

3. EIS Consultation

To assist in developing the EIS, ongoing consultation will serve the following key objectives:

- To establish a sufficiently robust environmental baseline of the proposed development and its surroundings;
- To identify, early in the process, specific concerns and issues relating to the proposed development in order that they can be discussed and appropriately accounted for in the design and assessment;
- To ensure the appropriate involvement of the public and stakeholders in the assessment and design process; and
- To comply in full with the Aarhus Convention, on Access to Information, Public Participation in Decision-making and Access to Justice in Environmental Matters.

3.1 EIS Consultation to Date

An initial Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) Scoping Letter was issued to statutory and non-statutory bodies in February 2016, requesting informal feedback on the likely environmental impact of the proposed water abstraction and the least constrained 2km pipeline route corridor from Parteen Basin to a termination point reservoir near Peamount, South County Dublin, as set out in the POAR. The scoping letter was sent to 31 stakeholders and 21 submissions were subsequently received.

Detailed assessment and analysis of all feedback received to date through consultation along with the results of additional constraints mapping and environmental surveys, further informed the development of a Draft EIS Scoping Report which issued to 36 key stakeholders (both statutory and non-statutory organisations) between March and July 2016. The Draft EIS Scoping Report sought informal feedback on a preferred 200m corridor within the least constrained 2km corridor as set out in the Preliminary Options Appraisal Report. To date feedback has been received from the following stakeholders (see summary feedback in Appendix A-4 and this has been taken into consideration in the compilation of this EIS Scoping Report);

- Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine
- Department of Arts, Heritage, Regional, Rural & Gealtacht Affairs
- Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)
- Failte Ireland
- Iarnrod Eireann
- Inland Fisheries Ireland (IFI)
- Kildare County Council
- Laois County Council
- National Parks and Wildlife Service
- South Dublin County Council
- Tipperary County Council
- Transport Infrastructure Ireland (TII)
- Waterways Ireland

3.2 Statutory Consultation

The requirement for statutory consultation is set out in Section 182(C)(4)(b) of the Strategic Infrastructure Act 2006 as amended which requires that when submitting an application for strategic infrastructure development, an applicant must also submit it to various Prescribed Bodies. Prescribed Bodies, as described in the Planning and Development Act, means those bodies 'prescribed' by Regulations made by the Minister and comprise both statutory and non-statutory bodies.

In accordance with the requirements of the Planning and Development Regulations, Irish Water will be consulting with a number of Prescribed Bodies on the EIS Scoping process including but not limited to the following;

Minister for Communications, Climate Action & Environment	Transport Infrastructure Ireland (formerly the National Roads Authority)
Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine	An Chomhairle Ealaíon
Minister for Arts, Heritage, Regional, Rural & Gealtacht Affairs	Failte Ireland
Minister for Housing, Planning, Community & Local Government	Inland Fisheries Ireland
Minister for Transport, Tourism & Sport	Córas Iompair Éireann (CIE)
Planning Authority – Tipperary County Council	Commission for Energy Regulation
Planning Authority – Offaly County Council	Commission for Railway Regulation
Planning Authority – Kildare County Council	The Heritage Council
Planning Authority – South Dublin County Council	Waterways Ireland
Planning Authority – Clare County Council	An Taisce
Planning Authority – Laois County Council	Environmental Protection Agency
Planning Authority – Fingal County Council	Health Service Executive (HSE)
Planning Authority – Dublin City Council	Eastern and Midland Regional Assembly
Planning Authority – Dun Laoghaire Rathdown County Council	Southern Regional Assembly

A number of statutory stakeholders will also be specifically consulted (not necessarily in the role of Prescribed Bodies) and invited to make a submission on whether any further issues or methodologies should be taken into account in the preparation of the EIS.

3.3 Non Statutory Consultation

Irish Water recognises that early engagement with stakeholders is an important aspect of infrastructure development. Irish Water has invited feedback from specific stakeholders, organisations and members of the public at critical points in the development of the proposed development. Three non-statutory public consultation periods have been held to date, to provide project updates and to elicit stakeholder and public feedback, suggestions and opinions on the findings in key project reports, namely the Project Need Report (PNR, March 2015), the Options Working Paper (OWP, June 2015), the Preliminary Options Appraisal Report (POAR, November 2015).

A fourth round of non-statutory public consultation is commencing with the publication of this EIS Scoping Report and Irish Water are now inviting submissions from the public and interested groups/parties on the issues and methodologies to be considered as part of the EIS. The consultation period will run for a period of 14 weeks from the 8th of November 2016 to the 14th of February 2017 inclusive.

To make a submission please use the following contact details:

Email: watersupply@water.ie

Postal Address: Water Supply Project, Merrion House, Merrion Road, Dublin 4.

LoCall: 1890 252 848 (ROI) or 084 5246 5059 (NI)

Website: www.watersupplyproject.ie

Irish Water are now inviting submissions on the EIS Scoping report and would like your views on*

- Is there any additional information that should be considered in the development of the Preferred Scheme?
- Are there any additional environmental issues or alternative methodologies that should be taken into consideration in preparing the EIS?
- How would you like Irish Water to communicate with you as the project progresses towards planning approval?

All relevant submissions on the project are welcomed.

A comprehensive engagement strategy will be utilised during the consultation period to ensure the key findings of the report are clearly communicated with the public and interested parties and this will include a number of open days which will be held along the route of the Preferred Scheme (see www.watersupplyproject.ie for further updates).

The consultation period will provide the public and interested parties with the opportunity to identify to the project team those issues pertaining to the proposed development that they consider important and warranting investigation and inclusion in the EIS.

Following the completion of the consultation period, feedback received will be compiled within a consultation submissions report which will be made available on the project website (www.watersupplyproject.ie).