

Renovation of Abbey Quarter Squash Courts, at Abbey Quarter, Kilkenny.

To: Kilkenny City Engineer

From: Nicolaas Louw: Senior Executive Planner

Proposal: The refurbishment of the existing former Smithwicks Brewery Squash Court building, located within the Abbey Quarter directly west of the River Breagagh, into a multi-functional Rehearsal Studio (208.5m²).

Re: Environmental Impact Assessment – Screening for Environmental Impact Assessment Report (EIAR).

Planning Legislation:

Planning and Development Regulations 2001-as amended, Schedule 5 and 7, Part 1 and 2
European Union (Planning and Development) (Environmental Impact Assessment) Regulations 2018
Article 75 which amends Article 120 of the Planning and Development Regulations 2001-as amended
Planning and Development Act 2000 – as amended

Characteristics of Project

The refurbishment of the existing former Smithwicks Brewery Squash Court building, located within the Abbey Quarter directly west of the River Breagagh, into a multi-functional Rehearsal Studio (208.5m²).

Works include the demolition of the existing Hop Store (125m²), redesign and recladding of the Squash Court building, new main entrance, and all associated internal finishings and M&E services. New services will be provided via the current Abbey Quarter carpark. Landscape works include the provision of new bicycle parking, new ramp and steps to the building, signage, and minor conservation/stabilization works to a section of historic stone boundary wall to the north of the site.

Location

At the former Smithwicks Brewery Squash Court building, Abbey Quarter, Kilkenny City, Co. Kilkenny.

Type and characteristics of potential impact

From assessing the documentation associated and considering schedules 5 and 7 of the Planning and Development Regulations 2001-2023, it is considered that the proposed development works are below sub threshold Part 2 activities and having regard to the environmental sensitivities of this area and the potential impacts based on the following environmental factors;

- Population and human health
- Biodiversity, with particular attention to special and habitats protected under the Birds and Habitats Directives
- Land, soil, water, air and the landscape
- Climate
- Interaction between above
- Expected effects from relevant major accidents and / or disasters

it is determined that there is no potential for likely significant effects on the environment. Accordingly, the project can be screened out and **no** Environmental Impact Assessment Report is required.

Conclusion

It is determined that based on the above preliminary examination, there is no real likelihood of significant effects on the environment arising from the proposed development works and therefore it is recommended that an Environmental Impact Assessment Report is not required for this proposal.

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14/01/'25

N. Louw
Senior Executive Planner

I agree with the above



Handwritten signature of D. Malone, written in a cursive style.

D. Malone
Senior Planner
16/01/25