

LONGFORD COUNTY COUNCIL

**SECTION 179 OF THE PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT ACT 2000
(as amended)**

**PART 8 OF THE PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT REGULATIONS 2001 (as
amended)**

PROPOSAL TO CARRY OUT A DEVELOPMENT REFERRED TO AS –

**PART 8 – NO. 110 SOLAR-POWERED LIGHTS AT
GRANARD URBAN GREENWAY**

**REPORT IN ACCORDANCE WITH
SECTION 179 OF THE PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT
ACT 2000 (AS AMENDED)
AND
PART 8 OF THE PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT
REGULATIONS 2001 (AS AMENDED)**

To: The Cathaoirleach and Members of Longford County Council.

Being satisfied that the requirements of subsections (1) and (2) of Section 179 of the Planning and Development Act 2000 as amended, and Articles 79 to 85 inclusive of the Planning and Development Regulations 2001 (as amended) have been fully complied with in relation to the above proposed development, I have prepared the attached report in accordance with the requirements of subsection (3) of Section 179 of the Planning and Development Act 2000 as amended and formally submit same to the Cathaoirleach and members of Longford County Council for consideration.

1. Introduction / Site Location of the proposed development.
2. The nature and extent of the proposed development and the principal features thereof are as set out in Section 2 of the Report.

3. Section 3 of the Report evaluates the consistency of the development with the proper planning and sustainable development of the area to which the development relates, having regard to the provisions of the development plan.

I am satisfied that all issues have been fully considered in the evaluation and that the proposed development is consistent with the proper planning and sustainable development of the area to which the development relates, having regard to the provisions of the development plan, for the reasons set out in the report.

4. The persons and bodies who made submissions or observations with respect to the proposed development in accordance with the provisions of the above Act and Regulations are listed at Section 4.
5. Nature and extent of proposed development.
6. Section 5 sets out details in relation to Appropriate Assessment.
7. Section 6 sets out the EIA Screening Determination.
8. Sets out the recommendation of the Planning Authority in relation to the proposed development regarding the planning considerations and submissions and observations received.

In accordance with the provisions of Section 179(3)(b)(v) of the Planning and Development Act 2000 (as amended) I recommend that the proposed development should be proceeded with subject to the conditions listed in Section 6 of the attached report.

Dated this the **1st November 2023**



**John Brannigan,
Director of Services.**

Note:

Planning and Development Act 2000 (as amended) – Subsection 4 of Section 179.

- (4) (a) The members of the local authority shall, as soon as may be, consider the proposed development and the report of the Chief Executive under subsection (3).
- (b) Following consideration of the Chief Executive's Report under paragraph (a), the proposed development may be carried out as recommended in the Chief Executive's Report, unless the local authority, by resolution, decides to vary or modify the development, otherwise than as recommended in the Chief Executive's Report, or decides not to proceed with the development.
- (c) A resolution under paragraph (b) must be passed not later than 6 weeks after receipt of the Chief Executive's Report.



PART 8 - NO. 110

Solar-powered lights at Granard Urban Greenway

Report in Accordance with
Section 179 of the Planning and Development Act 2000 (as amended)
and
Part 8 of the Planning & Development Regulations 2001 (As
Amended)

November 2023

1. INTRODUCTION/ SITE LOCATION

The proposed development is the installation of 58 no. solar powered lights, 6.0m high, along the Granard Urban Greenway including all ancillary site works.



Figure 1 Site notice in situ at time of inspection

2. NATURE AND EXTENT OF PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT

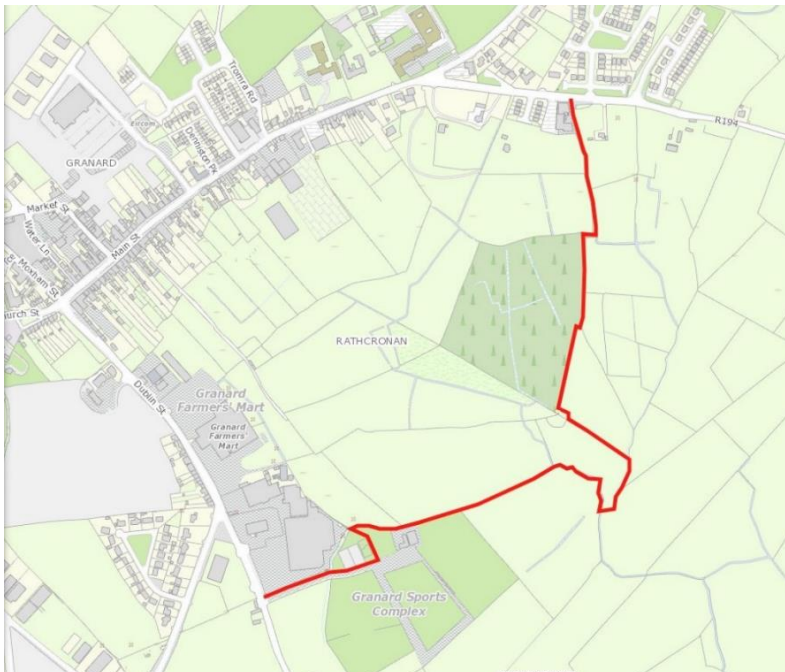


Figure 2 Site Location of Proposed Works (marked in red)

The development will consist of: The installation of 58 no. solar powered lights, 6.0m high, along the Granard Urban Greenway including all ancillary site works from GAA complex to the R194 Regional Road through the townlands of Carragh, Rathcronan and Higginstown.



Figure 3 Aerial view of proposed development

3. PLANNING CONSIDERATION/ EVALUATION

The site is located within the functional area of Longford County Council and lies within the Granard town boundary. As such the provisions of the Longford County Development Plan 2021 – 2027 apply.

The proposed development is seen to be in keeping with a number of key policies and objectives presented in the Longford County Development Plan 2021-2027. The following

policies and objectives are seen to be particularly relevant in the context of the proposed development:

CPO5.157 Promote the development of solar energy infrastructure in the county, in particular for on-site energy use, including solar PV, solar thermal and seasonal storage technologies. Such projects will be considered subject to environmental safeguards and the protection of natural or built heritage features, biodiversity, views and prospects, and other relevant planning considerations.

CPO5.158 Encourage the development of solar energy in suitable locations in an environmentally sustainable manner and in accordance with Government policy and any forthcoming Renewable Energy Strategy for County Longford.

4. PUBLIC/ STATUTORY BODIES CONSULTATION, SUBMISSIONS, REPORTS, ETC.

The proposed works were duly and properly notified as required by Section 179 of the Planning and Development Act, 2000 (as amended) and Part 8 of the Planning and Development Regulations 2001 (as amended).

The plans and particulars for the proposed installation of 58 no. solar-powered lights, 6.0m high, along the Granard Urban Greenway including all ancillary site works were made available for public inspection at the offices of Longford County Council, Áras and Chontae, Great Water Street, Longford during official opening hours, excluding weekends and bank holidays, from Friday 18th August 2023 up to and including Friday 15th September, 2023.

Submissions or observations with respect to the proposed development, dealing with the proper planning and sustainable development of the area in which the development would be situated, were invited to be made in writing to the Planning Section, Longford County Council, Áras an Chontae, Great Water Street, Longford, Co. Longford to arrive no later than Friday 29th September, 2023 at 4pm

4.1 Submissions

No submissions were received

4.2 Internal Reports

Roads Design Section – No report received at time of writing.

Environment Section – No report received at time of writing.

Heritage Officer – No report received at time of writing.

Chief Fire Officer – No report received at time of writing.

5. APPROPRIATE ASSESSMENT

The proposed development was the subject of a Stage 1 Appropriate Assessment Screening, in which it was noted that the nearest Natura 2000 site is Lough Kinale and Derragh Lough SPA and Derragh Bog SAC, which are located approximately 3.8km and 4.2km respectively from the subject site at its closest point.

Given the nature and extent of the proposed development, as well as its location, it is not considered that the development would result in any significant impacts on the Natura 2000 network. Having reviewed the qualifying interests (habitats and species related interests) of the Natura 2000 sites closest to the proposed development, it is considered that there are no likely adverse impacts arising from the proposed development on the integrity of the Natura 2000 network. Accordingly, it is considered that there is no requirement to progress to a full Appropriate Assessment in this case, individually or in combination with other plans or projects.

6. EIA SCREENING

There is no specific requirement to conduct an EIA or EIA Screening of the proposed development.

7. RECOMMENDATION

Having regard to the above-mentioned planning considerations and to the submissions and observations received, it is considered that the proposed development would be in accordance with the proper planning and sustainable development of the area. It is therefore recommended that the proposed development now be proceeded with, subject to the attachment of the following condition:

1. Any trees which are removed to facilitate the proposed development shall be replaced with a semi-mature tree of the same species. These trees shall be planted prior to completion of the construction phase of the development and their location shall be agreed with the Planning Authority.

Reason In the interests of visual amenity and biodiversity.

2. Any obsolete or decommissioned infrastructure should be removed if no longer required.

Reason: In the interest of proper planning and sustainable development



Executive Planner



A/Senior Planner