

What happens next?

After the constraints study is complete work will start on identifying a number of route corridors. A route corridor is an outline of where the road will go. The route corridors will take into consideration the local constraints on that route, allowing a more detailed environmental and economic evaluation of each route. Public Consultation will also be undertaken as part of the next stage. At the Public Consultation the positive and negative impacts of each route corridor will be highlighted and public comments will be invited, formally recorded and considered in the choice of a final preferred route corridor.

Your views are important

Monaghan County Council wish to consider all viewpoints in relation to the study area being examined. Accordingly members of the public are invited to give their opinions on the study area.

This is your opportunity to take part in the early stages of the planning of the N2 Clontibret to Northern Ireland Border Scheme and your time spent on communicating your views would be appreciated.

Please examine the study area shown overleaf and let your views be known. You can either complete the accompanying comment sheet or write to the address shown below using the freepost envelope provided by 14th August 2009.

Further Enquiries

All queries, questionnaires or comments in relation to this project may be addressed to:

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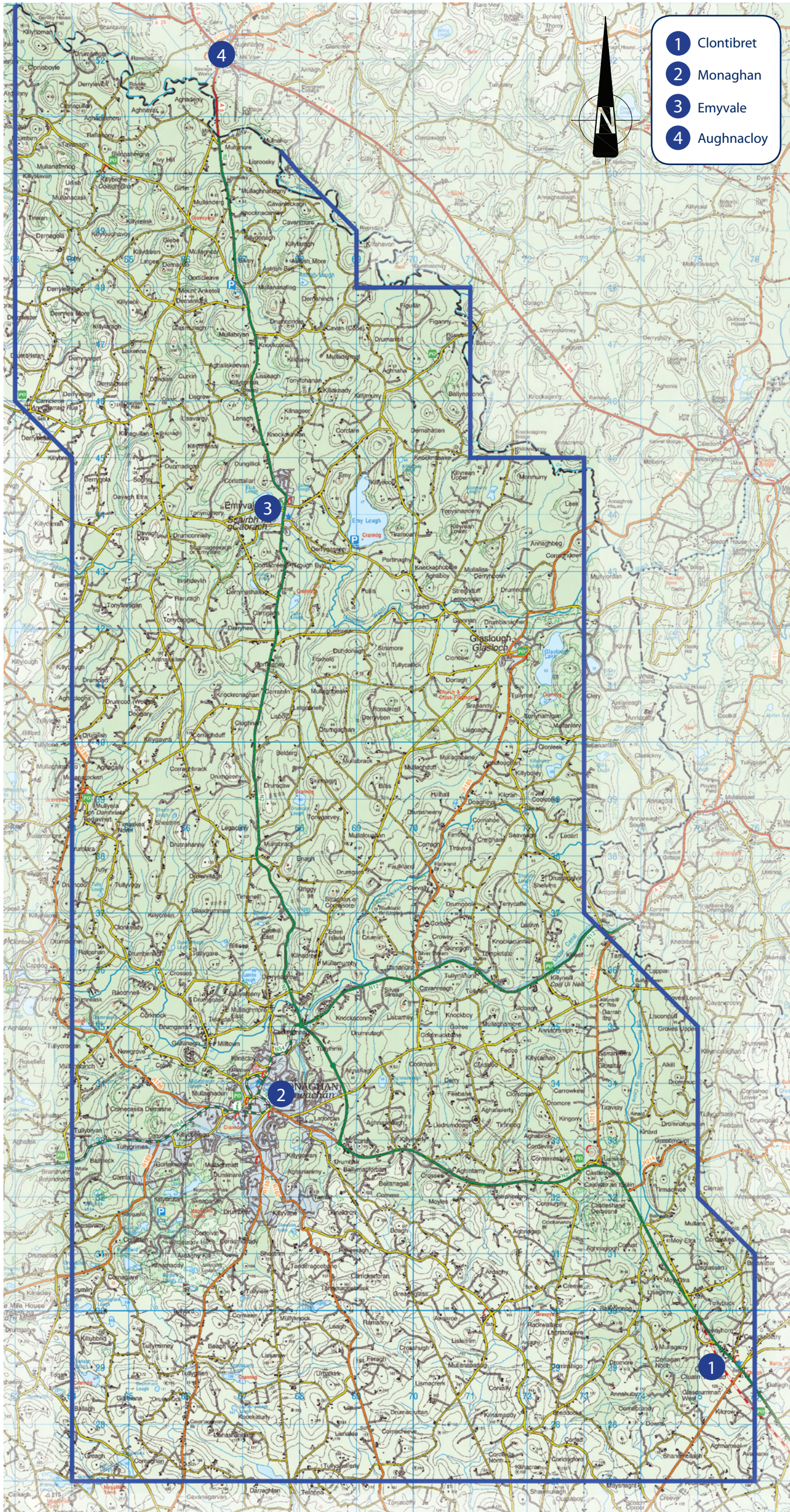


N2 Clontibret to Northern Ireland Border



Constraints Study
 Public Consultation
 July 2009

N2 Clontibret to Northern Ireland Border



Scheme background

It is proposed to upgrade the N2 Dublin-Derry Road from Clontibret to the County Monaghan border north of Emyvale village. At its southern end the Scheme will join the Castleblayney to Clontibret Bypass which was opened in 2007. At the northern end it will tie-in to the proposed upgrade of the N2/A5 route through Northern Ireland. This Public Consultation meeting is being held to raise awareness of the project and to help identify the constraints which may affect the line of the road.

Need for the Scheme

The N2 in County Monaghan links Donegal and Northern Ireland with Dublin City and its environs, the M50, the port and the airport. It also links the many towns and villages along the way. This route has national and regional importance. Transport 21 is the national plan which identifies the road and transport projects to be developed between 2006 and 2015 – Transport 21 has identified this section of the N2 as a strategic route which is to be upgraded.

Benefits of the Scheme

This Scheme will:

- Improve road safety;
- Reduce travel times;
- Reduce congestion and traffic volumes, particularly in Emyvale village and around Monaghan Town;
- Improve access between Donegal, Monaghan and Dublin, facilitating business, trade and tourism; and
- Improve links between Northern Ireland and the Republic of Ireland.

What is the planned route for the road?

No route has been chosen yet. This project is at a very early stage. It is not yet known whether a completely new road will be built or whether the road improvements will just involve widening the existing road. A very large study area has been identified and in theory the road could go anywhere within the study area. At the moment we are identifying the constraints which may affect the planning of the route.

What are the constraints?

Constraints which need to be considered when planning and costing the route may include:

- Archaeological features like ringforts and listed buildings;
 - Houses, buildings, schools, churches and sports grounds;
 - Rivers, lakes and streams;
 - The overall landscape and ground conditions, for example drumlins and bogs; and
 - Areas of natural beauty or environmentally protected areas.
- At this stage items such as land holdings or farm boundaries are not being individually considered as the study area is too broad. These will be taken into consideration at a later stage.

While many constraints are very clear and can be seen on a map, some constraints are not so obvious, for example some archaeological features may not be formally recorded yet. Although it may be desirable to avoid constraints, it is not always possible. The more that is known about the constraints at this stage the better. For this reason local knowledge is vital. The purpose of this Public Consultation meeting is to show the public the area being considered for this new road and to invite people to highlight constraints that have not yet been identified.

After this constraints study stage a Constraints Study Report will be published.

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