



Taisteal Gníomhach
Active Travel
Comhairle Chontae Uíbh Fhailí
Offaly County Council

**Report to Accompany Part 8 Planning Drawings for
Cloghan Active Travel Scheme**

Planning and Development Act 2000 (As Amended)
Planning and Development Regulations 2001 (As Amended)



Offaly County Council
Áras an Chontae
Charleville Road
Tullamore
County Offaly
R35 F893

Mr. Tom Shanahan
Director of Services

2024

OFFALY COUNTY COUNCIL

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Cloghan Active Travel Scheme**

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Contracting Authority	Offaly County Council
Project Title	Cloghan Active Travel Scheme
Document Title	Report to Accompany Part 8 Planning Drawings for Cloghan Active Travel Scheme
File	V:\08 NTA\Active Travel\2021 Active Travel Projects\OY210006 Cloghan

Date	Revision	Prepared By	Checked By	Approved By
2024	1	TR	R.M.	B.L.

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1. BACKGROUND

The National Transport Authority (NTA) Investment Programme was introduced in 2021 and is one of a series of national and local support measures designed to increase the number of walking and cycling networks so that walking, cycling and public transport will account for 50% of all journeys made by 2030.

It is proposed to upgrade the public realm of Cloghan under the National Transport Authority (NTA) Investment as per scope of works listed below.

2. PLANNING

In accordance with the Planning Development Act 2000 (As amended) and Part 8 of the Planning and Development Regulations 2001 (As amended) Offaly County Council has to inform and consult the public, relevant authorities and the elected members of the planning authority of the proposed National Transport Authority (NTA) Investment Programme works.

As prescribed in the regulations Offaly County Council has placed a site notice at the works and advertised in one local newspaper.

Offaly County Council has prepared an EIA Screening Report in accordance with the requirements of the Planning and Development Regulations 2001 (as amended). On the basis of this Screening Report, Offaly County Council has completed EIA screening and has determined that there is no likelihood of significant effects on the environment. (Article 120 of Planning and Development Regulations, amended 2018) Accordingly, it has been determined that EIA is not required in respect of this proposed development. Any person may, within 4 weeks beginning on **1st February 2024**, apply to An Bord Pleanála for a screening determination as to whether the development would be likely to have significant effects on the environment.

Plans and particulars of the proposed Cloghan Active Travel Scheme are available for inspection or purchase during public opening hours at the offices of Offaly County Council, Áras an Chontae, Charleville Road, Tullamore, County Offaly (R35 F893) and the offices of Birr Municipal District, Birr Civic Offices, Wilmer Road, Townparks, Birr, County Offaly (R42 X271), for a period of four weeks ending **1st March 2024**.

Submissions or observations in respect of the proposed development dealing with the proper planning and sustainable development of the area in which the development is situated, may be made in writing to Mr. Tom Shanahan, Director of Services, Offaly County Council, Áras an Chontae, Charleville Road, Tullamore, County Offaly (R35 F893) before 12.00 noon on **15th March 2024**

The drawings and particulars of the proposed development are also available to view online at: <https://www.offaly.ie>

3. LOCATION

Cloghan is located at the junction of the N62, R356 and R357 on the Birr to Athlone road corridor. It is approximately 29km from Tullamore, 15km from Birr and 29km from Athlone. Due to its strategic location, the village experiences high volumes of passing traffic. The proposed works conform to the objectives set out in The Cloghan Village Plan.

4. SCOPE OF WORKS

The proposed works will include the following:

- Footpath widening and replacement works.
- Widening of existing road to accommodate footpath works.
- Installation of 1 number pedestrian crossings.
- Junction Tightening Works at Estate T-Junctions to improve pedestrian safety.
- Improvements to the Public Lighting Infrastructure.
- Improvements to the Surface Water infrastructure.
- Land acquisition to accommodate footpath improvement works.
- Relocation of ESB Pole to accommodate footpath widening works.
- Removal of 4 No Trees tagged T752, T753, T754 and T755 to accommodate footpath improvement works. Tree planting of replacement trees (8 No.) within Hillview Green Area.
- Installation of new warning signage and road lining.
- Including all associated works.

The Cloghan Village Plan is contained within in the Offaly County Development Plan 2021-2027. The Cloghan Village Plan outlines a number of Settlement Objectives. The Healthy Place Making and Infrastructure Objectives included in the Cloghan Village Plan states the following:

“SO5 - To continue public realm improvements in the village including signage, public seating, hard and soft landscaping and improvements to the road and footpath network”.

The proposed works conform to the objectives set out in the Cloghan Village Plan/County Development Plan 2021-2027.

5. ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACTS

The main environmental impacts to be considered are as follows:

Noise

There will be an increase in noise pollution for the duration of the works. On completion of the works the noise levels will revert to existing levels.

Visual

There will be an impact the village visually for the duration of the works. On completion of the works the National Transport Authority (NTA) Investment

Programme works listed above will visually enhance the appearance of the Cloghan village.

Natura 2000 Sites

See attached Appropriate Assessment Screening Report for Part 8 Applications.

6. DRAWINGS PROVIDED

OY/21/0006/001	- Cover Sheet
OY/21/0006/002	- Schedule of Drawings
OY/21/0006/003	- Site Location Map
OY/21/0006/004	- Proposed Footpath and Road Widening Works
OY/21/0006/005	- Proposed Pedestrian Crossing and Junction Improvements
OY/21/0006/006	- Proposed Public Lighting Works
OY/21/0006/007	- Proposed Drainage Works
OY/21/0006/008	- Proposed Road Markings
OY/21/0006/009	- Tree Removal and Planting Works
OY/21/0006/010	- Typical Cross Section
OY/21/0006/011	- Existing Photo Survey

7. Tree Survey Report

Offaly County Council engaged the services of an arborist to carry out a tree survey report on trees near the works. A copy of the tree survey report is attached.