

# Donegal County Council



## PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT REGULATIONS 2001 (as amended)

Nature and Extent of a proposed development in accordance with Part  
Viii of the above regulations by Donegal County Council  
(Available for public download)

### **R250 Baile Na Finne Traffic Calming and Pedestrian Linkage Project**

**R250 BAILE NA FINNE TRAFFIC CALMING AND PEDESTRAIN LINKAGE PROJECT****PART VIII REPORT****TABLE OF CONTENTS**

<b>1</b>	<b>INTRODUCTION .....</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>2</b>	<b>BACKGROUND NEED FOR THE PROJECT .....</b>	<b>1</b>
	2.1 PUBLIC CONSULTATION .....	3
<b>3</b>	<b>PLANNING POLICY .....</b>	<b>3</b>
	3.1 DONEGAL COUNTY COUNCIL DEVELOPMENT PLAN 2018-2024 .....	3
	3.2 LEGISLATION .....	5
<b>4</b>	<b>PROPOSED SCHEME.....</b>	<b>5</b>
	4.1 NATURE AND EXTENT OF PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT .....	5
	4.2 PRINCIPLE FEATURES .....	5
<b>5</b>	<b>ENVIRONMENT.....</b>	<b>8</b>
	5.1 OVERVIEW.....	8
	5.2 SCREENING FOR APPROPRIATE ASSESMENT .....	8
<b>6</b>	<b>PART VIII DRAWINGS.....</b>	<b>9</b>
<b>7</b>	<b>SUMMARY AND RECOMMENDATION.....</b>	<b>10</b>

**APPENDIX A: Planning Notice**

## **1 INTRODUCTION**

Donegal County Council proposes to provide traffic calming measures and continuous pedestrian linkage on the R250 within the village of Baile Na Finne. The scheme also aims to address safety issues at the junction of the R252/R250.

The R250 regional road, Baile Na Finne's Main Street, is identified as a strategic route within Donegal and also serves as a link road to the Wild Atlantic Way. It carries an AADT of 3000, generated from through traffic from the rural West of Donegal to the more populous centres of Letterkenny, Ballybofey and The City of Derry.

This report sets out a description for the requirement for the scheme. It also describes the nature and extent of the proposed development and its principle features.

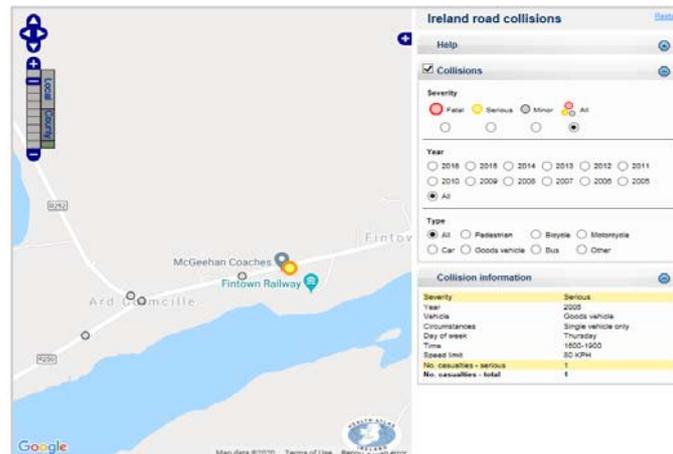
This report is prepared in accordance with Part VIII of the Planning and Development Regulations 2001 (as amended).

## **2 BACKGROUND NEED FOR THE PROJECT**

Donegal County Council has concerns regarding vehicle speeds of through traffic within the village. The R250 within the village has a speed limit of 60kph. A traffic study conducted in April 2018 demonstrated that the average speed is 56kph, however the 85<sup>th</sup> percentile speed is 69kph with some vehicles reaching speeds up to 126kph within the speed limit zone. This speeding is identified as a contributor to a number of minor road incidents which have occurred in recent years and fatal accidents which occurred in years gone by.

Anecdotal evidence from residents of the area and observations by Donegal County Council staff indicate that overtaking within the village occurs regularly.

The junction at the R250/R252 has been subject to a number of minor and serious collisions in recent years. It is considered that improvements to the geometric alignment of the approach on the R252 and visibility at the priority junction would have a positive impact on safety at this location. The Road Safety Authority (RSA) website between 2006 and 2016 has recorded one serious and three minor incidents. There is documented evidence of further collisions following 2016, including two serious incidents at the junction, however specific details are not available at this time.



### *RSA Collision Statistics*

This area has deteriorated over recent years, the streetscape has become somewhat dilapidated, businesses have closed and the village is serving as a thoroughfare. It is the intention of this scheme to provide regularity and consistency to the hardscaping and landscaping of the village, ensuring this countryside village is afforded the opportunity to strengthen as a living and working rural community.



### *Pavement deterioration/wide and unregulated cross sections/drainage Issues*

Having reviewed the existing road environment and collision history for this section of road, it was concluded that the wide and unregulated cross section and forward visibility make a significant contribution to the speeds on this road. The locality would greatly benefit from a reduction in carriageway consistent with the urban nature and consistency of cross section. The junction requires address in terms of the geometric alignment at the intersection and forward visibility on the upper bend.

The lack of footpaths and deteriorating streetscape contribute to downturn of the village and associated amenities for its residents.

## 2.1 PUBLIC CONSULTATION

An Extensive Public Consultation took place in June 2019 in relation to proposals at this location there were in excess of 100 attendees and feedback received was extremely supportive in nature. The overriding concern was the safety at the R252 junction and traffic speed on the existing road. Considerable consultation has taken place with all interested and affected parties.

## 3 PLANNING POLICY

### 3.1 DONEGAL COUNTY COUNCIL DEVELOPMENT PLAN 2018-2024

The proposed development of the R250 Baile Na Finne Traffic Calming and Pedestrian Linkage Scheme fulfils or is consistent with the following objective and policies in the County Development Plan 2018-2024.

#### Key Strategic Objectives:

- ✓ S-O-7 : To prioritise key infrastructural investment required throughout the County, such as in transportation networks, water services, waste disposal, energy and communications networks, the provision of education, healthcare, retail, and a wide range of community based facilities and to collaborate on delivery, including in the regional context.

#### Transportation Objectives:

- ✓ T-O-4: To deliver optimum accessibility, ease of movement and to facilitate appropriate proposals for modal shift.
- ✓ T-O-6: To safeguard the carrying capacity and safety of National Roads and other specified Regional Roads.
- ✓ T-O-13: To support the development of new walkways, walking routes, trails greenways and cycleways that maximise the potential for local, regional and all-island walking and cycling networks.

**Community Culture and The Gaeltacht Objectives:**

- ✓ CCG-O-2: To provide an optimal quality of life in Donegal through the development of vibrant, socially inclusive, and sustainable communities.
- ✓ CCG-O-2: To provide an optimal quality of life in Donegal through the development of vibrant, socially inclusive, and sustainable communities.

**Tourism Objectives:**

- ✓ TOU-O-9: To support the development of new, and protect the functionality of existing, Greenways, walking and cycling routes as keys components of an overall green tourism infrastructure and as standalone tourism products in their own right.
- ✓ TOU-O-10: To protect and enhance the vitality, vernacular character, streetscape and design quality of our towns and villages as vital tourism assets of our overall tourism product.

**Transportation Policies**

- ✓ T-P-11: It is a policy of the Council to facilitate the appropriate development of affordable, multi-modal transport solutions that offer communities and future generations real transport choices such as park and ride; pedestrian and cycling; bus and taxi services; and ancillary infrastructure.
- ✓ T-P-12: It is a policy of the Council to seek provision, improvement and extension of footpaths and lighting at appropriate locations subject to environmental, safety and amenity considerations.
- ✓ T-P-26: It is a policy of the Council to facilitate the development and enhancement of transport facilities, programmes and initiatives that service both the urban and rural areas of the County.
- ✓ T-P-28: It is a policy of the Council to support and facilitate the development of public, semi-public and community projects and proposals which provide innovative transport solutions in rural, disadvantaged and border areas such as rural park and ride schemes, rural carpooling and car sharing schemes, park and cycle schemes and bus and taxi schemes in consultation with public, private and community organisations north and south subject to the proper planning and sustainable development of the area.

## 3.2 LEGISLATION

Part VIII Planning for the scheme is in accordance with the procedures as identified in the;

- Planning and Development Act, 2000 (as amended)
- Planning and Development Regulations, 2001 (as amended)

## 4 PROPOSED SCHEME

### 4.1 NATURE AND EXTENT OF PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT

The proposed R250 Baile Na Finne Traffic Calming and Pedestrian Linkages Scheme is located on the R250 in the village of Baile Na Finne. The scheme is approximately 1.3km in length and extends between the speed limit signs and beyond to the first junction at each end of the village. The proposals incorporate the realignment of approximately 160m of the significantly substandard junction to the R252.

The proposed works will improve safety within the village by improving the geometric alignment, R252 junction layout, vision lines and through the introduction of traffic calming measures providing a reduction in road carriageway consistent with urban location and consistency of cross section. The scheme also seeks to improve road drainage infrastructure, upgrade the road pavement, improve pedestrian facilities and linkages within the village by upgrading footpaths, crossing opportunities, carparking facilities and the installation of LED route lighting.

### 4.2 PRINCIPLE FEATURES

The proposed works are as outlined in the drawings made available with this report.

The principal features of the works are summarised below:

#### **Traffic Calming Measures**

- Implementation of traffic calming with the provision a Type 3 carriageway with consistent 6m cross section - in accordance with section 4.4.1 DMURS and applicable throughout the scheme extents.

- Provision of Gateway entrances inclusive of Traffic Calming Ahead warning signage on both approaches.
- Provision of a continuous standard width footpath along the entire length of the east bound lane within the speed limit signs to promote speed reduction.
- Provision of a kerbed verge/footpath along the west bound lane with appropriate crossing points to promote speed reduction.
- Provision of LED Route Lighting to ESB standards throughout the scheme extents.

### **Junction Realignment**

- Realignment of the R250/R252 carriageway to allow for improved entry at the junction and improvement to the stopping sight distance and vision lines. The improvement of the existing alignment and layout at this junction will contribute positively to reducing collisions at this location.

### **Pedestrian Linkages**

- Provision of continuous footpath throughout the scheme extents to promote modal shift and safe environment for walking/cycling.
- Improved surface water drainage systems with new gullies and carrier drains plus petrol interceptors at outfall locations.
- New road lining will be provided for the entire length of the scheme with some amendments to signage in accordance with the Dept of Transport Traffic Signs Manual.
- Improved car parking layouts and pull in bays, improved facilities for public transport and crossing points.
- Landscaping in the form of planting and hedging to improve vibrancy in this community.

### **Pavement**

- Resurfacing to provide a new road pavement with a regular cross-section to facilitate drainage as well as some improvements to the vertical alignment. SMA surface to be proposed to reduce noise impact generated from traffic.

The following items have been considered in the design and planning of construction of the proposed project.

**Road Pavement:** The works involved the overlay, or reconstruction of the existing road pavement throughout the entire scheme. The pavement will be designed in accordance with TII/DTTAS Standards having regard to the number of vehicles that will be using the road, and will be constructed in accordance with the TII Specification for Road Works. Typically the carriageway will comprise of an asphalt wearing course over an asphaltic concrete (macadam) pavement.

**Traffic Calming:** Traffic Calming measures in form of carriageway narrowing to be implemented to provide significant speed reduction within the village. UK Manual for Streets has shown that driving speed correlates to two geometric factors, i.e. forward visibility and carriageway width a reduction in carriageway width will serve to reduce speeds.

**Footpath:** A 1.8m footpath (DMURS 4.3.1) will be provided allowing enough width of two pedestrians to comfortably pass. This is suitable in location due to the density of pedestrians.

**Safety Barrier:** An assessment of requirements for safety barrier will be carried out at detailed design stage and appropriate barriers provided as required under current TII Standards.

**Road Markings:** Road markings will be used for the extent of the works to clearly show the new carriageways and traffic flows.

**Signage:** Signage will consist of both directional and safety signage to give a clear understanding of the road layout and junction layouts.

**Landscaping:** Road verge will be treated with consistency, where there is currently no definition to the edging the verge will be seeded and kerbed. Hedges will be maintained or supplemented, planting will be in keeping with the indigenous surroundings.

**Temporary Road Diversions:** Temporary road diversions may be required to facilitate the construction of this scheme. However, it is envisaged that in so far as possible online traffic management will be utilised to construct the scheme.

**Site Compound:** A site compound may be located within the confines of the Site Boundary identified (in close proximity) during the construction stage of the works.

**Surface Water Drainage:** Existing surface water drainage will be improved as required. Existing surface drainage system will be upgraded in the kerbed section comprising new road gullies and carrier pipes as required which will discharge to existing outfalls. Any existing culverts crossing the road within the scheme will be assessed and improved or replaced if required. A petrol interceptor will be installed at the outfall location of all the discharge points.

**Services:** The works are generally confined within the extents of the existing pavement. Where impact occurs to services, utility providers will be contacted to discuss impacts and requirements.

**Public Lighting:** Public Lighting will be provided in accordance with BS5489 Standard Code of Practice for the Design of Road Lighting and in accordance with ESB guidelines and Design Manual for Urban Roads and Streets. (DMURS, 4.2.5)

**Third Party Accommodation Works:** To be agreed with each affected landowner at the detailed design stage as appropriate.

## **5 ENVIRONMENT**

### **5.1 OVERVIEW**

An Appropriate Assessment Screening Report undertaken by Donegal County Council Road Design Office has determined that the proposed development does not require appropriate assessment. A copy of the report is included with this report.

### **5.2 SCREENING FOR APPROPRIATE ASSESMENT**

The proposed works are mainly confined within the extents of the existing pavement with some very minor pavement widening at one location. The scheme will involve modification of the carriageway and it is likely there will be works to the drainage systems.

Waste material, which may be generated as a result of constructing this scheme, will be disposed of in accordance with the relevant Waste Management Legislation.

## 6 PART VIII DRAWINGS

Detailed drawings are provided with this report and include the following;

<b>Drawing No</b>	<b>Title</b>
781-001	List of Part Viii Drawings
781-002	Site Location
781-003	Overall Layout
781-004	Proposed Works (General) Sheet 1 of 3
781-005	Proposed Works (General) Sheet 2 of 3
781-006	Proposed Works (General) Sheet 3 of 3
781-007	Proposed Works (Side Road) Sheet 1 of 1
781-008	Proposed Longitudinal Section Sheet 1 of 5
781-009	Proposed Longitudinal Section Sheet 2 of 5
781-010	Proposed Longitudinal Section Sheet 3 of 5
781-011	Proposed Longitudinal Section Sheet 4 of 5
781-012	Proposed Longitudinal Section Sheet 5 of 5
781-013	Proposed Cross Sections and Gateway Entrance
781-014	Proposed Service Layout Sheet 1 of 2
781-015	Proposed Service Layout Sheet 2 of 2
781-016	Proposed Imagery Sheet 1 of 2
781-017	Proposed Imagery Sheet 2 of 2

## **7 SUMMARY AND RECOMMENDATION**

The information contained in this report, together with the drawings provided describe the nature, extents and principal features of the proposed works as required under Part 8 of the Planning & Development Regulations 2001 (as amended).

The background to, and need for, the project has been identified in section 2.0 of this report. The scheme is consistent with objectives of the County Donegal Development Plan 2018-2024 as outlined in section 3.0 of this report. The scheme will improve the R250 pavement and vertical alignment and will promote traffic calming which will further enhance road safety, as well as significantly improving pedestrian amenity within a residential area.

The scheme aims to address issues associated with a continually depleting rural population subject social and economic deprivation which contravenes the objectives of the stated planning policies. In particular in this area which has been defined as very disadvantaged, it located within the Gaeltacht and holds tourism potential in that it lies within an area of especially high scenic amenity

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, may be made in writing to The County Secretariat, Donegal County Council, Lifford, County Donegal or emailed to [gdempsey@donegalcoco.ie](mailto:gdempsey@donegalcoco.ie) before 4 pm on Tuesday 15<sup>th</sup> December 2020 as outlined in the public notices.

**Appendix A**  
**(Planning Notice)**



**Comhairle Contae  
Dhúna na nGall  
Donegal County Council**

**AN TACHT PLEANÁLA AGUS FORBARTHA 2000  
(ARNA LEASÚ)  
NA RIALACHÁIN PHLEANÁLA AGUS FORBARTHA 2001  
(ARNA LEASÚ)  
ALT 81**

**FÓGRA DE BHUN ALT 81, CUID 8 DE NA RIALACHÁIN  
THUAS, MAIDIR LE FORBAIRT ATÁ BEARTAITHE AG  
COMHAIRLE CONTAE DHÚNA NA NGALL**

TABHAIR FAOI DEARA go bhfuil sé i gceist ag Comhairle Contae Dhúna na nGall bearta coansaithe tráchta, cosáin agus forleagan baartaíthe a sholáthar i gCeantar Bardais na nGleannach mar atá sa scéideal thíos.

**SCEIDEAL NA nOIBREACHA ATÁ BEARTAITHE**

Uimh.	Toidéal	Uimh. Bhóthair	Bailte Foarainn	Le Pleananna a Fhoilcoíl ar líne amháin ar
1.	R250 Ceansú Tráchta agus Tionscadal Nascála do Choisithe i mBaile na Finne	R-250	Baile na Finne	<a href="http://www.donegalcoco.ie">www.donegalcoco.ie</a> Seirbhísí > Seirbhísí Bóithre > Comhairliúcháin Poiblí na Seirbhísí Bóithre

**Cur Síos agus Méidanna**

Tá sé i gceist ag Comhairle Contae Dhúna na nGall feabhas a chur ar dhromchla an bhóthair, ar an draenáil bhóthair agus ar an chosán idir na comharthaí teorainneacha luais atá ann faoi láthair, chomh maith leis an acmhainn chuig an R252 (Bóthar na Dúchoradh). Is é is cuspóir leis an scéim seo ná bearta coansaithe tráchta a chur i bhfeidhm leis an luas tiomána fríd an sráidbhaile a laghdú, sábháilteacht a fheabhsú, agus feabhas a chur ar an timpeallacht chrua-dhraicte i mBaile na Finne le crainn agus plandáil bhreise, soilsiú poiblí, feabhas ar pháircáil agus comharthaíocht.

Déanfar an tionscadal de réir na líneachtaí, a mbeidh ina measc:

- Dromchla úr bóthair agus cosán úr thart fá 1.3km ar fad.
- Bearta coansaithe tráchta trí dhorchla bóthair níos cúinge a sholáthar.
- Córas úr draenála agus soilsiú sráide.
- Feabhas ar an timpeallacht chrua agus ar an timpeallacht bhog.
- Acmhal atháilínithe ag an R252 (Bóthar na Dúchoradh) le sábháilteacht a fheabhsú.

**NÓTA:** De bharr na srianta atá i bhfeidhm faoi láthair le linn Covid-19, níl na pleananna agus sonraíochtaí don fhorbairt beartaíthe seo ar fáil lena scrúdú ná lena n-íoslódáil ach amháin ar [www.donegalcoco.ie](http://www.donegalcoco.ie) faoi na leathanaigh "Seirbhísí > An tSeirbhís Bóithre > Comhairliúcháin Poiblí na Seirbhísí Bóithre".

Nó mar mhalaírt air sin, is féidir leat taobh thiar a dhéanamh leis an Ionad Seirbhíse Custaiméara ar (074)91 53900 chun tuilleadh eolais a fháil faoi na hOibreacha Beartaíthe. Beidh na cáipéisí ar taispeáint ó 9am Dé Luain 26 Deireadh Fómhair go dtí 5pm Dé Meir 24 Samhain 2020.

Is féidir aighneachtaí agus breathnúcháin i dtaca leis an fhorbairt beartaíthe, ag plé le pleanáil cheart agus forbairt chuí an cheantair ina bhfuil an fhorbairt suite, a dhéanamh i scríbhinn chuig An Oifig Rúnaithe, Comhairle Contae Dhúna na nGall, Lifford, Contae Dhúna na nGall, nó a chur trí ríomhphost chuig [gdempsey@donegalcoco.ie](mailto:gdempsey@donegalcoco.ie) roimh 4.00pm Dé Céadaoin 9 Nollaig 2020.

Tabhair faoi deara, de réir Alt 120(1)(b)(i) de na Rialacháin um Pleanáil agus Forbairt 2001 (arna leasú) tá cinneadh déanta ag Comhairle Contae Dhúna na nGall, bunaithe ar réamhscrúdú ar nádúr, ar mhéid agus ar shuíomh na forbartha, nach bhfuil gá le Measúid Tionchair Timpeallachta.

**Marcáil tosach an chlúdaigh, le do thoil, le halnm an tionscadail de réir Thaidéal an Scéidil thuas.**

**Sínte, Brendan O'Donnell, Stúthóir Seirbhíse Gníomhach Bóithre agus Iompar, Comhairle Contae Dhúna na nGall, Teach an Chontae, Lifford.**

**PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT ACT 2000  
(AS AMENDED)  
PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT REGULATIONS 2001  
(AS AMENDED)  
ARTICLE 81**

**NOTICE PURSUANT TO ARTICLE 81, PART 8 OF THE ABOVE  
REGULATIONS, RELATING TO A PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT  
BY DONEGAL COUNTY COUNCIL**

TAKE NOTICE that Donegal County Council propose to provide traffic calming measures, footpaths and a proposed overlay in the Glenties Municipal District as scheduled below.

**SCHEDULE OF PROPOSED WORK**

No.	Title	Road No.	Townlands	For Viewing Plans Online only at
1.	R250 Baile Na Finne Traffic Calming and Pedestrian Linkage Project	R-250	Baile na Finne	<a href="http://www.donegalcoco.ie">www.donegalcoco.ie</a> Services > Roads Service > Roads Service Public Consultation

**Description and Extents**

Donegal County Council proposes to upgrade the road surface, the road drainage and the footpath between the existing speed limits signs and incorporating the junction to the R252 (An Dúchoradh). The purpose of this scheme is to apply traffic calming measures to reduce speed through the village, improve safety and improve the quality of the hardscape environment of Fintown with the addition of some trees/planting, public lighting, improved carparking and signage.

The project will be carried out in accordance with the drawings and will include:

- A new road surface and footpath approximately 1.3km in length.
- Traffic calming measures in the provision of a narrower road corridor.
- Upgrade to existing drainage regime and street lighting.
- Improvement to the hard and soft environment.
- Reassigned junction at the R252 (Bóthar na Dúchoradh) to improve safety.

**NOTE:** Due to Covid 19 restrictions currently in place, viewing of the plans and particulars for this proposed development will only be available for inspection or download at [www.donegalcoco.ie](http://www.donegalcoco.ie) under section "Services > Roads Service > Roads Service Public Consultation".

Alternatively you can contact our Customer Service Centre on (074)91 53900 to find out more about the Proposed Works  
The documents will be on display from 9am Monday 26th October to 5pm on Tuesday 24th November 2020.

Submissions and observations with respect to the proposed development, dealing with the proper planning and development of the area in which the development is situated may be made in writing to The Co. Secretariat Office, Donegal County Council, Lifford, County Donegal or emailed to [gdempsey@donegalcoco.ie](mailto:gdempsey@donegalcoco.ie) before 4pm on Wednesday 9th December 2020.

Note that in accordance with Article 120(1)(b)(i) of the Planning and Development Regulations 2001 (as amended) Donegal County Council has concluded, based on a preliminary examination of the nature, size and location of the development, that an Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) is not required.

**Please mark the front of the envelope with the project name as per the above Schedule Title**

**Signed,  
Brendan O'Donnell, A/Director of Service  
Roads & Transportation,  
Donegal County Council,  
County House, Lifford.**