

DEPARTMENT FOR INFRASTRUCTURE
A5 WESTERN TRANSPORT CORRIDOR (A5WTC)
SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION TO THE ENVIRONMENTAL STATEMENT
ADDENDUM 2022: NOTICE OF PUBLICATION

The Department for Infrastructure (“the Department”) is considering proceeding with the A5 Western Transport Corridor project (A5WTC). The project is subject to the environmental impact assessment procedure required by Part V Roads (Northern Ireland) Order 1993 (“1993 Order”) and also the Appropriate Assessment procedure under the The Conservation (Natural Habitats, etc.) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 1995 (as amended). The Department considers that Article 67B of the 1993 Order applies on the ground that it appears to the Department that the project is likely to have significant effects upon the environment in the Republic of Ireland.

The general effect of the A5WTC project will be to construct 85 kilometres of new trunk road dual carriageway from just south of Londonderry at New Buildings, passing through Strabane and close to Newtownstewart, Omagh, Ballygawley and Aughnacloy to the border with the Republic of Ireland.

The Department has previously published and consulted upon the Environmental Statement (ES 2016) for the A5WTC scheme during 2016. The ES 2016 was updated with an Environmental Statement Addendum and supplementary information during 2019 (ESA 2019). It was also updated with a further Environmental Statement Addendum in March 2022 (ESA 2022). The ESA 2019 and ESA 2022 were both published and consulted upon, together with accompanying Non-Technical Summaries. In the case of the ESA 2022, associated documentation was also published, with the consultation period concluding on 6th May 2022. The Department then decided to make available a number of reports as supplementary information to the ESA 2022 in November 2022 with a consultation period concluding on 23rd December 2022. Following a request by the Planning Appeals Commission (PAC) at the mid-inquiry meeting (15th November 2022) the Department is now making available a report containing layout drawings covering the entire length of the scheme together with longitudinal profiles and cross sections. An accompanying Non-Technical Summary has also been prepared and available (NTS Revision D).

The Department hereby gives notice, in accordance with Article 67A (3) and (9) of the Roads NI Order 1993, that it is now making available the above report and NTS Revision D as supplementary information to the ESA 2022 on the effects of the proposed construction and operation of the A5 Western Transport Corridor dual carriageway scheme.

The above documents may be inspected by any person, free of charge, at all reasonable hours during the period from 18th January to 3rd March 2023 at the Department for Infrastructure office:

- Western Division, County Hall, Drumragh Avenue, Omagh, BT79 7AF.

the offices of:

- DfI Roads Mid Ulster (South) section office, 1 Main Road, Dungannon, BT71 7QR,
- Derry City & Strabane District Council, 98 Strand Road, Londonderry, BT48 7NN,

and at

- Strabane Library, 1 Railway Street, Strabane, BT82 8EF.

In addition, the above documents may also be inspected during the same period at the offices of Monaghan County Council, Planning Office, 1 Dublin Road, Monaghan Town, Co. Monaghan H18 X982 and Donegal County Council, Planning Office, County House, Lifford, Co. Donegal, F93 Y622.

Copies of the ES 2016 and all supplementary information may be made available at a charge of £0.50 per standard A4 page of text.

For convenience the original ESA 2022 (with associated documentation and most recent Reports to Inform an Appropriate Assessment - RIAAs), the reports published in November 2022, the ESA 2019 (with supplementary information) and ES 2016, with accompanying Non-Technical Summaries, will also be available at the above locations as reference documents. Alternatively, an electronic version of each of these documents is available for viewing at <http://www.a5wtc.com>.

Any person who wishes to express an opinion about the A5WTC Scheme and the aforementioned Environmental Statement, Addendums, supplementary information and the supplementary information to the ESA 2022, including RIAAs must, on or before 3rd March 2023, write to the Divisional Roads Manager, Department for Infrastructure, Western Division, County Hall, Drumragh Avenue, Omagh, BT79 7AF, or email DFIRoads.Western@infrastructure-ni.gov.uk. Any requests for further information about the project should also be directed to this postal address or email address during this same time period.

If a person has previously made representations about the project in response to the ESA 2022 consultation of March this year or the consultation that concluded on 23rd December 2022, these will be taken into account by the Department, and it is not necessary to re-submit them. Any additional representations by way of supplement or amendment must however be submitted to the Department on or before 3rd March 2023. If the person also proposes to participate in the forthcoming reconvened public inquiry to be conducted by the PAC, they should still submit any additional representations to the Department by 3rd March 2023 but may also incorporate any additional representations within its submissions to the PAC, in accordance with such directions as the PAC may provide.

The Department will take account of all representations so made before deciding whether or not to proceed with the project, with or without modifications.

Information which you provide in your response, including personal information, could be published, or disclosed under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA) or the Environmental Information Regulations 2004 (EIR).

For information regarding the Departmental Privacy Notice following the introduction of GDPR please go to the following link <https://www.infrastructure-ni.gov.uk/publications/gdpr-privacy-notice-DFI-business-areas> or phone the Data Protection Office on 028 90540540.

For further details on confidentiality and FOIA/EIR please refer to <http://www.ico.org.uk>.