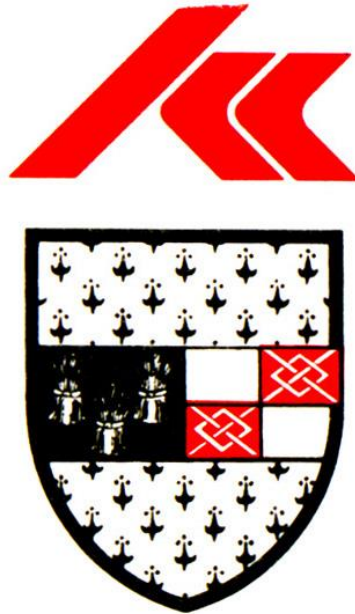


KILKENNY COUNTY COUNCIL
Comhairle Chontae Chill Chainnigh



Part 8 DISPLAY DOCUMENT
EXPLANATORY BOOKLET

South East Greenway Link to Glenmore Village
August 2023

**Section 179 of the Planning and Development Act 2000 - as amended
Part 8 of the Planning and Development Regulations 2001 - as amended**

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|-----|---|---|
| 1.0 | Introduction | 1 |
| 2.0 | Background and rationale for scheme | 2 |
| 3.0 | Design Criteria..... | 4 |
| 4.0 | Environmental Reports | 5 |
| 5.0 | Funding | 5 |
| 6.0 | Public consultation..... | 6 |
| 7.0 | Submissions..... | 6 |

1.0 **Introduction**

This document has been prepared in compliance with Section 179 of the Planning and Development Act 2000 - as amended and Part 8 of the Planning and Development Regulations 2000 - as amended.

The background and rationale for the scheme in relation to proper planning and sustainable development are set out below and the description of the proposed improvement works associated with this scheme are set out in Section 2.

Kilkenny County Council identified the opportunity to convert the disused railway line from Waterford to New Ross as a Greenway.

This has paved the way for the development of the South-East Greenway project by the local authorities of Kilkenny, Wexford and Waterford. These same local authorities have agreed to collaborate to develop a 24.3km the South East Greenway from Mount Elliott in New Ross to Ferrybank in Waterford City, which is currently under construction, with the initial 6km from Rosbercon to Glenmore opened July 25th 2023.

The Greenway links New Ross at Rosbercon with Waterford at the proposed North Quays development; however, most of the Greenway passes through the South Kilkenny countryside. In order to maximise the potential commercial, economic and recreational benefits from the South East Greenway, clearly defined links between the surrounding villages and the Greenway are required. The purpose of the link is to provide connectivity for both cyclists and pedestrians from the Greenway to Glenmore village. It is anticipated that the introduction of a safe and comfortable link would encourage visitors to explore the village of Glenmore and in turn stimulate the local economy of the settlement.

Brief description of the proposed works: -

The project involves the development of a pedestrian and cycle corridor 3.0m in width (length approximately 1.86km). The proposed linkage connects the Car park at Ballyverneen by way of the L – 7513-14 through the existing N25 underpass to the junction of L – 7513. Continuing

through the second existing N25 underpass to the Junction with L -7510. Construction of a new corridor located in private lands inside hedge line along L – 7510 into the Village of Glenmore. Corridor re-joins existing public road L – 7510 with introduced traffic calming measures.

The route comprises 1,860 metres in length through existing road and footpath network. Third party lands to be acquired at the junctions of L – 7539 & L – 7501 and at the junction of L – 7501 & L – 7510 into Glenmore Village requiring third party land acquisitions.

The proposal put forward provides for the following:

- Accommodation works consisting of security fencing, agricultural gates, stock proof fencing to facilitate landowners.
- The clearance of vegetation on the link corridor, retaining boundary hedgerows and boundary vegetation where possible.
- Repair and upgrade of existing drainage.
- Excavation and installation of retaining structures on L – 7513 up to N – 25 underpass.
- Laying of a 3-metre-wide bituminous surface on a crushed stone base to form a proposed pedestrian and cycle corridor.
- Alteration to footpaths in the two underpasses of N25 at L – 7513 & L – 7501.
- Alterations/setbacks to vehicle restraint systems along L – 7513/ L – 7539/ L – 7501.
- Installation of barriers for the safety of Greenway users.
- Installation of road signage, markings, lighting, pedestrian/cyclist crossings and ramps along existing road and path infrastructure through shared surface.

2.0 **Background and rationale for scheme**

Kilkenny County Council as project promoter proposes to undertake the construction of the connecting link from the South East Greenway at Ballyverneen car park to Glenmore village. The Ballyverneen car park has received Part 8 approval in compliance with the Planning and Development Act 2000 - as amended and the Planning and Development Regulations 2000 - as amended. Providing, a safe walking and cycling environment for Greenway users and

local people will facilitate cycle tourism and stimulate the local economy of the settlement. The introduction of a safe and comfortable link will encourage visitors to explore the village and in turn provide connectivity for the residents of Glenmore to access the South East Greenway.

Roadplan Consulting appointed by Kilkenny County Council provided a route selection and design options report. Five route options were selected from the Ballyverneen Car Park to the village of Glenmore, with all options predominantly off-line. A detailed analysis of the route options was undertaken in conjunction with Public consultation in March 2022. The following criteria was taken into consideration in route analysis; public consultation, use of existing Infrastructure, Environmental Impacts, connectivity to settlements, amenities and attractions. The preferred route was route as the Green route; running from Ballyverneen car park to Glenmore village as detailed within Appendix 3 "*Route Selection and Design Options report*".

The Green route runs from the proposed Ballyverneen car park to the village of Glenmore via the Cappagh Road. Third party lands are required to develop sections of the route; where required, accommodation works will be discussed and finalised with each individual landowner.

The aim of the project can be summarised as follows:

- Improved recreational facilities for walking and cycling through the provision of the greenway link which provides an attractive environment and public space with safe road crossing points.
- Provide a high-quality facility in accordance with the national cycle standards to encourage cycle tourism in the region as per The TII latest Publication on Rural Cycleway Design (Offline) published in April 2017.
- Promote a new sense of place around the disused railway line which was once a key feature connecting local communities.

- Encourage tourism in the area and support local commercial enterprises by encouraging locals and tourists alike to cycle and visit the area.
- Improve the connectivity between rural areas in south east Kilkenny and surrounding areas.

Project Benefits

- Substantial benefits to the local community, local businesses and increased tourism potential for the area.
- Provision of a safe facility for people of all ages to walk and cycle safely between Glenmore and New Ross.
- Future connectivity to the South East and Waterford Greenway; Red Bridge walking route in New Ross - emphasising the regional nature of this project.

3.0 Design Criteria

Design criteria guidelines and policy documents from a European, National, Regional and Local, were referenced in the design of the scheme. A detailed list is provided in section 2 of the *“Route Selection and Design Options report”* within Appendix 3.

The project is designed in accordance with the TII National Rural Cycle Scheme Design Document TD 300*. A Preliminary Design has been carried out in accordance with this standard and is included in the appendices of this report. – see Appendix 2 *“South East Greenway Linkage Design – Glenmore Drawings”*.

**The TII latest Publication on Rural Cycleway Design (Offline) published in April 2017. It defines the following: Greenway - A cycleway that caters for pedestrian and cyclists in a recreational environment.*

A road safety audit stage 1 was carried out in January 2023 on the preliminary design and is included in the appendices. The objective of the audit is to ensure that the road safety

implications of the scheme is fully considered for all users of the road and others affected by the scheme see Appendix 5 – ‘Road Safety Audit Stage 1’.

4.0 **Environmental Reports**

Appropriate Assessment Screening stage 1 was carried out to inform the Part 8 application to determine if an appropriate assessment is required. An independent appropriate assessment screening report was commissioned and is included within the Part 8 documentation:

An AA Screening report was prepared to determine the potential effects, if any, of the proposed scheme on sites with European conservation designations, *i.e.* Natura 2000 sites located near the proposed route of the scheme. – see Appendix 4 “*Report for the purposes of Appropriate Assessment Screening*”.

Note: Link to Glenmore and Slieverue were assessed together in this report, however the Slieverue link is subject to a separate part 8 application.

5.0 **Funding**

At the time of producing this explanatory document there is no funding commitment in place to enable the delivery of the proposals for which planning is being sought. However, the Programme for Partnership Government includes a commitment to the development of a national greenway network and any planning consent for the Glenmore link to South East Greenway will enhance the funding opportunities for the delivery of the project. An application under the Outdoor Recreation Infrastructure scheme (ORIS) to the Department of Rural and Community Development (DRCD) is identified as the primary funding stream for this project. Funding will be required from a number of State Departments and State Agencies and Kilkenny County Council will seek funding from any such sources should a planning consent materialise for this project.

6.0 Public consultation

Plans and particulars of the proposed development will be available for inspection from **Wednesday the 02nd of August, 2023 to Tuesday the 5th of September 2023 inclusive**, on the consult website: <https://consult.kilkenny.ie/en> , and at the following offices:

| Location | Opening Hours |
|---|---|
| Planning Department, Kilkenny County Council, County Hall, John Street, Kilkenny | From 9am to 1pm & 2pm to 5pm Monday to Friday (Except Public Holidays) |
| Ferrybank Library, Ferrybank Shopping Centre, Ferrybank, Co. Kilkenny | Tuesday, Thursday and Fridays From 10am to 1.30pm, 2.30pm to 5pm Wednesday 10am to 1.30pm, 2.30pm to 7pm Saturday 9.30am to 1.30pm |
| Ferrybank Area Office, Ferrybank Shopping Centre, Ferrybank, Co. Kilkenny | From 9am to 1pm & 2pm to 5pm Monday to Friday (Except Public Holidays) |
| Kilkenny County Council, Ferrybank Area Office, Ferrybank, Co. Kilkenny | From 9am to 1pm & 2pm to 5pm Monday to Friday (Except Public Holidays) |

7.0 Submissions

Submissions or observations with respect to the proposed development, dealing with the proper planning and sustainable development of the area in which the development will be carried out, may be made

- online at <https://consult.kilkenny.ie/en> or
- via email to GreenwayLinkGlenmore@kilkennycoco.ie
- in writing to the Planning Department, County Hall, John Street, Kilkenny

The latest date for receipt of submissions on the above scheme is **Tuesday the 19th of September, 2023**.

Submissions should be clearly marked '**South East Greenway link to Glenmore village**'.

Appendix 1 – Public Notice

Comhairle Chontae Chill Chainnigh Kilkenny County Council



Notice of proposed development by a Local Authority Section 179 of the Planning and Development Act 2000 - as amended Part 8 of the Planning and Development Regulations 2001 - as amended

South East Greenway Link to Glenmore Village, Co. Kilkenny

In accordance with the provisions of Part XI of the Planning & Development Act 2000, as amended, and Part 8, Article 81, of Planning and Development Regulations 2001, as amended Kilkenny County Council as lead authority hereby gives notice of proposals pertaining to the following development:

The project involves the development of a pedestrian and cycle corridor 3.0m in width (length approximately 1.86km). The proposed linkage connects the Car park at Ballyverneen by way of the L – 7513-14 through the existing N25 underpass to the junction of L – 7513. Continuing through the second existing N25 underpass to the Junction with L -7510. Construction of a new corridor located in private lands inside hedge line along L – 7510 into the Village of Glenmore. Corridor re-joins existing public road L – 7510 with introduced traffic calming measures.

The route comprises 1,860 metres in length through existing road and footpath network. Third party lands to be acquired at the junctions of L – 7539 & L – 7501 and at the junction of L – 7501 & L – 7510 into Glenmore Village requiring third party land acquisitions.

The proposal put forward provides for the following:

- Accommodation works consisting of security fencing, agricultural gates, stock proof fencing to facilitate landowners.
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- Repair and upgrade of existing drainage.
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| Kilkenny County Council, Ferrybank Area Office, Ferrybank Shopping Centre, Ferrybank, Co. Kilkenny | From 9am to 1pm & 2pm to 5pm Monday to Friday (Except Public Holidays) |

Submissions or observations with respect to the proposed development, dealing with the proper planning and sustainable development of the area in which the development will be carried out, may be made

- online at <https://consult.kilkenny.ie/en> or
- via email to GreenwayLinkGlenmore@kilkennycoco.ie
- in writing to the Planning Department, County Hall, John Street, Kilkenny

The latest date for receipt of submissions on the above scheme is **Tuesday the 19th of September, 2023.**

Submissions should be clearly marked '**South East Greenway link to Glenmore village**'.

In accordance with the requirements of Article 120(1)(a) of the Planning and Development Regulations 2001 (as amended) the Planning authority has made a preliminary examination of the nature, size and location of the proposed development. The authority has concluded that there is no real likelihood of significant effects on the environment arising from the proposed development and a determination has been made that an Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) is not required. As per Article 120(3) of the Planning and Development Regulations 2001 (as amended), where any person considers that the development proposed to be carried out would be likely to have significant effects on the environment, he or she may, at any time before the expiration of 4 weeks beginning on the date of the publication of this notice apply to An Bord Pleanála for a screening determination as to whether the development would be likely to have a significant effect on the environment.

**Denis Malone,
A Director of Services,
Kilkenny County Council,
County Buildings,
John Street,
Kilkenny**

Appendix 2

Schedule of Drawings accompanying this Part 8 Planning Application

- Drawing No. 21006-01-0005-R1 – SITE LOCATION
- Drawing No. 21006-01-0007-R3 – OVERALL LAYOUT – GLENMORE – PROPOSED LAYOUT
- Drawing No. 21006-01-0014-R3 – OVERALL LAYOUT – GLENMORE SHEET 1 OF 3 (GLENMORE VILLAGE / GRAIGUENAKILL) – PROPOSED LAYOUT
- Drawing No. 21006-01-0015-R3 – OVERALL LAYOUT – GLENMORE SHEET 2 OF 3 (GRAIGUENAKILL / BALLYVERNEEN) – PROPOSED LAYOUT
- Drawing No. 21006-01-0016-R3 – OVERALL LAYOUT – GLENMORE SHEET 3 OF 3 (BALLYVERNEEN / SOUTH EAST GREENWAY) – PROPOSED LAYOUT
- Drawing No. 21006-01-0018-R2 – TYPICAL CROSS SECTIONS

Appendix 3

- ROUTE SELECTION AND DESIGN OPTIONS REPORT – *ROADPLAN CONSULTING*

Appendix 4

- APPROPRIATE ASSESSMENT SCREENING – *MOORE ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES LIMITED*

Appendix 5

- ROAD SAFETY AUDIT STAGE 1 – *RAY BUTLER CONSULTANT LTD*