Where required, suitable mitigation measures must be developed for the Proposed Scheme in line with best practice measures in order to avoid negative impacts to water quality. Parts of the Study Area are potentially prone to fluvial flooding. Hard surfacing should be avoided as much as practicable within the floodplain and best practice construction methodology should be deployed during the construction of the Proposed Scheme so as to not worsen the flooding during this phase.

3.4.4 Identified Opportunities

The below opportunity was identified for Water:

- There is an opportunity for the design team to identify existing water crossing structures and utilise them where possible. This will minimise the potential construction impacts for stream crossings.

3.5 Air, Climate & Noise

3.5.1 Introduction

This Section identifies the constraints aspects of the Proposed Scheme in relation to air, climate and noise. Identifying potential sensitive receptors at this stage of the process allows the design team to consider them during the design stage to avoid or minimise adverse impacts on them. This assessment has been carried out by means of a desktop review of available mapping representing the Proposed Scheme and the Study Area with reference to potential constraints. The procedure outlined in the TII document "*Guidance for the Treatment of Air Quality During the Planning and Construction of National Road Schemes*" has been consulted as part of the Constraints Study.

3.5.2 Existing Environment

3.5.2.1 Air Quality

Air and Climate Constraints for a development scheme are largely concerned with the potential for impacts to sensitive receptors. The TII document: "*Guidance for the Treatment of Air Quality During the Planning and Construction of National Road Schemes*" outlines recommended steps in the process of constraints assessment for Air Quality. This document also states that where local air quality monitoring data is not available, reference should be made to measurements or studies in other comparable areas. In the assessment of constraints, the sensitive receptor locations for Air Quality include areas of residential housing, schools, hospitals, places of worship, sports centres and shopping areas; i.e., locations where members of the public are likely to be regularly present.

Under the Clean Air for Europe Directive (2008/50/EC) EU Member States must designate "Zones" for the purpose of managing air quality. For Ireland, four Zones have been defined in the Air Quality Standards Regulations (2011); A, B, C and D. These zones are largely categorised based on population counts derived from 2011 CSO Census as follows:

- Zone A: Dublin
- Zone B: Cork

CONSTRAINTS AND OPPORTUNITIES REPORT

- Zone C: Other cities and large towns comprising Limerick, Galway, Waterford, Drogheda, Dundalk, Bray, Navan, Ennis, Tralee, Kilkenny, Carlow, Naas, Sligo, Newbridge, Mullingar, Wexford, Letterkenny, Athlone, Celbridge, Clonmel, Balbriggan, Greystones, Leixlip and Portlaoise.
- Zone D: Rural Ireland; i.e., the remainder of the State excluding Zones A, B and C.

Air quality is classified using a four-band scale of; Good, Fair, Poor, and Very Poor.

The Study Area is entirely located in Zone D. There are two close air quality monitoring locations in New Ross and Thomastown.

The New Ross (WX5) air quality monitoring station is located within the centre of New Ross and Thomastown (KK4) is also located within the centre of the Thomastown settlement. Monitoring at these air quality monitoring stations is a local network and it monitors for PM₁₀ and PM_{2.5}. The air quality in Thomastown was classified as “Good”¹⁵. At the time of writing, the air quality for New Ross Town was not available.

All greenway route options to be considered will have an equally neutral to positive impact on air quality of the surrounding environment due to the implementation of the Proposed Scheme. All routes serve to increase sustainable transport modes and decrease the use of motorised vehicles during the Operational Phase.

However, from a user’s perspective, options which run adjacent to the existing roads could be considered to have a more negative impact in terms of air quality, as it exposes users to more traffic pollution. Potential negative effects are expected to be greatest during the Construction Phase due to construction vehicle emissions, dust etc. Measures should be considered to avoid significant negative effects during the Construction Phase of the Proposed Scheme in areas with high population densities (See **Section 3.1.2.1**).

3.5.2.2 Climate

In May 2019, the Irish Government declared a Climate and Biodiversity Emergency and subsequently committed to Ireland transitioning to a low carbon, climate resilient and environmentally sustainable economy by 2050.

The Climate Action Plan (2019), set out the national commitment to achieving a net zero carbon energy systems objective for Irish society and in the process, create a resilient, vibrant and sustainable country.

The Government declaration of a national Climate and Biodiversity Emergency represents the significance of the challenge facing this country in seeking to reduce its carbon dioxide emissions. In aiming to address this emergency, the mitigation measures identified at national level are outlined through two principal components.

The first component aims to reduce carbon dioxide emissions in electricity generation, the built environment and transport by 80% by 2050, relative to 1990 levels. The second component aims to provide for carbon neutrality in terms of activities related to agriculture, land use and forestry for the same period.

The Climate Action Plan 2024 (CAP24) is the third annual update to Ireland’s Climate Action Plan 2019 and 2023. This plan was prepared under the Climate Action and Low Carbon Development (Amendment) Act 2021 and aligns with the legally binding economy-wide carbon budgets and sectoral emissions ceilings approved in the Climate Action Plan 2023. The plan implements the carbon budgets and sectoral emissions ceilings and sets out a roadmap for taking decisive action to halve emissions by 2030 and reach net zero no later than 2050, as committed to in the Programme for Government. Climate Action Plan 2024 sets out how Ireland can accelerate the actions that are required to respond to the climate crisis, putting climate solutions at the centre of Ireland’s social and economic development.

As stated in the Wexford County Development Plan 2022-2028 and the Kilkenny County Development Plan 2021-2027, both County Councils have developed a five-year Climate Change Adaptation Strategy (CCAS) for the period of 2019 to 2024, which sets out a vision for the county to undertake appropriate actions to address climate change.

The respective CCAS establishes both strategic goals and adaption goals, along with targeted objectives across six operational themes:

¹⁵ EPA (2024) Air Quality.ie. Available at: <https://airquality.ie/station/TNT1506>. Accessed at 18/11/2024

CONSTRAINTS AND OPPORTUNITIES REPORT

- Theme 1: Local Adaptation, Governance and Business Operations
- Theme 2: Infrastructure and Built Environment
- Theme 3: Land use and Development
- Theme 4: Drainage and Flood Management
- Theme 5: Natural Resources and Cultural Infrastructure
- Theme 6: Community Health and Wellbeing

Flooding is one of the most evident impacts of climate change experienced in both counties. Flooding can occur through fluvial (rivers and watercourses) and pluvial (rainfall) flood events. It is clear that such events have increased in frequency in recent years, as a direct consequence of climate change.

Hard surfaces generally contribute to flooding, as surface water runs off these areas more quickly. Green areas can absorb and attenuate this water, and this is referred to as a more 'sustainable urban drainage system' (SUDS). These systems aim to reduce the rate of surface water runoff and thus contribute towards mitigating the impact of flooding as well as providing green spaces in built up areas. Greenways do introduce an impermeable surface into an otherwise green area and careful design will be needed to ensure this Proposed Scheme does not further exacerbate flooding in the Study Area.

All greenway route options to be considered will have an equally neutral to positive impact on carbon emissions to the surrounding environment. Routes will promote an increase in sustainable transport modes and decrease the use of motorised vehicles for commuters in the area.

3.5.2.3 Noise

Potential greenway route options will all serve to reduce noise impacts due to the reduction in traffic congestion realised by the Proposed Scheme, as they all equally promote a more sustainable transport mode.

The main source of noise pollution affecting the Study Area is the road network. The R723 and the R700 are the main source of noise pollution to the Study Area. During the daytime, they generate 60 to 64 dB and this is reduced to 50 to 54 dB during the night period (See **Figure 3-19** and **Figure 3-20**).

CONSTRAINTS AND OPPORTUNITIES REPORT

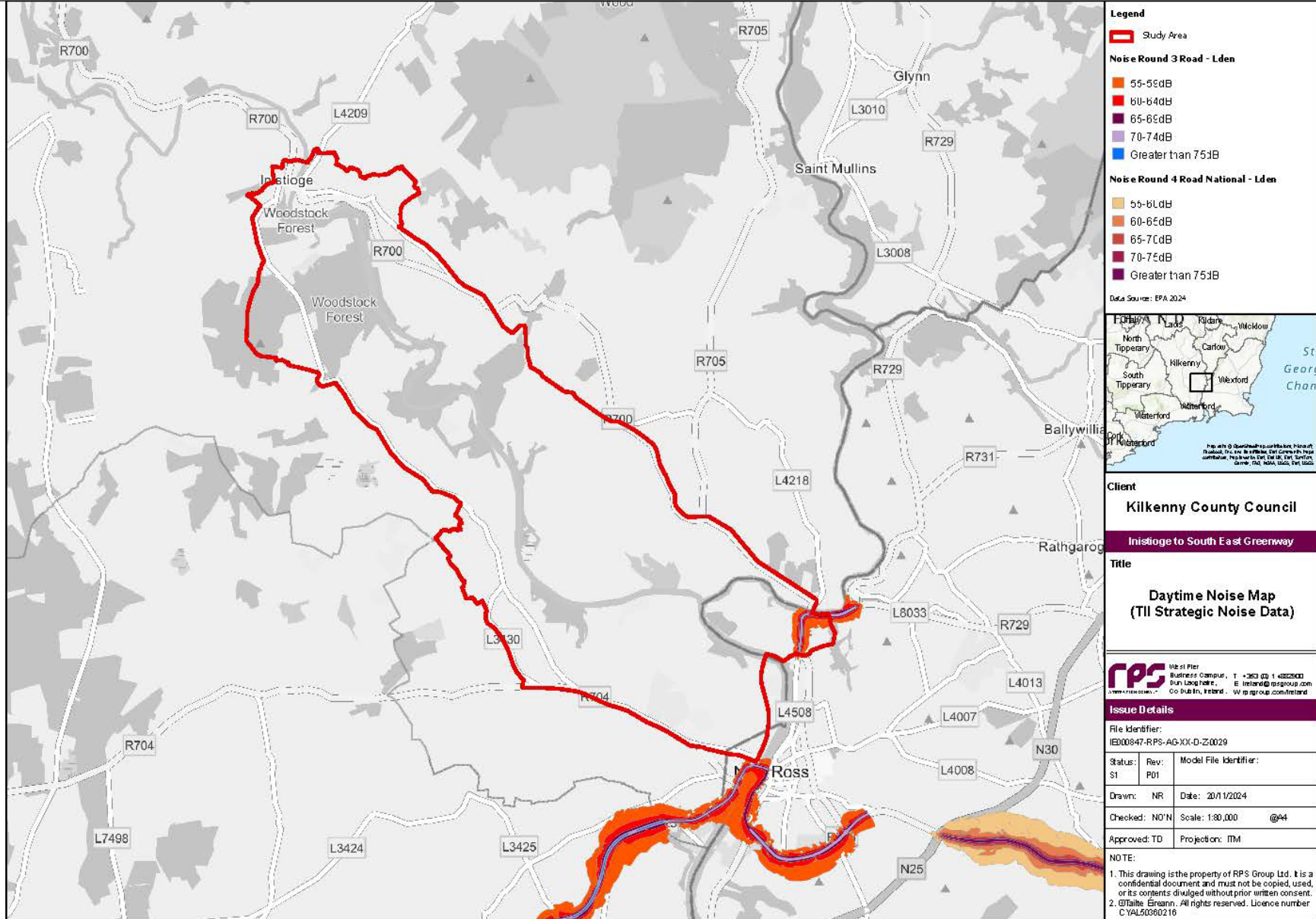


Figure 3-19: Daytime Noise Map (TII Strategic Noise Data)

CONSTRAINTS AND OPPORTUNITIES REPORT

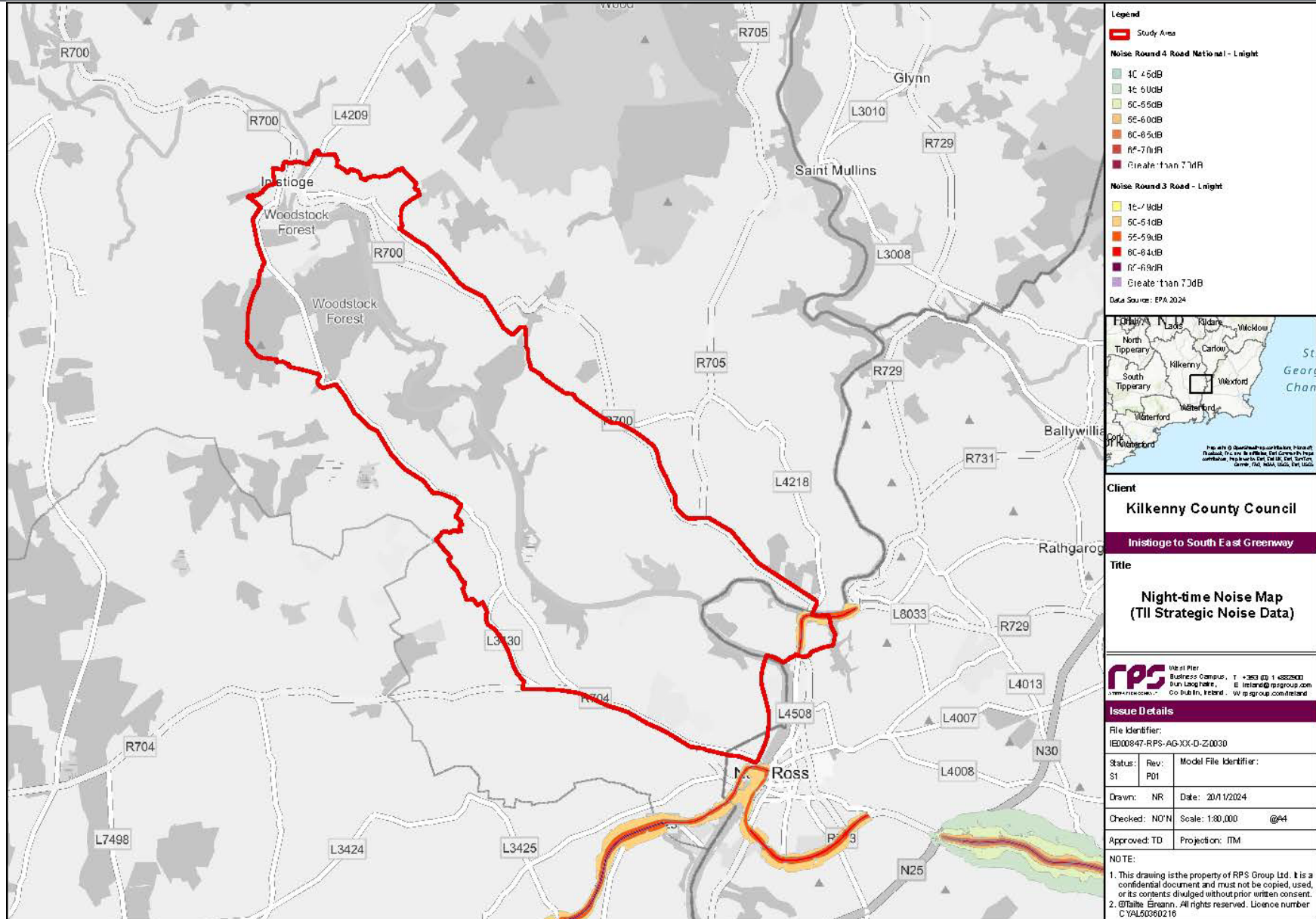


Figure 3-20: Night-time Noise Map (TII Strategic Noise Data)

CONSTRAINTS AND OPPORTUNITIES REPORT

3.5.3 Identified Constraints

The construction stage provides the greatest opportunity for potential impacts to the air and climate through the potential release of emissions e.g., dust. Vehicle and machinery emissions during the construction stage will contribute to greenhouse gas emissions and as such will have an impact on climate in the macro scale.

Due to the nature of the Proposed Scheme, it is not envisaged that the operational phase will contribute negatively towards the local air and climate quality.

At the constraints study stage air quality is considered in terms of the current or baseline condition. Where feasible, it may be necessary to route potential route corridors away from sources of poor air quality. For greenway users and the protection of human health, a suitable buffer may be required from a road within which a sensitive receptor may experience an air quality impact.

The main noise impacts associated with the Proposed Scheme will be during the construction stage due to machinery movements. The impacts can be mitigated by avoiding noise sensitive receptors and by using light machinery. Noise during the construction stage is also temporary with minimal potential for noise and vibration to be an issue, particularly for sensitive receptors, where significant earthwork activities and engineering such as rock breaking are very unlikely.

3.5.4 Identified Opportunities

The following opportunities were identified for Air, Climate & Noise:

- Due to the nature of the Proposed Scheme, it will support a modal shift by providing an alternative mode of transport, which will help reduce the reliance on motorised vehicles.

3.6 Material Assets – Non-Agricultural

3.6.1 Introduction

The primary constraints within the Study Area are the existing utilities, tourism facilities and existing transport infrastructure. Early consideration of how options can integrate with or avoid the existing material assets in the area is essential and will require engagement with service providers to ensure that utilities can be avoided and/ or modified to mitigate impacts.

Regard must also be had to future changes that are likely to take place in the Study Area e.g., through the Water Services Investment Programme, investment by Transport Infrastructure Ireland, EirGrid etc.

Material assets can be defined as economic assets of natural and human origin, or cultural assets of a physical and social type. This Section identifies the constraints aspects of the proposed study in relation to material assets with reference to transport infrastructure, utilities and non-agricultural land use. It identifies the existing material assets and aims to ascertain any key proposals for future development of material assets within the Study Area, i.e., new roads, water mains etc. that may pose a constraint to works associated with the Proposed Scheme in the future.

3.6.2 Existing Environment

3.6.2.1 Tourism and Community Facilities

There are a variety of amenities and attractions within and adjacent to the Study Area. These were mapped using information from Fáilte Ireland, the National Inventory of Architectural Heritage, and the Sites and Monuments Records.

Tourists are attracted to Woodstock Gardens and loop walks (including Woodstock Loop, Ladies Loop, and Woodstock Waterfall loop, see **Figure 3-21**) within the Study Area. Other nearby tourist attractions include the Dunbrody Famine Ship Experience, Jerpoint Abbey and Kells Priory (See **Figure 3-22**). There are supporting services such as B&Bs, shops, pubs and restaurants in New Ross and in the vicinity of Inistioge Village (See **Figure 3-21**). Moreover, St. Mullin's ecclesiastical village is located approximately 5.5 km to the northeast of the Study Area. St Mullin's ecclesiastical village provides a culturally significant settlement and is a significant tourist attraction. This village once contained a monastery founded by St Moling in the 7th

CONSTRAINTS AND OPPORTUNITIES REPORT

century. This village is viewed as one of Ireland's most important archaeological sites. Attractions within the village includes a round tower, holy well, mill and six churches (OPW, n.d).

The village of Inistioge is connected by road and walking/cycling routes to Thomastown to the northwest and Graiguenamanagh to the northeast. Each of these towns are tourist destinations in their own right.

In 2018, Fáilte Ireland launched Ireland's Ancient East regional tourism brand. This initiative highlights the historical and cultural significance of the town via wayfinding, interpretation, photography, maps and other signage. New Ross forms part of this initiative based on its Norman setting which can attract tourists.

CONSTRAINTS AND OPPORTUNITIES REPORT

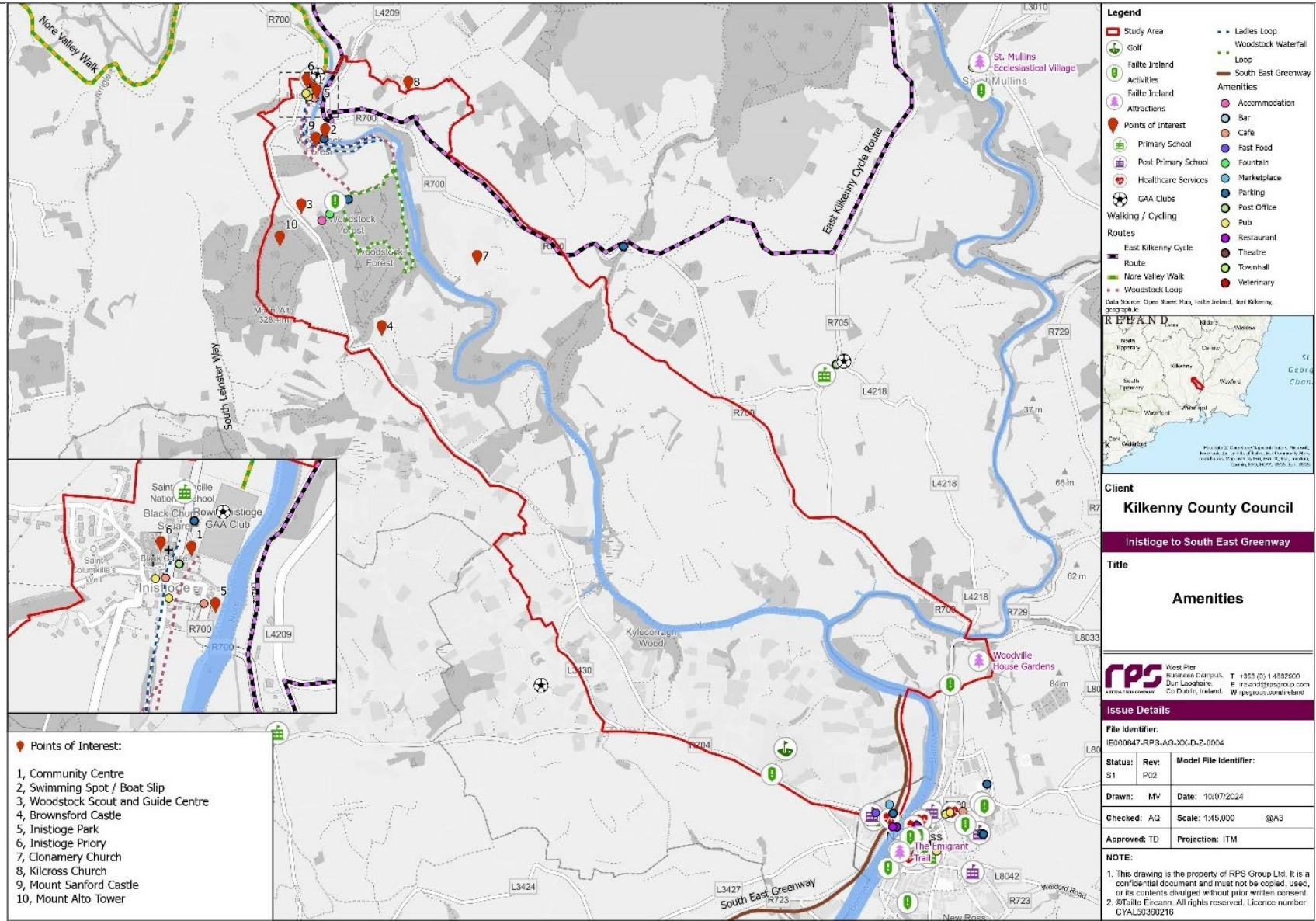


Figure 3-21: Amenity Facilities within the Study Area

CONSTRAINTS AND OPPORTUNITIES REPORT



Figure 3-22: Tourist Attractions Within and Near The Study Area

CONSTRAINTS AND OPPORTUNITIES REPORT

Inistioge Village and Woodstock Estate

Inistioge village is located alongside the River Nore at the northern end of the Study Area.

The village itself can be considered a tourist attraction with Kilkenny Tourism stating the following:

“Inistioge is one the most scenic villages in Ireland. (sic) described as ‘a charming little village that lies in probably the prettiest part of the beautiful Nore valley spanned by a handsome ten-arched bridge’. Part of the Inistioge’s (sic) unique character may be attributed to its eclectic array of buildings, dating from medieval times to the Georgian and Victorian era, and that it is a compact urban settlement in a panoramic landscape. The views are simply magnificent. With such natural assets, it is no wonder Inistioge was awarded a gold medal at the European competition, the ‘Entente Florale’.

Many visitors enjoy a walk around the village taking in the tree-lined square and then down to the river. The green area by the river is delightful, perfect for canoeing and if you continue under the bridge, you will be able to see Mount Sandford Castle, a folly, which is hidden in the trees.”

The majority of Inistioge Village is designated as an Architectural Conservation Area with the Statement of Character (See **Appendix A**).

Woodstock Estate, including Woodstock Gardens and Arboretum, is located just outside Inistioge and currently attracts approximately 45,000 annual visitors. A business plan was prepared for Woodstock Estate in 2018 (in conjunction with Coillte), which set out a vision of transforming Woodstock into a major tourism and recreation flagship project for the South East. It contains a 10-year vision to transform Woodstock into a high-quality regional park as follows:

- Develop Woodstock House and Gardens visitor experience centred around the gardens and house.
- Develop Woodstock Resort as a 5-star glamping, lodge and campervan / motorhome resort.
- Develop Inistioge Village as a carefully curated resort village experience with better parking, ground transportation, orientation, retail, accommodation, eating and drinking options.

New Ross

New Ross Town is located alongside the River Barrow to the south of the Study Area. Major attractions in New Ross include the Dunbrody Famine Ship with approximately 47,000 annual visitors.

Major attractions near New Ross include the following:

- John F Kennedy Park and Arboretum, which is located approximately 12.5km from New Ross and has approximately 137,500 annual visitors. Dunbrody Abbey and Visitor Centre, which is approximately 16km from New Ross and has approximately 20,000 annual visitors.
- Kilmokea Gardens, which is located approximately 16km from New Ross and has approximately 20,000 annual visitors.

3.6.2.2 Road Network

Due to the strategic location between Wexford Town and Waterford City, New Ross is well served by numerous roads including sections of national roads, regional roads, local roads and urban roadways. The Study Area includes the R700, R704 and several local roads. The N30 is a strategic link connecting New Ross Town with Enniscorthy which lies adjacent to the south of the Study Area. The N25 connects New Ross Town to Waterford City and Wexford Town.

3.6.2.3 Public Transport

New Ross Town and Inistioge are both not accessible by rail with the closest railway station being located in Thomastown (approximately 7 km north of Inistioge). Currently there are three train stations operating within County Kilkenny which connect Kilkenny City to Thomastown and Waterford City. There are five railway stations within County Wexford, however, these are not in close proximity to the Study Area. The full breakdown of public transport systems for County Kilkenny and Wexford are illustrated in **Figure 3-23** and **Figure 3-24**.

CONSTRAINTS AND OPPORTUNITIES REPORT

Bus Eireann operates regional routes which traverse New Ross Town i.e., (route 40) Rosslare to Tralee, (route 371, route 372 and route 373) New Ross to Wexford, (Route 375) New Ross to Enniscorthy.

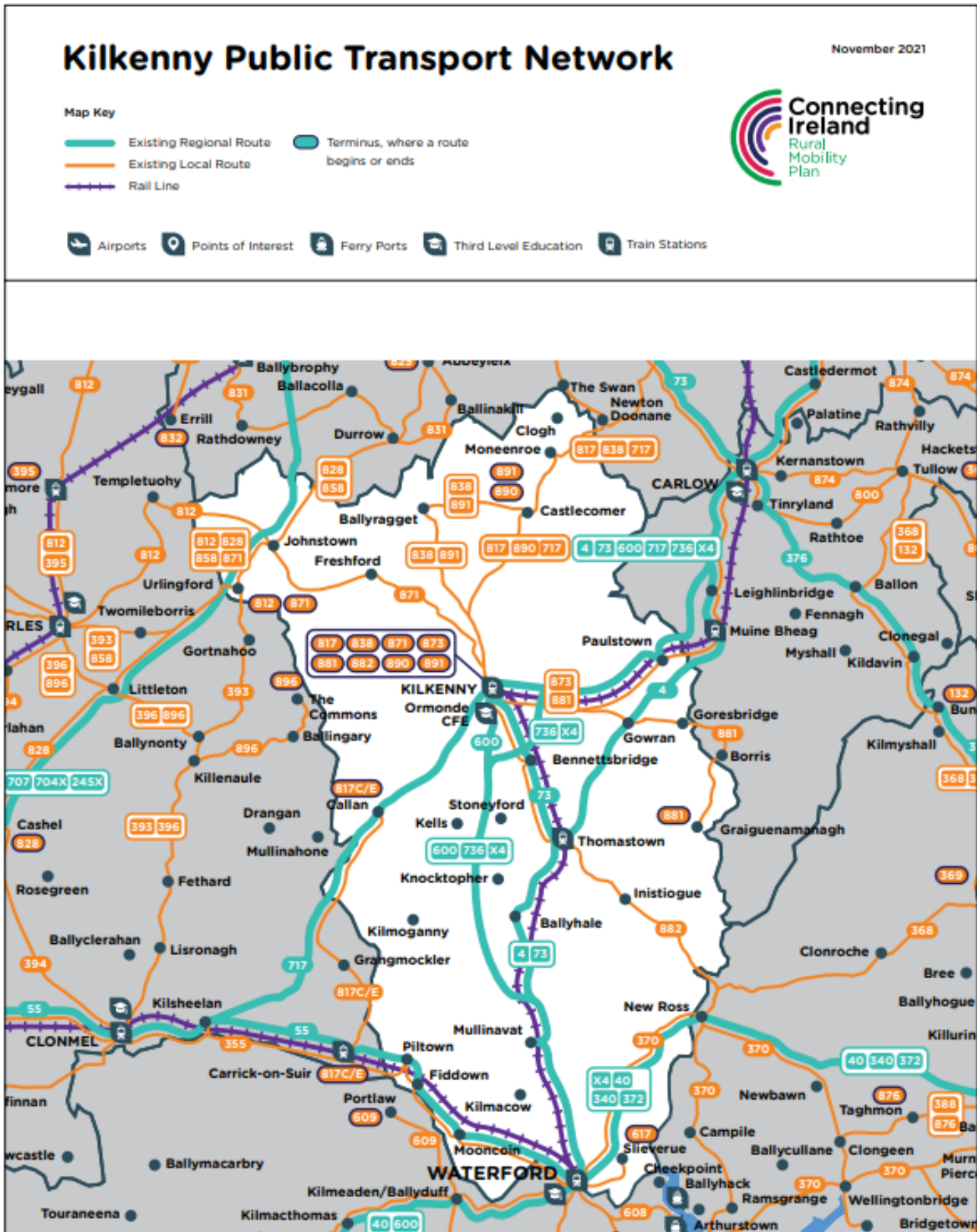


Figure 3-23: Kilkenny Public Transport Network

Source: Connecting Ireland (2021) Kilkenny Public Transport Network. Available at: [untitled](#)

CONSTRAINTS AND OPPORTUNITIES REPORT



Figure 3-24: : Wexford Public Transport Network

Source: Connecting Ireland (2021) Wexford Public Transport Network. Available at: [untitled](#)

CONSTRAINTS AND OPPORTUNITIES REPORT

3.6.2.4 Walking and Cycling Facilities

The East Kilkenny Cycle Route traverses the northern section of the Study Area and passes through Inistioge. The East Kilkenny Cycle Route is 64 km in length and it passes through scenic landscapes. The East Kilkenny Cycle Route connects Kilkenny City with Inistioge. This cycle route benefits Inistioge by providing a link for tourists who stay in Kilkenny city¹⁶.

The Woodstock Loop is a walkway located in the northern section of the Study Area and circles around Woodstock Forest for approximately 4.7 km. The Woodstock Loop walk connects with the Ladies Loop, which runs alongside the River Nore and connects with the Nore Valley Walk. The Inistioge section of the Nore Valley Walk runs parallel to a mix of riverbank and forest landscapes and forms the third section of the Nore Valley Walk which ultimately connects Inistioge up with Kilkenny city¹⁷.

The South East Greenway traverses the southern section of the Study Area, crossing scenic, rural landscape and runs parallel to the River Barrow¹⁸. Phase 1 of the South East Greenway is currently open and connects New Ross Town to Glenmore.

3.6.2.5 Utilities

Utilities in the Study Area include electricity infrastructure (overhead and underground). There is a 110 kV Overhead Line to the west of the Study Area, which runs from Waterford City to Kilkenny City. Any potential conflict with such utilities will be assessed when considering viable options and their design.

Within New Ross Town, there is a 38kV Overhead Line which traverses a southern portion of the Study Area. Medium Voltage Overhead electricity lines (3 Phase) traverse the Study Area running north to South connecting Inistioge with New Ross Town. There are multiple LV Overhead Single-Phase electricity lines and MV Overhead electricity lines across the Study Area (See **Figure 3-25**). Any potential interruptions to services are unlikely.

In addition to the high voltage electrical infrastructure mentioned above, as mentioned there will also be local utilities such as low voltage distribution lines, septic tanks, wells, local potable and wastewater piping and telecommunications. These local utilities are generally not mapped and only identified through consultation with the public and landowners. These utilities will be dealt with on a case by case basis and as such do not represent a constraint to the Proposed Scheme.

¹⁶ Trail Kilkenny Cycle Routes and Loops. Available at: [Trail Kilkenny Cycle Routes and Loops - Visit Kilkenny](#)

¹⁷ Discover Ireland (n.d) Nore Valley Walk - Inistioge to Thomastown Section. Available at: [Nore Valley Walk - \(Thomastown to Inistioge Section\)](#)

¹⁸ South East Greenway (n.d.) South East Greenway. Available at: [Visitors Homepage - South East Greenway](#)

CONSTRAINTS AND OPPORTUNITIES REPORT

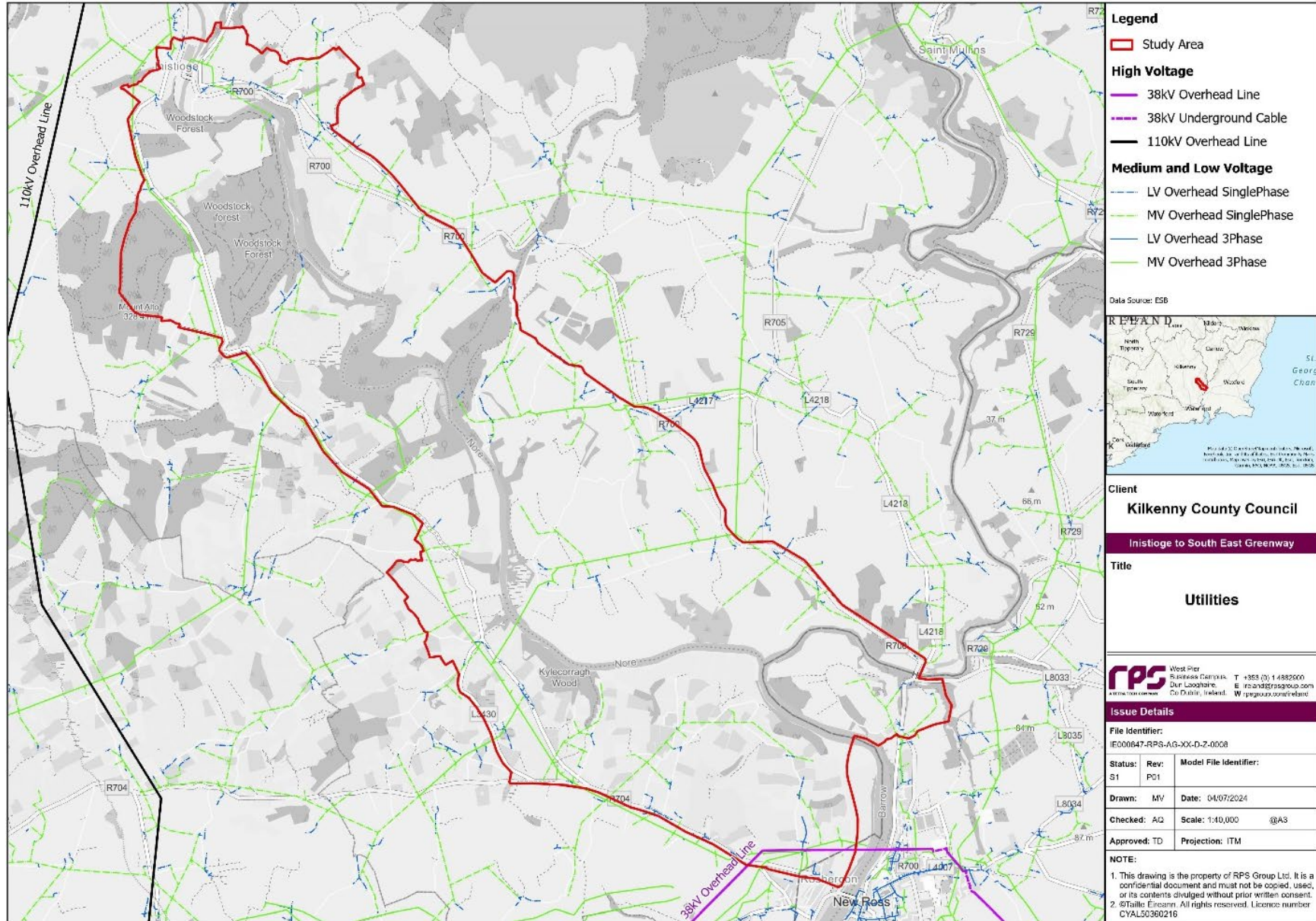


Figure 3-25: Utilities within the Study Area

CONSTRAINTS AND OPPORTUNITIES REPORT

3.6.3 Identified Constraints

There are a variety of key amenities and attractions located within and adjacent to the Study Area. The construction and operation of the Proposed Scheme has the potential to impact on tourism and amenities in the Study Area. During options selection, the potential impacts of the Proposed Scheme on the tourism and amenity value needs to be addressed. During the design stage, it is advised that the project team should:

- Consider the existing key tourism features in the Study Area and how each option may interact with these features.
- Consider the existing and future tourism and amenity potential of the Study Area (i.e. connecting wider cultural assets to the Study Area via amenity pathways) when designing the Proposed Scheme.
- Engage early with key stakeholders Failte Ireland, Waterways Ireland, Coillte and other stakeholders to discuss how the Proposed Scheme may impact or interact with tourism.

Regional roads within the Study Area should be considered during the design phase. The following should be undertaken by the project team:

- During options selection, determine which activities result in higher traffic volumes both for construction and operation and consider haul routes and areas for storage of materials.
- Consultation with key stakeholders, such as TII in relation to any effects on the existing and proposed road infrastructure in the Study Area.

There are a number of walking facilities identified within the Study Area (see **Section 3.6.2.1**). There is potential for the Greenway to cause disturbance to users of these amenities through noise, air quality disturbances or potentially blocking access to these walking facilities. To avoid these disturbances the following should be considered by the project team:

- Ensure high noise and air quality activities (i.e. rock breaking, earthworks etc) are identified and ensure best practice construction methods are adhered to during the Construction Phase.

High Voltage (overhead lines, underground cables) and medium voltage overhead lines are present within the Study Area. The following should be undertaken by the project team during the design phase of the Proposed Scheme:

- Consider potential conflicts with utilities during the construction of the Proposed Scheme including the construction methodologies required to comply with service provider specifications.
- Early discussions and consultations with utility providers regarding options and utility conflicts.

3.6.4 Identified Opportunities

The below opportunity was identified for Material Assets – Non-Agriculture:

- There is an opportunity for the Proposed Scheme to connect up with existing nearby walking and cycling infrastructure such as the Woodstock Estate and Gardens. This will involve incorporating existing infrastructure into the design of the Proposed Scheme. This will reduce the amount of materials required and waste generated.

3.7 Material Assets – Agricultural

3.7.1 Introduction

This section of the Constraints and Opportunities Report focuses on the potential constraints and considerations associated with agricultural activities within the Study Area. Agriculture is a critical component of the local economy, providing food security, livelihoods, and supporting rural development. However, proposed developments may pose challenges to agricultural resources, operations, and sustainability.

The purpose of this Section is to identify and assess the key constraints related to agriculture, including land availability, farm division, farm utilities, existing farming practices, and potential impacts on agricultural productivity. It also considers how these constraints interact with other environmental, social, and economic factors.

CONSTRAINTS AND OPPORTUNITIES REPORT

The findings presented here are based on a combination of desk top surveys and analysis of secondary data sources. They provide a foundation for understanding the agricultural context, evaluating potential constraints, and consideration of resolutions balancing the needs of agricultural stakeholders and project development objectives.

This Report aims to ensure that agricultural considerations are integrated into the decision-making process, fostering sustainable development and long-term viability for both the agricultural sector and the proposed project.

The following information was considered during the assessment of agricultural constraints in the Study Area;

- Census of Agriculture 2020 - Detailed Results;
- Census 2022
- CORINE (Co-Ordinated Information on the Environment) Landcover 2018;
- Google Earth;
- Kilkenny County Development Plan 2021 – 2027; and
- Teagasc EPA Soil & Subsoil Mapping.

3.7.2 Existing Environment

3.7.2.1 Regional – County Kilkenny

County Kilkenny is renowned for its rich agricultural heritage, playing a vital role in Ireland's agri-food sector. Situated in the fertile southeast of Ireland, Kilkenny benefits from a temperate climate, high-quality soils, and a well-established tradition of farming that supports diverse agricultural activities.

Agriculture in Kilkenny is dominated by mixed farming systems, with a particular emphasis on dairy, beef, and tillage production. The county's rolling pastures and well-drained soils make it ideal for livestock rearing, particularly dairy farming, which is a cornerstone of the local economy. Kilkenny is home to numerous family-owned dairy farms supplying milk to local and national processors, contributing significantly to Ireland's dairy exports.

Beef farming is another major enterprise, with suckler beef and cattle fattening being common. In addition, tillage farming, including the cultivation of cereals such as barley, oats, and wheat, is prominent, particularly in areas with lighter soils. Some farmers in Kilkenny also grow forage crops like maize and fodder beet to support livestock feeding systems.

In total, grassland for pastoral grazing and livestock grazing are the dominant land uses of the total farmed area in County Kilkenny, as detailed in **Table 3.8** below. These grasslands are abundant right across the Study Area. This table also highlights that Kilkenny's average farm size (45.7ha) exceeds the national average (33.4ha), highlighting the quality of farms in the region.

Table 3.8 Farming Practices within County Kilkenny (2020 Census of Agriculture)

Type of Crop	Size (Hectares)
Average farm size	45.7
Commonage	491
Permanent pasture	69,215
Permanent hay	3,510
Permanent grass silage	37,437
Other crops fruit and horticulture	4,550
Total cereals	13,223
Rough grazing in use	3,032
All grassland (including rough grazing)	145,570

CONSTRAINTS AND OPPORTUNITIES REPORT

Table 3.9 below shows the total number of livestock recorded in Kilkenny in the 2020 census of agriculture.

Table 3.9 Livestock Types within County Kilkenny (Census of Agriculture 2010 and 2020)

Livestock type	Total (2020)
Dry Stock	370,064
Dairy Cows	100,988
Pigs	53,500
Farmed Deer	N/A
Horses and Ponies	N/A
Poultry	29,400

This data correlates well with the land use breakdown in **Table 3.8**. The principal land use (pasture) would primarily support the number of drystock (sheep and beef) and dairy animals as these animals would be dependent upon pastoral grazing and conservation (silage and hay). Equine stock also relies on pastoral grazing; however, due to the nature of the equestrian industry, horses and ponies are predominantly kept in equestrian centres, stables, stud farms, and other specialized farm types. In these settings, their diets are often supplemented with additional food sources to meet their nutritional needs.

At this stage of the Proposed Scheme, there is an understanding of the average farm size. Farm sizes can also be observed from the aerial photography and from information available on the Property Registration Authority web site. These datasets when combined give a greater understanding, from a high level, of agricultural practices and the intensity at which they may be farmed. Further consideration of these features will be undertaken during the Phase 2 Option Selection process.

These land use patterns are also evident from the CORINE 2018 database. The CORINE (Co-Ordinated Information on the Environment) land cover mapping was generated and is maintained by the European Community (EC). The impetus for this mapping was to provide a comparable and standardised data source of geo-spatial information across the European environment, with the most recent iteration of the land use and habitat classification data series made available in 2018 (Referred to in this report as CORINE 2018). These areas correlated well with the aerial photography and with the available soil mapping (see **Figure 3-4**).

Census 2022 published results recorded a total of 5,020 persons identifying their occupation being in the industrial category of 'agriculture, fisheries and forestry' in Kilkenny and 22,500 people within the wider Southeast region. On a national level, the Census of Agriculture (2020) detailed results indicates that more than half (57.11%) of all farm holders in 2020 were aged 55 years or older compared to 2010 where 51.4% of all farm holders were aged over 55 years.

The land in County Kilkenny is characterized by a mosaic of high-quality soils, including brown earths and grey, brown podzolics, which are well-suited to intensive agriculture. These soils support robust grass growth, making them particularly valuable for grazing and silage production. The availability of arable land has also allowed for the integration of tillage crops, further enhancing farm productivity.

These well-drained soils would be considered the better soils in the region and coincide well with tillage and grassland seen in the aerial photography.

3.7.2.2 Local – Study Area

The Study Area overlaps with a total of 8 Electoral Divisions (EDs). Data from the Census of Agriculture 2020 was extracted for each of the EDs using the AgriMap interactive tool. It was calculated that there are a total of 221 farms across the 8 EDs which overlap with the Study Area. The average farm size for the EDs within the Study Area is 33.8ha, which is higher than the national average of 33.4ha but considerably lower than the average farm size for the county at 45.7ha. The breakdown of the number of farms, average farm size, total cattle, total dairy cows and percentage of dairy for each ED is displayed in **Table 3.10**.

Table 3.10 Farm statistics for each electoral division that overlaps with the Study Area.

CONSTRAINTS AND OPPORTUNITIES REPORT

Electoral Division	Number of farms	Average farm size (ha)	Total Cattle	Total Dairy Cows	% Dairy
Inistioge	46	32.8	3,116	487	16
Brownsford	16	44.6	1,673	648	39
The Rower	62	36.2	4,245	1,075	25
Dysartmoon	23	46.4	2,734	750	27
Rosbercon Rural	18	47.6	1,658	0	0
Rosbercon Urban	0	0	0	0	0
New Ross Rural	26	30.7	1,404	611	44
Cool Hill	30	31.8	2,181	0	0
Total	221	33.8	17,011	3,571	

Although the breakdown above represents the total number of farms and livestock within the EDs, many of these are only partially overlapping with the Study Area as represented by **Figure 3-26** below.

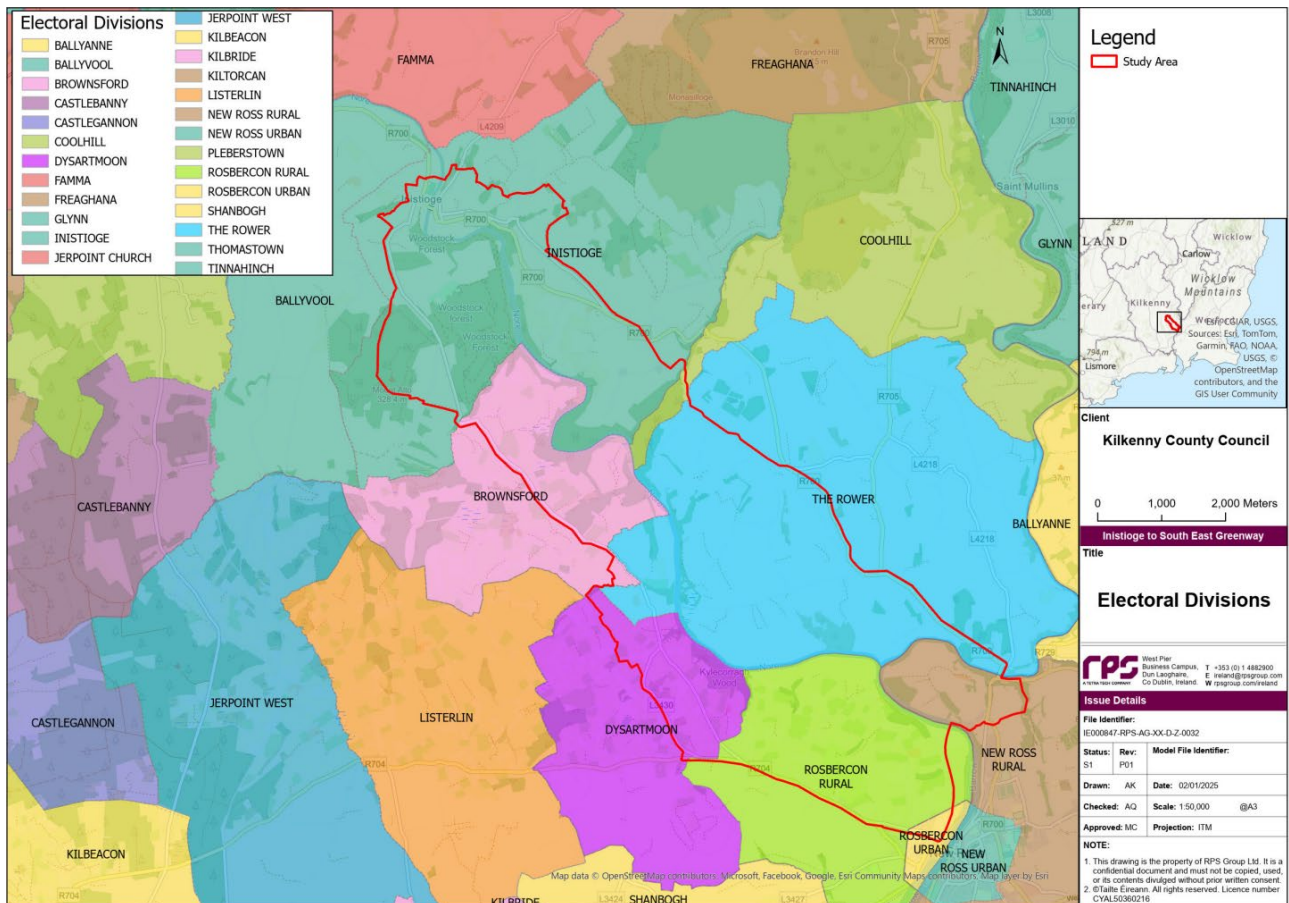


Figure 3-26 Electoral Divisions overlapping Study Area

Table 3.11 provides an overview of the Electoral Divisions (EDs) within the Study Area, focusing on key agricultural metrics. It outlines the total area farmed, the number of dairy cows, and the percentage of each division that overlaps with the Study Area.

The data reveals that Inistioge has the largest farmed area at 1,510.3 hectares, supporting 487 dairy cows, with 22% of its area within the study zone. This results in an estimated 345.52 hectares of farmed land and 111 dairy cows within the Study Area.

CONSTRAINTS AND OPPORTUNITIES REPORT

The Rower also stands out with a significant 2,248 hectares of farmed land and 1,075 dairy cows, where 23% of the area is within the Study Area, leading to approximately 515.88 hectares and an estimated 247 dairy cows within the Study Area.

Table 3.11 Estimated Scale of Dairy Farming within Study Area

Electoral Division (ED)	Total Area farmed within each ED (ha)	Total Dairy Cows in each ED	% of ED within Study Area	Estimated Area Farmed within Study Area (ha)	Estimated Dairy Cows within Study Area
Inistioge	1,510	487	22	346	111
Brownsford	714	648	17	119	110
The Rower	2,248	1,075	23	516	247
Dysartmoon	1,066	750	10	110	75
Rosbercon Rural	558	0	14	76	0
Rosbercon Urban	0	0	2	0	0
New Ross Rural	798	611	7	55	43
Cool Hill	953	0	5	44	0
Total	7,846	3,571	100	1,265	586

3.7.3 Identified Constraints

The development of any new greenway in Ireland has the potential to impact agriculture as this is the most common land use. The level of impact will be a function of the following factors.

- Area of lands acquired (temporary and permanent) for the construction and operation;
- Area and orientation of lands (and facilities) severed or divided;
- Farm enterprises;
- Intensity of farming practices; and
- Current management systems.

At this early stage of the Proposed Scheme, the area of private lands required is not known. Therefore, only a high-level examination of agriculture practices was undertaken in the Study Area to identify aspects of agriculture that could represent a constraint to the development of a new greenway within these areas.

The current Code of Best Practice¹⁹ (December 2021) outlines utilising state-owned lands where possible. Despite best efforts that will be made in routing decisions to avoid the necessity of purchasing land to complete the network, arrangements with private landowners will be required.

Based on this high-level assessment, a good understanding of the farming practises and profiles has been obtained. The various farming practises in the Study Area each have unique aspects that can potentially be impacted and will require careful consideration. Early consideration of how options can integrate with the existing agricultural practises in the area will be essential and will be fully explored.

Below is a list of the identified constraints for each farming practice and opportunities:

¹⁹ [gov.ie - Code of Best Practice for National and Regional Greenways](https://www.gov.ie/en/publications-and-resources/publication/2021-12-01-code-of-best-practice-for-national-and-regional-greenways/)

CONSTRAINTS AND OPPORTUNITIES REPORT

- Dairy Farming – This is one of the more profitable farming enterprises. These farms require stock to be moved to and from the place of milking to the primary grazing platform at least twice daily. Due to this frequency of movement, access to these primary grazing platforms (and other grazing areas) will need to be carefully considered in the selection and design of the greenway to minimise inconvenience for these holdings. Wherever possible, dairy farms, particularly the paddocks used by the dairy herd for daily grazing, should be avoided. While it is desirable to avoid areas used for silage, hay, or grazing replacement stock, this may not be critical and will be assessed on a case-by-case basis.

Kilkenny has a robust dairy sector, evidenced by the presence of 947 farms with dairy cows in the county. The average herd size in Kilkenny is 106.6 dairy cows, which is larger than the national average. Overall, there are a total of 100,988 dairy cattle in Kilkenny, highlighting the region's significant contribution to Ireland's dairy industry. In the Study Area there are approximately 586 cows indicating that dairying is widely practiced in the Study Area and needs to be considered carefully in the selection and design processes.

- Horse Facilities – Horses, particularly thoroughbred horses, are of a more nervous disposition than other stock types and, until habituated, can be prone to stress caused by irregular noise from pedestrians and cyclists, which may arise from the close proximity of the greenway to the grazing area. The presence of equine facilities will need to be considered in the planning of the greenway, as these type of centres may be potentially affected by increased activity in the area.
- Poultry/ Pig Units – These are intensive agricultural facilities, and while the footprint occupied by these facilities may be small, they can be particularly sensitive to disturbance, which is reflected in reduced productivity. In the Study Area, the presence of poultry and pig units can significantly impact local agricultural dynamics. Furthermore, and of particular note, these facilities have very strict disease control protocols and should be avoided entirely if identified. However, there is no information on any poultry or pig units within the Study Area.
- Drystock – Enterprises such as beef and sheep farming are generally less affected than dairy farms. Stock on these farms is not moved from field to field as frequently as on a dairy farm, which allows for greater flexibility in managing grazing patterns. In Kilkenny, the drystock sector is significant, with a total of 370,064 dry stock recorded in the 2020 Agricultural Census. This includes a robust population of beef cattle and sheep, which are well-suited to the region's grassland resources. Although there may be an impact from new developments, the farming practices on these farms can often be adapted to mitigate the overall impact, making them better able to absorb potential disruptions from linear developments. The average herd size for beef cattle in Kilkenny is larger than the national average, reflecting the area's suitability for this type of farming and its contribution to the local economy.
- Tillage – This farm enterprise is generally less severely affected than livestock farms. Machinery can easily move from one land parcel to another, although there may be additional costs involved, especially where the remaining areas are of a less regular shape. In Kilkenny, tillage farming plays a significant role, with a total of 13,223 hectares dedicated to cereal and protein production as recorded in the 2020 Agricultural Census. The Study Area reflects the region's (county) arable farming, which includes crops such as cereals and proteins. It is unlikely that the greenway will significantly affect tillage areas, which should remain suited normal tillage operations, thereby avoiding any change in enterprise type. The adaptability of tillage practices to absorb the potential effects of any new development are generally good, particularly for developments such as greenways.
- Forestry – Forestry within the Study Area is mostly associated with the state organisation Coillte. However, there is some private forestry in the Study Area, featuring a mix of tree types, including native species such as oak, ash, and birch. The presence of these woodlands along the banks of the River Nore contributes to the region's ecological diversity. Regardless of ownership, removing the outer trees from a forestry block or exposing inner trees can considerably increase the effects of wind blow and should be avoided.

CONSTRAINTS AND OPPORTUNITIES REPORT

- Farm buildings – Severance of access to farm buildings from areas such as primary grazing platforms can potentially impact on the day-to-day management of a farm particularly in the case of dairy farms.

In summary, given the extensive range of agricultural activities within the Study Area, including the significant role that agriculture plays in Kilkenny's economy and community, cognisance will be taken of these constraints during the option selection process for the proposed project. Recognising the importance of farming practices, land use, and potential impacts on local farms will ensure that the project minimizes disruption to agricultural operations while promoting sustainability. Particular attention will be paid to land take and land severance and to sensitive agricultural operations such as dairy, equine, pigs and poultry farms. By integrating this awareness into the planning stages, the Proposed Scheme can better align with the needs of the agricultural community, protecting vital farmland and supporting the economic viability of local farming enterprises. There may also be opportunities associated with the greenway for some enterprises such as riding stables. Opportunities also exist for the use of state-owned forestry for potential greenway routes.

Despite these challenges Kilkenny's agricultural sector is well-positioned to adapt and thrive through collaboration, technological advancement, and a focus on high-quality, sustainable production.

In conclusion, agriculture remains a cornerstone of County Kilkenny's economy and cultural identity. Its high-quality farmland, coupled with skilled farmers and supportive infrastructure, ensures that Kilkenny continues to play a pivotal role in Ireland's agri-food sector. By balancing productivity with sustainability, the county has the potential to lead in the transition to a greener, more resilient agricultural future.

3.7.4 Identified Opportunities

The following opportunity was identified for Material Assets - Agriculture:

- Possible opportunities to link agri-tourism with the Proposed Scheme.

3.8 Cultural Heritage

3.8.1 Introduction

Section 3.8.2 is an extract from the Cultural Heritage Constraints Study conducted by a third-party consultant to inform the option selection process for the Proposed Scheme. See **Appendix A** for the full cultural heritage constraints assessment conducted by the third-party consultant.

3.8.2 Extract from Cultural Heritage Constraints Study

The Study Area is largely rural in nature with the exception of the settlements of Inistioge and Rosbercon. The route of the former railway from Mackmine to Waterford runs within the Study Area and whilst it is not subject to any specific heritage protection, it is a significant cultural and industrial heritage feature.

There is one National Monument located within the Study Area, namely the church of Clonamery which dates to the 10th or 11th century and its associated features. This includes the remains of two stone structures outside of the church which have been interpreted as the foundational ruins of two clocháin (corbelled drystone huts associated with the Celtic Christian ascetic tradition). These are of particular interest given that they represent a site type more commonly recorded in County Kerry. There are no sites within Preservation Orders within the Study Area.

There are 67 individual recorded monuments located within the Study Area. These recorded sites are of varying dates (although largely medieval), indicating a continuance of activity and settlement from the prehistoric period onwards. All recorded archaeological sites should be considered as cultural heritage constraints during the design of the proposed Project with negative impacts avoided during detailed design.

There are a number of Areas of Archaeological Potential (AAPs) within the Study Area, including the River Nore and its margins and a section of the River Barrow. All AAPs should be considered as archaeological constraints and avoided where possible. Where avoidance is not possible, potential negative impacts should be minimised through design. This includes the use of clear span structures across waterways.

An analysis of the built heritage within the Study Area provides a holistic overview of the built heritage resource, with the later years of the post medieval period well-illustrated by the presence of a number of

CONSTRAINTS AND OPPORTUNITIES REPORT

country houses, vernacular houses, bridges, railway infrastructure and churches. Protected Structures that are considered to be architecturally and socially important are listed within the Kilkenny and Wexford County Development Plans. There are 61 Protected Structures within the Study Area. The National Inventory of Architectural Heritage (NIAH) survey for Counties Kilkenny and Wexford lists 108 buildings within the Study Area. Of the 108 NIAH structures, 52 are included in the RPS, with a further nine buildings listed in the RPS that are not included in the NIAH. In total there are 116 built heritage sites that are either listed in the RPS or NIAH (or both) within the Study Area.

Protected structures receive statutory protection that helps to ensure their preservation for the future. NIAH structures are not subject to statutory protection. All Protected Structures and NIAH structures should be considered as cultural heritage constraints during the design of the Proposed Scheme, with direct impacts and indirect impacts on their settings avoided, where possible. Where avoidance is not possible, potential impacts should be minimised through design.

There is one Architectural Conservation Area (ACA) located within the Study Area, which comprises the historic town of Inistioge. ACAs are subject to statutory protection and are a key constraint.

Analysis of the NIAH Garden Survey and the historic OS maps has led to the identification of 21 Designed Landscapes, either fully or partially within the Study Area. The largest landscape is associated with Woodstock House. It is possible that two smaller landscapes adjacent to the Woodstock House demesne once formed part of the overall landscape. Of the remaining 18 individual landscapes, all retain their principal structures with only one building remaining in ruins. This is relatively unusual within the Irish landscape, as a large number of country houses were lost during the 20th century.

A review of the National Inventory of Intangible Cultural Heritage (NIICH) has also been undertaken in relation to Ireland's intangible cultural heritage. A total of 19 practises or traditions have been identified from the survey that may be located within the Study Area.

Whilst the main purpose of this assessment is to identify and describe key cultural heritage constraints in order to prevent negative impacts during design, the nature of the Project – a greenway through the landscape – means that there are also opportunities to promote heritage sites and make them more accessible to members of the public. It is noted that many heritage sites are located within land that is privately owned and any such opportunities for the exploration of heritage narratives would be subject to agreement with landowners. Any such proposals would require detailed analysis as to whether increased public visitation would lead to indirect negative impacts, such as ground erosion caused by foot fall or interference with sites or structures due to increased accessibility. However, given the nature of greenway projects, there is more scope to avoid negative direct impacts on cultural heritage sites, whilst also providing opportunities.

Whilst it is not possible to access and promote all cultural heritage sites across the Study Area, the opportunity to tie heritage narratives into the greenway, as a linear route accessible to the public, should explore promoting understanding of key and significant sites and structures. This may not necessarily mean accessing sites from the greenway route but simply providing heritage information on adjacent sites and landscapes within the wider landscape. The route of the former railway, which possesses multiple associated heritage features is an example of this, and while it is unlikely to form part of any greenway route proposed, it could be utilised to provide additional attraction to the surrounding landscape.

The identification of heritage narrative opportunities will be further assessed at route option assessment stage when defined Study Areas for each option are available. This stage will identify potential negative impacts upon the cultural heritage resource and also assess for potential positive impacts that may arise due to increased public access and promotion of same.

3.8.3 Identified Opportunities

The following opportunities were identified for Cultural Heritage:

- There are opportunities to promote heritage sites and make them more accessible to members of the public. Furthermore, whilst being cognisant of potential impacts to protected structures, existing cultural heritage features could potentially form part of the Proposed Scheme's route and/or be enhanced as part of the Proposed Scheme.
- There are opportunities to explore and understand key culturally significant sites and structures. This could include incorporating educational boards along the route of the Proposed Scheme outlining the cultural heritage significance of an area.

CONSTRAINTS AND OPPORTUNITIES REPORT

3.9 Landscape and Visual

3.9.1 Introduction

This Section of the Report presents the constraints and opportunities pertaining to landscape and visual amenities that are relevant to the Proposed Scheme.

The approach to the reporting of constraints was guided by the following:

- Landscape Institute and Institute of Environmental management and Assessment, Guidelines for Landscape and Visual Impact Assessment, 3rd Edition, (2013);
- TII, Landscape character assessment (LCA) and landscape and visual impact assessment (LVIA) of proposed national roads: Standards Document, PE-ENV-01105, Draft January 2019; and
- TII, LCA and landscape and visual impact assessment (LVIA) for Specified Linear Infrastructure Projects: Overarching Technical Document, PE-ENV-01104, Draft January 2019.

The Constraints Study and comparative assessment was informed by the following data sources:

- Wexford County Development Plan 2022-2028;
- Kilkenny County Development Plan 2021-2027;
- Ordnance survey maps at varying scales; and
- OS Maps and Aerial photography.

3.9.2 Existing Environment

3.9.2.1 Landscape Character Areas

There are landscape character areas in Kilkenny County Development Plan 2021-2027 and Wexford County Development Plan 2022-2028 that occur within the Study Area. Landscape Character Areas are unique, geographically specific areas of a particular landscape type. Each has its own individual character and identity, even though it shares the same generic characteristics with other areas of the same type. This distinction is reflected in the naming of types and areas - Landscape Character Types have generic names, while Landscape Character Areas are based on the names of specific places.

The landscape character assessments published in the Kilkenny County Development Plan 2021-2027 and Wexford County Development Plan 2022-2028 identify two respective landscape character areas within the Study Area. These include 'Upland' and 'River Valley' areas (See **Figure 3-27**).

3.9.2.2 Wexford County Development Plan 2022-2028

The Wexford County Development Plan 2022-2028 does not provide specific designations to specific views or routes. The Wexford County Development Plan 2021-2027 outlines the following scenic routes lying within the Study Area as potentially falling into the scenic route category:

- Routes through Upland, Coastal, River Valley and Distinctive Landscapes.
- Trails such as the Eurovelo, Norman Way, Greenways and Wexford Walking Trails where sightseeing visitors are more likely to be concentrated along these routes.
- Planned views and vistas such as those associated with planned settlement and heritage properties and gardens.

3.9.2.3 Kilkenny County Development Plan 2021-2027

According to the Kilkenny County Development Plan 2021-2027, the designated highly scenic / visually pleasing areas of "Nore Valley (South)" and "Brandon Hill" fall within the Study Area.

CONSTRAINTS AND OPPORTUNITIES REPORT

3.9.2.4 Protected Viewpoints

The following protected viewpoints have been identified within or adjacent to the Study Area:

- V5: View to the southwest over Inistioge and the Nore Valley on the Inistioge/Graiguenamanagh Road (LP4210) overlooking the LS8237 (between its junctions with road numbers LS8238 and the R700).
- V6: View southwest over the Nore Valley on the Thomastown/Inistioge Road, R700 between Inistioge and the junction at Coolnamuck (LS8289).
- V7: Views west over the Nore Valley on the R700 between Inistioge and Thomastown (at the junction with the R703), particularly those at Brownsbarn Bridge and Dangan.
- V8: View East over the Nore Valley on the Thomastown/Inistioge Grennan Road (LP4208) south of Thomastown between the junctions with road numbers LS 8236 and LP4215.
- V9: View to the southeast over the Barrow Valley, south of New Ross on the LS7512 between the junctions with road numbers LP3432 and the N25.
- V25: Woodstock viewed from South Leinster Way east of Inistioge
- V27: Inistioge Bridge viewed through woodland on road to Woodstock House
- V28: View from Mount Alto Tower towards Inistioge village.
- V29: View from Mount Alto Tower along the Nore Valley to Thomastown.
- V30: View from the Winter Garden Terrace across the Nore Valley.

CONSTRAINTS AND OPPORTUNITIES REPORT

It is important to note that V7, V8 and V9 do not lie within the Study Area but could potentially be affected by the Proposed Scheme. See **Figure 3-27** for the distribution of viewpoints located within County Kilkenny.

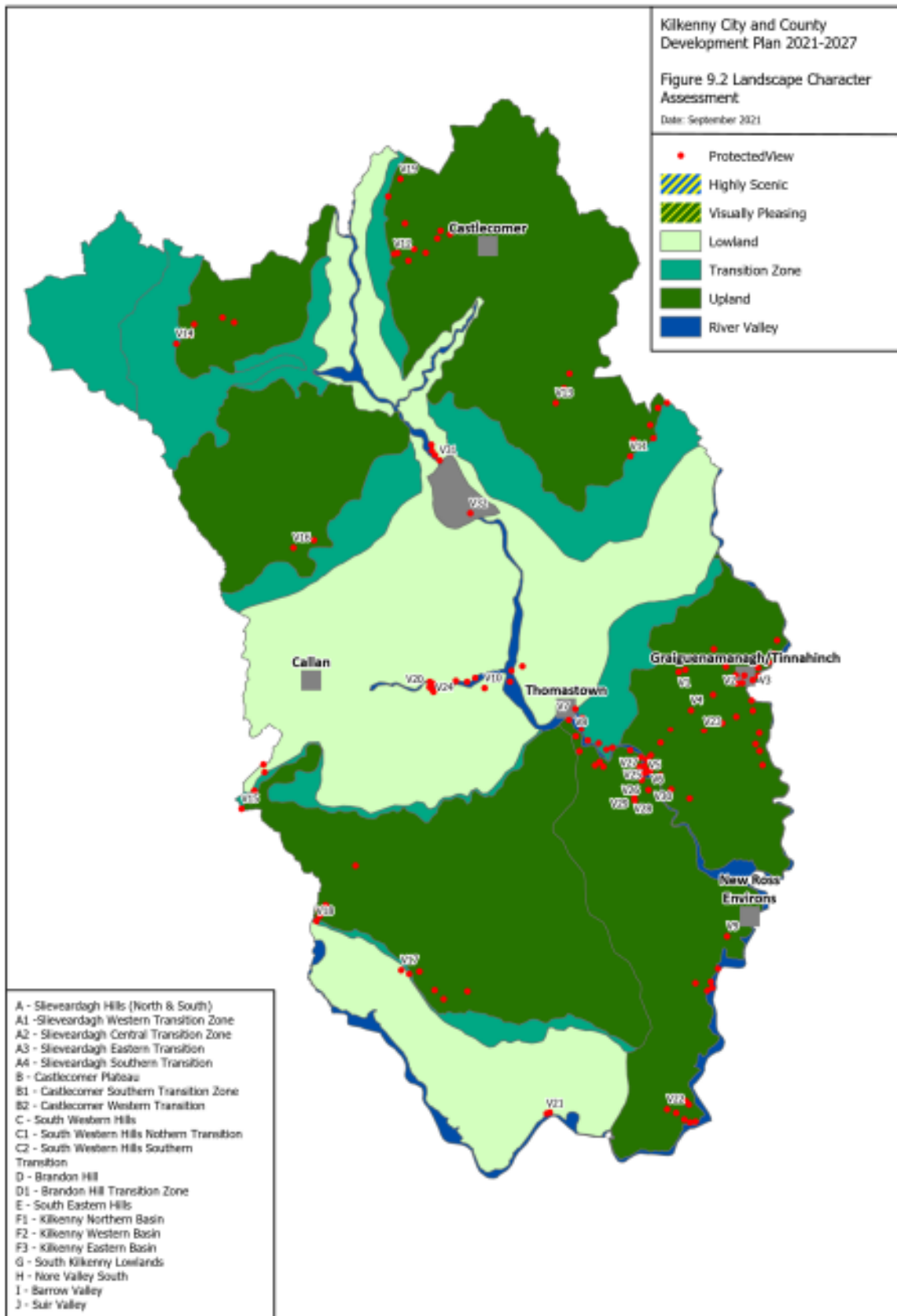


Figure 3-27: Landscape Character Areas within County Kilkenny

Source: Kilkenny County Council (2021) Kilkenny County Development Plan. Available at: [Adopted City and County Development Plan - Kilkenny County Council](#).

CONSTRAINTS AND OPPORTUNITIES REPORT

3.9.2.5 Landscape Character and Sensitivity Rankings

Kilkenny County Development Plan 2022-2027

The Kilkenny County Development Plan 2022-2027 defines the land character as being river valley and upland (See **Figure 3-27**). The Kilkenny County Development 2022-2027 maps the environmental sensitivities (See **Figure 3-28**). Within the Study Area, it was identified that Mixed Forests (Woodstock Forests), watercourses (River Nore), inland marshes (southeast of the Study Area) and broad-leaved forests (along the banks of the River Nore) were identified as being sensitive (See **Figure 3-28**).

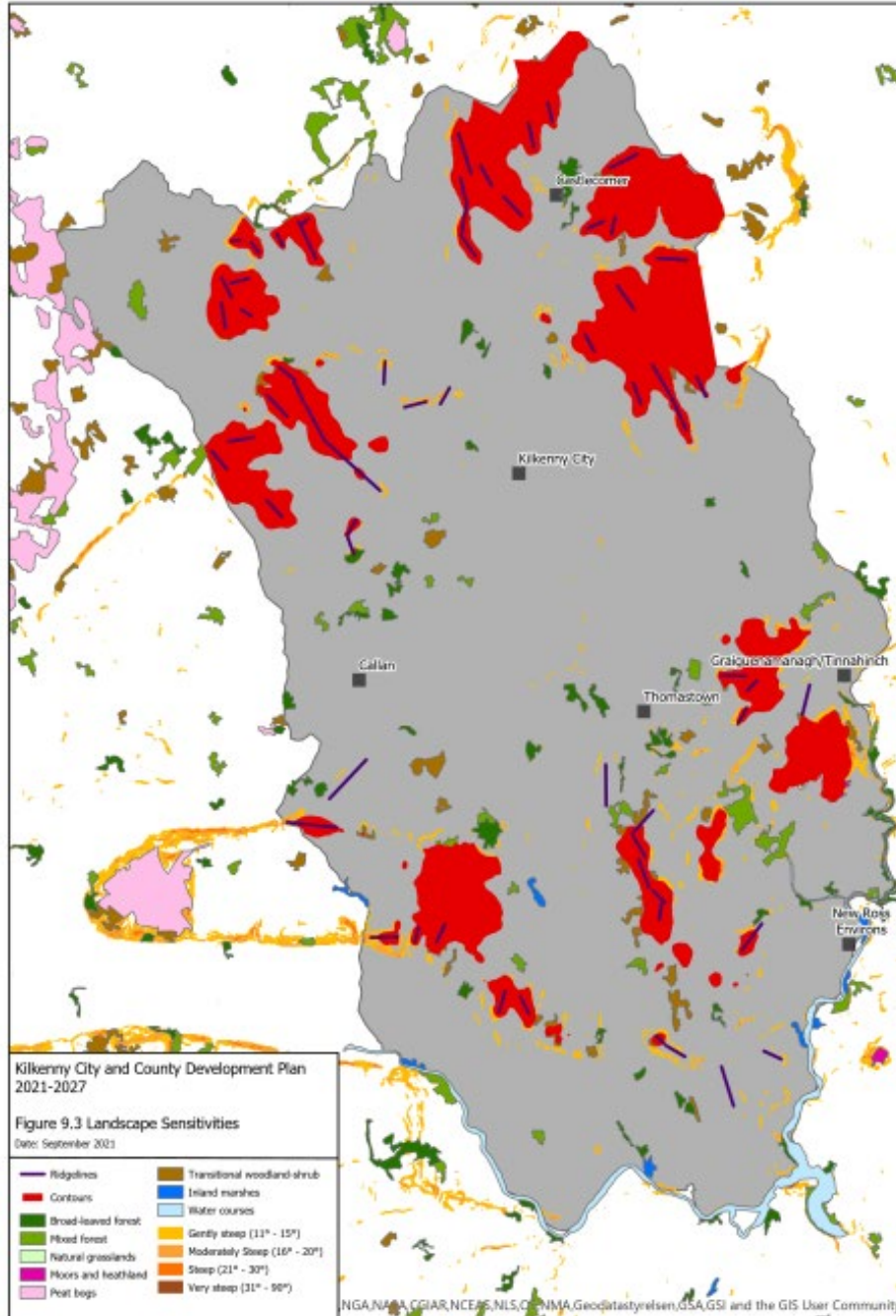


Figure 3-28: Landscape Sensitivities within County Kilkenny

Source: Kilkenny County Council (2021) Kilkenny City and County Development Plan

CONSTRAINTS AND OPPORTUNITIES REPORT

3.9.3 Identified Constraints

Cognisance of the sensitive landscape areas present within the Study Area will be required during the option selection process in order not to significantly impact their characteristic features. Opportunities to enhance the amenity value of the area should be explored during detailed design. A summary of the key constraints are as follows:

- Careful consideration will need to be provided especially to protected viewpoints especially to the cluster of protected viewpoints within Inistioge Village.
- Design should not negatively affect scenic routes along upland and River Valleys. The low impact nature of a greenway route should ensure there is no significant development that will adversely impact the surrounding landscape character.
- A significant concentration of sensitive features are identified within the Study Area. During the option selection for the Proposed Scheme, it will be important to aim to integrate the Proposed Scheme well with the surrounding environment so as to not affect the sensitivity of features such as the River Nore, Woodstock Forest, inland marshes and broad-leaved forests along the River Nore Forest.
- The designation of a greenway route within the vicinity of environmental sensitivities identified in the above sections will allow users to appreciate the character of New Ross Town and Inistioge, as well as potentially contribute to its development.

3.9.4 Identified Opportunities

The following opportunities were identified for Landscape & Visual:

- There is an opportunity for the design team to consider incorporating existing hedgerows and trees into the design of the Proposed Scheme. This will help minimise the effects of the Proposed Scheme, thus reduce change to the surrounding landscape within the area.
- There is opportunity to incorporate native tree planting along sections of the Proposed Scheme. This will help screen the Proposed Scheme and help merge the Proposed Scheme into the surrounding landscape.
- The Proposed Scheme will inherently provide improved access to urban settlements. For instance, the Proposed Scheme form part of the network to connect New Ross up with Inistioge and Kilkenny City.
- A potential greenway route could be aligned to take advantage of the scenic viewpoints present within the Study Area, as a form of low impact passive tourism.

CONSTRAINTS AND OPPORTUNITIES REPORT

4 ENGINEERING

4.1 Topography

The topography within the Study Area is undulating. The ground slopes steeply towards the River Nore on either side of the watercourse. The highest point in the Study Area is located at Mount Alto and exceeds 270m AOD. The banks of the River Nore within the Study Area are generally lower than 10 mAOD. A major constraint for the Proposed Scheme will be identifying a route that provides suitable gradients for pedestrian and cyclist use.

At some locations, particularly in the southern portion of the Study Area, there are areas of low-lying land adjacent to the River Nore which could be subject to fluvial flooding. It is noted that in some instances landowners have constructed embankments alongside the river to prevent flooding of their lands.

4.2 Transport Infrastructure - Roads

The primary road through the Study Area is the R700 regional road, which runs on the eastern side of the River Nore from Inistioge to New Ross. This road terminates on the southern side of New Ross where it meets the R723 regional road which joins the N25 national road, which goes to Waterford and Wexford Town, and the N30 national road which goes to Enniscorthy.

A network of local roads of varied width and surface quality traverse the entire Study Area. This includes the L7495 which runs on the western side of the River Nore from Coolshane (near Inistioge) until it meets the R704 regional road which goes to New Ross.

4.3 Transport Infrastructure – Public Transport

There are no rail services within then the Study Area.

There are 2 no. bus services within the area:

- Route 882 operated by Kilbride Coaches – Service runs twice daily between Kilkenny City and Inistioge via the R700, with stops at Bennettsbridge and Thomastown. An extra service from Kilkenny City is operated on weekday evenings during the school term.
- Route 374 operated by Bus Éireann – Single service which runs on Thursdays from New Ross to Kilkenny via the R700, with stops at Inistioge, Thomastown and Bennettsbridge.

4.4 Safety

Due to the primarily rural nature of the Study Area, the road network does not have extensive footway or segregated cycle facilities. The development of the Proposed Scheme would provide a safe, segregated route for pedestrians and cyclists.

Interfaces with existing roads and accesses will be a design constraint that will be considered initially at a high level during the option selection phase and in more detail during the design and environmental evaluation phase.

CONSTRAINTS AND OPPORTUNITIES REPORT

5 EXTERNAL PARAMETERS

5.1 Funding and Scope

The project is currently being funded by the Department of Transport / Transport Infrastructure Ireland. The National Development Plan 2021-2030 has committed €360 million annually in funding for the development of active travel infrastructure. Under the 2024 TII Grant Allocations to Local Authorities for National Roads and Greenways, a funding allocation of €400,000 has been allocated to Kilkenny County Council for this project.

5.2 Construction Phasing

It may be appropriate to construct the Proposed Scheme on a phased approach and under multiple construction contracts. This will be considered further at a later stage of the project.

5.3 Required Level of Service

The Proposed Scheme will aim to provide a greenway with an appropriate level of service as required by the relevant technical standards.

5.4 Technical Standards

The Proposed Scheme will be developed in accordance with all relevant TII Standards and Technical Publications as well as any other applicable standards such as the NTA National Cycle Manual.

5.5 Access Control

As per the requirements of TII DN-GEO-03047 (Rural Cycleway Design), the Proposed Scheme shall provide access control where necessary and in a manner which ensures universal access including for people with disabilities.

5.6 Policy Documents

The Proposed Scheme is well supported by policies at all levels. Refer to **Section 2** for further discussion on relevant policy documents.

5.7 Procedural and Legal Requirements

The Proposed Scheme shall be developed in accordance with all applicable procedural and legal requirements at all phases of the project.

CONSTRAINTS AND OPPORTUNITIES REPORT

REFERENCES

- DECC, 2023. *Climate Action Plan 2024*, s.l.: s.n.
- DEHLG, 2009. *Appropriate Assessment of Plans and Projects in Ireland: Guidance for Planning Authorities*, s.l.: s.n.
- DEHLG, 2010. *NPW 1/10 and PSSP 2/10 on Appropriate Assessment under Article 6 of the Habitats Directive – Guidance for Planning Authorities*, s.l.: s.n.
- DHPLG, 2018. *Project Ireland 2040: National Planning Framework*, s.l.: s.n.
- DoT, 2018. *Strategy for the Future Development of National and Regional Greenways*, s.l.: s.n.
- DoT, 2021. *Code of Best Practice for National and Regional Greenways*, s.l.: s.n.
- DoT, 2021. *National Investment Framework for Transport in Ireland*, s.l.: s.n.
- DoT, 2022. *National Sustainable Mobility Policy*, s.l.: s.n.
- DoT, 2024. *Transport Appraisal Framework - Module 3 – Project/Programme Outline Documents*, s.l.: s.n.
- DPE, 2021. *National Development Plan 2021-2030*, s.l.: s.n.
- DTTaS, 2018. *Strategy for the Future Development of National and Regional Greenways*, s.l.: s.n.
- EC, 2000. *Communication from the Commission on the Precautionary Principle.*, Brussels: Office for Official Publications for the European Communities.
- EC, 2009. • *Estuaries and Coastal Zones within the Context of the Birds and Habitats Directives - Technical Supporting Document on their Dual Roles as Natura 2000 Sites and as Waterways and Locations for Ports*, s.l.: s.n.
- EC, 2011. • *European Commission Staff Working Document 'Integrating biodiversity and nature protection into port development*, s.l.: s.n.
- EC, 2012. *Guidelines on the implementation of the birds and habitats directives in estuaries and coastal zones*, s.l.: s.n.
- EC, 2021. *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*, s.l.: s.n.
- OPW, n.d. *Saint Mullins Ecclesiastical Village: A Monastic Site with legendary connections*. [Online] Available at: <https://heritageireland.ie/unguided-sites/saint-mullins-ecclesiastical-village/> [Accessed 15 April 2025].
- Southern Regional Assembly, 2020. *Regional Spatial & Economic Strategy for the Southern Region*, s.l.: s.n.
- TII, 2022. *Project Management Guidelines PE-PMG-02041*, s.l.: s.n.

Appendix A Cultural Heritage Constraints Study

CULTURAL HERITAGE CONSTRAINTS STUDY

WOODSTOCK TO SOUTH EAST GREENWAY LINK

AUTHORS:

FAITH BAILEY AND JOHNNIE GALLACHER

APRIL 2025

IAC PROJECT REF.: J4288

DOCUMENT CONTROL SHEET

DATE	DOCUMENT TITLE	REV.	PREPARED BY	REVIEWED BY	APPROVED BY
17.04.25	Cultural Heritage Constraints Study Woodstock to South East Greenway Link	1	F. Bailey and J. Gallacher	M. Tobin	F. Bailey

Disclaimer

The results and conclusions that are presented within this report have been determined based on all relevant available information at the time of writing. Every effort has been made to ensure that all data has been collated. IAC and its clients accept no responsibility for omissions and/or inconsistencies that may result from further information becoming available following the completion date of this report.

©Irish Archaeological Consultancy Ltd 2025. The concepts and information contained within this document are the property of Irish Archaeological Consultancy Ltd, trading as IAC Archaeology (IAC). The copying of this document, in whole or in part, without prior written permission of IAC, constitutes an infringement of copyright.



NSAI



List of Figures.....	ii
1 METHODOLOGY & SOURCES OF INFORMATION	1
2 RESULTS OF CULTURAL HERITAGE CONSTRAINTS STUDY.....	2
2.1 UNESCO World Heritage Properties (WHP).....	2
2.2 National Monuments	2
2.3 Record of Monuments and Places and the Sites and Monuments Record	3
2.4 Architectural Heritage	3
2.5 Architectural Conservation Areas (ACAs)	5
2.6 Designed Landscapes	5
2.7 Areas of Archaeological Potential.....	6
2.8 Cultural Heritage Sites.....	7
2.9 National Inventory of Intangible Cultural Heritage (NIICH)	8
3 SUMMARY OF CONSTRAINTS AND OPPORTUNITIES	12
4 REFERENCES.....	15
FIGURES	

LIST OF FIGURES

- Figure 1a Distribution of SMRs in the northern section of the Study Area (National Monument marked with a red star)
- Figure 1b Distribution of SMRs in the southern section of the Study Area
- Figure 2a Distribution of recorded built heritage sites and demesne landscapes in the northern section of the Study Area
- Figure 2b Distribution of recorded built heritage sites and demesne landscapes in the southern section of the Study Area
- Figure 3 Architectural Conservation Area at Inistioge

1 METHODOLOGY & SOURCES OF INFORMATION

The following report describes the cultural heritage constraints identified within the Study Area for the proposed Greenway from Woodstock, Inistioge, Co. Kilkenny to Rosbercon, New Ross, Co. Wexford (ITM 667288, 633517). It was undertaken by Faith Bailey and Johnnie Gallacher of IAC Archaeology (IAC).

This study has been carried out in accordance with the Guidelines for Cultural Heritage Impact Assessment of TII National Road and Greenway Projects (2024). Research for this constraints study was undertaken as a desktop exercise. The following sources were consulted in order to identify archaeological, built heritage and cultural heritage constraints:

- UNESCO World Heritage Sites and Tentative List;
- Record of Monuments and Places (RMP) for Counties Kilkenny and Wexford;
- Sites and Monuments Record (SMR) for Counties Kilkenny and Wexford;
- Monuments in State Care Database;
- Preservation Orders;
- Cartographic and written sources relating to the Project Study Area;
- Kilkenny County Development Plan 2021-2027, including County Kilkenny Record of Protected Structures;
- Wexford County Development Plan 2022-2028, including County Wexford Record of Protected Structures;
- Historic Ordnance Survey mapping (1842, 1903);
- National Inventory of Architectural Heritage (NIAH): Architectural & Garden Survey, Counties Kilkenny and Wexford; and
- Ireland's National Inventory of Intangible Cultural Heritage.
- Aerial photographs (Google Earth).

Once all recorded archaeological heritage (RMP/SMR) and recorded built heritage (Protected Structures and NIAH structures) sites had been identified during the initial research, the sites were plotted into GIS in order to generate Figures 1a/b and Figure 2a/b. The zones of notification were examined in both the statutory legislative instrument (the RMP maps) and those shown on the Historic Environment Viewer (archaeology.ie). Those shown on Figures 1a-b represent the maximum extent of the zones when both sources are considered. In addition, all Designed Landscapes (DL), which often include the site or ruins of a former country house, were identified and mapped (Figure 2a-b). Sites and structures are detailed in the attached excel sheet dataset.

Significant Cultural Heritage sites, which may not be included in any existing archive, are also described below.

2 RESULTS OF CULTURAL HERITAGE CONSTRAINTS STUDY

The Study Area is largely rural in nature with the exception of the settlements of Inistioge and Rosbercon. The River Nore runs through the Study Area along with a small section of the River Barrow. The Study Area includes substantial stretches of woodland as well as low lying, more marginal ground adjacent to the watercourses. There are a total of 51 townlands within the Study Area, 45 of which are in County Kilkenny, with the remaining six being situated in County Wexford. The overall cultural heritage resource is characterised by recorded monuments from the prehistoric, early medieval, medieval and post-medieval periods and a number of designed landscapes in varying degrees of preservation.

2.1 UNESCO WORLD HERITAGE PROPERTIES (WHP)

The function of a UNESCO World Heritage list is to encourage member states to protect and manage their natural and cultural heritage. Properties considered for inclusion have cultural, historical, scientific or other significance, considered to be of outstanding value to humanity. There are three sites inscribed onto the UNESCO World Heritage List on the island of Ireland. These comprise the Giant's Causeway and Causeway Coast, Brú na Bóine and Skellig Michael, none of which lie within the Study Area. Additionally, none of the sites on the Tentative WHP List for Ireland are situated within the Study Area.

2.2 NATIONAL MONUMENTS

A national monument receives statutory protection and is described as 'a monument or the remains of a monument the preservation of which is a matter of national importance by reason of the historical, architectural, traditional, artistic or archaeological interest attaching thereto' (National Monuments Act, 1930, Section 2).

There is one National Monument listed within the Study Area (Figure 1a). This is the church of Clonamery which dates to the 10th or 11th century (Nat. Mon. No. 77; RMP No. KK033-021001, Figure 1a). Several features of the church are individually recorded monuments in their own right and are directly associated with the National Monument. These comprise, a graveyard (RMP No. KK033-021002), a baptismal font (RMP No. KK033-021004), a holy water stoup (RMP No. KK033-021007), and three cross-inscribed pillars (KK033-021003; KK033-021009; KK033-021010). Additionally, situated c. 73m west of the church are two stone structures which have been interpreted as the foundational ruins of two clocháin (KK033-021005; KK033-021006). These are circular, bee-hive shaped, corbelled drystone huts associated with the Celtic Christian ascetic tradition. In 1905, it was observed that they measured 4.42m and 3.35m in diameter respectively. As of 2017, only one of the clocháin could be seen at ground level, surviving as a cairn. Given that these type of monuments are predominantly found in County Kerry, their outlying presence in the Study Area is noteworthy.

2.3 RECORD OF MONUMENTS AND PLACES AND THE SITES AND MONUMENTS RECORD

Section 12 (1) of the National Monuments Act (1994 amendment) provides that the Minister for Arts, Heritage, Gaeltacht and the Islands (now the Minister for Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage) shall establish and maintain a Record of Monuments and Places (RMP) where it is known that such monuments exist. The record comprises of a list of monuments and relevant places with supporting mapping showing each monument and relevant place in respect of each county in the State. The mapping comprises annotated versions of the third edition Ordnance Survey maps (OS), the last revision of which dates to 1996. Sites recorded on the Record of Monuments and Places all receive statutory protection under the National Monuments Act.

The Sites and Monuments Record (SMR) holds documentary evidence and records of field inspections of all known archaeological sites and monuments. Some information is also held about archaeological sites and monuments whose precise location is not known e.g. only a site type and townland are recorded. These are known to the National Monuments Section as 'un-located sites' and cannot be afforded legal protection. As a result, these are omitted from the Record of Monuments and Places. An example being KK033-021008, recorded at Clonamery, which is a house shown on the Down Survey mapping adjacent to the church at Clonamery, but the exact location remains unknown.

It should be noted that overall revisions are proposed to the RMP and SMR, with some sites listed as redundant records and proposed for removal and other, newly discovered sites, proposed for inclusion. Some of the recorded sites within the Study Area fall into these categories. As the revisions have yet to take place, all current RMP / SMR sites are listed within this assessment.

There are 67 recorded monuments located within the Study Area (Figures 1a & 1b). All of these sites, except one, are either listed in the RMP or have been newly identified since the publication of the 1995 RMP map (for County Wexford) and 1996 RMP (for County Kilkenny). KK032-017002 represents a redundant record located within Inistioge.

Ecclesiastical sites are particularly well represented within the 67 RMP or proposed RMP sites. There are 6 churches, 1 religious house, 6 graveyards, 6 grave slabs, 2 tombs, 4 crosses, 3 holy wells, 3 cross-inscribed pillars, 4 fonts, and 2 *clocháin*. Further medieval monuments include 4 castles and 2 moated sites. There are 5 post-medieval houses, 2 of which are fortified houses, both situated within Inistioge, which as a Historic Town, is listed as a Recorded Monument in its own right.

2.4 ARCHITECTURAL HERITAGE

Structures of architectural, cultural, scientific, historical or archaeological interest are protected under the Planning and Development Act, 2000, where the conditions relating to the protection of architectural heritage are set out in Part IV of this Act. The Act defines a protected structure as '(a) a structure, or (b) a specified part of a

structure which is included in a Record of Protected Structures (RPS), and, where that record so indicates, includes any specified feature which is in the attendant grounds of the structure and which would not otherwise be included in this definition.’ Protection of the structure or part thereof, includes conservation, preservation, and improvement compatible with maintaining its character and interest’.

Buildings recorded in the RPS can include Recorded Monuments, structures listed in the NIAH or buildings deemed to be of architectural, archaeological or artistic importance by the Minister of Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage. It is noted that inclusion within the NIAH survey does not afford statutory protection. However, the structure may be added to the RPS by the relevant Local Authority in the future. As such, the buildings should be considered to be constraints.

Structures and sites that are included within the RMP and RPS are subject to statutory protection under both the National Monuments Act, 1930 and the Planning and Development Act, 2000.

The NIAH rating values are: International, National, Regional, Local and Record Only (I, N, R, L, O). Structures which are considered of International, National, and Regional significance are recommended by the Minister to the relevant Local Authority for inclusion in their RPS (NIAH Handbook 2017, DoCHG).

International: Structures or sites of sufficient architectural heritage importance to be considered in an international context. These are exceptional structures that can be compared to and contrasted with the finest architectural heritage in other countries.

National: Structures or sites that make a significant contribution to the architectural heritage of Ireland. These are structures and sites that are considered to be of great architectural heritage significance in an Irish context.

Regional: Structures or sites that make a significant contribution to the architectural heritage within their region or area. They also stand in comparison with similar structures or sites in other regions or areas within Ireland. Increasingly, structures that need to be protected include structures or sites that make a significant contribution to the architectural heritage within their own locality. Examples of these would include modest terraces and timber shop fronts.

Local: These are structures or sites of some vintage that make a contribution to the architectural heritage but may not merit being placed in the RPS separately. Such structures may have lost much of their original fabric.

Record Only: These are structures or sites that are not deemed to have sufficient presence or inherent architectural or other importance at the time of recording to warrant a higher rating. It is acknowledged, however, that they might be considered further at a future time.

A total of 116 individual structures of architectural heritage significance have been identified within the Study Area (Figures 2a & 2b). These are either listed within the Record of Protected Structures (RPS) (Kilkenny and Wexford Counties Development Plans) or have been identified as part of the architecture survey carried out by the National Inventory of Architectural Heritage (NIAH). Of the 116 structures, 107 are listed within the NIAH survey and an additional 9 Protected Structures are not included in the NIAH for the two counties concerned. There are a total of 61 structures listed in the RPS, 54 of which are also listed in the NIAH.

Four NIAH entries are rated as being of National importance and are all listed as Protected Structures:

- St Columcille’s Catholic Church (RPS C151, NIAH Reg No. 12323044), on Church Street, Inistioge.
- St Mary’s Church of Ireland (RPS C152, NIAH Reg No. 12323045), also on Church Street, Inistioge.
- St Mary’s Church, original medieval priory, (RPS 152, NIAH Reg No. 12323047), associated with the above.
- Inistioge Bridge (RPS C170, NIAH Reg No. 12323011), which is one of the ‘Kilkenny Group’ of bridges.

The remainder of the NIAH entries are listed as being of Regional importance.

2.5 ARCHITECTURAL CONSERVATION AREAS (ACAS)

An Architectural Conservation Area is defined as;

‘A place, area, group of structures or townscape, taking account of building lines and heights, that is of special architectural, historical, archaeological, artistic, cultural, scientific, social or technical interest or that contributes to the appreciation of a protected structure, and whose character it is an objective of a development plan to preserve.’ (DoAHG, 2011, 40).

Chapter II of Part IV of the Planning and Development Act, 2000 states that that all development plans must now include objectives for preserving the character of ACAs. As such ACAs are subject to statutory protection and are a key constraint.

There are 22 ACAs within County Kilkenny, one of which is located within the Study Area. This comprises the small historic town of Inistioge (Figure 3). There are 20 ACAs within County Wexford. Whilst two of these are located within New Ross, they fall c. 320m outside of the Study Area.

2.6 DESIGNED LANDSCAPES

The first edition Ordnance Survey map of County Kilkenny (1842) shows the extent of demesne landscapes as shaded areas of land. These were established as a naturalised landscaped setting for the large houses of the landed gentry. Later OS mapping (1903) can also indicate demesne extent, although they are not shaded. Not all demesne landscapes are subject to statutory protection. However, where a demesne exists in association with a Protected Structure (dependant on the preservation of the

landscape), protection can be interpreted as extending to the limits of the curtilage and as such falls within the remit of the Planning and Development Act, 2000.

A total of 21 Designed Landscapes are present within the Study Area (Figures 2a & 2b and the attached excel sheet data set). A total of 12 of these landscapes border the watercourses that run through the Study Area. The incorporation of natural landscape features within the overall design formed an integral part of the establishment of country houses and their landscapes.

Woodstock House, which is a Protected Structure (RPS Ref. C394; NIAH Ref. 12403203), but is now in ruins, possesses the largest demesne landscape within the study area. In 1737, Sir William Fownes, 2nd baronet (later an MP), inherited the holdings that made up the Woodstock Estate (totalling 21,763 statute acres spread over six counties). Ten years later, after two years of construction works, Fownes's building project of Woodstock House, a six bayed three storey mansion on the banks of the River Nore, was completed. The original building, which was designed by Francis Bindon, was extended with flanking wings designed by William Robertson in 1804-6, and with a conservatory designed by Richard Turner, c. 1860. Whilst the settlement of Inistioge pre-dates Woodstock House, Inistioge's later development was linked with the development of the Woodstock Estate. There are multiple buildings associated with the demesne, which include two walled gardens, outbuildings, a dovecote and farmyard complex. The overall demesne is in a moderate state of preservation although large sections are now covered with forestry.

During Ireland's War of Independence, the House was turned into a military garrison by the British troops and it was later used by pro-Treaty Irish troops during the Irish Civil War, before being burnt down by Republicans. The central bay of the front façade collapsed during a storm in 2001. Since 1926 Woodstock Park, and the rest of the property, was owned by the Tighe Estate. Subsequently the abandoned gardens and arboretum at Woodstock House were gifted by the Tighe family to the Kilkenny County Council in 2000 to enable them to be restored and run as a ticketed attraction.

Of the remaining 20 landscapes, all retain their principal structures, although Russellstown House is in ruins.

2.7 AREAS OF ARCHAEOLOGICAL POTENTIAL

Whilst specific Areas of Archaeological Potential (AAPs) have not been designated as part of this assessment, they are worth overall consideration at an early design stage as they can be defined as part of the landscape that possess the potential to contain archaeological remains due to the presence of topographic features such as rivers, lakes, high defensible ground and marginal terrain. Bodies of water and watercourses are a focus for human habitation due to the obvious transport and food resources. They, along with their margins, also have the potential to preserve organic archaeological deposits or artefacts such as wood or leather, which do not usually survive within the alkaline conditions associated with terrestrial archaeology. Rivers and lakes may have also played a role in prehistoric ritual, as significant artefacts from

the prehistoric periods and into the early medieval period, are often found within riverbed deposits. All of these areas and their margins, within the Study Area should be considered as possessing an overall archaeological potential. The aim, at early design stage, should be to cross any significant watercourses with single span structures or to utilise existing infrastructure.

2.8 CULTURAL HERITAGE SITES

The term 'cultural heritage' is often used as an over-arching term that can be applied to both archaeology and architecture. It also refers to more ephemeral or intangible aspects of the environment, which can be recorded in folk law or tradition or possibly date to a more recent period.

The Irish placenames for Inistioge is *Inis Tíog* (island/water meadow of *Tíog* or *Teoc*) (<https://www.logainm.ie/en/27231>). It has been informally suggested that *Tíog* refers to the Tighe dynasty who owned Woodstock Estate. This seems unlikely as the placename is mentioned in the Annals of the Four Masters to have existed as early as 962 (celt.ucc.ie), whilst the Tighe family are believed to have first entered Ireland during the subsequent Cromwellian period (<https://www.kilkennypeople.ie/news/features/1292499/prominent-kilkenny-families-the-tighe-family.html>).

The *Masters* refers to a battle in Inistioge in the year AD962 in which the *Osraighi* army defeated Norse forces.

Local folklore holds that an abbey was founded at Inistioge around the year AD800. By c. 1210 the Augustinian Priory of St. Columba was certainly established. The British Museum hold a copy of the original charter.

The noted poet Mary Tighe, author of 'Psyche' (1805; 1811), died while visiting relatives in Woodstock House. John Keats was one of her admirers and paid tribute to her in his poem, 'To Some Ladies', which contains the line 'the blessings of Tighe had melodiously given'.

Events commemorating George Brown have been held in Inistioge annually since 2008. Brown was born in the town, emigrated to Manchester as a child, and died as a volunteer in the International Brigades during the Spanish Civil War in 1937 (<https://www.g-brown-brigadista.com/>).

Inistioge has been used a filming location for movies such as 'Circle of Friends,' 'Widow's Peak' and 'The Secret Scripture', bringing stars such as Colin Firth, Minnie Driver, Eric Bana, Mia Farrow, Theo James, Chris O'Donnell, Rooney Mara, Adrian Dunbar and Joan Plowright to Kilkenny.

The village of Rosbercon developed as a community around Rosbercon Abbey, a Dominican house founded in 1267. Although it was then in County Kilkenny, the area is now split between Counties Kilkenny and Wexford. In 1539, the abbot surrendered

to Anglican Tudor forces, and it then fell into disrepair. Ruins of the Abbey were recorded in the 1820s but are no longer visible at ground level.

One of the townlands in Rosbercon is named Annefield. Samuel Robert Graves, grew up in the nearby Rosbercon Castle (NIAH Reg No. 15605252), and went onto a career as a merchant, shipowner and politician in Liverpool. It has been argued that he named the Anfield area of Liverpool, where Everton Football Club opened their grounds in 1884, before it changed hands to Liverpool Football Club in 1892. (<https://www.independent.ie/regionals/wexford/new-ross-news/localnotes/a-vibrant-and-warm-community/27506114.html>).

New Ross has historically been home to many trades and industries including the manufacture of nails, hats, beer, shoes, tombstones, baskets, chairs, cradles, tallow candles, tobacco, snuff, carts, beehives, kishes (fishtraps), tubs, churns, and corks. (<https://www.duchas.ie/en/cbes/5009324/5007198/5134398?HighlightText=rosbercon&Route=stories&SearchLanguage=ga>).

The former Mackmine/Waterford branchline of the Dublin and South Eastern Railway (DSER) runs through the southern limits of the Study Area (<https://www.atu.ie/irish-rail-and-heritage-maps>). Whilst no longer in use, it is a significant cultural heritage and industrial heritage feature, still clearly visible within the landscape. A branch was opened to New Ross in 1887 (www.eiretrains.com). This left the main line at Mackmine, which is located between Enniscorthy and Wexford town. The branchline was extended from New Ross to Waterford in 1904. This extension connected with the Great Southern and Western Railway, which in turn connected with trains for the south of Ireland. The former New Ross railway station was situated within the Study Area at Rosbercon. It closed to passenger trains in 1963 and to freight (predominantly cement and fertiliser) in 1995. Currently, the line remains in-situ but it is derelict and overgrown. The derelict station buildings were demolished in 1997. Today, only the down platform remains. The old railway bridge over the River Barrow is on the northern edge of the town and inside the Study Area (RPS Ref. D29). Many more unlisted heritage features survive along its length, such as the remains of level crossing infrastructure, signal posts, bridges and freight warehouses. Detailed survey and inspection of the railway line would enable the identification of further railway heritage features that are not listed in existing archives but remain an important part of the cultural heritage landscape.

2.9 NATIONAL INVENTORY OF INTANGIBLE CULTURAL HERITAGE (NIICH)

In July 2019, the Minister for Culture, Heritage and the Gaeltacht approved the inscription of 30 cultural heritage elements on Ireland's permanent National Inventory. This followed the ratification by Ireland of the 2003 UNESCO Convention for the Safeguarding of the Intangible Cultural Heritage, in December 2015. Ireland's obligations under the 2003 Convention include the establishment of a National Inventory for Intangible Cultural Heritage to protect, promote and celebrate Irish living cultural heritage practices, customs, crafts and traditions.

A review of the NIICH has been carried out as part of this study in order to identify intangible cultural heritage that may be located within the Project Study Area. Those practices and traditions that may be located within the Study Area are listed in the below table.

Table 1: NIICH potentially located within the Study Area

Designation	Location	NIICH Categories
Snap Net Fishing	On the Barrow and Nore Rivers - both within the study area – rare elsewhere in Ireland	Knowledge and practices concerning nature and the universe
Irish Traditional Travelling Circus and Funfair	Throughout the island of Ireland	Performing arts Social practices, rituals and festive events Traditional craftsmanship Oral traditions and expressions, including language Knowledge and practices concerning nature and the universe
<i>Lá an Dreoilín/</i> Wren's Day	Throughout the island of Ireland	Performing arts Social practices, rituals and festive events Traditional craftsmanship Oral traditions and expressions, including language Knowledge and practices concerning nature and the universe
Uilleann Piping	Ireland and worldwide	Performing arts Social practices, rituals and festive events Oral traditions and expressions, including language Traditional craftsmanship
Hurling	Ireland and worldwide	Knowledge and practices concerning nature and the universe Social practices, rituals and festive events Oral traditions and expressions, including language Performing arts Traditional craftsmanship
Irish Harping	Throughout the island of Ireland	Performing arts Social practices, rituals and festive events Traditional craftsmanship Oral traditions and expressions, including language
Art and Practice of Falconry	Throughout the island of Ireland	Knowledge and practices concerning nature and the universe Social practices, rituals and festive events Traditional craftsmanship

Designation	Location	NIICH Categories
		Performing arts
Cant / Gammon	Throughout Ireland.	Oral traditions and expressions, including language
Floating Heritage	Throughout the inland waterways of Ireland	Knowledge and practices concerning nature and the universe Oral traditions and expressions, including language Traditional craftsmanship
Irish Traditional Music	Throughout the island of Ireland, the diaspora and overseas	Social practices, rituals and festive events
Native Irish Pedigree Dog Breeds	Throughout Ireland	Knowledge and practices concerning nature and the universe Social practices, rituals and festive events
Basket making	Throughout Ireland	Knowledge and practices concerning nature and the universe Social practices, rituals and festive events Traditional craftsmanship Performing arts
Dry stone construction	Throughout the island of Ireland; particularly Connemara, the Aran Islands and the Dingle Peninsula	Traditional craftsmanship
Irish Draught Horse Breeding	Throughout the island of Ireland	Traditional craftsmanship Knowledge and practices concerning nature and the universe Social practices, rituals and festive events
Loy Digging	At local and national ploughing championships in Ireland	Knowledge and practices concerning nature and the universe
Letterpress Printing in Ireland	Ireland and abroad	Traditional craftsmanship
Beekeeping	Throughout the island of Ireland	Knowledge and practices concerning nature and the universe
Native Irish Cattle Breeding	Throughout the island of Ireland	Knowledge and practices concerning nature and the universe
Traditional Sheep	Throughout	Knowledge and practices concerning nature and the

Designation	Location	NIICH Categories
Farming and Sheepdog Training	Ireland	universe

3 SUMMARY OF CONSTRAINTS AND OPPORTUNITIES

The purpose of this assessment is to provide an analysis of the cultural heritage constraints and sensitive receptors within the Project Study Area in order to inform the design of feasible Alternatives and Options for the proposed Woodstock to South East Greenway Link. The Project Study Area is located within Counties Kilkenny and Wexford, and it contains all or part of 51 townlands. The study has shown that there is a significant cultural heritage resource within the area.

The Study Area is largely rural in nature with the exception of the settlements of Inistioge and Rosbercon. The route of the former railway from Mackmine to Waterford runs within the Study Area and whilst it is not subject to any specific heritage protection, it is a significant cultural and industrial heritage feature.

There is one National Monument located within the Study Area, namely the church of Clonamery which dates to the 10th or 11th century and its associated features. This includes the remains of two stone structures outside of the church which have been interpreted as the foundational ruins of two *clocháin* (corbelled drystone huts associated with the Celtic Christian ascetic tradition). These are of particular interest given that they represent a site type more commonly recorded in County Kerry. There are no sites within Preservation Orders within the Study Area.

There are 67 individual recorded monuments located within the Study Area. These recorded sites are of varying dates, although largely medieval, and are listed within the current Study Area, indicating a continuance of activity and settlement from the prehistoric period onwards. None are subject to Preservation Orders. All recorded archaeological sites should be considered as cultural heritage constraints during the design of the proposed Project with negative impacts avoided during detailed design.

There are a number of Areas of Archaeological Potential (AAPs) within the Project Study Area, including the River Nore and its margins and a section of the River Barrow. All AAPs should be considered as archaeological constraints and avoided where possible. Where avoidance is not possible, potential negative impacts should be minimised through design. This includes the use of clear span structures across waterways.

An analysis of the built heritage within the Project Study Area provides a holistic overview of the built heritage resource, with the later years of the post medieval period well-illustrated by the presence of a number of country houses, vernacular houses, bridges, railway infrastructure and churches. Protected Structures that are considered to be architecturally and socially important are listed within the Kilkenny and Wexford Counties Development Plans. There are 61 Protected Structures within the Study Area. The National Inventory of Architectural Heritage (NIAH) survey for Counties Kilkenny and Wexford lists 108 buildings within the Study Area. Of the 108 NIAH structures, 52 are included in the RPS, with a further nine buildings listed in the RPS that are not included in the NIAH. In total there are 116 built heritage sites that

are either listed in the RPS or NIAH (or both) within the study area. Protected structures receive statutory protection that helps to ensure their preservation for the future. NIAH structures are not subject to statutory protection

All Protected Structures and NIAH structures should be considered as cultural heritage constraints during the design of the proposed Project, with direct impacts and indirect impacts on their settings avoided, where possible. Where avoidance is not possible, potential impacts should be minimised through design.

There is one Architectural Conservation Area (ACA) located within the Study Area, which comprises the historic town of Inistioge. ACAs are subject to statutory protection and are a key constraint.

Analysis of the NAIH Garden Survey and the historic OS maps has led to the identification of 21 Designed Landscapes, withier fully or partially within the Study Area. The largest landscape is associated with Woodstock House. It is possible that two smaller landscapes adjacent to the Woodstock House demesne once formed part of the overall landscape. Of the remaining 18 individual landscapes, all retain their principal structures with only one building remaining in ruins. This is relatively unusual within the Irish landscape, as a large number of country houses were lost during the 20th century.

A review of the NIICH has also been undertaken in relation to Ireland's intangible cultural heritage. A total of 19 practises or traditions have been identified from the survey that may be located within the Project Study Area.

Whilst the main purpose of this assessment is to identify and describe key cultural heritage constraints in order to prevent negative impacts during design, the nature of the Project – a greenway through the landscape – means that there are also opportunities to promote heritage sites and make them more accessible to members of the public. It is noted that many heritage sites are located within land that is privately owned and any such opportunities for the exploration of heritage narratives would be subject to agreement with landowners. Any such proposals would require detailed analysis as to whether increased public visitation would lead to indirect negative impacts, such as ground erosion caused by foot fall or interference with sites or structures due to increased accessibility. However, given the nature of greenway projects, there is more scope to avoid negative direct impacts on cultural heritage sites, whilst also providing opportunities.

Whilst it is not possible to access and promote all cultural heritage sites across the Study Area, the opportunity to tie heritage narratives into the greenway, as a linear route accessible to the public, should explore promoting understanding of key and significant sites and structures. This may not necessarily mean accessing sites from the greenway route but simply providing heritage information on adjacent sites and landscapes within the wider landscape. The route of the former railway, which possesses multiple associated heritage features is an example of this, and while it is

unlikely to form part of any greenway route proposed, it could be utilised to provide additional attraction to the surrounding landscape.

The identification of heritage narrative opportunities will be further assessed at route option assessment stage when defined Study Areas for each option are available. This stage will identify potential negative impacts upon the cultural heritage resource and also assess for potential positive impacts that may arise due to increased public access and promotion of same.

4 REFERENCES

Department of Arts, Heritage, Gaeltacht and the Islands. 1999a. *Framework and Principles for the Protection of the Archaeological Heritage*. Government Publications Office, Dublin.

Department of Arts, Heritage, Gaeltacht and the Islands. 1999b. *Policy and Guidelines on Archaeological Excavation*. Government Publications Office, Dublin.

Department of Culture, Heritage and the Gaeltacht. 2017. *NIAH Handbook*.

Kilkenny County Council (KCC). 2022. *Kilkenny County Development Plan 2021-2027*. (including County Kilkenny Record of Protected Structures).

Department of Culture, Heritage and the Gaeltacht. 2017. *NIAH Handbook*.

National Monument Service, Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage. *Sites and Monuments Record*, Counties Kilkenny and Wexford.

Transport Infrastructure Ireland (TII). 2024. *Guidelines for Cultural Heritage Impact Assessment of TII National Road and Greenway Projects*.

Wexford County Council (WCC). 2022. *Wexford County Development Plan 2022-2028*. (including County Wexford Record of Protected Structures).

ELECTRONIC SOURCES

www.archaeology.ie – DoHLGH website listing all SMR/RMP/National Monuments/Preservation Order List

www.osiemaps.ie – Ordnance Survey aerial photographs dating to 1995-2013 and 6-inch/25-inch OS maps.

www.heritagemaps.ie – The Heritage Council web-based spatial data viewer which focuses on the built, cultural, and natural heritage.

www.bingmaps.com – Website containing aerial photographic datasets.

www.logainm.ie – Placenames Database of Ireland launched by Fiontar agus Scoil na Gaelige and the DoHLGH.

www.googleearth.com – Satellite imagery of the Study Area.

www.buildingsofireland.ie – Website listing the results of the NIAH building and garden surveys for Counties Kilkenny and Wexford.

www.nationalinventoryich.chg.gov.ie – National Inventory of Intangible Cultural Heritage

www.duchas.ie/en/cbes/4672113/4671379/4672418 - The Schools' Collection – folklore.

<https://celt.ucc.ie/publishd.html> - Corpus of Electronic Texts – includes the Annals of the Four Masters 1

<https://www.archiseek.com/woodstock-house-inistioge-co-kilkenny/> (2024)

<https://www.askaboutireland.ie/reading-room/history-heritage/big-houses-of-ireland/the-tighe-family-woodstoc/>

<https://www.thehandstand.net/archive/december2003/articles/woodstock.htm>

<https://www.thehandstand.org/archive/april2004/articles/woodstock.htm>

<https://www.woodstock.ie/history/>

Glossary of Terms

AAP – Area of Archaeological Potential.

ACA – Architectural Conservation Area.

DL – Designed Landscape.

DoHLGH – Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage.

NIAH – National Inventory of Architectural Heritage. Building survey and garden survey.

NIICH – National Inventory of Intangible Cultural Heritage.

OS – Ordnance Survey.

RMP – Record of Monuments and Places.

RPS – Record of Protected Structures.

SMR – Sites and Monuments Record.

PO – Preservation Order.

UNESCO - United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization.



Figure 1a: Distribution of Recorded Monuments and National Monument in the northern section of the Study Area



Figure 1b: Distribution of SMRs in the southern section of the Study Area

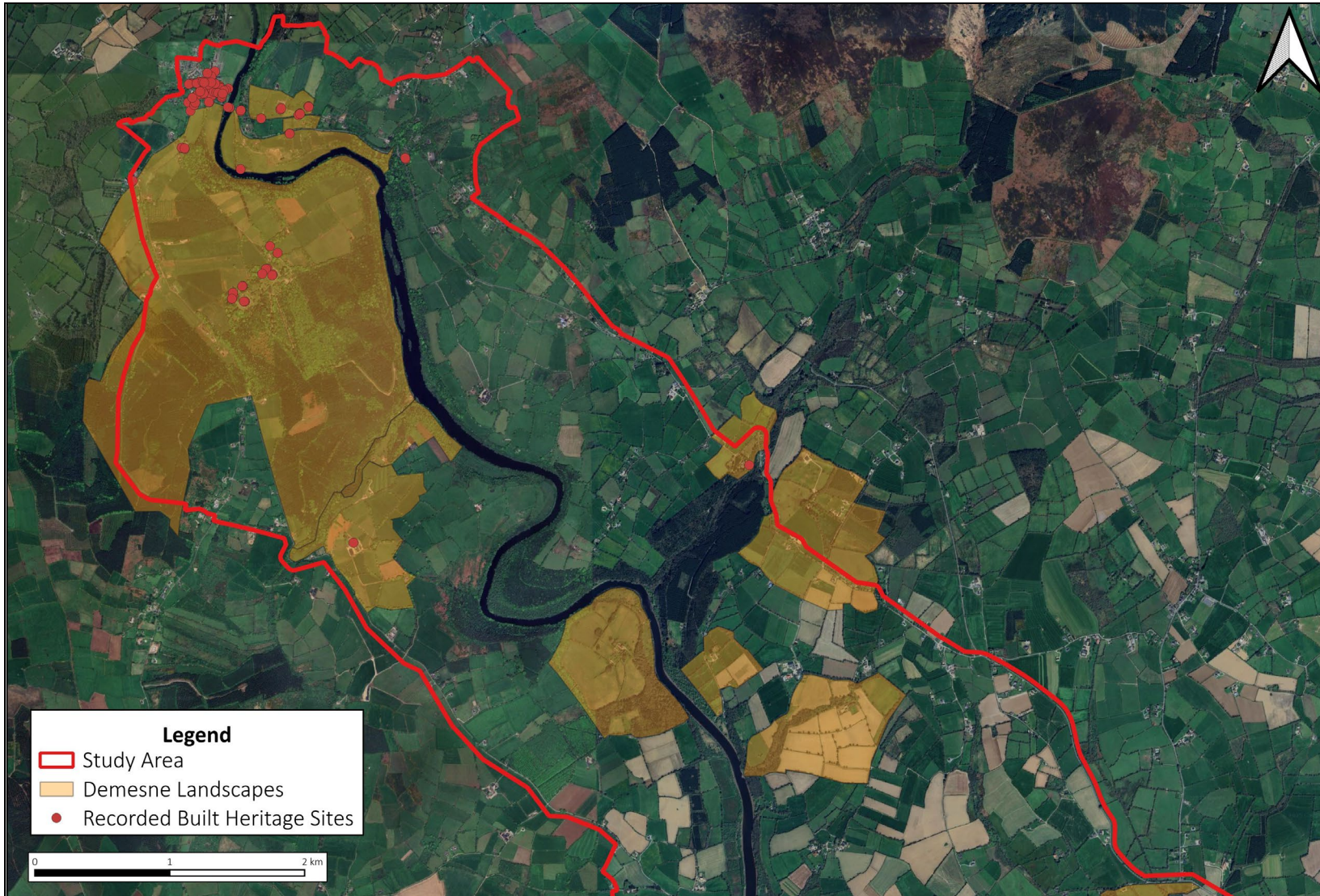


Figure 2a: Distribution of recorded built heritage sites and demesne landscapes in the northern section of the Study Area



Figure 2b: Distribution of recorded built heritage sites and demesne landscapes in the southern section of the Study Area



Figure 3: Architectural Conservation Area at Inistioge

Appendix A.1: Cultural Heritage Receptors

ApX Table 1: List of Built Heritage within the Study Area¹

NIAH Reg.No.	RPS No.	Status	Original Use	Location	Town	Townland	County	ITMEasting	ITMNorthing	Description	Date From	Date To	Rating
12323001	C165	NIAH and RPS	house	Church Street	Inistioge	INISTIOGE	KILKENNY	663494	637882	Semi-detached three-bay three-storey house, c.1800. Extensively renovated, c.1900, with canted bay window inserted to left ground floor and additional door opening inserted to right ground floor. Reroofed. Now in use as guesthouse. One of a pair. Pi	1790	1810	Regional
12323002	C165	NIAH and RPS	house	Church Street	Inistioge	INISTIOGE	KILKENNY	663494	637874	Semi-detached three-bay three-storey double-pile house, c.1800, on a corner site. Refenestrated, c.1900. Reroofed and renovated with replacement pub front inserted to ground floor. Now also in use as guesthouse. One of a pair. Pitched double-pile (M-	1790	1810	Regional
12323003	0	NIAH	house	The Square	Inistioge	INISTIOGE	KILKENNY	663514	637869	Attached three-bay two-storey house, c.1850, possibly incorporating fabric of earlier house, c.1750. Refenestrated. Pitched slate	1840	1860	Regional

¹ Note: Information was extracted directly from publicly available information. Available at <https://www.buildingsofireland.ie/resources/>

NIAH Reg.No.	RPS No.	Status	Original Use	Location	Town	Townland	County	ITMEasting	ITMNorthing	Description	Date From	Date To	Rating
										roof with clay ridge tiles, rendered squat chimney stacks, and cast-iron rainwater goods on rendered eaves. Painted rough			
12323004	0	NIAH	house	Fountain View	Inistioge	INISTIOGE	KILKENNY	663526	637866	Attached four-bay two-storey house, c.1850, possibly incorporating fabric of earlier house, c.1750. Renovated, c.1925, with shopfront inserted to left ground floor and one window opening remodelled. Part re fenestrated. Now entirely in residential use.	1840	1860	Regional
12323005	0	NIAH	unknown		Inistioge	INISTIOGE	KILKENNY	663592	637845	Section of canalised river with sections of random rubble stone retaining walls, c.1825, incorporating single segmental arch footbridge having rubble stone voussoirs. Sited spanning canalised section of tributary of River Nore.	1815	1835	Regional
12323006	0	NIAH	manse	The Manse	Inistioge	INISTIOGE	KILKENNY	663535	637853	Attached three-bay two-storey Methodist manse, built	1850	1855	Regional

NIAH Reg.No.	RPS No.	Status	Original Use	Location	Town	Townland	County	ITMEasting	ITMNorthing	Description	Date From	Date To	Rating
										1852. Refenestrated. Now in private residential use. Pitched slate roof with clay ridge tiles, rendered chimney stacks, and iron rainwater goods on slightly overhanging timber eaves. Painted render			
12323007	C164	NIAH and RPS	church/chapel	The Square	Inistioge	INISTIOGE	KILKENNY	663529	637850	Attached three-bay double-height single-cell Methodist hall, built 1852, on a corner site. Closed, post-1931. Refenestrated, c.1975. Now in residential use. Pitched slate roof with clay ridge tiles, rendered chimney stacks, cut-stone coping (forming	1850	1855	Regional
12323008	C163	NIAH and RPS	house	The Square	Inistioge	INISTIOGE	KILKENNY	663530	637838	Attached three-bay two-storey house, c.1750. Extensively renovated, c.1900, with shopfront inserted to right ground floor. Reroofed, c.1950. Refenestrated. Now entirely in residential use. Pitched roof with	1740	1760	Regional

NIAH Reg.No.	RPS No.	Status	Original Use	Location	Town	Townland	County	ITMEasting	ITMNorthing	Description	Date From	Date To	Rating
										replacement artificial slate, c.1950, havi			
12323009	C162	NIAH and RPS	house	The Square	Inistioge	INISTIOGE	KILKENNY	663531	637829	Terraced three-bay two-storey house, c.1750, on a corner site with three-bay two-storey side (south) elevation. Refenestrated, c.1850. Part refenestrated, c.1900. Reroofed, c.1950. Subsequently in commercial use to ground floor, post-1965. Now disus	1740	1760	Regional
12323010	C161	NIAH and RPS	house		Inistioge	INISTIOGE	KILKENNY	663542	637828	Terraced three-bay two-storey house, c.1750, on a corner site. Refenestrated, c.1875. Renovated, c.1925, with shopfront inserted to right ground floor. Mostly refenestrated, c.1975. Pitched slate roof on an L-shaped plan (forming hip to corner) with	1740	1760	Regional
12323011	C170	NIAH and RPS	bridge	Inistioge Bridge	Inistioge	INISTIOGE, KILCROSS	KILKENNY	663601	637704	Ten-arch rubble stone Classical-style road bridge over river, built 1763, on site of earlier bridge, c.1700. Random rubble stone	1760	1765	National

NIAH Reg.No.	RPS No.	Status	Original Use	Location	Town	Townland	County	ITMEasting	ITMNorthing	Description	Date From	Date To	Rating
										walls with tooled granite ashlar triangular cutwaters to piers to south having paired Ionic pilasters over supporting carve			
12323012	C169	NIAH and RPS	school		Inistioge	INISTIOGE	KILKENNY	663546	637792	Terraced five-bay two-storey school, c.1800, possibly originally two separate two-bay two-storey (south) and three-bay two-storey (north) ranges. Reroofed. Now in commercial use to part ground floor with remainder in residential use . Pitched (shared)	1790	1810	Regional
12323013	C169	NIAH and RPS	house		Inistioge	INISTIOGE	KILKENNY	663551	637810	Terraced two-bay two-storey house with half-dormer attic, c.1800, on a corner site with three-bay two-storey return to south possibly originally separate house. Refenestrated. Now in commercial use to ground floor. Hipped gabled (shared) slate roof(g	1790	1810	Regional
12323014	0	NIAH	house		Inistioge	INISTIOGE	KILKENNY	663545	637811	Terraced two-bay two-storey house with dormer attic,	1890	1910	Regional

NIAH Reg.No.	RPS No.	Status	Original Use	Location	Town	Townland	County	ITMEasting	ITMNorthing	Description	Date From	Date To	Rating
										c.1900, possibly incorporating fabric of earlier house, pre-1840. Reroofed and renovated, c.1950, with openings to ground floor remodelled to accommodate commercial use. Renovated with dormer attic a			
12323015	0	NIAH	house		Inistioge	INISTIOGE	KILKENNY	663540	637812	Terraced two-baytwo-storey house with dormer attic, c.1900, possibly incorporating fabric of earlier house, pre-1840. Reroofed, c.1950. Renovated, 1998, with opening to ground floor remodelled to accommodate commercial use and dormer attic added. One	1890	1910	Regional
12323016	0	NIAH	house	Williams	Inistioge	INISTIOGE	KILKENNY	663533	637813	Terraced three-baytwo-storey house, c.1825. Renovated, c.1875, with shopfront inserted to left ground floor. Extensively renovated, c.1975, with dormer attic added. Now disused. Pitched roof with	1815	1835	Regional

NIAH Reg.No.	RPS No.	Status	Original Use	Location	Town	Townland	County	ITMEasting	ITMNorthing	Description	Date From	Date To	Rating
										replacement artificial slate, c.1975, clay ridge tile			
12323017	C160	NIAH and RPS	house	The Square	Inistioge	INISTIOGE	KILKENNY	663525	637814	Terraced three-bay three-storey house, c.1850. Renovated, c.1950, with openings to ground floor remodelled. Pitched (shared) slate roof with clay ridge tiles, rendered chimney stacks, and iron rainwater goods on slightly overhanging rendered eaves havi	1840	1860	Regional
12323018	C160	NIAH and RPS	house	The Square	Inistioge	INISTIOGE	KILKENNY	663517	637815	Terraced four-bay three-storey house, c.1825, with square-headed carriage way to right ground floor. Renovated, c.1975, with pubfront inserted to left ground floor. Pitched slate roof with clay ridge tiles, rendered chimney stacks, and iron rainwater go	1815	1835	Regional
12323019	C159	NIAH and RPS	house	The Square	Inistioge	INISTIOGE	KILKENNY	663503	637818	Terraced five-bay two-storey house, c.1875, possibly with dormer attic with	1865	1885	Regional

NIAH Reg.No.	RPS No.	Status	Original Use	Location	Town	Townland	County	ITMEasting	ITMNorthing	Description	Date From	Date To	Rating
										shopfront to right ground floor. Renovated, c.1950, with window opening to left ground floor remodelled. Now disused. Pitched slate roof with clay ridge tiles, rendered chimne			
12323020	0	NIAH	house	The Square	Inistioge	INISTIOGE	KILKENNY	663493	637819	Terraced three-baytwo-storey house with dormer attic, c.1825. Subsequently in use as almshouse, post-1840. Extensively renovated with dormer attic added. Now in commercial use to part ground floor. Pitched roof with replacement artificial slate, cla	1815	1835	Regional
12323021	C158	NIAH and RPS	almshouse	The Square	Inistioge	INISTIOGE	KILKENNY	663480	637821	Terraced seven-baytwo-storey almshouse, built 1786-8, on a rectangular plan. Vacated, 1973. Replacement pitched artificial slate roof centred on replacement pitched (gabled) artificial slate roof with ridge	1785	1790	Regional

NIAH Reg.No.	RPS No.	Status	Original Use	Location		Town	Townland	County	ITMEasting	ITMNorthing	Description	Date From	Date To	Rating
											tiles, and uPVC rainwater goods on roughcast			
12323022	C156	NIAH and RPS	coaching inn	The Square		Inistioge	INISTIOGE	KILKENNY	663468	637823	End-of-terrace three-bay three-storey house, c.1775, on a corner site. Refenestrated, c.1900. Reroofed, c.1950. Renovated, c.1975, with replacement pubfront inserted to ground floor. Pitched roof with replacement artificial slate, c.1950, clay ridge	1765	1785	Regional
12323023	0	NIAH	house	Rivergate		Inistioge	INISTIOGE	KILKENNY	663450	637785	Attached five-bay two-storey house with dormer attic, c.1850. Part refenestrated, c.1925. Part refenestrated. Pitched slate roof with clay ridge tiles, rendered chimney stack, rooflight, and iron rainwater goods on rendered eaves. Painted rendered, r	1840	1860	Regional
12323024	C901	NIAH and RPS	gates/railings/walls	Woodstock House		Inistioge	INISTIOGE	KILKENNY	663450	637743	Gateway, c.1825, comprising pair of granite ashlar panelled piers with carved	1815	1835	Regional

NIAH Reg.No.	RPS No.	Status	Original Use	Location	Town	Townland	County	ITMEasting	ITMNorthing	Description	Date From	Date To	Rating
										(moulded) cornices, cut-granite capping, iron double gates having cast-iron finials, and section of iron flanking railings to east on granite ashlar plinth having cast-iron fin			
12323025	C153	NIAH and RPS	house	W. Walsh	Inistioge	INISTIOGE	KILKENNY	663439	637831	Attached three-bay three-storey house, c.1775, possibly incorporating fabric of earlier range, c.1500, on site. Renovated, c.1900, with shopfront inserted to right ground floor. Refenestrated. Now disused to right ground floor. Pitched slate roof with	1765	1785	Regional
12323026	C546	NIAH and RPS	house	High Street	Inistioge	INISTIOGE	KILKENNY	663446	637874	Terraced five-bay three-storey house, c.1800, on a corner site probably originally two separate three-bay three-storey (west) and two-bay three-storey (east) houses. Part refenestrated, c.1900. Renovated with replacement shopfront inserted to left	1790	1810	Regional

NIAH Reg.No.	RPS No.	Status	Original Use	Location	Town	Townland	County	ITMEasting	ITMNorthing	Description	Date From	Date To	Rating
										grou			
12323027	0	NIAH	house	High Street	Inistioge	INISTIOGE	KILKENNY	663423	637870	Terraced three-bay three-storey house, c.1825. Reroofed, c.1950. Extensively renovated with openings to ground floor remodelled. Now in use as guesthouse. Pitched roof with replacement artificial slate, c.1950, clay ridge tiles, rendered chimney stack	1815	1835	Regional
12323028	0	NIAH	house	High Street	Inistioge	INISTIOGE	KILKENNY	663393	637801	End-of-terrace three-bay three-storey house, c.1800, probably originally terraced. Refenestrated. Pitched slate roof with clay ridge tiles, rendered (shared) chimney stack, and cast-iron rainwater goods on rendered eaves having iron brackets. Painted	1790	1810	Regional
12323029	C903	NIAH and RPS	house	High Street	Inistioge	INISTIOGE	KILKENNY	663383	637819	Detached three-bay three-storey house, c.1800, on a corner site with single-bay three-storey side elevations.	1790	1810	Regional

NIAH Reg.No.	RPS No.	Status	Original Use	Location	Town	Townland	County	ITMEasting	ITMNorthing	Description	Date From	Date To	Rating
										Reroofed and refenestrated. Pitched roof with replacement artificial slate, clay ridge tiles, red brick Running bond chimney stacks, and repla			
12323030	C904	NIAH and RPS	house	High Street	Inistioge	INISTIOGE	KILKENNY	663330	637775	Detached three-bay two-storey house with dormer attic, c.1875, with single-bay two-storey gabled breakfront having flanking polygonal bay windows to ground floor. Pitched slate roof (gabled to breakfront) with clay ridge tiles, red brick Running bond ch	1865	1885	Regional
12323031	C905	NIAH and RPS	house	High Street	Inistioge	INISTIOGE	KILKENNY	663344	637741	Terraced three-bay two-storey house, c.1850. Extensively renovated, c.1950. One of a pair. Pitched (shared) roof with replacement artificial slate, c.1950, clay ridge tiles, red brick Running bond (shared) chimney stacks, and iron rainwater goods on r	1840	1860	Regional

NIAH Reg.No.	RPS No.	Status	Original Use	Location	Town	Townland	County	ITMEasting	ITMNorthing	Description	Date From	Date To	Rating
12323032	0	NIAH	outbuilding	High Street	Inistioge	INISTIOGE	KILKENNY	663294	637742	Detached three-bay two-storey outbuilding, c.1800, on an L-shaped plan with square-headed carriageway to ground floor, and two-bay two-storey lower range perpendicular to right originally having elliptical-headed carriageway to right ground floor. Now i	1790	1810	Regional
12323033	0	NIAH	fountain	High Street	Inistioge	INISTIOGE	KILKENNY	663311	637680	Wall-mounted spring fountain, c.1850, comprising round-headed recess in unpainted rendered wall over random rubble stone construction with cut-stone trough plinth, cut-stone surround supporting cut-stone voussoirs, unpainted rendered recess having apertu	1840	1860	Regional
12323034	0	NIAH	house	High Street	Inistioge	INISTIOGE	KILKENNY	663339	637723	Terraced three-bay single-storey house, c.1850. Reroofed. Pitched (shared) roof with replacement artificial slate, clay ridge tiles, rendered	1840	1860	Regional

NIAH Reg.No.	RPS No.	Status	Original Use	Location		Town	Townland	County	ITMEasting	ITMNorthing	Description	Date From	Date To	Rating
											chimney stack, and no rainwater goods on timber eaves. Unpainted roughcast walls. Square-headed window openi			
12323035	0	NIAH	outbuilding	High Street		Inistioge	INISTIOGE	KILKENNY	663387	637849	Detached two-baytwo-storey rubble stone outbuilding, c.1800. Now in ruins. Pitched roof now gone with no rainwater goods surviving on squared rubble stone eaves. Random rubble stone walls with dressed stone quoins to corners. Openings not discerned.	1790	1810	Regional
12323036	0	NIAH	house	Ogenty House	Mill Road	Inistioge	INISTIOGE	KILKENNY	663394	637875	Terraced three-baytwo-storey house with half-dormer attic, c.1775. Extensively renovated. Pitched roof with replacement artificial slate, clay ridge tiles, rendered chimney stacks, rooflight, and iron rainwater goods on box eaves. Unpainted roughcast	1765	1785	Regional

NIAH Reg.No.	RPS No.	Status	Original Use	Location		Town	Townland	County	ITMEasting	ITMNorthing	Description	Date From	Date To	Rating
12323037	0	NIAH	house	The Cottage	Mill Road	Inistioge	INISTIOGE	KILKENNY	663413	637880	Attached three-baytwo-storey house, c.1900, possibly incorporating fabric of earlier house, c.1800. Refenestrated. Pitched artificial slate roof with clay ridge tiles, roughcast chimney stack, and iron rainwater goods on timber eaves. Painted roughca	1890	1910	Regional
12323038	C906	NIAH and RPS	house	Rushbrooke	Mill Road	Inistioge	INISTIOGE	KILKENNY	663412	637887	Attached three-baytwo-storey house with dormer attic, c.1900, possibly incorporating fabric of earlier house, c.1800. Refenestrated, c.1975. Pitched slate roof with clay ridge tiles, rendered chimney stack, flat roof to dormer attic window, rooflight	1890	1910	Regional
12323039	C907	NIAH and RPS	unknown	Mill Road		Inistioge	INISTIOGE	KILKENNY	663403	637895	Single-arch rubble stone road bridge over river, c.1800. Random rubble stone walls. Single segmental arch with cut-stone voussoirs, and rubble stone soffits having remains of render over.	1790	1810	Regional

NIAH Reg.No.	RPS No.	Status	Original Use	Location	Town	Townland	County	ITMEasting	ITMNorthing	Description	Date From	Date To	Rating
										Sited spanning tributary of River Nore with random rubble stone			
12323040	0	NIAH	unknown	Hatchery Lane	Inistioge	INISTIOGE	KILKENNY	663378	637895	Single-arch rubble stone bridge over river, c.1800. Random rubble stone walls with ivy-clad squared rubble stone coping to parapets. Single elliptical arch with cut-stone voussoirs, and rubble stone soffits having remains of render over. Sited spannin	1790	1810	Regional
12323041	C908	NIAH and RPS	house	Hatchery Lane	Inistioge	INISTIOGE	KILKENNY	663359	637884	End-of-terrace three-bay two-storey house, c.1800, originally terraced. Now derelict. Pitched slate roof with clay ridge tiles, rendered chimney stack, and remains of cast-iron rainwater goods on rendered squared rubble stone eaves. Painted roughcast	1790	1810	Regional
12323042	0	NIAH	house	Hatchery Lane	Inistioge	INISTIOGE	KILKENNY	663318	637884	End-of-terrace two-bay two-storey house with dormer attic, c.1850. Extended, c.1975,	1840	1860	Regional

NIAH Reg.No.	RPS No.	Status	Original Use	Location		Town	Townland	County	ITMEasting	ITMNorthing	Description	Date From	Date To	Rating
											comprising single-bay single-storey lean-to recessed end bay to left. Reroofed, 2004, with dormer attic added. Pitched roof (lean-to to end bay) with replacement slat			
12323043	0	NIAH	house	Hatchery Lane		Inistioge	INISTIOGE	KILKENNY	663312	637882	Terraced three-bay two-storey house, c.1825. Extensively renovated. Pitched roof with replacement artificial slate, c.1990, clay ridge tiles, rendered and red brick Running bond chimney stacks, and cast-iron rainwater goods on overhanging rendered eave	1815	1835	Regional
12323044	C151	NIAH and RPS	church/chapel	Saint Columcille's Catholic Church	Church Street	Inistioge	INISTIOGE	KILKENNY	663430	637911	Detached seven-bay double-height single-cell Gothic-style Catholic church, built 1836-7, on site of earlier church, pre-1800. Pitched slate roof with clay ridge tiles, cut-stone coping to gables having cross finial to apex, and cast-iron rainwater goods	1835	1840	National

NIAH Reg.No.	RPS No.	Status	Original Use	Location		Town	Townland	County	ITMEasting	ITMNorthing	Description	Date From	Date To	Rating
12323045	C152	NIAH and RPS	church/chapel	Saint Mary's Church	Church Street	Inistioge	INISTIOGE	KILKENNY	663470	637935	Detached eight-bay double-height single-cell Early English Gothic-style Board of First Fruits Church of Ireland church, built 1824, incorporating fabric of medieval Augustinian priory, founded 1210, comprising eight-bay double-height nave with single-bay	1820	1825	National
12323046	0	NIAH	mausoleum	Saint Mary's Church	Church Street	Inistioge	INISTIOGE	KILKENNY	663436	637961	Freestanding single-bay single-storey granite ashlar pedimented Greek Revival mausoleum, built 1810, on a square plan. Gabled (pedimented) cut-granite roof. Granite ashlar walls on cut-granite base with batter, frieze, and cut-granite surrounds to pedi	1805	1815	Regional
12323047	C152	NIAH and RPS	priory	Saint Mary's Church	Church Street	Inistioge	INISTIOGE	KILKENNY	663454	637950	Attached single-bay three-stage rubble stone tower house, built 1210, on a square plan originally forming part of larger medieval	1875	1880	National

NIAH Reg.No.	RPS No.	Status	Original Use	Location	Town	Townland	County	ITMEasting	ITMNorthing	Description	Date From	Date To	Rating
										priory complex on site with chamfers to top stage extending into single-bay single-stage upper level on an octagonal plan.			
12323049	0	NIAH	house	Church Street	Inistioge	INISTIOGE	KILKENNY	663447	637886	Attached three-bay two-storey house, c.1800, possibly originally parochial house or rectory with single-bay single-storey gabled projecting porch to centre ground floor, and possibly originally with elliptical-headed carriageway to right ground floor. R	1790	1810	Regional
12323050	C155	NIAH and RPS	fountain	The Square	Inistioge	INISTIOGE	KILKENNY	663488	637846	Freestanding limestone ashlar Gothic Revival memorial fountain, erected 1879, on a square plan comprising stepped base, single stage on bas-relief rock-faced course having diagonally-disposed clasping consoles, carved (moulded) basin to face to west havi	1875	1880	Regional

NIAH Reg.No.	RPS No.	Status	Original Use	Location	Town	Townland	County	ITMEasting	ITMNorthing	Description	Date From	Date To	Rating
12323051	C910	NIAH and RPS	bridge	Church Street	Inistioge	INISTIOGE	KILKENNY	663468	637893	Two-arch rubble stone road bridge over river, c.1800. Random rubble stone walls with triangular cut-water to pier, and rendered rounded coping to parapets. Pair of segmental arches with cut-stone voussoirs, and ribbed rendered soffits. Sited spanning	1790	1810	Regional
12323052	0	NIAH	house	Bridge Houses	Inistioge	INISTIOGE	KILKENNY	663683	637678	End-of-terrace three-bay single-storey fisherman's cottage with dormer attic, c.1875. Now derelict. One of a terrace of four. Pitched (shared) slate roof with clay ridge tiles, rendered chimney stack, and remains of rainwater goods on rendered squared	1865	1885	Regional
12323053	C911	NIAH and RPS	house	Berryhill Cottage	Inistioge	INISTIOGE	KILKENNY	663836	637624	Detached three-bay single-storey house, c.1900, on U-shaped plan comprising single-bay single-storey recessed central bay having single-bay single-storey flat-roofed projecting porch,	1890	1910	Regional

NIAH Reg.No.	RPS No.	Status	Original Use	Location	Town	Townland	County	ITMEasting	ITMNorthing	Description	Date From	Date To	Rating
										and single-bay single-storey gabled projecting flanking end bays havin			
12323054	C912	NIAH and RPS	gate lodge	Berryhill House	Inistioge	INISTIOGE	KILKENNY	664122	637661	Detached three-bays single-storey gate lodge, c.1925, on an L-shaped plan with single-bay single-storey recessed end bay to right (east) forming three-bays single-storey return block to north. Renovated. Hipped slate roof (hipped and pitched slate roof t	1920	1930	Regional
12323055	C986	NIAH and RPS	gate lodge	Woodstock House	Inistioge	INISTIOGE	KILKENNY	663268	637399	Detached three-bays single-storey gate lodge, c.1825. Now disused. Hipped slate roof with rolled lead ridges, rendered chimney stack removed, 2004, and cast-iron rainwater goods on cut-stone eaves. Granite ashlar walls with cut-granite quoins to corner	1815	1835	Regional
12323056	C987	NIAH and RPS	gates/railings/ walls	Woodstock House	Inistioge	INISTIOGE	KILKENNY	663248	637407	Gateway, c.1825, comprising pair of banded granite ashlar piers with carved (moulded)	1815	1835	Regional

NIAH Reg.No.	RPS No.	Status	Original Use	Location	Town	Townland	County	ITMEasting	ITMNorthing	Description	Date From	Date To	Rating
										cornices having stepped capping with dragon finials, wrought iron double gates having cast-iron finials, banded limestone ashlar flanking screen walls incorporating squ			
12323058	C169	NIAH and RPS	house		Inistioge	INISTIOGE	KILKENNY	663542	637780	Terraced two-bay two-storey house with dormer attic, c.1825. Reroofed with dormer attic added. Pitched (shared) roof with replacement artificial slate, clay ridge tiles, rendered chimney stack, rendered coping, rooflights, and iron rainwater goods on r	1815	1835	Regional
12323059	0	NIAH	house	Bridge Houses	Inistioge	INISTIOGE	KILKENNY	663685	637685	Terraced three-bay single-storey fisherman's cottage with dormer attic, c.1875. Now disused. One of a terrace of four. Pitched (shared) slate roof with clay ridge tiles, rendered chimney stack, and remains of rainwater goods on rendered	1835	1885	Regional

NIAH Reg.No.	RPS No.	Status	Original Use	Location	Town	Townland	County	ITMEasting	ITMNorthing	Description	Date From	Date To	Rating
										squared rubble			
12323060	C913	NIAH and RPS	gates/railings/ walls	Berryhill House	Inistioge	INISTIOGE	KILKENNY	664114	637652	Gateway, c.1925, comprising pair of unpainted rendered cylindrical piers with rendered conical capping, timber double gates, concrete block curved flanking walls, and unpainted rendered cylindrical outer piers having rendered conical capping. Road front	1915	1935	Regional
12323061	C914	NIAH and RPS	house	Parkers Cottage	Inistioge	INISTIOGE	KILKENNY	664186	637714	Detached three-bays single-storey lodge with dormer attic, c.1800, with single-bay single-storey gabled breakfront, and single-bay single-storey flanking end bays. Extensively renovated to accommodate use as holiday accommodation. Pitched slate roofs (g	1770	1790	Regional
12323062	C478	NIAH and RPS	house	Berryhill House	Inistioge	INISTIOGE	KILKENNY	663978	637691	Detached four-bays single-storey Tudor-style house with dormer attic, built 1780, with	1775	1785	Regional

NIAH Reg.No.	RPS No.	Status	Original Use	Location	Town	Townland	County	ITMEasting	ITMNorthing	Description	Date From	Date To	Rating
										single-bay single-storey gabled advanced entrance bay, canted bay window to left ground floor, canted bay window to right ground floor, and single-bay two-storey return			
12323063	C915	NIAH and RPS	garda station/ constabulary barracks		Inistioge	KILCROSS	KILKENNY	664046	637514	Detached five-bay two-storey Garda S�och�na station, built 1939, on a rectangular plan; five-bay two-storey rear (west) elevation. Hipped slate roof with clay ridge tiles, red brick Running bond off-central chimney stack having shallow stringcourse be	1935	1940	Regional
12323065	0	NIAH	house		Inistioge	INISTIOGE	KILKENNY	663493	637972	Detached three-bay single-storey building with half-attic, c.1850. Reroofed. Now disused. Pitched roof (gabled to half-attic windows) with replacement slate, clay ridge tiles, and iron rainwater goods on timber eaves. Random rubble stone walls with i	1840	1860	Regional

NIAH Reg.No.	RPS No.	Status	Original Use	Location	Town	Townland	County	ITMEasting	ITMNorthing	Description	Date From	Date To	Rating
12323066	C177	NIAH and RPS	house	Mill Road	Inistioge	INISTIOGE	KILKENNY	663400	637857	End-of-terrace three-bay three-storey house, c.1850, on a corner site. Extensively renovated. Pitched roof with replacement artificial slate, clay ridge tiles, rendered chimney stacks, and replacement uPVC rainwater goods on timber eaves. Painted rend	1840	1860	Regional
12323067	0	NIAH	house	High Street	Inistioge	INISTIOGE	KILKENNY	663339	637783	End-of-terrace single-bay two-storey house, c.1825. Renovated, 1973, with box bay window inserted to ground floor. Pitched slate roof with clay ridge tiles, rendered chimney stack, and iron rainwater goods on rendered eaves having iron ties. Painted r	1815	1835	Regional
12323068	C916	NIAH and RPS	house	Hatchery Lane	Inistioge	INISTIOGE	KILKENNY	663300	637878	Terraced three-bay two-storey house, c.1925, possibly incorporating fabric of earlier house, c.1825. Pitched slate roof with clay ridge tiles,	1915	1935	Regional

NIAH Reg.No.	RPS No.	Status	Original Use	Location	Town	Townland	County	ITMEasting	ITMNorthing	Description	Date From	Date To	Rating
										rendered chimney stacks, and iron rainwater goods on rendered eaves. Painted rendered walls. Square-headed w			
12323069	C917	NIAH and RPS	house		Inistioge	OLDCOURT	KILKENNY	664907	637325	Detached three-bays single-storey house with half-dormer attic, c.1900, possibly incorporating fabric of earlier house, pre-1840, with single-bay single-storey lower end bay to right. Pitched slate roofs with clay ridge tiles, rendered and red brick Runn	1890	1910	Regional
12323070	C918	NIAH and RPS	house		Inistioge	INISTIOGE	KILKENNY	662879	637157	Detached four-bays single-storey house with half-dormer attic, c.1825. Refenestrated. Pitched slate roof (gabled to half-dormer attic windows) with clay ridge tiles, rendered chimney stacks, and iron rainwater goods. Ivy-clad unpainted fine roughcast w	1815	1835	Regional
12403202	C1036	NIAH and RPS	farmyard complex	Woodstock House	Inistioge	INISTIOGE	KILKENNY	663957	636630	Farmyard complex, c.1750, including: (i) Detached four-	1740	1760	Regional

NIAH Reg.No.	RPS No.	Status	Original Use	Location	Town	Townland	County	ITMEasting	ITMNorthing	Description	Date From	Date To	Rating
										baytwo-storey outbuilding with series of four round-headed carriageways to ground floor. Now disused. Hipped slate roof with clay ridge tiles, and no rainwater goods surviving on dressed limeston			
12403203	C394	NIAH and RPS	countryhouse	Woodstock House	Inistioge	INISTIOGE	KILKENNY	663880	636514	Detached seven-baythree-storey over part-raised basement Classical-style countryhouse, built 1745-7, with five-bay three-storey over part-raised basement Garden (south-west) Front. Extended, 1804-6, comprising five-baysingle-storeyrecessed lateral w	1740	1750	Regional
12403213	C1037	NIAH and RPS	garden	Woodstock House	Inistioge	INISTIOGE	KILKENNY	663921	636472	Formal garden, between 1840-90, including terraces having granite ashlar retaining walls with cut-granite coping, and flights of cut-granite steps forming swept perron having cut-granite panelled stepped buttresses. Set	1840	1890	Regional

NIAH Reg.No.	RPS No.	Status	Original Use	Location	Town	Townland	County	ITMEasting	ITMNorthing	Description	Date From	Date To	Rating
										back from road in grounds shared			
12403214	C1038	NIAH and RPS	walled garden	Woodstock House	Inistioge	INISTIOGE	KILKENNY	663715	636272	Walled garden, c.1750, on a square plan with random rubble stone boundary wall to perimeter of site having cut-stone coping, and cut-granite quoins supporting timber double gates. Set back from road in grounds shared with Woodstock House.	1740	1760	Regional
12403215	C1039	NIAH and RPS	dovecote/pigeon house/aviary	Woodstock House	Inistioge	INISTIOGE	KILKENNY	663619	636291	Freestanding single-bay single-stage dovecote, c.1750, on a circular plan. Now disused. Conical slate roof on red brick course rising through red brick Running bond 'belvedere' into conical slate cap on red brick course. Random rubble stone walls. Po	1740	1760	Regional
12403216	C1041	NIAH and RPS	outbuilding	Woodstock House	Inistioge	INISTIOGE	KILKENNY	663629	636317	Detached four-bays single-storey outbuilding, c.1775, with square-headed carriageway to right. Pitched slate roof with clay ridge tiles, and iron	1765	1785	Regional

NIAH Reg.No.	RPS No.	Status	Original Use	Location	Town	Townland	County	ITMEasting	ITMNorthing	Description	Date From	Date To	Rating
										rainwater goods on timber eaves board over squared rubble stone eaves. Random rubble stone walls. Square-h			
12403217	C1040	NIAH and RPS	worker's house	Woodstock House	Inistioge	INISTIOGE	KILKENNY	663699	636386	Detached three-bay single-storey Tudor-Revival head gardener's house with dormer attic, c.1875, with single-bay single-storey lean-to advanced porch to centre ground floor, single-bay single-storey gabled advanced end bay to left having canted bay window	1865	1885	Regional
12403703	0	NIAH	house	Ballyneale House	Ballyneale	BALLYNEALE	KILKENNY	666994	631230	Detached five-bay two-storey house, c.1825, on an L-shaped plan with single-bay single-storey gabled projecting porch to centre ground floor having lean-to flanking box bay windows, and two-bay two-storey return to west. Extensively renovated possibly w	1815	1835	Regional
12403706	0	NIAH	house			TINNAKILLY BIG	KILKENNY	670861	628084	Detached five-bay two-storey house, c.1900,	1890	1910	Regional

NIAH Reg.No.	RPS No.	Status	Original Use	Location	Town	Townland	County	ITMEasting	ITMNorthing	Description	Date From	Date To	Rating
										incorporating fabric of earlier house, pre-1840, on site with two-bays single-storey flat-roofed projecting entrance bay to left ground floor, and box bay window to right ground floor. Mostly refenestrated. Pi			
12403707	C955	NIAH and RPS	house	Bawnjames House		ROSBERCON	KILKENNY	671086	628690	Detached three-bay (two-bay deep) two-storey house, extant 1885, on a rectangular plan centred on single-bay single-storey flat-roofed advanced porch to ground floor. Hipped slate roof on a quadrangular plan with roll moulded ridge tiles, paired rendere	1880	1885	Regional
12403708	D29	NIAH and RPS	viaduct	Barrow Viaduct		GARRANBEHY BIG	KILKENNY	671660	629647	Five-span railway viaduct over river, designed 1884; dated 1886; opened 1887. Closed, 1963. Now disused. Sited spanning River Barrow with unkempt banks to river.	1880	1890	Regional
12403709	C468 / D28	NIAH and RPS	farm house	Ringwood House		RINGWOOD	KILKENNY	670857	630935	Detached three-bay two-storey farmhouse,	1800	1839	Regional

NIAH Reg.No.	RPS No.	Status	Original Use	Location	Town	Townland	County	ITMEasting	ITMNorthing	Description	Date From	Date To	Rating
										extant 1839, on a T-shaped plan; single-bay (single-bay deep) full-height central return abutting single-bay (five-bay deep) two-storey wing (north). Occupied, 1901; 1911. Renovated, ----. Replacement hipped ar			
12403710	C956	NIAH and RPS	bridge	Mount Garrett Bridge		KYLEMORE, TINNASLATTY	KILKENNY	672494	630432	Five-span bridge over river, built 1927-30; opened 1930, including single-span bascule bridge. Sited spanning River Barrow with unkempt banks to river.	1925	1935	Regional
15605240	0	NIAH	vent pipe	Thomastown Road	Rosbercon	Unknown	WEXFORD	671147	627981	Freestanding cast-iron vent pipe, ----. Road fronted on concrete footpath.	1941	1984	Regional
15605241	0	NIAH	house	Thomastown Road	Rosbercon	ROSBERCON	WEXFORD	671160	627994	Attached three-bays single-storey cottage, c.1800, originally thatched. Reroofed and refenestrated, c.1950. One of a pair. Pitched (shared) roof with replacement corrugated-iron, c.1950, iron ridges, rendered chimney stack, and iron	1790	1810	Regional

NIAH Reg.No.	RPS No.	Status	Original Use	Location		Town	Townland	County	ITMEasting	ITMNorthing	Description	Date From	Date To	Rating
											rainwater goods on			
15605242	0	NIAH	house	Thomastown Road		Rosbercon	ROSBERCON	WEXFORD	671172	628006	Detached six-bay single-storey house, c.1850, on an L-shaped plan possibly incorporating fabric of earlier range, pre-1840, on site with single-bay single-storey projecting outbuilding end bay to left. Refenestrated, c.1950. Hipped and pitched slate ro	1840	1860	Regional
15605243	0	NIAH	house	Rosbercon House	Thomastown Road	Rosbercon	ROSBERCON	WEXFORD	671184	627995	Detached three-bay two-storey double-pile house, c.1900, with two-bay two-storey side elevations. Refenestrated. Hipped double-pile slate roofs on a U-shaped plan incorporating part conical section to north-west with clay ridge tiles, replacement rende	1890	1910	Regional
15605246	0	NIAH	convent/nunnery	Holy Faith Convent	Thomastown Road	Rosbercon	ROSBERCON	WEXFORD	671260	627928	Convent complex, established 1924, including (south): Attached three-bay three-storey house on a T-	1920	1925	Regional

NIAH Reg.No.	RPS No.	Status	Original Use	Location	Town	Townland	County	ITMEasting	ITMNorthing	Description	Date From	Date To	Rating
										shaped plan with single-bay three-storey gabled projecting breakfront. Vacated, 2002. Now disused. Pitched slate roof on a T-shaped plan centred on pitc			
15605247	0	NIAH	house	Thomastown Road	Rosbercon	ROSBERCON	WEXFORD	671305	627954	Terraced two-bay two-storey house, c.1900. One of a group of at least four. Pitched slate roof with clay ridge tiles, replacement grey brick Running bond chimney stack, c.1975, having concrete capping supporting terracotta pots, rendered coping, and ir	1890	1910	Regional
15605248	0	NIAH	church/chapel	Thomastown Road	Rosbercon	ROSBERCON	WEXFORD	671322	627955	Site of church, rebuilt 1798. Replaced, 1954. Set in unkempt grounds with rendered, ruled and lined piers to perimeter having lichen-spotted cut-granite shallow pyramidal capping supporting spear head-detailed wrought iron double gates.	1795	1800	Regional

NIAH Reg.No.	RPS No.	Status	Original Use	Location		Town	Townland	County	ITMEasting	ITMNorthing	Description	Date From	Date To	Rating
15605249	0	NIAH	rectory/glebe/vicarage/curate's house	Thomastown Road		Rosbercon	ROSBERCON	WEXFORD	671393	628044	Detached three-bay two-storey Board of First Fruits Church of Ireland glebe house, built 1812, on a rectangular plan with two-bay two-storey side elevations. Occupied, 1911. Extended, ---, to accommodate continued private residential use. Hipped slate	1810	1815	Regional
15605250	0	NIAH	graveyard/cemetery	Thomastown Road		Rosbercon	ROSBERCON	WEXFORD	671398	627965	Graveyard with collection of lichen-spotted markers, ob. 1802-1957. Set in unkempt grounds with benchmark inscribed granite ashlar piers to perimeter having cut-granite shallow pyramidal capping supporting spear head-detailed wrought iron double gates.	1802	1957	Regional
15605252	0	NIAH	country house	Rosbercon Castle	Thomastown Road	Rosbercon	ROSBERCON	WEXFORD	671449	627958	Detached seven-bay single- and two-storey over part raised basement country house, extant 1815, on a U-shaped plan centred on single-bay single-storey	1700	1815	Regional

NIAH Reg.No.	RPS No.	Status	Original Use	Location	Town	Townland	County	ITMEasting	ITMNorthing	Description	Date From	Date To	Rating
										breakfront on an engaged half-octagonal plan with single-bay (four-bay deep) two-storey towers abutting			
15605254	0	NIAH	house	School House Road	Rosbercon	ROSBERCON	WEXFORD	671432	627904	End-of-terrace single-bay single-storey house with half-dormer attic, c.1900, on a corner site possibly incorporating fabric of earlier outbuilding complex, pre-1840, with single-bay two-storey side (north) elevation having canted oriel window to first f	1890	1910	Regional
15605255	0	NIAH	house	School House Road	Rosbercon	ROSBERCON	WEXFORD	671430	627900	Terraced single-bays single-storey house with half-dormer attic, c.1900, possibly incorporating fabric of earlier outbuilding complex, pre-1840. Renovated and refenestrated. One of a group of six. Pitched (shared) slate roof incorporating gablet to hal	1890	1910	Regional
15605256	0	NIAH	house	School House Road	Rosbercon	ROSBERCON	WEXFORD	671426	627897	Terraced single-bays single-storey house with half-dormer attic,	1890	1910	Regional

NIAH Reg.No.	RPS No.	Status	Original Use	Location	Town	Townland	County	ITMEasting	ITMNorthing	Description	Date From	Date To	Rating
										c.1900, possibly incorporating fabric of earlier outbuilding complex, pre-1840. Renovated and refenestrated. One of a group of six. Pitched (shared) slate roof incorporating gablet to hal			
15605257	0	NIAH	house	School House Road	Rosbercon	ROSBERCON	WEXFORD	671424	627892	Terraced single-bays single-storey house with half-dormer attic, c.1900, possibly incorporating fabric of earlier outbuilding complex, pre-1840. Renovated and refenestrated. One of a group of six. Pitched (shared) slate roof incorporating gablet to hal	1890	1910	Regional
15605258	0	NIAH	house	School House Road	Rosbercon	ROSBERCON	WEXFORD	671424	627888	Terraced single-bays single-storey house with half-dormer attic, c.1900, possibly incorporating fabric of earlier outbuilding complex, pre-1840. Renovated and refenestrated. One of a group of six. Pitched (shared) slate roof	1890	1910	Regional

NIAH Reg.No.	RPS No.	Status	Original Use	Location	Town	Townland	County	ITMEasting	ITMNorthing	Description	Date From	Date To	Rating
										incorporating gablet to hal			
15605259	0	NIAH	house	School House Road	Rosbercon	ROSBERCON	WEXFORD	671421	627883	End-of-terrace single-bay single-storey house with half-dormer attic, c.1900, possibly incorporating fabric of earlier outbuilding complex, pre-1840. Renovated and refenestrated. One of a group of six. Pitched (shared) slate roof incorporating gablet	1890	1910	Regional
15702901	0	NIAH	country house	Rosemount House		MOUNTELLIOTT	WEXFORD	671973	630376	Detached five-bay two-storey double-pile over part raised basement country house, built 1761; extant 1777, on a rectangular plan with single-bay (single-bay deep) full-height central return (south). Occupied, 1901; 1911. Burnt, 1925. Sold, 1972. Reso	1760	1765	Regional
15702902	0	NIAH	folly	Rosemount House		MOUNTELLIOTT	WEXFORD	672011	630149	Freestanding single-bay two-stage folly or summerhouse, extant 1840, on a circular plan. Now in ruins. Conical slate	1760	1840	Regional

NIAH Reg.No.	RPS No.	Status	Original Use	Location	Town	Townland	County	ITMEasting	ITMNorthing	Description	Date From	Date To	Rating
										roof now missing with no rainwater goods surviving on red brick header bond stepped eaves. Lime rendered or roughcast coursed rubble s			
15702903	0	NIAH	gate lodge	Rosemount House		MOUNTELLIOTT	WEXFORD	672346	630323	Detached three-bay single-storey gate lodge, extant 1840, on an L-shaped plan with single-bay (south) or two-bay (north) single-storey side elevations. Hipped slate roof on an L-shaped plan with clay ridge tiles centred on replacement red brick Running	1760	1840	Regional
15702905	0	NIAH	tunnel			MOUNTELLIOTT	WEXFORD	671762	629915	Tunnel, built 1885-7; opened 1887. Closed, 1963. Now disused. Part creeper- or ivy-covered tuck pointed coursed or snecked rubble stone portal walls with overgrown cut-granite coping to parapets. Single horse shoe-profiled openings with red brick blo	1885	1890	Regional
15702906	0	NIAH	viaduct	Barrow Viaduct		MOUNTELLIOTT	WEXFORD	671663	629651	Five-span railway viaduct over river,	1880	1890	Regional

NIAH Reg.No.	RPS No.	Status	Original Use	Location	Town	Townland	County	ITMEasting	ITMNorthing	Description	Date From	Date To	Rating
										designed 1884; dated 1886; opened 1887. Closed, 1963. Now disused. Sited spanning River Barrow with unkempt banks to river.			
15702907	0	NIAH	bridge	Mount Garrett Bridge		MOUNTELLIOTT	WEXFORD	672491	630426	Five-span bridge over river, built 1927-30; opened 1930, including single-span bascule bridge. Sited spanning River Barrow with unkempt banks to river.	1925	1935	Regional
15702908	0	NIAH	country house	Woodville House		MOUNTELLIOTT	WEXFORD	672644	630158	Detached five-bay (two-bay deep) two-storey over basement country house, built 1807, on a U-shaped plan originally five-bay two-storey on a rectangular plan with pair of single-bay (two-bay deep) full-height returns (south). Leased, 1876. Occupied, 191	1805	1810	Regional
15702909	0	NIAH	gate lodge	Woodville House		MOUNTELLIOTT	WEXFORD	672457	630305	Detached three-bay single-storey gate lodge with half-dormer attic, dated 182-, on a T-shaped plan originally three-bay single-storey on a rectangular plan centred on single-bay	1820	1829	Regional

NIAH Reg.No.	RPS No.	Status	Original Use	Location	Town	Townland	County	ITMEasting	ITMNorthing	Description	Date From	Date To	Rating
										single-storey gabled projecting porch. "Improved", post-1912, producing pre			
15702910	0	NIAH	gates/railings/walls	Woodville House		MOUNTELLIOTT	WEXFORD	672471	630338	Gateway, extant 1840, on a symmetrical plan comprising pair of lichen-spotted granite ashlar piers on plinths having pyramid-topped stepped capping supporting wrought iron double gates with lichen-spotted granite ashlar outer piers on plinths having pyra	1820	1829	Regional
15702911	0	NIAH	gate lodge	Woodville House		MOUNTELLIOTT	WEXFORD	672338	629767	Detached three-bay single-storey gate lodge with half-dormer attic, built 1887, on a T-shaped plan centred on single-bay single-storey lean-to projecting porch. Occupied, 1911. Hipped gabled slate roof on a T-shaped plan centred on lean-to slate roof(1885	1890	Regional
15702912	0	NIAH	gates/railings/walls	Woodville House		MOUNTELLIOTT	WEXFORD	672326	629779	Gateway, built 1887, on a symmetrical plan comprising pair of bull nose-detailed rusticated	1885	1890	Regional

NIAH Reg.No.	RPS No.	Status	Original Use	Location	Town	Townland	County	ITMEasting	ITMNorthing	Description	Date From	Date To	Rating
										granite ashlar piers on moulded cushion courses on plinths having "Cyma Recta"- or "Cyma Reversa"- detailed cornice capping on fluted friezes with bull nose-detail			
N/a	C154	RPS	"Castle"		Inistioge	INISTIOGE	KILKENNY	663436.004	637839.9951	Medieval castle is strange with pointed windows, each made with two slabs of granite leaning together, and a crenellated wall with pinnacles. Beside it is an astrolabe on a pink marble base	-	-	-
N/a	C157	RPS	House		Inistioge	INISTIOGE	KILKENNY	663470.0009	637794.0043	Single storey house with eaves and a wide early 19th Century doorcase with a fanlight	-	-	-
N/a	C168	RPS	Court House		Inistioge	INISTIOGE	KILKENNY	663559.0014	637830.0049	T-Plan, single storey building that looks like a court house; rendered with raised granite quoins. Square headed late 18th Century block and start doorcase also, and at one end a pediment with oculus and very good block and start dressings	-	-	-

NIAH Reg.No.	RPS No.	Status	Original Use	Location	Town	Townland	County	ITMEasting	ITMNorthing	Description	Date From	Date To	Rating
										to the windows			
N/a	C176	RPS	House		Inistioge	INISTIOGE	KILKENNY	663408.0032	637809.0046	Four bay, three storey house, the Farmer's Club Building.	-	-	-
N/a	C549	RPS	Tower House			BROWNSFORD	KILKENNY	664520.0021	634488.9997	Brownsford Castle, Ruinous early sixteenth-century five stage tower house	-	-	-
N/a	D106	RPS	The Lock Quay	The Lock Quay	Inistioge	INISTIOGE	KILKENNY	663682.9967	637248.9953	Frontage along left bank of Nore just south of Inistioge, at confluence with Nore Canal with which it was probably associated. Still used recreationally.	-	-	-
N/a	D119	RPS	Clodiagh Mill			COOLAMUCK	KILKENNY	667453.9996	635062.9992	Ruinous 5-storey flour mill, without machinery on Clodiagh River	-	-	-
N/a	C1061	RPS	Mausoleum		Inistioge	INISTIOGE	KILKENNY	663436.1509	637960.2417	Freestanding single-bay single-storey granite ashlar pedimented Greek Revival mausoleum, built 1810, on a square plan	-	-	-
N/a	C1057	RPS	Water tank	Woodstock House	Inistioge	INISTIOGE	KILKENNY	663843.2806	636476.1182	19th century water tank associated with pleasure gardens of Woodstock House. Storage tank for water from Mt Alto, before supplying	-	-	-

NIAH Reg.No.	RPS No.	Status	Original Use	Location	Town	Townland	County	ITMEasting	ITMNorthing	Description	Date From	Date To	Rating
										ornamental fountain in designed garden of Woodstock.			

ApX Table 2: List of Archaeological Heritage receptors within the Study Area¹

SMRNo	Townland	Monument Class	County	ITMEasting	ITM Northing	WebNotes
KK033-021001 National Monument Ref.: 77	CLONAMERY	Church	KILKENNY	665798	635494	Not available
KK033-021002 National Monument Ref.: 77	CLONAMERY	Graveyard	KILKENNY	665795	635494	Arectangular graveyard (dims. 26m N-S; 43m E-W) enclosed by a stone wall. The medieval church (KK033-021001-) is centrally placed within the graveyard. According to Carrigan (1905, vol. 4, 121), there are two clochans (KK033-021005-; KK033-021006-) located W of the graveyard, one of which (KK033-021005-) is visible as a cairn. Carrigan (ibid.), also notes a font (KK033-021004-) within the graveyard, though currently unlocated, and a stoup (KK033-021007-) which is outside the W gable of the church. There are three cross-inscribed pillars (KK033-021003-; KK033-021009-; KK033-021010-), all currently within the church. Crawford (1925, 57) mentions, 'several carved or shaped stones have been found near the church'.
KK033-021003 National Monument Ref.: 77	CLONAMERY	Cross-inscribed pillar	KILKENNY	665801	635494	Currently fixed in an upright position against the E face of the E wall of the nave of the 10th/11th-century church of Clonamery (KK033-021001-), the lower portion (L0.2m) being currently in the ground. According to Crawford (1923, 197-9), the stone was found halfburied in the graveyard (KK033-021002-). It is a narrow rectangular upright stone (total H 1.04m (ibid.); Wth 0.15-0.21m; T0.06-0.1m) with a rounded top, of what Crawford (ibid.) describes as a 'greenish slate rock'. It is decorated in ascending order from the base with a raised plain cross (H0.14m; Wth 0.12m), 0.3m above this there is an incised cross within a circle (diam. 0.6m), 0.115m above this there is a circular depression (diam. 0.085; D0.035), 0.08m above this there is a raised cross (H0.2m) with shorter cross arms (Wth 0.14m) and 0.02m above this is a circular depression (diam. 0.06m; D0.015-0.02m) 0.05m from the top. Crawford (ibid.) compares this to similar pillar stones found S of Dublin. There are two other cross-inscribed pillars in this church (KK033-021009-; KK033-021010-).
KK033-021004 National Monument Ref.: 77	CLONAMERY	Font	KILKENNY	665793	635490	Associated with the medieval church of Clonamery (KK033-021001-). Crawford (1925, 57) describes, 'portion of a font', which is 'of coarse conglomerate, and shows part of a basin 8 inches [0.21m] deep and about 18 inches [0.47m] in diameter. The socket is 3½ inches [0.09m] in diameter and 2 inches [0.05m] deep, cut in a slab of granite 17 inches [0.44m] by 7 inches [0.18m] and 4 inches [0.1m] in thickness'. This font was not visible when the church was visited in 2016, however, it is possibly located within the graveyard. Crawford (ibid.), also mentions a stoup (KK033-021007-) which is located outside the W gable of the church.

SMRNo	Townland	Monument Class	County	ITMEasting	ITM Northing	WebNotes
KK033-021005 National Monument Ref.: 77	CLONAMERY	Clochan	KILKENNY	665714	635512	At the NW end of a NW-SE ridge, c. 73m W of the W gable of Clonamery church (KK033-021001-), in rough pasture. According to Carrigan (1905, vol. 4, 121), outside the graveyard wall of the medieval church of Clonamery (KK033-021001-), 'to the W, 'at a distance of five [25m] or six perches [30m] from the church, and occupying the highest point of the elevated ridge on which the sacred edifice stands, may be noticed the foundations of two of those circular clochawns, or bee-hive shaped stone houses of which we read in connection with our ancient Celtic monasteries. One is 14½ ft. [4.42m] in diameter, the other 11 ft. [3.35m]'. Only one of these structures is visible at ground level. It is a roughly circular cairn (overall diam. 0.71m N-S; 7.4m E-W; diam. at top 2.2m N-S; 1.5m E-W; H 0.35m to upslope; H 1.4m above downslope), possibly with internal kerbing, though there is only one stone evident with its flat-face towards the interior. The base of the cairn to W and NW is defined by kerbing.
KK033-021006 National Monument Ref.: 77	CLONAMERY	Clochan	KILKENNY	665724	635506	At the NW end of a NW-SE ridge, W of the W gable of Clonamery church (KK033-021001-), in rough pasture. According to Carrigan (1905, vol. 4, 121), outside the graveyard wall of the medieval church of Clonamery (KK033-021001-), 'to the W, 'at a distance of five [25m] or six perches [30m] from the church, and occupying the highest point of the elevated ridge on which the sacred edifice stands, may be noticed the foundations of two of those circular clochawns, or bee-hive shaped stone houses of which we read in connection with our ancient Celtic monasteries. One is 14½ ft. [4.42m] in diameter, the other 11 ft. [3.35m]'. Only one of these structures (KK033-021005-) is visible at ground level. There are several areas on top of the ridge where stones are protruding but these seem to be bedrock. The second possible clochan is not visible at ground level, though Carrigan's description suggests it is quite close to the upstanding one.
KK033-021007 National Monument Ref.: 77	CLONAMERY	Architectural feature	KILKENNY	665786	635496	This was classified in the SMR (1987) and the RMP (1996) as an 'Font', however, this is actually a stoup which is a receptacle for holy water, originally positioned immediately inside the entrance doorway on one or other side. Described by Carrigan (1905, vol. 4, 120) as, 'a granite holy water font, with rectangular cavity 9 in. by 8 in. and 2½ in. deep'. Associated with Clonamery church (KK033-021001-), it is not incorporated in the walling of the church. It is currently located 0.3m outside the church, close to the N jamb of the W doorway. It consists of a roughly dressed sub-rectangular granite boulder (dims. 0.39m x 0.37m; H 0.28m) with a carved rectangular basin (dims. 0.23m x 0.2m; D 0.07m) which splays in towards the base (dims. 0.13m x 0.12m).
KK033-021008 National Monument Ref.: 77	CLONAMERY	House - 17th century	KILKENNY	Unknown		A house is indicated on the Down Survey map (1655-6) in the vicinity of Clonamery medieval church (KK033-021001-). The precise location of the house is unknown.
KK033-021009 National Monument Ref.: 77	CLONAMERY	Cross-inscribed pillar	KILKENNY	665788	635492	Currently resting in an upright position against the W gable of the nave, in the SW angle of the 10th/11th-century church of Clonamery (KK033-021001-). A granite pillar stone (L 1.12m; Wth at top 0.375; Wth at base 0.3m; T 0.085m) which is slightly wider at the rounded top. It is decorated with a simple equal-armed cross (H 0.25m; Wth 0.21m) which has been incised (D 0.02m) into the upper portion of the stone. There are two other cross-inscribed pillars in this church (KK033-021003-; KK033-021
KK033-021010 National Monument Ref.: 77	CLONAMERY	Cross-inscribed pillar	KILKENNY	665789	635497	Currently resting in an upright position against the W gable of the nave, in the SW angle of the 10th/11th-century church of Clonamery (KK033-021001-). A rectangular granite pillar stone (L 0.9; Wth 0.325; T 0.11m). It is decorated with a simple cross (H 0.215m; Wth 0.175m) which has been incised into the upper portion of the stone. The pillar has a flat top which is chamfered towards the rear. There are two other cross-inscribed pillars in this church (KK033-021003-; KK033-021009-).

SMRNo	Townland	Monument Class	County	ITMEasting	ITM Northing	WebNotes
KK032-017018-	INISTIOGE	Architectural fragment	KILKENNY	663286	637940	Not available
KK033-011----	OLDCOURT (Ida By.)	Building	KILKENNY	665341	637105	On a steep SW-facing slope above River Nore. A roughly circular area (diam. c. 25m) is indicated by a dashed line as the 'Site of Old Court' on the 1st (1839-40) ed. OS 6-inch map. The dashed line suggests the general area where the building is located, and that it was not visible above ground in 1839-40. However, according to Carrigan (1905, vol. 4, 123), 'Oldcourt derives its name from an ancient building that formerly stood here, within a few perches of the hill-road from Inistioge to New Ross. The site is marked on the Ordnance Map. Only the grey, strong enclosing walls now remain. Tradition states that a court stood here, and that, ages ago, it was the residence of 'Griffin McCroo,' brother of 'Ross McCroo,' the foundress of New Ross.' The building is not visible at ground level.
WX029-013078-	ROSBERCON	Bullaun stone	WEXFORD	671399	628028	An oval bullaun stone of granite (dims 0.5m; x0.35m; H0.25m plus) with a single basin (dims 0.27m x0.25m; D0.1m) is c.45m N of the graveyard of the parish church of Rosbercon (WX029-013001-).
KK032-017001-	INISTIOGE	Castle - motte	KILKENNY	663352	637845	Not available
KK033-022002-	CLONAMERY	Castle - motte	KILKENNY	665730	635169	Not available
KK033-028001-	BROWNSFORD	Castle - tower house	KILKENNY	664519	634488	Not available
KK033-022001-	CLONAMERY	Castle - unclassified	KILKENNY	665724	635171	Not available
KK033-053----	BROWNSFORD	Castle - unclassified	KILKENNY	665536	634890	Not available
KK033-009001-	KILCROSS	Church	KILKENNY	664896	637854	Not available
KK033-030001-	KILTOWN (Ida By.)	Church	KILKENNY	668846	633686	Not available
KK037-003001-	BALLYNEALE	Church	KILKENNY	667137	630949	Not available
KK037-005----	GRANGE (Ida By.)	Church	KILKENNY	668874	632286	Not available
WX029-013001-	ROSBERCON	Church	WEXFORD	671395	627980	<p>Described as the 'Convent of Dominicans (Site of)' only on the 1940 ed. of the OS 6-inch map, and situated on a steep E-facing slope. This is the site of parish church of Rosbercon. The church is depicted as a rectangular roofed structure (dims. c. 20m E-W; c. 10m N-S) on the 1839 ed. of the OS 6-inch map, and it is described as in good repair (Lewis 1837, vol. 2, 533-4). There are no visible remains of a church at ground level, apart from the N wall with two brick-lined window embrasures incorporated into the N wall of the wedge-shaped graveyard (dims. c. 55m E-W; c. 25-45m N-S) defined by masonry walls. There is a fragment of a medieval graveslab (Wth 0.5-55m; visible H 1.1m; T0.2m) in a green stone with a fleur-de-lis terminals serving as a grave-marker in the graveyard. An oval bullaun stone (dims 0.5m x0.35m; H0.25m plus) of granite with a single basin (dims 0.27m x 0.25m; D0.1m) is in a flowerbed c. 40m N of the graveyard.</p> <p>The above description is derived from the published 'Archaeological Inventory of County Wexford' (Dublin: Stationery Office, 1996). In certain instances the entries have been revised and updated in the light of recent research.</p>

SMRNo	Townland	Monument Class	County	ITMEasting	ITM Northing	WebNotes
KK037-034----	BALLYKNOCK	Cross	KILKENNY	667147	630940	This record relates to the original location of the cross which formerly stood a little to the south of the church. It is described by Carrigan (1905, iv, 186-7) as follows: "In the graveyard [KK037-003002-], beside the south wall of the chancel is the sculptured base of a wayside cross, which formerly stood on a graduated base a little to the south of the church, and which having been thrown into the neighbouring mill-stream, was carried thence, for safety, to its present position, by the late Canon Moore, P.P., Johnstown. One side of the stone has a shield with the arms of De Frayne impaling those of Fitzgerald, and at the base the initials R.F., E.G., from which it must be concluded that the cross of which this stone formed a part, was erected by the same lady who set up the De Frayne tomb in the parish church. Of the inscription nothing is now legible but the first word, Orate." The coordinates for this record should only be considered as indicative of its original location.
KK032-017003-	INISTIOGE	Cross - Wayside cross	KILKENNY	663488	637842	Not available
KK037-003004-	BALLYNEALE	Cross (present location)	KILKENNY	667141	630943	This is described by Carrigan (1905, iv, 186-7) as follows: "In the graveyard [KK037-003002-], beside the south wall of the chancel is the sculptured base of a wayside cross, which formerly stood on a graduated base a little to the south of the church, and which having been thrown into the neighbouring mill-stream, was carried thence, for safety, to its present position, by the late Canon Moore, P.P., Johnstown. One side of the stone has a shield with the arms of De Frayne impaling those of Fitzgerald, and at the base the initials R.F., E.G., from which it must be concluded that the cross of which this stone formed a part, was erected by the same lady who set up the De Frayne tomb in the parish church. Of the inscription nothing is now legible but the first word, Orate." The coordinates for this record should only be considered as indicative of its original location.
KK032-018----	INISTIOGE	Enclosure	KILKENNY	663193	636580	Not available
KK033-020----	CLONAMERY	Enclosure	KILKENNY	666009	635818	Not available
KK037-004----	GRANGE (Ida By.)	Enclosure	KILKENNY	668922	632529	Not available
KK037-052----	TINNARANNY	Enclosure	KILKENNY	669001	628872	Aerial photograph (GB89.AN.20) shows cropmark of a circular enclosure defined by a fosse.
KK037-054----	COOLE (Ida By.)	Enclosure	KILKENNY	670200	631229	An aerial photograph (GB89.AN.15) shows a cropmark of a circular enclosure defined by a fosse, located in the grounds of Coole House. This feature appears very sharp and regular, so it could be a tree-ring. However, no tree-ring is marked on the first edition OS 6-inch map.
KK033-021004-	CLONAMERY	Font	KILKENNY	665793	635490	Associated with the medieval church of Clonamery (KK033-021001-). Crawford (1925, 57) describes, 'portion of a font', which is 'of coarse conglomerate, and shows part of a basin 8 inches [0.21m] deep and about 18 inches [0.47m] in diameter. The socket is 3½ inches [0.09m] in diameter and 2 inches [0.05m] deep, cut in a slab of granite 17 inches [0.44m] by 7 inches [0.18m] and 4 inches [0.1m] in thickness'. This font was not visible when the church was visited in 2016, however, it is possibly located within the graveyard. Crawford (ibid.), also mentions a stoup (KK033-021007-) which is located outside the W gable of the church.
KK037-003005-	BALLYNEALE	Font	KILKENNY	667137	630949	Not available
KK032-017017-	INISTIOGE	Font	KILKENNY	663286	637940	Not available

SMRNo	Townland	Monument Class	County	ITMEasting	ITM Northing	WebNotes
KK032-017007-	INISTIOGE	Font (present location)	KILKENNY	663468	637936	<p>According to Clyne (2007, 157) this medieval baptismal font (see original location KK027-029020-) almost certainly came from the parish church (KK027-029009-) at Kells Priory. In the 19th century the font was removed from the disused post-medieval parish church, going first to the Cathedral in Kilkenny, and is currently in St Mary's C of I church, Inistioge (Birhistle 1969, 36-7; Clyne 2007, 157; Pike 1989, 582).</p> <p>The font is described by Waterman (1970, 69) as being of Dundry oolite with a square, cushion-shaped bowl (ext. dims. H 0.41m; 0.68m²), with the lower angles rounded off to engage with the circular stem, which rests on a square base. The sides of the bowl have been recut with Romanesque-style ornament and the stem, which is doubtfully original, is embellished with rope mouldings. A 19th-century illustration of the font and accompanying description notes that carving was confined to one angle and the stem (H 0.39m) has no rope moulding (Anon. 1864-6, vol. 8, 491-2). Birhistle (1969, 36), notes that, "At the insistence of the Rev. J. Graves, it [the font] was presented by the then Rector, Mr. Darby, to the Cathedral, Kilkenny. Only one side of the bowl was ornamented. Possibly it had been intended to stand in close into an angle. When the stone-cutters were working at the restoration of the Cathedral Mr. Graves had them decorate the other sides. The carving consists of low-relief foliage decoration (Clyne 2007, 157). The inner surface of the bowl was originally lined with lead and the remains of hinges and a hasp indicate that it had a cover (ibid. 492). The square base (H 0.25m; 0.61m²) has plain sides and each corner has a carved motif, possibly botanical, one of which is original (ibid. 158).</p> <p>Clyne (ibid.) suggests that the font, "was acquired for Kells parish church in the late twelfth, or more likely the thirteenth century. It possibly indicates a connection with William Marshal, as suggested by Waterman [1970, 73], and may have been a gift from him or from Geoffrey FitzRobert, his seneschal in Leinster."</p> <p>See attached: KK032-017007-_01 Photograph from Clyne 2007, 157.</p> <p>Reference: Birhistle, D. 1969 Inistioge. Old Kilkenny Review 21, 31-47.</p>
KK032-051----	INISTIOGE	Fulacht fia	KILKENNY	663492	637091	Not available
KK032-017005-	INISTIOGE	Graveslab	KILKENNY	663445	637950	In the graveyard (KK032-017020-) at the Augustinian Priory (KK032-017004-) in Inistioge. A floor slab, broken across the middle, with a raised cross down the centre and a raised inscription in Roman capitals running around the edge commemorating John Bolger and his wife Joan Murphey (d. 1616). (Carrigan 1905, vol. 4, 112; Cockerham 2009, 354)
KK032-017021-	INISTIOGE	Graveslab	KILKENNY	663427	637955	In the graveyard (KK032-017020-) at the Augustinian Priory (KK032-017004-) in Inistioge. A floor slab with a large "IHS" and cross in relief in the centre and a Latin inscription in Black Letter commemorating John Murphy, son of James, and his wife Elicia Power. The slab is dated 1631. (Carrigan 1905, vol. 4, 112; Cockerham 2009, 357)
KK032-017022-	INISTIOGE	Graveslab	KILKENNY	663427	637955	In the graveyard (KK032-017020-) at the Augustinian Priory (KK032-017004-) in Inistioge. A floor slab with "IHS" and a cross in relief in the centre and a Latin inscription in Black Letter around the edge commemorating Peter Joyce and his wife Elena Tobin. The slab is dated c. 1600. (Carrigan 1905, vol. 4, 112; Cockerham and Harris 2001, 186)

SMRNo	Townland	Monument Class	County	ITMEasting	ITM Northing	WebNotes
KK032-017024-	INISTIOGE	Graveslab	KILKENNY	663445	637950	In the Lady Chapel at the Augustinian Priory (KK032-017004-) in Inistioge. A floor slab with a raised cross in the centre with a Latin inscription in Black Letter commemorating William Bosser [alias Busher]. The slab is dated 1522. (Carrigan 1905, vol. 4, 113; Cockerham and Harris 2001, 179)
KK032-017025-	INISTIOGE	Graveslab	KILKENNY	663445	637950	In the Lady Chapel at the Augustinian Priory (KK032-017004-) in Inistioge. A floor slab with IHS and a cross and an inscription in English in Roman capitals commemorating David Busher (d. 1650) and his wife Ivan Joyce. (Carrigan 1905, vol. 4, 113; Cockerham 2009, 361)
WX029-013021-	ROSBERCON	Graveslab	WEXFORD	671400	627960	There is a medieval graveslab (Wth 50-55m; visible H 1.1m; T0.2m) in a green stone with fleur-de-lis terminals serving as a grave-marker in the graveyard (WX029-013020-) of Rosbercon parish church (WX029-013001-).
KK033-009002-	KILCROSS	Graveyard	KILKENNY	664896	637854	Not available
KK033-030002-	KILTOWN (Ida By.)	Graveyard	KILKENNY	668846	633686	Not available
KK037-003002-	BALLYNEALE	Graveyard	KILKENNY	667141	630943	Not available
KK032-017020-	INISTIOGE	Graveyard	KILKENNY	663427	637955	Not available
WX029-013020-	ROSBERCON	Graveyard	WEXFORD	671400	627960	This site of the parish church of Rosbercon (WX029-013001-) is within a wedge-shaped graveyard (dims. c. 55m E-W; c. 25-45m N-S) defined by masonry walls. There is a medieval graveslab (WX029-013021-) serving as a grave-marker in the graveyard.
KK032-017----	INISTIOGE	Historic town	KILKENNY	663437	637868	Not available
KK033-023----	COOLNAMUCK	House - 16th/17th century	KILKENNY	666517	634970	Not available
KK032-017012-	INISTIOGE	House - 17th century	KILKENNY	663407	637867	Not available
KK037-053----	BALLYNEALE	House - 17th century	KILKENNY	666919	631244	Not available
KK032-017008-	INISTIOGE	House - fortified house	KILKENNY	663438	637839	Not available
KK032-017009-	INISTIOGE	House - fortified house	KILKENNY	663572	637834	Not available
KK037-040002-	TINNAKILLYBIG	Hut site	KILKENNY	670778	628776	Not available
KK037-040001-	TINNAKILLYBIG	Moated site	KILKENNY	670778	628777	Not available
WX029-032----	MOUNTELLIOTT	Moated site	WEXFORD	671812	630607	<p>Located on the flood-plain of the E-W River Barrow c. 1.15km E of its confluence with the River Nore. This is a circular area (diam. 20m) defined by a wet flat bottomed fosse (Wth 3.7 6.5m; D 0.5 1m). Aleat from fosse at N leads to river which is c. 50m distant. It is planted with deciduous trees, and covered in dense scrub.</p> <p>The above description is derived from the published 'Archaeological Inventory of County Wexford' (Dublin: Stationery Office, 1996). In certain instances the entries have been revised and updated in the light of recent research.</p>
KK032-017002-	INISTIOGE	Redundant record	KILKENNY	663488	637842	This record was listed as 'market\fair place' in the RMP (1996). This is not an archaeological monument within the meaning of the National Monuments Act (1930-1945).
KK032-017004-	INISTIOGE	Religious house - Augustinian canons	KILKENNY	663445	637950	Not available
KK032-048----	KILLEEN (Gowran By.)	Ringfort - unclassified	KILKENNY	663849	634889	Not available

SMRNo	Townland	Monument Class	County	ITMEasting	ITM Northing	WebNotes
KK032-017011-	INISTIOGE	Ritual site - holy well	KILKENNY	663286	637940	Not available
KK033-010----	KILCROSS	Ritual site - holy well	KILKENNY	664941	637812	Not available
WX029-006----	MOUNTELLIOTT	Ritual site - holy well	WEXFORD	672373	630371	It is described in gothic script as Tobernacally in gothic script on the 1839 and 1940 eds of the OS 6-inch map. The name - Tobar na CaillÃ means the nun's well (pers. comm. C. Ã Crualaoich). The well is situated in a little rock-cut S-N valley and c. 35m S of the E-W River Barrow. It is a rectangular well (dims 0.73m x 0.95m; H0.92m) with a brick surround and a stone lintel, open to the E. The name is recorded by John Oâ€ Donovan writing c. 1840 (Oâ€ Flanagan, 1933, vol. 2, 341). The source of a small stream is c. 5m to the S but there is no evidence of veneration at the well.
KK032-017023-	INISTIOGE	Tomb - chest tomb	KILKENNY	663445	637950	In the Lady Chapel at the Augustinian Priory (KK032-017004-) in Inistioge. The upper part of a chest tomb with a floriated raised cross, a salmon in relief and â€ IHSâ€ The Latin inscription, in Black Letter, runs around the edge and commemorates Peter Joyce. The slab dates to c. 1580. (Carrigan 1905, vol. 4, 113; Cockerham and Harris 2001, 184)
KK032-017006-	INISTIOGE	Tomb - effigial	KILKENNY	663445	637951	In the nave of the Augustinian Priory (KK032-017004-) at Inistioge. A floor slab with the incised figure of a Prior. Lombardic script reads â€ HIC IACET BONE MEMORIE QVONDAM PRIOR ISTIUS LOCIâ€ (Carrigan 1905, vol. 4, 113)
KK032-017010-	INISTIOGE	Town defences	KILKENNY	663416	637780	Not available
KK037-003003-	BALLYNEALE	Wall monument	KILKENNY	667137	630949	Not available

Apx Table 3: List of Demenses within the Study Area¹

No.	Demesne Name	Description
DL1	Woodstock House	A very large landscape, clearly marked within the historic mapping and associated with Woodstock House, which is now in ruins, but listed in the RPS/NIAH. A number of outbuildings and gardens survive at the centre of the demesne, but the wider landscape has become denuded in form and more agricultural in nature. Mature demesne planting does survive in places, but this has been supplemented with modern commercial plantations. The landscape has also been subject to scattered modern residential development.
DL2	Unnamed	Ashaded demesne landscape is shown to the north of the river and east of Inistioge on the first edition OS map. It may be associated with structures shown, but not named on the OS map, or may be associated with Woodstock House demesne. The house shown on the first edition is no longer extant and whilst the landscape does retain some mature planting, the character has become denuded by agriculture.

No.	Demesne Name	Description
DL3	Park View	Small demese established in the later part of the 19th century, as it is not marked on the first edition map, but is present on the 1910 OS map, associated with Park View House, which remains extant today. The demesne retains its designed elements and mature planting.
DL4	Berryhill	Small demese established in the later part of the 19th century with 20th century additions, as it is not marked on the first edition map. It is present on the 1910 OS map, associated with Berryhill, which remains extant today (along with its gate lodge) and is listed in the RPS and NIAH. The landscape survives in good conditions with mature demesne planting present, including individual specimens planting.
DL5	Swiss Cottage	This small landscape is likely to be directly associated with Woodstock House, as it surrounds a small structure marked as the 'Swiss Cottage' on the 1910 OS map and the area is immediately adjacent to the southeast corner of Woodstock House demesne. The cottage does not appear to survive, but the mature planting in this area survives well, with a small amount of commercial plantations present.
DL6	Brownsford House	A large landscape, located to the immediate southeast of Woodstock House demesne. Brownsford House was originally constructed onto a medieval tower house, which is listed in the RMP and RPS. Whilst the castle remains extant, the house no longer appears to be present. The site of the house and the outbuildings has been subject to modern agricultural development. The remaining greenfield parts of the demesne retain some mature planting along the existing boundaries, but some field divisions have been removed.
DL7	Dysertmore	This demesne is marked on the first edition OS map in association with a house named as Newgrove House. The main structure is shown, but no outbuildings or gardens are shown and it is possible that the structure was under construction when the map was surveyed. By the time of the 1910 mapping, the house is present but has been renamed and outbuildings and a garden are shown in association with it. Further outbuildings are shown to the south, along with a gate lodge. Numerous tree rings are shown in the landscape. Today the landscape survives in excellent condition with the principal structure and outbuildings extant, along with the mature boundary planting and a number of the tree rings.
DL8	Russellstown House	This is a relatively large landscape, which is clearly marked within the historic OS maps. The principal house was extended after the first edition OS map and is in ruins today. The garden remains extant to the south of the house and some outbuildings are present. The landscape retains its mature treebelts and field boundaries and is well preserved.

No.	Demesne Name	Description
DL9	Ballinabarney House	The southern section of this demesne is located within the study area with the principal structure further to the northeast. The southern section has been subsumed back into an agricultural landscape with scattered modern development. The principal structure to the northeast is extant but is surrounded by very mature planting. This part of the demesne retains more of its design characteristics but has also been subject to modern development.
DL10	Coolnamuck House/ Allenville Cottage/ Clodiagh Mill	The first edition OS map shows a number of buildings within a modest demesne, crossed by a road. The northern part of the landscape is likely associated with Coolnamuck House, which possesses some outbuildings and gardens. The southern section contains Allenville Cottage and the mill. By the time of the 1910 map, Coolnamuck House and demesne have been removed from the landscape and Allenville Cottage is now renamed Clodiagh Cottage. The mill has been extended. Today the cottage remains extant but the mill is in ruins. Mature planting survives along the river and along some of the field boundaries, but the landscape has lost much of its original design characteristics.
DL11	Ballyneale House	The first edition OS maps shows Ballyneale House within a modest demesne, with planted field boundaries and a walled garden to the north and south of the house. By the time of the later OS mapping, a large number of outbuildings are shown to the west of the house. Demesne planting surrounds the main house. Today the demesne is well preserved although some modern agricultural structures have been established to the west of the house, which remains extant.
DL12	Unnamed demesne	Located in the townland of Glentiroe, the first edition shows Kylecorragh Woods to the north with the remainder of the landscape formed by open fields. The demesne is not shown until the 25 inch OS map, which shows the principal structure with outbuildings to the west, to the south of the woodland. Few other designed elements are illustrated but today, the main house remains present with mature planting to the east and west and more specimen planting apparent to the east of the principal structure. Modern outbuildings have been constructed to the west and north.
DL13	Ringwood House	The first edition OS map shows a large demesne landscape, with Ringwood House located in the southern portion, overlooking the River Barrow to the southeast. The house is accessed via drives from the east and the north and there are outbuildings and a walled garden shown to the west. The landscape is characterised by mature and specimen planting, with multiple belts and covers shown. By the time of the 25 inch OS map, the northern entrance has been removed, along with a number of the belts and covers. Mature planting remains indicated, but has been reduced. Today the principal structure remains extant, along with outbuildings and the walled garden. Much of the mature planting has been removed, although scattered specimens survive. The landscape has generally been subsumed back into an agricultural landscape.

No.	Demesne Name	Description
DL14	Coole House	Structures are marked at the location of Coole House on the first edition, but no demesne landscape is indicated. By the time of the 25 inch OS map the house is labelled, with outbuildings and gardens with mature planting to the south. There are few other designed elements with multiple drainage ditches present across the fields. Today the main house remains extant but the remainder of the landscape has become heavily overgrown with scrub, likely due to its margin nature.
DL15	Unnamed demesne	This small area is marked as open fields on the first edition OS map but by the time of the 25 inch OS map a house is marked within a small landscape with outbuildings to the northeast and an entrance and planting to the south. Today the house and the planting remain extant but multiple agricultural structures have been constructed to the north.
DL16	Parochial House	Located in the townland of Garranbehy, this area is shown as fields and a possible orchard on the first edition OS map, along with small structures. The Parochial House is marked and labelled on the 25 inch OS map, with some of the earlier structures marked as outbuildings to the west. The orchard remains present along with mature boundary planting. The principal structure remains present today along with the mature boundary planting.
DL17	Bawnjames	The first edition OS map shows the principal structure in the eastern portion of the landscape, along with outbuildings to the north and the main entrance drive from the south. The entrance drive follows the townland boundary, with a road marked further to the west. It is likely that the original road ran along the townland boundary prior to it being re-routed to the west. The boundaries within the landscape are planted with trees and a walled garden is shown to the north of the house. By the time of the 25 inch OS map, the western portion of the landscape is no longer present and a new house is shown at the location of the former buildings. The outbuildings to the north have been extended and a summer house is also labelled in the grounds. Today the principal structures remain extant along with much of the mature planting. Modern agricultural sheds have been constructed within the former walled garden.
DL18	Rosemount Lodge	The principal structure and a modest demesne is marked on the first edition OS map. A walled garden is marked to the southwest of the house and the boundaries are planted with trees. Woodland is marked to the southwest, but the landscape is not extravagant. By the time of the 25 inch OS map, the house remains present, with woodland to the west. No other designed elements are indicated. The railway has been constructed to pass beneath the landscape via a tunnel. Today the principal structure remains present although modern buildings have been constructed to the northeast. The mature boundaries are present. There has been scattered residential development in the southern parts of the landscape.

No.	Demesne Name	Description
DL19	Rosemount House	The first edition OS map shows Rosemount House within a demesne, overlooking the River Barrow to the north. Walled gardens are shown to the east and the main entrance is from the east, which a gate lodge is also indicated. Mature planting and trees belts are shown within the demesne as well as a scatter of outbuildings further to the east. The 25 inch OS map shows new outbuildings to the west of the principal structure and the walled garden have been removed, along with some of the boundaries surrounding the house. Specimen planting a tree belts remains present throughout the landscape and a folly is present along the southern boundary. Today the principal structure remains extant although modern outbuildings are now location to the west. The mature planting is also extant, but some modern residences have been established in the southern part of the demesne.
DL20	Woodville House	The first edition OS map shows Woodville House within a demesne landscape, overlooking the River Barrow to the north. Atriangular walled garden is located to the south of the house, along with several outbuildings. Entrance drives access the house from the northwest, northeast and southwest. A gate lodge is shown to the northwest of the house. Tree belts are present along the eastern and western boundaries, with specimen planting to the west of the house. By the time of the 25 inch OS, the main change within the landscape is the construction of the railway to the north of the house, on an embankment. An additional gate lodge is marked to the southwest. Today the demesne survives in good condition, with the principal structure, gardens and gate lodges present. The demesne planting survives, along with the specimen planting to the west of the house.
DL21	Rathsnagadan House	This demesne is marked as a relatively modest landscape on the first edition and later 1910 OS map. The house, outbuidlings and garden remain extant today and the landscape is well preserved with planted boundaries and mature tree belts.

Apx Table 4: Townlands listed within the Study Area¹

<i>fid</i>	<i>NAME_TAG</i>	<i>CO_NAME</i>
1	Annefield	Kilkenny
2	Inistioge	Kilkenny
3	Killeen	Kilkenny
4	Kilcross	Kilkenny
5	Inistioge	Kilkenny
6	Brownsford	Kilkenny
7	Glenballyvally	Kilkenny
8	Oldcourt	Kilkenny
9	Clonamery	Kilkenny
10	Ballyneale	Kilkenny
11	Brownstown	Kilkenny
12	Newgrove	Kilkenny
13	Coolnamuck	Kilkenny

<i>fid</i>	<i>NAME TAG</i>	<i>CO NAME</i>
14	Ballygub Old	Kilkenny
15	Ballyfoile Lower	Kilkenny
16	Ballyfoile Upper	Kilkenny
17	Ballyknock	Kilkenny
18	Rathsnagadan	Kilkenny
19	Cullaun	Kilkenny
20	Russellstown	Kilkenny
21	Ballinabarney	Kilkenny
22	Ballilogue	Kilkenny
23	Hoodsgrrove	Kilkenny
24	Glentiroe	Kilkenny
25	Tinnaranny	Kilkenny
26	Kiltown	Kilkenny
27	Glensansaw	Kilkenny
28	Grange	Kilkenny
29	Ballybeg	Kilkenny
30	Rossnanowl	Kilkenny
31	Knockatore	Kilkenny
32	Millbanks	Kilkenny
33	Coole	Kilkenny
34	Ballycommon	Kilkenny
35	Tinnakilly Big	Kilkenny
36	Ringwood	Kilkenny
37	Stripes	Kilkenny
38	Garranbehy Big	Kilkenny
39	Tinnakilly Little	Kilkenny
40	Tincarraun	Kilkenny
41	Mountelliott	Wexford
42	Tinnaslatty	Kilkenny
43	Millbanks	Wexford
44	Rosbercon	Kilkenny
45	Glinn	Kilkenny
46	Rosbercon	Wexford
47	Garranbehy Little	Kilkenny
48	Kylemore	Kilkenny
49	Annefield	Wexford
50	Mountgarrett	Wexford
51	Macmurroughs	Wexford

Appendix B Summary of Constraints and Opportunities

Factor	Constraint	Opportunities
Population and Human Health	1) Settlements within Inistioge and New Ross Town.	1) Consider use of hedgerows and trees within the Study Area for screening purposes. 2) Potential benefits for businesses through improved connectivity between Inistioge and New Ross. 3) Provision of an active travel alternative and outdoor recreational facility to the residents of Inistioge and New Ross.
Biodiversity	1) European Sites - SACs & SPAs and their qualifying interests and conservation objectives. 2) Proposed Natural Heritage Areas.	1) Design team to identify existing structures for water crossings and utilise them, where possible. 2) Opportunities to plant native tree and hedgerow species along the route of the Proposed Scheme.
Land, Geology and Soils	1) One County Geological Site (CGS) (Inistioge (KK006)) was identified within the Study Area. 2) There is a historic landfill located within the Study Area. 3) Groundwater body vulnerability contains 'High', 'Rock at / or near surface' and 'Extreme' groundwater vulnerability. 4) 'High' landslide susceptibility identified within the Study Area.	1) Possible opportunity to provide a window into Ireland's geological past
Water	1) The River Nore has a WFD Status of 'moderate' and is classified as being at risk of not achieving their WFD Status. 2) The River Nore is a transitional waterbody. 3) There is one bathing area and one protected shellfish area located downstream from the Study Area 4) Parts of the Study Area are prone to fluvial flooding.	1) Design team to identify existing structures for water crossings and utilise them where possible.
Air, Climate and Noise	1) Climate Change, including need for climate adaption measures.	1) The Proposed Scheme may support a modal shift away from motorised vehicles.
Material Assets: Non-Agriculture	1) There are a variety of key amenities and attractions located within and adjacent to the Study Area.	1) Potential to link the Proposed Scheme to the existing walking and cycling infrastructure within and adjacent to the Study Area, including in Woodstock Estate and Gardens.
Material Assets: Agriculture	1) High concentration of Dairy Farming identified within the Study Area. 2) Likelihood of equine facilities within the Study Area.	1) Possible opportunities to link agri-tourism with the Proposed Scheme.
Cultural Heritage	1) There is one National Monument located within the Study Area. 2) 67 individual recorded monuments located within the Study Area. 3) Several Areas of Archaeological Potential (AAPs) within the Study Area. 4) 61 Protected Structures within the Study Area. 5) 116 built heritage sites are listed in the RPS or NIAH (or both) within the Study Area. 6) One Architectural Conservation Area (ACA) located within the Study Area 7) 21 Designed Landscapes within the Study Area.	1) Opportunities to promote heritage sites and make them more accessible to members of the public. 2) There are opportunities to explore and understand key culturally significant sites and structures.
Landscape and Visual	1) There are protected viewpoints identified within the Study Area with a heavy concentration identified within Inistioge. 2) There are scenic routes identified within the Study Area. 3) There are a significant concentration of sensitive features identified within the Study Area	1) Opportunities to incorporate existing hedgerows and trees into the design for screening purposes. 2) Opportunity to incorporate native tree planting into the design of the Proposed Scheme for screening purposes. 3) The Proposed Scheme will provide improved connectivity between settlements. 4) Potential to take advantage of the Scenic Viewpoints present within the Study Area, as a form of low impact passive tourism.