

7. Scoping

7.1 Introduction

7.1.1 The purpose of the scoping study is to set out the range of issues to be addressed by the ES and to provide information on the likely environmental implications of the Scheme.

7.1.2 The objectives of the environmental scoping study are to:

- Describe the available relevant baseline environmental information;
- Describe the consultations undertaken with the statutory consultation bodies to date, and to inform them of the proposal;
- Identify the environmental issues and potential impacts which would need to be addressed as a result of the Scheme implementation;
- Suggest approaches/methodology for assessing such potential impacts;
- Outline possible mitigation measures;
- Determine the need for further assessment.

7.1.3 As part of the consultation process, a scoping report was prepared (A2 Shore Road Greenisland, Scoping Report, July 2006). This report identified key issues to enable the scope of the EIA to be determined. It was recognised that adverse impacts are likely to occur during the construction and operation of the Scheme. Some impacts will be short term, for example during construction, and others may be permanent, for example land-take, or some may occur as a result of the operation of the Scheme, such as ecological effects. Effects will also be experienced in some parts of the Scheme; for example, land take of agricultural land is required for the new section of two-lane dual carriageway. As a result, mitigation measures have been designed in the Scheme to reduce adverse environmental impacts. The potential environmental issues identified during the scoping process are shown in Table 7.1. However, as part of the EIA process, and as the Scheme developed, effects were either redefined or new effects identified such that the scoping process was not the only stage at which effects were identified.

Table 7.1: Potential Environmental Issues Identified (continued over)

Environmental Issue	Construction	Operation
Air Quality	X	➔➔
Cultural Heritage	X	O
Disruption Due to Construction	X	N/A
Ecology and Nature Conservation	X	X
Landscape Effects	X	O/X
Land Use	X	X
Traffic Noise and Vibration	X	O
Pedestrians, cyclists, equestrians and community effects	X	➔➔
Vehicle travellers	X	➔➔

Environmental Issue		Construction	Operation
Water quality and drainage		X	➡➡
Geology and Soils		X	O
Policies and plans		O	➡➡
O	No significant likely effect	X	Negative effect possible
N/A	Not applicable	➡➡	Positive effect likely

7.2 The Consultation Process

7.2.1 The consultation process involved writing to the consultation bodies as defined by the Roads (Environmental Impact Assessment) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 1999. Statutory consultees are defined in the relation to the project. Discussion of the consultations undertaken takes place in each topic chapter of this report. Consultation was also undertaken with non-statutory consultees, defined as those who have a particular interest in the Scheme.

7.2.2 Details of consultations with the statutory consultation bodies as part of the Environmental Statement scoping process, together with a summary of their responses are included in Table 7.2. The responses received from these consultees were used in establishing the baseline scenarios for each specialist chapter, and in highlighting potential significant impacts resulting from the Scheme. Appendix A gives details of the consultation bodies' responses received.

Table 7.2: Summary of the consultation with the statutory consultation bodies for the Scheme (continued over)

Consultee	Comments
Carrickfergus Borough Council	Interim response -requested additional 25 copies of scoping report and leaflet.
	Awaiting response.
Newtownabbey Borough Council	Awaiting response.
Council for Nature Conservation and the Countryside	No further comment at this stage. Looks forward to seeing EIA in due course.
Department of Agriculture and Rural Development, Environmental Policy Division	Presumes that relevant air and noise assessments will be undertaken. Comments should be sought from Carrickfergus and Newtownabbey Borough Councils and their recent reviews and assessment of local air quality. Provides details of web sources for historic and national air quality data. Has detailed comments and suggestions in relation to Air quality.
Department of Agriculture and Rural Development, Fisheries Division	Department records show no evidence of lands subject to Potato Cyst Nematode or Potato Wart Disease. Soil maps identify land type as surface water gley and as grade 3B under BMV category. Landowners should be consulted with regard to inclusion of land in agri-environmental Scheme if they are in this Scheme and

Consultee	Comments
	<p>DARD should be contacted prior to any development on land. Care should be taken for disposal of spoil, as dumping soil on farmland requires prior approval from Govt, organisations (DOE/DARD). Site could be subject to EIA regs.</p> <p>Fisheries unaware of any inland licensed fish farms in the area. In relation to run-off during construction and operation consideration should be given to aquaculture sites in Belfast Lough; Wild Shellfish in inter-tidal areas of the Lough. Provided map with licensed aquaculture sites and gave address details of fisheries division should further info be required.</p>
Department of Agriculture and Rural Development, Rivers Agency	Awaiting response.
	Awaiting response.
Department of Cultural, Arts and Leisure, Inland Waterways and Inland Fisheries	Awaiting response.
Department of Enterprise Trade and Industry, Geological Survey of Northern Ireland	Thinks that scoping report covers geology appropriately, but thinks more needs done on hydrogeology with only section 14.6 covering this issue. Potential for pollution to spread rapidly through superficial deposits into Belfast Lough. Provides name of borehole records specialist and geologist. No abandoned mines in area.
Department of Environment, Planning Service - HQ	Awaiting response.
	Awaiting response.
Department of Environment, Planning Service – Divisional Planning (Newtownabbey)	<p>States that proposed route does not mirror the safeguarded route in the draft BMAP 2015, and is more extensive.</p> <p>States that section 15 [Planning] of the Scoping report is 'comprehensive'.</p> <p>Lists a number of planning matters the assessment should cover.</p> <p>Asks that adverse impacts are minimised and mitigated.</p> <p>Makes offer of assistance in providing Planning Permission details.</p>
Department of Environment, Planning Service – Divisional Planning (Carrickfergus)	Awaiting response.
Department of Environment, Planning Service – Special Studies Section	Awaiting response.

Consultee	Comments
Department of Finance and Personnel – Construction Service, Landscape Section	State that they have no specific information on the site and have not visited the site. Provide a comprehensive checklist of landscape and visual issues which should be included in the ES. Methodology should be based on the “Guidelines for Landscape and Visual Impact Assessment: 2 nd Edition 2002”.
Environment & Heritage Service, Air and Environmental Quality Section	Awaiting response.
Environment & Heritage Service, Countryside and Coast	Response noted and any follow up action required will be carried out asap.
	Satisfied with range of scoping issues included in report and have no further comment at this stage.
Environment & Heritage Service, Historic Buildings	Awaiting response.
Environment & Heritage Service, Historic Monuments	Awaiting response.
Environment & Heritage Service, Natural Heritage (Admin Services)	Response noted and any follow up action required will be carried out asap.
Environment & Heritage Service, Principal Pollution Inspector, Industrial Pollution and Radiochemical Inspectorate	No further comments to those expressed at previous consultation stage.
Environment & Heritage Service, Waste Management and Contaminated Land	No information on A2 site on Land Use Database. Attached DoE Industrial Profile of the area for information. Recommend consulting DEFRA/EA Model Procedures for the Management of Land Contamination Document in order to identify potential pollutants.
Environment & Heritage Service, Water Management Unit	Awaiting response.

7.2.3 Consultations with non-statutory bodies also have been undertaken. Details of consultations with the non-statutory bodies, together with a summary of their responses are included in Table 7.3. The responses received from these consultees were used in establishing the baseline scenarios for each specialist chapter, and in highlighting potential significant impacts resulting from the Scheme. Appendix A gives details of the non-statutory bodies responses received.

Table 7.3: Summary of the consultation with the non-statutory consultation bodies for the Scheme

Consultee	Comments
Fisheries Conservancy Board	No further comments to those expressed at previous consultation stage
Historic Buildings Council	Provide details of three listed buildings that will potentially be affected by proposal. Request further contact once civil engineering proposals are more developed.
Historic Monuments Council	Have concerns about impact of road works on archaeological sites. Look forward to commenting on completed EIA.
Defence Estate Office	MOD has no safeguarding objections to proposal
Belfast Harbour Commissioners	Awaiting response
Newtownabbey Local Strategy Partnership	Awaiting response
Newtownabbey Police Station	Awaiting response
RSPB	Awaiting response
Sustrans	Awaiting response
The National Trust	Awaiting response
The Woodland Trust	No further comments to those expressed at previous consultation stage, enclosed inventory maps.
Translink	Awaiting response
Ulster Angling Federation	Aware that a number of streams require culverting, which can play vital role in salmonid reproduction. Request that culverts comply with design as set out River Crossings and Migratory Fish Design Guidance produced by the Scottish Executive.
Ulster Wildlife Trust	Do not have sufficient information available to make comment.
Centre for Environmental Data and Recording	Provided relevant biological data.

7.3 Key Issues Raised

- 7.3.1 The Department of Agriculture and Rural Development, Environmental Policy Division stated that recent reviews and assessment of local air quality should be sought from Carrickfergus and Newtownabbey Borough Council
- 7.3.2 The Department of Agriculture and Rural Development, Fisheries Division identified soils as grade 3B under BMV category. In relation to run-off consideration should be given to aquaculture sites in Belfast Lough.

- 7.3.3 The Department for Enterprise, Trade and Industry, Geological Survey of Northern Ireland pointed to the potential for pollution to spread rapidly through superficial deposits into Belfast Lough. The correspondence also stated that there are no abandoned mines in the area.
- 7.3.4 The Divisional Planning office, Newtownabbey stated that proposed route does not mirror the safeguarded route in the draft BMAP 2015, and is more extensive.
- 7.3.5 The Environment & Heritage Service, Waste Management and Contaminated Land division recommended consulting DEFRA/EA Model Procedures for the Management of Land Contamination Document in order to identify potential pollutants.
- 7.3.6 The Historic Monuments Council have concerns about impact of road works on archaeological features.
- 7.3.7 The Ulster Angling Federation stated they were aware of a number of streams require culverting, which can play a vital role in salmonid reproduction. Request that culverts comply with design as set out In River Crossings and Migratory Fish Design Guidance produced by the Scottish Executive.

7.4 Analysis of Key Issues

- 7.4.1 No issues have been discounted at the scoping stage and all are considered in this ES.

7.5 References

- The Roads (Environmental Impact Assessment) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 1999.