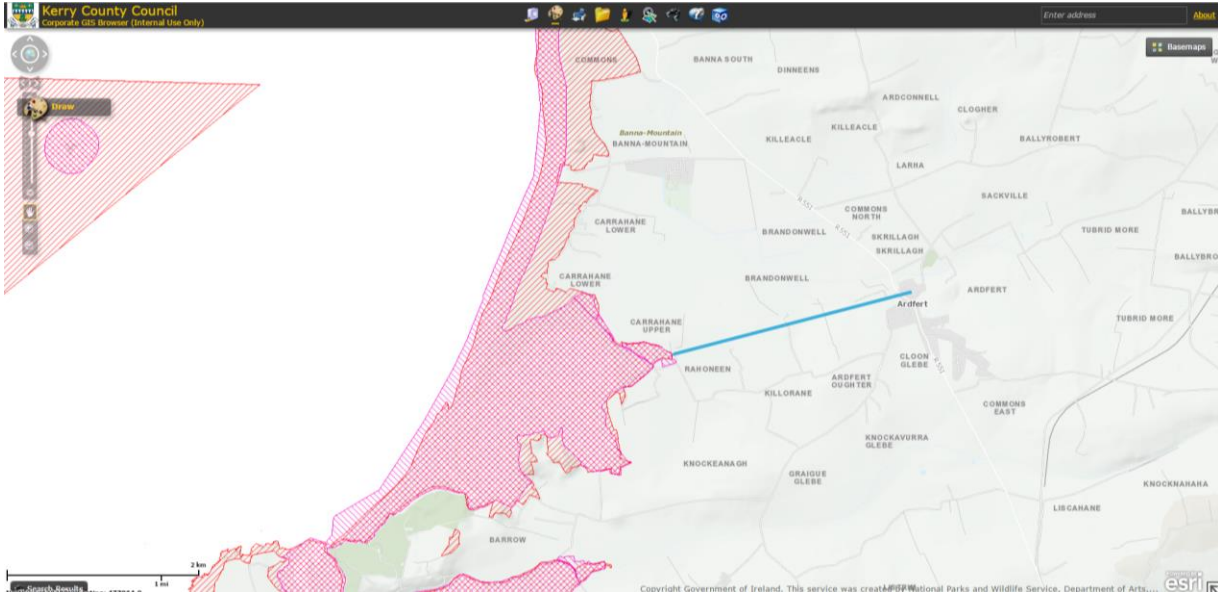


# Appropriate Assessment Screening Report

Reference Number:	<b>Capital Infrastructure Unit - Part 8 Proposal</b>
Description of development	<b>New Public Toilet Facility in Ardferf, Co. Kerry.</b>
Is the proposed development directly connected with or necessary to the nature conservation management of a Natura 2000 site	No

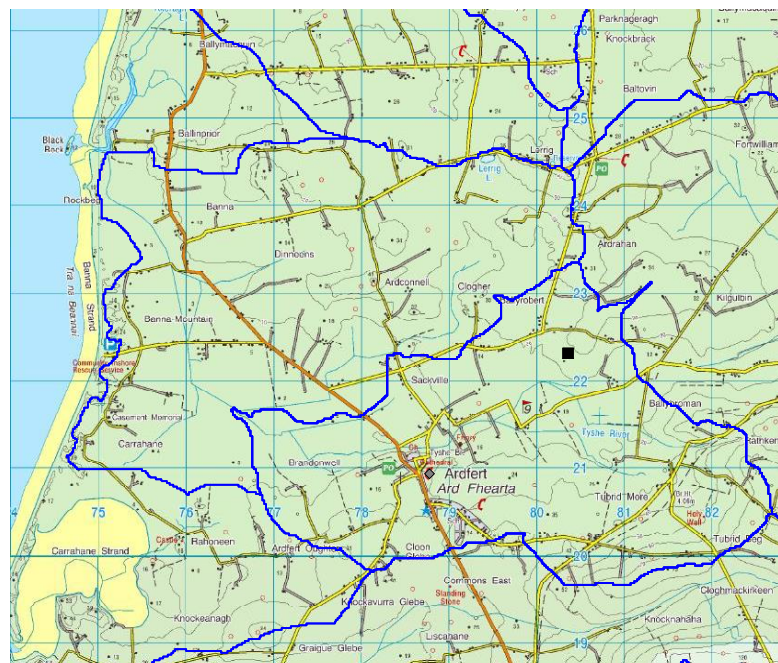


**Above: Location of proposed development relative to current Natura 2000 site designations in the vicinity**

## 1. Proposed development site location relative to that of Natura 2000 Sites

Description of the site location and geographical scope relative to Natura 2000 sites, having particular regard to Natura 2000 sites located within 15Km of the proposed site or within the same water catchment as the proposed site

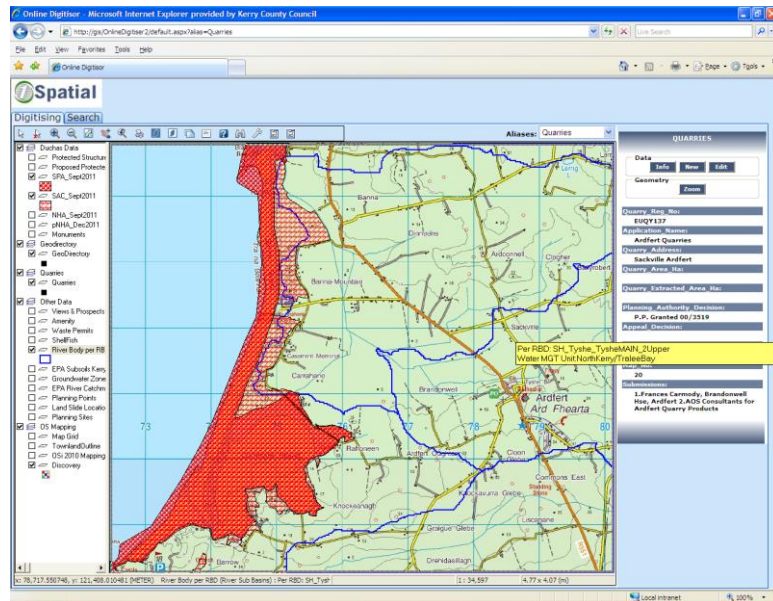
This proposed development is located in the Village of Ardferf, on the flat to undulating lowlands of North Kerry. The site is located within the River Tyshe Upper Catchment and the North Kerry / Tralee Bay Water Management Unit, as shown on the following map:-



Surface waters drain from the site to the River Tyshe, which

## 1. Proposed development site location relative to that of Natura 2000 Sites

enters Tralee Bay in the 'Black Rock' area of Banna Strand approx 6Km downstream. The Banna Strand area forms part of the Tralee Bay Complex SPA (004188) as well as the Akeragh, Banna and Barrow Harbour SAC (000332).



Above: Tralee Bay Complex SPA (004188) and Akeragh, Banna and Barrow Harbour SAC (000332)

Following a review of maps and hydrological data, no other Natura 2000 sites have been identified as being likely to be impacted by this proposal. Other Natura 2000 sites located in the vicinity include:-

- River Shannon and River Fergus Estuaries SPA (004077)
- Stack's to Mullaghareirk Mountains, West Limerick Hills and Mount Eagle SPA (004161)
- Kerry Head SPA (004189)
- Magharee Islands SPA (004125)
- Dingle Peninsula SPA (00)
- Lower River Shannon SAC (002165)
- Kerry Head Shoal SAC (002263)
- Magharee Islands SAC (002261)
- Tralee Bay and Magharees Peninsula, West to Cloghane SAC (002070)
- Mount Brandon SAC (00375)
- Ballyseedy Wood SAC (002112)
- Slieve Mish Mountains SAC (002185)

Qualifying interests of the Natura 2000 sites concerned (i.e. the habitats and species for which the sites are designated) and the sites' conservation objectives.

Full details on qualifying interests, selection species, special conservation interests and sites' conservation objectives are available at [www.npws.ie](http://www.npws.ie). Key details considered to be of particular relevance to this current report are outlined below:-

### Tralee Bay Complex SPA (004188)

Objective: To maintain or restore the favourable conservation condition of the bird species listed as Special Conservation Interests for this SPA:

- Whooper Swan (*Cygnus cygnus*) [A038]
- Light-bellied Brent Goose (*Branta bernicla hrota*) [A046]
- Shelduck (*Tadorna tadorna*) [A048]
- Wigeon (*Anas penelope*) [A050]
- Teal (*Anas crecca*) [A052]
- Mallard (*Anas platyrhynchos*) [A053]

**1. Proposed development site location relative to that of Natura 2000 Sites**

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Pintail (<i>Anas acuta</i>) [A054]</li> <li>• Scaup (<i>Aythya marila</i>) [A062]</li> <li>• Oystercatcher (<i>Haematopus ostralegus</i>) [A130]</li> <li>• Ringed Plover (<i>Charadrius hiaticula</i>) [A137]</li> <li>• Golden Plover (<i>Pluvialis apricaria</i>) [A140]</li> <li>• Grey Plover (<i>Pluvialis squatarola</i>) [A141]</li> <li>• Lapwing (<i>Vanellus vanellus</i>) [A142]</li> <li>• Sanderling (<i>Calidris alba</i>) [A144]</li> <li>• Dunlin (<i>Calidris alpina</i>) [A149]</li> <li>• Black-tailed Godwit (<i>Limosa limosa</i>) [A156]</li> <li>• Bar-tailed Godwit (<i>Limosa lapponica</i>) [A157]</li> <li>• Curlew (<i>Numenius arquata</i>) [A160]</li> <li>• Redshank (<i>Tringa totanus</i>) [A162]</li> <li>• Turnstone (<i>Arenaria interpres</i>) [A169]</li> <li>• Black-headed Gull (<i>Chroicocephalus ridibundus</i>) [A179]</li> <li>• Common Gull (<i>Larus canus</i>) [A182]</li> </ul> <p><b>Akeragh, Banna and Barrow Harbour SAC (000332)</b>  Objective: To maintain or restore the favourable conservation condition of the Annex I habitat(s) and/or the Annex II species for which the SAC has been selected:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Annual vegetation of drift lines [1210]</li> <li>• Salicornia and other annuals colonizing mud and sand [1310]</li> <li>• Atlantic salt meadows (Glauco-Puccinellietalia maritimae) [1330]</li> <li>• Mediterranean salt meadows (Juncetalia maritimi) [1410]</li> <li>• Embryonic shifting dunes [2110]</li> <li>• Shifting dunes along the shoreline with <i>Ammophila arenaria</i> (white dunes) [2120]</li> <li>• Fixed coastal dunes with herbaceous vegetation (grey dunes) [2130]</li> <li>• Humid dune slacks [2190]</li> <li>• European dry heaths [4030]</li> </ul>
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**2. Specialist reports, advice and recommendations received (if any)**

<p>Brief overview of specialist reports, advice, and recommendations received from NPWS / Heritage Officer / Biodiversity Officer / other Specialists (where appropriate)</p>	<p>It is noted that a new wastewater treatment plant and sewerage scheme is nearing completion in Ardfert. That proposal was subject to EIA and AA Screening.</p>
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**3. Consideration of the potential for significant impacts on Natura 2000 sites, having particular regard to potential significance indicators, status information, qualifying interests and conservation objectives for Natura 2000 sites. In line with the precautionary principle, where doubt exists, it should be assumed that effects could be significant.**

<p><b>Proposals may effect:</b>  (i) <b>Habitat loss and / or degradation</b>  (ii) <b>Species loss, disturbance and / or displacement</b></p> <p><b>Potential significance indicators include:</b></p>	<p><b>Significance will vary depending on:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Magnitude of impact</li> <li>• Type</li> <li>• Extent</li> <li>• Distance</li> <li>• Duration</li> <li>• Intensity</li> <li>• Timing</li> <li>• Probability</li> <li>• Cumulative effects</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Reduction, degradation or fragmentation of key habitat (land clearance etc)</li> <li>• Hydrological disruptions</li> </ul>	<p>None likely. It is noted that there are no Natura 2000 sites located in the immediate vicinity and that the wastewater treatment infrastructure in the village is adequate to cater for any additional loading likely to arise.</p> <p>None likely.</p>

**3. Consideration of the potential for significant impacts on Natura 2000 sites, having particular regard to potential significance indicators, status information, qualifying interests and conservation objectives for Natura 2000 sites. In line with the precautionary principle, where doubt exists, it should be assumed that effects could be significant.**

(loss of groundwater supplies, altered run-off rates etc)	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Changes in water quality (toxicity / chemistry, turbidity, nutrients, silt content)</li> </ul>	None likely. It is noted that there are no Natura 2000 sites located in the immediate vicinity and that the wastewater treatment infrastructure in the village is adequate to cater for any additional loading likely to arise.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Facilitation of changes, that may promote invasive species colonisation (including introduction, dispersal and / or creation of favourable habitat)</li> </ul>	None likely. It is noted that there are no Natura 2000 sites located within 2.5Km of the site or 6Km downstream.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Noise, vibration and or light disturbance</li> </ul>	None likely. It is noted that there are no Natura 2000 sites located within 2.5Km of the site.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Movement related disturbances, including increased access to / within ecologically sensitive areas (human, traffic, machinery etc)</li> </ul>	None likely. It is noted that there are no Natura 2000 sites located within 2.5Km of the site.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Dust</li> </ul>	None likely. It is noted that there are no Natura 2000 sites located within 2.5Km of the site.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Landslides and collapses</li> </ul>	None likely.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Other potential indicators</li> </ul>	None likely.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Interactive / cumulative / in combination impacts including potential climate change impacts and those with other plans and projects</li> </ul>	It is noted that there are a number of existing and proposed developments in the area, as would be expected in a village setting. It is noted that a new wastewater treatment plant and sewerage scheme is nearing completion in Ardfert. That proposal was subject to EIA and AA Screening and is licensed by the EPA.
<b>Overview / Key Points</b>	The proposal is small in scale and harmless in nature. It is also sufficiently far removed from Natura 2000 sites for significant effects to arise.

**4. Determination of which species and habitats could be significantly affected by the activities**

This report concludes that no significant effects on European sites are likely, an appropriate assessment is not required.

**5. Conclusion and Reasons for Conclusion**

This is a small scale development project within an urban setting - distant from Natura 2000 sites. The wastewater treatment infrastructure in the village is adequate to treat additional effluent likely to arise.

In identifying the potential issues which could significantly affect these sites a range of factors were taken into account, including the possibility of effects manifesting themselves in the short, medium and long-term, in combination effects and the potential impacts of climate change. In addition, the precautionary principle was adhered to in the carrying out of this assessment.

<b>Completed by:</b>	Eoin Kelleher, Environmental Assessment Unit 28/06/2018
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