

TRAFFIC CALMING ON NEWCASTLE ROAD

PART 8 PLANNING REPORT

L307-OCSC-XX-XX-RP-C-0002-A1-C01

LONGFORD COUNTY COUNCIL

PROJECT NO. L307

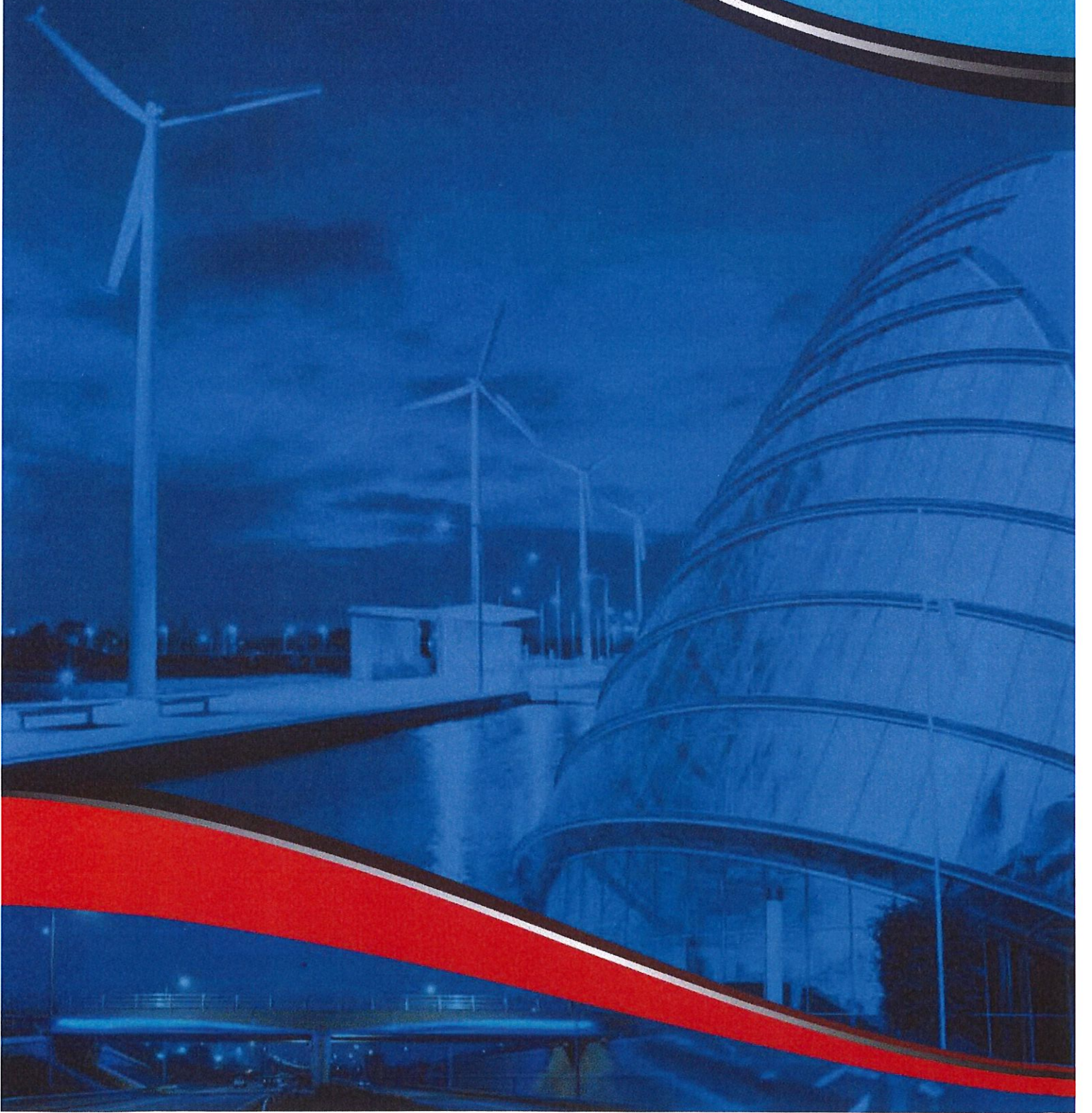
APRIL 2019



OCSC

O'CONNOR | SUTTON | CRONIN

Multidisciplinary
Consulting Engineers



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<u>TABLE OF CONTENTS</u>	<u>PAGE</u>
1 INTRODUCTION	1
1.1 Appointment.....	1
1.2 Site Location	1
2 SCOPE OF REPORT	2
3 CONSULTATION AND REVIEW OF FILES	2
4 SITE CONSTRAINTS.....	4
5 PROPOSED WORKS.....	7

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1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Appointment

O'Connor Sutton Cronin and Associates (OCSC) were appointed by Longford County Council (LCC) as Engineering Consultants to examine and design traffic calming measures on the Newcastle Road East of Ballymahon.

1.2 Site Location

The site is located on public roads L-1121 and L-1119 from the N55 at Toome Crossroads to the Entrance to Center Parcs at Newcastle (see below).



Figure 1 – Site Location

2 SCOPE OF REPORT

OCSC were commissioned to produce a Part 8 Planning Report on the preferred traffic calming treatment for the site under consideration.

This report should be read in conjunction with the following OCSC drawings:

- L307-OCSC-XX-XX-DR-C-0100 to 0108 – Roadway Option A
- L307-OCSC-XX-XX-DR-C-0120 – Newcastle Bridge Option A
- L307-OCSC-XX-XX-DR-C-0122 – Newcastle Bridge Typical Cross-Sections

3 CONSULTATION AND REVIEW OF FILES

OCSC met with Longford County Council (LCC) representatives on 30th January 2019 to discuss the project brief and design programme in the County Offices. A site walk took place prior to the meeting on the same date. LCC provided OCSC with copies of correspondence, minutes of meetings and submissions to the planning authority which were relevant to the scheme. Additionally, LCC and OCSC hosted an open public meeting in Ballymahon Library on the 6th February 2019. At this meeting a number of residents of the Newcastle area who have a direct interest in the project contributed to an open discussion on their concerns (current and future) and the general merits and demerits of various standard safety measures. The residents also provided OCSC with Local context, historical information in terms of observed behaviour and accident data to enrich the information available from the RSA database.

OCSC have been provide by LCC with:

- OS Maps;
- A topographical survey of the most relevant areas;
- A traffic survey carried out in 2017;
- Copies of salient elements of the planning file for the Center Parcs Development;

OCSC have also carried out the following reviews and background preparatory work:

- Review of Collision Data on the RSA website;
- An onsite review of the user experience for various modes of travel in particular the route has been driven and walked, as have all the approach routes;

4 SITE CONSTRAINTS

Newcastle Road is located in a quiet rural area of high amenity value. It serves as an unofficial by-pass of Ballymahon Town between the N55 and the R392. Given the increased tourist activity levels envisaged as a result of Center Parcs and other improvements in the Ballymahon Area, it is considered desirable by Longford County Council to provide traffic calming measures along the local road and at Newcastle Bridge which will enhance the amenity value of the road, discourage its use by passing traffic, and control traffic speeds.

The road widths varies between 5 and 5.5m with the exception of a section between Cloncallow Junction and Newcastle Bridge where the road width is less than 5m. Newcastle Bridge represents a pinch point on this section with approximately 4.2m clear distance between parapets, which effectively allows one vehicle at a time. The yielding currently works by courtesy as both directions have right of way.

The speed limit is generally 80kph with the exception of a small stretch around Newcastle Bridge which has a speed limit of 50kph as shown in Figure 2 overleaf.



Figure 2 – Existing Speed Limits and Speed Survey Locations

The Centre Parcs application provided 5 number speed surveys date February 2017 of the existing road network relevant to the traffic calming review, at the locations shown in Figure 2 above. In Table 1 below OCSC show the speed limit, the 85th percentile and the maximum observed speed at each of these locations. It is clear from this factual survey that significant exceedance of the limits has been observed. This is especially true close to the vulnerable Newcastle Bridge. This information was taken into account in the development of options by OCSC.

Site	Location		Speed Limit (Km/h)	85% Speed (Km/h)	Max. Speed (Km/h)
Site 01	Newcastle Road North of River Inny	Northbound	50	81.99	118.70
		Southbound	50	81.09	109.90
Site 02	Ballymulvey Road North of River Inny	Eastbound	50	52.30	69.30
		Westbound	80	47.52	63.00
Site 03	Cloncallow Road East of School	Eastbound	80	55.71	73.90
		Westbound	80	49.69	77.20
Site 04	Cloncallow Road West of School	Eastbound	80	58.69	87.00
		Westbound	80	54.72	90.30
Site 05	Newcastle Road at Center Parcs Access	Northbound	80	85.67	120.70
		Southbound	80	89.46	123.10

Table 1 –Speed Survey Summary

Although the pedestrian activity was not observed to be significant, OCSC have been advised that the section of the road adjacent to the Coillte forestry lands (Newcastle Woods) is popular with walkers in good weather and at the weekends. Additionally, it is anticipated an increase of pedestrians along the route once Center Parcs is launched in July 2019. It is also noted that LCC are pursuing a number of infrastructural schemes in the area that will entice more pedestrians and cyclists into the area, such as the new pedestrian and cycle bridge over the River Inny, the Green Route along the Royal Canal and the Newcastle Forest to Ballymahon proposed cycle scheme.

5 PROPOSED WORKS

The proposed development will consist of the following:

1. Traffic Calming along the Newcastle Road (Road Nos L-1119 and L-1121)

including:

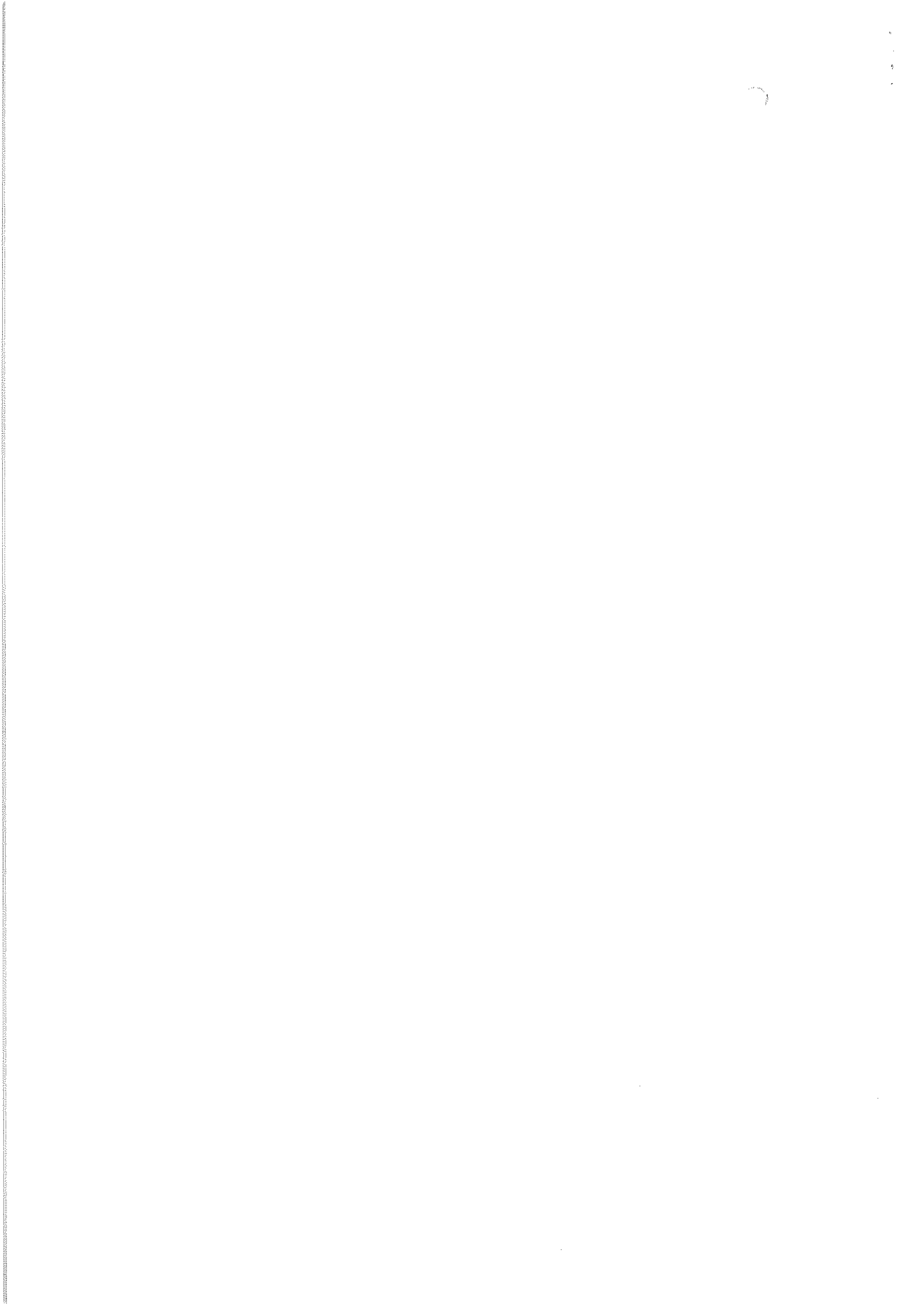
- Provision of dashed yellow lines RRM025 as per *Traffic Signs Manual 2010*, 300mm offset from the carriageway edges;
- Relining and hatching the junction treatment of the access to the N55;
- Replacement of the current yield sign on Clooncallow Road by a Stop sign and appropriate road marking;
- Erection of warning signage, specifically Wildlife Fauna, Sharp Bend, Junction Ahead and Pedestrian warning signs;
- A new speed limit arrangement for the road including speed limit signage varying from 80-60-50 Kph;
- Vehicle activated warning signs for narrow bridge.

2. Introduction of a priority traffic management system at Newcastle Bridge with associated road markings and signage located on either approach to the bridge. Associated with this system localized road widening will take place on the South East approach to the bridge.

3. Provision of a coloured surface on Newcastle Bridge at road level to demarcate a pedestrian designated area.

4. Minor repair works to the parapets of Newcastle Bridge including removal of vegetation, localized repair to parapets and parapet capping's. Repairs to the masonry retaining walls on the south east approach to Newcastle Bridge for the extent of the road widening including removal of vegetation and repairs to the existing masonry walls.

5. Minor ancillary and accommodation works related to the above listed works.



DOCUMENT REGISTER SHEET

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Date: 03 April 2019



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Date / Revision / Status

File No.	Title	03/04/19								
L307 - OCSC - XX - XX - DR - C - 0100	Roadway Option A. Sheet 1 of 9	A1 C01								
L308 - OCSC - XX - XX - DR - C - 0101	Roadway Option A. Sheet 2 of 9	A1 C01								
L309 - OCSC - XX - XX - DR - C - 0102	Roadway Option A. Sheet 3 of 9	A1 C01								
L310 - OCSC - XX - XX - DR - C - 0103	Roadway Option A. Sheet 4 of 9	A1 C01								
L311 - OCSC - XX - XX - DR - C - 0104	Roadway Option A. Sheet 5 of 9	A1 C01								
L312 - OCSC - XX - XX - DR - C - 0105	Roadway Option A. Sheet 6 of 9	A1 C01								
L313 - OCSC - XX - XX - DR - C - 0106	Roadway Option A. Sheet 7 of 9	A1 C01								
L314 - OCSC - XX - XX - DR - C - 0107	Roadway Option A. Sheet 8 of 9	A1 C01								
L315 - OCSC - XX - XX - DR - C - 0108	Roadway Option A. Sheet 9 of 9	A1 C01								
L325 - OCSC - XX - XX - DR - C - 0120	Newcastle Bridge Option A	A1 C01								
L327 - OCSC - XX - XX - DR - C - 0122	Newcastle Bridge. Typical Cross-Sections	A1 C01								
L328 - OCSC - XX - XX - DR - C - 0125	Site Location. Scale 1:5000	A1 C01								
L328 - OCSC - XX - XX - DR - C - 0126	Site Location. Scale 1:2500. Sheet 1 of 2	A1 C01								
L328 - OCSC - XX - XX - DR - C - 0127	Site Location. Scale 1:2500. Sheet 2 of 2	A1 C01								

Status / Suitability
NON-CONTRACTUAL

SHARED

- S1 - suitable for coordination
- S2 - suitable for information
- S3 - suitable for review/comment
- S4 - suitable for stage approval
- S6 - suitable for PIMod authorization
- S7 - suitable for AImod authorization
- S8 - suitable for planning
- S9 - suitable for FI

PUBLISHED

- D1 - suitable for costing
- D2 - suitable for tender
- D3 - suitable for contractor design
- D4 - suitable for manufacturer/procurement

LCC	8								
Others Copy #:									
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Issue Format : E = Email U = Upload no. = Hardcopy

CONTRACTUAL

A1 - Preparation & Brief	A4 - Technical Design
A2 - Concept Design	A5 - Construction
A3 - Developed Design	A6 - Handover & Close OUT

PUBLISHED

